

Our Bishop
District Superintendent

The Rev. Dr. Grant Hagiya
Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi

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

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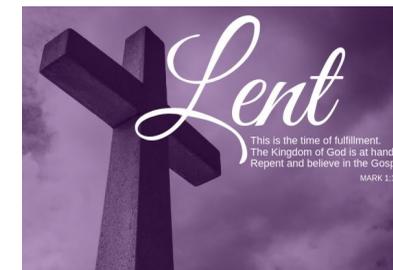
The Bummer Bulletin

MARCH, 2022

Moreno Valley United Methodist Church

Beloved,

Greetings and blessings to you in the name of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. For the month of March, we enter the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday begins a Christian observance of Lent with self-examination. I encourage you in the strength and wisdom of the Holy Spirit to self-examine your walk in Christ. Here are a few questions to think about: “Do I fast to make my life obedient to God?”; “Do I give my money to connect my heart to God?”; and “Do I pray to hear and follow the will of God?”



Jesus taught about fasting and prayer, do these in secret “...and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” (Matthew 6:5, 18 NRSV). Jesus preached about treasures (money), “...store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.” (Matthew 6:19 NRSV). This season of Lent may be an opportunity for you to grow spiritually in the practice of fasting, giving, and praying. The Apostle Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit writes, “Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for men...” (Colossians 3:23 NRSV). This powerful truth and secret revealed is for any man or woman that is in the habit of spiritual growth, *do it for the Lord and not anyone else.*

Let us pray together, God of heaven and earth, you sent your only Son to save us, and He makes the way for us to be with you forever. Thank you, Christ Jesus, for sending the Holy Spirit to empower us to live for you. Help us to self-examine and make commitments to you, so we might further our spiritual growth. Whether it be fasting, giving or prayer (one or all), we do it for you Lord and no one else. The prophet Zechariah wrote, “Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit says the Lord of host” (4:6 NRSV); it is by the Spirit we will live for the Lord.

Grace and Peace be with you,

Pastor Xavier Torres

By Roland Fernandes

February 24, 2022 | ATLANTA

The General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church is deeply troubled by the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and the ominous implications it has for escalating tensions between Russia and Western nations. We join many Christian leaders and organizations worldwide in deploring the Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, and we ardently pray for a redirection of military action toward diplomatic measures to resolve grievances. United Methodists are people of peace.

The United Methodist Church has mission-founded congregations in both Ukraine and Russia, some from the pre-Soviet period and others dating from post-Soviet years. Both countries are geographically within the Eurasia Episcopal Area and relate to the United Methodist central conferences of Europe. Bishop Eduard Kheday, the resident episcopal leader in Eurasia, is based in Moscow.

We join with Bishop Christian Alsted of the Nordic and Baltic Episcopal Area and chair of our denomination's Connectional Table in the prayer that conflict involving political matters will not break the unity between United Methodists in Ukraine and Russia.

Ties broken by Communism between Methodist communities in the Soviet bloc and the United Methodist denomination were reestablished in the 1990s through a number of

mission initiatives related to Global Ministries. That work led to the inclusion of the whole of Eurasia into the organic structure of the church through the creation of the Eurasia Episcopal Area.

While Global Ministries has no administrative role in the affairs of annual conferences, districts or congregations in Russia or Ukraine, we are partners in mission with church units and projects in those countries. We have placed numerous missionaries and young adult Global Mission Fellows in the region over the years and accept applications for missionary and mission volunteer service from both countries. We currently have no mission personnel in Ukraine.

We pray for the peace and security of United Methodists in Ukraine and Russia and for all of their neighbors, and that tranquility will prevail over their lives and countries.

Roland Fernandes is the general secretary of Global Ministries and UMCOR.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the humanitarian relief arm of Global Ministries, is in communication with partners in the region and actively exploring the coordination of humanitarian response in Ukraine. Support UMCOR's international disaster response efforts by making a gift to **Advance #982450**.



March Preaching Schedule ~ Lent ~ Renewed, Hope and Love

DATE	GRACE	HIGHGROVE	MORENO VALLEY
March 2nd	+++++++	Pastoral Team	+++++++
March 6th	Finau/Truong	Rivera/Posadas	Pastor Xavier
March 13th	Khanh Doan	Pastor Finau	Pastor Finau
March 20th	Pastor Xavier	Jeanne Terrell	Pastor Finau
March 27th	Pastor Xavier	Pastor Xavier	Susie Johnson



MVUMC Committee Meetings

Finance | Tuesday, March 8th @ 6:30 PM
Board of Trustees | Tuesday, March 15th @ 6:00 PM

March 12th | All Church Workday | 8:00 AM to Noon



March 13th | Daylight Saving Time Begins
Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead before bedtime on Saturday, March 12th!

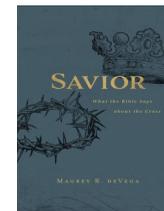
Saturday, March 26th | Feed My Lambs | Highgrove ~ 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Tuesday, March 28th | College Feeding Tentatively Returns | Grace @ 6:00 PM

Bible Study | (Monday Evenings)

Women's Bible Study @ 5:30 PM Men's Bible Study @ 6:45 PM

Our Bible Studies are hosted by Miki and Tim Lawler. If you wish to join by phone, please contact Miki Lawler for information. Zoom Information: Meeting ID: 257 153 3164 Passcode: 4qfksL



Thursday Evening Bible Study with Pastor Finau

Join us as we begin our Lenten Bible Study, "Savior" by Magrey deVega on Thursday, March 10th at 6:30 PM on Zoom. The cost of the book is \$14.00.

Explore why Jesus died on the cross and how it brings us salvation

The cross is the central symbol of the Christian faith. But what exactly did Jesus do to save us from our sins? Why was the cross necessary, and what does it mean for us today?

In *Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross*, Magrey deVega faithfully describes the need for reconciliation between humankind and a holy God through Jesus' death on the cross. The Bible uses many images to understand the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection, and deVega guides us through these images to achieve a richer understanding of the Christian faith. By exploring the mystery of salvation through the cross, we can deepen our love for God and others and strengthen our commitment to follow Jesus.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Moreno Valley in-Person Worship Services for this month are as follows:

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022:

Please join us as we celebrate the 1st Sunday in Lent with Pastor Xavier Torres at 10:00 AM. This Sunday, we celebrate the 1st Sunday in March with Holy Communion.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2022:

Please join us for worship as we celebrate the 2nd Sunday in Lent with Rev. Dr. M. Niponi Finau at 10:00 AM.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022:

Please join us for worship as we celebrate the 3rd Sunday in Lent with Rev. Dr. Niponi Finau at 10:00 AM.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022:

Please join us for worship as we celebrate the 4th Sunday in Lent with our special guest speaker, Susie Johnson 10:00 AM.

If you are unable to join us in-person here at Moreno Valley please join us for worship on YouTube @ Box Springs Cooperative Parish - UMC for a livestream service from Moreno Valley UMC.



March Birthdays

- March 3rd ~ Vic DeLeeuw
- March 4th ~ Eneio Vaiaku
- March 6th ~ Susie Johnson
- March 7th ~ Alicia Lowe
- March 15th ~ Paul Budde
- March 15th ~ Monia Paea
- March 19th ~ Martha Bayne
- March 20th ~ Michele Mitchell
- March 20th ~ Amanda Mitchell
- March 26th ~ Claudius Thompson-Shaw
- March 27th ~ Al Wagner
- March 27th ~ Ana Paea
- March 29th ~ Lenny Johnson
- March 30th ~ John Morgan

March Anniversaries

- March 2nd ~ Earl & Lucy Stewart
- March 23rd ~ Tim & Miki Lawler

Birthdays In Heaven

- March 3rd ~ Lily Ogunsote
- March 5th ~ Doris Anderson



Feed My Lambs

Saturday, February 26th at Highgrove
Feeding our Community

A special thank you to our volunteers for making this happen each month! You are a blessing to bless others! We were able to prepare sixty (60) prepackaged meals.



Box Springs Cooperative Parish

“Three Churches As One”
Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Grace UMC, Highgrove UMC, and Moreno Valley UMC began this Lenten Season as a Parish to worship together as one church on this Ash Wednesday! We are a blessed Church!



Tongan Relief Project Update

Generous Gift from Generous Hearts!

1 Thessalonians 5: *“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”*

Blessed Lenten Season,

As we begin our Lenten journey, I have been seeking ways to grow in my relationship with God and my community. One way that I have witnessed Christ at work in our churches and neighboring communities has been through our Tongan Relief Project. Together the Box Springs Cooperative Parish (Grace UMC, Highgrove UMC and Moreno Valley UMC), Temple City UMC, Parker UMC (Hawaii), Escondido UMC and other neighboring churches and friends have rallied together to support the people of Tonga through prayers, love and generosity. Our combined effort to raise attention and financial support has been collected over the past few weeks to offer the community in need hope and care through essential food supplies and building materials.



The community of Tonga is still in need after an underwater volcano erupted and triggered tsunami waves hitting the coast on the evening of January 15, 2022. The waves caused significant damage, reaching nearly 20' on Tonga’s largest island of Tongatapu and flooding many homes and roads. A massive volcanic ash cloud also covered a number of homes, contaminating water and agriculture food supplies. The impact has been felt across churches, businesses, school buildings and other facilities being destroyed. Some of the small islands were completely wiped out.



Here is the latest report for our Tongan Relief Project:

Grace UMC -	\$1,100.00
Highgrove UMC -	\$1,050.00
Moreno Valley UMC -	\$10,576.00
Temple City UMC -	\$10,000.00
Parker UMC (Hawaii) -	\$2,000.00
Escondido UMC – will fund another Container & Other	

Tongan Relief Project Update (continued)

We are working together with ‘Api Tonga (Tongan Community in Fiji) to send containers of food supplies to Tonga. The Tonga Red Cross and NEMO of the Tongan Government will be in charge of the distribution. With the blessing of the Pastor and dear members of the Escondido UMC, we will be able to send two 20'x20' containers by the beginning of April. The food supplies are designated for the people of Ha’apai Islands, who were severely affected. One container will be delivered for the Methodist church office and the other container to the Ha’apai Governor’s office.



I want to express my most sincere Malo ‘aupito (Tongan for thanks) to everyone who has prayed for and supported this outreach project. It is because of your generous contribution that the people of Tonga will experience joy and hope during these difficult times. I pray that they and many others will come to know the abundance of God’s love for them.

“Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.

In Christ I remain,

Pastor Finau