

THE MESSENGER

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

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Hello FUMCOR Family! Do you know a little one who would benefit from a high-quality preschool program? We are registering children for First United Methodist PreSchool (FUMPS). Programs can range from two days a week to all five days a week. The preschool is following all protocols from the Riverside County Department of Health.

Children need to be at least 2 years and 9 months when they start in August, and they need to be already potty trained. During February we give priority to church families. Starting on March 1, registration will be open to the public. The new school year opens in August, 2021, although we have a few openings right now for the current year. Registration Forms can be printed from our website at <https://www.fumps.org/> or they can feel free to contact us with any questions: fumps@sbcglobal.net or via phone at 951-683-4500. Thank you for your Support!

Karen Wilson and the Preschool Staff



DIAPER DROP

Church and Society/Missions has set a parking lot event at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, March 7, to collect diapers for families who may be struggling with expenses during the pandemic.



We are calling it a “Diaper Drop.” Your mission is to buy some diapers for babies, any size will do, and then come drive into the parking lot. We will have a target on the ground and without even getting out of your car, you will be able to test your throwing arm.

All diapers collected will be donated to Project HOPE at Wesley United Methodist Church, which is our partner in missions work.

We will have music and cheering and friendly faces (although I guess we have to admit that we will be masked). We will set up near the choir room for just an hour, so don't miss out!

Wear a mask, pretty please.

Thanks to all of the congregation for your generosity.

MESSAGE FROM REV. J.T. KIM



It is my pleasure to offer some good news to the church family. Our Staff-Parish Relations Committee has hired

Mateo Mamea as Director of Children's Ministry & Young Family Outreach Programs. This is a part time position and he started work on Feb. 1, 2021. Already he has been a great help in the life of the church, planning for outreach to our families and children that will keep our church family connected, growing and learning. We played a video in worship introducing him on Feb. 7. Find it in this service about 17 minutes in:

<https://www.facebook.com/181684488646152/videos/33880316731981>

Mateo is studying to become a United Methodist minister at the Claremont School of Theology. He is recently married to Nidia and they have adopted a cute new puppy just recently, named Mr. Fizziwig.

As caring and loving people of God, they will be a wonderful asset to our church. He has been making plans for our family outreach, incorporating activities at home and online until it is safe for us to be together in person. Here are a couple of questions that Mateo has sent out to our families:



Kid Questions: For inquiring minds, we pray that we should always be teachable. Is there a question that you or your child have about Jesus/God/Church/Religion or even about Theology? Is there a question you would like to ask and hear the kids answer? Submit your questions and we will put on our thinking caps and

see what the children can come up with.

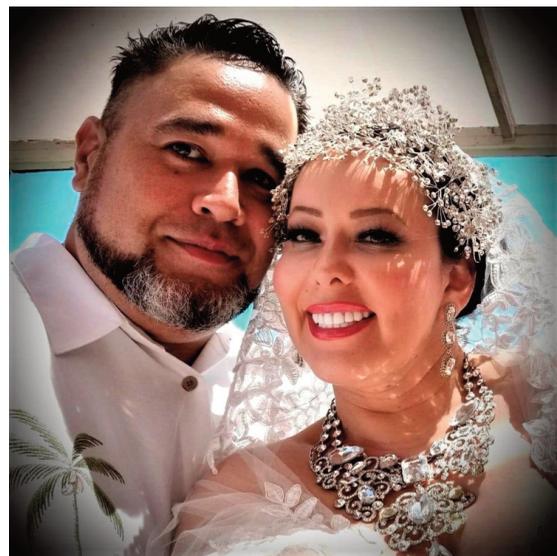
Explore: Each month let's go explore! This section is for finding new ways that we see and experience God in the world. Being that it is springtime, let's plant some seeds...what kind of seeds will you plant? Flowers? Vegetables? Fruit?

If you need seeds, let us know at childrensdirector@firstchurchriverside.org, and we can arrange for a way for you to get some. That way we all might witness the process of growth.

Thank you so much to our committees who found and hired another wonderful employee. I'm especially grateful for the leadership of Greg Laird and Lyn Knowles. May God's abundant blessings and guidance be upon Mateo and his wife Nidia, his ministries, and our congregation!

Love and Grace,

The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor



Mateo and Nidia

CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



2021 Riverside CROP Hunger Walk (Virtual)
Sunday March 14

CROP Hunger Walks are community events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations to raise money and awareness for community and world-wide hunger relief efforts.

First United Methodist Church has been actively involved in the local CROP Hunger Walk since 1976. Last year, FUMCOR was responsible for \$1,475 of the \$13,210 raised during the Riverside event. This year's CROP Hunger Walk will be a virtual event on Sunday, March 14th. We encourage all participants to walk with their own households at a time and place of their choosing on that date. Please join the FUMCOR team by signing up at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/first-united-methodist-church-of-riverside>. Donations may be made at the same website.

Please contact Kevin Simpson (kevin.m.simpson@me.com) if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MARCH EVENTS

ALL MEETINGS ARE VIA ZOOM

If you have not attended the UMW Meeting or Circle Meetings before and would like to attend, please call Pam Conlin 951-237-5470 to be added to the invitation list.

**Almond-Wesleyan Circle - Monday
3-8-2021 at 1:00pm**

**UMW Executive Board Meeting -
Wednesday 3-10-2021 at 1:00pm**

**UMW Meeting - Wednesday 3
-17-2021 at 1:00pm**

**Citrus Circle - Tuesday 3-23-2021
at 7:00pm**

**UMW Legacy Fund Day of Giving
March 23, 2021**

UMW Meeting

The speaker for our March 17 unit meeting will be our social action coordinator, Lyn Knowles. She attended February's Faith Talk about mass incarceration and the criminalization of people of color and will share highlights from the webinar, including an excerpt from the film **13th**.

Please contact Pam Conlin (951) 237-5470 if you haven't attended before and would like to be placed on the invitation list, and don't forget to wear **green** for St. Patrick's Day!

UMW Legacy Fund Day of Giving

On March 23, 1869, in Boston, Massachusetts, Clementina Butler and Lois Parker informed six women members of the Methodist Episcopal Church about the desperate health care and educational needs of women in India. Their Call to Action raised funds to send Isabella Thoburn, a teacher, and Clara Swain, a doctor, to India. The meeting in March led to the formation of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the first of many Methodist women's mission organizations to address the injustices imposed on women and girls in the 19th century. United Methodist Women is their successor, and we celebrate 152 years of changing the lives of women, children and youth.

The UMW Legacy Fund was created to honor the women who came before us and to provide for the missionary work of the women of the future.



- Our UMW Unit will give a \$500 donation to the Legacy Fund in March in memory of **Alice Wymer, Phyllis Chandler, Barbara Pope and Geraldine Marr**. As an individual, you are welcome to give to the Fund at any time either thru your local unit or online at: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund

- By phone: 800-278-7771 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST, M - F)

- By check:

United Methodist Women
Attn: Development, Legacy Fund
475 Riverside Drive, 15th floor
New York, NY 10115

Write "Day of Giving" in the memo section

- By text on your mobile device: Text 41444 and enter Legacy150 in the message area
You make your donation in Memory of or in Honor of a person who has furthered the missionary work of the UMW.



Alice Wymer



Phyllis Chandler



*Barbara Pope
(with Regan)*



Gerry Marr



UNITED METHODIST MEN'S MEETING

COVID-19 Overview

The next meeting of the United Methodist Men is scheduled for Sunday, March 14, at 11:15 AM, following church. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Richard Rajaratnam, a long-time member of our congregation. Dr. Rajaratnam will be speaking to us in his professional capacity, in order to update us on the latest medical news and information regarding COVID-19, including information regarding vaccines and other public health aspects of the pandemic. Please come and bring all of your questions with you, for what should be a very interesting and informative talk.

The meeting will take place via Zoom, and Pastor Kim will e-mail a Zoom link to the entire congregation prior to the event.

Dedications are being taken now for the Easter Flowers, including lilies, to grace our sanctuary this Easter. Please complete this form and return it to the church office by Friday, March 19.

Cost of a potted flower is \$10.00. Checks should be made out to First United Methodist Church (FUMCOR), and marked "Easter Flowers."

Donors may pick up their plants after the Easter worship service.



Dedicated by: _____

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

UMM SILENT AUCTION



UMM plans to hold their 2021 Silent Auction this year in May via the internet, unless the church opens up before then. If you wish to donate an item, we will arrange to pick it up for you. Just call either Ron Bayer (951) 313-0950 or Daryl Salmon (951) 788-4348. More details will follow, but just know that all FUMCOR Members will be e-mailed the list and photo of each item available for purchase. The bids will be taken by phone and updated during the month of May, and the winning bidders will be notified at the beginning of June.

We thank you for your support!

APRIL

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Lyn Knowles	2
Greg & Lisa Laird	5
Brian & Susan Tomlinson	8
Michael & Valerie Othon	11
Bill & Mary Lou Kerrick	23
Bill & Helen Nuchols	27

Kristy McCormick	16
Robert Phillips	16
Lisa Thomas	16
Skylar McDonald	18
Helen Dennington	20
Marge Wolter	20
William Waite	21
Doris Wright	21
Lillian Zeeb	21
Kim Austin	23

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Kay Otto	1
Jim Sizer	3
Dana Traver	6
John Logger	8
Robin Renteria	10
DeDe Earhart	11
Tina Fletcher	12
Connor Britain	15

Derek Updegraff	23
Kyle Grimes	24
Gail Murray	24
Sean Clark	25
Austin Weidinger	27
Barbara Jo Wilson	29
Don Knowles	30
Richard Rajaratnam	30

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
Children's Ministry & Young
Family Outreach Director: Mateo Mamea
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!

LENT / EASTER 2021

First United Methodist Church of Riverside



Ash Wednesday: February 17, 2021
Ash Wednesday Service Online (Livestream) at 7 p.m.
Hosting Church: First United Methodist Church of Riverside
Attending Churches: Corona UMC and Wesley UMC

SUNDAYS IN LENT

First Sunday in Lent: February 21, 2021
Sunday Worship Online at 10 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent: February 28, 2021
Sunday Worship Online at 10 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent (Holy Communion):
March 7, 2021
Sunday Worship Online at 10 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Lent: March 14, 2021
Sunday Worship Online at 10 a.m.

Fifth Sunday in Lent: March 21, 2021
Sunday Worship Online at 10 a.m.



Palm/Passion Sunday: March 28, 2021
Sunday Worship Online at 10 a.m.

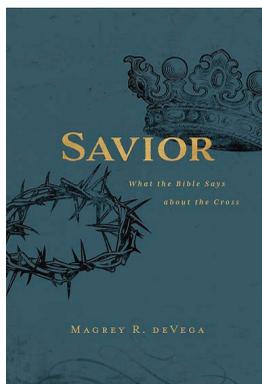
Maundy Thursday: April 1, 2021 at 7 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Service Online
Hosting Church: Wesley UMC (Pastor Langi Lolohea)

Good Friday: April 2, 2021 at 7 p.m.
Good Friday Service Online
Hosting Church: Corona UMC (Pastor Eric Schmidt)

Easter Sunday: April 4, 2021
Sunday Worship Online at 10 a.m.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

(with Rev. J. T. Kim)



Lenten Study 1 of 5:
February 24, 2021
Zoom Bible Study at 7 p.m.
(Chapter 2)

Lenten Study 2 of 5:
March 3, 2021
Zoom Bible Study at 7 p.m.
(Chapter 3)

Lenten Study 3 of 5: March 10, 2021
Zoom Bible Study at 7 p.m., (Chapter 4)

Lenten Study 4 of 5: March 17, 2021
Zoom Bible Study at 7 p.m., (Chapter 5)

Lenten Study 5 of 5: March 24, 2021
Zoom Bible Study at 7 p.m. (Chapter 6)

First United Methodist Church
4845 Brockton Avenue • Riverside,
CA 92506
(951) 683-7831

FirstChurchRiverside.org
fumc@firstchurchriverside.org

[facebook.com/FirstChurchRiverside/
live_videos/](https://facebook.com/FirstChurchRiverside/live_videos/)

Listen Toll Free: 1-877-755-5136

The Rev. J. T. Kim, Senior Pastor

United Methodist Women Faith Talks

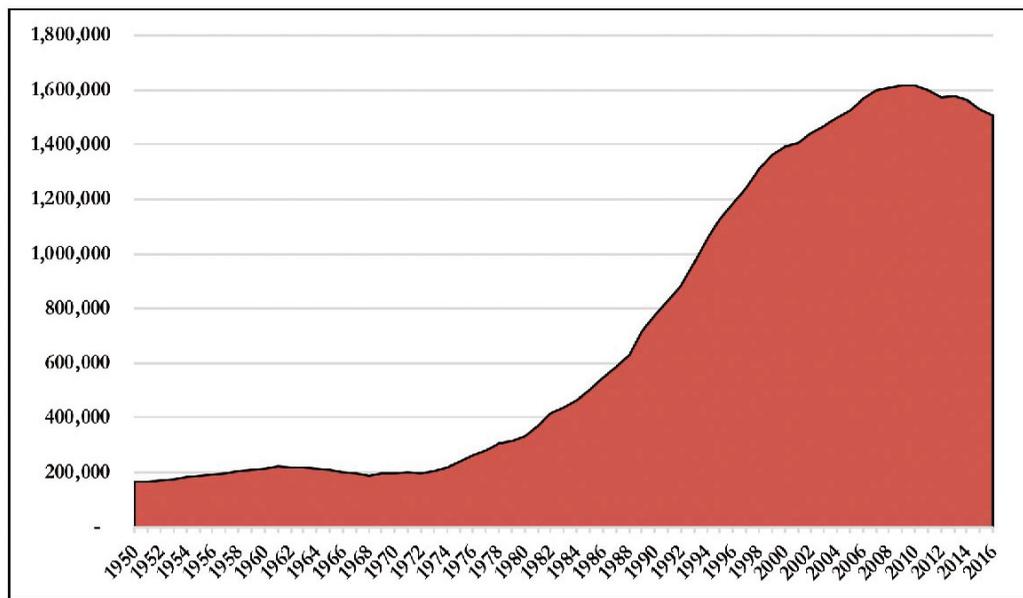


United Methodist Women has a variety of online webinar, zoom, and other resources to educate their members and promote social action. I attended one of them in February, a Faith Talk, titled “Black History Month.”

Though the United States has only 4% of the world’s population, we have 25% of all incarcerated people. In the most-free land in the world, we are distinguished by having the most people locked up. I also learned that although our statistics show that 1 out of 17 men are incarcerated, the number of black men incarcerated is 1 out of 3.

I want to display a graphic that was shown during the webinar. For most of my adult life the U.S. has had massive incarceration. I never realized this was an aberration, that this is not the historical norm. Here is the graphic.

Prison System Growth (1950-2016)



Stunning, isn't it? Had you attended the faith talk, you would have learned the causes of this shift to mass incarceration. Every episode of faith talks challenges you to examine parts of life you had not previously considered and learn how it fits into a biblical framework. You also can attend the UMW Faith Talks. You don't have to be a United Methodist Woman. There's no charge. You simply have the desire to educate yourself on the issues chosen by the United Methodist Women for social action campaigns.

Faith Talks are a monthly conversation that help explore themes to put our faith, hope and love into action. Learn more about Faith Talks and register for future talks at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks.

Submitted by Lyn Knowles