

# SENTINEL

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## Horizons

Summer is here! By now, you've probably tasted your first corn-on-the-cob and watermelon. You've had a day or two at the beach and whiled away an afternoon watching a baseball game. You've already enjoyed a back-yard barbeque and a big bowl of ice cream. School is out and vacation plans are on the horizon. Summer is a season and a state of mind.

It's summer in worship, too. We've put on our summer outfit. We're into the green of this church season with beautiful paraments, church furnishings, made by some of you for us here at Santa Monica First. They incorporate the colors and symbols of our region. These beautiful beaded hummingbirds say: "It's summer, folks!" Tiny little birds, hummingbirds are the symbol of the Holy Spirit in some native Central American cultures. They flit back and forth between the spiritual world and the material world.

Hummingbirds are so very small. The smallest hummingbirds are the smallest birds on earth. Sometimes, there can be hummingbirds right around us, near to us, and if we aren't paying attention, we won't even realize they're there. So the symbol of the hummingbird, you see, is also meant to say to us: "Hey, you! You in your busy, important, fast-paced life. And you who have grown complacent and listless. Stop and look at me! Do you see me? Is there room in your life for me? Is there a moment in your day for me?"

Each summer Sunday, when you walk into church or join worship online and are caught off guard by the beauty of these tiny hummingbirds, or see one of them enjoying the nectar of flowers in your yard, remember to take a breath, pause, notice, make room in your day for the Holy Spirit of God. It's time for summertime faith.



The parament on the chancel table, and detail of the hummingbird beading

## Pennies+ for Haiti Sundays: July 2, 9 & 16

For the past thirteen years, we have been in on-going partnership and ministry with our friends in Haiti through work teams as well as fundraisers for goats, peanut crops, emergencies, and more. This summer we invite you to join together in the continued support for the Haiti Mission Project. We give thanks for you, for our friends in Haiti, and for all that has been built through this good work.

Look for the Pennies+ for Haiti buckets available in the Narthex and during coffee hour, and drop off your loose change, cash or checks, or give online at: [www.santamonicaumc.org/haiti](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/haiti), select Haiti Mission in the drop-down menu.



## Haiti Mission: Conversation with Todd Erlandson, Haiti Team Leader

On Sunday, July 9, we welcome Haiti Team leader **Todd Erlandson**, who will present a Moment for Mission during worship, highlighting this year's Pennies+ for Haiti fundraiser.

After worship, all are invited to the Haiti Mission Report as Todd speaks in depth about recent updates and future plans over coffee.

Todd explains, "The focus of the campaign is to build Haiti reserves so we can repair storm damaged homes, continue to invest in the yearly peanut harvest and (perhaps) purchase some more goats!"

**Moments for Mission: Sunday, July 9, during 10 a.m. worship**  
**Conversation with Todd Erlandson: Sunday, July 9, 11 a.m. in Simkins Hall**



# WORSHIP 10 a.m. In-Person & Online



Thanks to First UMC member **Howard Wollitz** for this night view of the steeple.

## Worship in the Sanctuary

We worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. in-person in the Sanctuary each week. Masks are optional, but always acceptable and welcome. Everyone is strongly encouraged to get your vaccinations and booster shots. If you feel ill, please choose to worship from home online. Let us know if you need assistance in joining online.

For Holy Communion on July 2, church member **Berneice Southcott** will be baking the bread. For Holy Communion on August 6, church member **Char Smith** will be baking the bread. Berneice also prepares the Communion elements before worship, with the help of Congregation Care Associate **Anne Premer**. **Mary Crawford** and **Rose Kujawa** help take care of the elements after worship. Thank you all for your 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:**

- Website: [www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream) (no ads)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc/live](https://www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc/live)
- YouTube Channel: [www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC](https://www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC)
- The First UMC App: (download from the App Store, search FirstUMC\_SM)

### New on the Website:

Reaching Out: [www.santamonicaumc.org/reaching-out](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/reaching-out)

Sunday Worship Service archives:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/sunday-service-archive](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/sunday-service-archive)

Audio Sermon Archives:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/sermon-archives](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/sermon-archives)

New Church Calendar: [www.santamonicaumc.org/calendar](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/calendar)

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## After Worship Social Time

Join others in the courtyard after worship to say "Hello!" and enjoy the coffee and donuts table. Stop by the Welcome Table and visit with staff member David Penson if you have any questions.

## July/August Ongoing Ministries:

- **Men's Bible Study** Tuesdays, 7 a.m. via Zoom
- **Open Space Young Adults** July meetings: July 9 & 22, August TBD
- **Listening Hearts Women's Group** Meetings: **Summer Schedule:** July 19/Aug 16: Coffee and Connect: 10 a.m. Literati Cafe (12081 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90025) July 12/Aug 23, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
- **Prayer Quilt Ministry** Third Saturday of the month: Saturdays: July 15 and August 19, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Room 300
- **The Chancel Choir** No rehearsals during the summer
- **Nursery Care** Sundays, 9:30 - 11 a.m. Room 204
- **Blood Pressure Screenings** Sundays: July 16, August 20
- **Sunday School for Kids** Sundays, 10 a.m. in Room 206, for ages 2 and up.
- **UMYF Youth Group** On summer break

For more information on all of these programs, go to

[www.santamonicaumc.org/small-groups](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/small-groups)

## Listening Hearts Women's Group with Tricia Guerrero

Listening Hearts is a group for women of all ages, grounded in the practices of sacred listening, prayer and reflection. Alongside one another, we share our stories, listen to one another, and grow in God's loving presence. [www.santamonicaumc.org/small-groups](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/small-groups)  
July 19/Aug 16: Coffee and Connect: 10 a.m. Literati Cafe (12081 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90025) July 12/Aug 23, 6:30 p.m. on Zoom

## July/August at a Glance

Sun July 2	Holy Communion
	Pennies+ for Haiti drive begins
Sun July 9	Moments for Mission in worship with Todd Erlandson
	Conversation with Todd Erlandson in Simkins Hall
	Pennies+ for Haiti drive
	Open Space gathering at the Victory Theater
Sat July 15	Walk the Labyrinth
Sun July 16	Pennies+ for Haiti drive concludes
	The Five Wishes and Planning a Memorial Service
	Information Table
	Blood Pressure screenings
Sun July 23	Tricia Guerrero preaching
	UWF Christmas in July Boutique Sale
Sun July 30	Rev. Keri Olsen Paget preaching
Mon July 31	Vacation Bible Camp begins
Fri Aug 4	Vacation Bible Camp ends
Sun Aug 6	Holy Communion
	Rev. John Woodall guest preaching
Sat Aug 19	Community Free Market
Sun Aug 20	Blood Pressure Screenings
Sun Aug 27	Back to School Blessing

## Join Open Space in supporting Molly Smith

Join Open Space on Sunday, July 9 at 4 p.m. to see *Back Porch* at the Victory Theatre Center. Purchase your ticket and we'll see you there! Fun fact: Church member **Molly Smith** worked as the Costume Designer for this show and we're excited to support her work. *Back Porch* is about the clash of values when Hollywood descends upon a small Kansas town in 1955 to shoot scenes for the classic film, *Picnic*. Sparks fly in more ways than one when the two cultures intermingle.

All tickets are \$25. Show runs from Friday, June 2 – Sunday, July 9.

Molly says, "I am very excited to be designing costumes for this wonderful retelling of William Inge's *Picnic*. I hope to see you there!"

**Sunday, July 9, 4 p.m. Victory Theatre Center, 3324 W. Victory Blvd, Burbank, CA 91505** For information and to purchase tickets, call (818) 533-1611 or visit [www.onstage411.com](http://www.onstage411.com), search "Back Porch"



## Walk the Labyrinth

The Labyrinth will be open from 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturday, July 15, in Simkins Hall. Walking the Labyrinth is an ancient spiritual practice, a way to quiet our minds and open our spirits to the presence of the Holy. If you've never been before, there are printed instructions to help with your walking meditation. Take an hour for yourself in this "device-free" zone. Every step a prayer.

**Saturday, July 15, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. in Simkins Hall**



## Living with Dignity: The Five Wishes, and Planning a Memorial

The Pastoral Care Staff here at First UMC offers many services, including guidance with advance care planning, and memorial services. An information table about these services will be set up after worship on Sunday, July 16, hosted by Anne Premer, Congregation Care Associate. Anne will have information on *The Five Wishes*, which is the first easy-to-use Living Will that talks about your personal, emotional and spiritual needs as well as your medical wishes. Rev. Patricia Farris will also be present to answer questions about Memorial Services, along with Sarah Rold, Office Manager, who serves as the Memorial Coordinator. You may pick up our Memorial/Funeral Planning Guide for reference now and in the future. Advance planning is always welcome, as you share with us your favorite Scriptures and hymns.

If you're unable to make it to church on July 16, you may email Anne Premer for more information: [a.premer@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:a.premer@santamonicaumc.org)

**Sunday, July 16, after worship in the Courtyard**



## UWF Christmas in July Boutique Sale

Stop by the Simkins Hall Alcove after worship on Sunday, July 23, for United Women in Faith's **Christmas in July** sale featuring Christmas ornaments, décor, and delicious homemade baked goods. Proceeds from the sale will benefit UWF mission partners.

**Sunday, July 23, after worship in the Simkins Hall Alcove**



## Vacation Bible Camp - Still Time to Register

It's not too late to sign up for Vacation Bible Camp, happening **Monday, July 31 - Friday, August 4, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** on the First UMC campus. For kids ages TK/5 - 5th grade. This year's theme is *Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God*. As kids (called Heroes)

experience Bible stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they'll learn that Heroes are called to Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together, Listen to God, and Show Grace! And, best of all, they'll be invited to answer this call at VBC, at church, at home, and every area of their lives. Sign up here:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/vbc](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/vbc)



Jamie Jones will lead VBC this summer!

**Flowers:** To order flowers to remember or honor a loved one for Sunday Worship service, go to: [www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund). Open dates: July 15/23/30, all Sundays in August

## Community Free Market

First UMC is pleased to present the Community Free Market—a one day event where all are welcome to come by and pick up FREE new or gently used kitchen /household items! Bring your friends and family, and look for housewares, small appliances (toasters, blenders), holiday items, toys, books, and more!

**Contribute items to the Market! (We will NOT be accepting furniture, clothing of any kind, electronics, large appliances, or items that aren't gently used or new. Tax ID Donation Slips available to those who contribute.)**



**Drop-off days (in the First UMC Library):**

Saturday, August 5, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sunday, August 13, 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Contact **Janet Guyette**: 310-663-9861 or [janetguyette@gmail.com](mailto:janetguyette@gmail.com), with questions.

**Community Free Market: Saturday, August 19, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the First UMC Courtyard**

## ONGOING MISSION AND SERVICE

### Communion Server Ministry

Each month when communion is offered in church, members of the Communion Server Ministry take communion out to those who cannot be present during the service. By including others, we expand the Table of the Lord to include those who cannot be present in body. The volunteers who are involved in this ministry feel blessed in being able to serve in this way. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, please contact Anne Premer ([a.premer@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:a.premer@santamonicaumc.org)) or the church office.

### UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

UMCOR and its partners respond to disasters in the U.S. and across the globe every day. For the most up-to-date information, follow the UMCOR Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/UMCOR](http://www.facebook.com/UMCOR)

### Missions and Outreach Partners

We at First UMC work in partnership with a variety of groups and organizations throughout our community and the larger UMC to bring hope and healing where it is needed most. Together we can change lives and transform the world.

To read more about the Outreach and Missions supported by First UMC, visit the website: [www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions)

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES

### Nursery Care

Nursery Care is available on Sunday mornings from **9:30 - 11 a.m. in Room 204** in the Education Building. Parents with young children are also welcome to worship in the sanctuary or in the Kids Zone in the narthex.



### Sunday School

Sunday School is every Sunday morning in Room 206. We are so grateful to our Sunday School teachers (Dot Plukas and Sandra Jones) for their ongoing care and commitment to our children and families. **Sundays, 10 a.m. Room 206**

### Preschool Enrollment Ongoing

The First UMC Preschool is enrolling for the Fall. Toddler, Preschool ages 2-5, and new TK program. Schedule a tour today with Dee Menzies, Preschool Director at 310-395-7292, or visit our webpage for more information:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool)



*The Preschool Spring Concert was held on June 23.*

## PRAYER

### 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 ([mailemarquand@gmail.com](mailto:mailemarquand@gmail.com)) or Sue Payne ([sue.f.payne@gmail.com](mailto: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 tie a prayer knot during in-person worship, or view the quilt on the Livestream.

**The next Prayer Quilt Ministry meetings are Saturday, July 15 and August 19, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. in Room 300 in the Education Building.** Contact [info@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:info@santamonicaumc.org) if you would like to volunteer.

#### • Prayer Quilts Can Be Tied in Worship

If you're present in the Sanctuary during Worship, you may tie your own prayer knots on the quilt for the recipient; if you are unable to attend Worship in person, 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](mailto: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.

### Prayer Requests

The First UMC Prayer Group is a network of persons who provide regular, dependable, and confidential prayer support. You may send a prayer request to the church at any time, and our Prayer Group will be notified of your request. <https://santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests/>

## STAY CONNECTED

To join in fellowship and ministry, here's how to connect:

**First UMC website:** [www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc](http://www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc)

**Instagram:** @santamonicaumc

**YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC](http://www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC)

**The First UMC App:**

To download the app, go to: <https://subsplash.com/76vw/app>. Or, go to the App Store, search FirstUMC\_SM

### Monthly Blood Pressure Screenings

The 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 Screenings: July 16 & August 20, in the Fireside Room**

# Remembering Camp Colby

by Hannah Ford-Monroe, First UMC Office Staff

Colby Ranch, which rests in the Coldwater Canyon just a short drive from Los Angeles, has officially closed its doors. The beloved Camp Colby nature retreat was the grounds of luscious hiking trails, rope swings, archery, ping pong, zip lining, as well as a range of sports and art/crafting opportunities. Beyond the exciting range of activities, Camp Colby will be remembered fondly as a place of deep faith, connection, and spiritual growth in community and nature. In light of its closing, we spoke to First UMC member **Joyce Landsverk** and her sister, **Donna Everhart**, who shared memories reflecting on their time at Colby since the 50s.

Joyce Landsverk shared; "In 1958 my family of 7 attended Colby Family Camp, and in 1984, 1988, 1990, 1994 and 1997, I was at Colby with FUMC for workcamps with many FUMC members. We did painting, brush clearing, sewed curtains, and other jobs. We enjoyed a walk to a small waterfall, campfires, skits, games, and meals together." In 1997, she was a camp counselor and has a vivid memory of one of the girls in her cabin leaving early to get to the showers first, then was afraid to

return since it had been announced that there was a mountain lion in the area. Joyce said, "Before dawn I went down to rescue her and she was forever grateful that I didn't reprimand her."

Joyce's sister, Donna Everhart, who was the dean of the Santa Barbara District UMC's senior high summer camp (which was held at Colby), as well as the District's camping coordinator, emphasized; "I was constantly reminded that this was not my camp, not the district's camp, not even the Methodist's camp. It was the Lord's camp. Never have I felt the presence of the Lord so strong and consistent. For me truly, Camp Colby is Holy Ground." She added, "Over and over again I heard from campers (and their families) how individuals were touched by God in that place. Some of the phrases that resonates "Colby is the only place where I felt unconditional love.", "Campfire & Morning Input helped me to see that God loves us all, everyone.", "I never knew the love of God before, and I was brought up in a church." "I didn't know God could be fun."

To the generation that experienced deep growth in faith and community at Colby, this closing is a time of reflection and gratitude; the spirit and lessons of Camp Colby live through their memories to be passed onto future generations in our community.



**The Latest News from Vista Dorm . . .** Our All-Church Work Camp, May 18-20, was extremely successful! We completely refurbished a large, 3-room cabin. Vista Dorm got painted inside and out, a new roof, new gutters, new attics, new decorative numbers and even new red and white checked curtains! Also, brush was cleared from around the cabin and 18 small pine trees were planted. Look for more pictures on the bulletin board near the Social Hall for the next few Sundays.

Our thanks to the 71 men, women, youth and children who contributed the necessary labor. Someone figured that it would take one person working 8 hours a day 4 months to accomplish what we did in one day!

We are especially grateful to the Methodist Foundation who paid for the roofing, paint, etc. Other donations came from Dr. Don Mulder, The Sharringers Class, the Naglors, the Langstons, and the Hammonds. Our thanks to all!

Clipping from 1984:

## The Latest News from Vista Dorm

Our All-Church Work camp, May 18-20, was extremely successful! ...Our thanks to the 71 men, women, youth and children who contributed necessary labor...We are especially grateful to the Methodist Foundation who paid for the roofing, paint, etc. Other donations came from Dr. Don Mulder, The Sharringers Class, the Naglors, the Lanstons, and the Hammonds. Our thanks to all!

## Photos from Joyce Landsverk



In 1990: (above from left) Jamie Talt, Joyce Landsverk, Jan Baird, and camp counselor



From 1994, Joyce & David Landsverk



From 1988



From 1984



## Photos from Adam Guerrero



From 2006



To get a closer look at the Camp Colby photos over the years, and see all of the familiar faces, view the gallery on the website: [www.santamonicaumc.org/camp-colby](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/camp-colby)



### Congratulations!

• Congratulations to First UMC youth **Ada Sarley**, who won the Grand Prize in the K-2nd Grade division of the 15th Annual Sustainable Santa Monica Student Poster Contest, presented by the City of Santa Monica and Sustainable Works. This year's theme, *Together, Let's Create a Community Full of Kindness, Dignity and Equity*, reinforces the importance of treating each other with kindness and recognizing that as human beings everyone is a valued member of our community and should be treated fairly and in a way that does not cause them harm. Way to go, Ada!



### Spirit Sisters Retreat

**Pastor Dorothy Bimber Worley** is holding a Spirit Sisters gathering in her home and garden on Saturday, July 15, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All women are invited! RSVP and questions: Pastor Dorothy Bimber Worley: 626-826-8301.

### Deaths

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

• First UMC member **Dorothy Jean Kleingartner** died June 5, 2023. Dorothy formed the Health Ministry program here at the First UMC, and served as the Health Ministry nurse from 1989 to 2001.

### Memorial

• A memorial for First UMC member **Elizabeth Marriott Lowery** will be held on July 7, 2 p.m. in the Chapel.

## 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.premer@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:a.premer@santamonicaumc.org). Or, call (310)393-8258 ext. 103. Visit the website for **Community Care** - a list of local resources including info for senior assistance, Medicare, American Red Cross, bereavement resources, and more!  
Visit: [www.santamonicaumc.org/care](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/care)



## UPCOMING IN SEPTEMBER

### SAVE THE DATES:

#### Sunday, September 10: Homecoming Sunday

Fellowship and Events Committee is excited to bring back Homecoming Sunday - stay after worship for BBQ, fellowship and fun as we reunite after the summer!

**Saturday, September 23: United Women in Faith Tea, 1- 3 p.m.** in the Fireside Room. All women are invited to come have tea and fellowship.

#### Sunday, September 24: Youth Service Project Report-Back

We are excited to hear from the YSP team about their recent trip in June to Jonesville, Virginia, helping residents by repairing homes through the Appalachia Service Project.

## Blessing of the Animals Art Exhibit Is Back! Call out for ART

First UMC is pleased to announce that alongside our Annual Blessing of the Animals event in October, we are bringing back the Blessing of the Animals Art Show in the Fireside Room! After a three year hiatus, we're excited to put the call out for art from YOU, the congregation, and any artist friends or family that would like to participate. This year's theme is art representing ALL of God's creatures! All mediums are welcome - painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, knitting, sewing, poetry, etc.

Exhibit opens Saturday, October 7 – immediately after the annual Blessing of the Animals in the Courtyard, and will run for a month.

**If you'd like participate or have questions**, email Tina Gage: [t.gage@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.gage@santamonicaumc.org).



*Scenes from the 2019 Blessing of the Animals art exhibit*

## Giving Matters

There are many ways to contribute to the mission and ministry of First UMC. You may give online via the QR code on the right (*take a photo of the code with your phone camera*), via mail, or onsite through the church office mail slot. To learn more about ways to give, including the annual Stewardship campaign, Planned Giving, Tree of Life, support for the Music Program, and the flower fund, visit: [www.santamonicaumc.org/give](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/give)



# COMMUNITY PHOTOS



Oldest living First UMC member, **Edith Andersen**, celebrated her 103rd birthday on June 7. Photo taken by Anne Premer.



On Sunday, June 4, First UMC welcomed Arizona Paradise Valley UMC Handbells and Choir Ensemble during worship.



The United Women in Faith hosted a Scholarship Luncheon for high school seniors. Dr. Mira Pak (upper left) gave the students advice on surviving their first year of college.



The First UMC Youth hosted a "Lunch and Learn" Fundraiser for their Youth Service Project Trip.



The Youth Service Project Team was commissioned during worship on Sunday, June 11, then departed for their trip on Saturday, June 17.



The trip was a great success! Save the Date for the YSP Report Back on Sunday, September 24, after worship.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF SANTA MONICA

1008 Eleventh St.

Santa Monica, CA 90403

email: [info@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:info@santamonicaumc.org)

**310.393.8258**

[www.santamonicaumc.org](http://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

## HIGHLIGHTING MEMBER SERVICE



Congregation Care Associate **Anne Premier** received a Certificate in Pastoral Care through the Center for Religion and Spirituality at Loyola Marymount University on June 25, 2023. Congratulations, Anne!

Thank you to First UMC member **Dr. Bill Buxton** for preaching about his work as a neurologist working with dementia patients, and how “faith can benefit those with dementia more than we previously understood, and those with dementia can and do enrich congregations.”



To listen to or read **Bill's** sermon, visit the website:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/sermon-archives](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/sermon-archives), look for the June 18, 2023 service

O gracious God,  
You have bestowed upon the world the gifts of each person, and you rejoice with us today in our desire to share those gifts.

May we be effective in our work and persevering in our prayer, offering our service with reverence for you and for those whom we serve.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

*-Opening Prayer by Sister Rosalia Meza, VDMF  
for the Loyola Marymount University, Center for Religion and Spirituality, Graduation Ceremony*