

The New Testament calls Jesus by many names:

Son of God • Son of Man • Messiah • Christ • Savior • Lamb of God

Jesus calls himself our friend and Paul says he is our brother.

These names reveal who Jesus is and what he came to do. Some

names resonate with us more strongly at different periods in our lives.

## In this retreat we will ask ourselves who do we say Jesus is at this moment in our lives.

The Central Valley District UMW invites YOU to join us in a Virtual Spiritual Growth Retreat

SATURDAY, JUNE 19 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. via ZOOM

## **REGISTER HERE**

## Who do YOU say I am?

We have lived through an unprecedented event over the last year and a half.

Who has Jesus been for you during a time of pandemic?

How has your understanding of who he is changed in that time? Perhaps the name by which you knew him best brought comfort, or perhaps you discovered that you were drawn to a different name.

How did that name help you survive the pandemic?

What name speaks to your soul as we emerge from the worst of it?

- Pray about the names of Jesus over the next few weeks
- Reflect upon the name that has been most helpful in recent days
- Search for an object that reflects that relationship
- Bring your object to the retreat with you

We will invite you to share it and how it reflects who Jesus is for you. Example, if Jesus as Savior has been the name that has spoken most deeply to you, you might share a cross.

Surprise us with your imagination!



## Meet our Retreat Leader Pastor Allison Byerly

Allison Byerley likes to say that she was born a Methodist. Her parents, adopted her from the Methodist Mission Home in San Antonio when she was just seven days old in 1962. Two years later they would adopt her sister Lisa. Allison grew up in Houston and graduated from Rice University in 1985. She worked in Information Technology until she left

to serve as a student pastor and complete seminary in 1999.

Allison served her first church In East Texas, near Tyler. After graduating from Perkins School of Theology in 2001, Allison spent a year in England and served as a pastor in the British Methodist Church in the village of Liphook, a village about 50 miles south of London in Hampshire County.

Upon returning to the US, Allison served as an associate pastor in northwest Houston for five years. In 2007 she was appointed to FUMC Jefferson and Smithland UMC in northeast Texas and in 2013 she moved to Hawkins, TX. In 2017, Allison moved to the California-Nevada Annual Conference, serving as pastor in Mariposa, gateway to Yosemite National Park. Allison felt God calling her west and the fruit she has seen in Mariposa confirmed the Spirit's leading. In 2020 she was appointed pastor of Tulare UMC.

Allison is not married and does not have any children. She does have nieces. Her sister has two stepdaughters, both married with young children, and twin teenagers Haley and Marissa. You'll hear a lot about the twins. They are successful college students and competitive swimmers. Allison is proud of them!

In 2019, Allison made contact with her birth families. Her mother and an aunt visited in October, and Allison was able to meet the rest of her maternal family July 2020.

Allison loves animals and has cats and dogs. Come by and meet Kinsey, Toby, Colby, and Bailey.

Allison likes movies, is a needlework artist, and loves to read. She also loves Mexican food and is always looking for recommendations for good places to eat locally.