

SENTINEL

vol. cxliv, no. 4

April 2019



HORIZONS

“Politics is the art of the possible, the attainable — the art of the next best.” So said Otto von Bismarck, the first Chancellor of the German Empire, 1871-1890, master of realpolitik and balance of power diplomacy.

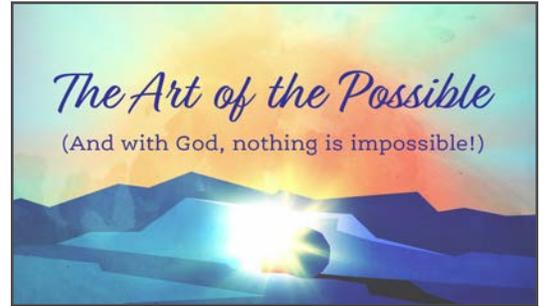
Happily, our God plays by different rules with different aims in mind. Otherwise, the sealed-up tomb might have been the end of the story. Actually, there wouldn't be a Christian story at all, were it not for the fact that the stone was rolled away and the tomb was empty; were it not for the fact that our crucified Lord and Savior is raised from the dead, ushering in the Reign of Joy which fills our lives in every moment and points to life everlasting in the love and peace of God.

Our God never settles for “what is possible” or “the next best.” God reimagines “the possible” to open new windows to ever new hopes and dreams and visions. Our God is—now and always—making all things new. And with our God, nothing is impossible.

Come share in the worship experiences of Lent/Holy Week/Easter to open windows of new possibilities in your heart and mind and soul. Invite along a friend who may be longing for the same. The Risen Lord waits to greet you all and fill you with life-ever-new.

Patuui Jamis

Senior Minister



Holy Week 2019



APRIL 14: PALM SUNDAY

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
Waving of Palms and Loud Hosannas!
Worship is followed by Easter Egg Hunt and Family Brunch



APRIL 20: simple church EASTER VIGIL

7:30 p.m. Courtyard/Chapel
An ancient liturgy of Light, Word, and Communion



APRIL 18: MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Worship
Communion, Prayer, and Darkness



APRIL 21: EASTER SUNDAY

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service
Palisades Park (Santa Monica Blvd. & Ocean Ave.)
Bring fresh flowers for the cross, and a lawn chair or blankets.
Hot cocoa and coffee served.



APRIL 19: GOOD FRIDAY

Prayer Vigil **9 a.m. - 9 p.m.**, First UMC Chapel
Open all day to pray and “watch with Jesus.”
Community Mid-day Service **12 p.m.**
St. Paul's Lutheran (958 Lincoln Blvd)
Service based on the Stations of the Cross.
Good Friday Labyrinth Walk **1-9 p.m.**,
Simkins Hall. The Labyrinth will be open for walking,
every step a prayer.



10 a.m. Easter Celebration Worship

First UMC Sanctuary
Family Service, Choir, Brass, Organ, Flowers, and Alleluias!
(nursery care provided)

Community Evening Service **7:30 p.m.**, St. Paul's Lutheran
(958 Lincoln Blvd) Service based on the Passion of St. John.

APRIL Calendar

Tuesday, April 2

7 p.m. Open Space Gathering, Off-site

Wednesday, April 3

7 p.m. Lenten Yoga, Fireside Room

Friday, April 5

5:30 p.m. Parents Night Out/Kids Fun Night, 2nd Fl. Edu Bldg.

Saturday, April 6

7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Habitat for Humanity Build (Young Adults), Off-site

10 a.m. DanceFit, Room 300

Sunday, April 7

10 a.m. Service of Lessons & Anthems, Sanctuary

11 a.m. Youth Service Project See's Candy Fundraiser, Alcove

1 p.m. UCLA's 580 Cafe 4th Annual Spring Showcase, Off-site

Wednesday, April 10

12:10 p.m. Mid-Week Recital/Reception, Sanctuary/Fireside Room

7 p.m. Lenten Yoga, Simkins Hall

Friday, April 12 - Methodist Scholarship applications available

7 p.m. Shareringers Monthly Meeting, Fireside Room

Saturday, April 13

10 a.m. Prayer Quilt Workparty, Room 300

Sunday, April 14 - Palm Sunday

10 a.m. Palm Sunday Service, Sanctuary

11 a.m. Youth Service Project See's Candy Fundraiser, Alcove

11:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Brunch, Easter Egg Hunt, Simkins Hall/ Courtyard

Thursday, April 18 - Maundy Thursday

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary

Friday, April 19 - Good Friday

9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Good Friday Prayer Vigil, Chapel

12 p.m. Community Mid-Day Service St. Paul's Lutheran Church, (958 Lincoln Blvd)

1-9 p.m., Good Friday Labyrinth Walk, Simkins Hall.

7:30 p.m. Community Evening Service, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, (958 Lincoln Blvd)

7:30 p.m. Community Evening Service, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, (958 Lincoln Blvd)

7:30 p.m. Community Evening Service, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, (958 Lincoln Blvd)

Saturday, April 20

7:30 p.m. simple church Easter Vigil, Chapel

Sunday, April 21 - Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service, Palisades Park (Santa Monica Blvd., and Ocean Ave.)

10 a.m. Easter Celebration Worship, Sanctuary

Thursday, April 25

5:30 p.m. Family Place Community Meal, Off-site

Saturday, April 27

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. West District Conference, Faith UMC Torrance

10 a.m. DanceFit!, Room 300

Sunday, April 28

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive, Simkins Hall

11:30 a.m. Book Study/Potluck, Fireside Room

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Saturday, April 6 - 8 a.m. Lay Leadership Team Meeting, FR

Sunday, April 7 - 11 a.m. Missions Council Meeting, CR-A

Thursday, April 11 - 7 p.m. Habitat for Humanity Meeting, Fireside Rm

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.

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

5 p.m. simple church, Chapel

6 p.m. UMYF Meeting, Youth Lounge

HOLY WEEK

Open Space Young Adult Gathering

Open Space is a model of young adult ministry, shared across the Methodist connection, that seeks to utilize Wesley's community framework to create spaces to invite young adults into a process of spiritual discovery, growth, and belonging. Led by Pastoral Associate Nathan Oney, the Monthly Gathering takes place in public space where young adults tend to go. For more information, contact Nathan Oney: n.oney@santamonicaumc.org.

Tuesday, April 2, 7 p.m., Off-site



Lenten Yoga Series

Continuing in April, Open Space invites people of all ages to add the spiritual discipline of yoga to your Lenten practice. Led by Kristia Oney, the series will incorporate gentle, restorative, and energizing physical movement (with modifications for all mobility and flexibility levels) along with guidance through scripture, connecting body, mind, and spirit to continue in this season with intention.

Wednesdays, April 3 (Fireside Room) April 10, 7 p.m. (Simkins Hall)

Parents' Date Night & Kids' Fun Night

While parents enjoy an evening out, children are provided a safe and fun night of games, activities and crafts, pizza dinner, and a movie with our trained childcare team. Pre-registration is required: To sign up, **register online no later than April 3, 6 p.m.** For questions, please contact Tricia Guerrero, Director of Children and Youth Ministry at: t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org, or 310-393-8258 (ext. 104). \$25/child + \$10 for each additional sibling, 3 years through 5th grade (if interested in childcare for 2 and under, please let us know.)

Friday, April 5, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., in the First UMC Education Bldg., 2nd Floor

First UMC takes the care and safety of children seriously. We follow Safe Sanctuaries® practices, which is our commitment to the physical safety and spiritual growth of all of our children, youth and adults.



Habitat for Humanity Young Adult Build

The Habitat for Humanity/ Patience House Build is showing great progress, and now roofs are on all of the houses! The next build date for First UMC is for the young adults.

You must be at least 18 years old. If you're interested in participating, contact Nathan Oney: n.oney@santamonicaumc.org, there are still a couple of spots available.

Build date: Saturday, April 6, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (4000 block of Globe Avenue in Culver City)



DanceFit!

Join us twice a month for DanceFit, a class inspired by... you guessed it! Fitness focused dance! At DanceFit you can dance, sweat, and meet new people; smile, get fit, and let the week's stresses slip away. DanceFit is a follow-along fitness class set to upbeat, contemporary pop music. It's designed for all levels, with variations to modify based on your fitness / comfort level. Join us for our next class, we can't wait to welcome you into the DanceFit Family! Water will be available. No charge but donations appreciated. Kids are welcome. Tell your friends!

Saturdays, April 6 & 27, 10 - 11 a.m. in Room 300

Service of Lessons & Anthems

This service of Lessons & Anthems is an annual tradition. This is a solemn service, designed to prepare our hearts and minds for Holy Week. In word and music, we will remember the last days of Jesus' life—his witness, his teaching, his faithfulness.

Sunday, April 7, 10 a.m. worship in the Sanctuary



Youth Service Project See's Candy Sales

Each year, First UMC sends a Youth Service Project team for one week to travel and engage in service and mission with struggling communities around the U.S. This year the team will work with the Sierra Service Project in Smith River, CA, from June 22-30. This county has a poverty rate of more than 20% and is one of the poorest counties in California. They will serve people who are unable to repair their own homes. As part of their fundraising efforts, they will be selling See's Easter Candy in the Alcove after worship. Stop by our table to pick up your favorite chocolate egg or box of chocolates for yourself, or to give to your family and friends this spring! www.santamonicaumc.org/ysp

Sundays, April 7 & 14, in the Alcove

580 Cafe 4th Annual Spring Gala & Open House

UCLA's 580 Cafe, a space for students to break bread and build relationships through food,



conversation, study and arts, is having their 4th Annual Spring Gala Celebration. "Art and Artisans" will celebrate the creativity, talent and inspiration of the student community. Sweet and savory refreshments on the patio and fabulous fun for all. Suggested donation: \$25 at the door. www.580cafe.com.

**Sunday, April 7, 1 - 3:30 p.m., 580 Cafe (580 Hilgard Ave. LA)
Parking at St. Alban's Church**

April Mid-Week Recital

April's Mid-Week Recital features **The Wilder Trio, clarinet, bassoon and piano**. Based in Los Angeles, The Wilder Trio was formed in 2008 by



three seasoned freelance musicians who have worked as colleagues in a variety of music ensembles for the past 20 years. As individuals, these musicians perform regularly with such ensembles as the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the LA Philharmonic, the Pasadena Symphony and Pacific Symphony, chamber music with a variety of local and touring ensembles, jazz ensembles, as well as appearances as recitalists and soloists. The trio's musical inspiration derives from composer Alec Wilder, an innovator of the 20th century who had an affinity for popular music and jazz as well as classical music. Programs range from Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Strauss and Poulenc, to Wilder, Barber, Gershwin and Ellington.

For the full list of 2019 Recitals and to view past recital videos, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series.

Wednesday, April 10, 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Reception to follow in the Fireside Room. Free admission.

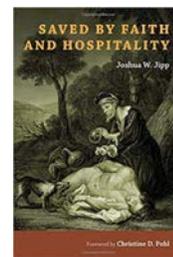
Family Place Community Meal

Community Meal is a committed partnership between First UMC and Upward Bound House's Family Place—our local transitional housing program for families with young children. Through the ministry of feeding and the ministry of showing up, First UMC volunteers engage in activities that create lasting impact and joy. If you would like to be a part of this meaningful mission, please contact the church office (310) 393-8258, or email meal@santamonicaumc.org. You can help by cooking or donating a meal, side, salad, or dessert or by volunteering to lead a craft or other fun activity for the kids.

Thursday, April 25, 5:30 p.m. Family Place (1020 12th St. SM)

Loving God with Our Minds Book Study/Potluck

Saved By Faith and Hospitality
Joshua W. Jipp *Rescheduled from March



Salvation through hospitality? Maybe you will be surprised by the approach of this professor of New Testament who comes out of the context of conservative evangelical theology. This is a thought-provoking resource for our time and the predominance of discussion of borders, strangers, immigrants, and "others." Professor Jipp blends a reading of themes in Scripture with reflections on contemporary issues and proposals for the church and faithful living. There's enough here for most everyone to be inspired or put off! Come for a lively and stimulating discussion, and bring a dish to share. Book available on Amazon, at the Sunday Hospitality Table, and in the church office.

Sunday, April 28, 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Red Cross Community Blood Drive

The Health Ministry Council's Red Cross Community Blood Drive is coming soon! For more information, questions, or to volunteer, contact Debi Jenkinson (debijwong@yahoo.com). Schedule your appointment now on the website: www.redcrossblood.org, and enter sponsor code FirstUMCSM.

**Blood Drive: Sunday, April 28,
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Simkins Hall**



Methodist Foundation Scholarships

Attention students! Applications for the annual Methodist Foundation Scholarships are available online beginning Friday April 12. Go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/methodistfoundation. Hard copies will also be in the church office and at the Sunday Hospitality Table.

Deadline for application: Sunday, May 12.

LOOKING FORWARD

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

- May 5** - Preschool Spring Fair (11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Courtyard/Simkins Hall)
- May 19** - Spring Concert featuring: Luis Bacalov *Missa Tango*, and John Rutter *Requiem*. (7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary)



FIRST UMC



Births

- First UMC church member Marge Speckman's great granddaughter **Charlott Kief**, daughter of Marge's granddaughter Wendy Kief, was born March 5.
- **Elsie Pamela Vredenburg**, born to Open Space couple Kara and Zach Vredenburg, on March 25.

Deaths

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

- First UMC constituent **Patricia Baskin**, who died on February 25.
- **Michael Ramljak**, son of Michael and Barbara Ramljak, who died on March 15. Michael was weekend sexton here at First UMC for a few years.



Flower Orders during Lent - Sunday dedication flowers will be displayed in the Narthex and in Simkins Hall. Order at the Sunday Hospitality Table or online: santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund.

Haiti Work Team Update

by Nathan Oney, Pastoral Associate

One thing that has become abundantly clear to me over the last few months is that our church's commitment to Haiti extends so much farther than I could have possibly imagined. It is centered in God's unquenchable love for justice for God's own creation, and it brings to mind the words of Micah 6:8, "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

This is all borne out by your continuing support of our mission to Haiti, even when we are unable to send a team. As you may know, we postponed our trip this year due to civil unrest and protests against the government, which paralyzed travel and the movement of critical goods and supplies in the country, inhibited our ability to do our work in the remote village of Sobier, and would have exposed us to an undue amount of risk. The civil unrest--a holy response to governmental corruption in Haiti--has once again created a situation of great need across the country, just as earthquakes and hurricanes have done in the past. With prayerful consideration, we have determined to use funds you donated this year to support organizations in Haiti that help bring relief to the people, and which foster ongoing relationships between our church and the people of Haiti in our absence: The Methodist Guest House, the Sobier Medical Clinic for supplies and additional construction, the Methodist Church of Sobier, and the Marigoane Circuit. With these donations, you have helped some of the most important missional organizations maintain their operations of serving the people of Haiti through what would otherwise be a devastating disruption.

Additional donations through our Pennies for Haiti campaign have also made it possible for us to purchase a number of goats for the people of Sobier, which will serve as a much-needed investment in the future of the Haitian people.

We pray that the government of Haiti keep its word on the reforms that it has promised its people, for the sake of their prosperity, and so that we might go to them again in the grace of God. Our commitment to the people of Haiti continues, and we thank you so much for your support on their behalf this year.

With Gratitude,
Nathan



April Labyrinth Schedule

Due to scheduling conflicts, the **Good Friday, April 19 walk** (1 p.m. - last walk starting at 8:30 p.m.) will be in lieu of the 3rd Sunday walk. Interested in becoming a Labyrinth Host? Contact Shalimar Carducci: s.carducci@santamonicaumc.org.

Call the church office to make a reservation: (310) 393-8258

HAPPENINGS AT FIRST UMC



First UMC hosted the Haiti Work Team from Hollywood UMC, who shared stories from their recent trip to Haiti.



First UMC volunteers and the Women of Action held the 20th Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, including David Mayhan, with Kendra Gorlitsky, Linda Diane Anderson, Cindy McQuade and Carmen Herrera (top); and Carol Reich and Laura Farrand on piano leading the audience in singing Irish songs (right).



During the March Messy Church, the families painted a mural together, celebrating God's love for all.



Rev. Patricia Farris led a review and answered questions about the recent UMC General Conference.



The Shareringers and the UMYF got together for dinner and game night in Simkins Hall.



February and March Mid-Week Recitals with Lukas Hasler (top), and the AlmaNova Duo: Jessica Pierce and Almer Imamovic.



The Methodist Foundation sponsored a cake celebration in recognition of Dean Zerbe's donation towards Youth Ministry, in honor of Hazel Zerbe, Terry King, and Kathy Hedges.



Perspectives on Common Sense Gun Safety and Reform, with speakers Amy Phillips & Stacey Killingier, Karl Richter, and Suzanne Verge.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SANTA MONICA**

1008 Eleventh Street
Santa Monica, CA 90403
www.santamonicaumc.org
310.393.8258

email: info@santamonicaumc.org

  @santamonicaumc



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 APRIL

APRIL 7

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
Lessons & Anthems

5 p.m. simple church
reflections by Nathan Oney

APRIL 14

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
PALM SUNDAY

Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church
reflections by Michael Olsson

APRIL 21

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
EASTER SUNDAY

Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

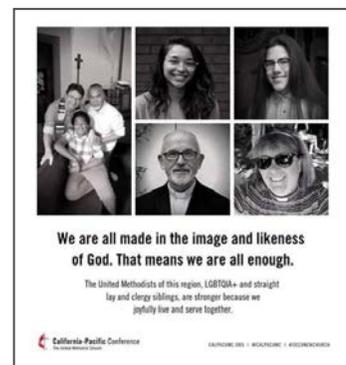
no simple church

APRIL 28

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
2nd Sunday in Easter

Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church
reflections by Nathan Oney



On the Website

To stay informed about UMC General Conference updates and articles, visit: www.santamonicaumc.org/general-conference