



## Your church news & updates

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### Provocative Proposals

UMCPS has entered into an exciting new phase of its "Our Way Forward" Strategic Planning process.

At our final all-church workshop with John Pentland and Don McLeod, all participants were invited to discern what current UMCPS ministry area they were feeling especially passionate about exploring for the future, for taking the congregation and community beyond....

It was a good sign that everyone's voting fell into four basic project areas. We are all generally thinking ahead in the same ways!

Here are those four areas of development:

1. Expand our flourishing feeding ministry events to include opportunities to connect our guests with agencies and programs providing additional assistance for flourishing. (aka "Beyond Feeding Ministries")
2. Further develop our ministry to and with LGBTQ people, especially LGBTQ persons of color. (aka "Beyond the Rainbow")
3. Develop affordable/transitional housing and/or inter-faith worship spaces with the unused land on our campus. (aka "Beyond the Building")
4. Revamp our ministries to and with children, youth, and families. (aka "Beyond Generations")
5. \*In addition, we want to work with our snowbirds to develop intentional ministry to and with "part-time residents." (aka "Beyond Snow")

It's pretty exciting to imagine what our church would look like and feel like if we were effectively making God real and changing lives and our world in these awesome and vital ways!

(Please note there are other UMCPS ministries that deserve our congregation's attention and a strategy for the future, too. The above-list is what bubbled up from the participants at the November workshop; they will make for a good

starting point....)

So what's next? [Click here to read about the next step.](#)

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## There is Still Room for You at the Inn...er, the Advent Study

Sign up now

This Christmas let's take a fresh look at the famous story. We will explore how our core values of Embrace Hospitality, Nurture Spirituality, Serve Hope, and Play are exemplified in the Christmas story.

Sign up for either Monday evenings at 6:00 pm at the home of Patty Slough, or Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am at church in the Walker Smith building.

### Week 1: Embrace Hospitality.

We will examine the Innkeeper that offered Mary and Joseph a place to stay. The ancient practice of hospitality required that these strangers be welcomed in and cared for during their time of need. What lessons can we learn about our modern practice of hospitality through this famous act of compassion?

### Week 2: Nurture Spirituality

Do you find it strange that God chose "Three Magi" to reveal the King of Kings to the world? God didn't choose a person of the proper religious group, but he did choose people who were clearly in tune with the movement of God in the world. What could be in store for us today if we nurtured our own spirituality to become more in tune with the movement of the Spirit in the world around us?

### Week 3: Serve Hope

The story of Mary, the mother of Jesus, often revolves around the birth narrative. She is a role model for what it means to embody a servant's heart, but the birth narrative is only part of Mary's overall life of service. We will explore the life of Mary as a model of a servant leader to inspire us today.

### Play!

Christmas Caroling Sunday Dec. 15th 3:30 – 5:00 pm. Let us all come together and celebrate our core value of Play! All are invited to come and sing carols to help brighten up the day of some of our neighbors.

[Click here to sign up today!](#)

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## It's Time to Decorate the Sanctuary!

Now that it's a socially acceptable time, let's put on some Christmas music and start decorating the sanctuary! You are invited to help the Worship Team decorate this Tuesday, December 3 at 4 pm. As a thank you, there will be pizza, salad, and dessert after decorating. All are welcome!



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## Christmas Open House at Pastor Jane's- Sunday, December 8



[Click here to RSVP](#). Pastor Jane's address will be emailed to you upon submission of your RSVP. Now that we are moving to two worship services, this is a wonderful opportunity to see your church friends and family and enjoy some holiday cheer!

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### Christmas Caroling, Cookies, and Cocoa! Oh my!

All are invited to join in some fun and playful Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 15! Arrive at 3:30 as we gather to go sing for some of our family, friends, and neighbors at Hallmark and Windsor Court! Following the caroling, we will return to church for cookies and cocoa, and you can also test out your skills with Christmas Carol Trivia with prizes. Let's make a joyful noise together!

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### Happier Hour- Now on a New Night!

Join Jeremy Wells for a beverage and/or delicious appetizers at Moxie on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm. Happier Hour is an opportunity for deeper connection and conversation as we will answer some questions like how is your soul, and how can we pray for you during happy hour at a local bar. We will also explore a question tied into Sunday morning worship.

Moxie is located at located at 262 S Palm Canyon Dr, second floor, above Broken Yolk Cafe.

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### We Still Do...And Always Will!

You are cordially invited to be a part of a **Renewal of Vows** for ALL married couples at the United Methodist Methodist Church of Palm Springs. Straight or gay, celebrate once again your holy union. Single or widowed, celebrate God's gift of marriage available to all. Everyone has a part in this party!!

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Renewal of Vows 1-2 pm in the UMCPs Sanctuary  
Reception 2:30 - 4 pm 849 Restaurant and Lounge 849 N. Palm Canyon Dr.  
(dinner reservations are available afterwards, too, if you'd like to keep celebrating!)

Let's start 2020 standing together in love and justice! (In comfortable shoes, too....)

[Click here to RSVP](#) to the church office.

## Looking for Something to do This Holiday Season?

Looking for something special to do this Holiday Season? Consider attending one of the following events that support the considerable talents of congregation members!

**Broadway at the River: Holiday Edition.** UMCPs' David Green, along with Rancho Mirage High School Musical Theater University, have created a wonderful evening filled with dinner, musical theater hits, and special guest stars. Wednesday's and Friday's in December, at the Acqua California Bistro at the River. For more information go to:

<https://www.visitgreaterpalmsprings.com/event/broadway-at-the-river%3A-holiday-edition/4133/>

**The Sons of the American Legion Holiday Musical Fundraiser.** Starring Ginger Snap (UMCPs' Gary Subotich) and other local favorites. Saturday, December 14 at the American Legion Post 519. Contact Gary Subotich for tickets. For more information go to: <https://www.palmspringslegion.org/category/events/>

**Special Storytellers Evening: Stories on Giving.** The Desert Sun sponsors a festive evening of food, drink, storytelling and more. And Pastor Jane will be one of the evening's five storytellers! Saturday, December 14 at the Desert Sun. For more information go to <https://tickets.desertsun.com/e/special-storytellers-evening-stories-of-giving>

If there are other holiday events supporting the gifts of our congregation, please let us know so we can get the word out!



**THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**PRESENTS**   
**A HOLIDAY MUSICAL FUNDRAISER**  
**Saturday December 14th**  
**Dinner Included! Choice of Beef or Chicken**  
**Reserved Table Seating**  
**Dinner Served 5pm • Showtime 6:15pm**



**Starring Favorite Male Vocalist**  
**Mr Paul Elia**  
**Featuring The American Legion Sweethearts**  
**Ginger Snap & Sheila Starr**

**Tickets: Gary Subotich 760 464-4796**  
**Betty Cotton 760 320-2420**



**\$20 Per Person**  
**No Host Cocktails**

Clergy Person of the Year

Pastor Jane will be honored as the Palm Springs Black History Committee's Clergy Person of the year on January 25th at the Palm Springs Air Museum. Save the date! More details, such as ticket prices, to come!

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## Link to Pastor Jane's Annual Report

[Click here to read the annual report of the pastor.](#)

[Click here to read and view the charge conference booklet for the church.](#)

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December 2- Ric Seay  
December 4- Rex Waggoner  
December 4- Alan Evans  
December 5- Shirley Giesking  
December 5- Mihiri Chandrasena  
December 12- Ed Hartman  
December 13- Lucy Pedida  
December 24- Simon Hughes  
December 24- Rachel Holder  
December 25- Vijith Chandrasena  
December 27- Carlene Hart  
December 28- Roland Funk  
December 28- Susan Lallman  
December 29- Silvia Clinkscales  
December 31- Steve Bauer  
December 31- Betty Battista  
December 31- Juan Gutierrez  
December 31- Charles Stebbins



December 20- Sandra & Keith Froehlich  
December 23- Nina & Jack Davis  
December 28- Sarah & Richard Clapp  
December 29- Joe & David Dean

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## Sunday Attendance and Fellowship Hour

Attendance for the last two weeks of worship:

- November 17- 136
- November 24- 250

Fellowship Hour Responsibilities for December:

- December 8- UMW
  - December 15- Care Team
  - December 22- Mission Team
  - December 29- Worship Team
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