



**PALM LEAF**

**Palm United**  
**Methodist Church**  
**March 2018**



**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**

Well, this wasn't the Craig's Corner I had planned on writing. I was going to write about our current sermon series on evil in the world and how God gives us the strength and the means to make sure it doesn't spread (so come and check it out). But then something happened.

As you know beginning in January our Bishop along with the Cabinet begin the discernment process to see who would be a good fit for which churches. Clergy retire, some sadly pass away, some move on to other careers, and sometimes a church just needs a new breath of fresh air – a different perspective on ministry. After six years in Dinuba, the Bishop intends to appointment me to Berkeley Methodist United Church up in the Bay Area beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>.

It's still a ways away so we have plenty to do together and I think it will take me that long to plan and properly say goodbye to everyone. You have all been such an important part of my journey and I hope I have contributed to yours. While I will miss everyone deeply, this is a good fit for our family and something we are excited about. But I'm also excited for our church here in Dinuba and to see what new directions it will go in the future.

I will be praying for all of you and ask that you pray for me and my family as we make this transition to something new and different. God is good!

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

## JOYS AND CONCERNS AMONG OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please continue to pray for cancer warriors Jacob dela Montanya, Josh Crampton (doing well!), Matt Sakaguchi, Danny and Kay Armijo (Pat's cousins), Miyoko Cabello (Diane's mother), Steve Price (friend of Miyoko), and Gerard Laquerriere and Denise Millhorn (friends of John and Pat).

Please keep Hankus Nagata, Irene Burkart, Rosalinda Vasquez and her family, Florence Brayfield, Mas Konatsu, Marcia Williams, Kenji Tashiro, Pat Huston, Rosellen Shain, Carla Manyok (Florence's daughter), Oliver and Winnie Cadiente, Terry and Nancy McKittrick, Iris Yamagata, Yoshiko Yamagata (Iris' mother), Ken and Cathie Metz, Don McDowell (Jerry Munson's nephew), Ken Yoshihara (Craig's father), Martha Onishi (Kathy Onishi's mother-in-law), Marianne Couch (Janice's cousin), Wilma Conner, Sandy Hansen, Stephen Sandoval (Youth for Christ mentor at Dinuba Lincoln School--stroke), first responders; Craig, Cassie, Eve, and Emma Yoshihara; and Open Gate Ministries in your prayers.

## NEWS BITS

Sermon Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 1:00, except March 20 and 27. Old Testament Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 11:00. Prayer Group meets Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Ikebana Class will meet Saturday, March 10, at 1:30. Bible Study at Aiko's house meets on Wednesdays at 2:00 PM (26279 East Huntsman Avenue, Orosi). Administrative Board will meet on Sunday, March 11, following worship. The tobans will serve Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 25, in honor of Aiko's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Sunday School kids will host a donation lunch Coffee Hour following worship on Sunday, March 4 (Irish menu).

**On Thursday, March 29, everyone is encouraged to meet at the church at 10:00 to "Share Love in the Community!" (Let Craig know if you can help.)**

The Visalia Buddhist Church will hold their Spring Sukiyaki Dinner on Sunday, March 18, 12:00 noon—5:00 PM. The church is located at 514 East Center Avenue, corner Tipton Street. The dinner is dine-in or take-out; it costs \$15. Menu: Barbecued Chicken Teriyaki, Beef Sukiyaki, Fried Rice, Green Salad, and Cookies.

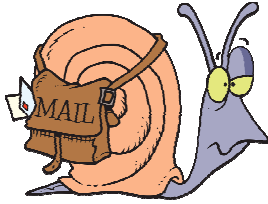
**Annual Clean-Up Day at Palm Church will be held on Saturday, March 24, 8:00 AM. "Many hands make light the work."**

## 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

## Address Change

Christine Cadiante  
5045 Rosemead Blvd ; # 9  
San Gabriel, CA 91776



Hankus Nagata  
6522 North Gentry Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93711



## Special Activities

Saturday, March 24, 8:00 AM : Annual Clean-Up Day at Palm Church

Sunday, March 25, Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 29, 10:00, "Sharing Love in the Community"

Friday, March 30, Good Friday

Saturday, March 31, Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 1, Easter: Coffee Hour, Group Photo, "Flowering of the Cross," and Kids' Egg Hunt, (Please bring TWO DOZEN filled plastic eggs OR dyed hard-boiled eggs; if possible, please bring flowers from your yard for the cross.)

Saturday, April 7, 2:00-4:30, Ikebana Flower Show and Boutique






It is no fault in others that the Methodist Church sends more soldiers to the field, more nurses to the hospital, and more prayers to Heaven than any. God bless the Methodist Church--bless all the churches--and blessed be to God, who, in this our great trial, giveth us the churches.

May 18, 1864 (Civil War), Abraham Lincoln

# March



# 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 9-12 Office Open  10:00 Prayer Group	<b>2</b> Office closed  NATIONAL BANANA CREAM PIE DAY	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 10:00 Worship ; Sunday School hosted donation lunch  	<b>5</b> Office closed	<b>6</b> 9-12 Office Open  1:00 Sermon Bible Study	<b>7</b> 9-12 Office Open  11:00 Old Testament Bible Study  2:00 Bible Study at Aiko's	<b>8</b> 9-12 Office Open  10:00 Prayer Group	<b>9</b> Office closed	<b>10</b> 1:30 Ikebana Class  
<b>11</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School ; Administrative Board meeting	<b>12</b> Office closed	<b>13</b> 9-12 Office Open  1:00 Sermon Bible Study	<b>14</b> 9-12 Office Open  11:00 Old Testament Bible Study  2:00 Bible Study at Aiko's	<b>15</b> 9-12 Office Open  10:00 Prayer Group	<b>16</b> Office closed	<b>17</b> <b>SAINT PATRICK'S DAY</b>  
<b>18</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School	<b>19</b> Office closed	<b>20</b> Office closed	<b>21</b> Office closed  11:00 Old Testament Bible Study  2:00 Bible Study at Aiko's	<b>22</b> Office closed 10:00 Prayer Group	<b>23</b> Office closed	<b>24</b> 8:00 Clean-Up Day  
<b>25 PALM SUNDAY</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School ; Coffee Hour in honor of Aiko's 90th birthday!  	<b>26</b> Office closed	<b>27</b> 9-12 Office Open	<b>28</b> 9-12 Office Open  11:00 Old Testament Bible Study  2:00 Bible Study at Aiko's	<b>29</b> 9-12 Office Open  10:00 "Sharing Love in the Community"	<b>30</b> Office closed  <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	<b>31</b> <b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>





February 25, 2018

Susan Yoshimura, SPRC Chairperson  
Palm UMC, P. O. Box 846, Dinuba, CA 93618

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Palm United Methodist Church,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! My thoughts and prayers are with you. I am writing to let you know that after prayerful discernment with the Cabinet, it is Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño's intent to appoint your pastor, the Reverend Craig Yoshihara, to serve as the Pastor of Methodist United Church in Berkeley, California, effective July 1, 2018. This decision came after prayerful consideration around the cabinet table of the needs all the churches in the Annual Conference including the needs of your congregation and those of Pastor Craig and his family.

We believe that Pastor Craig's gifts and experience will be essential to the Berkeley congregation as he leads them into a new future following the retirement of Rev. Naomi Southard who has served that church for over 20 years. As you know, Craig is a gifted communicator, writer, preacher and strategist. The experience he's gained from serving in Dinuba will be a great asset in his new appointment.

It can be a difficult time for a local church and for a pastor when there is a change of appointments. This is especially true when the appointment change comes sooner than any of us expected. The Apostle Paul offered a final message to the church in Corinth when it was in a similar heart-rending transition. He said this to the grieving members:

*"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."*

-1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Every parting pastor wishes their congregation to be so bold and compassionate.

Pastor Craig has served your congregation well. Over his years of service, he has cared deeply for the members through his pastoral responsibilities and preaching. He has led you in living your faith in tangible ways in your community and guided you through a vital merger and remodeling project. Pastor Craig, Cassie and Emma will be greatly missed in this community. In turn, they have been spiritually impacted by your faith and love and they will strive to bestow that compassion upon the members of their new congregation. In coming months, please keep Pastor Craig and his family in your prayers during this time of transition. You are also encouraged to celebrate the ministry you have shared together. I encourage you to look forward with great expectation of what God will do in the next season through our collaborative and prayerful efforts. The Holy Spirit shall guide us along the way.

As your District Superintendent, I have already been and will continue to be in consultation with your Staff-Parish Relations Committee to better understand the needs for your ministry and community. I will continue to share what I learn with the Cabinet. Such consultation and prayerful discernment is essential as Bishop Carcaño discerns who she will appoint as your next pastor.

Walking with you as we follow Jesus,

Rev. Debra L. Brady  
Central Valley District Superintendent

**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 / 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](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

**MARCH**  
**WORSHIP TASKS**

Worship Leader

Norma Lozano

Communion Steward

Susan Yoshimura

Greeters / Ushers

4 Jerry and Ginger Munson

11 Nancy McKittrick, Kathy Lamb

18 Diane Domingo, Winnie Cadiente

25 Janice and Robert Serios

March Tobans

\* Winnie Cadiente

Cathy Yada

Melanie Mizuno

Pat dela Montanya

Rose Abe

Iris Yamagata

Irene Burkart

**March Birthdays**

1—Pattie Kurihara

2—Letty Lamb

3—Hankus Nagata (95!)

4—Robyn Ide

8—Steven Bulosan

12—Jason Kurihara

14—Esther Kirkpatrick

20—Peter Mesias

21—Aiko Takeda (90!)

21—Walter Martzen

28—Summer Burkart

31—Maggie Fern, Craig Yoshihara



**PALM UMC CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS FOR 2018**

**Church Administrative Council**

Chairman: Nancy McKittrick

Lay Leader: Kathy Lamb

PPRC Chair: Susan Yoshimura

Finance Chair: Jerry Munson

Trustees Chair: Aiko Takeda

Treasurer: Arthur Anderson

Financial Secretary: Jerry Munson

Recording Secretary: Cathy Yada

Lay Delegate to Annual Conference: Derek Fujinaga

Worship Chair: Norma Lozano

UMW President: Janice Serious

Missions Co-Chairs: Aiko Takeda, Marian Clifton

Education Chair: Susan Yoshimura

Nominations Chair: Pastor Craig Yoshihara