



Mission Bell

El Segundo United Methodist Church July/August 2018 Volume 53 No. 7/8

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,

When I began attending seminary, I was blessed to have my father-in-law as a mentor. Rev. Keith Carlile was an amazing man of faith, and over his long years of service as a pastor and a district superintendent, he gained much insight into the work of ministry. I remember hearing him describe the relentless nature of pastoring a church in this way: “You begin the roll a boulder up a hill on Monday, it goes over the top on Sunday, and then you start all over again on Monday.”

I have been rolling the boulder up the hill since 2003, nearly fifteen years now. In all that time, I have not taken a vacation longer than two weeks. While I am still glad and grateful for the opportunity to do this work, I feel the need for a time of rest and renewal. Having seen two of my closest colleagues come back stronger and healthier after taking renewal leaves, I believe that following their lead will be beneficial to both myself and my ministry at El Segundo UMC.

The United Methodist Book of Discipline allows clergy who have held full-time appointments for six years to take a spiritual and formational leave (or renewal leave, as it is commonly known) for up to six months while continuing to hold their appointment. (This is not a sabbatical, which is a much longer and more complex time away.) So as to minimize the effect on the church (and to quiet my over-active sense of duty), I have chosen to take a leave for two months, beginning on Monday, July 16, the week after our Vacation Bible School, and ending on Monday, September 17.

Several of you have asked what I plan to do during my leave. When one of my colleagues asked me that question, I responded, jokingly, “I’d like a month to unclutter my house!” That led to the idea of a spiritual “uncluttering”—a time of clearing my mind as well as my house and opening the windows of my soul to make room for the movement of the Spirit. To that end, I’m beginning my leave with a four-day retreat at Mt. Calvary Retreat Center, in Santa Barbara, a place of prayer and peace.

Some of my time away will be spent in prayer and reflection on my ministry at El Segundo UMC. Our church is currently taking part in the Readiness 360+ process, and though I have actively participated in this process with our team, there has been little time to reflect on the material in the midst of day-to-day ministry. I plan to do that and to review the material from the Callahan Seminar which I attended this spring. I also hope to look ahead to the next couple of years. In addition, I plan to attend the Bishop’s Convocation, September 11-13 and the Readiness 360+ Cohort meeting on September 15. A side benefit will be the opportunity to “practice” retirement, so that I have a better sense of when I’m ready to step down from active ministry.

And, yes, I’m also going to work on uncluttering my house—but, more importantly, I hope to rest and relax: to walk, to watch birds, to garden, to write in my journal, to develop more regular sleep patterns, to just “be.” Most of the time, I’ll be at home, but it’s quite likely that Don and I will be traveling back to Indiana to help prepare his mother’s house for sale, and I may also take a week to visit my sister in Montana.

I hope and pray that this time of rest and renewal will help me to come back refreshed and better prepared to help our church move forward.

I will be on leave for nine Sundays. I am grateful that our resident Lay Servant, Glafy Carr and Eric Iki, our Youth Director, will preach three of those Sundays as well. The other Sundays will be covered by United Methodist pastors (one of whom is Pat Heaney’s brother.) Each of them will bring his or her unique style, and I think you will enjoy hearing them.

Several of my colleagues have agreed to be available for pastoral care, and I am also reaching out to the clergy at other churches in El Segundo so as to have someone to cover those folks who walk into the church office in search of a listening ear and a sympathetic heart.

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Cont.

I appreciate all of the support that I have received, especially from our District Superintendent, our SPRC and our Church Council. Feel free to ask me questions and to share your concerns.

I also encourage you to do two things. First, I invite you to take some time this summer for rest, for play, for your own renewal. Second, I invite you to join me in praying and reflecting on our church's ministry and mission so that, together, we will enter into the fall with renewed energy and commitment.

In the meantime, I look forward to my leave and to our ninth year together in mission and ministry! And I'll see you in church July 1, 8, and 15!

Blessings!
Pastor Lee

Youth Group **July & August**

Dear ESUMC youth and families,

I hope that everyone has had a chance to travel or at least plan a vacation for the summer! Despite the relaxing nature of summer, this season has its busy times. With that said, we're preparing for our VBS beginning July 9th and ending July 13th. Any youth that are looking for ways to help can contact me and can come and help out. We're "all hands on deck" for VBS!

In July, there is a Saturday fun night scheduled for the 14th, and then we will have an end of the summer bonfire in August - most likely on August 25th to say goodbye to summer vacation and get ready for the new school year.

As for our regular youth group meetings, we will be meeting every Sunday during the summer.

Lastly, I will be preaching on August 12th in both services. I'm thankful for the opportunity! With all that said, I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing summer!

Many blessings,
Eric Iki - ESUMC youth director



Thank you for being a blessing . . .

- to **Joey Russ** for preaching on June 17 while Pastor Lee was on vacation.

- to **Marilyn Harper**, for picking up See's suckers for our fathers.

- to our June liturgists: **Carolyn Elder, Joanna McLees, Glafy Carr, and Donna Fontana.**

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

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

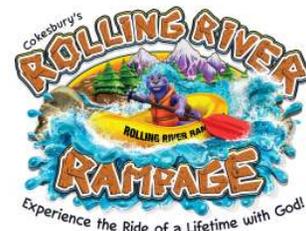
- to our acolytes in June: **Noah and Samuel Forthuber, Porter Robbins, and Burke Taylor.**

- to those who graced our altar with gifts of flowers in June: **Mark and Pat Heaney, Helen Carr, and Polly Price.**

- to **Mark Heaney and Colin Elder** for teaching the children's Sunday School in June.

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

- **Special thanks to all those who will 'pick up the slack' while Pastor Lee is on leave, especially Elisabet Port!**



This year's VBS will take place the week of July 9 - 13, and we expect upwards of sixty children, age 4 through fifth grade, to participate. You can support this exciting community event in a couple ways:

1) Join in the fun! We can use helpers for any length of time, any time during the week. The hours are 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. See Pastor Lee if you would like to help out. (Note: if you wish to help, you must have a background check, which you can do through our office.)

3) Enroll your children and invite other children whom you know! You can register on the church website: www.elsegundoumc.org. The registration donation is \$25 for the first child, \$45 for two, and \$15 per additional child, which includes supper each day.



JULY



Shared Bread is a feeding ministry hosted by First United Methodist Church of Redondo Beach. Each Wednesday evening they provide a hot meal for anyone who shows up. They usually serve between 100 and 125 people each week.

Our church has been helping out with this program since 2011, preparing a main course every first Wednesday of the month.

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C.A.S.E. (Community Alliance to Support and Empower)

- is a locally organized and operated agency preventing homelessness in the city of El Segundo since 1992.
- limits its assistance to persons who are legal residents of El Segundo.
- is supported by churches, schools, businesses, civic organizations and generous individuals.
- is operated solely by volunteers, and none of the board members or officers receives any compensation for their service.

They are in need of the following items at the moment:

Kid friendly cereals and snacks (granola bars, chips, applesauce pouches, etc), Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, relish, pickles, Bar BQ Sauce), Jams, jellies, honey, Salad dressings, Canned meats, Canned Fruits, Tomato Sauce and Paste, Diced Tomatoes, Juices (bottles, boxes & pouches), Coffee (regular & decaf), Cookies & Chips.

AUGUST



Union Rescue Mission (URM) is one of the largest missions of its kind in America — bringing help and hope to men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in Downtown Los Angeles.

URM was founded in 1891 by Lyman Stewart, president and founder of Union Oil Company. During those early days, URM took to the streets in gospel wagons to offer food, clothing, and salvation to the less fortunate. Over the years, URM has continued and expanded its efforts to feed both the body and the soul, helping individuals and families break the cycle of poverty and achieve self-sufficiency

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Los Angeles Mission is a non-profit, privately supported, faith-based organization that serves the immediate and long-term needs of homeless and disadvantaged men, women and children.

The Los Angeles Mission exists to provide help, hope and opportunity to men, women and children in need. God uses the Los Angeles Mission as a powerful tool to bring about change in lives devastated by substance abuse and poor lifestyle choices.



Happy Summer to all!

UMW usually takes some time off from the regularly scheduled activities during the summer. Members should check with their circles for upcoming meetings or special gatherings. The Martha Circle is continuing to cook, can, and sew the first and third Tuesday morning of the month, so stop by and give them a hand if you can.

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 27.

The annual luncheon was moved to September 8. This year the theme is “Angels Among Us”.

Please be sure to mark Saturday, October 13 on your calendars. The Fall season starts with a general meeting that morning at 10:00 am.



**Acolytes
Samuel and Noah
with Pastor Lee**



Laverne Fust
† 6/22/2018

A memorial service will be held at ESUMC on July 14 at 10:00 am.

July



August

Liturgists

- 01: Colin Elder
- 08: Mike Rutledge
- 15: Becky Haynes
- 22: Mark Heaney
- 29: Craig Elder

Greeters

- 01: Becky Fisher and Kim Huntoon
- 08: Beth Muraida and Jean Bue
- 15: JoAnn and Ed Gulian
- 22: Gerry and Pat Bushrow
- 29: Brenda Ross and Annie Semerdjian

Liturgists

- 05: Al Keahi
- 12: TBD
- 19: Pat Heaney
- 26: TBD

Greeters

- 05: Jane Perkins and Linda Kruse
- 12: Polly Price
- 19: Polly Price
- 26: Brenda Ross and Polly Price



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 |
| 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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July and August Birthdays

- 7/3 **Mona Wenzel**
7/4 **Bebe Buchen**
7/5 **Corrina Elder**
7/7 **Beth Muraida**
7/8 **Quinn Gilbert, Derek Bushrow**
7/9 **Andrew McLees**
7/11 **Chris Pimlott**
7/14 **Dorothy Landreth, Joe Ward**
7/16 **Stephanie Colbert**
7/17 **Larry Derr**
7/19 **Brad Gilbert**
7/21 **Marilyn Harper**
7/22 **Nancy Jacobson**
7/30 **Pat Bushrow**
8/3 **Susie Howat**
8/5 **Melissa Derr, Paloma and Annie Clark**
8/7 **Nita Deeter**
8/9 **Carl Jacobson**
8/15 **Tim Colbert**
8/25 **Dave Burns, Becky Haynes**
8/26 **Linda Munro**
8/27 **Levi Bushrow, Carol Keahi,
Ellen Russ**
8/30 **Janet Martin**



Spring on the Hillside



GUEST SPEAKERS WHILE PASTOR LEE IS ON LEAVE

- July 22 – Rev. Patricia Hedges
July 29 – Rev. Jennifer Gutierrez
August 5 – Rev. Mark Ulrickson
August 12 – Eric Iki
August 19 – Rev. Jerry Partney
August 26 – Glafy Carr
September 2 – Rev. Rachel Tabutol
September 9 – Rev. Ed McRae
September 15 – Eric Iki

Pastors on call for care:

- Rev. Molly Vetter
Rev. Erika Gara
Rev. Lynette Fuka