



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

Officemaderaumc@gmail.com

The Grapevine

500 Sunset, Madera CA 93637 -

(559) 674-8704

Oct 2024

Sunday Morning Schedule:

10:00 am: Worship

Office Hours:

8:00 am - 12:00 pm Tuesday-Friday

Phone: 559-674-8704

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A Word From the Pastor (About Money)

Our congregation is blessed with many generous and faithful givers. We have talented and careful members attending to the money, particularly our finance team. Our treasurer, Nancy Simpson, prepares a detailed report each month (that is available to all) plus a summary for the church council and the newsletter. Some of you probably read these statements carefully, and others may just skim past the numbers. For those who have been paying attention for several years you will be aware that our giving often drops down in the summer months, creating a few months of deficit, but then usually rebounds at the end of the year. We have some folks who give annual gifts, and others who give more (and attend more) at the end of the year.

This year has followed the same pattern of expenses exceeding income during the summer, but our deficit is larger than usual. At the end of August, we had a net year-to-date loss of just over \$26,000. This is about \$10,000 farther "in the hole" than we were last year at this time. Last year we were able to catch up by the end of the year with our normal late swell of donations. It will take a larger swell this year.

Our finance team always wants to keep us all informed. If we are aware of the need, some of us are able to give extra. Whether or not we are able to give extra, we can all pray, believing that God will give us everything we need to do everything God calls us to do. Praise God for his provision and for the faithful generosity of our members.

Finance Committee

God showers us with blessings daily. He knows our needs (and our wants), and his promise is that we will have an abundant life. We need only to trust him.

“But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)

Our church family is a congregation of love and generosity. As individuals, and as a congregation, this church reaches out with a caring nature, to help the needs of those both within our church family and outside of our church, through prayer, service, witness, and through giving.

The finances of MUMC during the summer months each year typically are in a loss, as some of our bills increase tremendously, such as utilities. Our PG&E bill during the month of July this year was more than \$3,600. The income takes a dip as families have vacations and other activities that take them away. However, we know God will provide, and the ending months of the year have always brought in contributions, bringing our finances up.

Contributions for special funds, such as Rise Against Hunger, or other designated donations are not recorded in our income. The operational funds contributed are not designated for particular purposes and go into the general fund. The expenses shown on our report are only operational disbursements.

For the month of August 2024:

Total Income	\$	17,861.21
Total Expenses		<u>24,243.47</u>
Net (Loss)	\$	(6,382.26)

For the year of 2024:

Total Income	\$	162,543.21
Total Expenses		<u>188,775.10</u>
Net (Loss)	\$	(26,231.89)

We are current in our tithes to the conference for 2024.

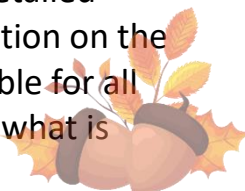
In looking back at prior years, we had a very similar status in August 2022, at which time the loss for the month was \$8,717, and a loss of \$27,410 for the year to date. Through the generosity of our church family, we ended the year 2022 with a net income of \$17,717, as some members of our congregation choose to give annually instead of throughout the year, giving during the months of November and December.

8/31/24 Balance in the General Fund
\$94,492.23

8/31/24 Balance in Restricted Funds
\$64,850.93

8/31/24 Balance in Endowment Fund
\$90,553.09

Everyone is welcome to attend Finance Committee meetings, where detailed reports are presented. Information on the finances of the church is available for all who are interested in knowing what is contributed and what is spent.



As we approach the time of our Stewardship plans and as the Finance Committee begins to budget and prepare for 2025, be thoughtful and prayerful in your plans for giving to the church and how you give throughout the year.

Thank you for your love and contributions to the church.

Please continue to pray for our church.

Nancy Simpson, Treasurer

The Prayer Warriors of MUMC

Throughout the years, our church family has remained strong in its commitment to prayer. The prayer group meets every Monday morning at 6:45 in the conference room, even on holidays. All are welcome to come and pray.

A Prayer Box, with prayer cards, is located in front of the church office entrance. If you have a prayer request during the week, you may call the pastor or church office, or place your request in the prayer box. On Sundays, prayer cards are available to fill out and place in the offering plate or the prayer basket. (If you do not want your prayer request announced in church with the Joys and Concerns, please write it on the card.)

The prayer group sends cards to those in need of prayer, to let them know our church family is remembering them.

Thank you for your prayers for this church family and for others.

UMW Corner

A giant thank you to everyone who worked, provided drawing items, baked goods, craft items and vendors for the Fall Festival. We thank you so much for all the wonderful ways you provide help to the UMW. Fall Festival was a great success and we are so grateful for the turnout of people. We want to give a giant thank you to Erica Gonzalez for her wonderful organization, and determination that made the Fall Festival the success it was. Thank you also to Nancy Sherrod for organizing the Drawing section there were some beautiful items to take your chance on. Thank you to Mary Long, Marlene Lee, and Rebecca Janzen for the wonderful craft selections this year, and to everyone who provided baked goods they all looked wonderful.

We will be having our meeting on October 19th, at 9:30am in the Conference Room to go over the details and find out the final numbers of the craft and baked sale portion of the festival. We hope to see you there for future planning of our next events.

MUMC Trustees Committee

The locksmith returned and was able to repair the front Social Hall single door lock.

We removed and cleaned air filters in Classrooms 1-6. Air filters were replaced for the Office and Conference.

David Simpson repaired the leak to the heating/cooling unit in Classroom 6; however, it was still not cooling properly. We contacted Purl's and they were able to find a clogged line that was preventing the water from flowing. It now works well.

A new plug was installed outside by the front entrance (in a weather-proof box) in order to provide electrical access outside of the church.

The outer glass panel on one of the windows in the Fireside Room (facing the street) shattered. The broken glass was removed and we are in the process of getting estimates to replace the glass pane.

The next regular Trustees meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Bobby Carter, Chair

Food Distribution Update

Our food distribution continues! I want to explain the difference.

Brown Bag – 55+ seniors – prepaid, and on a list. This is the first Thursday AFTER the third Monday. **October 24th @9:00 a.m.**

Regular distribution – free for any Madera resident 18+ -- First come, first serve. This is the LAST Wednesday of the month. 10:00 a.m. **The next one will be on October 30th**
Your help is always needed and wanted. We ask volunteers to come a ½ hour early. I am so thankful for our wonderful volunteers.

Online Giving

This online giving portal may be accessed through our website at maderaumc.org. At the Top of the opening page, there is a red "Donate" button, which will take you to our Online Giving site. There you will find various options.

You may also use our QR Code that will take you directly to our Online Giving site. Just open your phone camera and hover it over the QR Code. Then touch the pop-up that appears.





October Birthdays

- 7 David Lee
- 9 Geri Brown
- 11 David Eddy
- 13 Kathy Gage
- 16 Gerrit Hurenkamp
- 17 Patty Hanson
- 20 Judy Sagouspe
- 21 Tom Boehm
- 22 Holiday Manley
- 24 Doc Tyson

October Wedding Anniversaries

- 7 Rick & Lynn Slaw-Seversen
- 8 AJ & Kristina Pasma
- 9 Scott & Dianna Marsh
- 10 Craig & Julie Flowers
- 12 Boyd & Geri Cox
- 12 Lynn & Marcia Bundy
- 21 Lee & Cheryl Blackstone
- 30 David & Nancy Simpson
- 31 Mickey & Rick Capo

If your Birthday or Anniversary is incorrect or is not listed, please call the church office so we can update our records.



October 26th, 2024 @9:00am

***Please send any Articles you would like in the Grapevine by the date above**

Greeters Schedule

- 10/6 Susan Miller & Connor**
- 10/13 Pat Galleano**
- 10/20 Erica & Javier**
- 10/27 John & Rosalie**

.....
Coffee Fellowship

- 10/6 Nancy & Kevin Sherrod**
- 10/13 Erica & Javier**
- 10/20 Susan Miller**
- 10/27 4th Sunday Luncheon**





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<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 5:00p (CR) Trustees	2	3 6:30am Bible Study (Perko's Café) Church Closed	4 Church Closed	5 Church Closed
6 10:00am Worship Service Communion	7 6:45a (CR) Prayer Group 4:00pm (Cedar) Small Group 6:00p Scouts (SH-CR)	8	9 6:00pm (CR) Nurture & Care	10 6:30am Bible Study (Perko's Café) Church Closed	11 Church Closed	12 Church Closed
13 10:00am Worship Service	14 6:45a (CR) Prayer Group 4:00pm (Cedar) Small Group 6:00p Scouts (SH-CR) 6:00p (CR) Finance	15 5:00pm (FS) Missions 6:00p (CR) Church Council	16	17 6:30am Bible Study (Perko's Café)	18	19 UMW @9:30am (CR)
20 10:00am Worship Service 4th Sunday Lunch	21 6:45a (CR) Prayer Group 4:00pm (Cedar) Small Group 6:00p Scouts (SH-CR)	22	23 5:30pm (CR) SPRC	24 6:30am Bible Study (Perko's Café) 9:00am 55+ Food Distribution	25	26
27 10:00am Worship Service	28 6:45a (CR) Prayer Group 4:00pm (Cedar) Small Group 6:00p Scouts (SH-CR)	29	30 10:00am Food Distribution	31 6:30am Bible Study (Perko's Café)		





TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 31, 2024

5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

MADERA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

500 SUNSET AVENUE

MADERA, CA 93637



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HALLOWEEN

FREE HAUNTED HOUSE

Nachos \$4

Mini Tacos \$5

Loaded Mini Tacos \$7

FOOD SELL BENEFITTING RELAY FOR LIFE

10/31/2024 • 5:00pm to 7pm

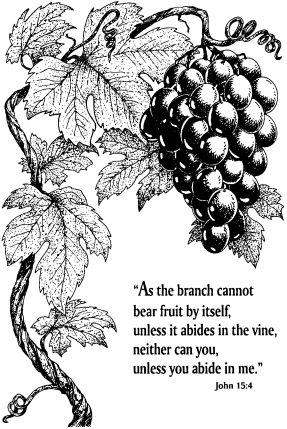
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"As the branch cannot
bear fruit by itself,
unless it abides in the vine,
neither can you,
unless you abide in me."

John 15:4

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