

SENTINEL

newsletter

Horizons

Many of you commented on how meaningful our Lenten Devotional was for you this year. Forty days of writings by folks in our congregation offering a variety of approaches, styles and perspectives. What a blessing as we walked the Lenten path together, carrying something beautiful in our hearts.

I think I might just suggest that next year we also gear up for a Devotional for the great 50 days of Eastertide, this season to celebrate and live into the resurrection and all that it means for our lives, for creation, for our world. We need it, don't you think? It's a big leap from Easter day into resurrection living. Some daily encouragement might just be the thing. And besides, the insights we get into one another are priceless.

The poet Gerard Manley Hopkins inserted this prayer in a much longer poem: "Let [Christ] easter in us, be a dayspring to the dimness of us."

That's my prayer for us all during this Eastertide. How about starting each day, or ending each day at bedtime, praying: "Let Christ easter in me, be a dayspring to the dimness of me."

What new light might shine forth? What new joy might spring up? What new courage might take root? What new "Alleluia song" might sound?

Eastertide blessings,

Rev. Patricia Farris



The combined choirs of
First UMC Santa Monica &
First UMC Pasadena
accompanied by full orchestra
present:

SPRING CONCERT 2022

JOHANNES BRAHMS
A GERMAN REQUIEM
Sung in an English adaption by Robert Shaw

TWO PERFORMANCES:
Sunday, May 15, 4 p.m.
at First UMC Santa Monica
Saturday, May 21, 4 p.m.
at First UMC Pasadena

Spring Concert

The combined choirs of First United Methodist Church Santa Monica and First United Methodist Church Pasadena accompanied by full orchestra present
Johannes Brahms A German Requiem
Sung in an English adaption by Robert Shaw

Two performances:

– **Sunday, May 15, 2022 at 4 p.m. at First UMC Santa Monica**

Barbara Smith, soprano; Andrew Pringle, baritone

James Smith, conductor

Preceded by Poulenc's *Concerto for Organ and Strings* featuring organist Ty Woodward

*This performance will also be Livestreamed: Facebook Live (@santamonicaumc.org)

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/santamonicaumc, and the First UMC website:

www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream

– **Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 4 p.m. at First UMC Pasadena**

500 East Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA - www.thirdatfirst.org

Jamie Chamberlin, soprano; Patrick Blackwell, baritone

Gregory Norton, conductor

Please consider a special gift to our music programs by donating online at either church website.

SUNDAYS IN WORSHIP

10 a.m. In-Person and Online

Worship in the Sanctuary

We worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. in-person in the Sanctuary each week. Masks are recommended, but not required during service.

Worship Online

We offer several options for participating in online worship. You may join in the service Livestream in real time or later at your convenience on these platforms:

Sundays 10 a.m. Worship Online LIVESTREAM on:

- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc/live
- **Website:** www.santamonicaumc.org
- **YouTube Channel:** www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC
- **The First UMC App:** (download from the App Store, search FirstUMC_SM)

After Worship Social Time

Join others in the courtyard after worship to say "Hello!" and enjoy the coffee and donuts table. For the safety and the well-being of all, each donut is individually wrapped, and a single-file line is formed for each person to pick up their snack and then exit the line.

Javier at the coffee and donuts table during the Easter Hop-By



Sunday School



For families with children, Sunday School is held outside on the Preschool playground. We are so grateful to our Sunday School teachers (Jamie Jones, Dot Plukas and Sandra Jones) for their ongoing care and commitment to our children and families.

Sundays, 10 a.m. meet in Simkins Hall

Prayer Group

The First UMC **Prayer Group** is a network of persons who provide regular, dependable, and confidential prayer support. Led by **Ruthie Smoot**, the prayer group communicates regularly via email, and monthly via phone. You may send a prayer request to the church at any time, and our Prayer Group will be notified of your request.

Go to: <https://santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests/>



Flowers: We accept donations to the Flower Fund to remember or honor a loved one for Sunday Worship service. To donate to the flower fund, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund.

MAY EVENTS *at a Glance*

- Sun May 1: **Holy Communion**
- Sat May 7: **Memorial for Joe Owens in the Sanctuary, 11 a.m.**
- Sun May 8: **Mother's Day**
- Wed May 11: **May Mid-Week Recital** - Clayton Haslop, violin; Kevan Torfeh, cello; and Wendy Prober-Cohen, piano.
- Sat May 14: **Westside Food Bank Food Sorting Volunteer Opp with Missions Council, 4 - 7 p.m.**
- Sun May 15: **Upward Bound House: Home Run for Kids Spring Concert at First UMC Santa Monica Methodist Foundation Scholarships due Blood Pressure Screenings**
- Sat May 21: **Spring Concert at First UMC Pasadena West District Conference (via Zoom)**
- Sat May 28: **Movie Night in the Courtyard**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Tues May 10: **SPRC meeting via Zoom**
- Wed May 19: **Prayer Quilt Work party**
- Mon May 23: **Lay Leadership Team meeting**
- Tues May 26: **Loans and Scholarships Meeting**
- Tues May 31: **Church Council Meeting**

May Ongoing Ministries:

- **Men's Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 7 a.m. via Zoom
- **Open Space Young Adults Soul Care:** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays May 11 & 25, hybrid of in-person and online
- **Listening Hearts Women's Group, with Tricia Guerrero:** Every Wednesday, see expanded schedule below
- **Sunday School for Kids:** Sundays, 10 a.m. In-Person in the Preschool Playground Sunday School for ages 2 and up.
- **UMYF Youth Group:** Sundays, 6 p.m. First UMC Courtyard

For more information on all of these programs, go to www.santamonicaumc.org/online-ministries-events

Listening Hearts Women's Group- Expanded Schedule

Listening Hearts is a spiritual community of women who gather to listen to one another in the midst of life's chaos, led by Pastoral Associate Tricia Guerrero. Beginning in May, they will have regular meet-up opportunities!

- 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings, 6:30 p.m. Meetings via Zoom
- 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings, 10 a.m. "Coffee and Connect" at the Literati Cafe (12081 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90025) grab a cup of coffee or tea and chat/catch up in the community.

- May 4 - Zoom Gathering, 6:30 p.m.
- May 11 - Coffee and Connect at Literati Cafe, 10 a.m.
- May 18 - Zoom Gathering, 6:30 p.m.
- May 25 - Coffee and Connect at Literati Cafe, 10 a.m.



May Mid-Week Recital

The May Mid-Week Recital features **Clayton Haslop, violin; Kevan Torfeh, cello; Wendy Prober-Cohen, piano**. This is the last recital until the Fall season.

• **Clayton Haslop** joined the professional world of music as a teenager when he was invited by Sir Neville Marriner to join the 1st violin section of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. Less than two years later he performed as soloist under his baton in a number of critically acclaimed concerts that quickly established him as one of the leading violinists to emerge from Los Angeles at that time. Living in Los Angeles for most of his career, Clayton has performed on well over 1,000 motion picture titles, and has also performed as Concertmaster of the Oscars, including the 2009 Academy Awards.

• **Kevan Torfeh's** music studies were completed at USC, at L'Accademia Chigiana in Siena, in London with William Pleeth, and at the Hochschule Mozarteum in Salzburg. From 2004 to present he has served as adjunct professor of cello in the applied music program at Santa Monica College. Mr. Torfeh is a regular guest lecturer/performing artist at the internationally acclaimed Musicians Institute in Hollywood.

• **Wendy Prober** has performed throughout the United States and Canada as a critically acclaimed chamber musician and soloist. She is the founding pianist of the award-winning Viklarbo Chamber Ensemble, and has served as Artist-in-Residence at Loyola Marymount University, the prestigious USC Composition Department, "Sunday's Live" at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Montgomery Arts House for Music and Architecture (MAHMA), as well as the popular Los Angeles based, SPaCE Salon.

For complete bios, visit the website:

www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series

Wednesday, May 11, 12:10 p.m. ONLINE:

Facebook: @santamonicaumc • YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/santamonicaumc • Website: www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream •

The First UMC App: (To download, go to the App Store, search FirstUMC_SM)



Westside Food Bank: Food Sorting Volunteer Opportunity

Our friends at Westside Food Bank need a hand! All are welcome to go to the Food Bank to help sort in-coming food on Saturday, May 14, from 4 - 7 p.m. (Address: 1710 22nd St, Santa Monica) This is a wonderful service opportunity for all ages.

Saturday, May 14, from 4 - 7 p.m. at Westside Food Bank



Calling All Graduates!

First UMC wants to recognize all its graduates. Let us know where you're graduating from, your major, and what your future plans are.

Deadline May 15. Contact Sarah Rold in the church office: (310-393-8258 x 106 or s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org)

Upward Bound House: 10th Annual Home Run for Kids

Upward Bound House is pleased to present its 10th Annual Home Run For Kids fundraiser and race. After two years of the race being an online event, they're excited that this year it's in-person!

Join the First UMC Church and Preschool Team!

Sign up on the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/home-run-for-kids/ Before the race, First UMC will hold a brief on-site prayer/blessing at 8 a.m. Look for the white First UMC tent. Find out what it means to pray on your feet!

Sunday, May 15, 8 a.m. in Brentwood (11620 San Vicente Blvd)



Methodist Foundation Scholarships

The Methodist Foundation of Santa Monica, founded in 1967, exists to provide aid to religious, educational and charitable causes. Every year the Loans & Scholarships committee has the pleasure of acknowledging outstanding scholars, including graduating high school seniors, continuing undergraduates, and graduate students, for their scholastic excellence, commitment to community, and dedication to our church.

The deadline to submit an application is Sunday, May 15:

www.santamonicaumc.org/methodistfoundation

Blood Pressure Screenings

Health Ministry Council hosts Blood Pressure screenings every third Sunday of the month (subject to change.) We are grateful to this ministry for their continued care of the congregation!

Next screening: Sunday, May 15 after worship, in the Fireside Room

Movie Night on the Lawn

Join the Youth Service Team as they present *Movie Night on the Lawn*. Come and enjoy a movie and help the Youth raise money for their Youth Service Project. This summer they're teaming up with the Epworth Project to serve communities in the New Orleans area. Tickets are \$10 per Person or \$25 per Family. Concessions will be served, bring a blanket or a lawn chair.

Sunday, May 29: Movie start time TBD



COMMUNITY



Bravo!

• Thanks to First UMC Youth **Kim Hansen** for her efforts in organizing and collecting books from our Church and Preschool for the Santa Monica High School “Books For Kids Club” - outstanding! The club aims to address educational inequalities in Los Angeles schools by collecting and donating children’s books to schools with low literacy rates, as well as building classroom libraries. Thank you Kim and to all who donated!



Kim Hansen picking up the donated books.

Thank you!

• Our Easter Food Drive for the Westside Food Bank was a success! We collected a large amount of canned and dry goods, along with \$200 in cash. First UMC member **Martha Ross** held a food drive in her neighborhood to support the cause, and brought in 2 carloads worth of food! Thanks to all for your faithful participation!



• Thank you to those who filled out the Congregational Survey in April, we appreciate your feedback.

Deaths

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

- First UMC member **William R. Allen** died January 15, 2021.
- First UMC member **June Louise Rayburn Simpson** died on Saturday, April 2.
- First UMC member **Howard Warren Hackett** died April 14, 2022.
- First UMC member Bernice De Leon’s son, **Ray Riker**, died recently.

Memorial

There will be a memorial for **Joe Owens** on Saturday, May 7, 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Congregation Care Corner

If you have any questions or need pastoral care, you may always call the Pastoral Care line (310-393-8258 and enter extension 1), which is available for people to leave a message requesting care. If you have questions, need assistance, or would like to volunteer to help with our homebound folks, please contact Congregation Care Associate, **Anne Premer**: a.premmer@santamonicaumc.org. Or, call (310)393-8258 ext. 103.

38th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference: Ending Spiritual & Physical Hunger

Because of public health concerns at the time of planning, the 38th Annual Session will be held in a hybrid format, with some portions completely online, and others taking place in-person. Online participation during in-person events will be available for those who are at high risk for severe illness. Registration for the 38th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference and for the 2022 District Conferences are now open. For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.calpacumc.org/annual-conference-2022/ac2022-district-and-annual-conference-registrations-now-open>



West District Conference: May 21, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. (online)
2022 Annual Conference: June 7 (online), June 15 (online), and June 17-18 (online & in-person)

United Methodists Stand with Ukraine

United Methodists around the world are condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine and responding to the plight of those affected. The denomination’s ResourceUMC.org website has created a landing page, “United Methodists Stand with Ukraine.” To read this and all articles relating to UMC and Ukraine, UMCOR, and how to help, visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/disaster-response.



Request a Prayer Quilt

Led by **Sue Payne** and **Maile Marquand**, the Prayer Quilt Ministry continues to offer Prayer Quilts to those in need. To request a quilt:

1. Talk to the intended recipient. Ask if the person is willing to be prayed for and to receive a quilt. Ask what specific prayers are wished for. There is no charge for the quilt – it is a gift of love.
2. Contact Maile Marquand (maile@rugbooks.com) or Sue Payne (sue.f.payne@gmail.com).
3. Select the quilt if some are already made, or suggest colors if one is to be selected for you. Once the quilt selection has been made, First UMC will display the quilt in the Friday Community Email, and also during Sunday 10 a.m. Worship, where you may now tie a prayer knot during in-person worship, or view the quilt on the Livestream.



• Prayer Quilts Can Be Tied in Worship

If there is a prayer quilt during service, you are invited to to pray over and tie knots on the quilt on the north wall of the Sanctuary, or call or email Sarah in the church office to request a tie be made on the quilt for you; she will let you know the requested prayers: Sarah Rold (310.393.8258), or s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org. Online prayers will be collected Tuesday – Friday of the following week, and the prayer knots will be tied by the church staff.

Happenings



Easter Sunrise Service in Palisades Park. Photos courtesy of Lauren Foxwell.



Easter Celebration Service, 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, and social gathering afterwards.



For Earth Day, the Youth talked about co-creating with the natural world and having conversations about climate crisis and our responsibility as humans to be good stewards of the world around us.



Kids Night Out was fun for all!



Teacher Appreciation week kicked off with beautiful flowers brought in from our preschool families! We give thanks for our wonderful teachers and happily celebrated them all week.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF SANTA MONICA

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Santa Monica, CA 90403

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310.393.8258

www.santamonicaumc.org

  @santamonicaumc



FIRST UMC OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., and by appointment

Pastoral care by appointment only: 310-393-8258, enter ext. 1

On the cover, "Alleluia" by Jen Norton: www.jennortonartstudio.com

Looking Forward:

Sunday, June 12: Commissioning Youth Service Project
Team in Worship /Scholarship Sunday

July 25- 29: VBC Bible Camp

