



PALM LEAF

Palm United Methodist Church August 2017



First Word

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

CRAIG'S CORNER—PLAIN TALK

I was told by someone I trust and whose opinion I respect that on the topic of our church's state of health I haven't been as direct as perhaps I needed to be. I have to admit that might be true. While I have been very honest and upfront about the state of our church, I have always laced my messages with hope and promise. It's because I believe there is hope in all things.

But sometimes that is not the message that needs to be heard. Sometimes a dose of reality can spark our motivation and encourage us to do things we might not normally do.

Time for some stark reality. Our church is on a direct path toward death. And it's coming soon.

It may be too late to turn back and according to industry experts it probably is. I had our church administrative board read *Autopsy of a Deceased Church* by Thom Rainer. Thom is an expert at church revival and renewal having worked on many such projects himself. Reading his book we are what Thom would call a very sick church. Very sick churches exhibit three of the following symptoms:

- Significant numerical decline over the past 10-20 years
- Prolonged times of apathy / occasional times of intense conflict
- The church is not known in the community
- New members are rare
- Revolving door of pastors
- "Good old days" are typically 20 or more years in the past

From my estimate we fill 5 of the 6 criteria ("revolving door of pastors" I would say isn't true). You might argue about one or two more but that doesn't really change our situation. Needless to say we fit at least 3 without question. With that prognosis, Thom writes, "...if the church waits until it's very sick, it is extremely difficult to get better."

The only solution according to Thom? A radical shift in thinking and behavior most churches are unwilling to make. This is more than just a change in music or using computers in worship. It's really about an approach to church that empowers the people and looks at church as a joint venture to bring people to Christ. It isn't about Sunday but about everyday. This month in worship we will test the waters of change and I look to all of you to separate your anxiety about change and prayerfully exam WHY change is so hard for you specifically. I am hoping we can make change a regular part of who we are and not something to fear. After all, God is in the change.

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 Jacob dela Montanya, Josh Crampton, Matt Sakaguchi, Danny and Kay Armijo (Pat's cousins), and Gerard Laquerriere (friend of John and Pat).

Please keep Irene Burkart, Rosalinda Vasquez and her family, Florence Brayfield, Mas Konatsu, Marcia Williams, Maryanne Couch (Janice Serios's cousin), Carol McMorris (Cassie's mother), Oliver and Winnie Cadiente, Terry and Nancy McKittrick, Ken and Cathie Metz, Mike Yada, Jorge Calija (Norma's brother-in-law), Wilma Conner, Sandy Hansen, Alice Yoshimura (Lindy's mother), Kenzie Winderoth (Marcia's great-grand-daughter), first responders, the Yoshihara family, and Open Gate Ministries in your prayers.

Bob and Jackie Pipkin send greetings to their Palm Methodist Church family and friends!

NEWS BITS

Sermon Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 1:00. Old Testament Bible Study will not meet during the month of August. Prayer Group meets Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Ikebana Class will not meet during the months of July and August. Church office will be closed August 29 and 30.

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. **August Tobans will serve Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 13, in honor of the annual Perseid Meteor Shower !**

Open Gate Ministries 43rd Anniversary Dinner will be held Thursday, September 7, at the First Baptist Church of Dinuba; the theme is, "We are servants of all for God's sake," and the menu is Italian. Tickets may be purchased from Aiko or Diane for \$12.50!

The date for our annual Oriental Take-Out Dinner has been set for Saturday, October 28! Stay tuned for more details-, and be prepared to tell Chairman Susan, "Yes, I will help!" (Big thanks to Junior and April Bulosan and to the rest of Janice and Robert Serios's family for helping with the "Oriental Dinner dry-run" July 16 and offering to help with the actual Oriental Dinner October 28!)

If you aren't able to pick up your 2017 Directory at church, call Marian to have one mailed (834-5135)!

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

To our Palm Church family—

Thank you so much for all your prayers, cards, letters, love, and support.

Frank loved his church family. He especially enjoyed your visits and looked forward to time spent with you. We appreciate and shall always remember your expressions of sympathy upon his passing to be with his Heavenly Father.




Blessings, Tarye Abe and family



August



2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	2 9-12 Office Open No OT Bible Study	3 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group	4 Office Closed	5
6 10:00 Worship and Sunday School	7 Office Closed	8 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	9 9-12 Office Open No OT Bible Study	10 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 "Beat the Heat in the Community"	11 Office Closed	12 ~9:00 PM Perseid Meteor Shower, NE sky 
13 10:00 Worship and Sunday School ; Coffee Hour 	14 Office Closed	15 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	16 9-12 Office Open No OT Bible Study	17 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group	18 Office Closed	19 ANNUAL CLEAR THE SHELTERS DAY! ADOPT, DON'T SHOP! 
20 10:00 Worship and Sunday School	21 Office Closed	22 9-12 Office Open 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	23 9-12 Office Open No OT Bible Study	24 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group	25 Office Closed	26
27 10:00 Worship and Sunday School	28 Office Closed	29 Office closed 1:00 Sermon Bible Study	30 Office closed No OT Bible Study	31 9-12 Office Open 10:00 Prayer Group		

OPEN GATE SHELTER NEEDS

511 North "K" Street, Dinuba 93618

559-591-1241

www.opengate-ministries.org

Personal Hygiene Items / Pads / 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

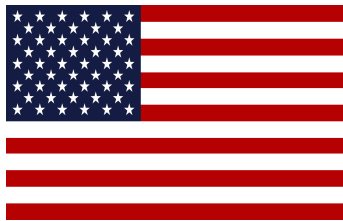
Children's Videos

Bath, Dish, and Hand Towels

Blankets / Sheets / Pillowcases

Pajamas—all sizes

Volunteers, especially at the Thrift Store



Pastor: Craig Yoshihara

craig@palmumc.org 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

Website: palmumc.org

Church Location:

Palm UMC—Tulare and "P" Streets

Sunday Service:

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

AUGUST
WORSHIP TASKS

Worship Leader

Pat dela Montanya

Communion Steward

Cathy Yada

Greeters / Ushers

6 Cathy Yada, Norma Lozano

13 Diane Domingo, Herb Abe

20 John and Pat dela Montanya

27 Norma Lozano, Taye Abe

August Tobans

* Winnie Cadiente

Cathy Yada

Rose Abe

Pat dela Montanya

Iris Yamagata

Irene Burkart

Hankus Nagata

August Birthdays

3—Remington Alexander Pipkin

5—Lindy Yoshimura

8—Justin Lopez-Lamb,

Elayne Yotsuya

9—Rosellen Shain

10—Reuel Green

12—Herb Abe

13—Victori Lamb

15—Hailey Eliosa

16—Anissa Avila

21—Thomas Eliosa, Sarah Lown

26—Jeff Lamb, Jim Lamb,

Erik Gonzales

30—Terry McKittrick,

Susan Yoshimura

31—Doug Millhorn

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: Janice Serios
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 Annual Conference: Andy Clifton
2019: Aiko Takeda
2017: Janice Serios
2018: Cathy Yada

Board of Trustees

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

Finance Committee

Chair: Pat Kurihara
SPRC Co-Chairs: Susan Yoshimura, Ginger Munson
Lay Member to Annual Conference: 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