



GATHERINGS

FALL 2025

GROWING
TOGETHER
IN LIFE & FAITH



Introduction

JOIN US

We at Sierra Vista United Methodist Church invite you to join with us as we seek to live the Jesus way, providing a place for you to belong, a place for you to grow and a place for you to serve.

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.

INFO & REGISTRATION

To request more information or sign up for any of the opportunities listed, please use this QR code, or reach out to the contact person listed.



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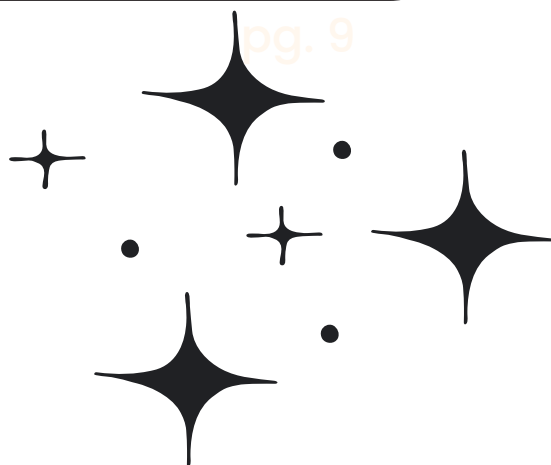
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New Faith Formation Groups & Studies

NEW: *The Story* Discussion Group

Looking for a place to explore *The Story* with others? Join us as we meet to discuss the weekly readings from *The Story* and the weekly devotional questions.

When: *Wednesdays, 12-1pm, starting September 24th*

Where: S-1 (next to the Sanctuary)

Contact: Tamara Strehli, tstrehli@sierravista.org

Book: *The Story* (available in the Gathering Spaces) Also, bring a Bible. Copies of the weekly devotional questions will be provided.

Meet Your Bible is postponed until next year.

Small Group Intro

Small groups are an important way to experience community and grow in our faith. Every human being wants to be known and to do good things in and for the world. Our vision is for a two-year, intentional journey, of growing into deeply committed followers of Jesus, but you only sign up for an initial six weeks. There is a natural exit point at the six-week mark, and the group will reevaluate their plans at this point. There is no prep work to attend a session. Simply show up.

When: *Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm starting September 16th*

Where: Life Center 205 (upstairs)

Contacts: Linda Alvis, (304) 320-8852 and Andrea Souflee, (817) 504-6385

Book: *Communities of Blessing* (will be handed out at the first meeting)

Suggested donation: \$15

SVUMC Digging Deeper Book Club (DDBC)

This fall we will reading and discussing, *Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace* by Lacey C. Warner. Reading and discussing this book together, we'll have an opportunity to deepen our understanding of our connection with the United Methodist Church. What makes us unique? What do we value? What would help us to live with compassion and grace? Perfect for anyone seeking to enhance their faith through enlivening discussions, reflecting and growing together in authentic community.

When: *Thursdays, 6:00pm, starting September 11th* (no reading for this first session)

Where: Fellowship Hall: Covenant Classroom

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

Book: *Knowing Who We Are: The Wesleyan Way of Grace* by Lacey C.

Warner Please purchase book from www.cokesbury.com or your favorite bookseller.

Monday Evening Women's Bible Study

Join us for an 8-week study of the Book of Amos by Jennifer Rothschild. Known as a prophet of doom, Amos calls us beyond condemnation to God's invitation: "Seek God and live" (Amos 5:4). Together we'll explore what it means to live assured, faithful, chosen, humble, just, prayerful, and hopeful—the God life, which is the good life. Our first session will begin with chapter 1.

When: Mondays, 6:30 pm, beginning September 8th

Where: Fellowship Hall

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

Book: Amos by Jennifer Rothschild (available by contacting Debbie, or through your favorite bookseller).

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Join us for our fall session of the Tuesday Women's Bible Study beginning Tuesday, August 26th with an introductory class to meet and greet and go over procedures. We will begin our 12-week study, *Surrendered: Letting Go and Living Like Jesus* by Barb Roose, on the following week. The study will end on November 18th, the week before Thanksgiving.

When: Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., starting August 26th

Where: S-1 (across from the Sanctuary)

Contact: LuAnn Lupton at luannlupton@yahoo.com.

Book: *Surrendered: Letting Go and Living Like Jesus* by Barb Roose. (contact LuAnn Lupton for a book, or contact Church Office. (325) 944-4041)

Cost: \$16

30-40's Something Women's Bible Study

We are a group of 30-early 40's women gathering to Join us as we study the book of James using a study approach to guide us from the book *Women of the Word* by Jen Wilkin.

When: Thursdays, 5:30 pm, starting September 11th

Where: Life Center, Room 205

Contact: Gina Miller

Saturday Night Study Group

Join us this fall for a 7-week study of *Good Boundaries and Goodbyes* by Lysa Terkeurst. Together, we'll explore how to love others well without losing ourselves in the process, learning practical ways to set healthy boundaries that honor both God and our relationships. This study will provide encouragement, wisdom, and space for honest conversation as we walk through the challenges of creating balance in our lives. We'd love for you to be part of this journey!

When: *Saturdays, 4:15-5:15pm, starting September 6th*

Where: Fellowship Hall: Covenant Classroom

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

Book: *Good Boundaries and Goodbyes* by Lysa Terkeurst ; A study guide with links to streaming videos is also optional. Both are available through www.cokesbury.com or your favorite book seller.

***“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***

BURST

(Building Up Relationships in a Short Time)

A BURST is a gathering meant to build up relationships in a short time. This group will primarily be for those who are not part of another small group at Sierra Vista and will give you a way to connect with others who are experiencing similar life stage events. At the end of the 6-8 weeks, you will have the opportunity to continue meeting as a group, join another small group, or take a break until another BURST is introduced.

Parents with School-Aged Children (birth-5th Grade)

This group offers a meaningful space to deepen your own understanding of the Christian faith in the United Methodist tradition—so you can better walk alongside your children in their faith. We'll explore core beliefs, ask honest questions, and grow in faith—together. By engaging your own faith journey, you'll be better equipped to encourage, guide, and support your child as they take important steps in their spiritual formation. This group also provides the chance to connect with other parents who are navigating this same meaningful season.

When: *Sundays, 9:45-10:45am, starting September 7th for 6 weeks.*

Where: Life Center, Room 204

Contact: Madison Woehl, mwoehl@sierravista.org

Sign up: Either through the QR code on the catalog or by going to Events on your Church app

Parents of Recent & Upcoming Confirmands

Whether you were confirmed as a youth or never had the opportunity, this group offers a meaningful space to deepen your own understanding of the Christian faith in the United Methodist tradition—so you can better walk alongside your youth in theirs.

Just as in youth confirmation, we'll explore core beliefs, ask honest questions, and grow in faith—together. By engaging your own faith journey, you'll be better equipped to encourage, guide, and support your child as they take important steps in their spiritual formation. This group also provides the chance to connect with other parents who are navigating this same meaningful season. Led by our pastors.

When: *Sundays, 9:45-10:45am, starting September 7th for 8 weeks.*

Where: Life Center, Room 202

Contact: Donnie Bowers, dbowers@sierravista.org

Sign up: Either through the QR code on the catalog or by going to Events on your app and registering there.

Ongoing Bible Study & Prayer Groups

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

Contact: Mark White, (325) 234-2111

To sign up, just join in on any Wednesday!

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.

Online Weekly 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 our ZOOM **Weekly 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. The book covers the whole year, with weekly themes and daily prayers and reflections. We meet weekly, to do the Wednesday morning prayer together for the week and briefly discuss the theme of the week.

When: *Wednesdays, 7–7:30am*

Where: ZOOM

Contact: Tamara Strehli at tstrehli@sierravista.org.

Book: *The Methodist Book of Daily Prayer* by Matt Miofsky (Available through cokebury.com or your favorite book seller)

Body, Mind and Soul Connections

Men's Grill 'n Chill

Men you are invited to grill steaks, while sharing in fun and fellowship together. Steaks and fixins - including spices, sides and drinks.

RSVP required.

When: *Thursday, September 25th & Thursday, November 13th*

Contact: Kyle Toomire, ktoomire@sierravista.org

Suggested Donation: \$10

Men's Pick-up Basketball

Men from high school and up are invited to break out their sneakers and play some pickup basketball in our new sports ministry program! Here we are looking to have a Christian-based basketball league where we can have clean and friendly, but competitive, basketball with some time for prayer and devotional worked in. Currently, we are only offering basketball to men high school and up; however, if enough interest is expressed, we would love to start additional leagues, like a women's league or a league specifically for senior citizens.

When: *Every 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings 6pm-8pm*

Where: Life Center Gym

Contact: Reeve Brown (210) 288-8727; rbrown@sierravista.org

Pickleball

Pickleball players of all levels are invited to come and play pickleball! We will have three indoor courts (beginner, intermediate, competitive) and paddles will be provided if needed. Since this is part of our new sports ministry program we will have built in time for prayer and devotional.

When: *Every 1st and 3rd Saturday morning 9am-11am*

Where: Life Center Gym

Contact: Reeve Brown (210) 288-8727; rbrown@sierravista.org

Balance & Strength for Life: Men & Women Staying Safe and Independent Longer!

This group class is designed to increase balance & flexibility. Movements can be chair assisted for safety.

When: *Mondays, 10:00 am*

Where: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Cheryl Specht, (325) 234-8822

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 am*

Where: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Melinda Springer, melspringer@hotmail.com.

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: *Mondays and Fridays from 8-11*

Where: Fellowship Hall

Contact: Beverly Nevins, (325) 374-7589

Surviving the Holidays

Are you navigating grief and loss during holidays? This event will provide you encouragement, support and valuable tools to help navigate the season.

When: *Monday, November 17th, 6pm-8pm*

Where: S-1 Classroom off the Narthex/Gathering Space

Contact: Margot Porterfield, mporterfield@sierravista.org

Connectional Ministries

Gatherings

- **Sept 9th Circuit Singers**
 - Come Sing with us at Lyndale Senior Living as we share familiar hymns with the residents. Join us for lunch after we sing at an area restaurant.
 - Meet at 10 am. Bus leaves the church at 9:40.
- **Sept 16th – Outing to the Catholic church in Rowena**
 - Join us to see the stained glass and then eat at Frozen in Time.
- **Sept 26 – Ladies’ Night Out aka the Toss and Roll**
 - This is a covered dish dinner and Bunco game night. No previous Bunco experience necessary.
 - 6pm in The Family Life Center.
- **October 21st – ASU Planetarium Trip**
 - Meet at 10am, bus leaves at 9:30.
 - Lunch to follow.
- **November 18th – Movie Morning**
 - Featuring “Quiet Man” with John Wayne and Maureen O’Hara
 - 10 am in Chapel Hall with lunch to follow.
- **December 1 – Women’s Advent by Candlelight Dinner**
 - 6pm in the Family Life Center.
 - Program at 7pm in the Sanctuary.
- **December 9 – Circuit Singers Arbor Terrace Christmas Party**
 - Join as we provide a festive Christmas sing-a-long and party to residents at Arbor Terrace.
 - Meet at 9 am. Bus leaves at 9:15. Lunch to follow.

For more information on these Connectional Ministry opportunities email Margot Porterfield at mporterfield@sierravista.org. You may also sign up through the QR code in this brochure.



Scan here to sign up for classes!



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