

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP

15th Sunday after Pentecost • Children's Church • September 22, 2019



...pray without ceasing...
— 1 Thessalonians 5:17

WE GATHER

WELCOME

Nathan Oney

PRELUDE If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee (J. S. Bach)

Ty Woodward, Organ

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #64 United Methodist Hymnal — Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Terri-Rae Elmer, Lay Lector

Let us worship the eternal God, the Source of Love and Life, who creates us.

Let us worship Jesus Christ, the Risen One, who lives among us.

Let us worship the Holy Spirit who renews us.

To the one true God be praise, in all times and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ.

*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

“God in three persons, blessed Trinity! Amen.”

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Tricia Guerrero

Please greet those worshipping near you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Tricia Guerrero

#2233 The Faith We Sing – Where Children Belong

**This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's word, bread and cup, prayer and song: This is where children belong.**

As the congregation sings, all children are invited to come forward.

I Am a Child of God

I am a child of God; You are God's child, it's true. Children of God are called to love one another, as Jesus taught to do.

As the congregation sings, the children may go Children's Church in the Chapel.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Nathan Oney

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship, for worship, and for service

Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

The Chancel Choir / Dr. James Smith, Music Director

Down to the River to Pray (arr. Philip Lawson)

Refrain: As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way and who shall wear the starry crown. Good Lord, show me the way. Oh, sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh, sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray. Refrain. Oh, brothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Come on brothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray. Refrain. Oh, fathers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh, fathers, let's go down, down to the river to pray. Refrain. Oh mothers, let's go down, come on down, don't you wanna go down? Come on, mothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray. Refrain. Oh, sinners, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh, sinners, let's go down, down to the river to pray. Refrain.

THE LESSON Isaiah 56:6-7 (Pew Bible page 686, O.T.)

Terri-Rae Elmer

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

THE EPISTLE I Thessalonians 5:12-19 (Pew Bible page 205, N.T.)

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Five Marks of a Methodist: PRAY ALWAYS"

Rev. Patricia Farris

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO PRAYER #2193 TFWS – Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

Nathan Oney

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Nathan Oney

Your generous gifts support the ministries and outreach of the church. You may place gifts of cash or checks made out to "First UMC" in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also place your Let's Connect/Let Us Pray card in the offering plate. Give online at any time at www.santamonicaumc.org. Credit cards are now accepted at the Sunday Hospitality Table during Coffee Fellowship. Thank you. May God grow in us generous and joyful hearts.

THE OFFERTORY

The Chancel Choir

Saints Bound for Heaven (Setting by Howard Helvey)

From Egypt's yoke set free; Hail the glorious jubilee. And to Canaan we'll return, by and by. Our bondage it shall end, by and by. From Egypt's yoke set free; Hail the glorious jubilee. And to Canaan we'll return, by and by. Our Deliverer will come, by and by. And our sorrows have an end, With our threescore years and ten, And his glory crown the day, by and by. Though our enemies are strong, we'll go on. Though our hearts dissolve with fear, Lo! Sinai's God is near, While the fiery pillar moves, we'll go on. And when to Jordan's flood, we are come. Jehovah rules the tide, And the waters He'll divide, And the ransom'd host shall shout, "We are come." By and by, We'll go on!

*RESPONSE #94 UMH – The Doxology

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Nathan Oney

For all who share the gifts of life with us, we give you thanks, O God. For the abundance of your steadfast love, we are most grateful. Receive these expressions of thanksgiving to extend your purposes in the world. May this offering scatter seeds of love in life-changing ways. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*HYMN #437 UMH – This Is My Song

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Farris

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune in D (David N. Johnson)

Ty Woodward

Worship concludes with the Postlude music which prepares us to transition from worship to life in the world. You are invited to remain seated until the Postlude concludes, or to exit quietly.

FAMILY INFO

—Nursery Care is available at 9:30 a.m. in Room 204 in the Education Building. Parents with young children are welcome to worship in the sanctuary or in the Kids Zone in the narthex.

—A changing table is provided in the restroom located in the hallway west of the Fireside Room.

—First UMC takes the safety of the children and youth very 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.

WORSHIP INFO

—Please see an usher if you need information or assistance.

—In case of an emergency, please direct your attention to one of the scheduled ushers, head usher, or Sunday coordinator David Penson.

—Flowers: “Thank you to all of my First UMC family. Your visits, phone calls, cards and especially your prayers have helped me to heal. I am humbled by your outpouring of love in the name of our wonderful God.” From Carol Greenwood.

—To request prayers, fill in a Let’s Connect/Let Us Pray card and place it in the offering plate during worship.

—If there are Prayer Quilts on the north wall of the sanctuary, you are invited to pray over and tie knots on the quilts.

—Stop by the Hospitality Table in Simkins Hall in The Shelby Center during Coffee Fellowship for information or to ask whatever might be on your mind! We’re here to serve you.

—Next Sunday: Rev. Patricia Farris will preach the fourth in a month-long sermon series, revisiting *Five Marks of a Methodist*.

MISSIONS

—We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. In September, please bring macaroni and cheese and packaged dinners. You may leave items in the bin located outside the Sanctuary.

Resident Bishop
Bishop Grant J. Hagiya
 West District Superintendent
Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa

Senior Minister
Rev. Patricia Farris
 p.farris@santamonicaumc.org
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Music Director
Dr. James Smith

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Head Custodian
Javier Espinoza

God is real. God is love. ■ Every person matters. You matter. ■ Together we can change the world.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA

1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403 www.santamonicaumc.org · 310-393-8258

September 22, 2019



Blessing ^{OF} the Animals

All pets large and small, or photos of your pets, and even stuffed animal loveys are welcome to the annual Blessing of the Animals. Come early at 9:30 a.m. for refreshments. Blessings begin at 10 a.m. Pick up a pet tag, play some games, and be sure to visit the photo booth. Honor a pet by bringing a photo for the *In Loving Memory* board. You may also bring new pet food and supplies to donate to local animal shelters.

Saturday, October 5, 9:30 a.m., in the Courtyard

**BIG &
small
TAKE FLIGHT**



A sneak peek of exhibit artwork, featuring Allan Walker, left, and Elkpen, right.

Immediately following the Blessing of the Animals service, all are welcome to the 3rd Annual Animal Art Exhibit by the local community to promote love for all God's flying creatures, in all sizes.

Saturday, October 5, 11 a.m., in the Fireside Room

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www.santamonicaumc.org • info@santamonicaumc.org   @santamonicaumc

WORSHIP & PRAYER

Sunday 10 a.m. **Sanctuary Worship**
 Sunday 5 p.m. **simple church**
simple church tonight: reflections by Nathan Oney

MEETINGS / EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today - Children's Church
 11:15 a.m. Messy Church leader meeting, Room 203
 11:30 a.m. Book Study/Potluck, FR
Tuesday, September 24
 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast, FR
Wednesday, September 25
 9 a.m. UMW Workparty/Lunch, Workroom
 7 p.m. Open Space Hymn & Brew, OS
Thursday, September 26
 5:30 p.m. Family Place Community Meal, OS
Saturday, September 28
 10 a.m. DanceFit, Room 300
Sunday, September 29 - Faith in Action
 11:30 a.m. Bible Study with Rev. Larry Young/
 Nathan Oney, Library
 11:30 a.m. Missions Council Meeting, Room 203

CHILDREN & YOUTH**Children's Ministry**

September Theme: Communities Welcome
 Sunday School today: Children's Church

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

UMYF Tonight, 6 p.m., Youth Lounge

The youth ministry at First UMC is a safe, Christ centered environment where youth explore and grow in their faith. Activities are designed to nurture relationships and build a strong, loving community. This is a place of acceptance, outreach and spirituality.

FELLOWSHIP /COMMUNITY**Today: Loving God with Our Minds Book Study**

The September book is *Holy Love: A Biblical Theology for Human Sexuality*, by Steve Harper. Author Steve Harper is a retired UM minister and retired seminary professor who taught for 32 years in the areas of spiritual formation and Wesleyan studies. This short and accessible book provides a very helpful framework for how to read Scripture as a Wesleyan/Methodist and how to embrace a theological framework for human sexuality that is compassionate, inclusive, and affirming. Come even if you haven't read the book!

Today, 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room

Fourth Grade Bibles

Fourth grade Bibles will be presented **Sunday, October 13** to any fourth grader who would like to receive one. Receiving a Bible is an important step in the faith journey of our children. We rejoice as a community and with our families as our children grow in their love for God and one another. Contact Tricia: t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org, if your fourth grader will be able to attend worship that Sunday, or if they cannot attend and would still like to receive a Bible.

NEW: Bible Study on John's Gospel

Beginning next Sunday after worship, a new Bible Study is open to all. The Gospel of John contains some of the most beloved passages in our Bible but also some of the most confounding and opaque. It was written for a particular culture at a particular time in Christian history different from our own. Rev. Larry Young with Nathan Oney will be leading a study of this distinctive gospel and what it has to offer our own faith. No advance signup needed—just come, and bring a Bible!

Sunday, September 29, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the First UMC Library

After worship, all are invited to stay for Coffee Fellowship in Simkins Hall.

If you are a new visitor today, feel free to ask any questions you may have at the Hospitality Table in the Simkins Hall Alcove.

FELLOWSHIP /COMMUNITY (CONTINUED)

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. First UMC has worked diligently over the last few years to foster relationships with the staff and residents to provide a monthly night of fun and food. 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.

Thursday, September 26, 5:30 p.m. Family Place (1020 12th St. SM)

DanceFit

Keep up your DanceFit routine into the Fall! DanceFit is a follow-along fitness class set to upbeat, contemporary pop music, led by First UMC member Whitney Hagan. It's designed for all levels, with variations to modify based on your fitness/comfort level. Water will be available. No charge but donations appreciated. Kids are welcome. Tell your friends!

Saturday, September 28, 10 a.m. in Room 300

Third World Handarts

Missions Council and First UMC welcomes back *Third World Handarts (Gifts that Give Twice)*, a non-profit organization that was founded in Anaheim in 1975 to serve the economic needs of the destitute people in the United States, and in developing nations worldwide. Their principal mission is to support the self-employment of thousands of artisans by marketing the beautiful and useful items they craft as a means of supporting themselves and their families. All are welcome to come and shop these wonderful artisan crafts in Simkins Hall after worship.

Sunday, October 6, 11 a.m. in Simkins Hall

Spiritual Formation Council Retreat

The Spiritual Formation Council is sponsoring a retreat with David Bremer, Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the Otis College of Art and Design, who will offer reflections on the theme "Seeing with New Eyes." More info on the back of this insert.

Saturday, October 12, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Fireside Room

October Messy Church

A monthly 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! *October's Theme: Esther's Bravery* - We will tell the story of Esther and her bravery to speak up with courage and wisdom when her people's voices couldn't be heard. As we explore how God worked with Esther to rescue God's people, we will also consider how God gives us gifts and wisdom we need to speak up for others in our world today.

Saturday, October 12, 4:30 - 6 p.m. Simkins Hall/Chapel

Health Ministry Council's Flu Clinic

First UMC has the privilege of hosting one of the first flu vaccination clinics this season to be provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. This gives us the opportunity to help keep both ourselves and our community healthy. So, mark your calendar, tell your friends and neighbors, and join us in Simkins Hall to get your free flu vaccine! No appointments necessary.

Wednesday, October 16, 9 - 11 a.m. in Simkins Hall

I See A New Church: Round Table Discussion

Let's eat, talk, pray, and dream together! On Sunday, October 20, we'll gather around tables in Simkins Hall following worship for a time of discussion and discernment. Led by our pastors, Lay Leadership Team, and Church Council.

Sunday, October 20, 11:30 - 1 p.m. in Simkins Hall

Save the Date: Church Charge Conference

Join First UMC for the annual Church Charge Conference as we engage in a joyful and worshipful celebration of this year's accomplishments. West District Superintendent Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa will preside. Lunch will be served, and child care will be provided. No charge.

Sunday, November 10, 11 a.m. in Simkins Hall

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Register Now: Westside Food Bank's 29th Annual 5k Hunger Walk

Join First UMC member Russ Whittenburg as he walks to help the Westside Food Bank celebrate their 29th year of walking for a hunger-free community. There's no registration fee, and anyone can walk as an individual or gather as a group to create a team.

Sunday, November 10, 12 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Santa Monica Ocean View Park
(2701 Barnard Way, SM 90405)

To register and for more info, go to:
<https://my.wsfb.org/team/251521>.

UMCOR - Hurricane Dorian

As Hurricane Dorian continued to threaten the U.S. east coast, United Methodists were connecting with Methodists in the Bahamas to start relief efforts.

Go to: <https://www.umnews.org/en/category/mission-and-ministry>.

OPEN INVITATIONS

First UMC Membership

Membership is a celebration of the fact that someone belongs to our faith community in connection and commitment. Our belonging promotes service to and with each other, values mutual care, and develops meaningful and supportive relationships. Becoming a member of First UMC is an act of publicly entering into a relationship with our faith community. The church offers thanks and welcome in the spirit of belonging to one another. At First UMC, we belong to God and to one another.

If you have questions on becoming a member of First UMC, please contact one of our Pastors.

For a list of the pastors' email addresses, refer to the back of the Order of Worship, go to the Sunday Hospitality Table, or call the church office.

For more information, or to learn about our ministries and missions, go to www.santamonicaumc.org.

LOOKING FORWARD

FIRST UMC SPIRITUAL FORMATION
COUNCIL PRESENTS:

NEW EYES AND MORE STORIES

Saturday, October 12, 2019
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Fireside Room

NEW EYES AND MORE STORIES is an upcoming half-day retreat led by David Bremer and hosted by the Spiritual Formation Council. It will include presentations and story-related exercises which will suggest new ways of seeing and understanding yourself and your world(s), particularly, but not exclusively, from a spiritual perspective.

David Bremer is a professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles and also serves as the faculty Ombudsperson there. He is deeply experienced in curriculum design and contextual learning, and is a lover of literature and the arts. He has also served on the staff of the University of Delaware, director of both the Southern California Ecumenical Council and the University Religious Conference at UCLA, and led month-long creative renewal workshops for the Mattel Corporation. He is a graduate of the Harvard Divinity School and Wittenberg University.

To register for the retreat, sign up at the Hospitality Table; email: info@santamonicaumc.org; or call (310) 393-8258. You must register in advance in order to attend. *Space is limited, \$20 fee (breakfast included).*

Saturday, October 12, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Fireside Room