

FEBRUARY 2026

# FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SOUTHBAY

# GOOD NEWS

**FEBRUARY 1** Communion Sunday: Come and share in the Lord's Table with us.

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**FEBRUARY 8** Scout Sunday: Join us to celebrate our Scout Troops: 710, 310G, Cub Scout Den 862, GS Daisies 5365, and their families. And the Baptisms of Joshua and Samantha von Bibra & New Membership of the von Bibra family!

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**FEBRUARY 14** PrimeTimers Valentine's | Lunar New Year Luncheon at Faith UMC at 12pm. All are welcome to this joyful lunch!

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**FEBRUARY 18** "Ashes on the Go" at Faith UMC from 9:30am-3:00pm. Joint Ash Wednesday for the El Tordondo Mission Area at Riviera UMC. Combined Choir Rehearsal at 6:15pm. Worship Service at 7:00pm.

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**FEBRUARY 22** Day of Remembrance Worship Service and Conversation with Rev. Dr. Mitri Rehab (10:30am and 2:00pm).

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**FEBRUARY 28** Council of Ministries Meeting at Faith UMC from 10:00am - 12:00pm. All ministry leaders invited.

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## LOOKING AHEAD: HOLY WEEK & EASTER

**MARCH 29** Palm Sunday: Celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem

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**APRIL 2** Maundy Thursday: Passover Seder. Remember the Last Supper with us.

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**APRIL 3** Good Friday: Joint service for the El Tordondo Mission Area at Faith UMC at 7:00pm.

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**APRIL 4** Holy Saturday: Easter Egg Hunt & Picnic - more details to come.

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**APRIL 5** Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service at 7:00am. Nichigo Service at 9:00am. Easter Celebration Service at 10:30am - Celebrate the Resurrection of Christ together!

# Tell Me Something Good...

Aloha, Beloved Faith Family,

These days, it can feel like the world wakes us up with urgency before we've even found our footing. The news cycle moves fast, the stories are often painful, and the weight of it all can quietly settle into our spirits. Staying informed matters—but so does staying human.

A while ago, I began subscribing to something called the Good News Network because I kept falling down so many rabbit holes of bad, sad, and ugly news. Definitely not my finest "Allison in Wonderland" moments!. But the Good News Network doesn't deny the realities of suffering or injustice. Instead, it widens the lens. It tells stories of neighbors helping neighbors, communities choosing repair over retaliation, and ordinary people responding to hardship with creativity and care.

I can then find rays of hope after the tragic deaths of a mother and a nurse in Minnesota, with stories of children marching together in a MLK Parade. (*Which, I must share my own headline sidebar: Once again, our "Little Treats for a Big Dream" have made an impact! My husband Andy was waiting at the mechanic for a car repair and started talking to the man next to him... who remembered not only our church marching in the parade, but the little children running to share treats, down to the little girl with the rollerskate shoes! Amara!*) So now adding these new stories alongside the daily headlines has become a spiritual practice for me—a reminder that despair is not the only narrative unfolding.

As we enter Lent, that widening of the lens feels essential.

Our Lenten theme this year, ***Tell Me Something Good***, invites us to listen differently—to attune our hearts to where God's life-giving work is still breaking through. Lent is often associated with giving things up, but at its core, it is about paying attention. It is a season that asks us to slow down long enough to notice what is shaping us, what is draining us, and what is restoring us.

In a world saturated with bad news, Lent offers us alternative questions—not ones of denial, but of discernment:

***Where is goodness still alive?  
What kind of people are we becoming as we take it all in?***

Here at Faith, let's live into those questions together.

This season, we will gather for a profound conversation with Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb on the Japanese American Day of Remembrance—a time to honor histories of trauma and loss, while also bearing witness to resilience, faith, and the light that refuses to be extinguished. These conversations are not easy, but they are necessary. They remind us that faith does not rush past pain; it stays, listens, and seeks peace with honesty.

At the same time, we are also nurturing spaces of rest and renewal. Our Sound Baths offer a different kind of listening—one that happens in the body as much as the mind. In a culture that prizes productivity, choosing rest can be an act of resistance and trust. These moments of stillness help us remember that God’s goodness is not something we have to earn.

Lent is also a season of recommitment. Membership is one way we say, “I am choosing to walk this path with others.” In a fragmented world, belonging matters. Showing up matters. Being shaped by a community rooted in love, justice, and grace matters.

So this Lent, I invite you not only to ask for good news—but to practice noticing it.  
To name it aloud.  
To let it steady you.  
And when possible, to become it for someone else.

Good news does not always arrive loudly. Often, it shows up quietly—in conversations that heal, in practices that restore, in communities that refuse to give up on one another. This Lent, may we learn to recognize those moments as holy. May this season help us stay awake to what is good, even when it is fragile. May it ground us in hope that is honest.

And may it shape us into people who carry light—together.

## A Grounding Practice for the Week

**When the news feels heavy:  
Take one slow breath.  
Place your feet on the ground.  
Ask quietly, “God, tell me something good.”**

**Notice what rises—an image, a memory,  
a person, a moment.**

**Trust that even small glimpses of  
goodness are holy.**

Friends, let us continue to seek  
the Good News in dark places.

Blessings & Peace,

*Allison K. Mark*

Rev. Allison K. Mark



# *Lent Comes Early & Good News Grounds Us*

February invites us into holy anticipation as Lent arrives early this year, beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Ash Wednesday offers us a sacred pause—a moment to remember our humanity, return to our roots, and open ourselves again to God’s renewing grace.

This Lent, Faith UMC will journey together through a worship series from Sanctified Art titled Tell Me Something Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News This Lent. Rooted in the heart of Jesus’ ministry, this series centers on love of neighbor, radical welcome, care for the vulnerable, and mercy made visible. In a world heavy with bad news, Lent invites us to remember that the good news of Jesus is still alive, still generous, and still meant for all.

Throughout the season, the life of the church will reflect this grounding work. Lent at Faith will be marked by meaningful worship, intentional prayer, honest conversations, and opportunities to show up for one another and our wider community. Whether through Sunday worship, ministry gatherings, service, or quiet moments of reflection, we will practice slowing down and paying attention to where God is already at work among us.

For me and Polyana, Lent will be shaped by intention and presence. Following Rev. Allison’s family, we will attempt to go without social media during Lent, choosing instead to be more mindful of our time together—especially moments that don’t require our phones. It’s a small practice, but one we hope will help ground us in what truly matters.

As we move into the new year, thank you for your continued dedication to Faith Ministries. Please save the dates for upcoming Council on Ministries (COM) meetings, held in person at Faith UMC Fellowship Hall from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. on February 28, May 30, August 29, and November 21. Your presence matters—you are key partners in communication and ministry.

May this Lent root us deeply in the goodness of God and send us forward as bearers of good news.

# Nihongobu News

「期待」

1月12日は成人式。年内に20才になる人を激励・祝福する行事である。今年の新成人の数は109万人。立派になった子ども達を見る楽しい喜びの日である。成人を祝う儀礼は海外でも多く見られる。ヨーロッパではデビュタント、ユダヤ教徒はバーミツバ、アメリカやカナダでは、Sweet 16 party、ラテンアメリカのキンセアニェーラなどなど。大人になるとは、大きな節目。皆で喜ぶが、何が変わるのか？多くの権利が発生し、親の同意なしに携帯電話、ローン、クレジットカード、部屋を借りるなどが可能。公認会計士や司法書士などの国家資格を取得できる。自由に生活でき、ワクワクするが、注意も必要。自分の行動に責任を負うようになる。知識を身につけ、困ったときは相談することが重要。周りに必ず経験ある大人が必要になる。

イエス様が30才で公に伝道を始めるとき、洗礼を受けた。イエス様がバプテスマを受けると天が開け、聖霊の神様が鳩のように下った。そして、天から声がした。「これはわたしの愛する子、わたしはこれを喜ぶ。」(マタイ3:17)

父なる神様は喜んだ。期待する親の喜びにイエス様は応える働きを始める。責任をもって、父の計画された救いの業を達成される。その責任と働きは、父を愛することがなければ、嫌になるほど、苦しくなる。受難が待っている。成人式を迎えると、喜び以上に期待に応える責任感が強くなる年である。ただ、人は誰かから期待されると、生きがいと与えられる良い面がある。子どもは親に、学生は先生に、社員は上司に、選手はコーチに期待される。クリスチャンは、神様から、すごく期待されている。喜んで主の心を知ると、私たちも、喜びと生きがいを覚えることができる。イエス様は、父の喜びと期待を知り伝道宣教に励む。「悔い改めなさい。天の御国が近づいたから。」(マタイ4:17)父の大きな愛と期待に応え、多くの人に救いの希望を与えた。受難節が始まる時にイエス様の愛と犠牲の人生を再度覚えたいと思う。

January 12 is “Seijin shiki”(Coming-of-Age Day) in Japan. It’s an event to celebrate those turning 20 this year. In 2026, the number of people turning 20 is 1.09 million. So many children have grown into fine young adults! And they look great in their kimonos!

Becoming an adult is a major milestone. Everyone rejoices, but what changes, really? Many rights are granted. They can get mobile phones, loans, credit cards, and rent an apartment without parental consent. They can live freely! However, they must take responsibility for their actions and avoid getting into trouble. It’s important to acquire knowledge and seek advice when needed. Perhaps, it’s wise to always have adults with experience around them.

When Jesus began his public ministry at age 30, he was baptized by John. The heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit descended like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17) God the Father rejoiced! Jesus started His work to fulfill the joy of His Father’s expectations. But, we know that His responsibility and work became unbearably painful at the cross.

As the Lenten season starts on February 18, we want to remember Jesus, who worked responsibly to accomplish his Father’s plan for salvation, and sacrificed for us. 平田

Pastor  
Becky Hirata

# Youth Ministry



Hi Friends and Families,

Hope you all had a fruitful and refreshing start to the New Year! Thank you to all those who have continued to join us for our events and activities in the month of January! We had our Friday Night Fellowships on the 2nd and 4th Fridays and had a great turnout with the Youth! We also have been continuing to meet on Sundays at 10:30am in the Youth Room!

As we head into the month of February we are looking forward to meeting with our Linx Ministry Churches! We will be meeting together for a Fellowship Night so please keep a lookout for more details and info as we get closer! We hope to continue our momentum with the Linx Ministry as we finish up our second half of the school year! Thank you for all your continuous love and support for the youth ministries!

God Bless,

*Darrell Mark*

Faith UMC Youth Director

**TGIF**

JR HIGH | 6TH - 8TH

**MYF**

HIGH SCHOOL | 9TH -12TH



## WHAT IS GYPC 2026?

*The 2026 Global Young People's Convocation (GYPC) takes place every four years, is worldwide in nature, and is required by the United Methodist Book of Discipline. GYPC is primarily organized by and for United Methodist Young People. GYPC is an event that focuses on young people between the ages of 12-35; adult chaperones and those who serve young people are also encouraged to attend.*

**WHERE IS GYPC 2026:** Dublin, Ireland, at the Crowne Plaza Dublin Airport Hotel.

**WHEN IS IT:** July 7-11, 2026.

## WHO CAN COME?

Young people and leaders from every Episcopal Area of the UMC are invited to be present at the event. GYPC 2026 is a United Methodist denominational event designed to help young United Methodists connect with and better understand their denomination's connectional nature and learn how to advocate and lead in decision-making systems used by the UMC. All denominations, including churches in the Methodist family tree with whom the UMC has partnerships, are welcome, and our worship time will be ecumenical. Most of the workshops and learning opportunities will be specifically United Methodist.

- **Young People.** This means youth and young adults. Age ranges for those labels change based on geographic location and culture. Our understandings of these age ranges are as follows:
- Youth (Mainly 12-18 years of age, but can be up to 24 years of age)
- Young Adults (19-35 years of age)
- **Adult Ministers** focused on youth and young adult age ranges. Pastors, ministers, or volunteers with a heart for serving young people and creating ministry opportunities.
- **Denominational Leaders.** Those who serve in a capacity that is connectional beyond a local church.
- **Adult Chaperones.** Individuals under eighteen years as of July 7, 2026 (as well as groups with individuals under 18) require an adult chaperone to attend and support their attendance. If traveling with a group, groups are encouraged to have a ratio of one chaperone for every seven participants. Groups that include multiple sex attendees are encouraged to have chaperones who correspond to the demographics of their group. (e.g., if your group includes male and female youth, please have both a male and female adult chaperone)

## WHY SHOULD I COME?

Lots of reasons, of course. The Global Young People's Convocation, or GYPC, only happens every four years. For many, attending can be a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

GYPC will be organized around four central concepts:

- **Training:** The United Methodist Church has systems and processes to decide how the church organizes, where it focuses its resources, initiatives and justice work, and so on. We provide opportunities for young people to learn how the systems and processes of the United Methodist Church work so that they, as young leaders, can be advocates and visionaries who can engage in legislative, plenary, and conference sessions at all levels of the church. This is especially important as the UMC envisions its future.
- **Networking:** Our worldwide denomination is wealthy with experiences and stories of young leaders making a difference and growing in their discipleship. GYPC will provide opportunities to meet young United Methodist leaders around the connection and ecumenical partners who share the desire to make a difference. We believe that by building up familiarity and relationships, incoming church leaders can develop friendships and trust.
- **Creating:** The GYPC in 2026 can create statements and legislative proposals for submission to the United Methodist General Conference. There will be opportunities to share items that participants might like to address with the church, practice legislative sessions, perfect statements, and build coalitions to support proposals going forward.
- **Experiencing:** GYPC rotates to different locations around the world, and the event is designed to help participants learn about and experience the local culture and church. Local faith leaders, storytellers, and leaders in the European region will be involved in the main room worship and keynote times. This GYPC promises to be an ecumenical event thanks to our siblings of the Irish Methodist Church and other partners.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN GYPC 2026,  
PLEASE SEE REV. ALLISON TO START YOUR FUNDRAISING TODAY!  
Deadline is April 30, 2026.**



Grounding ourselves in  
the good news this Lent

This Lent, join us **in** the sanctuary for **Tell Me Something Good**, a series from Sanctified Art exploring the radical heart of Jesus' ministry. Together, we'll root ourselves in God's love, mercy, and grace, discovering what it means to be "good news" people—caring for the vulnerable, practicing radical welcome, and embodying joy in a world too often weighed down by bad news.

Worshipping side by side in the sanctuary, our enhanced worship experiences together will help us embrace the good news as living, breathing, and active in our midst—joyful as laughter, nourishing as bread shared, and freeing as mercy poured out. Let the teachings of Jesus guide us this season, inspire our hearts, and move us to action as we share God's abundant love with a world longing for hope.

Lenten Devotional booklets and cards will be available for pick up after Ash Wednesday!

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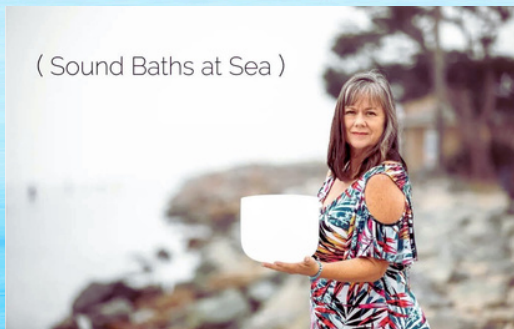
**Lenten Sound Bath in Worship**  
**February 15, 2026 at 1:00pm (Sanctuary)**

and

**March 22, 2026, during worship (mini-Sound Bath)**

*Relax. Meditate. Dream*

( Sound Baths at Sea )



Please bring a mat to lay down on

Optional items to enhance your experience:  
pillow/cushion, blanket, eye covering & water

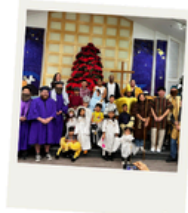
Looking forward to a blissful hour with you! Please share with anyone who could use a little extra TLC this week!

A love offering will be collected on 2/15 to show our gratitude for Susan's generosity.





**FAITH UMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**  
Nursery to Grade 5



Please join us for Sunday School every Sunday at 10:30am  
The Garden (Sunday School) classes are offered for children ages 3 (must turn 3 before September 1) through 5th grade during the 10:30am service.

Child care for children under 3 is available in the nursery located in Room 15. For more information please contact our nursery director Kristen Hayashida at [Faithumbc.garden@gmail.com](mailto:Faithumbc.garden@gmail.com).

**Nursery leads:**

Kristin Katayama  
Tam Kobayashi

**2nd,3rd,4th & 5th grade:**

Leslie Kuwabara  
Courtney Shibuya

**Garden Teachers:**

PK-1st grade  
Jolie Miyake  
Kelley Mizukami  
teacher helper- Alyssa Maracha

**Garden Directors:**

Amanda Taketa Mark  
Kelley Mizukami  
Traci Saruwatari



We can't wait to grow together with you.



# simple church

YOUNG ADULTS



**Thursdays – 1st, 3rd and 5th, 7:30 pm**

**BIBLE STUDY on-line**

Topics based on lectionary reading

**Wednesdays – 2nd and 4th, 6:30 pm**

**HANGOUTS in person**

Fun dinner discussions, games, movie nights, and outings

Faith YA groups are facilitated/coordinated by Kelvin Matsumoto  
with clergy support from Rev. Allison or Minister 'Ainise

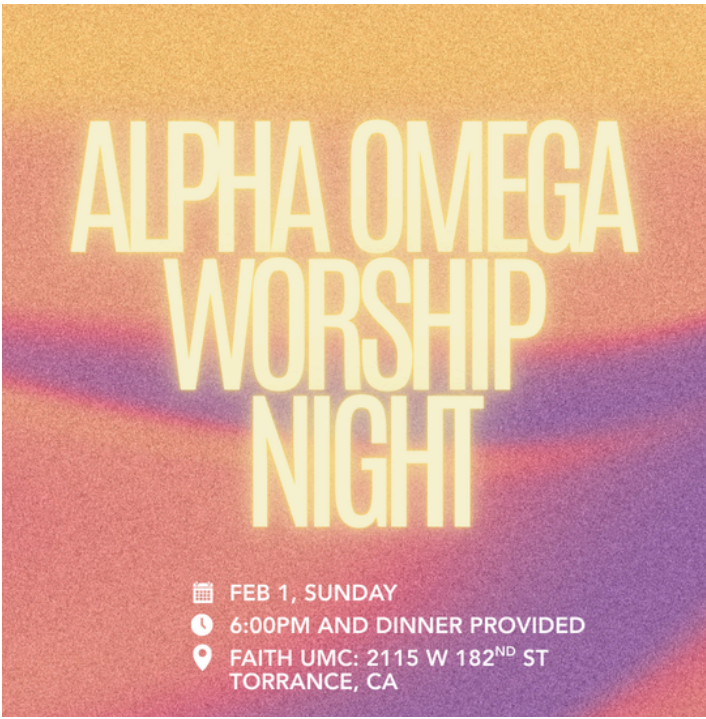
**Continue growing in Faith. Invite your friends and co-workers!**

Join our #GROUPME text chain for Bible Study link/pass code.

*(Contact Rev. Allison or Kelvin for more info)*

***Join us at Simple Church where faith, friendship, and fun come  
together every week!***

For specific spiritual needs and pastoral care, contact  
Rev. Allison, (310) 217-7000, revallison@faithsouthbay.org



All College-Age and Young Adults are welcome to join us for a night of Fellowship and Worship! Come and meet other students and YA's and learn more about our Alpha Omega Ministry!

If you are a College-aged Student / Young Professional Adult, **PLEASE CONTACT DARRELL OR KELVIN** to sign up to meet other like-minded Young people from across our Japanese American Caucus network! Bring friends! See Kelvin Matsumoto or Darrell Mark for more details.



## COMMITTEES & LEADERSHIP 2025

Nominations & Leadership Development Report

Administrative Council (members of charge conference)	Meets every month on the 4th Tuesdays at 7:00pm	
Leader	Position	Class
Nomination: Jane Matsumoto (Outgoing: Karen Murakami)	Chairperson (1 year terms)	Year 1 (2026)
Nomination: Scott Fujita	Vice-Chairperson	Year 1 (2026)
Karen Fujimori	Secretary	Year 3 (2022)
Chris Kamatani	Lay Leader	Year 6
Danny Hirata	Lay Leader	Year 4
Nomination: Kelvin Matsumoto	Lay Leader	Year 1
Nomination: Monica Matsushima	Lay Leader	Year 1
Mike Kuwabara	Nichigobu Lay Leader	Year 16
Nomination: Ken Ito (Outgoing: Andrew Tani)	Finance	Year 1 (2026)
Gary Sakaguchi	Treasurer	Year 6
Elected by BOT: Derek Taira (Outgoing: Geoff Kai)	Trustees (self-elected)	Year 1 (2026)
Nomination: Derek Murakami (Outgoing/Passed: Pearl Iizuka)	SPRC	Year 1 (2027)
Stanley Pang	At-large (Stewardship)	
Miki Hayashida	At-large	2028 (re-up 2025)
Nomination: Tam Kobayashi (Outgoing: Shari Chang Yamamoto & Karen Fujimori)	Council on Ministries Co-Chair	Year 1 (2028)
Andie Montoya (Staff)	Membership Secretary	STAFF
Darrell Mark (Staff)	Youth / Young Adult Representative	STAFF
EX-OFFICIOS: Rev. Allison Mark, Pastor Becky Hirata, Minister 'Ainise Isama'u		

Ratification & Confirmation of 2026 Leadership will happen at an In-Person Leadership Training and Ad Council Meeting on 1/27. Details to be announced shortly.



The music department is excited to be preparing something truly special for the upcoming Lent and Easter season! We'll be sharing beautiful anthems and meaningful solos that reflect the heart of these sacred weeks and help guide us through this reflective and hope-filled time.

We're also looking forward to a Mardi Gras Sunday on February 15—a day full of color, joy, and celebration! Expect purple and green beads, lively music, and songs inspired by the rich traditions of this festive experience. It's going to be a lot of fun and a wonderful way to celebrate together.

On February 22, we'll observe the Day of Remembrance, a very special and meaningful service. Cameron Ito will be sharing a brand-new song written especially for this day, and we're honored to be part of such a thoughtful moment of reflection and remembrance.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our music ministry. We're so grateful for you—and don't forget to get your good, good, good, good news! 🎵🌟

*Ron Troester*

Faith UMC Music Director





FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# WORSHIP TIMES

8:30 AM

REBROADCAST OF LAST WEEK'S SERVICE

9:00 AM

NIHONGOBU JAPANESE LANGUAGE  
WORSHIP SERVICE

10:30 AM

IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE AND  
BROADCAST LIVE STREAM FB | YOUTUBE



FAITHSOUTHBAY



FAITHSOUTHBAY TORRANCE



FAITHSOUTHBAY



FAITHSOUTHBAY.ORG



## WAYS TO

# Give

*"Experiencing God  
Through Generous Giving"*

### THANK YOU FOR GIVING!

Faith United Methodist Church: 2115 W. 182nd Street, Torrance, CA 90504



MAIL

Mail your gift to:  
2115 W. 182nd Street  
Torrance, CA 90504



IN-PERSON

Drop your gift off in  
the MAIL SLOT at  
Faith UMC



ONLINE GIVING

PLEDGE OFFERING ONLY!  
Make a one-time pledge  
contributions or set-up  
recurring giving here



VENMO  
@FaithUMC-SouthBay

Donate through Venmo!  
Add us to your Venmo  
friend list for non-pledge  
and special donations



PAYPAL  
@faithumcsouthbay

Donate through PayPal!  
For non-pledge and  
special donations

## PLEDGE CARDS ARE AVAILABLE TO SUBMIT ONLINE

Pledge card online link: <https://tinyurl.com/faithumcpledgecard2024>

**Lectionary Readings** Grow deeper in Christ by opening yourself to God’s Word, through the study of the Holy Bible. Listed below are the lectionary scripture readings for the month of March. Our Pastors, TGIF and MYF Directors generally preach from one of the lectionary passages in our Worship Services. We invite you to study these passages in preparation for our worship time as well as a means of growing deeper in Christ.

**February 1 – Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31.  
Matthew 5:1-12

Communion Sunday  
Lift up Black History  
Month

**February 8 – Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

Isaiah 58:1-9a  
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)  
Matthew 5:13-20

Scout Sunday  
Baptism &  
Membership

**February 15 – Transfiguration Sunday**

Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 99  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

Celebrate Shrove  
Tuesday/Mardi  
Gras/Lunar New Year  
(2/17)

**February 18 – Ash Wednesday**

Joel 2:12-17  
Psalm 51  
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
Matthew 6:1-21

Ash Wednesday:  
Ashes On the Go  
(Faith); Service, 7pm  
(Riviera)

**February 22 – First Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

Japanese American  
Day of Remembrance



# Ash

## Wednesday

*Riviera UMC will host this year's joint Ash Wednesday service for the El Tordondo Mission Area*

**February 18, 2026**

*375 Palos Verdes Blvd  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277*

*Schedule:*

- *6:15 PM: Joint Choir Rehearsal (led by Dr. Dawn Brooks)*
- *7:00 PM: Worship Service*





# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ready to take the next step in your faith? Faith UMC is looking for volunteers for the following ministries:

## USHERS & GREETERS

Greeters begin at 10am and stand outside the church and greet visitors and members as they arrive.

Ushers begin at 10am and stand at the sanctuary doors and greet visitors and members as they arrive. If needed, they help distribute candles, bulletins, and gifts. If interested, please email your contact information to [worship@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:worship@faithsouthbay.org)

## BENTO MINISTRY DRIVERS

Drivers will deliver bentos on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month. Deliveries are within the Gardena and Torrance area. With pick-up at the church at 11:30am. If interested, please contact Eva Nishi through the church office.

## FINANCE COUNTERS

The finance committee is seeking volunteers to assist with counting once a month. If interested, please see Rev. Allison or Gary Sakaguchi.

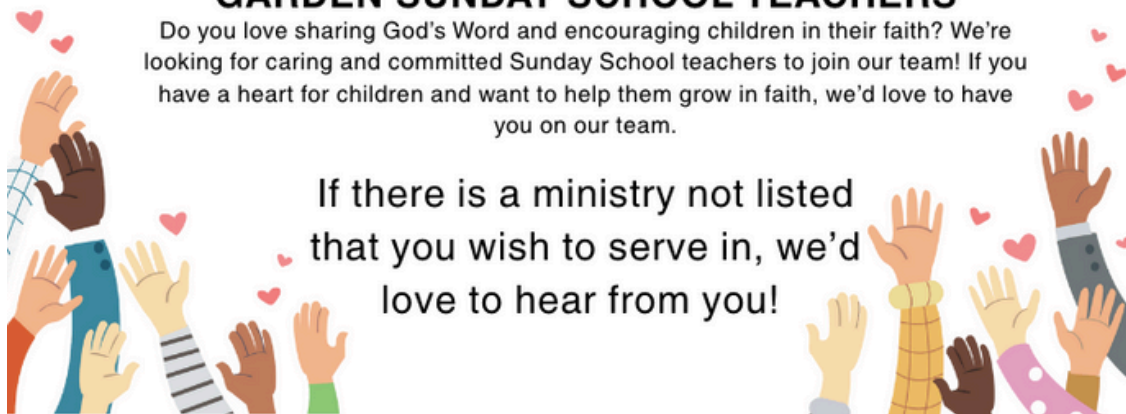
## SHEPHERD'S MINISTRY

Do you enjoy visiting others, writing greeting cards, or making phone calls? Become a Shepherd at Faith UMC! Please contact Tam Kobayashi for more information.

## GARDEN SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Do you love sharing God's Word and encouraging children in their faith? We're looking for caring and committed Sunday School teachers to join our team! If you have a heart for children and want to help them grow in faith, we'd love to have you on our team.

If there is a ministry not listed that you wish to serve in, we'd love to hear from you!



# PRIME TIMERS

The Prime Timers ministry is open to all seniors and retired members of our community. We hope that you will join us for one of our upcoming events. For more information about the Prime Timers, please contact the church office (310) 217-7000.



## Valentine's Day



## Lunar New Year

CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

**Saturday, February 14, 2026**

12:00 noon ~ Faith Fellowship Hall

Join us in celebrating  
the friendships and love  
that we share in our Prime Timers Ministry  
and our community.

Lunch will be catered from Tasty Kitchen  
Cost: \$15/person

Call the church office to sign up  
(310) 217-7000

*Love one another*  
♥ JOHN 15:12



## SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE

お陰様で

**Sunday, March 15, 2026**

**10:30 am**

Join us for a special **Legacy Worship Service**  
Hosted by Faith UMC, United Women of Faith (UWF)

Come celebrate and honor our seniors  
whose vision and dedication have sustained our church  
for more than six decades.

The service will include special messages from laity and clergy.  
Guest artist Michael Murata, will perform his original composition,  
*Okagesama de* - "Because of You",  
written in gratitude for ancestors who came before us.  
Fellowship reception to follow.

For more information,  
please contact  
the church office at  
(310) 217-7000



BECAUSE OF YOU

# FEBRUARY CALENDAR

SUNDAY

**1**

9:00a (A) Nihongobu Worship  
10:30a (Chen) TGIF/MYF  
10:30a (S) Worship  
10:30a Garden Sunday School  
12:15p (22/23) UMW Meeting  
2:00p (A) Keiki Hula  
2:30p (F) GS Troop 5365  
6:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong

**8 SCOUT SUNDAY**

9:00a (A) Nihongobu Worship  
10:30a (Chen) TGIF/MYF  
10:30a (S) Worship  
10:30a Garden Sunday School  
12:00p (online) Youth Advisor  
2:00p (A) Keiki Hula  
6:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong

**15**

9:00a (A) Nihongobu Worship  
10:30a (Chen) TGIF/MYF  
10:30a (S) Worship  
10:30a Garden Sunday School  
2:00p (A) Keiki Hula  
2:30p (F,S) Japanese Movie Night  
6:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong

**22 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE**

9:00a (A) Nihongobu Worship  
10:30a (Chen) TGIF/MYF  
10:30a (S) Worship  
10:30a Garden Sunday School  
2:00p (A) Keiki Hula  
2:30p (F) GS Troop 5365  
6:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong

MONDAY

**2 OFFICE CLOSED**

9:00a (online) Faithful Healing  
7:00p (F) Troop 719  
7:00p (online) Nihongobu Bible Study  
7:30p (online) J-Manga

**9 OFFICE CLOSED**

7:00p (online) Youth Parent Meeting  
7:00p (online) Nihongobu Bible Study

**16 OFFICE CLOSED**

9:00a (online) Faithful Healing  
7:00p (online) Social Action  
7:00p (online) Nihongobu Bible Study  
7:30p (online) J-Manga

**23**

7:00p (online) Nihongobu Bible Study

TUESDAY

**3**

9:45a (S) Sakura Chorus  
10:30a (online) Bible Study  
6:00p (S,F,A,P,16-18) Troop 719  
6:30p (online) Heretics Anonymous

**10**

9:45a (S) Sakura Chorus  
10:30a (online) Bible Study  
6:00p (S,F,A,P,16-18) Troop 719

**17**

9:45a (S) Sakura Chorus  
10:30a (online) Bible Study  
6:00p (S,F,A,P,16-18) Troop 719  
6:30p (online) Heretics Anonymous

**24**

9:45a (S) Sakura Chorus  
10:30a (online) Bible Study  
6:00p (S,F,A,P,16-18) Troop 719

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

4

8:30a (A,F) Senior Hangout  
7:00p (online) Bible Study

5

9:30a (Nursery) Baby & Me  
10:30a (F) Logos Bible Study  
7:00p (F) Troop 310G Leadership  
7:00p (online) Blessed Are You  
7:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong  
7:00p (S) Choir Practice  
7:30p (online) Simple Church:  
Bible Study

6

4:30p (K) Blessed Bento Prep  
6:30p (S,F,A,P,16-18) Cub Scout Pack 862

7

8:00a (A,K) Blessed Bento  
12:00p (S,F,A,P,16-9) Cub Scout Pack 862  
Pinewood Derby

11

10:30a (F) Women In Transition  
11:30a (K) MSG  
7:00p (online) Bible Study

12

6:30p (Chen) Simple Church:  
Fellowship  
7:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong  
7:00p (S) Choir Practice

13

8:00a (offsite) Men's Breakfast  
7:00p (Chen) TGIF/MYF Fellowship  
7:00p (F,A,P,16-18) Cub Scout Pack 862

14

8:00a (Chen) Sandwich Ministry  
10:00a (F) Prime Timers

18 ASH WEDNESDAY

8:30a (F,A) Senior Hangout  
4:30p (A) Music Lessons  
7:00p (A) Faith Ensemble  
7:00p (offsite) Ash Wednesday Service  
7:00p (online) Bible Study

19

9:30a (Nursery) Baby & Me  
10:30a (F) Logos Bible Study  
7:00p (online) Blessed Are You  
7:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong  
7:00p (S) Choir Practice  
7:30p (online) Bible Study

20

7:00p (F,A,P, 16-18) Cub Scout Pack 862

21

8:00a (22/23) Music Lessons (KM)  
9:00a (A) Bento Ministry Prep  
11:30a Bento Ministry Drive Thru  
5:00p (A) Deep Roots

25 SHARED BREAD

4:30p (A) Music Lessons  
7:00p (A) Faith Ensemble  
7:00p (online) Bible Study

26

6:30p (Chen) Simple Church:  
Fellowship  
7:00p (F,A,P) Ping Pong  
7:00p (S) Choir Practice

27

7:00p (F,A,P,16-18) Cub Scout Pack 862

28

8:00a (22/23) Music Lessons (KM)

With gratitude and appreciation, 116 toys and \$600 worth of gift cards were recieved by Love INC. Thank you, Faith Ohana, for your love, generosity, and kindness. Thank you for making a difference in a child's life.



*Loving God...  
Loving Kids*

Social Action is requesting your "old" Good News for a project being planned for Save/Change the World in the Fall.

Place your copies in the Narthex or you can give them to: Chris Medeiros, Diane Fujimori, or Jan Tanabe.

*Mahalo!*





# We lift up prayers for all of God's Creation. Lord Hear our Prayers.

## continued prayers for Healing and Wholeness

Rev. Alan Mark	Eleanor Nagai	Karlynn Fernandez
Alice Kajiya	Emi Hino	Kay Saxton
Alvena & Tom Fukuhara	Ernie Santiago	Kian Tehrani
Amy Higa	Faith Tanaka	Kiki Hashimoto
Anthony Anderson, Sr.	Florence Nakakura	Rev. Kim Montenegro
Apolosi Lokotui	Frank Sato	Kelsey DeGracia
Audrey Goto	Fred Oshiro	Kenny Medeiros
Austin Maeda	Geri Shiraki	Kyle Ichikawa
Barbara Tamura	Glenn & Millie	Larry Takumi
Betty Kobata	Shimizu	Layne Nakasone
Bill Morris	Grace Tochiara	Linda Jung
Brian Okumura	Grant Hanada	Liz Harner
Cami Bruns	Harriet Tateyama	Lucas Yniguez
Chic Miyake	Haru Yasunaga	Marion Antoku
Christine Keim	Hisako Shohara	Mae Nakakihara
Claretta Foster	Ingrid Peterson	Mary Jung
Corinne & Douglas Higa	Irene Munesato	Mary & Bob Keily (siblings)
Dan Segawa	Jack Honda	Mary Marchand
Danny Tokudomi	Jayne Watanabe	Mary Tamura
Dan Yamashita	Jehiel Vinluan	Mary Tamura (Tsutsui)
Deron Tokishi	Jennie Shitakubo	Maxine Butcher
Diane & Destiny	Jerry Osaka	Mutsuko Nishi
Ueda-Banda	Joanne Sato	Nancy Matsushima
Dr. DoAnn Tsuneco	Joelle Peelgreen	Noah Miyagawa-Sue
Kaneko	Jordan Sasaki	Oscar Phillip Bland Jr.
Dr. Nguyen	Joye Barker	Pam Fink
Elaine Yoshida	Juliet Koyanagi	Patty Kobayashi
	Kaitlyn Sabedra	

## for All Our Saints

Karen Matsuyama & Shitakubo families, on the passing of Fred Matsuyama (1/24/2026).  
 Rev. Derek & Pam Nakano and family, on the passing of Kraig Nakano (1/25/2026).  
 The Maruya family on the passing of Masae Maruyama (1/2026).  
 The Sato family on the passing of Terry Sato (neighbors of Pearl and Mel Iizuka, friends of Iseris and Sasaki families) (1/1/26).  
 The Kinoshita family on the passing of Thomas Kinoshita. Celebration of Life: January 31, 2026, 11am.  
 Keith Tokuhara and family on the passing of Keith's aunt, Helen Nozaki (1/6/26).  
 Celebration of Life: March 7, 2026, 2pm.  
 The Otsubo family on the passing of Dorothy Otsubo (11/2025).

## Celebrations!

Baby Adeline "Andie" Jane Yamamoto born to parents, Jasmine and Matthew Yamamoto on January 2, 2026. Proud Great-Grandma is Jane Kiyohara.  
 Baby Ryden Richard Wilkerson, born January 14, 2026. Proud Grandparents, Teresa Sato & Rick Wilkerson.

## those in Community Living & Homecare

Priscilla Kandel	Chic Miyake
Raquel M. Martinez	Doris Kato
Rev. Mike Hiranuma	Emma Horiuchi
Ron Hamaguchi	Faith Tanaka
Rick Katsuki	Rev. Harry Fujimoto
Ruth Hirata	Irene & Tak Ryono
Ruth Taira	Jane Kiyohara
Sandra Minjarez-Grange	Marion Antoku
Stan Miyasato	Mary Jung
Steph Matsunaga	Nobie Shiokari
Sue Hamada	Ruth Hirata
Sue Hasegawa	Sets Asano
Susan DeGracia	Sue Hasegawa
Susan Mizuki	
Susan Slade	
Takai Finau	
Theresa Apicella	
Tommy Sakaguchi	
Tseyli Mantooth	
Victoria DelaTorre	
Walker Wilkerson	
Wayne Shimizu	
Whitney Nakayama	
Winnie Osaki	

## for our Worldwide Community

## for the Leadership of our Country and our Churches

## for the immigrants: migrants, refugees, asylees

## for our siblings in Christ who struggle and in need of God's care

## for those who live in through wars, unrest, and violence

## for those suffering and rebuilding after national disasters and man-made catastrophes

# DEDICATED TO THE FAITH UMC MINISTRY

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS/IN KIND DONATION

**Lani Walker**

*Fundraising Donation*

**Daniel Hirata**

*in memory of Pearl Iizuka*

**Alan Suzuki**

*in memory of June Furuta*

**Chizuko Kubota  
Bishop Dorothea Escobedo–Frank**

*Special Donation*

**Whitney Nakayama**

*Music Ministry Donation*

**Brian & Jennifer Yamasaki  
Ralph Ichikawa**

*in memory of Yoshi & Yuki Yamasaki*

**Brian & Jennifer Yamasaki**

*in appreciation of Prime Timers*

**Pat N. Kawamoto**

*in appreciation of 2025 Prayers  
& Well Wishes*

**West District UMC**

*West District SNAP Grant*

**Gail Sasaki**

*in honor of grandma  
Sue Watanabe's 95th Birthday*

**May Toya**

*in memory of Kelli Tani*

**Ned Morioka**

*in celebration of Makena,  
Maya & Maddie*

**Joyce Hirayama**

*Year End Donation*

**Kings Hawaiian**

*Hiking Ministry Service  
Project Donation*

**Sandee Furuta**

*Memorial Service Donation  
(June Furuta)*

**Susan Sakuma**

*in memory of Yoshi Yamasaki*

**Dennis & Karen Sakoda**

*in memory of Derek Troester*

**Nancy Honda**

*Prime Timers – in memory of Yoshi  
Yamasaki*

**Ralph T. Ichikawa**

*in memory of Larry Sadao Sakai*

**May Tshako**

*in support of Good News Mailing*

**Daniel Hirata**

**Nancy Matsushima**

**Chizuko Kubota**

**Suyeno Kunisaki**

**Frances Mitoma**

**Brian & Jennifer Yamasaki**

**Daniel Yamashita**

**Alvin & Janet K. Yamada**

**Lorraine Nakama**

**Masanobu Oshiro**

**Ralph T. Ichikawa**

**Grace Tochihara**

**Lorraine Fong**

**Suyeno Kunisaki**

**Richard & Sandy Uyeunten**

**Barbara Ueda**

**Nancy Matsushima**

**Keith Hamada**

**May Tshako**

*in appreciation of Bento Ministries*

**May Tshako**

*in appreciation of Senior Hangout*

**Jan Tanabe**

*in kind donations in support of  
Faith UMC Ministries*

**Susan Slade**

*in thankfulness of Faith UMC*

**Jack Honda**

*in memory of Violet Honda*

**Sakura Chorus**

*Facility Usage Donation*

**Brian & Karen Fujimori**

*Day Camp Donation,  
in memory and celebration of Pearl Iizuka*

“ Faith United Methodist Church,  
We appreciate how you spread  
the word of God to your  
community. Thank you for the  
Prayer Blanket this year. Thank  
you for making David feel so  
welcome to your church. We  
enjoyed meeting Rev. Allison and  
Minister 'Ainise at the  
convocation.

*Have a Happy Holiday season  
and Healthy 2026.*

*Sincerely,  
Itsuko Yokota &  
Elizabeth Y. Yokota*

“ Dear Rev. Allison and the Prayer  
Blanket Ministry,  
My name is Ann Kiely and I am  
a friend of Stephanie Inouye. I  
am writing to thank you for your  
prayers and the beautiful  
blanket that was made for my  
sister Mary. My family is so  
touched by your kindness and  
truly comforted by your prayers.

*Thank you for your  
thoughtfulness. This is such a  
special gift.*

*With Love,  
Ann*



# SCOUT SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

Join us to celebrate our Scout Troops: 710, 310G, Cub Scout Den 862, GS Daisies 5365, and their families.

## UPDATE: BOTTLE CAPS FOR BUDDY BENCHES

Gratitude goes out to everyone who faithfully collected and donated bottle caps for the Buddy Bench ministry. Your care and commitment truly reflect the generous spirit of our congregation.

At this time, we have been informed that bottle caps are **no longer being accepted**, and as a result, **Faith UMC will discontinue participation in this collection effort**. We kindly ask that members no longer bring bottle caps to the church. Please continue to recycle them appropriately through regular recycling channels.

A special and heartfelt thank you to Louise Sakamoto, Jan Tanabe & Friends for their dedication in sorting and delivering the bottle caps over this past season. Your efforts were greatly appreciated.



Thank you again for your generosity and understanding.



**WHAT IT MEANS TO BE UNITED METHODIST**

**METHODISM 101:**

A class for those curious & inquiring, who may be interested in joining Faith, as well as a refresher course for Members

Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. During the season of Lent, we will be studying in worship and in our Bible Studies, what was central to Jesus' life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of injustice. At the heart of Jesus' teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all.

This Lent, if you have been discerning your calling to learn more and to follow Jesus, consider joining a Methodism 101 / Membership Class to connect (or even RE-connect for members) with your personal faith, your community OF Faith, and the wider United Methodist Church family. **Classes will meet every other Sunday through the Season of Lent beginning on March 1 at 2pm with Membership Sundays culminating on Easter, April 5 or Pentecost, May 24.**

We hope this series will provide fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God. This Lent, let the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. May the good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good. Please contact Rev. Allison or Minister 'Ainise so we can build a cohort group together!

**INC: Young Professionals**

February 28<sup>th</sup> in Little Tokyo @JANM

Young Adult, Brennan Wong (college student at Cal State Fullerton, and a member of our sister church, Wesley UMC in San Jose) has asked Faith if there are any “working professionals\*\*” who might be interested in participating in an event fair to connect with and support college students.

If you would like to share your wisdom, connections, or business with young people, please let Rev. Allison or Brennan Wong know that you are interested!



\*Working Professionals: Business, STEM, etc.



**JOIN THE BIGGEST TEAM OFF THE FIELD - THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

**Sunday, February 8, 2026**

The Souper Bowl of Caring is Tackle Hunger's annual event raising millions for local food charities nationwide.

**Hunger Doesn't Take a Game Day Off**

While the Big Game captures national attention, nutrition insecurity remains a major challenge in our Los Angeles County community. Bring your "donations" to show up for your favorite team: the New England Patriots or the Seattle Seahawks!!

**Both monetary and non-perishable donations accepted in our Giant Soup Pots on Super Bowl Sunday!**

COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES  
**COM MEETINGS**

**Calling All Ministry Leaders!**

**Thank you for your dedication to Faith Ministries! Your gifts bring life and richness to our church community. Please mark your calendars for upcoming COM meetings (in-person only, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall):**

**FEB 28 | MAY 30 | AUG 29 | NOV 21**

**Can't attend? Send a substitute. Ministry announcements should be submitted a week before each meeting. Stay connected and help us keep everyone informed—here's to a faithful 2026! —Tam Kobayashi, COM Chair**

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Presents

日本映画

FREE ADMISSION  
& POPCORN!

無料

EVERY THIRD  
SUNDAY OF  
THE MONTH

# JAPANESE MOVIE NIGHT

JAPANESE AUDIO/ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Red, the beautifully spun and splendidly acted tale of a young model's decisive encounter with a retired judge, is another deft, deeply affecting variation on Krzysztof Kieslowski's recurring theme that people are interconnected.



Roger Ebert

This is the kind of film that makes you feel intensely alive while you're watching it

Geoff Andrew  
Time Out

Stunningly beautiful, powerfully scored and immaculately performed, the film is virtually flawless, and one of the very greatest cinematic achievements of the last few decades. A masterpiece.

Red, one of a trilogy of films by Kieslowski, in Polish with English subtitles. (Originally scheduled for January)



**SUNDAY,  
FEB 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
@ 2:30 PM**



FEATURING  
**THREE COLORS: Red**

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH / 2115 WEST 182ND STREET, TORRANCE 90504

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 310.217.7000 / FAITHSOUTHBAY.ORG

THERE WILL BE A SHORT REFLECTION AFTER THE MOVIES

# JOIN US FOR A PRESENTATION

HOPE AND HOPELESSNESS IN THE MIDST OF GENOCIDE

FEATURING

Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb

Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb is the Founder and President of Dar al-Kalima University in Bethlehem, Palestine, the Founder of Bright Stars of Bethlehem, and an internationally recognized author, theologian, pastor, and social entrepreneur committed to education, justice, and hope through the power of art and culture.



Hosted by

**FAITH**  
united methodist church

**Sunday, February 22nd, 2026 | 2:00 P.M.**

**2115 W 182nd St. | Torrance, CA 90504**

**Doors will open at 1:30 P.M.**, with the presentation beginning at 2:00 P.M. After the presentation, please join us for a meet-and-greet with Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, and his books will be available for purchase. **RSVP by scanning the QR code below.**



Rev. Mitri will share in a dialogical sermon with Rev. Allison during our 10:30am Worship for the Japanese American Day of Remembrance Service



**Ohana of Faith  
Torrance Relay for Life, American Cancer Society**

Thank you to all who participated in our events for 2025. Our team, Ohana of Faith was in the top 10 of teams from Torrance. We appreciate everyone’s help, prayers and support.

For 2026, Relay for Life will be on Saturday, May 9, 2026 in Downtown Old Torrance. The theme is “Curechella, A Music Festival for the Soul”. A Survivor Brunch will kick off the day and then the Opening Ceremony will be at 11:00am. The Relay for Life Event will run until 8:00 pm.

(See flyer for more details)



We will be having fundraisers for our team (which I will let you know about) and I would like to have a few days of making Luminarias bags. We would love to have you on our team. Go to [secure.acsevents.org](https://secure.acsevents.org) and then search for Ohana of Faith. You can register for our team there.

If you have any questions, please ask.  
(Either Linda or Glenn Sakurai)  
Happy Holidays!

More information will be coming out soon.





RELAY FOR LIFE OF  
TORRANCE

# CURECHELLA

"A MUSIC FESTIVAL FOR THE SOUL"

MAY 9, 2026

9:30 Survivor Brunch

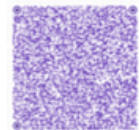
11:00 Opening Ceremony

3:00 Puppy Parade - Bark For Life

7:30 Luminaria Ceremony

Entertainment, Teams Fundraising, Vendors, Hospital  
Partners, Downtown Business Partners

On the streets of Sartori & El Prado



Sign Up Today

**Blessed Bento (BB)**  
**1st Saturday of the month**

Bentos are prepared and delivered to homebound seniors. On meal day, our BB team will call to confirm your delivery.

If you are not already a participant, please register by calling the church office (310) 217-7000, or email [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)

**Keiro: Senior and Caregiver Bento**  
**3rd Saturday of the month**

Bentos are prepared both in-house, and/or provided from local eateries.

To request a meal for yourself, and caregiver (up to 2), please call the church office (310) 217-7000, or email [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org),  
**on the 1st Friday of each month.**

Meals are to be picked up in the church parking lot, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. If you are unable to pick up, please let us know when reserving your meals.

**Wellness Checks**

As added support to this program, when we call to confirm our monthly orders, we will be asking 3 simple questions:

1. How are you doing?
2. Is there anything Faith can do to support you?
3. Would you like a pastoral call or visit?



**bento ministries**

**Blessed Bento and Senior Bentos are ministries of Faith and made with love.**

With generous Keiro grants to help subsidize these meal programs, monetary gifts are helpful to the sustainability of this ministry. Gifts and checks can be made to Faith UMC: Bento ministry.

**Our Community Partners**

In addition to the Keiro Grant program, Faith UMC also partners with our local South Bay restaurants and local eateries.



Founded in 1961, Keiro improves the quality of life for older adults and their caregivers in the Japanese American community of Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties. For more information, visit [keiro.org](http://keiro.org).



# mochi miso tofu

## parenting groups

Families of ALL ages are invited to participate in our monthly... **Intergenerational Family Ministry: MOCHI CLUB**, with pop-ups, movie nights and family activities. **MISO: Mom's in Search Of...** and **TOFU: The Open-Hearted Father's United** are also opportunities for parents of children to connect for conversation, advice, and fellowship, as we grow our children in Faith.

As we start out with fellowship and fun, we hope to grow in our Faith by creating family groups, camping and retreat opportunities for the whole church family and other events and gatherings where we can share knowledge, experience, and raise children spiritually and biblically together. And connect with "Deep Roots" our Family Devotion Dinners as we explore raising our children in faith! **2026 is looking forward to reinvigorating Mochi Club with a time for "Sticky Faith" worship, food, fellowship, and "Messy Church" activities this new year! Fun and new growth for family members of all ages!**

If you are interested and want to participate, please contact, Minister 'Ainise 'Isama'u, [akisamau@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:akisamau@faithsouthbay.org) or Rev. Allison Mark, [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)



**February 21, 2026**  
**Contact Monica Matsushima**  
**for details!**

**DEEP ROOTS** (mochi club) Monthly Devotion, deep discussion on Faith Building and Raising our children with a "Sticky Faith", and Potluck dinner for our Faith Families.

Families rotate hosting in their own homes, at the church, or at fun places to gather.

If your are interested in joining, please contact the pastors, or DEEP ROOTS, [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)

## Altar Flower Dedications



Celebrate and remember loved ones by dedicating altar flowers. These arrangements help adorn the altar, and are yours to take after Sunday Worship. Sign up at the Welcome table.

Cost: \$30. Cash or checks payable to Diane Fujimori. Any inquiries please contact Diane at [Bloomcloset@yahoo.com](mailto:Bloomcloset@yahoo.com)

## Crafting Opportunities

### HOLY HELPING HANDS

Led by Solange Iseri  
Come fellowship while creating amazing paper displays. Large murals and wall decorations are used for various church and community events. No experience required!

### FABRIC OF FAITH: SEWING, QUILTING & CROCHETING

Our social action team is always accepting handmade: scarfs, hats, and blankets. They are given out by our pastoral care team. These in kind donations are made on your own at home. Occasional tutorial workshops on site.

### CARD MAKING

Everyone loves unique handmade cards! They are a perfect way for us to send love and encouragement, to let our church family and community know they are thought of. No on site workshops. Please drop off in the church office anytime.



For questions, please call  
the church office (310) 217-7000

Faith United Methodist Church  
**Team Ohana of Faith**



Over the last 20+ years, Relay for Life of Torrance has raised over \$4.5 million thanks to generous supporters.

**Team Ohana of Faith**  
**2024: Rank #7 - \$10,027**





## Bible Story Time for Infants-Preschoolers & their Caregivers

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
9:30 - 10:15am  
NURSERY - ROOM 15

Caregivers & Guardians and Newborns to age-5 are invited to Faith Baby Talk, Story Time, Prayer, Play and Singing!

*NOTE: The nursery is available to families for fellowship & free play every Thursday. Please check in with Andie in the office when you arrive. Due to allergies, you are welcome to bring your own snacks!*

For more information or to sign up, please contact: Rev. Allison or Andie

### CONFIRMATION & MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

**WANT TO GO DEEPER IN  
YOUR FAITH JOURNEY?**

**WANT TO  
WALK WITH  
OTHERS IN  
FAITH TOO?**



FOR YOUTH,  
GRADES 8 AND UP

FOR ADULTS WANTING TO  
JOIN A FAITH COMMUNITY

FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN  
METHODISM 101 &  
REAFFIRMING YOUR FAITH

**CLASSES EVERY OTHER WEEK  
BEGINNING ON MAR 1, 2026 AT 2PM**

Sign up with Rev. Allison - [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)

## Faith Van and Ride Share

are offering pick-ups and drop-offs  
**1st and 3rd Sundays**

**February 1 & 15, 2026**

To arrange a ride please  
call the church office  
(310) 217-7000.



If you are in NEED A RIDE to church, please call the church office at (310) 217-7000, or contact Glenn Sakurai at communications@faithsouthbay.org to arrange for a ride.

**Ride Share.** If you are able to **OFFER A RIDE** to seniors in your neighborhood, or be part of the van pool driver rotation please contact Glenn.

## pathways hiking ministry

*Your word is a lamp for my feet,  
a light on my path. Psalm 119:105*



Join us for **monthly**, short day hikes and feel God's presence in nature.

Pathways Goal: Continuously develop an outdoor hiking/walking ministry to improve physical, mental, relational and spiritual health.

Basic hiking orientation training required. For more information contact: Glenn Murakami, gnmurakami@gmail.com | Alan Saruwatari, one.nhc@att.net

## Faith Hula

**1:00 pm every Sunday**  
*(unless otherwise noted)*

**Please contact**  
**Amanda Taketa Mark**  
**via the church office for**  
**more details and to sign-up!**

Teacher: Kevin Tsutsui  
Coordinator: Amanda Taketa Mark

**KEIKI HULA CLASSES**  
**have begun!**  
**2:00 pm every Sunday**  
*(unless otherwise noted)*



## Faithful Healing



Join Alan Saruwatari, CST,  
shiatsu therapist and QiGong  
practitioner at One Natural  
Healing Center

**1st and 3rd**  
**Mondays 9:00 am**

Learn ways to strengthen your natural healing abilities, and take an active role in the healing process through meditation that connects with your Christian faith. Feel God's love as you calm your mind, relax your body and brighten your spirit.

Contact Alan Saruwatari at  
one.nhc@att.net for zoom information

# JOIN A SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY!

**Theology Book Club**  
(aka Heretics Anonymous)  
Every 1st & 3rd **TUESDAY**  
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, on-line

Delve deeper into your understanding of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit by joining our Monday Theology Book Club (Heretics Anonymous) as you read contemporary theologians who challenge our often traditional thinking of the Christian faith.

Contact Roger Butcher or  
Danny Hirata for more information  
communications@faithsouthbay.org

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study**  
Every Tuesday at 10:30 am, on-line

**Mid-Week Bible Study**  
Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm, on-line

If you've tried Bible studies before, but found them difficult to understand or irrelevant to your life, please join us online using our weekly Bible Study Guide Curriculum, written by Faith Clergy. Our conversations are engaging, honest and practical. Each Study community creates a culture of prayer and connection. Come and grow in your faith together on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5883329633>  
Call for Passcode

As a way to continue our lessons from Sunday worship, Study Guides are also available each week on our website, for those who prefer independent study and devotion. If you are interested, please contact the Church via email: [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org) or call (310) 217-7000.

**Logos Bible Study**  
Every 1st & 3rd Thursday  
10:30 am -12:30 pm, in-person Faith  
Fellowship Hall

Led by Rev. Allison and Minister Ainise. Come join us if you desire to grow deep in Christ.



*rejoice  
always*

*pray  
continually*

*give  
thanks*

**Blessed Are You: Women's Bible Study**

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday, on-line  
7:00 pm

Bible study group for women of all ages and stages of life. Women spend a special time with God in a tranquil and soothing environment, created especially for a spiritual experience that is comforting, supportive, accepting, and affirming to sisters in faith.

Contact Alice Mark for zoom link,  
[communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)



# Master's Kitchen



**Every 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

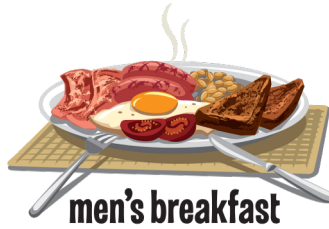
**May 30, 2026**

**August 29, 2026**

**October 31, 2026**

**We are in need of socks, hats & scarves - please leave in bins in Narthex labeled "MK"**

Providing 40 nourishing lunch boxes and sack lunches to our community in need.



**2nd Friday of the month, 8:00 am**

**men's breakfast**

**February 13, 2026**

Once a month, men of all ages gather for food and fellowship.

Please let Herb Aoyama or Roger Butcher know if you will be attending so they can save you a seat.

Email: [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)

**Country Touch Cafe**

3717 West 190th Street, Torrance, CA 90504



**Fun, Fellowship, and Refreshments!**

## Senior Hangout

**1st and 3rd Wednesdays  
8:30 - 11:30 am**

**Next meeting: February 4 & 18, 2026**

Come to 'talk story' and hang out. Learn and play... ukulele, mahjong, hand-and-foot, hanafuda.

Bring your own projects... iPads and smartphones, puzzles, coloring, crochet and knitting, crafts.

For more information contact:  
Geoff Kai and Cathie Tani, coordinators  
[communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)



## SANDWICH MINISTRY

**Every 2nd Saturday of the month!**

40 sack lunches are prepared in the Chen Annex (8:00 am - 9:00 am) and delivered to the day laborers at Home Depot.



Our new “Shepherds Ministry” are trained and ready to offer their care and support to our church family and beloved community.

Would you like a visit from our shepherds, wellness phone call check-ins, or to receive thoughtful cards please?

Please let us know how we can support you. Contact :Tam Kobayashi, (310) 217-7000 or [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)

### Women in Transition

**2nd Wednesday, 10:30 am, Faith UMC**

**Next meeting: February 11, 2026**

Life’s toughest journeys are easier when shared with others who understand. Our Women in Transition Small Group offers a warm and compassionate space where women can come together to support space where women can come together to support one another through the difficult process of losing a loved one. In this circle of care, we share our stories, lift each other up, and find strength in the fellowship and love that surrounds us. Whether you’re seeking a listening ear, a comforting word, or simply the companionship of others who’ve walked a similar path, we invite you to join us.

For more information, contact Rev. Allison at [revallison@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:revallison@faithsouthbay.org).



## caregivers' support

The Caregivers’ Support provides support to those who are caring for aging parents and loved ones. We also provide resources in the fields of elder care, Alzheimer’s disease, and other end of life concerns.

Please contact Rev. Allison Mark for caregiver resource information. [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)



**2nd Wednesday  
11:30 am  
Faith UMC**

**Next meeting: February 11 at 11:30am**

### The Men’s Support Group (MSG)

is primarily for widowers. We share the experience of loss of loved ones, and explore redefining our lives and significance in face of this loss.

We cook and share foods together under the leadership of Ralph Ichikawa, and listen to participants’ life experience as they see their significance in light of Christian belief.

For more information, contact Mas Oshiro or contact the church office, [communications@faithsouthbay.org](mailto:communications@faithsouthbay.org)

# FAITH STAFF

Growing deeper in Christ  
Going farther for Christ

Senior Pastor	Rev. Allison Mark Pastor	ext. 202, revallison@faithsouthbay.org
Associate Pastor	Becky Hirata	ext. 204, nichigo@faithsouthbay.org
Lay Person Assigned	Minister Ainise Isama'u	ext. 203, akisamau@faithsouthbay.org
Music Director	Ron Troester	ext. 208, ron.faihumc@gmail.com
Accompanist	Angela Gricar	communications@faithsouthbay.org
Youth Director	Darrell Mark	ext.205, youth@faithsouthbay.org
Office Coordinator	Andie Montoya	ext. 201, admin@faithsouthbay.org communications@faithsouthbay.org
Finance Secretary	Shari Nishihara	ext. 210,finance@faithsouthbay.org
Audio/Visual Ministry	Chad Uemura	audiovisual@faithsouthbay.org
Garden Directors	Kelley Mizukami, Traci Saruwatari, Amanda Taketa	children@faithsouthbay.org faihumc.garden@gmail.com
Social Action	Gary Nakata	outreach@faithsouthbay.org
Lay Leaders	Danny Hirata, Chris Kamatani, Kelvin Matsumoto Monica Matsushima	communications@faithsouthbay.org
Council on Ministries	Tam Kobayashi	communications@faithsouthbay.org
Nihongobu Lay Leader	Mike Kuwabara	communications@faithsouthbay.org
Administrative Council	Jane Matsumoto	communications@faithsouthbay.org
Finance	Ken Ito	finance@faithsouthbay.org
Board of Trustees	Derek Taira	communications@faithsouthbay.org
Staff Parish Relations	Derek Murakami	sprc@faithsouthbay.org
West District Superintendent	Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi	dswest@calpacumc.org
L.A. Area Resident Bishop	Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank	bishop@calpacumc.org



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