



**PALM LEAF**

# Palm United Methodist Church February 2017



**First Word**

Post Office Box 565    Dinuba, California 93618    559-591-0746    [www.palmumc.org](http://www.palmumc.org)    [info@palmumc.org](mailto:info@palmumc.org)

## CRAIG'S CORNER—REACHING OUT IN LOVE

We have committed to being more intentional about our outreach efforts going into 2017. As we look to share the love of Christ to those around us, we are going out into the community, introducing ourselves, inviting people to church, and giving out little bags of treats. All of us who have taken part have seen the faces of people light up when we visit and smiles break out in surprise and joy. Our next one is coming up on Valentine's Day and we hope you'll join us – either by donating bags of candy or by going with us and experiencing the joy for yourself.

We have been asking everyone to get involved. Even if you can't walk with us, you can still donate treat bags toward the effort. Our first outing we passed out more than 125 bags and this time we passed out more than 150 bags. It would be great if we passed out more than 200 bags for Valentine's Day. We ask that you fill the bags with either 5 fun sized bars or 8-10 minis so that we give people about the same amount. We typically meet at the church about 10am, attach tags to the bags we receive, and then divide up the territory so we can spread the love. The tags have our logo, location, and worship information on one side and a short but sweet message on the other. If you've been to our Facebook page you've probably seen it. We ask that everyone going on the outing also bring 10 bags or more of treats and so far we have been really blessed.

Steve Sjogren wrote a book called *Conspiracy of Kindness* where he suggested "small things done with great love can change the world." ([www.servantevangelism.com](http://www.servantevangelism.com)). He gave lots of great examples of ways to do this, but for us this is what we will be doing for a while. I want us to become known as the church that thinks about this community. I hope that when people think of "thoughtful people" in Dinuba, our church comes to mind. We are scattering seeds of love in our community and as long as we are faithful in that, God will grow the harvest.

Our goal in doing this outreach is not to fill the pews. Our goal is to create in our church a mindset of reaching out to others and share the love of Christ. If we keep that mindset, the pews will fill themselves. But if we turn inward, we will never grow – not just our church but the kingdom of God. Be a part of what we are doing. Take part in our efforts this Valentine's Day, either by giving treat bags or coming with us to give them out. I look forward to seeing you on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Peace and Blessings, Craig    [craig@palmumc.org](mailto:craig@palmumc.org)

Pastor Craig    (559) 840-5091 (cell)    [www.facebook.com/umcpastorcraig](http://www.facebook.com/umcpastorcraig)    [www.craigyoshihara.wordpress.com](http://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), and Gerard Laquerriere (friend of John and Pat).

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

Deepest condolences are extended to family and friends of Louise Sadahiro, who passed away suddenly December 11. Louise's memorial service will be held Saturday, January 28, at 10:00 AM.

Congratulations to Justin Lopez-Lamb and Katelyn Herrera who announced their engagement on January 1!

Huge THANKS to the Abe families for the generous gift of 54 blue padded folding chairs to the church!

## NEWS BITS

Sermon Bible Study meets every Tuesday at 1:00. Old Testament Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 11:00 AM. Prayer Group meets Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Ikebana Class will meet on Saturday, February 11, at 1:30 PM. The church office will be closed February 13 for Lincoln's birthday, February 20 for Washington's birthday, and February 9. The Trustee Committee will meet Monday, February 6, at 10:30 AM. ; Finance Committee will meet Sunday, February 26, following worship.

**Ikebana Flower Show and UMW Boutique is scheduled for early April; the first Boutique Worship will be held following worship on Sunday, January 29.**

**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. **Following worship on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 5, the Missions Committee will serve a donation lunch to benefit Open Gate Ministries. Tobans will serve Coffee Hour on February 12.**

**Annual Open Gate Soup, Salad, & Pie Luncheon will be held Wednesday, February 1, 11:00-1:00, at Palm Church; all-you-can-eat soup is \$6.00, a slice of pie is \$2.00, and a side salad is just \$1.00! Yum! (Take-out is available.)**

**Tuesday, February 14, at 10:00, we will meet at the church to once again share God's love (and candy) in the community! Join us!**





## 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

# February



# 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL HEART HEALTH MONTH!</b>			<b>1</b> 11:00-1:00 <b>OPEN GATE SOUP, SALAD, AND PIE LUNCH AT PALM</b> 	<b>2</b> 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group	<b>3</b> Office closed	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>SOUPER BOWL OF CARING</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School; Donation Lunch follows	<b>6</b> Office closed 10:30 Trustees Meeting	<b>7</b> 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	<b>8</b> 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Old Testament Bible Study	<b>9</b> Office closed 10:00 Prayer Group	<b>10</b> Office closed	<b>11</b> 1:30 Ikebana 
<b>12</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School–Coffee Hour follows	<b>13</b> Office closed <b>LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY</b> 	<b>14 VALENTINE'S DAY</b> 10:00 Community Candy Walk ; Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	<b>15</b> 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Old Testament Bible Study	<b>16</b> 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group	<b>17</b> Office closed	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School Faith and Family Disneyland Trip	<b>20</b> Office closed <b>WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY</b> 	<b>21</b> 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	<b>22</b> 9-12 Office Open 11:00 Old Testament Bible Study	<b>23</b> 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group	<b>24</b> Office closed	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School ; Finance meeting follows	<b>27</b> Office closed	<b>28</b> 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study				

**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**

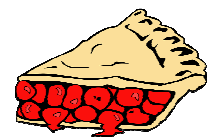
**11:00 AM—1:00 PM**

**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](http://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

Children's Videos

Bath, Dish, and Hand Towels

Blankets / Sheets / Pillowcases

Pajamas—all sizes

**Volunteers, especially at the Thrift Store**



Pastor: Craig Yoshihara

[craig@palmumc.org](mailto:craig@palmumc.org) cell 559-840-5091

Newsletter Editor: Marian Clifton

Worship Bulletin Editor: Kathy Lamb

Webmaster: Sandy Hansen

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

Mon. & Fri. Office Closed

Office Location: 438 West Tulare Street

Office Phone: 559-591-0746

e-mail: [info@palmumc.org](mailto:info@palmumc.org)

Website: [palmumc.org](http://palmumc.org)

Church Location:

Palm UMC—Tulare and "P" Streets

Sunday Service:

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

### FEBRUARY WORSHIP TASKS

#### Worship Leader

Nancy McKittrick

#### Communion Steward

Diane Domingo

#### Greeters / Ushers

5 Janice Serios, Diane Domingo

12 Oliver and Winnie Cadiente

19 Ruth Kurihara, Norma Lozano

26 Norma Lozano, Taye Abe

#### February Tobans

\* Susan Yoshimura

Nancy McKittrick

7 Ruth Fujinaga

Janice Serios

Marian Clifton

Carmencita Balderama

### February Birthdays

2—Bob Ishida

4—Michael Kurihara

5—Andy Fern

6—Andy Clifton

8—Iris Yamagata

9—Winnie Cadiente

10—Diane Domingo,

Matt Shaver

12—Ricky Pipkin

14—Mark Shaver

17—Joe Takeda

18—Judy Hernandez

22—Elaine Sciacqua

25—Colleen Gray

27—Jessica Serios

## **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: Andy Clifton  
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  
2018: Frank Abe  
2017: Pat dela Montanya

### **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 : Andy Clifton