

Our Bishop
District Superintendent

The Rev. Dr. Grant Hagiya
Rev. Melissa Roux MacKinnon

The Church Staff is here to serve you:

Ministers
Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Co-Lay Leaders
Secretary

The Members of this Church
The Rev. Dr. Martin Niponi Finau
Pastor Xavier Torres
Len Johnson and Ruth Pemble
Jacqueline M. Wosczyk

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm
Wednesday 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Visit us on our website at: www.morenovalleyumc.com



Moreno Valley United Methodist Church

Moreno Valley, California
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10271 Heacock Street
Moreno Valley, CA 92557-2200
(951) 924-6990
morenovalleyumc@gmail.com

Change Service Requested



THE BURRO BULLETIN

FEBRUARY, 2021

Moreno Valley United Methodist Church

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Please join us for worship at 10 am each Sunday on Facebook @ fb.me/MoValUMC Or on YouTube @ Box Springs Cooperative Parish - UMC. Please visit our website @ www.morenovalleyumc.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021:

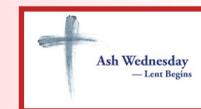
Join us for worship as we celebrate the 5th Sunday after the Epiphany at 10 am from Highgrove with Pastor Finau. This Sunday we celebrate the first Sunday in February with Drive-up Holy Communion from Moreno Valley and Grace from 10 am to 11 am.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021:

Join us for worship as we celebrate Transfiguration Sunday and the Induction of our church officers at 10 am from Moreno Valley with Pastor Xavier.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021:

Today we celebrate Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Join us for a special service on Zoom at 6 pm. Invitation will be sent out by email.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021:

Join us for worship as we celebrate the 1st Sunday in Lent at 10 am from Moreno Valley with Pastor Xavier. Drive-up Communion and Drive-up ashes will be available from both Grace and Moreno Valley from 10 am to 11 am. We will also be collecting food items for families in need. (Details inside this newsletter).

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021:

Join us for worship as we celebrate the 2nd Sunday in Lent at 10 am from Highgrove with Pat Hogan.

Pastor's Corner

Dear Church Members and Friends,

Greetings to you in the wonderful name of our Lord Christ at the beginning of the year 2021. May the Almighty continue to clothe you and your loved ones with His abiding grace as we follow Christ in this Holy Season of Epiphany.

On behalf of the Finau Family, I am in debt with uttermost gratitude to sincerely thank you for your extravagant



generosity of Christmas cards, gifts, love offerings, phone messages and prayers that we received during the Christmas Season. You have abundantly blessed us with the true gift of joy and love and

how grateful we are for you. Praise be to God!

The gifts shared were the outward sign of the grace within you. That grace which reminds us of "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6) who is the reason for the season.

May the beginning of the new year provide us profound opportunities to continue to share our gifts of service and love with others, including our loved ones and friends. You have demonstrated willing and compassionate hearts in the service of our Lord in the past, and it is my prayer that our gracious Lord blesses you and your families with His abundant grace.

Wishing each of you a purpose-filled new year full of excitement and blessings.

Pastor Finau

Lenten Season ~ Fasting

Lenten Season ~ Fasting.

Fasting is a ritual practiced by many different religions or traditions. It is not some magical ritual to try to get God to answer our prayer. It isn't about harming our bodies or depriving ourselves. For Christians, it is a spiritual discipline that strengthens our faith and re-shifts our focus on God. This year for Lent, we are taking up this spiritual practice collectively as one church. Beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 17) up to Easter (April 4), we encourage you to join us on this journey of abstaining from something good, like food so that we can concentrate on our spiritual lives and find satisfaction in God. The emphasis of fasting could benefit us in various aspects of our spiritual journey. Over the 40-day season of Lent, we are inclined to hear from God, seek His guidance, desire revival in life, find inner healing, build communion with one another, and grow to trust in God more.

Although there are many different forms of fasting, we find four examples in the Scriptures. An *Absolute Fast* which includes a 3-day fast period without food or water. You may read more about this type of fast in the Book of Esther. Secondly, is *Supernatural Fast* revealed to us when Jesus fasted in the Wilderness for forty-days before His earthly ministry started. Third is the *Daniel Fast*, which is abstaining from certain produces for a period of time, such as luxury foods. Lastly, *Fasting from Indulgences* in which Christians may be directed to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. During Jesus' fast, He quoted Deuteronomy and said, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (Matthew 4:4). Fasting can help us understand this truth with new meaning. We can better understand that Jesus is the Bread of Life, who sustains us and supplies all our greatest need.



Each of you may choose the type of fasting for your Lenten journey, but this is a time to become connected with one another in church and one with Christ. We will use this opportunity of fasting to overcome the calamities of life, renew our connection with God, resist temptation, and be empowered to fulfil God's calling in our life. Any form of fasting requires you to give up something, so take these items into consideration: coffee, deserts, TV, social media, and/or other earthly wants.

During this year's Lent, we want to introduce and invite all members of the Box Spring Cooperative Parish to join us every Wednesday from 6:00 AM to 12:00 noon in fasting. Each week, we will send out a theme, together with a scripture passage for meditation. To break our fast, there will be a Zoom invitation for you to join us in a closing prayer every Wednesday.

We hope you will join us on this 40-day journey through Lent. Please remember to pray and discern what form of Fasting you are led to and consult with your physician. Above all, obey God and know that He is with you. You may contact the pastoral team if you have any further questions.

Pastor Jinau



Sunday, February 21, 2021 Drive-up Communion, Drive-up Ashes Food Donations

As we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021, please join us for Drive-up Communion and Drive-up ashes from both Grace and Moreno Valley from 10 am to 11 am. We are also collecting food items at this time to help families in need in our community. Food items include: canned vegetables, canned fruit, condiments, soup, tuna, spaghetti, macaroni & cheese, crackers, chips, goodies, bread, rolls, tortillas, potatoes, etc.



Wednesday Morning's Fast and Prayer

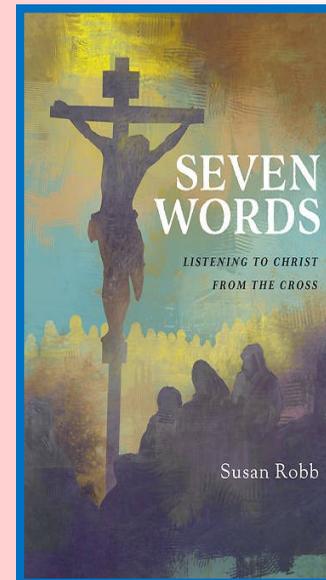


Beginning on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, please join us each Wednesday during Lent, through Holy Week/Passion Week and up until Easter, for a morning of fasting followed by prayer at 12 pm on Zoom. Zoom invitations will be sent out by email.

Lenten Bible Study

SEVEN WORDS

LISTENING TO CHRIST FROM THE CROSS By Susan Robb



Examine the last seven words of Christ on the cross this Lent.

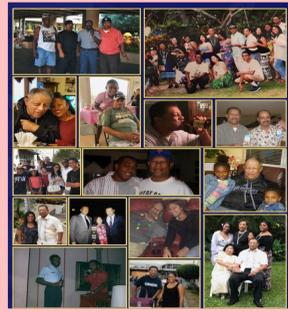
The most difficult part of Lent is, of course, contemplating our Savior on the cross: the physical pain, the humiliation, and the undeniable injustice. Our hearts break. It's natural to try and avoid the reality of how Jesus died, but it is from the cross that Jesus shows his deepest love for us. As Jesus draws his final breath and utters his last words, it is then that his deep trust in the Father and His divine glory are revealed. In *Seven Words*, Susan Robb looks at Christ's final words from a biblical and historical perspective, showing how we can find life and hope in them.

Join us on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 6:30 pm via Zoom for this six-week Lenten Study! The books have been ordered and are \$12.99 each.



We were truly blessed having you here on this earth, God gave us a gift on the day of your birth. The memories we made will always be treasured, we hold them dear in our hearts and are forever remembered. Now called by the Father and lifted up into heaven, as you followed our dear Lord and said yes as He beckoned.

Leonard Francis Watkins



Sunrise ~ January 26, 1944
Sunset ~ December 18, 2020

Leonard Francis Watkins was born on January 26, 1944, in Yonkers, New York. After graduating High School, Leonard fortunately chose to join the United States Air Force. While stationed in the Philippine Islands of Clark Air Base as an airman, he met his eternal flame, Lucita Recabar. In January of 1967, they married and within nine years welcomed three beautiful children, Timothy Craig, Melinda, and Charles. They eventually settled in Moreno Valley, CA at March Air Force Base, where Leonard continued to live his dream as a military man. In June of 1987, Leonard retired after serving 24 Years in the Air Force at the rank of MSGT and embarked on a new journey working for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Leonard loved taking road trips with his grandchildren, traveling around the globe with his wife, embracing family and educating and connecting everyone he considered family. Leonard is credited with being a 1st Master Sergeant, a professor, a chauffeur, a videographer, a “main man”, a director, a teacher and a rock for which his family stood. Leonard was a man of many talents that he shared with anyone he could. A true pillar, he spent much time giving love to any and every person. He took pride in educating himself, inspiring and motivating others, traveling, and being one of the best to walk this earth. Leonard Watkins will always be known as a light in every life that he ever touched, and he will be missed tremendously by all of those he encountered.

Josephine Rosline Kalawa



Sunrise ~ July 16, 1939
Sunset ~ December 29, 2020

Josephine was a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was born in Sierra Leone and worked very hard with her predeceased husband Alfred to educate their children Clifford, Beatrice, and Christiana. She came to live with her daughter, Christiana in Moreno Valley after her husband passed away in 2010. She was a member of Samaria West African Methodist Church in Sierra Leone and Josephine was very excited to continue worshipping at Moreno Valley United Methodist Church. She had a passion for education and one of her favorite TV shows was Jeopardy. She will be dearly missed.



Dear Beloved Church,

Happy New Year and Thank You!

We want to express our deepest thanks and gratitude for a blessed 2020 year. You have continued to show your kindness and love to our family, thank you.

You made Advent and Christmas memorable and heartfelt; your gift and card to us was a joyful surprise. I know 2020 has been difficult, we have been unable to meet in person and worship together. We have been unable to fellowship and celebrate the presence of our God together. Thank you for your understanding and compassion. For being flexible and compassionate. Thank you for your willingness to adapt to all the changes, I know it's not easy. I know this pandemic has stretched our faith and patience. Please know we love you. You have touched our lives with kindness, generosity and compassion.

May the love of the Father, grace of the Lord and peace of the Holy Spirit bless you with kindness, generosity and compassion, now and always.

Pastor Xavier, ChrisAnn and Camael Torres



WITH WARM WISHES
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**20
21**

FROM THE TORRES FAMILY

EVENT

United Methodist Women Mid-Winter Virtual Event 2021

Date: February 20, 2021 in California & Hawaii (11 AM PST | 9 AM HST) | February 21, 2021 in Guam & Saipan (5 AM ChST)

Location: Zoom

Cost: Free to all United Methodist Women

RSVP Deadline: February 12, 2021

"Knitting Together God's Family"

"It takes a village to raise a child" is an African proverb that means that an entire community of people must interact with children for those children to experience and grow in a safe and healthy environment. (Wikipedia)

Join us as we hear from volunteers working with families in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis. Daily struggles of social injustice, racism and poverty take an extra toll on the mental health of the youngest members—children—in the family.

Speakers:

- Susannah Lee Kandikatti, University of Hawaii
- Adrienne Hidalgo Esguerra, Community Activist
- Brenda Tuita, Cal-Pac UMW Social Action Coordinator

Zoom Meeting information will be sent to you by email closer to the event date.

Technical requirements: To participate in Zoom meetings, participants must have a reliable Internet connection, and a laptop, tablet, or smartphone device that can download and install the Zoom app. A web or phone camera and a microphone are highly recommended, although some users may call in via phone if a mic is not available.

Consider a 'Missions Offering': If you are able, make check payable to Cal-Pac UMW, note '2021 Missions Offering' in Memo section, and mail to Barbara Simon, 11814 Paseo Lucido #28, San Diego, CA 92128-3287.

For more information, contact Lisa Kadowaki at smidgetsik@gmail.com or 805.236.3370.

RSVP online via the button below...

RSVP ONLINE NOW >>

February Birthdays

February 3rd Kay Young
 February 3rd Chrissy Johnson
 February 13th Jack Dandurand
 February 14th Elizabeth Garcia
 February 18th Jeanne Cahagan
 February 18th Claudia Garcia
 February 22nd Miki Lawler
 February 27th Tim Lawler



February Anniversaries

February 14th Bruce & Cheryl Smith
 February 24th Mike & Ruth Pemble

In Loving MEMORY



Andrew Joseph Young

May 9, 1959 - January 6, 2021

Memorial Service ~ February 4, 2021 ~ 11 am
<https://www.facebook.com/jeanette.tuckerman.7/posts/256289896016397>

Andrew Joseph Young, 61, passed away peacefully on January 6. He was born on May 9, 1959 in Marietta, Georgia to ophthalmologist Joseph Orville Young and attorney Nancy Jokela Young, both of Redlands, CA. Long-time residents of Highland, CA, he is survived by his wife Sandra Young, after 25 years of marriage. He is also survived by three sisters, Laura Young of McCleary, Washington; Jennifer (Ron) Lawson of Norco, CA; and Kate Young, of Riverside, CA; three children, Bradley (Natalie) Barker of Anaheim, CA. Rence (Steve) Ramey of Springfield, Missouri, and Jeanette (Jordan) Tuckerman of Riverside, CA; and six grandchildren. He was beloved by his family and will be missed immensely. Andrew earned his Bachelor of Science degree from UC Irvine in 1979 and a Master's Degree in mathematics from UC San Diego in 1981. He loved teaching and was a dedicated professor of mathematics at Glendale Community College from 1984 to 1989 and again from 2003 to present. Between 1989 and 2003, he was chairman and co-founder of a computer services company, Young Minds Inc. A private family service will be held at Hillside Memorial Park in Redlands.

~PRAY WITHOUT CEASING~



FOR COMFORT ~

Family of Andy Young., Family of **Leonard Watkins**, and the family of **Josephine Kalawa** on the passing of three of our special church friends, Family of **Net and Paul Allen**, Family of **Bob Dennis**

FOR GOOD HEALTH ~

Mickie Pecoraro (friend of the Wagners), **Lucas Cameron** (friend of Debbie Abry), **Vincent Siale Po'oi** (Siosaia & Eneio's nephew), **Makatapu Paea** (father of Salesi), **Sam Walker**, **Kinsley Hunt** (friend of Debbie Abry), **Sue Jones** (sister of Debbie Abry), **Ron Meeter** (friend of Debbie Abry), **Perry Wahe** (father of Amy Fish), **Mike Williamson** (grandfather of Charlie Williamson), **Ron Stewart** (son of Earl & Lucy Stewart), **Carlos Melendez**, **Aley Wallace** (friend of Alissa Abry), **Mildred** (mother of Kathy Brewer), **Manuel Mendoza** (son of Alma Mendoza), **Jack Dandurand**, **Michelle Quillen** (friend of Debbie Abry), **Marcia Carpenter**, **Charity Njopera**, **Bruce Crabtree**, **Sharon Richards** (sister-in-law of John Richards), **Deborah Blake**, **Brad Avooske**, **Amelia Ellis**, **Wilbur Mallett**, **Billy Lytle** (friend of Christina Williamson), **Barbara Tippery** (grandmother of Christina Williamson), **Deanna Fifita**, **Gabriel Mora** (friend of Claudia Garcia), **Marlene Wells** (Net Allen's mother), **Ivon** (friend of Amy Fish), **Jeff Fields** (friend of Vic DeLeeuw), **Doug Peterson** (nephew of Karin Richards), **Bob Sparks** (grandfather of Christina & Charles Williamson), **Jessica Bourgoin** (daughter of Jan Hill), **Sara Santacruz** (sister of Alma Mendoza), **Dorothy Whittington**, **Karin Richards**, **Janet Shoff** (mother in law of Alma Mendoza's daughter), **Virginia** (Mother of Zeny Clark), **Estella Cox**, **Noah Barberina** (friend of Al and Mindy Wagner), **Andrew Stephano** (requested by John Vaiaku), **William Jones**, **Nolan Niebla**, **Robine Smith** (friend of Eneio Vaiaku), **Edith Jones** (sister of Martha Bayne), **Grace Galam** (friend of Alisa Castro), **George Lisalda** (husband of Dana Lisalda), **Patti** (sister of Sandy Young), **Wendy Baltazar**, **Dr. Ellen Smith** (friend of Debbie Abry), **Doug**, **Alycia Davis & Sydney**, **Mila Maefau**, **Lindsey Brown** (friend of Martha Bayne), **Gloria Keeney** (sister of Karin Richards), **Jacqueline Williams** (boss of Eneio Vaiaku), **Marge Johnson** (mother of Lenny Johnson), **Mike & Georgia Brown**, **Semisi (James) Mateaki**, **Jonathan Garcia**, **Zaveth Cortez** (sister of Elizabeth Garcia), **Allison Sager**, **Lawson Hill** (brother of Alicia Lowe), **Net Allen**, **Makatapu Paea** (oldest son of Tangikina & Salesi Paea), **Robert Wosczyk** (husband of Jackie Wosczyk), **Henry** (oldest brother of Ruth Van Hala), **Sophia** (niece of Marcus Van Hala), **Gary** (brother-in-law of John Bender), **Jan** (mother of Gary), **Yesenia Newman**, **Troy Anderson** (cousin's son of Mindy Wagner), Family of **Michael Martin** (friend of Alisa Castro), **Brent Clark** (colleague of Martha Bayne's daughter), **"G"** (student of Carol Howk), **Carol** (sister of Tammy Simmons, friend of Ruth Pemble), Lorraine's brother, **Laura & Hugh Mcquitty** (Martha Bayne's niece and her husband), **Sharon & Todd Billman** (good friends of Tim & Miki Lawler), **Carmen & Antonio** (Grandparents of Desiree Wagner), **Maria De La Luz Sanchez** (Co-worker's mom of Claudia Garcia), **Scott Wobken** (friend of Mindy Wagner), **Dago Garcia**, **Judy & Pete Piercy** (aunt & uncle of Laurie LaBelle & Alex Davidson), **Connie** (daughter-in-law of John & Karin Richards), **Jose Nunez** (father-in-law of Claudia Garcia's niece), **Natalia Mercado** (sister of Claudia Garcia), **Erika Garcia** (sister-in-law of Claudia Garcia), **Leon Kelly's brother** (requested by Gloria Feliciano), **Judy Avery** (former secretary at Grace UMC), **Carmela** (mother of Marlene, a co-worker of Steefeni Johnson), **Moses** (doctor caring for Carmela), Family of **Martha Bayne**, **Dan** (brother of Tim Lowe), **husband & wife** (good friends of Mindy Wagner), **Tim** (brother of Denise Tomlinson), **Diana Hanson** (mother of Desiree Wagner)

FOR STRENGTH & DIRECTION ~

Pastor Finau, **Avery & Merlin Villareal** (friends of Elizabeth Garcia), **Rafael Cortez Jr.** (brother of Elizabeth Garcia), **Victor Leyva** (friend of Vera), **Christina Williamson**, **Dr. Ellen Smith & Leigh** (friends of Debbie Abry), **Alofa Paea**, **Cindi Hunter's family** (friends of Debbie Abry), **Astrid Cervantes** (granddaughter of the Van Halas), **Mary Aultfather** (sister of Ruth Van Hala), **Shoff family**, **Alma Mendoza**, **Jennifer Martini** (friend of Amy Fish), **Scherf Family**, **Wallace Family**, **Gloria Keeney** (sister of Karin Richards)

FOR OUR SERVICEMEN AND SERVICEWOMEN ~

Matthew Muller, **Anthony Muller**, **Scott Snodgrass**, **David Olson**, **Sgt. John Vuki**, **Luke Hamann**, **Edna Folau**, **Justin Grimm**, **Adam Bleau**, **Sgt. Jeremiah Scott Villareal**