

The Advance

Redding UMC's monthly newsletter



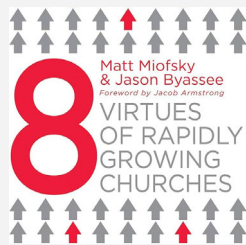
October 2023



Fall is filled with fun, family festivities. Join us and bring a friend!

Flourishing Together

We're in the middle of an eight-part sermon series based on the book *Eight Virtues of Rapidly Growing Churches* by Matt Miofsky and Jason Byassee. It's a great, SHORT book if you'd like to read along.



As I've previously mentioned, instead of "rapidly growing," I prefer the word **flourish** which is a verb used "to describe a person, animal, or other living organism [think: the Body of Christ] that grows or develops in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as the result of a particularly favorable environment" (Oxford). Our Open House displays in the Social Hall last month are evidence of how our church has *and continues* to flourish.

Virtues are not formulas; they are positive attitudes that are part of our culture. During the next eight weeks, we should all invite God to give us a broader and deeper understanding of these virtues – far beyond whatever a definition or case study might offer. How might God want us, our church, **and our community** to experience each of these virtues?

As we explore these virtues through conversation and experimentation, I **expect** God will work through our efforts to lead us to try new things – individually and as a community. And, since some of these virtues will be less familiar than others, I **anticipate** we will not experience 100% clarity in what we discuss nor 100% success in what we attempt. **AND I expect** that we will learn *through* our experiences, make adjustments, and try again – repeatedly. These are *my* expectations. What do **you** expect and anticipate?

Why is all of this critical for us? Because every person and organization has core virtues, whether they realize it or not. What are the core virtues of our town, our nation? We must consciously and constantly nurture and communicate the virtues we want to be part of our church's culture.

Furthermore, "Healthy things grow [but] not all growth is healthy" (*Eight Virtues*, Kindle 149, p176). We **must** pay attention to how and where we are growing (and thus going) to ensure we are growing in desirable, God-led ways that help us love God, love ourselves, and love others. I look forward to seeing how we all grow together!

~ Pastor Charles, cell 775-830-0622
CharlesWhite@pm.me

Join a Small Group!

Our small groups meet weekly to share reflections on faith and the concerns of our lives. These groups offer opportunities to connect with our church family. Each group has its own personality, is always open to new members, and you can jump in or out of any group at any time! The materials each group uses changes throughout the year. Call the church office if you need a leader's contact info!

Sunday from 8:45 – 9:45 am

Our Bible Study looks at the verses and sermon from the previous Sunday.
Meets in Room 10/11
Leader: Mary Doty

Sunday from 5:00 – 6:00 pm

We discuss faith-related topics.
Meets in the Susanna Room
Leader: Ron Boese or Andy McClure

Wednesday 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Combination Bible Study and discussion of faith related topics.
Meets in Rooms 10/11
Leaders: Ed and Carol Whitmer

Wednesday 6:30 – 7:30 pm

We discuss faith-related topics.
Meets at the Kermode's home
Leaders: Ray and Sue Kermode

Thursday 7:30 – 8:30 am

We discuss faith-related topics and share prayer concerns.
Meets at *From the Hearth* on Market St.
Leaders: Lynne Wonacott and Donna Holscher

Friday 11:00 – 11:20 am

Interfaith Meditation – we gather, greet each other, sit quietly, and let our minds relax. It's that easy!
Meets in the church Library, 3rd floor
Leaders: Leroy "Perk" Perkins

Next Advance Article Deadline

Email your articles and photos to the church office no later than **Monday, Oct. 16**. Let's share the great news of the many ways people can be involved.



United Women in Faith Annual Bazaar is Upon Us!

The Fall Season is here, and our Annual Holiday Bazaar is on the calendar for Nov. 11th! We are celebrating the 50 YEARS that this event has taken place in our church. I recall the first bazaar I attended, in the early 90s, where the perimeter of the social hall had “little old ladies” sitting behind tables selling their wares. Well now, we are well known in the community as one of the best bazaars in the area!

The biggest draw for many years has been the Cookie Walk with several tables filled with cookies. The Sisterhood of Crafters, a circle of UWF, meets weekly making items for the Bazaar. Many church members help by doing handwork, crafting, jam and pickle making, Baking, and providing produce.

Yes, the Cookie Walk, with only homemade cookies, will be featured, but we also serve a light breakfast, lunch and of course coffee and slices of homemade pie. Our antiques and collectables fill our

Wesley room with fine jewelry and wonderful treasures. The main room will have gifts for everyone, Christmas decorations, jewelry (made mostly by Denise Steep), and produce including the 2023 crop shelled walnuts.

The garden area will have plants and garden décor. This year we are highlighting three artists - Natalie Larson with her beautiful quilts, Lita Murray’s precious miniatures and Barbara Smith’s exquisite weavings. As in the past, we are asking church members to assist in baking for this event. More information on that will come next month.

UWF Calendar of Events

- **October Thrift Shop:** Help us set up on Wed. 10/4 & Thurs. 10/5 Thrift Shop sales are on Fri. 10/6 9am-3pm & Sat. 10/7 9-11am
- **UWF Executive Board:** Thurs. 10/12 at 1:00 pm in Room 21.
- **Luncheon & Meeting:** Wed. 10/18 at Noon in the Social Hall. Nikki Blum from the Redding Refuge Sponsor Club will speak.

Friendly Visitors Team is Growing!

On Sept. 20, our new team met for the first time. Our team is made up of long term members and several new members who have answered our call for help. They will be a blessing for all of us. We have begun visiting in pairs and volunteers are in the process of going through the required Safe Gathering training and background checks.

We will be bringing as much of “church” as possible to those of you who are for some reason unable to attend church. If you would like to join us, would like a visit, or if you know someone who would benefit from a visit or some other contact, you may contact me by phone, in person, or by leaving me a note in the reception office. Mary Doty: 530-510-3979.



Sharing Our Faith, Values, and Vision with Others

Join us **Saturday, Oct. 7, from 10 am to 3 pm in the Sanctuary**

as Katherine Parker, UMC missionary to Nepal, leads us in a half-day workshop to learn **how we can share our faith with others in ways that are respectful, humble, and life affirming.** She’ll share her experiences with community development and how we can apply her wisdom to our own local work. Scott Lewis will provide lunch for everyone so **please RSVP** to Reannon in the church office at 243-2403.



This month, please hold these people in prayer

Bishop Carcaño, Bill S., Charlene B., Dorothy Edwards’ family & friends, Doug & Nancy C., Carla H., as well as those who are traveling or sick.



In Memoriam

Our friend, **Dorothy Edwards** passed away on Sunday, Sept. 24 with her family by her side. Please hold Ken and their family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



National Night Out

As in years past, we will host the **National Night Out** neighborhood gathering in our South Street parking lot!

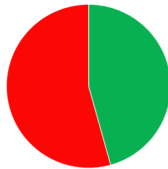
Join us **Tuesday Oct. 3** from **5:30-7:30 pm.** We will

have hotdogs, watermelon, games, giant bubbles, crafts, and live music! Shasta Community Heath Center and Shasta County Search & Rescue will join us again this year as they extend their services and outreach in our area.

Meet friends from the Garden Tract neighborhood, including officers from the fire and police departments. We may even catch a glimpse of McGruff, the “take a bite out of crime” dog! Our own Greg Lawson and Friends will provide live music, so plan to join us for a great evening with friends new and old!

Financial Update

From January through August, our church income was \$250,606 but our expenses were \$298,182, for a net loss of \$47,576. We are concerned but still have time to right the ship.



On the income side, donations of all types are well behind what we have anticipated as is income from renting our facility. Our church depends on your gifts.

Our staff and volunteers work hard to minimize our expenses wherever possible. As many of you know, our utility costs have jumped considerably in the past year due to increased rates. Our new thermostats help!

4th Monday Book Club

Join the 4th Monday Book Club in the Fellowship Cafe at 2 pm on the fourth Monday of every month to discuss the titles listed below. Interested? Contact Kathy Byars at 530-215-8968 or email her at kbyars47@gmail.com.



October 23: *Crow Trap* by Ann Cleeves

November 27: *Surprised by Oxford* by Carolyn Weber

December we'll break for Christmas

January 24: *Painted House* by John Grisham

February 26: *Porch Music* by Kathy Maresca

Anti-racism Task Force



The General Commission on Religion & Race (GCORR) explains that anti-racism is the interrupting and/or dismantling of racism. The interruption and/or dismantling must be tangible, meaningful, and powerful according to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color as they are the direct targets of oppression and know what works and what does not.

Presently, the Christian Church does not have a common theological and biblical understanding of the term anti-racism. Throughout the centuries – especially during the 1960s Civil Rights movement in the United States – Christian Churches have implicitly understood anti-racism through the simple assertions that, “We are all God’s children,” and that “God is the God of all nations and races.” Methodists have interpreted these statements to imply that our faith must include “resisting, rejecting, and renouncing” racism as actions of anti-racism. These exact words are included in the Baptismal Covenant of the United Methodist Church.

However, these actions have not been and are not enough. Deliberate actions, not just rhetoric, are required for Christians to engage in anti-racism and please our God. The writer of James reminds us, “You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ James 2:8-9, NRSV.

New Classes in October!

As humanity’s understanding and discussion of the concepts of race, racism, and anti-racism have evolved over generations, so have the words and phrases we use. Definitions change and become unclear, terms we thought we understood seem to be used in ways we no longer understand. Making learning a life long project can enhance our self-esteem. Keep learning!

In the “**What Is?**” Series, The General Commission on Religion and Race offers concise definitions, examples, and Biblical foundations to create common vocabulary for us as we engage in anti-racism work:

Oct. 5: White Fragility, Race, BIPOC, Culture

Oct. 12: Cultural Humility, Intersectionality, Cultural Bias, Implicit Bias & Equity

Oct. 19: Systemic Racism, Anti-racism, White Christian Nationalism & White Supremacy.

Lunch provided at noon! Please sign up by Oct. 5!

October 2023

** Dates, meeting times and room availability could change and differ from what is here each month. Please check with your group's leader to confirm room use and availability or call Reannon in the Church office at 530-243-2403 ext. 304 to book your meeting today!

SH = Social Hall
 FC = Fellowship Care
 Wes = Wesley
 Sus = Susanna Room
 ETI = Eldridge Trot
 OS = Off Site
 Sanc = Sanctuary
 Zoom = Online Distance Meeting via Zoom
 BOLDED+HIGHLIGHTED BLUE = Memorial
 BOLDED+HIGHLIGHTED = Outside Group
 BOLDED+ITALICIZED = Memorial/Funeral
 Support Groups are held in Rooms 10,11&12

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11		7-9 SCHC Nurses Mtg, SH 1-3 PEO Grp, 10/11 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc	UWF Thrift Setup Social Hall/Kitchen 2-3 Small Group, 10/11 530-630 AM Band Rehearse, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11	11-12 What Is? Series, 10/11 3-4 Letter Writing, FC 5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, 10/11	930-3 Thrift Shop, SH/K 11-12 Meditation, Lib	9-11 Thrift Shop Open, Thrift Shop
12-2 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC	600-800 Boy Scouts PM, 10/11	10-12 Circle of Grace, OS 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc	2-3 Small Group, 10/11 530-730 SPRC, FC 530-630 AM Band Rehearse, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11	730-9 Small Group, OS 11-12 What Is? Series, 10/11 1-3 UWF Executive Mtg, 21 5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, 10/11	930-1130 Sisterhd. of Crafts, Wes 11-12 Meditation, Lib	9-noon Yard Sale Open
10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11		12-1 Faithworks, 21 430-530 Finance, FC 530-7 Wesley Nkhood, 10/11 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc	1030 Friendly Visitors, 10/11 12 UWF Luncheon, SH/K 2-3 Small Group, 10/11 530-630 AM Band Rehearse, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11	730-9 Small Group, OS 11-12 What Is? Series, 10/11 12-1 Trustees, Wesley Rm. 5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, SH	930-1130 Sisterhd. of Crafts, Wes 11-12 Meditation, Lib	
12-4 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC	2-330 Book Club, Lib 630-8 ARTF, 10/11	430-530 W/P/T, FC 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc	2-3 Small Group, 10/11 430 Church & Society, FC 530-630 AM Band Rehearse, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11	5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, SH	11-12 Meditation, Lib	530-730 AA Hot Topic, 10/11
10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11			9-11 Church Council, FC	730-9 Small Group, OS	9-1130 Sisterhood of Crafts, Wes 11-12 Meditation, Lib	
12-4 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC	29	30	31	26	27	28
10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11						
12-4 Nazarene, 10/11						
330-530 Trunk or Treat, SH/PKLT 5-6 Small Group, FC						



I hope you had a chance to attend our annual Open House on Sept. 10. The children and youth led the congregation in a fast-paced, fun, hand motion song. The Wonder Years group had fun

practicing the movements that helped them learn in a fun and creative way about the story of Creation from the book of Genesis. It was an exciting event for them to be able to share it with the congregation. Thank you Youth Group for your help!

Our new curriculum began on Sunday, Sept. 10. The children continue learning about the story of Creation and how we are made in God's image. Each week in addition to our weekly Bible lesson, the children have the opportunity to do a special, meaningful activity that helps them learn how amazing they are and what an amazing world God created for us.

My goal each Sunday is for your child/grandchild to enjoy learning about God and His love for us, make special church friendships, have the chance to do some fun art/science activities and, most of all, want to come back! Wonder Years is for anyone age 4 up to 5th grade. New children are always welcome.



On Sunday, Oct. 29 our Wonder Years kids will be doing some spooky-good for children all over the world! They will be trick-or-treating in the Lobby after each morning service in their Halloween costumes to raise money for UNICEF. Please consider saving coins and dollars during October and bringing it to church on Sunday, Oct. 29 and help them help other children!

~ Miss Kristine



Trunk or Treat Plus Games & Snacks!

Join us in our parking lot and in the Social Hall on **Sunday, Oct. 29 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm** for Halloween fun! Trunk or Treat & More is a safe and friendly place for you, your family and friends to trick or treat.

Our youth group will setup games for kids of all ages in our Social Hall so that our guests have fun inside and out. Every guest will go home a winner!

Would you like to be a Trunker and **decorate your vehicle**? Bring your car, bring your candy, bring your decorations, and presto! You're trunk or treating! Parking and preparation begins at 2:00 pm. Decorate your car around a theme (or any way you want) by 3:30 pm, then we're open for business. Don't forget to **wear your costumes!**

Not bringing your car? You can drop off **wrapped candy** at the Welcome Center since we're expecting as many as 200 children from the Garden Tract neighborhood.

In the mood to bake? We're planning a "Cupcake Walk" which means **we need cupcakes**. You can bring your cupcakes to our kitchen on Friday, Oct. 27 between 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

From setup, to cars, to games and snacks, however you choose to participate, **sign up** in the Welcome Center before or after worship on Sunday!

This is a great way for us to create connections with the families that live near us.



Youth Ministry Program – Get Ready for a BUSY Fall!

Our Youth Group (for students in grades 6–12), meets every Sunday morning during our 10am worship service and again Sunday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:45 pm in the Social Hall.

During September, our youth group helped Inclusive Ministries welcome 30 guests – a record number! The youth sang with Greg and Duncan and helped serve the food. Everyone had such a good time that the youth said they would come early once each

month to help with this dinner. The next dinner is on Oct. 8. Come join us!

October is filled with more fun activities and conversations about our faith. On Oct. 1, we'll tie-dye t-shirts. And on Oct. 29, we'll help with Trunk or Treat by setting up games and refreshments in the Social Hall.

We're also talking about special events for weeks when schools are closed, so stay tuned! If you have any questions about our youth program or you'd like to volunteer, call Michele Powell at 530-604-7189.





Redding Handbell Festival, Oct. 21 at 4:30 pm

Come and enjoy some of our own performing at the Redding Handbell Festival. Bell choirs and soloists will be performing a beautiful selection of pieces as both individual artists and in synchronized harmony. Whether you are looking to relax, enjoy some upbeat melodies or listen to something completely new, this concert is sure to have something for everyone!

Join us at Cross Pointe Church, 2960 Hartnell Avenue, Redding, CA 96001. Admission is free and donations are gratefully accepted. This is an endorsed event by the Handbell Musicians of America.

We are Fully Inclusive & Affirming

Our church is a proud member of the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) which celebrates that LGBTQ+ persons are a beautiful expression of God's diverse creation and exists to advocate for the affirmation of all of God's children in the church and world.



Can You Donate a Refrigerator?

Our kitchen needs a standard, residential refrigerator to help offset our utility costs. If you have one you are willing to donate, please call Reannon in the church office 243-2403.



Inclusive Ministries

For 18 years, this wonderful outreach ministry has served marginalized, mentally ill adults living in group homes. Each month, we give them a ride to our church and provide them a homecooked dinner. Volunteers pick up our guests at 3:15 pm and arrive at 3:30 pm for a sing-a-long led by Greg Lawson followed by dinner.

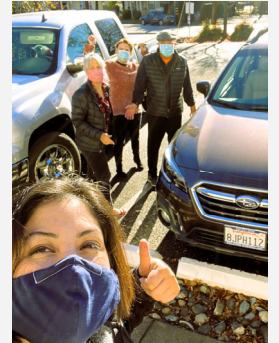
Our next meal will be on Sunday, Oct. 8. If you are interested in driving, riding along, cooking, or serving our guests, please contact Vicki Ono at 530-227-6654 in the evenings or at vickiono@gmail.com.

Church and Society

The Church and Society Committee of Redding First UMC is called to serve and commit ourselves to love and action. Our mission is to advocate the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the church and community. Using the Methodist Church's Social Principles as part of our core guidelines, we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, and welcome the stranger.

Church and Society puts love into action through a number of ministries in our church and community:

Cypress Elem. School Tutors
Cypress Elem. School
Christmas Giving Tree
Inclusive Ministries
Hope Van
Homeless Connect
Wesley Neighborhood
Faith Works
SEACM and Sponsor Circle



Celebrate Our Church's New Mural!

Join us Sunday, Nov. 5 at approximately 11:15 am (after the 10 am worship service) as we celebrate what **love in action** looks like!

As the worship service ends, our children will lead us in song out of the Sanctuary and to the corner of South & East Streets where our congregation and community will celebrate the completion of the new mural!

We'll hear from Redding artist Lura Wilhelm as she presents *Harmonious Love*, a composition of brilliantly colored doves circling in flight. Pastor Charles will offer a blessing for the mural before we move into the Social Hall for cake and refreshments.

Our Annual Yard Sale Returns!

First Church



Friday Oct. 13,
9am-4pm &
Saturday Oct. 14,
9am-noon
in the Social Hall

It's time to clean out your closets and unpack grandma's attic! This is a

major fundraiser for our church's general fund!

We need volunteers for sorting, sales, & cleanup. Please call the church office or sign up in the welcome center if you are interested in volunteering.

Donations will be accepted Monday – Thursday October 9 through October 12. Please check out this list for suggested items and share this with your friends, coworkers, and neighbors! If you have any questions please call the church office.

You Can Donate:

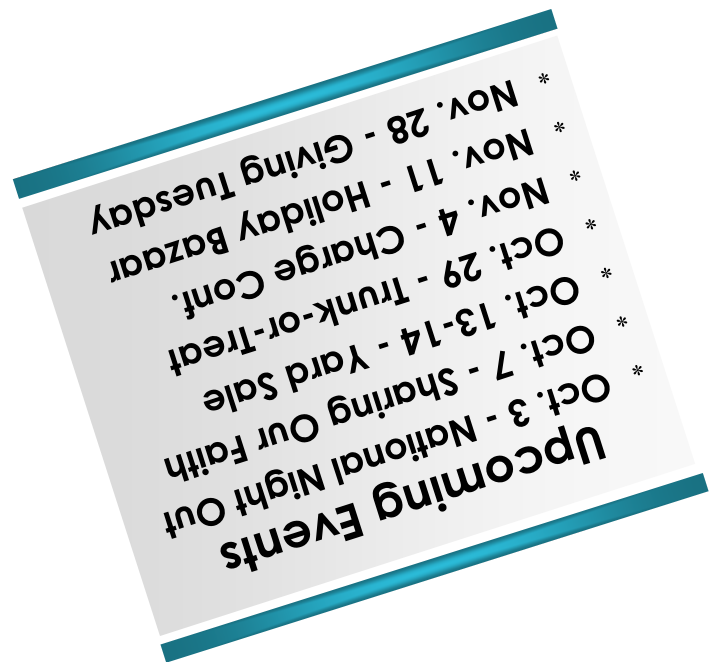
- **Furniture:** coffee tables, lamps, end tables, rocking chairs, kitchen tables, chairs, bookcases, small desks
- **Working appliances:** bread makers, toasters, juicers, dehydrators, mixers, food processors, coffeemakers, humidifiers, air conditioners, radios, and flat screen TVs
- **Outdoor Yard Items:** garden tools, fire pits, benches, lounges, patio tables, yard ornaments and décor, plants (no bigger than 1-gallon containers), nice area rugs, lighting, fishing gear, sports tools and equipment
- **General Household Items:** decorative vases, plate sets, silverware, cup sets, games, window coverings, nice area rugs, working vacuums, blankets and artwork/décor
- **Bicycles or Scooters** in working order

Please Do Not Bring:

Beds, clothing, books, mattresses, computers, printers, shoes, analog TVs (the big ones!), heavy desks or entertainment centers.



**** Return Service Requested**



Upcoming Events

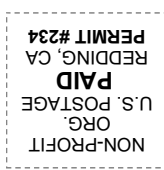
- * Oct. 3 - National Night Out
- * Oct. 7 - Sharing Our Faith
- * Oct. 13-14 - Yard Sale
- * Oct. 29 - Trunk-or-Treat
- * Nov. 4 - Charge Conf.
- * Nov. 11 - Holiday Bazaar
- * Nov. 28 - Giving Tuesday

Redding First United Methodist Church

1825 East Street
Redding, CA 96001
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