



First Word

Post Office Box 565 Dinuba, California 93618 559-591-0746 <https://palmumc.org> info@palmumc.org

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS—BREATHE IN, BREATHE OUT

A pastor friend of mine who is in the Bay area has begun posting on Facebook just about every day, a reminder to breathe, with something else, sometimes a reminder that this is all new for us, or to be gentle with ourselves, and so on. I usually scroll quickly on Facebook, I scan and move on unless I see something interesting.. but even though the injunction remains pretty similar ever time, I have found myself reading and following the instructions, without looking for it, just about everyday. It helps, I've found, to be reminded to breathe deeply. To stop and take a moment of grace. Especially in these strange times.

So beloved: Breathe in. Breathe out.

Remember we've never been through this before. Remember we're all trying to understand this virus, we're all trying to adjust to what life has become. Remember, too, that we are now, as always, in God's hands and God is still a God of love who walks with us even in through the toughest of times, as that ancient poet put it, the valley of the shadow of death.

Breathe in. Breathe out.

One of our recent gospel readings was in John 20 where Jesus breathes on his disciples. As he blows on them, over them, what he is blowing is the Holy Spirit. The presence of God that will remain with them, even when he is physically no longer there. You may know that "spirit," "air," "wind" are all one word in Greek, *pneuma*.

We need to breathe air every moment we are alive. Every breath we take can be a new communion with the presence of God through the Holy Spirit.

These days we are worried about our breathing, for the virus can affect our ability to breathe, we are worried about our breathing because the virus spreads through the air, through our breath. When we go out we wear masks to hold back our inadvertent breath spray like Jesus never had to, out of concern and love for our neighbor. Even so. Maybe especially so-- there in our mask covered breathing— may we breathe deep and know God is with us.

Breathe in. Breathe out.

---Pastor Michelle

P.S. I love and miss you all !!



JOYS AND CONCERNS AMONG OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please continue to pray for cancer warriors Michael dela Montanya, Jacob dela Montanya, Kay Armijo, Gerard Laquerriere (friend of John and Pat), Ron Gerstenberg, and Chase Glosier (Steve and Kathy Botkin's nephew).

Please keep Carol (Rossi) Christianson, Hankus Nagata, Irene Burkart, Aiko Takeda, Pat Kurihara, Rosalinda Vasquez and her family (including mother Rosa Vasquez), Richard Meffley and Rick Kanderian (friends of John and Pat), Florence Brayfield and her daughter Carla, Cora Serios, Remy Pipkin, Chris McKittrick, Alicia Oyervidez, Marcia Williams, Terry and Nancy McKittrick, Katherine Rodriguez' family, Betty Barsotti, Mel Imai (Ruth Fujinaga's cousin), Molly Osato, Tom Magee (Pastor Michelle's father), Don McDowell (Jerry Munson's nephew), Cherry Cadiante (Winnie's sister-in-law), Steven Bulosan, Wilma Conner, Sandy Hansen, Dinuba Youth for Christ, Cruising for Jesus, Streetlight USA Ministries, and Open Gate Ministries in your prayers.

Sincere sympathy is extended to family and friends of retired Dinuba Fire Chief Myles Chute, who passed away April 20.

Please pray for first responders and health-care workers; farmers, food service workers, students and schools staff, and all those affected during the COVID-19 pandemic and lock-down.

NEWS BITS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 2020

Pastor Michelle will live-stream her Sunday sermons on Facebook at 10:30 AM (more information enclosed), and she will be leading "Grace Groups" via ZOOM. Old Testament Bible Study will gather every Wednesday at 11:00 AM via conference call. Prayer Group will convene Thursdays at 10:30 over the phone. Katherine Rodriguez' NA group will gather every Thursday at 5:00 PM via ZOOM. Ad Council will meet via ZOOM. Virtual Communion will be celebrated following Facebook live-stream worship service on Sunday, May 3; virtual Coffee Hour will be held following live-stream worship service on Mothers Day, Sunday, May 10 !!

Confirmation Sunday, Mothers Day, and Fathers Day will be celebrated after the coronavirus quarantine is lifted, whenever that might happen !!

Congratulations to our graduates: Jessica Serios, Washington Junior High (Dinuba); Miles Yada, Reedley High School; and Steven Bulosan, California State University San Jose !! Good job !!

ATTENTION GREETERS !! PLEASE GIVE OUR FIRST-TIME VISITORS A "WELCOME CARD," WHICH MAY BE FOUND IN THE RIGHT-HAND TOP DRAWER OF THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX !! THANK YOU !!

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!

WAYS TO COMMUNICATE WITH PASTOR MICHELLE

I just want to make sure everyone knows what I think about all the ways to communicate with me! Please, if you would like a phone call or visit, let me know! Reaching me on my cell phone is probably the best way, (805) 233- 5796. (I just ask that if it's not urgent, to not call on Monday, my day off.) If you are on Facebook and would like to be "friends" there please send a friend request to Pastor Michelle Magee. Out of respect for your privacy I won't request you, but I would be pleased to be friends on that account if you like! Please also like our church Facebook page to see updates there (sermons): <https://www.facebook.com/pg/PalmUMCDinuba/videos/> . Email is great too: michelle.magee@cnumc.org . And if you want to listen to a Sunday message we have podcasts up on the palmumc.org website. While I'm at it, if you hear news about the Methodist church in the secular news media, follow up with UMNews to hear the church's side of the story. Blessings!

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS :

Brenda Godinez and Isaac ; Valeria & Araceli Rodriguez
347 North "K" Street ; Dinuba, CA 93618



Louisa Valenzuela and Frankie, Eric, Ezekiel ; Angel Pedregon
165 North Hayes ; Dinuba, CA 93618

Angelica Gonzalez and Alfonso Garcia and Matthew
924 Leslie Lane ; Hanford, CA 93230



MAY CHURCH BIRTHDAYS

7—Bob Pipkin 9—Helen Ishida 18—Romeo Lozano, Sr. 20—Rose Abe
22—Derek Fujinaga , Gracie Suastegui 23—Lupe Gonzales 24—Caleb Eliosa

Pastor Michelle and Ad Board Chairman Susan Yoshimura have issued some precautionary steps to protect from COVID-19:

1. Worship service is suspended until further notice during the coronavirus lock-down quarantine, but when we resume we will try to sit six feet apart from any non-family members.
2. We are going to suspend Coffee Hour until further notice.
3. As discussed, we will practice social distancing; we will greet each other with a wave or a bow but will refrain from physical greetings.
4. Continue to frequently wash hands for 20 seconds, cover coughs and sneezes, and avoid touching your face.
5. When Sunday School resumes, we will try to have more space between each of the children to perhaps decrease contact with each other.

OPEN GATE MINISTRIES
ON-GOING NEEDS
(511 North "K" Street, Dinuba)
591-1241

Bathroom and Facial Tissue
Paper Towels
Feminine Products and Diapers
Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
Lotion, Shampoo, and Hairbrushes
Coffee and Creamer
Cooking Oil and Sugar
Juice and Children's Snacks
Ziplock Bags (quart and gallon size)
Aluminum Foil / Plastic Grocery Bags
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
Socks and Pajamas—all sizes



Pastor: Michelle Magee
michelle.magee@cnumc.org
cell 805-233-5796
Newsletter Editor: Marian Clifton
Worship Bulletin Editor: Kathy Lamb
Webmaster: Sandy Hansen
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30--4:00
Thursday 10:30--4:00
Office Location: 438 West Tulare Street
Office Phone: 559-591-0746
Listen to Pastor Michelle's sermons at--
Website: <https://palmumc.org>
Church Location:
Palm UMC—Tulare and "P" Streets
Sunday Service:
Palm UMC—10:00 AM—Worship and
Sunday School

MAY
WORSHIP TASKS

Worship Leader

Melanie Mizuno

Communion Steward

Cathy Yada

Greeters / Ushers

3 Jerry and Ginger Munson
10 Taye Abe, Cathy Yada
17 Kathy Lamb, Diane Domingo
24 Janice and Robert Serios
31 Norma Lozano, Winnie Cadiente

May Tobans

* Cathy Yada
Rose Abe
Melanie Mizuno
Pat dela Montanya
Winnie Dadiente
Iris Yamagata

May Birthdays

7—Bob Pipkin

9--Helen Ishida (99!)

18—Romeo Lozano, Sr.

20—Rose Abe

22—Derek Fujinaga
--Gracie Suastegui

23—Lupe Gonzales

24—Caleb Eliosa

31—Cheryl Lamb

