

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WORSHIP

Children's Sabbath • 4th Grade Bibles • February 9, 2025

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WE GATHER

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WELCOME

Daniel and Elise Wong

PRELUDE Prayer from Suite Gothique (Léon Boëllmann)

Ty Woodward, organ

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #2271 The Faith We Sing — Come! Come! Everybody Worship

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day we rejoice together as children of God.

**Some of us are young. Some of us are older.**

But we are all children of a mighty God.

**Together we will learn from one another.**

**Together we will praise God!**

\*CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

"Almighty God! God of our Fathers immortal. Worthy art Thou, O Lord of Lords!"

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Geordi Caldwell

*Please greet those worshipping near you.*

\*Asterisks indicate standing if you are able.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#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.*

PRESENTATION OF 4TH GRADE BIBLES *(see insert)*

Rev. Greg Batson, Senior Minister

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 return to their seats for Family Sunday. Children remain with their families for congregational worship when there is no Sunday school. Worship packets and books for children can be found with the ushers.*

## OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

Ada and Luke Sarley

We give thanks for God's Creating Spirit that continues to give us life and lead us forward!

**Thanks be to God!**

HYMN #2056 TFWS — God Is So Good

SILENT PRAYER AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Henry Seibold

## 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

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## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE PSALM Psalm 138:1-6 (The Message)

Sonia Hovey

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Thank you!"

Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate

## PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO 4TH GRADERS

Sunday, February 9, 2025

*Children respond in **bold italics**. Congregation responds with words printed in **bold type**.*

### BIBLE RECIPIENTS

**NATHANIEL HOWARD CORRALEZ**

**CALEB ARCHIBALD ESKRIDGE**

**ADA ROSE SARLEY**

**HENRY DONOVAN SEIBOLD**

**LAUREN OLIVIA SWEAT**

### TO OUR 4TH GRADERS

Rev. Greg Batson, Senior Minister

Will you receive this Bible with your hands, your heart, and your mind?

***I will.***

### LET US PRAY TOGETHER

**We rejoice in this step in your journey with God. We pray God will guide you, your family, and us as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your Sunday School classes, and in worship. We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word. Amen.**

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## WE RESPOND

### WE OFFER OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Dominic Rold

*Your continued financial support of the church is now more important than ever. You may place gifts of cash or checks made out to "First UMC" in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also mail your gift to the church or drop it into the mail slot of our offices any day of the week. Or, you may also give online at [www.santamonicaumc.org/give](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/give), or mail checks through your online banking programs. You may continue to earmark gifts for our various mission projects. May God grow in us generous and joyful hearts. Thank you.*

### OFFERTORY

The Chancel Choir/Dr. James Smith, Music Director

Children of the Heavenly Father (Eric Nelson)

Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given. God his own doth tend and nourish; in his holy courts they flourish; from all evil things he spares them; in his mighty arms he bears them. Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever; unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth. Praise the Lord in joyful numbers, your Protector never slumbers; at the will of your Defender ev'ry foe then must surrender. No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home. Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

### \*RESPONSE #94 United Methodist Hymnal — The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### \*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Cavan Rold

**Thank you, loving God, for the blessings we receive. Accept these gifts and use them to fill our world with light and hope. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

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## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

### \*HYMN He's Got the Whole World in His Hands (*see insert*)

### \*BENEDICTION

Tricia Guerrero

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE Psalm 19 (Benedetto Marcello)

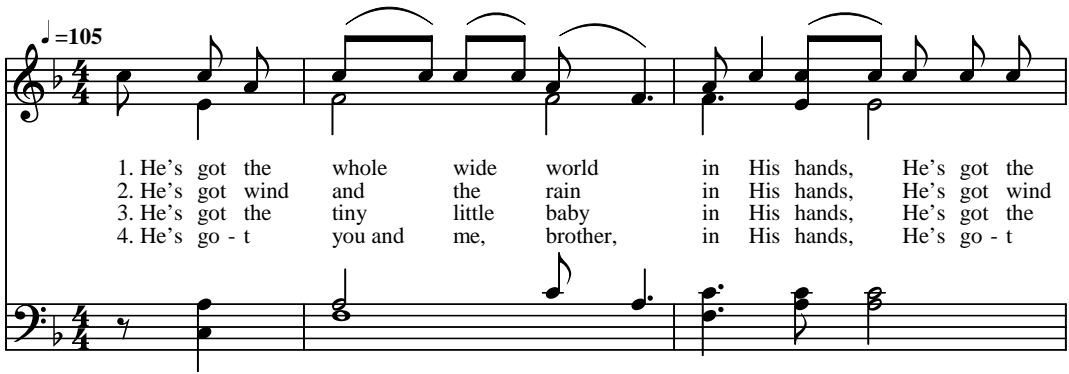
Ty Woodward

*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.*

# He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Traditional Spiritual

$\text{♩} = 105$



1. He's got the whole wide world in His hands, He's got the  
2. He's got wind and the rain in His hands, He's got wind  
3. He's got the tiny little baby in His hands, He's got the  
4. He's go - t you and me, brother, in His hands, He's go - t



whole wide world in His hands, He's got the whole wide world  
and the rain in His hands, He's got wind and the rain  
tiny little baby in His hands, He's got the tiny little baby  
you and me, brother, in His hands, He's go - t you and me, brother,



in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.  
in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.  
in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.  
in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

—**Welcome New Visitors!** We're happy you're here. You may fill out a Let's Connect Card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate, or sign in online: [www.santamonicaumc.org/im-new](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/im-new), or scan this QR code for the online form.



—**Children and Families on Sundays:** Families are invited to begin worship in the Sanctuary. Following the Children's Message, children are guided to Sunday School for ages 12 months through 5th grade in the Education Building. Parents with infants are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary or in the Family Zone in the Narthex.

—**Safe Sanctuaries®:** 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.

—**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).

—**Give:** Your gifts help us grow our ministries today and into the future. Thank you for considering giving to the General Church Fund to support everything we do. You may give today during service, or other ways; by mailing payment, dropping by the business office, or securely through the online giving portal located on the website front page. Questions about financial gifts, or gifts of time? Give us a call anytime at the church office.

—**Prayer Quilts:** If there is a Prayer Quilt in worship, you are invited 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: Sarah Rold (310.393.8258), or [s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:s.rolld@santamonicaumc.org). To request a Prayer Quilt for someone in need, go to: [www.santamonicaumc.org/prayerquiltministry](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/prayerquiltministry).

—**Prayer Requests:** The Prayer Chain is a network of persons who pray in response to prayer requests, and treat all requests as confidential. Request a prayer at any time. Go to: [www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests).

—**Westside Food Bank:** We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. Bins are located outside the Sanctuary Sunday mornings.

—**Sunday Social Gathering:** After worship today, come say "Hello" and join in making Thank You cards for Firefighters and first responders in Simkins Hall. Coffee and donuts available for all. Stop by the Sunday Welcome Table if you have any questions!

*Resident Bishop*  
**Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank**  
*West District Superintendent*  
**Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi**  
*Senior Minister*  
**Rev. Greg Batson**  
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*Pastoral Associate*  
**Tricia Guerrero**  
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*Deacon Associate for Spiritual Formation*  
**Rev. Keri Olsen Paget**  
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**Dr. James Smith**  
*Organist*  
**Ty Woodward**  
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*Preschool Co-Director*  
**Dane Rold**  
[d.rolld@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:d.rolld@santamonicaumc.org)  
*Preschool Co-Director*  
**Johanna Holman**  
[j.holman@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:j.holman@santamonicaumc.org)

God is real. God is love. ■ Together we can change the world.

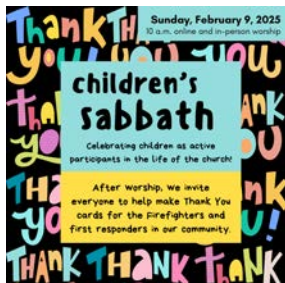
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of SANTA MONICA**

1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403 [www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org) · 310-393-8258

SUNDAY INSERT  
FEBRUARY 9, 2025

# MISSION AND COMMON LIFE

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



## Today! Children's Sabbath

Today is Children's Sabbath, a day set aside to celebrate children as active participants in the life of the church. Our theme is "Thank you!" and our children are excited to share their stories of God's loving activity in their lives. Disciples come in all ages and this week our children will serve as worship leaders throughout the service. Following worship, **we invite everyone to help make Thank You cards for the firefighters and first responders in our community.** We will have cards at each table in Simkins Hall and we hope you will help us show our appreciation to those who have sacrificed so much in the past month to serve our community during the devastating fires across Los Angeles.

**Additionally, the Girl Scouts will have a table where they will be selling their delicious Girl Scout cookies!** Don't miss your chance to support our young people and pick up some delicious thin mints and samoas! Let us give thanks for God's love that radiates from our children's hearts as they lead us in worship, sharing their gifts and their faith.

**Today during 10 a.m. worship, followed by card making in Simkins Hall!**

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## February Online Mid-Week Recital

February's Online Mid-Week Recital features **Erin Wood, soprano, and Philip Hoch, organ.** Wood is an accomplished vocalist and an El Camino applied music faculty member with a distinguished opera career. She has been praised for her portrayals of Verdi and Wagner heroines featuring her "soaring soprano," "immense voice full of grit at the bottom and transcendent radiance at the top," and "volcanic outpouring of sound." Hoch is a faculty member at the University of Redlands and prolific concert organist from Southern California's Inland Empire. His areas of specialization include organ performance, transcription studies, minimalism studies, organ registration practices, liturgical studies, and works by Philip Glass.

To watch past recitals, visit the website:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series)

**Wednesday, February 12, 12:10 p.m. ONLINE:**

- Facebook: @santamonicaumc • YouTube Channel: @SantaMonicaUMC
- Website: [www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream)
- The First UMC App: (Go to the App Store, search FirstUMC\_SM)



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1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, CA 90403 • 310-393-8258  
[www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org) • [info@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:info@santamonicaumc.org)   @santamonicaumc

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

### • The 90+ Birthday Club

Each month after worship, during coffee hour, we acknowledge our cherished members who are celebrating their 90+ birthday that month with a birthday cake and song. This acknowledgement is more than just a celebration of age; it's an opportunity for fellowship and connection, allowing us to learn from the rich life journeys of our seniors. We look forward to seeing you there as we uplift and honor the lives that have shaped our community!

**Sunday, February 16, after worship: celebrating Ellen Wise**

### • Kids Night Out (registration full)

Kids Night Out is back in February! While parents enjoy a well-deserved night out, children are provided a safe and fun evening of games, activities and crafts, pizza dinner, and a movie with our trained childcare team.

**Saturday, February 22, 4 – 8 p.m. in the Education Bld.**

### • Lenten Book Study

Join Rev. Greg Batson and Rev. Larry Young as they co-host a 5-week Lenten Book Study based on the book *The Third Day*, by Bishop Tom Berlin. Tom Berlin uses his gifts of

storytelling and understanding of the Scriptures to connect the reader to the experiences of several individuals around Jesus in his final days, focusing on new life and redemption rather than loss. Class schedule: (same class, one in-person and one online)

### • Sundays, 11:30 a.m., in the Fireside Room

led by Rev. Larry Young

**March 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6**

### • Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom led by

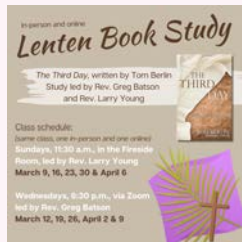
Rev. Greg Batson

**March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & 9**

Zoom link on the website:

<https://santamonicaumc.org/lenen-book-study-25>

Book available to buy after worship next Sunday, Feb 16, for \$20 at the Welcome Table, or order online.



## MISSION AND SERVICE

### • Westside Food Bank

Westside Food Bank is preparing for a long recovery period in the aftermath of these catastrophic fires. The damage has been devastating, and Westside Food Bank is doing everything in its power to help our community. We can rally together to help those impacted. Food is collected at First UMC every Sunday to benefit the Westside Food Bank. Food bins can be found outside the Sanctuary and in the Preschool.

### • Ways to Serve at First UMC

Many of you have asked... How can I do more? How can I serve? These are excellent questions to consider! We have ways to serve out in the community with our Mission Partners - AND ways to serve here in our church community. Opportunities include: Labyrinth Host, Lay Lector, Welcome Ambassador, Usher, In-Home Communion Server, Singing in the Chancel Choir. All are vital ways to faithfully share your gifts. To explore a service opportunity, please reach out to Tricia Guerrero, Pastoral Associate: [t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org).

### • Volunteer Opportunity at The People Concern

Linda Diane Anderson runs a volunteer group on the **third Saturday of the month** at The People Concern, making sandwiches and assembling sack lunches.. The shift is 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., but often ends earlier. Volunteers do not have to work every Saturday or Sunday but are asked to commit to a regular shift each month. If you would like to be part of the group rotation of volunteers, contact Tricia: [t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org).

### • Mission 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. **Visit the website:**

[www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/outreach-missions)





## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### • Children's Ministry

Families are invited to begin worship in the Sanctuary. Following the Children's Message, children are guided to Sunday School for ages 12 months through 5th grade in the Education Building. Parents with infants are welcome to worship in the Sanctuary or in the Family Zone in the Narthex. You are invited to look around and greet a child and their family in worship. You might hear a few more giggles and whispers or see some wiggles...let's celebrate the joyful and life-filled presence beloved children bring to our community each week!

[www.santamonicaumc.org/childrens-ministry](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/childrens-ministry)

### • Preschool Enrollment Ongoing

Schedule a tour today with Preschool Co-Directors Dane or Johanna at 310-395-7292, or visit our webpage for more information: [www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool)

## YOUTH

### • United Methodist Youth Fellowship Group

Weekly UMYF meetings held Sundays 6 - 8 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. [www.santamonicaumc.org/youth-ministry](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/youth-ministry)

**Upcoming Meetings:** Feb 9, meeting at 3 p.m. today for Superbowl Sunday; Feb 16/23 in the Youth Lounge

## PRAYER

### • Walk the Labyrinth/Chapel Open for Prayers

The Labyrinth and Chapel are open on the first Friday of the month, from 1 - 3 p.m. Families welcome!

**Next Opportunity: Friday, March 7, 1 - 3 p.m.**

### • Prayer Requests

The Prayer Chain is a network of persons who pray in response to prayer requests. You may send a prayer request to the church at any time.

[www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests/](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/prayer-requests/)

### • Request a Prayer Quilt

The Prayer Quilt Ministry is a group that makes Prayer Quilts as a service for those in need. (*\*Prayer quilts may only be requested and sponsored by members of the First UMC congregation.*) To request a Prayer Quilt, visit:

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

## ONGOING MINISTRIES AT FIRST UMC

If you'd like more information for ministry opportunities, you may contact the church office (310) 393-8258, or visit the website: [www.santamonicaumc.org](http://www.santamonicaumc.org)

### • Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 7 a.m. via Zoom - Men's Bible Study is a weekly online meeting where men of all ages and generations gather to ground themselves in the Holy Scripture.

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

### • Listening Hearts Women's Group

Listening Hearts is a spiritual community of women, led by Pastoral Associate Tricia Guerrero. Contact Tricia for upcoming meetings: [t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org](mailto:t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org). Next meeting: **Feb 12:** via Zoom, **2 p.m.** (*\*note new time*)

### • Prayer Quilt Ministry

Meets the 3rd Saturdays of the month, 9:30 a.m. in Room 300. Next meeting: **Saturday, Feb 15**

### • The Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir provides music every Sunday during the 10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service. **Sing in the Chancel Choir!** Thursday evening rehearsals are from 7:30 - 9 p.m. in the Choir Room. Contact Jim Smith if you are interested: [djes@roadrunner.com](mailto:djes@roadrunner.com)

### • Messy Church

Messy Church is a monthly all age worship experience that explores God's love in an accessible way.

Next Messy Church: **Saturday, March 1, 4 - 6 p.m.** in Simkins Hall. Theme: Love Your Neighbor

### • Open Space Young Adults

Open Space is a young adult ministry that offers community for young adults to journey alongside one another in spiritual discovery, growth, and belonging.

Learn more: [www.santamonicaumc.org/open-space](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/open-space).

IG: @openspacesm. Next meeting: **Wednesday, Feb 12**, off-site.

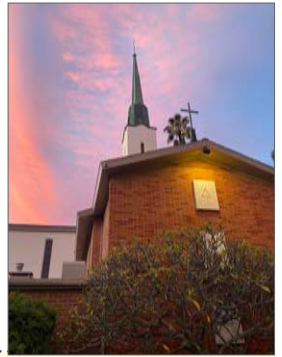
### • Blood Pressure Screenings

The Health Ministry Council provides free Blood Pressure Screenings once a month after worship.

Next meeting: **Sunday, Feb 23** in the Alcove.

# Welcome to First UMC of Santa Monica!

Welcome to the worship, service, and fellowship of Santa Monica First United Methodist Church. First UMC is committed to a ministry that touches the lives of people in many significant ways. Through our worship and music, study opportunities, social groups, mission involvement and ministries of care, we proclaim the good news of God's love for all people. We also work to help make the world a better place in which to live, here in the communities of the Westside and around the world, and eagerly invite your participation in this beloved community. Our church has been a significant presence in the larger Santa Monica community for 150 years.



## Cal-Pac Conference Wildfire Updates

We continue to pray for our congregations and communities who continue to be affected by the recent fires. Current updates and resources can be found on the Cal-Pac website: [www.calpacumc.org/lafires2025](http://www.calpacumc.org/lafires2025)

• Two of our United Methodist churches, Community UMC in Pacific Palisades and Altadena UMC, have been destroyed by the fires. You can provide direct assistance to those who suffered these losses by contributing to the Los Angeles Fires Recovery Fund created by our Annual Conference. Go to: [www.calpacumc.org/donate](http://www.calpacumc.org/donate)  
*Check donations payable to the California-Pacific Conference can be mailed to California-Pacific Conference, Los Angeles Fires Recovery Fund, PO Box 6006, Pasadena CA 91102.*

## 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 (*Point your phone camera at the QR code and click on yellow link*), 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)



## The First UMC App:

First UMC offers a free app - download it and give it a try! With the app, you can:

- Participate in Sunday's service, in real time or anytime at your convenience, right from your smartphone or iPad.
- Access our calendar of our events
- Invite a friend to an event, or share info about a special program we offer.
- Access an **audio/written Bible** with a built-in daily reading plan.

To download the app, go to the App Store, search FirstUMC\_SM

## Stay Connected

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

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

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

**Instagram:** @santamonicaumc

**YouTube:** @SantaMonicaUMC

**The First UMC App:** Go to the App Store, search FirstUMC\_SM.



## Website Pages to note:

Mid-Week Recitals - *View past recitals anytime*

[www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/mid-week-recital-series)

Audio Sermon Archives - *Listen to past sermons*

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

Worship Service archives - *View past services anytime*

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

## Sunday Flowers

Do you have a loved one you would like to dedicate flowers to on a given week? The church office can assist with the dedication and the cost is \$80.

Order at the Sunday Welcome Table, or online:

[www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/flower-fund)

**Available Sundays: February 16**