



Mission Bell

El Segundo United Methodist Church January 2019 Volume 54 No. 1

Our Mission Statement

We are a warm, caring community of faith, gathering to worship God and sharing the love of Jesus Christ through our friendship and service to our neighbors and the world.



Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We will celebrate the twelfth and final day of the Christmas season on Epiphany Sunday, January 6, and then we are off and running in 2019.

New Year's resolutions always come to mind at this time, but, if you are like me, most of the resolutions that you make are doomed to fail. Perhaps another approach would be helpful.

We read Rev. Larry Peacock's book *The Living Nativity* during Advent, and I'd like to share some of his thoughts with you. He points out that our new year's resolutions, or "intentions" usually depend solely on our own willpower and efforts. But our willpower can only go so far. We need the guidance of the Holy Spirit to ground and support us. We need God's loving care to help us make changes that will last.

In determining our resolutions, Larry encourages us to consider our strongest desires for the coming year. Those desires might be for ourselves, for someone else, or for a larger community. What do you hope for as you look into 2019? What longings stir your heart? What spiritual practices or service would you like to deepen or restore? The answers to questions like these may help us to shape our intentions for the coming year.

Another suggestion that Larry makes is the creation of a spiritual autobiography or a timeline of significant events in your faith journey. Such an autobiography or timeline might cover your whole life or just the past year. Personally, I have found reviewing the past year to be helpful. Recently, I did a quick reflection on 2018 in my journal, and I discovered that there were some practices, directions, etc., that I want to continue and some that I want to change.

Mark Heaney, who participated in the class, offered another suggestion that may be helpful. He said that, at the beginning of a new year, he always tries to fill in the blanks at the end of two sentences. The first sentence is "This year, I want to be more _____." The second sentence is: "This year, I want to be less _____."

New Year's resolutions or intentions, do not, of course, happen on their own. They must be, as Larry puts it, "folded into our daily patterns." They must become habits. To do that, we need the support of family members or friends, as well as planning and repetition. I would also suggest that offering our intentions to God and asking for the Spirit's help will also help us to form them into practices that stay with us.

Whether you make resolutions or not, I encourage you to enter the new year, trusting in God's guidance and love. To that end, I offer this prayer, adapted from the *United Methodist Book of Worship*:

*Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth.
We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears, new decisions and old controversies, new dreams and old weaknesses.
Because you are a God of hope, we know that you create all the possibilities of the future.
Because you are a God of love., we know that you accept all the mistakes of the past.
Because you are the God of our faith, we give you thanks and praise for all that has been, all that is, and all that will be, trusting in the grace that I have received through Jesus Christ.
We pray all this in his name, Amen.*

May 2019 be a year full of blessings for all of us and for our church!

Pastor Lee





Dear ESUMC youth and family,

Happy New Year! 2018 has been good to us and I hope that 2019 will even be better. New beginnings have always been an exciting possibility for me, and this New Years was no different. I hope that we can continue with the momentum that we started with at the beginning of the school year as the youth group meets in separate middle school (LiFE - Living in Faith Everyday) and high school (MYF- Methodist Youth Fellowship) groups.

Our calendar for January is pretty straightforward. We have a Friday fun night scheduled for the 11th of January and will most likely go to laser tag. Friends are always invited to any of these events.

We will have regular youth group meetings every Sunday except for MLK weekend which is the 19th -21st of this month.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask me!

*Many blessings this new year,
Eric Iki*



DREAM! A Time to Act

The Conversation Continues
a Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event

Sunday, January 13, 2019
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

With Panelists:

Tim Conley, Director of Media and Communications, USC Office of Religious Life

Isabelle Gunning, Professor of Law, Southwestern Law School

Anderson Shaw, Director, African American Catholic Center for Evangelization

Singer **Tina Meeks**, Dancer **Tatiana Zamir**, poetry & fellowship

at the
Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living
907 Knob Hill Ave, Redondo Beach 90277

- Be Part of the Conversation!

-FREE EVENT-

THANK YOU FOR BEING A BLESSING...

- to the **United Methodist Women**, especially **Polly Price and Brenda Ross**, for their good work with the Grandmother's Cupboard Sale.

- to our talented and wonderful musicians: **Patty Breitag, Kenner Bailey, Kathy Rutledge, the Chancel Choir, and the Bells of Joy.**

- to those who lit our Advent wreath: **the Galbreath Family, the Crouch Family, the Freed Family, and the Tompkins Family.**

- to **Thea, Nuno, and Beatrice de Sousa**, for portraying the Holy Family during our Children's Christmas Eve service, along with big brother **Rui.**

- to those who acted as liturgists in December: **Mike Rutledge, Vaka Faletau, Brenda Colbert, Debbie Jacobson, and Glafy Carr.**

- to those who warmly welcomed folks to worship as greeters in December: **Gerry and Pat Bushrow, Leslie Evans, Becky Fisher, Kim Huntoon, Linda Kruse, Beth Muraida, Jane Perkins, Brenda Ross, Char Van Drie, and Betty Wilburn.**

- to everyone who graciously served as ushers in December, including **Brenda and Ralph Colbert, Colin, Christian, and Craig Elder, and Gerry Muraida.** Special thanks to **Don Carlile and Polly Price**, stepped in to usher at the 4:00 Children's Christmas Eve service, and to **Leslie and Bill Evans**, who stepped in to usher at the 7:00 Christmas Eve service.

- to our acolytes in December: **Porter Robbins and Vicken and Jacques Semerdjian.**

- to those who graced our altar with gifts of flowers in December: **the Muraida Family, the Elder Family, Bill and Glafy Carr, and all who donated poinsettias.**

- to those who cooked meals for Shared Bread: **Lisa Derr, Leslie Evans, Becky Haynes, and Brenda Ross.**

- to **Elisabet Port**, for her good work with multiple bulletins and inserts.

- to our faithful Sunday School teachers: **Mark Heaney, Krista Martinez, and Annie Semerdjian.** Thanks to **Colin and Craig Elder** for filling in on December 16.

- **Don Carlile, Pat Heaney, Krista and Tonio Martinez, Adam Nicolai** for their good work in decorating the church for Christmas. Special thanks to **Lisa and Larry Derr**, who stepped in to decorate the Christmas tree when no one else was available and to **Marilyn Harper**, who arranged and maintained the display of poinsettias.

Please add your own expressions of appreciation to those given in this column. We are blessed!



HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY January 20

Human Relations Day strengthens United Methodist outreach communities in the United States and Puerto Rico. Among the programs that this offering supports:

A community developer, based at a Florida United Methodist church, directs a ministry for school-age children and youth. The “primary focus is to help the kids see Jesus and to help them grow developmentally and spiritually.”

In Little Rock, Arkansas, another community developer project—at Teresa Hoover UMC—oversees 12 ministries providing day care, after- school activities, gang intervention, jobs training, substance-abuse treatment, affordable/ supportive housing and more.

A program in Wilmington, Delaware offers guidance and a caring community for at-risk women, ages 12-17. Participants focus on life skills such as improving school performance, finding a job, managing time and money, resolving conflict and setting goals.

Our gifts help many people in many different ways!
Please be generous.



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” —Jeremiah 29:11

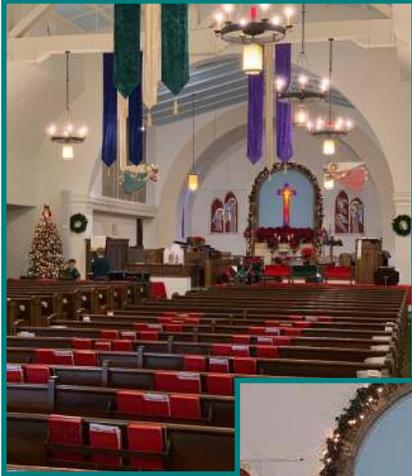
Happy New Year to my sisters in Christ! I am honored and excited to serve as your new president this year.

After the rush and chaos of the holiday season, the new year brings a time for to recharge, reflect, and plan. Similarly, it is time for our unit to reflect upon our past year’s accomplishments and plan for the upcoming year.

I look forward to hearing everyone’s ideas at our planning meeting on January 8, at 6:00 pm in Lucas Chapel.

Until then, let us take our comfort and joy from the holiday season into the new year, and spread it to all we come into contact with through our work and prayers.

Ellie Mackie
UMW President



**Christmas
Eve**



Baptism



Glafira Elizabeth Mackie



THE MISSION BELL

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STAFF

Bishop, Cal-Pac Annual Conf.	Bishop Grant J. Hagiya
West District Superintendent	Rev. Dr. Mark Nakagawa
Pastor	Rev. Lee Carlile
Administrative Assistant	Elisabet Port
Youth Director	Eric Iki
Chancel Choir Director	Patty Breitag
Pianist	Kenner Bailey
Handbell Director	Kathy Rutledge
Custodian	Blanca Martinez Gonzalez
Childcare	Paul Idelson, Sarah Johnson
Sunday School Teachers:	
Adult - Mark Heaney	
Sunday School - Various	
(Pre K and Kindergarten - 1 st to 5 th Grade)	

Doris Wester
8292 Armetale Lane
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

January Volunteers

Liturgists

06: Donna Fontana
13: Colin Elder
20: Glafy Carr
27: Becky Haynes

Greeters

06: Beth Muraida and Jane Perkins
13: Krista and Tonio Martinez
20: Kim Huntoon and Becky Fisher
27: Linda Kruse and Brenda Ross



1/3	Gerry Bushrow
1/4	Jim McLees
	Betty Wilburn
1/13	Linda Yan-Johnson
1/18	Becky Crabtree
1/25	June Williams
1/26	Teresa Clark
1/28	Louise Maloy
	Jayne Pimlott
1/29	Stanley Williams
1/31	Megan Burns