



# First United Methodist Church of Salinas

## Thursday Thoughts

404 Lincoln Ave., Salinas, CA 93901 (831) 424-0855 [hope@salinasfirst.org](mailto:hope@salinasfirst.org)



**May 18, 2017**

--from Pastor Steve

Once a month, Karla and I attend a book study with a group of Christians from a variety of churches in and around Salinas. It is a fun group and we have been studying two books written by a guy named Robert Lupton. One of the books is called "Toxic Charity," and the other is called "Charity Detox." The basic idea here is that some forms of help are not that helpful and even create dependency and entitlement. While I don't agree with everything Lupton says, he does write about a number of issues and concerns that I have been thinking about for a while. I hope to do a study of one or both of these books here. It is an important book to think about in the light of our Neighborhood Ministry.

One of the things that really made me think was Lupton's Oath for Compassionate Service. It goes like this:

1. I will never do for others what they have (or could have) the capacity to do for themselves.
2. I will limit one-way giving to emergency situations.
3. I will seek ways to empower through employment, lending, and investing, using grants sparingly to reinforce achievements.
4. I will put the interests of the poor above my own (or organization) self-interest even when it means setting aside my own agenda.

5. I will listen closely to those I seek to help, especially to what is not being said -- unspoken feelings may contain essential clues to effective service.

6. Above all, to the best of my ability, I will do no harm.

These are really insightful and could radically change the way we do our Neighborhood Ministry. Would you like to be a part of a group that studies and discusses these ideas? Let me know.

Blessings,

Steve

### **Leadership Council**

will meet this Saturday  
May 20 at 3pm.

### **TIME CHANGE**

#### **Bible Study Friday**

**Every Friday at 10:00 AM**, Pastor Steve leads a bible study in the Patio (Blue) Room. This study follows the weekly sermon agenda and has a free book of scripture readings and insights.

***Choir Practice*** is on Summer Hiatus

#### ***Next Men's Breakfast***

will be Saturday,  
May 27<sup>th</sup> @ 9AM

in the Fellowship Hall.

Remember every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday

**BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday**

## Health Watch

In our awesome congregation with 'baby boomers', 'silent generation' members and older knowing the facts about shingles and the available vaccination can mean the difference between no shingles or an outbreak with potentially lifelong neuralgia (nerve pain) afterwards. Here's a link to an easy to read CDC info sheet about this important health topic.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/shingles.pdf>

### **LADIES NIGHT OUT**

*will enjoy dinner at:*

***"Golden China Restaurant"***

***1250 N. Main St.***

***Wednesday Evening,***

***June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM***

Everyone is welcome.

***Prayer Shawl Ministry's*** first (1st) Tuesday evening gathering meets from 6 - 8PM in the prayer chapel. The third (3rd) Saturday morning gathering meets from 10AM - noon same location. It is not necessary to know how to knit or crochet, we have teachers, books, Websites to refer you to and all the materials you will need. We hope to have YOU join us! Much of the knitting & crocheting is done at home; the two gathering times are for knitting or crocheting with fellow needle artists, recharging your 'stash' of supplies, to learn 'tips' or simply pray and enjoy fellowship with other needle artists. Hope to see you there! For any questions or more info contact Gaile at 905-9662 or Ginger at 455-2007.



## **NM NEEDS SUPPLIES**

***Thank you so much for your continued responses to the need for coffee, the usual pants and shirts as well as belts, tampons, reading glasses, nail clippers and travel size lotion. Also needed are hangers and women's underwear.***

Cindy, Lisa, Barbara, Ann & the rest.

Thursday Thoughts is published every week by the First United Methodist Church in Salinas Ca. Request your copy at [hope@salinasfirst.org](mailto:hope@salinasfirst.org) and we will email it to you, or pick up a copy when you visit. Announcements should be received by Wednesday. We welcome your comments and look forward to hearing from you. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to worship with us this Sunday at 9:00 AM (casual) or 10:30 AM (classic with choir and organ)

**First United Methodist Church  
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831-424-0855**

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**Haati Nai, Lay Leader**  
**Gaile Patton, Lay Leader**  
**Rebecca Smith, Director, Chancel Choir**  
**Siope Oliveti, Director, The Choir**  
**Carolyn Lamcke, Organist**

**BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday - BBQ Sunday**