

The Gatherings

ALONG THE WAY



*Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.*

Psalm 25:4

SPRING 2024
COURSE CATALOG

Introduction

JOIN US

We at Sierra Vista United Methodist Church invite you to join with us as we seek to know, grow, and live the Jesus Way.

NEED CHILDCARE?

Childcare is not arranged for any gathering, unless specifically indicated. Childcare can be requested by contacting the leader of the individual group or class. Those who need childcare can also email nursery@sierravista.org to make a request.

OUR REASONS

Our desire is to provide opportunities for you to engage your whole person in order to discover God's immense love for you and the call of Jesus to come and follow him. We believe that happens best in community. We offer a variety of gathering options to engage your mind, body and soul. Regardless of where you are spiritually, or how long you have been on your faith journey, you will find something here for you.

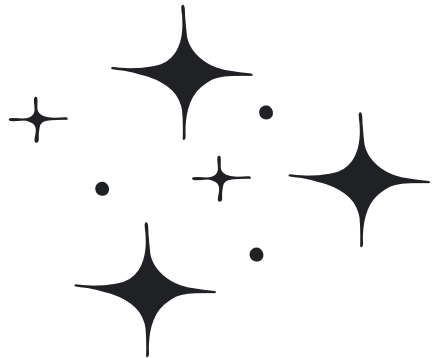
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Community

Strengthening Yoga & Pilates

Do you snap, crackle, and pop when you move? Would you like be more limber and have more strength to do the things you love to do? Join us for our weekly Yoga and Pilates/Strengthening classes. An instructional DVD is used to guide participants through stretches/exercises, which are done either sitting in a chair or standing up using a chair to enhance balance, but it is the fellowship time that will keep you coming back. No floor mat is needed. You CAN have fun and become more agile doing so. Join us!!

When: Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00 a.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Melinda Springer, melspringer@hotmail.com.

Men's Pick-up Basketball

Men, age 21 and older, are invited to dust off their sneakers and join in.

When: Thursdays at 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Where: Life Center Gym

Contact: Clay Smith

Please call or email church office for more info.

BG's Quilters

When: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month

Where: Quilting Room in Fellowship Hall Building

Contact: Beverly Nevins, (325) 374-7589

Piece Makers Hand Quilting Group

When: Meets Monday and Fridays from 8-11

Where: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Beverly Nevins, (325) 374-7589

Grief Share

A GriefShare support group will help you find hope after the death of a loved one as well as giving you tips & counsel to handle the aftermath of loss.

GriefShare will start on Tuesday, January 30th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A light meal will be served. Books will be available at the first session. ***Please call the Church Office, 325-944-4041, for more information***

When: Tuesdays, 6-8pm, January 30 - April 23

Where: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Sharon Felts

Women Design and Create!

A six-week course for women only during which you'll learn to design and craft your own multi-wood charcuterie board. Assisted by Linda Ellison, the course is lead by Roger Ellison in his woodworking shop and barn. A sense of adventure is required, but prior woodworking experience is not. Some hand tool and machinery use is involved.

When: Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm March 19 - April 23.

Cost: Supply fee - \$50.

Class Limit: 6 women

Contact: Roger Ellison, rogercellison@gmail.com

Men's Grill 'n Chill

Once a month, we will be hosting a gathering for men where we will grill steaks while sharing in fun and fellowship together. The primary target for this outreach is men who are forty and younger, but all men are always welcome to join – especially if you invite a younger man

to join you! We will have a brief demo on best grilling techniques followed by each man grilling their own steak. Afterwards, we will eat together (all the fixins including sides, drinks and desserts provided!), and have a short devotional. RSVP required.



When: Thursdays, March 7th, April 4th, and May 2nd

Contact: Kyle Toomire, ktoomire@sierravista.org

Suggested Donation: \$10

RSVP by clicking here: [Men's Meet 'n Grill](#)

Faith Formation

Small Group Pilot Program

We are piloting a new small group program. Small groups are an important way to experience community and grow in our faith. For the pilot, we are asking that the participants commit to the first of a three part small group program. The first part is six sessions. The first six sessions focus on getting to know the group and exploring five essential practices to help us live into our purpose as followers of Jesus. You will be invited to engage in the small group and also provide feedback on the process.

When: Tuesdays, 6:30–8pm starting February 6th

Where: LC 105 (Life Center, 1st floor)

Contact: Tamara Strehli, tstrehli@sierravista.org;

Book: *Communities of Blessing*

Suggested donation: \$15

The Way of Forgiveness

Perhaps nothing goes more against the grain of human nature than forgiving those who wound us and accepting forgiveness from others. But practicing forgiveness will transform your life and help you grow in the heart and mind of Christ. In this 8-week small-group study, we will examine places of shame, guilt, and anger, in order to release these emotions so we can move toward wholeness. The study will cover the topics of receiving God's forgiveness, forgiving others, and seeking reconciliation.

When: Wednesdays, 6 –7:30pm starting January 31

Where: Office Conference Room

Contact: Tamara Strehli, tstrehli@sierravista.org, or David Bailey, Lovelikejesus@live.com

Book: *Companions in Christ: The Way of Forgiveness*

Suggested donation: \$15

A Crazy, Holy Grace: The Healing Power of Pain and Memory

Have you struggled with pain (physical, emotional, or spiritual) in your life? Have you wondered why God allows this pain? Have you asked where God is when this pain occurs? Have you sought to find meaning in your experience of pain?

Join us for an eight-week study that grapples with our experience of pain and helps us learn to be good stewards of the pain we experience in life. We will read Frederick Buechner's book *A Crazy, Holy Grace* and work through the participant guide. Group discussions and activities will be included.

Required materials:

A Crazy, Holy Grace: The Healing Power of Pain and Memory by Frederick Buechner

A Crazy, Holy Grace Participant Guide by Frederick Buechner
Materials are available on Amazon.com (print or Kindle format) or in print format through Cokesbury.com and ChristianBook.com

When: Saturdays, 4:15pm, starting February 3rd

Where: FH-1

Contact: Cayce Cowan, (325) 340-6434,
cayce.cowan@gmail.com

SVUMC Digging Deeper Book Club (DDBC)

Feeling burnt-out from life, strung-out from social media, and tired of being anxious, stressed out, or angry? Join us as we read ***Radical Spirit: 12 Ways to Live a Free and Authentic Life*** by Joan Chittister. Drawing from ancient teachings of the saints, this book offers a practical, character-shaping guide to deepening our walk with God, and transforming unhealthy patterns of thinking and living. With a series of twelve simple rules you will be encouraged to develop enduring values by shifting our attention to how God wants us to live.

When: Weekly on Thursdays, 6:00pm., starting January 18th

Where: S-1 (across from the Sanctuary)

Contact: Judy Sikes (325) 650-1259.(text)

Book: *Radical Spirit: 12 Ways to Live a Free and Authentic Life* by Joan Chittister. Available on Kindle

Note: For our first gathering, please read the introduction and Chapter One.

Bible Study

Monday Evening Women's Bible Study

The Way of Love

50 daily scripture readings with reflections, questions and prayers, centered around seven spiritual practices that help us walk the Jesus Way. Come grow in community as we discuss and consider the readings each week.

When: Mondays, 6:30 pm, beginning January 22nd

Where: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Debbie Montgomery, debbiem58@suddenlink.net or (325) 212-5822.

Book: *The Way of Love* by Marek P. Zabriskie

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

The Way of Love

50 daily scripture readings with reflections, questions and prayers, centered around seven spiritual practices that help us walk the Jesus Way. Come grow in community as we discuss and consider the readings each week.

When: Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Where: S-1 (across from the Sanctuary)

Contact: LuAnn Lupton at luannlupton@yahoo.com.

Book: *The Way of Love* Office Conference Room for \$16 each.

Men's Bible Conversations Breakfast

Join the men of Sierra Vista for a hearty breakfast, wonderful fellowship, the sharing of stories and experiences, and life-application Bible discussion.

When: Wednesdays (not holidays), 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall

To sign up, join in on any Wednesday!

Christian Believer Disciple Bible Study

.The Christian Believer program focuses on classical teachings of the Christian faith – those that emerged in early Christianity as it struggled to understand its scripture and its experience of Jesus Christ. These doctrines remain central to church teaching and distinguish Christianity from other faiths. These are presented and explained in a way that participants can understand, through the use of words, symbols, and hymns. This Disciple study emphasizes the relationship of worship, belief and daily life.

Over a 30-week period, participants will examine the writings of ancient and modern Christian commentators and view video presentations by leading Bible scholars.

When: Tuesdays, 6 - 8pm, beginning January 30th

Where: Life Center 204 (upstairs)

Contact: Ken Dahlberg, mackend43@me.com
or Pat Makins, pcmakins@icloud.com

Books: *Christian Believer Study Manual* & *Knowing God with Heart and Mind* (supplemental readings)

**Suggested Donation to cover cost of books: \$45 for Manual;
\$5 for the Reader**

Prayer

Intercessory Prayer Group

With the fervent belief that prayers are answered, this group meets weekly to petition God on behalf of specific individuals who are struggling, as well as for the improvement of local, national, and even global concerns.

When: Wednesdays, 11:00 - 11:45 a.m.

Where: SVUMC Prayer Room

Contact: Tamara Strehli, tstrehli@sierravista.org

Group Centering/Contemplative Prayer

Have you wanted to go deeper in your relationship with God through prayer? Centering and Contemplative prayer are ways in which we learn to soak in God's love and open our hearts to hear his gentle voice. We will gather for a short time of learning and then spend the bulk of our time practicing these ancient prayer practices.

When: Thursdays, 8:15-9:00 am

Where: SVUMC Prayer Room

Contact: Tamara Strehli at tstrehli@sierravista.org.

Lenten 6-week Prayer Challenge

If you are looking to start a regular prayer practice or are needing to jumpstart your regular daily devotion and prayer, join us for this Lenten Prayer Challenge. Using the *The Methodist Book of Daily Prayer* as our guide, you will be challenged to complete the weekly, 5 daily/evening prayers and reflections over the 6 weeks of Lent. The book covers the whole year, with weekly themes and daily prayers and reflections. We will meet weekly, during Lent, to do the Wednesday morning prayer together for the week and briefly discuss the theme of the week.

When: Wednesdays, Feb. 14-March 27; 7-7:30am

Where: ZOOM

Contact: Tamara Strehli at tstrehli@sierravista.org.

Book: *The Methodist Book of Daily Prayer* by Matt Miofsky

Suggested Donation: \$15

***“Love the Lord your
God with all your
heart and with all
your soul and with all
your mind and with
all your strength.***

**The second is this:
Love your neighbor as
yourself.**

**There is no
commandment
greater than these.”**

~Jesus



SIERRA VISTA

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<https://www.sierravista.org/ministries/gatherings>



Scan here to sign up for classes!