

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WORSHIP

Third Sunday of Easter • Children's Sabbath • Recognition of Sunday School Teachers
Commissioning of the Houston Mission Team • April 15, 2018



**God's love bubbled over when
there was nothing else.
— Genesis 1**
(Children of God, Storybook Bible)

WE GATHER

WELCOME

Kate Beckerman

PRELUDE Psalm 19 (Benedetto Marcello)

Dr. James Vail, Guest Organist

ANTHEM This Little Light of Mine/Ho, Ho, Ho, Hosanna Cherub Choir/Jamie Jones, Director

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #147 United Methodist Hymnal — All Things Bright and Beautiful

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Helia Esmaeili

We gather together to give thanks and praise to God who created our world and everything in it.

We praise you, God, for the world you have made.

We praise you for the mountains that reach toward the sky and for the blue of the oceans that are filled with life.

We praise you, God, for the world you have made.

We praise you for the shade of the forests with the tall trees overhead and for the rich fields where we grow our food.

We praise you, God, for the world you have made.

We praise you for the sound of laughter, and for the joy of being your people. We praise you for all you have done for love of us.

We praise you, God, for the world you have made.

You are our God and we are your people. For ever and ever.

We praise you, God, for the world you have made.

*As a courtesy to others, please silence all cell phones/sound-making devices. *Asterisks indicate standing if you are able.*

CHORAL ACT OF PRAISE

"We will praise the Lord! We will sing His Glory. We will worship Him, our God and King!"

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

JoJo Beckerman

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 return to their seats. There is no Sunday School today.

OUR MISSION & COMMON LIFE

JoJo Beckerman

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

Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

Children's Church/Janet Searfoss, Music Director
Mary Crawford, Accompanist

You've Got the Whole World (arr. Mary Lynn Lightfoot)

You've got the whole world in your hands, the whole wide world in your hands, the whole world in your hands, the whole world in your hands. You've got the mountains and streams in your hands, the mountains and streams in your hands. You've got mountains and streams in your hands, the whole world in your hands. You've got all living things in your hands. You've got all living things in your hands. You've got all living things in your hands. He's got the whole world in his hands, the whole wide world in his hands, the whole world in his hands, the whole world in his hands. Mountains and streams; all living things; He's got the world in his hands, the world in his hands. *(Repeat 3 times.)*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE LESSON Genesis 1 (Children of God, Storybook Bible)

Isabella Ohr

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

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Gavin Kirtley, Cooper Nessel

WE RESPOND

INVITATION TO PRAYER #2056 TFWS – God Is So Good *(verses 1, 2)*

LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF GOD

Kate Beckerman

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN #2056 TFWS – God Is So Good *(verses 3, 4)*

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

Augie Johnson

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/Dr. James Smith, Music Director

Look at the World (John Rutter)

Look at the world, ev'rything all around us: Look at the world: so many joys and wonders, so many miracles along our way. Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation, give us thankful hearts, that we may see: all the gifts we share, and ev'ry blessing, All things come of thee. Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower; look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain; look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains, valley and flowing river, field and plain. Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer bringing the harvest before the winter's cold. Ev'rything grows, ev'ry good gift, all that we need and cherish comes from the Lord in token of his love; we are his hands, stewards of all his bounty; His is the earth, and His is the heav'ns above.

* RESPONSE #94 UMH – The Doxology

* UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Quinlyn Kirtley

God our Creator, we give you thanks for the world and everything you have given us. Use our gifts to share your special love and healing with people in need. Be with us in all that we do so our lives may give praise and glory to you. Amen.

COMMISSIONING THE HOUSTON MISSION TEAM *(see insert)*

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* HYMN #2008 TFWS – Let All Things Now Living

* BENEDICTION

Cooper Nessel & Gavin Kirtley

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Fugue in G Major - BWV 541 (J. S. Bach)

Dr. Vail

*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 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.

—We welcome guest organist Dr. James Vail.

—Flowers: "In celebration of Gavin Kirtley and Cooper Nessel as they give the sermons this Sunday." From their families.

—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.

MISSIONS

—We collect food weekly for the Westside Food Bank. In April bring canned pork and beans.

Resident Bishop

Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

West District Superintendent

Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa

Senior Minister

Rev. Patricia Farris

p.farris@santamonicaumc.org

New & Emerging Ministries

Rev. Robert English

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Chaplain in Residence

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Director of Children & Youth Ministry

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Dr. James Smith

Organist

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Communications Coordinator

Shalimar Carducci

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Head Custodian

Javier Espinosa

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



A SERVICE OF SENDING FORTH



Commissioning the Houston Mission Team

Sunday, April 15, 2018

*Team responds in **bold italics**. Congregation responds in **bold type**.*

INTRODUCTION

Rev. Patricia Farris

As Christians, we are to make the Lord Jesus Christ known to all people. We hear this in his words: “I give you a new commandment.... Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (*John 13:34-35*)

In Jesus’ final command, we hear: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And, remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (*Matthew 28:19-20*)

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEAM

Roxanne Corley, Heidi Crooks, Arthur Dodd, Jr., Adam Guerrero, Tricia Guerrero, Jamie Jones, Jessica Jones, Michael Olsson, Janet Searfoss, and Larry Young.

TO THE TEAM

Rev. Robert English

Through our baptism we are called into a life of mission and service. We celebrate you and this task as you go forth in the Spirit. Through the gift of your service and love, you show the infinite love that God has for all people. This is both a privilege and a responsibility, and we ask that you now publicly affirm your commitment to God’s work. Will you love, accept, and respect the persons whom you serve?

I will, with God’s help.

Will you seek to work in glad cooperation and mutual support with other workers, being sensitive and helpful according to the needs presented to you?

I will, with God’s help.

TO THE TEAM (CONTINUED)

Rev. English

Will you answer God's call and live in God's Word, demonstrating your love of Jesus Christ and the church which you represent?

I will, with God's help.

Do you sincerely believe that the work you are about to undertake is the work of God for our world?

I do so believe.

COMMISSIONING AND ANOINTING OF HANDS

Rev. Farris

I commission you to share the love of Jesus Christ through the gift of your service in Houston. We now anoint your hands with oil as a sign of the holy work which you will be doing.

Let us pray: Almighty God, bless these hands that will touch life. Bless these hands that will reach out and be received. Bless these hands that will be dirty and calloused by your work of bringing hope. Bless the work of your hands. **Amen.**

TO THE CONGREGATION

Sherry Erlandson, Lay Leader

Sisters and Brothers, I commend to you these persons whom we have commissioned to serve in Houston. They are representatives of Christ and the church. I commend them to you for your love, your care, your prayers, and your support for the work that they will perform.

PLEDGE OF THE CONGREGATION

We rejoice to recognize you as representatives of our church, and thank God for your dedication and your gift of service. We send you forth with our prayers and our support, and, with you, we renew our commitment to God and service in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We pray God's blessings for you and all those in Houston. Amen.

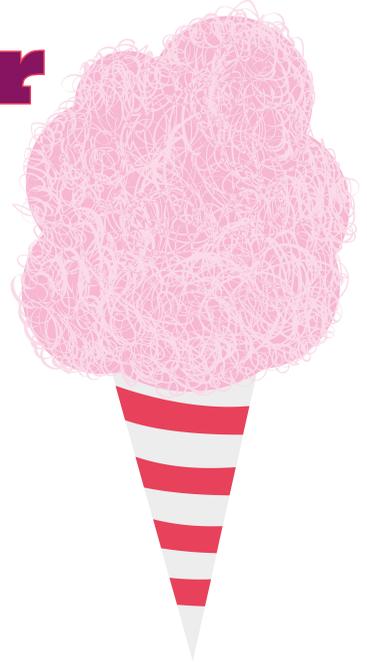
April 15, 2018

Preschool Spring Fair

Come to the First UMC Preschool Spring Fair for great fun for the whole family! Featuring a petting zoo, pony rides, bouncy houses, spin art table, Farmer Nat, and lots of games and prizes. Email Dane Rold (d.rolld@santamonicaumc.org) to enter the baking contest, then bake your favorite pie and possibly win a prize!

Activity bracelets are \$20 for kids and entry is free for adults.
Food: \$5 for tacos or quesadillas.

Next Sunday April 22, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Courtyard



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WORSHIP & PRAYER

Sunday 10 a.m. **Sanctuary Worship**
 Sunday 5 p.m. **simple church**
*simple church theme: on bearing witness to
 forgiving love*

MEETINGS / EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today - Children's Sabbath • Houston Work Team
 Commissioning

11 a.m. Houston Hoedown, SH

11 a.m. Free Blood Pressure Screenings, FR

2:30 p.m. Walk the Labyrinth, SH

Wednesday, April 18

9 a.m. UMW Workparty/Lunch, Workroom

Saturday, April 21 - Houston Mission Team departs

9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilt Workparty, Room 300

Sunday, April 22

11 a.m. Preschool Spring Fair, CY

11:30 a.m. Book Study/Potluck, FR

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Children's Ministry

April Theme: Go and Tell

Bible Verse: *He began to preach about Jesus in the
 synagogues. "He is God's Son," he declared. Acts 9:20*

This Sunday: Children's Sabbath

Youth Connect: 10:10 a.m. in Room 203

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

6 p.m. Youth Choir

6:30 p.m. Prayer Stations

*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.*

FELLOWSHIP /COMMUNITY

Houston Hoedown Fundraiser - Today!

Mosey on over to Simkins Hall after worship today
 for our Houston Hoedown Fundraiser! Your purchased
 ticket will support our mission team and their service
 work in Houston. Plenty of fun for the whole family:
 delicious lunch, live band and square dancing, games
 and activities for kids, photo booth and more!
 Ticket Cost: \$25 per person, \$50 per family.

Today, 11 a.m. in Simkins Hall

Methodist Foundation Scholarships - Now Available

Attention students! Applications for the annual
 Methodist Foundation Scholarships are available
 online now. Go to: [www.santamonicaumc.org/
 methodistfoundation](http://www.santamonicaumc.org/methodistfoundation). Hard copies are also in the
 church office and at the Sunday Hospitality Table.

Deadline for applications: Sunday, May 13.

Messy Church Family Camp - Sign up now

Join the Messy Church community for a family camp.
 There will be fellowship, fun, campfires, cabins, and
 the beautiful stars. Trip dates: Memorial Day weekend
 Saturday, May 26 - Monday, May 28. For more
 information and to sign up, stop by the Hospitality Table.

Deadline to sign up for camp is today.

10th Annual World Labyrinth Day

In collaboration with The Labyrinth Society, all are
 invited to the global celebration of the Labyrinth at the
 10th Annual World Labyrinth Day. Join over 5,000
 people taking steps for peace, "Walking as One at
 1" in the afternoon. Last year's gatherings were held
 in over 20 countries and 45 US states! The First UMC
 Labyrinth laid in the Simkins Hall floor is a replica of
 the Chartres Labyrinth in France, laid in the cathedral
 around 1220 CE. *This day will replace the regularly
 scheduled 3rd Sunday walk for May.*

**May Labyrinth Walk: Saturday May 5 – Labyrinth open
 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. and also by appointment (call the
 church office (310) 393-8258).**

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)

Loving God with Our Minds Book Study/Potluck

The final book for this Book Study season is *Love in a Time of Climate Change: Honoring Creation, Establishing Justice* by Sharon Delgado. Thanks to Sharon Delgado, we'll expand our Lenten theme, *Love God/Love Creation*, out to Earth Day 2018. Basing her argument on the commandments to love God and neighbor, Rev. Delgado, an ordained UM elder, uses the traditional Wesleyan quadrilateral (Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience) to unpack the issues and point us towards a creation-loving, justice-seeking ethic. This is a call to faithfulness and hope! And along the way, it teaches us how Methodists "do theology." Come one and all! Bring something to share for our potluck lunch. Book may be purchased on Amazon or at the Sunday Hospitality Table.

Next Sunday, April 22, 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room

First UMC Spring Concert

First UMC Chancel Choir, and members of the Long Beach Chorale, with the Los Angeles Concert Orchestra will combine to present Kirke Mechem's *Songs of the Slave* at the First UMC Sanctuary. Featuring Wayne Shepperd, *bass baritone*, singing the role of Frederick Douglass, and Zanaida Robles, *soprano*. Also, Maurice Durufle's *Requiem* featuring Alexandra Grabarchuk, *mezzo soprano*, will be performed. Dr. James E. Smith, *conductor*, Ty Woodward, *organist*. Suggested donation at the door: \$10, Seniors and Students: \$5.

First UMC Spring Concert - Sunday, May 6, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Reception to follow in Simkins Hall.

CAST Spring Production - Disney's Aladdin Jr.

Children's After School Theater (CAST), is pleased to present the 6-12th graders in Disney's *Aladdin Jr.* Aladdin and his three friends, Babkak, Omar, and Kassim, are down on their luck until Aladdin discovers a magic lamp and the Genie who has the power to grant three wishes. With expanded characters, new songs, and more thrills, this new adaptation of the beloved story will open up "a whole new world!" Tickets: \$10/adult, \$5/seniors, \$5/child, at the door or online: santamonicaumc.org/cast.

Friday, May 11, 7 p.m. and Saturday, May 12, 6 p.m. in Simkins Hall

West District Conference

The West District was created at the 2012 Annual Conference and contains 93 churches from the former Los Angeles, Long Beach and Santa Ana Districts. District Superintendent Rev. Mark Nakagawa will preside.

Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Anaheim United Methodist Church (1000 S. State College Blvd, Anaheim, CA 92806)

Choir Recognition Sunday

Don't miss First UMC's annual Choir Recognition Sunday, when The Chancel Choir, The Children's Church Choir, Cherub Choir, and The Amadeus Handbell Choir will be recognized and featured during the service. Come and show your appreciation for the gorgeous music these groups present during worship services throughout the year.

Sunday, May 20, during 10 a.m. Worship

Houston Mission Trip Report Back

The Houston Mission team is departing on Saturday for their trip. Save the date for Sunday, May 20, when the team will host a Report Back Luncheon at 11 a.m. in Simkins Hall. All are welcome to hear team members share their experience and news from Houston.

Sunday, May 20, 11 a.m. Simkins Hall

Save the Date

Summerfest

Every year First UMC welcomes summer with the All-Church Summerfest, presented by Fellowship & Events. There will be fun for the whole family, including a BBQ, cake walk, bounce house and more!

All-Church Summerfest: Sunday, June 3, 11:15 a.m. in the Courtyard

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

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Family Place Community Meal

simple church hosts a monthly potluck Community Meal with Upward Bound House's Family Place. The Community Meal potluck is an opportunity to help feed about 30-40 adults & children, served buffet style. Invite your friends and join the next potluck for an evening of conversation, crafts/games with the kids, and a shared meal. For more information, contact the Community Meal Volunteers by emailing: meals@santamonicaumc.org, or call the church office (310) 393-8258.

**Thursday, April 26, 5:30 p.m. Family Place
(1020 12th St. Santa Monica)**

OPEN INVITATIONS

Prayer Quilt Ministry

The Prayer Quilt Ministry is an outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a hand-tied quilt. There are a number of ways to be involved: When a prayer quilt is hanging in the Sanctuary come tie a knot and say a prayer. Remember the recipients in your prayers in the following days. And join the ministry for work and fellowship on the third Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to noon. You don't have to know how to sew to help.

**Next meeting: Saturday, April 21, 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.,
Room 300**

DanceFit with Whitney! A Free Exercise Class

Dance your way to fitness with First UMC member Whitney Hagan, licensed Zumba instructor. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and bring a towel. Sponsored by the Health Ministry Council, the class is a great way to start your weekend! No charge.

Saturday, April 28, 10 – 11 a.m., Simkins Hall

LOOKING FORWARD: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

First UMC invites children to experience the ride of a lifetime with **God at Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School!** This white river rafting adventure includes exciting music, amazing science, creative crafts, fun recreation, a mission project and memorable Bible stories to help children know God is always with them as they ride the rapids of life!

What: Vacation Bible School Rolling River Rampage: Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God!

Who: Children ages 5 years old/TK to graduating 5th graders – Contact Tricia Guerrero for information on youth volunteering.

When: **Monday, July 30 – Friday, August 3, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** (New: Child care available 12 - 4:00 p.m. for an extra cost.)

VBS Cost: \$30/child age 5-11 (\$80 max. per family)

Extended Child Care Cost – \$150/child for week; \$50/child per day (notate which day/s on Registration Form.) Space is limited – first come, first serve.

For more information contact Tricia Guerrero t.guerrero@santamonicaumc.org, call (310) 393-8258 ext. 104, or, by filling out the form online: santamonicaumc.org/vbs.

