

# SENTINEL



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November 2018



## HORIZONS

“Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life...  
It makes sense of our past,  
brings peace for today,  
and creates a vision for tomorrow.”  
(Melodie Beattie)



November is a month-long festival of giving thanks! We begin with our annual remembrance of All Saints Sunday on November 4, grateful for all those who have gone before, that great circle of love that knows no boundaries of time or space.

We are grateful and we give thanks!

We celebrate our annual celebration of mission and ministry which we call our “Charge Conference” on Sunday, November 18. Led by our District Superintendent, Rev. Mark Nakagawa, we will share food and fellowship around our tables as we lift up all the incredible ways we have sought to be faithful disciples of Christ this year. In worship, service, praise, witness and prayer, we, the congregation of First UMC Santa Monica, continue to “Be the Hope” in lives near and far.

We are grateful and we give thanks!

As we have so generously received, we recommit ourselves to giving back, giving to support the mission and ministry of the church in our pledges and gifts. If you’re already pledging, prayerfully consider giving even more generously. If you’re giving regularly, try on the spiritual practice of making an annual pledge. If you’re new to all this—start by setting aside your weekly or monthly gift to the church. We will offer our pledges and gifts on Consecration Sunday, November 25.

We are grateful and we give thanks!

Together, with grateful and generous hearts, in joy and hope, let us rejoice, giving thanks for the past, finding peace for today in a world where no one lives in need or fear, together creating a vision for tomorrow that extends God’s love from our Thanksgiving tables to God’s children the world over.

We are grateful and we give thanks!

*Patricia Farris*  
Senior Minister

## Church Charge Conference

Join First UMC for the annual Church Charge Conference! We will engage in a joyful and worshipful celebration of this year’s accomplishments. The agenda includes reports on the ministries and missions of First UMC, financial items, membership matters, and election of officers and council members for the coming year. We welcome back West District Superintendent Rev. Mark Nakagawa! Lunch will be served and child care will be provided.

**Sunday November 18, 11 a.m. after worship, in Simkins Hall**



West District Superintendent Rev. Mark Nakagawa and Rev. Patricia Farris during last year’s Charge Conference.

# NOVEMBER Calendar

## Friday, November 2

5 - 8 p.m. United Methodist Women's Holiday Bazaar, Fireside Room

## Saturday, November 3

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Habitat for Humanity Build, Off-site

**Sunday, November 4** - *All Saints Sunday* • *Holy Communion* •

*Stewardship Campaign begins* • *Daylight Saving Time ends (clocks back 1 hour)*

## Friday, November 9

7:30 p.m. Shareringer Monthly Dinner Meeting, Fireside Room

## Saturday, November 10

10 a.m. DanceFit!, Room 300

4:30 - 6 p.m. Messy Church, Chapel/Simkins Hall

## Sunday, November 11 - Veterans Day

11 a.m. Free Blood Pressure Screenings, Simkins Hall (\*date change)

6 p.m. simple supper/ 2019 Haiti Mission Trip Information Meeting, Room 101 (\*note room change)

## Thursday, November 15

5:30 p.m. Family Place Community Meal - A Taste of Thanksgiving, Family Place (\*date change)

## Saturday, November 17

9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilt Workparty, Room 300

## Sunday, November 18 - CHARGE CONFERENCE SUNDAY

11 a.m. Charge Conference, Simkins Hall

11 a.m. Cakes for a Cause Fundraiser, Alcove

**Thursday, November 22** - *Thanksgiving Day: Church and Preschool campus closed*

**Friday, November 23** - *Church and Preschool campus closed*

**Sunday, November 25** - *Thanksgiving/Consecration Sunday*

11 a.m. Angel Tree Project begins, Alcove

**Tuesday, November 27** - *UMC Giving Tuesday*

*\*In November, Labyrinth Walk available by reservation only.\**

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### Thursday, November 15

6:30 p.m. Staff-Parish Relations Committee, CR-A

### Sunday, November 18

9 a.m. Staff-Parish Relations Committee, CR-A

## WEEKLY or BIMONTHLY AT FIRST UMC

**Mondays:** Church Office Closed

**Tuesdays:** 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast Bible Study, Fireside Room

**Thursdays:** 7:40 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

## SUNDAYS-AT-A-GLANCE

9 a.m. Lectionary Scripture Discussion, Fireside Room

9 a.m. Partnership with God Sunday School, Room 101

9:30 a.m. Nursery Care, Room 204

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Warmup, Choir Room

### 10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:10 a.m. Sunday School, Education Bldg.

10:10 a.m. Youth Connect, Room 203 (1st & 3rd Sundays)

11 a.m. Fellowship, Simkins Hall in The Shelby Center

### 5 p.m. simple church, Chapel

6 p.m. UMYF Meeting, Youth Lounge



# United Methodist Women Holiday Bazaar



United Methodist Women are ready for their annual Holiday Bazaar, which benefits mission projects and is UMW's principal fundraiser. The bazaar is a festive way to jump-start your holiday shopping! Don't miss handmade goods, casseroles, fudge, baked goods, attic treasures, a Silent Auction and more!

**Friday, November 2, 5 - 8 p.m. \$7.50 entrance fee, (includes soup, bread, coffee and cookie) in the Fireside Room.**

**Sundays, December 2, 9, 16 (free entrance) 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. after worship in the UMW Workroom.**



## White Ribbon Memorial



As we approach All Saints Day, First UMC will honor those who have died with the White Ribbon Memorial. For our All Saints Sunday service on **November 4**, all ribbons will be tied to the string and hung in the sanctuary and the Chapel for worship services.

## DanceFit!

First UMC member Whitney Hagan leads DanceFit: "DanceFit is inspired by Zumba, a high-energy interval workout set to upbeat music, featuring choreographed dance tailored for fitness. You don't need to be a great dancer to feel welcome in DanceFit! The class is designed for multiple levels, including beginners." Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and bring a towel. Water will be available. No charge but donations appreciated. Kids are welcome. Tell your friends!

**Saturday, November 10, 10 - 11 a.m. in Room 300**

## Messy Church

Messy Church is a great opportunity for families to be together in worship without the worry of being too silly or "messy" because, let's face it, life can be messy! At Messy Church, we grow in our relationship with God and with one another through crafts, activities, music, and stories of God's love. Then, together we enjoy a shared meal. Be ready to get messy! *November theme: The Lord's Prayer.*



**Saturday, November 10, 4:30 - 6 p.m. in the Chapel/Simkins Hall**

*Save the Date - Saturday, December 8: The Filipino community of First UMC invites you to a special Messy Church. More details to come!*

## simple supper Haiti Information Potluck

The 2019 Haiti Mission Trip is coming up March 2019. If you are interested in participating—whether by going or through your support—or if you'd just like to learn more, please come to the simple supper potluck on November 11 following simple church. The potluck will be a simple, casual dinner (bring a dish to share) and a time to talk and pray about this opportunity with Haiti team leaders and some past participants.

**Sunday, November 11, 5 - 6 p.m. simple church in the Chapel,  
followed by simple supper in Room 101**

*\*Please allow for extra time to park this evening as there is a large event in the Sanctuary.\**

simple supper



## Family Place Community Meal - A Taste of Thanksgiving

The November Family Place Community Meal date has been rescheduled one week earlier due to the holiday but our dishes for the evening will celebrate just that, Thanksgiving. Sign up online to bring a Thanksgiving-inspired dish or a Kid's Craft/Activity: [www.santamonicaumc.org/community-meal](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/community-meal). For questions, contact the meal volunteers Dan Stirling and Anna Rogers: [meal@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:meal@santamonicaumc.org). Visit the website for more information: [www.santamonicaumc.org/community-meal](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/community-meal).



**Thursday, November 15, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Family Place (1020 12th St.)**

## United Methodist Youth Fellowship: Cakes For a Cause Fundraiser

While you're attending the Church Charge Conference, be sure to support our youth as they sell Cakes for a Cause. This annual event was started by the youth seven years ago to raise money for a mission project serving the poor in different parts of the world. The youth bake and decorate delicious cakes and cupcakes available for purchase, with all of the funds raised going to support a cause.

This year's cause will go towards relief and rebuilding efforts in Puerto Rico through UMCOR. "UMCOR will continue to support Puerto Rico so that those who are served through MCPR not only survive, but thrive," said Cathy Earl, UMCOR's director of disaster response and U.S. partner relations. "We will be there for the long haul." To read the full article, go to: [www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2017/september/standing-in-solidarity-with-puerto-rico](http://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2017/september/standing-in-solidarity-with-puerto-rico).

**Sunday, November 18, 11 a.m. in the Alcove, during Charge Conference**

## Angel Tree Project



First UMC church member Chris Ruud is organizing her 16th year of the Angel Tree Project - a community effort to provide homeless families at Upward Bound House with much-needed household items. Stop by the Angel Tree table during Coffee Fellowship on Sunday mornings in Simkins Hall to sponsor a gift. Then return the wrapped gift back to the church office by Sunday December 16. For questions, contact Chris Ruud: [chr10is@yahoo.com](mailto:chr10is@yahoo.com).

**Beginning November 25 after worship in the Alcove**

## UMC Giving Tuesday

On **November 27**, United Methodists will once again come together to support the work of Advance missionaries and projects on UMC #GivingTuesday. Consider supporting a project in an area you care about, such as food and agriculture, church development, disaster response and relief, education, health, economic empowerment, social justice, WASH/Water and Sanitation, women and children, and mission personnel.

**For a complete list of projects, visit: [www.umcmision.org/Give-to-Mission](http://www.umcmision.org/Give-to-Mission)**



*Flower Orders - Available dates at press time:  
**November 4, 11, 25.** Please contact the church  
office to order flowers for one of these dates.*

## LOOKING FORWARD

### A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 7:30 PM**



### *An Evening of Carols, Etc.*

Featuring the Premiere Performance of

### **Magnificat**

by Michael McClish

The Chancel Choir  
Ty Woodward, organ  
The Mark Twain Ringers  
Chamber Orchestra  
Rev. Patricia Farris, spoken words  
James E. Smith, conductor

*Suggested donation at the door: \$10.00  
Seniors and Children under 12: \$5.00*

# Animal Art Exhibit – The Second Time Around

by Shalimar Carducci

First UMC Ministries & Communications  
Coordinator

I hope you've visited the Fireside Room lately to view some beautiful works of art by the local community. If you haven't, then get to it since it will be ending very soon!



Shalimar Carducci

The 2nd Annual **Big & Small Animal Art** exhibit is comprised of fifteen artists, four of which are church members: Allan D. Walker, David R. Landsverk, and Joyce Landsverk who are returning artists, and new this year, Terri Pearson.

We welcomed back Elkpen who you might remember had the *KNOW, LOVE, DO - Changing Nature and Us* exhibit and gave an artist talk during Lent. Fabian Lewkowicz (Santa Monica's unofficial photographer), Gerry Stewart (my uncle), John August Swanson (one of our favorites and who will have an Advent exhibit – stay tuned!), and Lisa Goldfarb (referred by a preschool parent last year) all returned with beautiful art once again to share.

One of our new artists, Dr. Lauretta Coumarbatch, submitted her sea turtle painting after she received the event postcard. It was given to her by a friend who sang as a cantor in our Sanctuary during the Santa Monica Synagogue services in September. Lauretta then submitted her musician friend, Cortney Matz, who sang with piano as a live

performance installation – which made the exhibit opening on October 6th that much more special. A few artists came by way of referrals, one from a church member, the other from an alumni preschool family, and others by, well, me. Have you seen Tina Gage's jelly fish piece? Tina is the one that puts this Sentinel you're reading together. She too has had an exhibit here.

One morning, a couple weeks after the opening, I ran into a church member in the Fireside Room. He was sitting quietly after the Men's Breakfast Bible Study meeting, reading something on his tablet. We chatted briefly and the subject of the art came up. He told me that he really appreciated the exhibit because it reminds him that life is



Nathan Oney viewing the exhibit

beautiful and here, on display in our Fireside Room, are people's versions of it that we get to enjoy.

I'll be honest, putting this exhibit together in collaboration with the Blessing of the Animals is a bit daunting plus with the art theme of sea creatures, I didn't exactly have an immediate flood of submissions like I did last year. But hearing that feedback, seeing all the animals from the blessings, experiencing the nervous excitement with an artist who's showing work for the first time, connecting the dots from artists to First UMC and getting to know them and the visitors, plus with the help of some amazing people who volunteered for both the exhibit and the Blessing of the Animals – Thank you, Karen Hopkins, Karen Furnas, Joy Peterman, Terri Pearson, Georgia Vestakis, Karen Lewis, Jamie Jones, Mia Staraci, Lisa Goldfarb, and Tina Gage – All that this event brings to the community gets me excited for the next one!

That said, the theme for the 3rd Annual *Big & Small Animal Art* show will be **BIRDS**. Please plan your creativity accordingly. Check out the website for more information on artists and to see photos from the events. [www.santamonicaumc.org/firesideroomart](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/firesideroomart).

## FIRST UMC

COMMUNITY

### Congratulations

• to First UMC member **John Pfister** on his marriage to Ariana Keene on October 6.

### Baptisms

• **Elizabeth Grace Donahoe**, born to parents and Thomas Donahoe and Amanda Weinberg, was baptized on October 28 by Rev. Patricia Farris.

• **Mia Arielle Staraci** was baptized on October 28 by Rev. Patricia Farris.

### Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of these departed loved ones:

• First UMC member Rose Kujawa's brother **Walter Joseph Kujawa** died September 24.

• We recently learned of the death of our member, **Carl Richard Johnson**. We give thanks for his life and life everlasting.

Church Member

50+  
Years

We honor the First UMC church members who have reached the 50-year mark this year:

**Jeff Jones**  
**Fred McNairy**  
**Charlene Earnest**  
**Janis Anthony**

# HAPPENINGS at First UMC



Youth Service Project Report Back, led by Tricia Guerrero



Adam Guerrero, Youth Counselor



Emily Payne, Youth Counselor, during her report



Annual Blessing of the Animals



Blessings led by Tricia Guerrero, Patty Hedges, Rev. Patricia Farris, and Nathan Oney



## PRESCHOOL CORNER



Preschool Fall Festival and 70th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
of SANTA MONICA

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Church Office Hours: Tues - Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Chapel Open for Prayer: Tues - Fri, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

## WORSHIP - SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

### NOVEMBER 4

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
All Saints Sunday • Holy Communion  
Homily by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church  
simple church All Saints Service

### NOVEMBER 11

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
25th Sunday in Kingdomtide  
Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church  
Reflections by Tricia Guerrero

### NOVEMBER 18

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
Charge Conference Sunday  
Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church  
Reflections by Guest Speaker Kristia Oney

### NOVEMBER 25

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
Thanksgiving/Consecration Sunday  
Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church  
Reflections by Nathan Oney



## On the Website

The 2019 Annual Giving Stewardship Campaign invites us each and all to prayerfully consider our financial pledge to support the mission and ministries of First UMC.

To fill out a pledge card online visit  
[www.santamonicaumc.org/stewardship](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/stewardship)  
or fill out a pledge card available throughout the church campus and bring it in to Thanksgiving / Consecration Sunday worship on November 25.