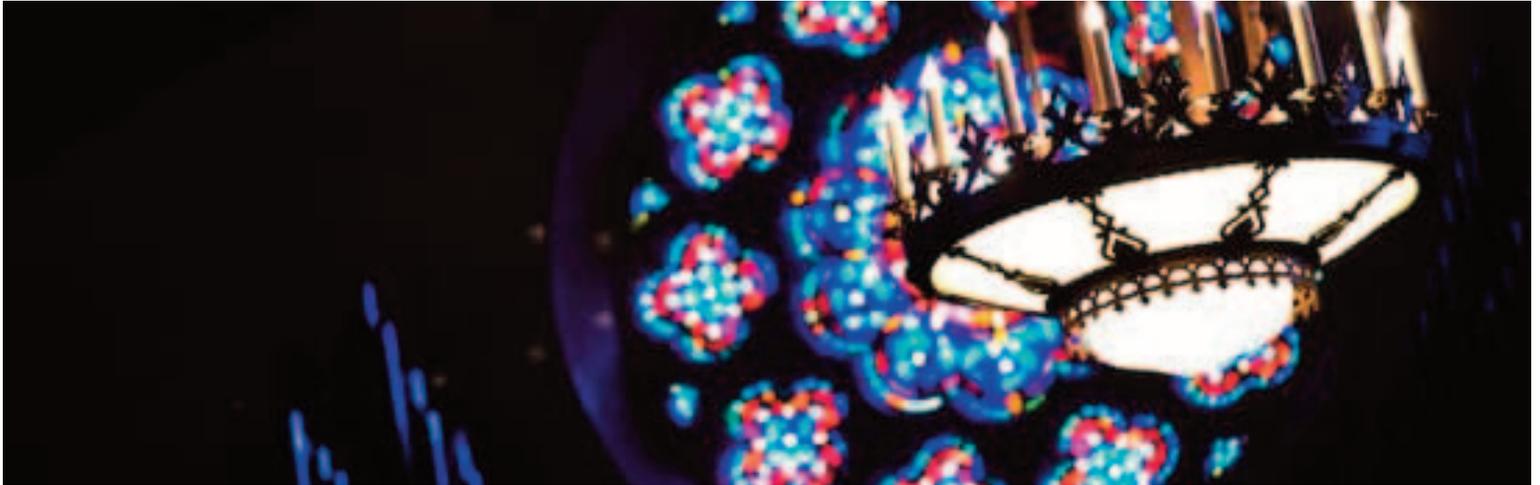


# THE MESSENGER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF RIVERSIDE, 4845 BROCKTON AVE., RIVERSIDE, CA 92506 (951) 683-7831



## CHURCH PARKING LOT TRADITION TAKES A BREAK

Riverside's July 4th Fireworks from Mt. Rubidoux have been cancelled because of the pandemic. That means there is no watching from the church parking lot.

In fact, the church's insurance coverage will not cover any activity on the church campus during the pandemic. So even if it is tempting, don't set up a picnic or a meeting on the patios and lawns of the church.

Brian Tomlinson, chair of the Trustees, is leading a group of people who will build a plan about how the church can reopen safely for meetings, preschool, church services, and facility rental. But until the plan is written and approved, we can't reopen the church property, even outdoors.

## BUDGETS FOR 2021

*Committee Chairpersons*, please be thinking about your budget for 2021. Contact Becky Ruiz in the office with your estimate by Friday, September 4 ([r Ruiz@firstchurchriverside.org](mailto:r Ruiz@firstchurchriverside.org)). Thank you.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

We are thankful for Norma Nelson's successful surgery.

We are thankful for those in leadership who went to our Annual Conference. Delegates included Rev. Ji Tai Kim, Rev. Roy Riggs, Lay Leaders Loretta Cudney and Mimi Luker, and the chair of SPRC, Greg Laird.

We are also thankful to God for the reappointment of Pastor Kim to FUMCOR.

## HEADED FOR COLLEGE? TIME TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

FUMCOR is fortunate to have a scholarship fund for church members who are attending college, and need a boost toward fees and tuition.

The Christian Education Committee will select winners based on factors such as community service, church activity and financial need.

The scholarships are available to anyone attending an accredited college or vocational school. Email a request for the application to [cec@firstchurchriverside.org](mailto:cec@firstchurchriverside.org) and indicate if this is your first application or you are a continuing scholarship winner. The application deadline is **July 10**, so, don't delay.

Candidates will be notified by July 24, 2020 if they have received a scholarship.

# MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

BY THE REV. JI TAI KIM



## DEAR CHURCH

Dear Beloved Family & Friends of First United Methodist Church of Riverside:

It is truly by God's grace that, as of July 1, 2020, I am entering into my 5th year of pastoral ministry with you — the congregation of First UMC of Riverside! Our Bishop Grant Hagiya has re-appointed me to First UMC of Riverside for another year, in this historic year of the pandemic. Since mid-March when we started our online church services, I have been amazed at how wonderfully and faithfully you have responded to being the “Church” in fearful and uncertain times! Let me share just three of many things I would like to commend you for your courage and commitment in Christ.

First, you are living out what the church truly means. Due to COVID-19, our church campus was and is still closed. With the teamwork and dedications of our Media and Worship Team, we never missed any Sunday Worship online. Many of you faithfully and excitedly joined and engaged into the service, and with your joyful invitations, our online attendance expanded, and we have been sharing the Good News of Christ with many new and old friends around the nation.

Secondly, you are being faithful to God through our church by your generosity. Because of your continued support, we have been able to continue to pay our staff members while they work modified hours, mostly from home. You are an awesome congregation, and on behalf of the entire staff, I express my deepest gratitude to the congregation!

Finally, in the midst of the pandemic and the protests against racial injustice, through my preaching, I pointed out that there is another deadly virus called “racism.” The world-wide United Methodists stand against racism, and thank you all for taking this matter seriously. Standing against racism is never a “political” statement but a “life” statement. Some of you wonder why it is called the “Black Lives Matter” movement, not “All Lives Matter.” Of course, all our lives matter. God created us equally and loves us all! However, if you understand U.S. history, too many times Black lives have not mattered. We want to change that. We want to repair that mistake.

Being an Asian-American, a person of color, while I feel so blessed living in the U.S., I have also witnessed much discrimination against minority people. After my sermons on racism last month, many of you have shared with me that you will make this time an eye-opening and learning opportunity by reading books, attending workshops, and praying for justice. I am always open to talk to you about “loving people” with honesty, dignity, and Christian love.

My brothers and sisters in Christ! The deadly virus has not gone away, and so far we do not think it is safe to gather in person. At the June Church Council meeting, which includes the chairpeople of all of our church committees, we formed a Task Force for Re-Opening Church, following the guidelines from the Conference, and the team and the Leader (Brian Tomlinson, Chair of Trustees) will do their best to come up with a plan and preparations for complying with all the restrictions and limitations for everyone's health and safety. You will be updated.

Please stay strong, safe, and healthy! Stay in love with God!

Love and Blessings,  
*Pastor J. T. Kim*

**“FOLLOW JESUS, LOVE  
PEOPLE, CHANGE THE  
WORLD”**

## FUMCOR'S TALENT SHOW was a Big Success!

Our talent show on Sunday, May 25, raised \$3,000 for our church budget, to help us support our operations and our ministries. Thanks to Steve Grimes and Kris Lovekin for handling logistics and our talented congregation for providing the acts. Dale Grout made our wooden trivets to offer as prizes for the top donors: Daryl and LeeAnn Salmon, Dave and Loretta Cudney, Bob and Norma Nelson, Roger and Gail Murray, Jim and Genette Sizer, and Don and Lyn Knowles.



### JULY BIRTHDAYS

Gigi Johnson	1
Dan Lonsbery	4
Delaney Britain	5
Juliet Lardizabal	5
Val Othon	5
Debbie Hofmann	6
Lee Bayer	9
Adrienne Austin-Knight	7
Judy Bello	9
Alina Girke	10
Paulette Bruggeman	15
David Fraser	15
Esther Kim	15
Michael Thompson	15
Donna Woodard	17
Dena Kirkwood	17
Mele Tupou	18
Kaley Weakly	18
Jessle Erickson	22
Elizabeth Updegraff	23
Linda Rydzik	24
Margaret Waite	26
India Lovekin	27
Ruth Walker	27
Brian Tomlinson	28
Pat Beals	31
Anita Kramer	31

### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS\*

Addyson Erickson	4
Ian George	4
Paloma and Annie Clark	5
Patti Gardenias	5
Cheryl Hanrahan	5
Tim Noble	9
Ruben Renteria	9
Velma Wellborn	13
Michael Noble	15
LuEtta Dodge	16
Loretta Cudney	17
Cindy Qualtieri	17
Yvonne Flagg	18
Peter Brabant	19
Marcia Bales	20
Joan Brown	23
James Son	26
Sophie Weiss	26
Jean Grout	29
Chalmer Tomlinson	29
Lou Santino	30
Rosette Sims	30
Stan Cook	31
* Next month we will publish just the September birthdays.	

### FUMCOR STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. J.T. Kim  
**Office Manager:** Becky Ruiz  
**Secretary:** Stephanie Chandler  
**Choir Director:** Yvonne Flagg  
**Bell Director:** Gayla Lonsbery  
**Organist:** Robert Phillips  
**Preschool Director:** Karen Wilson  
**Youth Director:** Steve Grimes  
**Custodial Manager:** Jesse Ruiz  
**Campus Supervisor:** Brad Tomlinson

First Church Riverside has active committees making decisions about missions, church property and finances, the worship experience and fellowship groups. Come be part of the work of the church!



# Pizza with a purpose



Bring in this flyer, present it to your server and we'll donate 20% of your check to the organization listed below. Purchases include dine-in, takeout, catering and all beverages.



**Fundraiser in Support of:**  
**First United Methodist Church of Riverside**  
January 16, 2020, February 20, 2020,  
March 19, 2020, April 16, 2020,  
May 21, 2020, June 18, 2020,  
July 16, 2020, August 20, 2020, September 17, 2020,  
October 15, 2020, November 19, 2020 & December 17, 2020  
(every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)  
(11AM-10PM)

Our Dining for Dollars fundraiser this month will be Thursday, July 16. Order some food and they will send 20 percent of the proceeds back to support missions at First Church Riverside.

Show this coupon!

**Valid at the following location:**

**California Pizza Kitchen** Riverside Plaza  
3540 Riverside Plaza Drive Ste. #308 Riverside, CA 92506  
951-680-9362

Join the **CPK Rewards**™ program and receive a **free Small Plate** on your next visit after registering. Register today at **cpk.com** or download our new app today!



**california**  
**PIZZA KITCHEN**

Fundraiser offer valid only on the date(s) and at the CPK location identified on the flyer. Only 501c organizations and non-profit schools are eligible to participate in CPK's fundraiser program. CPK will donate 20% (twenty percent) of all food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gratuity, gift card and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Offer valid for dine-in, takeout, online, catering, curbside or delivery orders placed directly with CPK. Not valid for third-party delivery. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near restaurant. For more information about the 501c organization participating in the fundraiser, please contact the organization directly.

# Online Church on Facebook

## Tips and Tricks

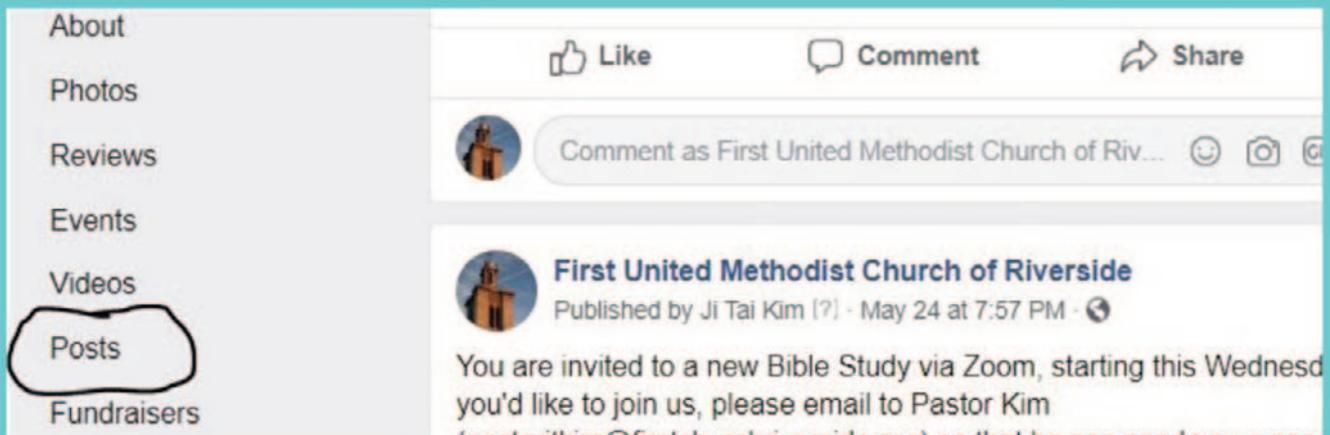
Make an account for facebook, and then travel to this address:

[www.facebook.com/FirstChurchRiverside](http://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchRiverside)

Like or Follow our page, so facebook knows you are interested. You accomplish that with buttons right below the top image on the page.



Just before 10 a.m on a Sunday morning, we will post the livestream. It will be the most recent post on the page. You might see it on your own, but if you don't, look to the menu on the left and click on the word "Posts" which I have circled in the picture below. The category of "Videos" will work too.



If you are there about 10 minutes early, the top post you see will include a count down clock of the time before the service starts. After 10 am. you should see a service in progress.

Comment and celebrate together. We want to know that you have made it.

If you are still having trouble, email [krislovekin@gmail.com](mailto:krislovekin@gmail.com) and tell her you need a phone consultation. If you want someone to call you on Sunday morning and just let you listen to the audio of the service, we can arrange that.

Remember, we store them on the church website too:

[www.FirstChurchRiverside.org/media](http://www.FirstChurchRiverside.org/media)