

The Advance

Redding UMC's monthly newsletter

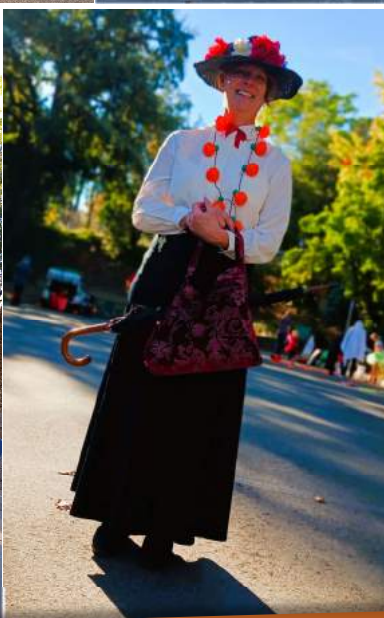


November 2023



TRUNK -OR- TREAT

Sun. Oct. 29 @ 3:30 pm



Giving Together for Our Future

What a busy month ahead! This month's articles demonstrate the **many** ways you can be involved with the life of our church AND **invite someone to join you** at one or more of these events. So many of you have told me that you became connected with our church **because** someone invited you. Think about the joy and peace you've experienced over the years **because** someone invited you. With whom can you share your joy and your invitation? Who do you know that would benefit from being part of our community of faith the way you have been?

For many churches, November is traditionally when we have a "stewardship campaign" which is typically the senior pastor sheepishly and apologetically begging you to give whatever you're willing to so that the church can stay open. That's both sad and crazy (please pardon my bluntness).

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, flourishing churches are **happy** to talk about how your giving impacts individuals and our community. **I'm proud** that our church has a long history of directly addressing social justice issues in our community. **I'm proud** that we host numerous recovery groups throughout the week (lives are transformed there). **I'm proud** that we helped create and continue to support low-income housing projects *for families* (FaithWorks and the Wesley Neighborhood). These are just a few examples.

By giving **your time, your talents, and your treasures**, you – individually and as a congregation – have enabled us to give comfort to those who mourn, peace to those who are persecuted, and relief to those who suffer. **I'm proud** to be part of this legacy which serves as a foundation for our future.

During November, we will ask you to turn in a pledge card. This is a statement of how much money you anticipate donating in 2024. We use your pledge statements to create next year's budget. Please consider how you can support our ministries.

And as we co-labor with God to love and serve others, let's keep asking, "How can we elevate our giving – in all its many forms – so that more people can experience the joy, the peace, and the excitement of God's Kingdom?" ~ Pastor Charles

Our Reception office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday: Thursday & Friday, Nov. 23-24 so our staff can enjoy the holiday weekend.



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 change 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 Kermodes' 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

Leader: Leroy "Perk" Perkins

Next Advance Article Deadline

Email your articles and photos to the church office no later than **Monday, Nov 13**. Let's share the great news of the many ways people can be involved.



Meet Our New Director of Christian Education: Katelyn Jackson

After years of looking for just the right person, we're excited to introduce

Katelyn Jackson as our new Director of Christian Education. In this recent wedding photo, Katelyn (r) and her spouse Asher (l) are with their son, Ezra.

Katelyn brings a rich background in education, non-profit organizations, and faith-based leadership. With her passion for encouraging others in their spiritual growth, Katelyn hopes to encourage us to pursue our journeys of deeper faith and community engagement.

Katelyn holds an MA in Educational Counseling from Azusa Pacific University and is currently working on an MBA from the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley. As an undergrad, she graduated with a BA in Christian Education and a minor in Biblical Studies from Biola University, where she co-founded a community English as a Second Language Program and volunteered with elementary school and middle school students.

In her professional career, Katelyn has excelled in roles that demand operational and leadership skills. As the Director of Operations and Marketing at the Foundation to Advance Vascular Cures, she oversees operations and marketing, leads financial planning and analysis, and supervises various teams. As Director of Operations and Events at a Palo Alto church, she kept the church running smoothly and managed events for 300-400 attendees.

On a personal note, Katelyn came out as a lesbian in 2017 and faced a difficult transition from her

conservative theological community. Her move to Methodism has taught her a passion for gentle theology, the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, and giving space for those deconstructing from rigid theological systems.

In her new role, Katelyn's diverse religious background, wealth of business experience, deep commitment to education and faith, and unique skill set will be tremendous assets. We anticipate the growth and enrichment she will bring to our congregation as she helps us deepen our receptiveness to God's spirit and engage more deeply in our community. Please join us in welcoming Katelyn and her family to our church community!

What does a Director of Christian Education do?

A Director of Christian Education (DCE) works closely with the Senior Pastor to nurture spiritual growth in our congregation by planning, implementing, and overseeing the teaching ministries of our church.

In our Children's Ministry, our DCE will support Kristine and our other children's leaders by identifying age-appropriate curriculum and coordinating volunteers. They will also spearhead special children's programs and ensure a welcoming, safe environment for families throughout our facility.

For our Youth Ministry, our DCE will lead and mentor our Junior and Senior High students, plan events, and promote an inclusive environment. They'll work with parents and volunteers to engage our youth in church and community life.

With our adult education programs, our DCE will collaborate with the Senior Pastor and small-group leaders to create a comprehensive program of Bible studies, workshops, and faith-based discussion groups.

For all ages, our DCE will manage education-related activities, assist with strategic planning and budgeting, and keep us informed about Christian education trends. We're excited about the spiritual growth and development this new role will bring to our congregation.



Daily Devotions

Be sure to pick up a copy of the Upper Room daily devotional at the Welcome Center or the church's main office. If you can make a donation to offset our costs, we'd appreciate that!

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.





United
Women
in Faith

50th Annual Holiday Bazaar

For 50 years, the women's groups of Redding First UMC have blessed our community with our annual holiday bazaar. Other churches and organizations, who have had similar events, are often with vendors, but United Women in Faith do it all within our organization.

Of course, the Cookie Walk is our trademark for the bazaar and they are always homemade cookies! We ask you to help us with the baking of cookies, breads, pies and candy. Cookies can be delivered to the church the week of the bazaar 9am-noon. **Please be sure**



to mark your containers if the cookies have nuts.

For those who are willing to package their cookies, there are specific bags available in the Welcome Center and the Reception Office with instructions. If you are baking pies for the bazaar they may be brought into the kitchen Friday, Nov. 10 or the morning of the bazaar. We thank you for all your support of United Women in Faith. If you any questions call Cathy Joplin 530-238-2294.

UWF Calendar of Events

- Nov. 1-2 Thrift Shop Set Up
- Nov. 3-4 Thrift Shop Open
- Nov. 8-10 Bazaar Set Up
- Nov. 11 50th Annual Bazaar
- Nov. 15 Luncheon and General Meeting. Speaker TBA and we will be electing 2024 officers.
- Our Executive Board will be working via email during November.



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.

November 27: *Surprised by Oxford* by Carolyn Weber

December: we'll break for Christmas

January 24: *Painted House* by John Grisham

Our New Mural is Taking Shape!

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.



In Memoriam



Our friend, Dr. Douglas Craig passed away on Friday, Oct. 9. A service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18, details to come. Please hold Nancy, their daughters, and their many friends in your prayers during this difficult time.

Inclusive Ministries Dinner Nov. 5

Nov. 5 will be Thanksgiving Dinner at Inclusive Ministries. The Sing-a-Long will begin at 3:30 pm followed by turkey and all the fixin's.

Each month, about a dozen dedicated volunteers from our church host a homecooked meal for 30+ mentally disabled people from our community. For many of our guests, this is a highlight of their month. This ministry is **putting love into action**.

Please consider donating your time and/or talents as a driver or as a cook for this wonderful ministry. If you would like to help, contact Vicki Ono at vickiono@gmail.com or at 530-227-6654 in the evenings or on weekends or in person at the 6pm service.

November 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 Cafe
Mes = 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
<p>10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>12-2 Nazarene, 10/11 330-5 Inclusive Wtn, Wes/Kit</p>	<p>600-800 Boy Scouts PM, 10/11</p>	<p>6 Elections Day 6a-10 pm Elections, 10/11 7-9 SCHC Nurses Mtg, SH</p> <p>1-3 PEO Grp, Wesley Rm. 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc</p>	<p>2-3 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>530-630 AM Band Release, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11</p>	<p>730-9 Small Group, OS</p> <p>3-4 Letter Writing, FC</p> <p>5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, 10/11</p>	<p>930a-3p Thrift Shop Open, SH/K 11-12 Meditation, Lib</p>	<p>Thrift Shop Open, 9-11a SH/K</p>
<p>10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>12-5 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC</p>	<p>600-800 Club Scouts PM, 10/11</p>	<p>1-3 PEO Grp, Wesley Rm. 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc</p>	<p>2-3 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>530-730 SPRC, FC 530-630 AM Band Release, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11</p>	<p>730-9 Small Group, OS</p> <p>1-3 UWF Executive Mtg, FC 5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, 10/11</p>	<p>11-12 Meditation, Lib</p>	<p>Bazaar Open: 9am-3pm</p>
<p>10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>12-4 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC</p>	<p>9a-5p Youth & Family, SH/Kit</p> <p>2-330 Book Club, Lib 430-8 ART, 10/11 5-9 ILP Program, SH/Kit</p>	<p>40-12 Library/Germ-Lib 10-12 Circle of Grace, OS</p> <p>630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc</p>	<p>1030 Friendly Visitors, 10/11 12 UWF Luncheon, SH/K 2-3 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>530-630 AM Band Release, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11</p>	<p>730-9 Small Group, OS</p> <p>12-1 Trustees, 10/11</p> <p>5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, SH</p>	<p>930-1130 Sisterhood of Crafts, Wes 11-12 Meditation, Lib</p>	<p>1-3 Craig Celeb of Life, SH/K</p>
<p>10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>12-4 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC</p>	<p>9a-5p Youth & Family, SH/Kit</p> <p>2-330 Book Club, Lib 430-8 ART, 10/11 5-9 ILP Program, SH/Kit</p>	<p>12-1 Faithworks, 21 430-530 Finance, FC 530-7 Wesley Nthhood, 10/11 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc</p>	<p>2-3 Small Group, 10/11 430 Church & Society, FC 530-630 AM Band Release, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11</p>	<p>Office Closed for Holiday</p> <p>730-9 Small Group, OS</p> <p>5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, SH</p>	<p>Office Closed for Holiday</p> <p>11-12 Meditation, Lib</p>	
<p>10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>12-4 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC</p>	<p>9a-5p Youth & Family, SH/Kit</p> <p>2-330 Book Club, Lib 430-8 ART, 10/11 5-9 ILP Program, SH/Kit</p>	<p>12-1 Faithworks, 21 430-530 Finance, FC 530-7 Wesley Nthhood, 10/11 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc</p>	<p>2-3 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>430 Church & Society, FC 530-630 AM Band Release, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11</p>	<p>Office Closed for Holiday</p> <p>730-9 Small Group, OS</p> <p>5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, SH</p>	<p>Office Closed for Holiday</p> <p>11-12 Meditation, Lib</p>	
<p>10 AM & 6 PM Worship, Sanc 845-945 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>12-4 Nazarene, 10/11 5-6 Small Group, FC</p>	<p>9a-5p Youth & Family, SH/Kit</p> <p>2-330 Book Club, Lib 430-8 ART, 10/11 5-9 ILP Program, SH/Kit</p>	<p>12-1 Faithworks, 21 430-530 Finance, FC 530-7 Wesley Nthhood, 10/11 630-830 Boy Scouts, SH 730 Chancel Choir, Sanc</p>	<p>2-3 Small Group, 10/11</p> <p>430 Church & Society, FC 530-630 AM Band Release, Sanc 6-8 Wed Women's AFG, 10/11</p>	<p>Office Closed for Holiday</p> <p>730-9 Small Group, OS</p> <p>5-630 PM Band Practice, Sanc 6-8 Mens AA, SH</p>	<p>Office Closed for Holiday</p> <p>11-12 Meditation, Lib</p>	



This past October, the children participated in communion during our 10am church service. The prior week, we focused our classroom time together on the meaning of why the adults have communion each week during church and what a special time it is for our church family. The kids also had a chance to “taste test” the bread and juice beforehand. It was an exciting experience and my hope is that they will look forward to our monthly communion Sundays with the congregation.

Sunday, Oct. 29, brings out all the little goblins, superheroes, and princesses... they will trick-or-treat for UNICEF after church. This is such a fun way for both the kids and congregation members to contribute to helping others and show our love. It's also a great day for your child or grandchild to bring a friend!

November has more opportunities for the children to be involved. On Sunday, Nov. 5, the children will lead the congregation out of church at the end of the 10am service. We will have a special ceremony for the beautiful, newly painted mural on the South Street facing wall. The kids will be waving paper doves as they parade everyone out of church. Don't miss this wonderful event!

We always welcome new children ages 4 through 4th grade in our Wonder Years program every Sunday at 10am. ~ Miss Kristine



Jr. & Sr. High Youth Ministry



Our Sunday School group has been learning about Jesus being baptized and His temptations in the desert/wilderness. In the coming weeks, we will meet His apostles/disciples.

Our evening Youth Group will continue to help monthly with Inclusive Ministries, assisting with the Trunk/Treat Halloween Event, and will join other Methodist Youth Groups for a retreat and service project in San Francisco 11/9-11/12.

Anti-Racism Task Force

The word “gaslight” is derived from a 1938 stage play by Patrick Hamilton titled “Gas Light,” in which a husband psychologically manipulates his wife into doubting her own perceptions. Gaslighting is thus defined as a form of psychological manipulation and abuse in which someone is made to question their own memory, perception, and sanity. Perpetrators of gaslighting can consciously and unconsciously target an individual or members of a vulnerable population by sowing seeds of doubt, denying the facts about their experiences, their environment, and their feelings.

A person or a group of people experiencing gaslighting are often accused of: making a big deal out of nothing, taking things too personally or seriously, being too sensitive or emotional, jumping to the wrong conclusion, being “crazy” or “insane,” being too dramatic, not thinking clearly or overthinking things, being paranoid, being lazy, not taking advantage of opportunities, being upset over nothing, living in the past or holding on to the past, lying, imagining things, being too defensive, needing help, etc.

Manipulating someone else’s perceptions of an event or idea is an age-old practice, to which the Biblical writers attest in the creation narrative of the first humans, found in Genesis 3. In this passage, Eve is manipulated by the Serpent into questioning the reality and memory of what she knew to be true about her relationship with God and then asserts that her account is wrong. The seed of doubt planted by the serpent yielded devastating consequences for Eve and Adam, severing their relationship with God, each other, and creation (Genesis 3). While most Christians relate more to Eve and Adam, who fall prey to the serpent’s antics in this story, the truth of the matter is we also have tendencies of the serpent within us, making us vulnerable to perpetrating gaslighting upon our neighbor. Perhaps the caution for those of us who follow the way of Jesus is to always be watchful that we are not twisting and shaping God’s word to suit our own purposes, at the expense of our neighbor.

When we know better, we do better! ~ARTF

Your Offering

Your regular giving enables our church to continue our ministries with our community!

Mail checks to: Redding First UMC

1825 East St., Redding, CA 96001

Online giving is easy at: [ReddingUMC.org/giving](https://www.ReddingUMC.org/giving)

Charge Conference Nov. 4 at 10am

We will hold our Annual Charge Conference on Saturday, Nov. 4 at 10am in the Fellowship Café Room. During this meeting, we'll celebrate new members, acknowledge our deceased, approve the 2024 committee and Church Council members, as well as approve the pastor's 2024 compensation package. Rev. Toni Hartman will preside. All are invited, but only Church Council members can vote.

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

Shasta Interfaith invites everyone to join this year's Thanksgiving Interfaith Service on **Sunday, Nov. 19, from 7:00-8:30 pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 2040 Walnut Ave, Redding.** Shasta County Citizens Advocating Respect and Shasta Beloved Community are co-sponsors of this **free** event.

This free family-friendly event will feature readings, prayers, reflections, and practices of giving thanks from various faith traditions. The program includes the following traditions: Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Native American, Jewish, Quakers, Baha'i, and others. An interfaith choir led by our own choir director, Frank Grenard, will present three songs.

Cookies and beverages will be served following the service. Donations collected at the event will benefit Goodwater Crossing Micro Shelter Project. For more information visit [Facebook.com/ShastaInterfaith](https://www.facebook.com/ShastaInterfaith), email ShastaInterfaith@gmail.com or text/call 530 243-8862.

Shasta Interfaith is a faith-based association of more than 20 faith communities in Shasta County that serve the communities by promoting and advocating for respect and appreciation for diversity.



This month, please hold these people in prayer

Bill S., Charlene B., the family of Dorothy E., the family of Wallace F., the family of Doug C., Tom & Denise S., Carla H., Galeladi R., Marla, Ezra, and Avita and any unspoken prayers

as well as those who are traveling or sick.

Thank You!

The Board of Trustees would like to express our appreciation to the many members of our church family who donated items for our Yard Sale, helped to set it all up and man the sale, shopped for "new treasures," and finally, helped to take it all down. It was a resounding success, and we appreciate you all!

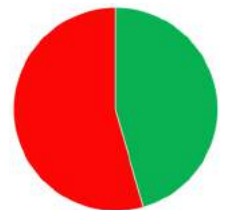
~Misty Price, Chair of Trustees



Thanks to all who participated in the Redding Songwriters for Darfur event on Sept. 30. We raised \$1,192 and with the addition of \$120 in donations at church on Sunday, October 1 were able to send \$962 to iACT, \$250 to Sudan Unlimited and \$100 to the Go Fund Me Account for Hudson. Your help was greatly appreciated. Please continue to pray for the victims of genocide and war in Sudan. ~Marv Steinberg

Financial Update

From January through September, our church income was \$280,234 but our expenses were \$332,781, for a net loss of \$52,547.



By working as a team, we can overcome this deficit. In addition to your regular giving, **if we all give a little extra each week**, we – as a team, working over time – can fully fund our church ministry operations. If each family that calls our church home gives an additional \$2 each week, that's \$100 per year totaling about \$10,000 annually. If each family gives an additional \$10 each week, that's \$500 per year totaling about \$50,000 annually.

Every dollar makes a difference. Thank you in advance for your extra support! ~ Pastor Charles



Help Us Raise the Roof!

**NORTH STATE
GIVING TUESDAY**

Powered by the Community Foundation of the North State

As the giving season begins, we're gearing up to start a fund for our much-needed new roof. This Giving Tuesday, Nov. 28, let's construct a brighter future by raising 10% of our roofing goal.

Why This Matters:

Our building is not just a sanctuary on Sunday morning. It's a haven of support and a hub for countless community endeavors, including:

- ◆ Charities offering housing solutions
- ◆ Support groups for parents separated from their children
- ◆ Lifesaving 12-step programs

Join Pastor Charles on Tuesday, **Nov. 28, at Downtown Grounds** from 11am-12pm or 3-4 pm. When you donate at the coffee shop (bring your phone or laptop), your coffee is on us! **Plus**, every contribution during these times will be generously boosted by North State Giving, amplifying the impact of your donation.



Downtown Grounds
1400 Eureka Way
11/28 at 11a or 3p

P.S. Can't join our roofing rally? Your support is still vital! Donate online on Giving Tuesday, Nov. 28, at tinyurl.com/GivingTuesdayLove. Every bit counts!

- ### Upcoming Events
- * Oct. 29 - Trunk-or-Treat Shop
 - * Nov. 3 & 4 UWF Thrift Shop
 - * Nov. 4 - Charge Conf.
 - * Nov. 4 - Mural Celebration
 - * Nov. 5 - Holiday Bazaar
 - * Nov. 11 - Holiday Bazaar
 - * Nov. 19 - Interfaith T-giving
 - * Nov. 28 - Giving Tuesday



Redding First United Methodist Church
1825 East Street
Redding, CA 96001
530-243-2403
REDDINGUMC.ORG



**** Return Service Requested**

NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
REDDING, CA
PERMIT #234