

# Pastor's Update 2025 – January

Pastor Brandon's E-Mail: [RevBOffice@gmail.com](mailto:RevBOffice@gmail.com) / call or text 530-760-8858

## An Assessment of Church Vitality - Paragraph 213

<https://www.ctcumc.org/p213>

One of the major thresholds this faith community will cross in the next three months is assessing its organizational vitality as a measure for pondering how it will live into the future. You can read about this section in our Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, or simply look at the link above. When you have a chance, look it over. The timeline for the process begins next week. The team will summarize its findings and share them with our Bishop, our District Superintendent, and with the congregation. Then, in late February, DUMC will be asked to review the information and consider what scenario seems best for the faith witness of the church.

This is my first time on a church assessment team; others on the team have more experience. All of us will be trained in the process by a lay person of the conference that has much experience and an impressive skillset for this kind of work.

As each of us steps into the future, let us keep in prayer the members of this task force who are giving their time and skills for this significant gift to DUMC. And let us pray for one another and those in the broader Yolo County who have yet to experience the connections we enjoy as a faith community.

May we be found faithful and courageous for the living of these days -- *Pastor Brandon*

## Epiphany: Stories of “God Encounters”

### New Sermon Series -- January 2025

**12<sup>th</sup> -- Psalm 29**

**19<sup>th</sup> -- Psalm 36**

**26<sup>th</sup> -- Psalm 19**

"In this worship series we will celebrate the diverse ways God shows up in our lives and in the world. People often express a longing to deconstruct the toxic images of God which have shaped them. Perhaps you would like to contemplate this coming year on letting go of harmful images of God while opening up to the new encounters of God you're experiencing now. For many, this means unlearning some deeply ingrained and often unconscious ways we've been enculturated to imagine the Divine. It also often means finding new language to express our evolving faith experiences. Thankfully, the deepest currents in our Christ tradition can guide us and we are not alone in this process."

## Salsa Dance Lessons are Here!

**Sundays – January 19, 26 & February 2, 9, 16, 23**

**4:00 PM to 5:30 PM – Instructor: Pastor Brandon – Where? Church Fellowship Hall**

Please invite your neighbors and friends to this open series of salsa dance lessons and let's have some fun dancing. No partner needed. Wear shoes with non-grip soles that allow you to pivot your feet and turn easily on the fellowship tile flooring. To learn the fundamentals of the dance, plan to arrive at 4:00 PM; then, leave as you need to go. Attend as many or as few dance lessons as you like. Sorry, no childcare for this event.

# Congregational Care

If you believe the information below to be incorrect or needs updating, please contact Pastor Brandon or our Davis UMC office with the correct/updated information. Let us continually pray, send cards and notes, emails, make calls, and remain in connection with one another.

**Prayer Chain** – (send your prayer requests to this email address: ([prayerchain@davisumc.org](mailto:prayerchain@davisumc.org)))

## In Memory of

Herb Grench, much beloved father of Paul Grench

## Send Cards to . . .

Paul Grench, 3417 Seabright Ave., Davis, CA 95616

## Home Care - see church directory for contact information.

Joe Archer

Jerry Beaman

Chuck and Blanche Shannon

## Atria Covell Gardens - 1111 Alvarado Avenue, Davis California 95616

Betsy Marchand – *Memory Care*

Melody Moore

Jan Tackett

## Calmia Place - 4220 Calmia Place, Davis, California 95618

Kay Singleton – *Memory Care*

## Carlton Senior Living - 2726 5th St, Davis, CA 95618

Ted Dill

Carol Holmes

## The Farmstead at Dixon - 350 Gateway Dr., Dixon, CA 95620

Philip Kurien

## University Retirement Community - 1515 Shasta Dr, Davis, CA 95616

Dotty Dixon

Joe Harper – *Memory Care* (Dotty's friend)

Brian and Louanne Horsfield

Jan Smyth

Ken and Diane Wagstaff – *Memory Care* (Diane)

## RESOURCES

**Stephen's Ministry** – contacts: *Caroline Chantry, Mary Ann Ingenthron* (Leaders) or

**CaringBridge** - <https://www.caringbridge.org/how-it-works>

A free, easy online tool for sharing health news with family and friends—all in one place.

**Yolo Cares** - <https://yolocares.org>

Dedicated to improving the quality of, and expanding access to, end-of-life services for persons/families of all backgrounds.