



PALM LEAF

Palm United Methodist Church January 2017



First Word

Post Office Box 565 Dinuba, California 93618 559-591-0746 www.palmumc.org info@palmumc.org

CRAIG'S CORNER—WHAT'S IN STORE FOR US IN 2017 ?

Our journey together has been filled with many interesting and exciting moments. It seems each year we have gone deeper in our faith together, been challenged in different ways together, and accomplished more together. I'm very honored to be serving you here at Palm UMC!

We've celebrated Palm's 90th anniversary, had a huge Homecoming for First UMC, increased our web presence (thanks to Sandy Hansen), started some new Bible studies, did some Faith and Family Trips to Disneyland, and spent a lot of time working to merge our churches together.

This past year, we merged together officially, refurbished the church, had a big celebration, and became more active in the community. We've increased our online presence, started a new Palm UMC Facebook page, are doing an online weekly devotion, and did a 1,000 household mailing to residents in our area.

For me, I started as a provisional member of the conference and thanks to your patience and help, have since worked my way to becoming a member in full connection (meaning no more provisional membership)! This is now my beginning my fifth year with all of you and I've since taken a bigger role in the District, became the Communications Director for the CVD, and joined the District Committee on Ministry. But most importantly I'm excited about what might happen this year in the life of our church.

We're going to challenge ourselves to be more intentional about growing our ministry. Together with the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, I have decided to establish some goals for us to work toward.

- Increase worship attendance by 10 (currently about 35) by Christmas 2017
- Increase small group attendance by an average of 7 (currently around 7)
- Challenge EVERYONE to participate in at least ONE of our community outreach efforts
- Come up with a working budget including tithing to the conference and extra giving
- Use our baptismal font at least ONCE this year

I know we can do this. I know we can do more. But we need to do it now. We don't have the luxury of waiting for the perfect moment. I can't help but think about Mordecai's speech to Esther in Esther 4:14, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" Maybe this IS the perfect moment and we run the risk of letting it slip by. So let's not do that. I need you to trust me. We might fail. Not everything will work. But I believe that we can do more. And we need to do it together. I need everyone to attend more, give more, invite more, and be excited for what we are about to do together. This is our moment. This is our year.

Peace and Blessings, Craig craig@palmumc.org

Pastor Craig (559) 840-5091 (cell) www.facebook.com/umcpastorcraig www.craigyoshihara.wordpress.com

JOYS AND CONCERNS AMONG OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please continue to pray for cancer warriors Gary Miyakawa (Cassie's friend), Joe Kelly (Cassie's uncle), Jacob dela Montanya, Josh Crampton (Cassie's cousin), Sumi Okuma (Aiko's sister-in-law), Matt Sakaguchi; Gloria Chavez (Open Gate volunteer); Kim Sakamoto and Gerard Laquerriere (friends of John and Pat).

Please keep Irene Burkart, Rosalinda Vasquez and her family, Florence Brayfield and her family, Marcia Williams, Kenji Tashiro, Jim Christopher (Nancy's brother), Maryanne Couch (Janice Serios's cousin), Edwin Yamamoto, Terry and Nancy McKittrick, Ken and Cathie Metz (missionaries to Peru), Gloria Gaona, Frank Abe, Wilma Conner, Janelle Cochran, Sandy Hansen, Reese Gary, the Yoshihara family, and Open Gate Ministries in your prayers.

Ken & Cathie Metz, and Glennis Wilber send greetings to their Dinuba Methodist Church friends.

Deepest condolences are extended to family and friends of Louise Sadahiro, who passed away suddenly December 11. She will be greatly missed for her kindness and her helpful nature. Louise's memorial service will be held Saturday, January 28, 10:00 AM, at Palm Church.

Sincere sympathy is offered to loved ones of Eloise Thompson (Martzen), who died December 15 at home in Fresno.

Congratulations to Alex and Alyssa (Takeda) Pagonis on the birth of baby Maddox November 24 in Cupertino!

NEW ADDRESSES : Romeo and Norma Lozano

844 West Nebraska Avenue ; Dinuba 93618

Ken and Cathie Metz

kenmetz7@gmail.com

47 King Street ; Middleton, MA 01949

cell 797-0861

Diane and Desiree Domingo ; Eduardo and Anthony Espino

759 Bergenia Circle ; Dinuba 93618

NEWS BITS

Sermon Bible Study meets every Tuesday at 1:00, except January 3. Old Testament Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 11:00 AM. Prayer Group meets Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Ikebana Class will meet on Saturday, January 14, at 1:30 PM. The church office will be closed January 2-5 and 11.

COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UPS : If you are Head Toban for any month, or if you wish to host Coffee Hour on a special Sunday during the year, please indicate on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The monthly newsletter will serve to remind you.

Plan to stay for our traditional New Years Ozoni (rice dumpling soup) Brunch following worship on Sunday, January 8, Tobans will serve Coffee Hour on January 22. Following worship on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 5, the Missions Committee will serve a donation lunch to benefit Open Gate Ministries.





COMMUNION STEWARD DUTIES

Chalice, chalice cover, paten, and white napkin are kept in the Communion cabinet in the kitchen. Bring 100% juice and a round loaf of bread to church on Communion Sunday; place the bread on the paten, and cover with napkin. Pour the juice into the chalice (not too full). Cover the chalice, and place it and the paten on the Communion table on the Chancel. After church, please remember to wash, dry, and replace supplies in the kitchen cabinet. Thank you! --Norma

January



2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NEW YEARS DAY 10:00 Worship & Sunday School 	2 Office closed	3 Office closed No Sermon Bible Study	4 Office closed 11:00 Old Testament Bible Study	5 Office closed 11:00 Prayer Group	6 Office closed	7
8 OZONI LUNCH 10:00 Worship and Sunday School 	9 Office closed	10 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	11 Office closed 11:00 Old Testament Bible Study	12 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Prayer Group	13 Office closed	14 1:30 Ikebana Class 
15 10:00 Worship and Sunday School Ad Council meeting follows	16 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY Office closed	17 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	18 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Old Testament Bible Study	19 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Prayer Group	20 Office closed	21
22 10:00 Worship and Sunday School; Coffee Hour follows 	23 Office closed	24 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	25 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Old Testament Bible Study	26 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Prayer Group	27 Office closed	28 10:00 Memorial Service for Louise Sadhiro at Palm
29 10:00 Worship and Sunday School	30 Office closed	31 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	FEBRUARY 1 OPEN GATE SOUP, SALAD, & PIE LUNCH 11:00-1:00, at PALM!			

CRAIG'S CORNER—CONTINUED

**Faith and Family Trip to Disneyland
February 19, 2017**

In February we will once again be headed to Disneyland for our Faith and Family Trip! I hope as many of you can join us as possible. If we are so blessed to have more than 25 people go, I will put a cap on attendance so it will be as enjoyable as possible. So sign up early and let me know if you'll be going. Here are the details:

- o Date and Time: Sunday, 2/19/17 from 7:30am to 5pm (after that you are free to do whatever you want!)
- o Cost: \$40 per person + theme park ticket (\$119/adult; \$113/child (3-9))
 - o Cost includes t-shirt, lunch, snack, and prizes for the group
- o What to Expect: Attractions in the morning, lunch and a tour in the afternoon, and a fun group activity for prizes!

It will be fun! Fun! Fun! We've done it now five times in the past had a great time together. Each trip is focused on a theme and in the past we've done hospitality, failure, and change. This trip will be focused on happiness! Or more specifically, staying true to your core beliefs and having faith in them.

We will show how Disney sticks to their core philosophy of "We create happiness" and how that translates into success and how we can do the same for the church. Hope to see you there!

Pastor Craig

**OPEN GATE MINISTRIES OF DINUBA
ANNUAL SOUP, SALAD, AND PIE LUNCHEON**

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

11:00 AM—1:00 PM

Palm United Methodist Church, corner "P" and West Tulare Streets



All-you-can-eat Soup
Side Salad
Slice of Yummy Pie

\$6.00
\$1.00
\$2.00



Centerpieces and Floral Arrangements available for purchase.

TAKE-OUT AVAILABLE

OPEN GATE SHELTER NEEDS

511 North "K" Street, Dinuba 93618

559-591-1241

www.opengate-ministries.org

Personal Hygiene Items / Diapers

Paper Towels / Toilet Paper / Kleenex

Shampoo / Hairbrushes

Rice / Beans / Pasta / Spaghetti Sauce

Powdered Milk / Mayonnaise

Flour / Sugar / Oil / Salt / Pancake Mix

Coffee and Creamer

Canned Fruit, Juice, Vegetables, & Meat

Sliced American Cheese

Snacks for Children / Peanut Butter

Mixing Bowls

Vacuum Cleaners

Bath, Dish, and Hand Towels

Blankets / Sheets / Pillowcases

Pajamas—all sizes

Volunteers, especially at the Thrift Store



Pastor: Craig Yoshihara

craig@palmumc.org cell 559-840-5091

Newsletter Editor: Marian Clifton

Worship Bulletin Editor: Kathy Lamb

Webmaster: Sandy Hansen

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00-12:00

Friday Office Closed

Office Location: 438 West Tulare Street

Office Phone: 559-591-0746

e-mail: info@palmumc.org

Website: palmumc.org

Church Location:

Palm UMC—Tulare and "P" Streets

Sunday Service:

Palm UMC—10:00 AM—Worship and
Sunday School

JANUARY
WORSHIP TASKS

Worship Leader

Kathy Lamb

Communion Steward

Norma Lozano

Greeters / Ushers

1 Rodney and Marian Clifton

8 Ruth Kurihara, Taye Abe

15 Diane Domingo, Ginger Munson

22 Oliver and Winnie Cadiente

29 John and Pat dela Montanya

January Tobans

* Ruth Kurihara

Norma Lozano

Rosalinda Vasquez

Taye Abe

Kathy Lamb

Marcia Williams

Helen Ishida

January Birthdays

1—Carmencita Balderama,
Frank Abe

2—Eve LaBelle

3—Florence Brayfield,
Peter Fern

5—Jimmy Yamakawa

10—Anthony Espino

13—Jerry Yada,

Nathaniel Joseph

14—Sheri Otter

16—Christine Cadiente,

Karen (Clifton) Shaver

29—Sandy Hansen

31—Camille(Simmons) Joseph,
Ruth Fujinaga, Marian Clifton

PALM UMC CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS FOR 2017

Church Administrative Council

Chairman: Nancy McKittrick
Vice-Chairman: Jerry Munson
Lay Leader: Kathy Lamb
PPRC Co-Chairs: Susan Yoshimura, Ginger Munson
Finance Chair: Pat Kurihara
Trustees Chair: Jerry Yada
Treasurer: Pat dela Montanya
Financial Secretary: Jerry Munson
Recording Secretary: Cathy Yada
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: Andy Clifton
Worship Chair: Norma Lozano
UMW President: Cathy Yada
Missions Co-Chairs: Aiko Takeda, Marian Clifton
Education Chair: Susan Yoshimura
Pastor: Craig Yoshihara

Nominations Committee

Chair: Craig Yoshihara
Lay Leader: Kathy Lamb
2019: Jerry Munson
2017: Marian Clifton
2018: Susan Yoshimura

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee

Co-Chairs: Susan Yoshimura, Ginger Munson
Lay Leader: Kathy Lamb
Lay Member to AC: Andy Clifton
2019: Aiko Takeda
2017: Janice Serios
2018: Cathy Yada

Board of Trustees

Chair: Jerry Yada
2019: Ruth Kurihara
2017: Pat dela Montanya
2018: Frank Abe

Finance Committee

Chair: Pat Kurihara
SPRC Co-Chairs: Susan Yoshimura, Ginger Munson
Lay Member to AC: Andy Clifton
Ad Board Vice-Chairman / Financial Secretary : Jerry Munson
Trustees Chair: Jerry Yada
Lay Leader: Kathy Lamb
Ad Board Chairman: Nancy McKittrick
Treasurer : Pat dela Montanya