

THE MESSENGER

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

"MAY YOUR MAY DAYS BE BLESSED!"

(By the Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor)

After Easter, the month of May is a time I love! We enjoy the best weather in Riverside, so we can enjoy our beautiful spring flowers and plants everywhere, especially in my backyard. This is a truly precious moment to be grateful to God for the gift of life!

Did you know that we can celebrate every day in May? Recently, I came across "31 Reasons to Celebrate in May," (www.thespruce.com). Did you know that May 31 is National Macaroon Day? Of course, we all know "Cinco de Mayo" (May 5), "Mother's Day" (May 9), and "Memorial Day" (May 31). But did you know that May 6 is "International No Diet Day," May 11 is "National Eat What You Want Day," and May 18 is "National No Dirty Dishes Day?" These days bring us joy and laughter.

The Christian community celebrates May as "Christian Home Month." The United Methodist Church's calendar lists May as "Asian Pacific American Heritage Month." This can be a timely reminder for all to share God's inclusive love, especially as we have been hearing the heart-breaking news about hate crimes against AAPI (Asian Americans



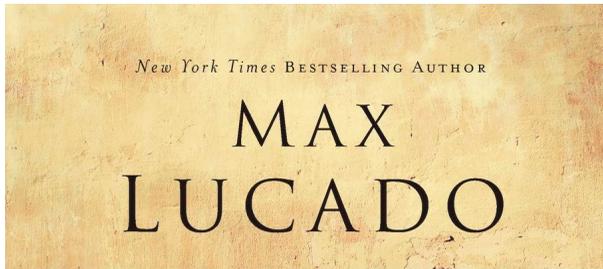
and Pacific Islanders). Overall, May is a month of family, love, unity, respect, harmony, and peace.

Easter season moves into Pentecost Season, and we will celebrate the birth of the church and the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday (May 23). For Methodists, Aldersgate Day (May 24) is another very important day to remember and affirm our Wesleyan heritage and faith. It is the day in 1738 that John Wesley said he felt his heart strangely warmed.

As we are still in the process of transitioning from the long pandemic days to the new post-pandemic time, I would like to commend you for your unwavering faith, endurance, and resilience. I thank you so much for showing your commitment and support by being faithful to God through our Church. I pray that we would joyfully reunite with everyone in person sooner than we can imagine or estimate.

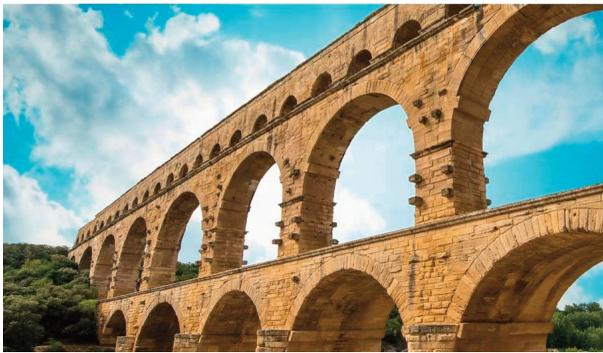
Every single day is another new opportunity for us to make everything right. However, we also need to realize that these new opportunities are not unlimited. That is why the Psalmist writes, "So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart" (Psalm 90:12).

May your May days be blessed and always!
The Rev. J. T. Kim, Pastor



LIFE LESSONS from

JAMES



James, the half brother of Jesus, believed that a life of faith was all about actions that revealed a difference in a person's life. We will learn more about James and his teaching in our next UMW women's bible study. We will study Life Lessons from James by Max Lucado.

The study begins on Thursday, May 13th, at 6:30 pm via zoom. The study will continue on Thursday nights for 6 weeks. Would you like to join us? Please call Lyn Knowles at 951-737-3541 to be placed on the email invitation list.



United Methodist Church **FUNDRAISER**

AT

PIER 76 Fish Grill

At 3555 Riverside Plaza Drive 108
(Next to The Habit)

Wednesday, May 12th
From 12 pm TO 8 pm

INVITE FRIENDS  EAT HEALTHY  RAISE FUNDS
20% of sales Back to your Organization
No Soliciting on Site on Day of Event

Menu at www.pier76fishgrill.com
Follow us on Instagram Pier 76 Fish Grill



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



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MAY EVENTS

ALL MEETINGS ARE VIA ZOOM
Invitations will be sent by email prior to the meeting. If you would like to attend and haven't received an invitation please contact Pam Conlin 951-237-5470.

**Almond-Wesleyan Circle - Monday
5-10-2021 at 1:00pm**

**UMW Executive Board Meeting -
Wednesday 5-12 -2021 at 1:00pm**

**UMW Meeting - Wednesday
5-19-2021 at 1:00pm**

**Citrus Circle - Tuesday 5-25-2021
at 7:00pm**

UMW Meeting

This month's UMW Program is going to be "The Secret Life of Trees."

Sounds a little mysterious. Come join us on Zoom to find out what the secret life of trees is all about.

Mission U begins in late June. It will be virtual this year. Please look over the flyer on Page 4, as there are many studies to choose from. Please note there are also some programs for children and youth.

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S MEETING ON SUNDAY, MAY 9

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

The next meeting of the United Methodist Men is scheduled for Mother's Day, Sunday May 9th. The meeting will take place via Zoom and will start after church services, beginning at 11:15 AM. Pastor Kim will e-mail out a Zoom link to the entire congregation prior to the event.

Our speaker for this meeting will be our outgoing Scout Master for Troop 270, **Mr. Steve McGuffey**. Steve will update us on the latest activities for Troop 270, which is sponsored by our church and conducts it's Troop meetings at the Scout House at the rear of our parking lot. He will also introduce us to the new, incoming Scout Master, **Mr. Josh Davidson**. We'll also hear from one of Troop 270's youth leaders, **Mr. Gabriel Zamora**.

Please plan to join us to celebrate and support this important ministry for our church in developing our future leaders. Bring your Mother!

Don't forget the Silent Auction. We're still soliciting donations of items to raise money for our Scholarship Fund. Please contact Ron Bayer (909-856-6862) or Daryl Salmon (951-906-6448) for pick-up.

SAVE THE DATE

Living into the Church's Moral Witness Cal-Pac United Methodist Women Virtual Mission u 2021

This year our studies are:



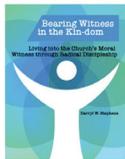
Finding Peace in an Anxious World

English: July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (7:00-8:30PM) **OR**

English: July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8 (2:00-3:30PM)

Tongan: July 30, August 1, 2 (7:00-9:00PM)

Spanish: July 10 & 24 (4:00-5:30PM), 17 & 31 (4:00-6:00PM), and August 7 (4:00-5:00PM)



Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living Into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship

English: June 25 (7:00-9:00PM), 26 (1:00-3:00PM & 4:00-6:00PM), 27 (1:00-3:00PM) **OR**

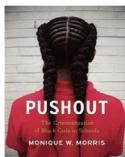
English: June 27, July 11, 18, 25 (4:00-6:00PM)

Tongan: July 10, 17, 24, 31 (4:00-6:00PM)

Spanish: July 7, 14, 21, 28 (10:00AM-12:00)

Korean: July 10, 17, 24 (1:00-3:00PM), 31 (1:00-2:30PM)

Bridging (combination young women & seasoned women):
June 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27 (7:00-8:30PM)



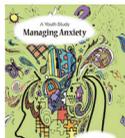
Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools

June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28 (7:30-9:00PM)



Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission

June 21, 28, July 5 (7:00-8:30PM)



Youth Study: Managing Anxiety (ages 12-17)

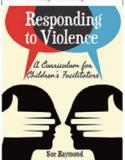
July 16 (5:00-7:00PM), 17 (10:00AM-12:00 & 1:30-3:30PM), 18 (2:00-4:00PM)



Youth Study: Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence

(ages 12-17)

July 9, 10 (12:00-4:00PM)



Children's Study: Responding to Violence (ages 6-11)

June 26, 27, July 10, 11 (1:00-3:00PM)

Studies are free. Invite a friend! You need not be part of UMW.

All are welcome to attend multiple studies. **Please register at: calpacumc.org/umw**

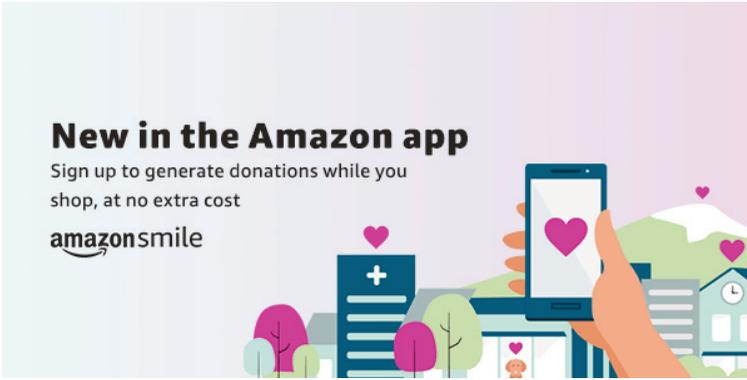
You can purchase your study books at:

unitedmethodistwomen.org/mission-resources, Smile.Amazon, or Amazon Prime.

For more information, please contact Dean: Barbara Miller barbara@lantoga.net

Asst Dean: Phyllis Veal lisivea808@gmail.com

Registrar: Nicole Nonies nicolenonies2010@gmail.com



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "First Riverside United Methodist Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "First Riverside United Methodist Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

**HOW TO GIVE ONLINE TO
FIRST UMC OF RIVERSIDE**

Online: Please click www.firstchurchriverside.org/giving

Or to access another way, scan: This QR code (shown below) will lead you to our church website's eGiving page (it's handy if you use your smart phone).



Thank you so much for being faithful to God through our Church!

SCHOLARSHIPS

**Attention High School Seniors and
Current College Students:
It is Scholarship Application Time!**

If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please e-mail your request for the application to cec@firstchurchriverside.org (this is the email for the Christian Education Scholarship Committee). Please indicate if this is your first time applying or if you are a returning student, as there are different applications for each one.

Considerations for first time applicants



Scholarships!

are (1) you must be an active participant at FUMCOR, (participating where possible in worship, praying for the fellowship,

sharing in the Bible study disciplines, or pledging to a church ministry,) (2) Community involvement, (3) financial need, (4) educational objectives, and (5) you will be enrolled in an accredited vocational school, 2-year accredited college, or 4-year accredited college or university. If you are a returning candidate, we will consider (1) your participation in the areas of leadership, Bible study, Christian fellowship at your local college or university, (2) financial need, (3) educational objectives, and (4) you are enrolled in an accredited vocational school, 2-year accredited college, or 4-year accredited college or university.

The application process will be handled via email, so it is important that you use an email address that will be valid through the end of August. Submission **deadline is May 14, 2021**. Candidates will be notified of the scholarship awarded before the end of May.

— Christian Education Scholarship Committee

Homeless Families? Go Ahead and Laugh

Family Promise of Riverside will host a “Squeaky Clean Comedy fundraiser” at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 8, to raise money to help families who need some housing and help. Three professional comedians promise some raucous fun fit for the whole family

First Church Riverside’s Church and Society Committee has agreed to be part of a supportive network for Family Promise of Riverside, bringing food or sharing resources.

“With your support, this fundraiser will enable Riverside to open this affiliate while providing fun and laughs for your family,” said Deanna Cohen, president of the volunteer board that leads the nonprofit organization. “Your money goes to a good cause. Families come to us

in crisis; we help them rebuild their lives with new skills and ongoing support.” The comedians who will perform are Antoine Young, Juan Garcia and Tom Clark. The show is hosted by Mel Austin. Cost to attend via Zoom is \$25 per family.

Antoine Young has been getting cheers from crowds for years both inside the locker room and outside. His deadpan delivery and observational humor has been featured on Gotham Comedy Live on AXSTV, Fox Laughs, BiteSizeTV and Magic Johnson’s TV Network Aspire.

Juan Garcia started his career at 16 at The Laugh Factory Comedy Camp. Soon he gained national recognition on hit shows like Vh1's "Baggin," "Road Dawgz On" SITV, "Loco Comedy Jam" on Galavision and BET's "Teens of Comedy Tour."

Tom Clark has appeared on TBS’s Conan, CBS’s Late Late Show, The Bob & Tom Radio Show, and Comedy Central’s Premium Blend. Clark has appeared as an actor in HBO’s Euphoria and Room 104, ABC's Fresh Off the Boat, TNT’s The Closer, and the Hallmark made for TV movie “The Wish List.”

Family Promise of Riverside combines faith communities, city services and community volunteers to mentor a few families at a time. The organization is based at Magnolia Presbyterian Church in Riverside. When it opens, volunteers will provide shelter, food and transportation to help families stay stable and get back to a place of self-support.

To rsvp for the fundraiser, go to FPRiverside.org



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Genette Sizer	7
Bob & Norma Nelson	13
Charles & Michael Thompson	15
Rev. J.T. & KwangJin Kim	29

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Jude Angel	1
Gaila Sims	1
Melanie Gaumer	3
Christine Waite	6
Susan Page Logger	7
Virginia Brawner	10
Steven Beals	12
Dale Grout	12

Lyn Knowles	12
Tim Traver	12
LJ Arguelles	18
Josephine Essien	19
Melissa Elsner	20
Nana Gwira	20
Greg Laird	21
Kris Lovekin	21
Tom Hanrahan	24
Steve Grimes	25
Kelly Weakly	25
Doug Slaughter	27
Cassie Lonsbery	29
Ann Pfeifle	29
Leslie Tomlinson	29

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
**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!



KIDS CORNER

Greetings from the Kids Corner! Thank you to all that volunteer their time and resources to help create a space of spiritual education and growth for all the children here at FUMCOR and in our community.

Kid Joke found at:

<https://www.rd.com/list/knock-knock-jokes-for-kids/>

Knock knock.

Who's there?

Kanga.

Kanga who?

I believe it is pronounced kanga-roo.

Let's talk about the events from last month (April):

- **Easter Bag Drop and Meet:** It was wonderful getting to meet many of you and your family. Mr. Fizziwig thoroughly enjoyed meeting you too.
- **Sunday School Video Lessons:** Continuing On...growing and exploring.
- **Lord's Prayer:** Thank you for participating in new ways and expanding worship.

Upcoming events:

- Vacation Bible School (VBS)
Volunteers: We need people that are willing to and want to participate in making video content and possible in-person gatherings.

- Safe-Gatherings
- Finger printing

• **Coming Soon!** FUMCOR Children's Corner News

Making video content about the happenings with the families at FUMCOR, on the campus and in the world from the perspective of the FUMCOR children.

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. Let's take pictures of Riverside! Ask your parents for help and find images that you see God in the world and submit them to: childrensdirector@firstchurchriverside.org That way we all might witness the awe founded in Creation.

SafeGatherings: Certification is an important aspect of our children's ministry because it informs visitors and guests that we hold ourselves accountable to a higher standard of care and are transparent in the programs we offer. Making children's safety the first priority. If you would like to volunteer to assist in children's ministry, please notify us of your interest and any hobbies or skills you would like to share (reading/teaching/drawing/crafting/singing/music/etc.) at childrensdirector@firstchurchriverside.org or call us at (951) 683-7831 and leave a message.

Looking forward to finding new ways to explore,

Mateo Lavea Mamea

Director of Childrens Ministry & Young Family Outreach Programs

First United Methodist Church of Riverside