



Mission Bell

El Segundo United Methodist Church

June 2018

Volume 53

No. 6

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,

Our Wednesday Study Group has been enjoying Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber's insightful book *Accidental Saints*. During yesterday's gathering, we discussed Nadia's reflections on Mary, the mother of Jesus, during which she focuses on Mary's willingness to trust all the crazy things that the angel Gabriel told her during their encounter, especially Mary's acceptance of the truth that she was favored by God.

Nadia goes on to refer a comment made by one of her parishioners, a man named Stephen. She writes:

Stephen looks like an aging movie star, is the VP at a Fortune 500 company, is a statewide elected official, lives in a loft downtown, and is still a hot mess of low self-esteem issues. I had recently preached a sermon about the love of God, and later that week as Stephen and I sat in the basement of a local coffee shop, he said, "Man, I wonder what my life would look like if I really believed this? How would my life be different if I was not scared, if I really believed that I am fully and totally loved by God?" Then he added, "No wonder we have liturgy and Eucharist every week. I have to hear this at least that often."

Two things struck me about this passage. First of all, I was reminded how incredibly difficult it is for us to believe that we are loved unconditionally by God, even when we have everything going for us. In so many ways, we are told that we need to do better, to be better, and that, as we are now, we are unworthy of the love of others, much less the love of God—and yet God loves us anyway.

When I watched the television show "Mr. Rogers" with my young children, one of the things that I appreciated most was when he told his audience, "I like you just the way you are." I think that God also likes, loves us, just the way we are. Loves us unconditionally, no matter what.

I also agree with Nadia's parishioner that we need to hear this truth over and over again—which is why worship every week was so important to him. I am grateful that he found the community of the church to

be one in which he heard that message, and I believe that message comes across in our community as well.

I saw the love of God extended last week as our church supported the family of Ann Coleman with gestures of kindness and care. I saw that same love the next day as people talked and laughed and ate food together at our Pentecost Potluck, and I see it when our Wednesday Study Group gathers to read and share and pray together.

But, most of all, I see God's love expressed on Sunday morning, as we gather for worship. Though I confess that I sometimes get frustrated with the conversations that continue through the Prelude, I know in my heart that the hugs and greetings are signs of God's welcoming, accepting love.

What a gift we have been given in that love—and what a gift we have to offer to others! I am especially grateful when I see us extending a warm welcome to people who come to worship with us for the first or second time. It takes a lot of courage to walk in the door for the first time, especially when you don't know anyone. What a blessing it is, then, to be warmly and lovingly welcomed. I encourage you to continue to reach out to first-time worshipers.

I also encourage you to make it a point to come to worship, even during the relaxed months of summer. We need to feel the love of God in the community of faith. We need to be blessed by the truth of God's full and total love for us as often as possible and to bless others by sharing that love with them.

God loves you. Trust it. Believe it. Rejoice in it. Share it.

(Oh, and by the way, I love you too!)

Pastor Lee



June

Dear ESUMC family and youth,

Congratulations to everyone who will be graduating this year! Whether it's graduating from elementary, Junior High, High School, or College, we're grateful that you've entered into the next leg of your journey. If you'll be an incoming 6th grader in the fall of 2018, we're excited that you'll be able to join us in youth group! Also, happy Father's Day to all the dads out there!

As we look towards the June calendar, we have a Saturday fun night on June 9th. We will be headed to Skyzone in Torrance. Details regarding time and transportation will be sent out via email.

In June, we will meet on June 3rd and 10th. On the 17th there will be youth group available, but it's highly encouraged that you spend it with your dad if you can. There won't be youth group on June 24th because I'll be on a family vacation.

Lastly, our VBS needs helpers! The youth serve a vital role in helping the program through assisting in leadership in the classroom or with stations. If you're interested, please let me know! Thank you!

*Many blessings,
Eric Iki
ESUMC youth director*

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Sunday, June 3

Please submit names of your graduates, from preschool through grad school by Thursday, May 31.

We need the name of the student, the relationship to the person sending in their name, the grade/degree, and (for those who are graduating from high school, college, grad school) the name of their school and major.

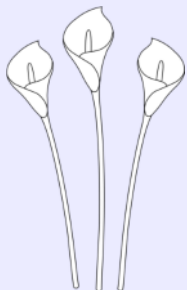


In Memoriam

Ann Coleman
† May 10, 2018

Vinnie Giglio
† May 19, 2018

Lien Wiley
† March 28, 2018



THANK YOU FOR BEING A BLESSING...

- to **Joanna McLees**, for her support of our youth group during Cardboard Box City on May 5.

- to **Marilyn Harper**, for picking up the roses for Mother's Day gifts and for her work with our altar every week.

- to **Mike Rutledge**, who spent time this month patiently training folks (including your technological-challenged pastor) how to use our new sound system.

- to **everyone who cared for our guests** during our recent Family Promise Hosting Week. Special thanks to **Ellen Russ**, who (as usual) was here every night to make sure that things were going well.

- to **Don Carlile**, for his assistance with the video at Ann Coleman's memorial service.

- to **Kim Taylor, Becky Crabtree, Polly Price, and the Susannah Circle**, who helped to make the reception after Ann Coleman's memorial a beautiful time of gathering.

- to our May liturgists: **Darcey Kuhn and Bryan Wiese, Mike Rutledge, Carolyn Elder, and Brenda Colbert**.

- to those who warmly welcomed folks to worship as greeters in May: **Ed and JoAnn Gulian, Linda Kruse, Louise Maloy, Beth Muraida**.

- to everyone who graciously served in May as ushers, including **Brenda and Ralph Colbert, Tim Colbert, Colin Elder, Craig Elder, Gerry Muraida, and Mike Rutledge**.

- to our acolytes in May: **Porter Robbins, and Alexandria and Burke Taylor**.

- to those who graced our altar with gifts of flowers in May: **Polly Price, Bill and Glafy Carr, Kim Huntoon, the Muraida Family**.

- to **Krista Martinez** for teaching the children's Sunday School in May.

- to those who cooked a meal for Shared Bread in May: **Lisa Derr, Leslie Evans, Becky Haynes, Brenda Ross, and Eddie McMasters**.





Homeboy Industries began when a concerned group of Angelenos, led by Father Gregory Boyle, asked a simple question: “Can we improve the health and safety of our community through jobs and education rather than through suppression and incarceration?”

The answer was yes. In 1988, members of the Dolores Mission Church and Father Greg found a few caring business owners willing to hire former gang members and “Jobs For A Future” was created. Seeking a way out of gang life, 70 young people started work.

Thousands of young people have since walked through the doors of Homeboy Industries looking for a second chance, and finding community, sanctuary, and family. Gang affiliations are left outside as people work together, side by side, learning the mutual respect that comes from shared tasks and challenges.

This year, we celebrate our 28th anniversary as an organization in our headquarters located in downtown Los Angeles, just two blocks from Union Station. Homeboy serves as a beacon of hope and opportunity for those seeking to leave gang life, for whom the barriers and challenges are great, and for whom there is virtually no other avenue to enter the mainstream.

Homeboy Industries is recognized as the largest and most successful gang intervention and re-entry program in the world, and has become a national model.

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For 25 years, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (Habitat LA) has strengthened low-income communities from Long Beach to the mountains and

from Montebello to the Ventura County line, covering two-thirds of Los Angeles County. Together, over 125,000 volunteers and donors have invested more than 1 million service hours building, renovating and repairing over 700 homes. Together, we’ve helped nearly 4,000 Angelenos build opportunities for their families and strengthen their communities with decent, sustainable, and affordable housing. In 2009, through Habitat LA’s Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI), the city of Lynwood was selected as the first targeted area. Over the next 5 years, Habitat LA invested \$24.3 million dollars to revitalize targeted census tracts with high blight, overcrowding, crime, and unemployment. The investment translated into \$163 million in economic impact and created 69 new homeownership opportunities, repaired 25 homes, and renovated key community buildings (ie. churches and markets).

And we invite you to join us! Join us in strengthening families and communities. Together we can make a difference



This month we look forward to our next general meeting, which will take place on June 2nd at 10am in the Lounge, and will be hosted by the Susannah Circle.

The next board meeting is June 25 at 6pm in Lucas Chapel.

In honor of Father’s Day on June 17 I would like to celebrate fathers, both biological fathers and those who take a fatherly role in the lives of others.

“As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.” Psalms 103:13

*In Christ’s Love,
Glafi Tinoco
UMW President*

VBS STAFF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 29!

Save the date



Vacation Bible School

July 9-13, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

The adventure of VBS is coming soon, and you are invited to join the team!

We are currently recruiting folks to:

- help with registration and attendance each day
- act as group leaders who accompany and support a small group of children as they travel from one Activity Center to another
- provide support for the Activity Center leaders, especially our Craft and Recreation leaders.
- help with decorating room and/or preparing craft items for use.

VBS lasts for five days, and if you can help on all five, that’s great! But even if you are only available one day, that is helpful.

Please note that, for the safety of the children, everyone who works with children in our church must have a background check. All you have to do is fill out and sign a simple form, and we will take care of the rest.

Call or email the Church Office or Pastor Lee to let us



June Volunteers

Liturgists

- 03: Carolyn Elder
10: Joanna McLees
17: Glafy Carr
24: Donna Fontana

Greeters

- 03: Linda Kruse and Louise Maloy
10: Deborah Gabrielson and Beth Muraida
17: Beth Muraida and Leslie Evans
24: JoAnn and Ed Gulian

Sign-ups sheets are on clipboards

Birthdays this Month

- 6/3 Vince Colbert, Linda Shepard
Ken Schofield
6/4 Laura McLees, Joyce Stine
6/15 Glafira Tinoco
6/18 Debbie Robinson
6/20 Polly Price
6/24 Linda Kruse
6/26 Michael Crabtree



THE MISSION BELL

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STAFF

Bishop, Cal-Pac Annual Conf.	Rev. Grant J. Hagiya
West District Superintendent	Rev. 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, Dora Gregg
Sunday School Teachers:	
Adult - Mark Heaney	
Sunday School - Various	
(Pre K and Kindergarten - 1 st to 5 th Grade)	

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