



**First Word**

Post Office Box 565

Dinuba, California 93618

559-591-0746

<https://palmumc.org>

### PASTOR'S PONDERINGS—MOCKINGBIRD

There is a mockingbird which must have a nest in a tree in the neighbor's yard. It watches for my cat to come outside and then screams at her for hours on end.

This bird has decided (in my interpretation of bird-thought) that my cat has a plan to raid the nest, destroy the babies, and must be prevented, through this endless squawking and occasional fly-by swoop attacks (so far there has been no bird-cat contact).

My cat does not have a habit of even going into the neighbor's yard. They have dogs. As far as I know the dogs do not raise the mockingbird's attention.

I got to thinking through all of this (a couple of weeks now) how this mockingbird's squawks could be representative of human speech and activity. There's a lot of noise out there, beloved, people say a lot of things about a lot of stuff, and do things that threaten, even hurt other people. Sometimes they perceive threats that are not there. But they don't know what else to do, but squawk and dive, put on a show to make them feel like they are making a difference against the perceived threat.

Too many times others are swept up in it. Believing the perceived threat is real, even joining in the squawking and diving.

But as believers in Jesus Christ, we must return again and again to what is true. We have to find ways to step back from the noise, find our center and renew ourselves in what has been revealed through Jesus. Which many people have put in many ways, for indeed the central beauty to the message is too grand for words. But to make a(nother) simple attempt, that truth is: there is a God, who is a God of Love. That love holds nothing back, not even the life of Jesus the one revealing that love- and asks us to do the same. To join in the great spillage of love so that more can find their way to that truth, that God of love.

I pray in these summer days even though the mockingbirds and their imitators rage away, that you have the gift of some way to the quiet center, to be reminded again of this great gift of love, and your own special way of pouring it out to the world.

Peace and blessings-- Pastor Michelle

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS AMONG PALM CHURCH FAMILY**

Please continue to pray for cancer warriors Rosa Elias (friend of Lisa Delgado), Linda Gourley (friend of Mary Esmay), Jim Bulls, Robert's co-worker Isaac, Brent Sadahiro's friend Alicia, Liz's cousin Grace Arifuku, Jennifer Washington, Chase Glosier, Judy Yoshimoto, Liz's friends Concha and Ron, and Tammy Campbell.

Please keep Phyllis Martzen, Carol Rossi-Christianson, Jamie Campbell, Rosalinda Vasquez and her family, Ruben and Lisa Delgado and family; Liz's cousin Wayne Morimoto; Norma and Romeo Lozano, Marcia Williams, Miyeko Cabello, Dianne Young and her sisters Denise and Connie, and her great-nephew Frankie; Dianne's mother-in-law MaryJane Young, Joe and Ruby Takeda, Ruth Kurihara, Lupe Gonzales; firefighters; health care workers; teachers, refugees, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Puerto Rico, Taiwan, Israel and Palestine, our country, and Open Gate Ministries in your prayers.

**Average Sunday attendance for June was 36.**

**Congratulations to Bryce Yoshimura and Sandy Hunyh who have announced their engagement !!**

### **PALM CHURCH NEWS BITS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2024**

**ALL PALM CHURCH SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED VIA FACEBOOK AT 10:30 am. REEDLEY FUMC WILL JOIN PALM FOR WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY IN JUNE EXCEPT JUNE 30, WHEN WE WILL WORSHIP WITH REEDLEY FUMC AT 10:00 (REEDLEY FUMC WORSHIP IS BROADCAST VIA YOUTUBE LATER).**

<https://www.facebook.com/PalmUMCDinuba/videos/>

<https://www.youtube.com/@reedleyfirstumc4393/videos>

As we worship in-person at Palm Church, masks will be encouraged out of consideration for the safety of all. Facebook Livestream will be available; see Page Four. Following indoor, in-person services, Coffee Hour refreshments will be served in the Social Hall. ( Palm Church location—438 West Tulare Street; corner Tulare & "P" Streets, Dinuba. )

Grace Groups meet on Thursday 3:30 PM every other week via ZOOM, young adults on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 5:00 PM, and Spanish Grace Group on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 5:30 PM via conference call; in-person Grace Group meets twice a month at 10:00 AM at 780 Harvard in Dinuba. Old Testament Bible Study convenes on Wednesdays at 11:00 via conference call. Ad Council will meet Thursday, July 25 at 5:00 PM on ZOOM.

**We will have combined Worship at Reedley First Methodist Church at 10:00 AM on June 30, followed by lunch and video presentation of the history of the Reedley Methodist Churches. Reedley FUMC is located at 1461 East Eleventh Street, corner "E" Street.**

**Palm Church will be holding a Take-Out Picnic Lunch Fund-Raiser on Saturday, June 29. Menu includes two skewers, one meatball and one veggie; coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans, roll and muffin. Price is \$ 10.00. For delivery or tickets, call Diane Domingo 643-6008. See flyer.**

Messy Church Movie Night is Saturday, July 13, 5:30 PM; Disney Pixar "Inside Out" will be shown, and snacks will be provided. Bring your own folding chairs if you wish !!

Amanda Bulls-Stephens will serve as Worship Leader on June 30 and July 7. Philip Martzen will serve on July 14 and 28. Liz Sasaki will serve on July 21.

July Tobans are Susan Yoshimura, Ruth Fujinaga, Janice Serios, Marian Clifton, Diana Bulls, and Iris Yamagata; we will serve a "red-white-and-blue" menu on July 7.

**We will celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pastor Michelle's ordination on July 14 !!**

**Birthdays will be celebrated on July 21, and Ramon Oyervidez will be our guest speaker.**

**WAYS TO COMMUNICATE WITH PASTOR MICHELLE**

**(805) 233-5796**

[michelle.magee@cnumc.org](mailto:michelle.magee@cnumc.org)

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

[facebook.com/PalmUMCDinuba](https://facebook.com/PalmUMCDinuba)

My cell phone continues to be the best way to reach me, and please know that you can call me; I would love to hear from you !! Let me know how I can pray for you and if you would like a visit !! Mondays continue to be my day off. My preferred way to be addressed is as "Pastor Michelle" and I appreciate you calling me that !! I also appreciate talking about many things, but receiving comments about the shape of my body is not something I enjoy.

I have received reports of text messages and emails going out in my name asking people to purchase gift cards on my behalf for others. This is a scam. Please check the cell number or email of anything suspicious to see if it lines up with my contact information.

Please check out our Website, giving portal, and Facebook page !!

--Pastor Michelle



**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1—James Lamb, Jackie Pipkin, Jim Crawford
- 2—Lucia Galvan, Niekorii Martzen
- 7—Cassie Yoshihara
- 9—Pat dela Montanya
- 11—Lee Bulosan
- 14—Ruby Takeda, Lewis Clifton
- 16—Ramon Oyervidez
- 17—Don Fujinaga
- 19—Sandy Sadahiro
- 20—Lucas Ro'vere
- 21—Kathy Munson-Botkin
- 22—Jacob Espino
- 30—Augi Fern



**QUINCY  
BENJAMIN  
YADA**

and

**RODOLPHO  
ANDRES  
HERNANDEZ**

**TROOP 282  
BOY SCOUT EAGLE  
COURT of HONOR  
July 13, 2024  
12:00 noon  
Reedley FUMC**



**Troop 282 cordially invites  
you to the Eagle Scout**



*Court of Honor*  
**Quincy & Rudy**

**July | 13 | 2024**

**12:00-3:00PM**

*First United Methodist Church*  
1461 11th St, Reedley, CA. 93654  
RSVP to Ofelia at (559)737-2601

**P.4.**

LISTEN AND VIEW PALM CHURCH SUNDAY SERVICES  
AT 10:30 am ON FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM  
[or you can watch a previously recorded Sunday service.](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/PalmUMCDinuba/videos/>

- ▶ If you get the Log-in Window, Click on "Not Now."  
When the Live Video appears, click on the red **LIVE** button.

Please leave a Facebook comment or an "Emoji," or a "Like," for attendance purposes  
[marianclifton@verizon.net](mailto:marianclifton@verizon.net) 834-5135 THIS IS IMPORTANT !!

**GOD AT WORK IN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

Our church has supplied scholarship funds for books for students at Wilson School for a third school year !! Your generous giving has made it possible; the students, staff and teachers greatly appreciate it. Every grade level receives \$250 for books for students to have (Sixth Grade receives \$300), at the teacher's discretion. If you would like to give for the next school year to be able to continue, donations should be designated as Wilson School support. We would love to be able to increase the amount for upper grades as the chapter books are more expensive.

We have re-started the Wilson Reading Partners program this semester, offering extra reading support to selected first graders one hour a week. We would love to have more volunteers join !! We want to bless our neighborhood by partnering with the school, and we ask that you continue to pray for Wilson's staff, students and families.

Back-to-School gift baskets for the teachers will be assembled and delivered in August.

**2024 PALM CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL\*\***

\*\*Susan Yoshimura---Education Chair, SPRC Chair, Ad Board Chair,  
Annual Conference Alternate Lay Delegate

\*\*Jerry Munson---Finance Chair and Financial Secretary

\*\*Dianne Young---Missions co-Chair

\*\*Diana Bulls--- Interim Treasurer

\*\*Marian Clifton---Missions co-Chair, Recording Secretary, Palm Leaf / First Word Editor

\*\*Philip Martzen---Trustees Chair, Annual Conference Lay Delegate

\*\*Pastor Michelle Magee---Nominations Chair

\*\*Norma Lozano---Worship Chair

Dianne Young---Messy Church co-Leader

Melanie Mizuno---Messy Church co-Leader

Sean Stephens---Webmaster

**“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”  
Colossians 3: 23-24, NKJV**



## MESSY CHURCH PHOTOS













# Palm Methodist Church Take-Out Picnic Lunch



Corner Tulare & "P" Streets, Dinuba

Saturday, June 29, 2024

11:00 AM—1:00 PM

MENU: Two Skewers—One Veggie  
and one Meatball; Coleslaw, Potato  
Salad, Baked Beans, Roll, Muffin

\$ 10.00

Delivery 643-6008

Information 834-5135 591-0746