



THE APPLESEED

MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

FROM MEMBERSHIP TO DISCIPLESHIP.. FROM DISCIPLESHIP TO A NEW FORMATION OF LOVE AND RECONNECTING

"My command is this, Love each other as I have loved you." – John 15:12-15

Welcome to the month of May in the peace and grace of our Risen Lord. This month we celebrate all mothers. In our world today, women are not the only ones "mothering." All people with heart can share the gift of love that is entrusted to them, as we are commanded in Scripture to love one another. Most of us have some spectacular memories of our own mothers, while some may have some disappointed memories as well. Our hearts go out to women who bear no children but who still bear the same love and responsibilities of being a mother. In same-sex and gender-fluid families, "mothering" still goes on, no matter what name we give it. This month we celebrate and remember all people with motherly instincts and responsibilities, with stories of love and endurance through all times and trials.

We are bombarded lately with images of unloving actions, which cause division and heartbreak. People are driven by fear and anger and forget to show equality as God teaches us. This may cause the teaching of the love of God to be questioned, but we know its integrity, truth, and divine power. We, in a community of faith, have to choose which love we stand for. There is one love, that we know, the love of God who sent his beloved son who laid down his life for us... For all of us... Every person is entitled to receive the love that we all share, the love we receive from God. The reality of God's message is that we must still show the love that is intended for us all. It is not for us to keep, but to share freely. A mother's love cannot be fathomed nor measured. God is our mother. God never stops loving us. We may be tired of hearing about his love, but God is love and never gets tired or bored loving us.

The Psalmist says, "God neither slumbers nor sleeps." When we put a gender on God, we may not see that God is mother and father to all people, including you and me. Look in the mirror, and realize that the love of God shows on our faces. When we find ourselves full of passion and purpose in God's love, we will become the beacon of love for God's people, wherever we are. God refined his people to love and did not wait to be loved. We may not have to die for someone, but there are other ways to practice sacrificial love, starting with listening, helping, encouraging, giving, and keeping in contact with one another.

This month, think of someone who needs God's love, and our love, today. Give all the love you can, always trying to give a little bit more. May you all be delighted in God's love, and may His blessings flow on your way forever. Then, tell your story about the new love you have.

Shalom
Pastor Iunisi Tovo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Iunisi Tovo".

MOTHER'S DAY ZOOM WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us for a Zoom worship service
honoring and celebrating all mothers!

May 9, 2021 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time

To join our Zoom worship service,
click this link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/89588941616?pwd=T-2NFSC9nYmVmczVWdHFPa3ExbjU3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 895 8894 1616

Passcode: 697718

For more info, contact Carol Wegner:
carolwegner@yahoo.com

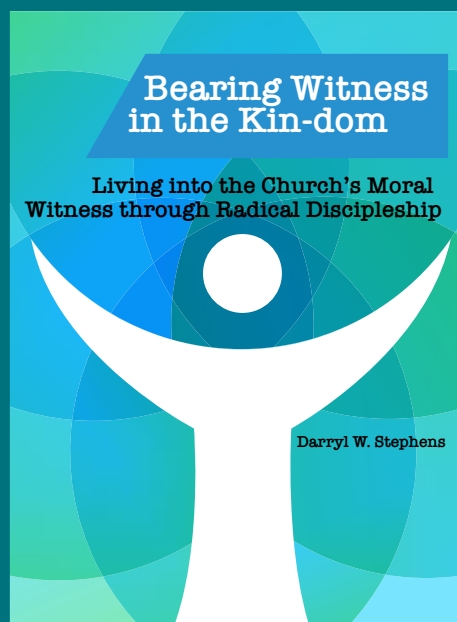
THE LITTLE LIGHT

God takes care of us in interesting ways. A few years ago, somehow I was given a little light shaped like a jewel, about the size of a small apple. When you touch it against something or shake it, it lights up and remains lit for a minute or so. I put it by my bedside and wondered if it would ever be useful.

Recently, when I broke my hip, I needed to get up frequently at night. I would pick the jewel up, hook the little loop on my finger, and had a light to guide me without disturbing my sleeping spouse. Such a little thing, but it showed me how God works in strange ways when we need care.

Thank you, God, and help us be aware of all your blessings, however small. AMEN. — *Pat Schoch*

**"Sebastopol
United Methodist Church"
is our NEW
YouTube channel !!!**



A NEW STUDY

**Tuesdays: May 18 and 25 and June 1 and 8
at 2:00 pm via Zoom**

Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom:
*Living into the Church's Moral Witness through
Radical Discipleship*
by Darryl W. Stephens

In Jesus's own words, he came to bring good news to the poor, release the captives, restore sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free. What is the responsibility of the church to follow Christ's example in word and deed? While these times might feel particularly turbulent, society has always confronted the church with challenging issues where she has had to discern how God was calling her. The church's track record in these moments is far from perfect. The purpose of this study is to help the church and its members discern our call and bear witness to the will of God for a more just world.

e-book available here:

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/bearing-witness-in-the-kin-dom>

Print edition available here:

<https://www.amazon.com/Bearing-Witness-Kin-dom-Churchs-Discipleship/dp/195250113X>

For further information, contact Carol Wegner at
carolwegner@yahoo.com 707-479-4800

DAILY READINGS MAY 2021

- Saturday, May 1, 2021: Psalm 22:25-31; Amos 9:7-15; Mark 4:30-32
- Sunday, May 2, 2021: **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
- Monday, May 3, 2021: Psalm 80; Isaiah 5:1-7; Galatians 5:16-26
- Tuesday, May 4, 2021: Psalm 80; Isaiah 32:9-20; James 3:17-18
- Wednesday, May 5, 2021: Psalm 80; Isaiah 65:17-25; John 14:18-31
- Thursday, May 6, 2021: Psalm 98; Isaiah 49:5-6; Acts 10:1-34
- Friday, May 7, 2021: Psalm 98; Isaiah 42:5-9; Acts 10:34-43
- Saturday, May 8, 2021: Psalm 98; Deuteronomy 32:44-47; Mark 10:42-45
- Sunday, May 9, 2021: **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
- Monday, May 10, 2021: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 7:1-11; 1 Timothy 6:11-12
- Tuesday, May 11, 2021: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 11:1-17; 1 Timothy 6:13-16
- Wednesday, May 12, 2021: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 11:18-21; Mark 16:19-20
- Thursday, May 13, 2021: **Ascension of the Lord**
- Friday, May 14, 2021: Psalm 47; Exodus 24:15-18; Revelation 1:9-18
- Saturday, May 15, 2021: Psalm 47; Deuteronomy 34:1-7; John 16:4-11
- Sunday, May 16, 2021: **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
- Monday, May 17, 2021: Psalm 115; Exodus 28:29-38; Philippians 1:3-11
- Tuesday, May 18, 2021: Psalm 115; Numbers 8:5-22; Titus 1:1-9
- Wednesday, May 19, 2021: Psalm 115; Ezra 9:5-15; John 16:16-24
- Thursday, May 20, 2021: Psalm 33:12-22; Genesis 2:4b-7; 1 Corinthians 15:42b-49
- Friday, May 21, 2021: Psalm 33:12-22; Job 37:1-13; 1 Corinthians 15:50-57
- Saturday, May 22, 2021: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 15:6-11; John 7:37-39
- Sunday, May 23, 2021: **Day of Pentecost**
- Monday, May 24, 2021: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Joel 2:18-29; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
- Tuesday, May 25, 2021: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Genesis 11:1-9; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
- Wednesday, May 26, 2021: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 20:19-23
- Thursday, May 27, 2021: Psalm 29; Isaiah 1:1-4, 16-20; Romans 8:1-8
- Friday, May 28, 2021: Psalm 29; Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 8:9-11
- Saturday, May 29, 2021: Psalm 29; Isaiah 5:15-24; John 15:18-20, 26-27
- Sunday, May 30, 2021: **Trinity Sunday**
- Monday, May 31, 2021: **Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth**
- Monday, May 31, 2021: Psalm 20; Numbers 9:15-23; Revelation 4:1-8
- Tuesday, June 1, 2021: Psalm 20; Exodus 25:1-22; 1 Corinthians 2:1-10
- Wednesday, June 2, 2021: Psalm 20; Numbers 6:22-27; Mark 4:21-25



MAY 2021

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <p>SCRIP IS AVAILABLE – PAT WILL DELIVER TO YOU! Pat Schoch can take your order by phone and deliver it to you! Please call 707-823-3889</p> | | | | | | <p>1 MAY DAY</p> |
| <p>2 Worship online COMMUNION</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> | <p>5 CINCO DE MAYO</p> | <p>6 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8</p> |
| <p>9 Zoom Worship 10:30 am MOTHER'S DAY</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12</p> | <p>13 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p> | <p>14</p> | <p>15</p> |
| <p>16 Worship online</p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18 Zoom Study Group 2pm Week 1</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22 Saturday Table</p> |
| <p>· PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS FOR THE NEXT APPLESEED THIS WEEK!! THANK YOU ·</p> | | | | | | |
| <p>23 Worship online</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25 Zoom Study Group 2pm Week 2</p> | <p>26</p> | <p>27 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29</p> |
| <p>30 Worship online</p> | <p>31 MEMORIAL DAY</p> | <p>June 1 Zoom Study Group 2pm Week 3</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p> | <p>HELP SUPPORT OUR YOUTH! Buy Equal Exchange Fair-Trade coffee + tea! call Pat Munsch 707-823-2790</p> | |

ALL SERVICES AND MEETINGS ON CHURCH GROUNDS CONTINUE TO BE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
by order of our Bishop

Sebastopol United Methodist Church 500 North Main Street, Sebastopol CA 95472
 office phone: (707) 823-7971 email: sebumc@sonic.net website: sebumc.org