



SUMC Newsletter

Sunnyvale United Methodist Church



535 Old San Francisco Rd, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

July 2026

Sanctuary Reroofing Project

A full roof renovation project has begun on our sanctuary. Construction is expected to last over two months until sometime in September. Throughout this project Sunday Worship Service will be relocated from the sanctuary to the Johnson-Shaner Room.

Restricted access: Throughout the project the sanctuary and surrounding areas will be fenced off in the interest of public safety.

Columbarium: Sadly, the Columbarium is situated within the fenced area and will be off limits for visits. We sincerely apologize for this inconvenience.

Parking: The front parking lot will be closed. Access to the west side of the campus (adjacent to the sanctuary) will be limited, so please park in the rear lot.

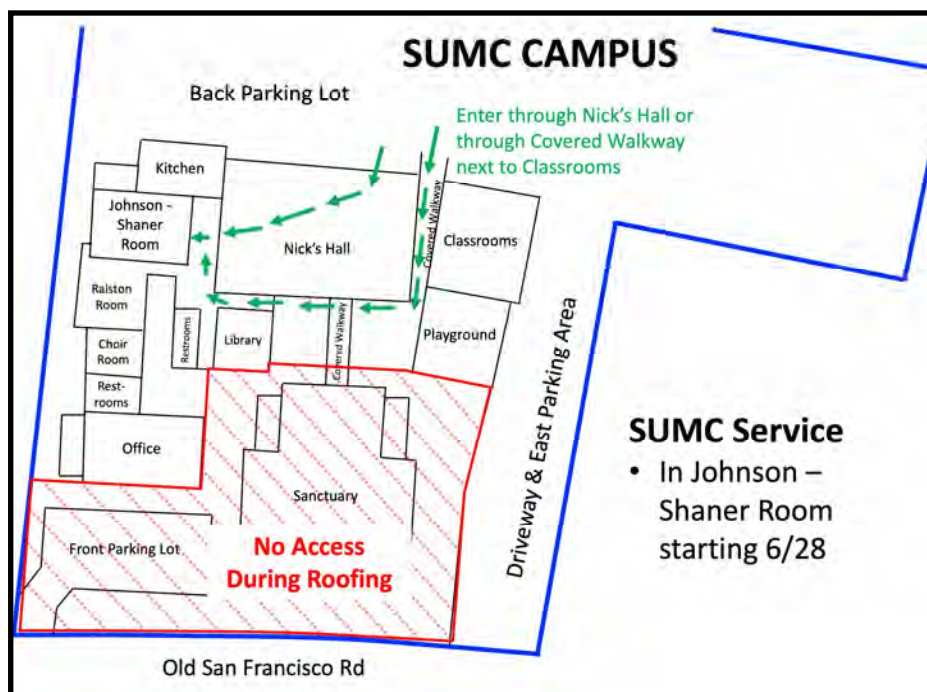
Designated Handicapped Parking will be reserved near the recommended campus entry points: The breezeway between the classrooms and Nick's Hall or the double doors through Nick's Hall.

Flowers: The regularly scheduled flowers will not be delivered during this time. If you would like to bring flowers, please bring them in a vase.

Red Bin: Donations to the West Valley Community Services Food Pantry will continue to be collected in the red bin just inside the Johnson-Shaner Room entrance.

We probably haven't thought of everything, and we will try to conduct Sunday Service as usual (including Holy Communion). Please let us know if we can make the Sunday Service a more blessed experience for everyone. Our Office Manager, Ruhi Nathan, is the primary point of contact.

Please use the map below which gives a clearer picture of access points around the campus.



Many thanks to all these volunteers who helped prepare the sanctuary for re-roofing: Mary Ruth & Darryl, Dean, Roy & Janet, Pastor Kim & Jeewon, Steve & Mae. Sarah & Daphne set up the Johnson-Shaner Room for worship. Nishanth & Eshaan moved and set up AV equipment. Jane removed the outside flowering plants.

Notes from the Associate Pastor

Pastor Bayani Alkuino



Recently, I had the opportunity to sit peacefully on the beach near my father's house in the Philippines and watch the sunset. As the sky slowly changed colors and the waves gently rolled onto the shore, I found myself reflecting on how much life has changed.

The sun seemed hotter than I remembered. The familiar roads and pathways of my childhood were now lined with new stores and houses. Places that once felt so familiar had changed so much that I could barely recognize them. I thought about old high school friends whom I had not seen in years. They had gone wider rather than taller. My former teachers, who once seemed larger than life, are now showing the signs of age. Yet among all these changes, the most painful one in our family is the loss of my mother. She passed away during the last week of May, and now my father must learn how to live life without the daily companionship of the woman with whom he shared so many years.

Watching him face this new reality reminds me that some changes in life are difficult and heartbreaking. As I sat there, one truth became clear: time truly passes.

The writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Seasons change. People change. Communities change. Our circumstances change. Whether we welcome those changes or resist them, time continues to move forward.

But as Christians, we find comfort in knowing that while everything around us changes, God remains the same. Our appearance changes. Our health changes. Relationships change. Even the landscapes of our lives change. Yet God's love, faithfulness, and promises remain constant.

The beach where I sat may look different. The people I grew up with may have changed. My family is entering a new chapter marked by both grief and adjustment. Yet the God who watched over me as a child is the same God who watches over me today. The God who carried my family through seasons of

joy will also carry us through seasons of sorrow.

Perhaps you, too, are experiencing changes in your own life. Maybe you are grieving a loss, facing a new season, watching your children grow, adjusting to retirement, or navigating unexpected challenges. Remember that while time passes, God walks with us through every season.

The passing of time reminds us to cherish the people we love, appreciate the moments we are given, and place our hope in the One who never changes. We cannot stop the clock, but we can trust the God who holds all our times in His hands.

As the sun disappeared beyond the horizon that evening, I was reminded that every sunset is followed by a sunrise. Seasons end, but God remains faithful. Time truly passes, but God's grace endures forever. *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."* — Hebrews 13:8

God bless everyone!

Pastor Bayani

CHURCH PICNIC

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC on **August 9** after service on the patio and Nick's Hall. We will be having veggie burgers, beef burgers, turkey/chicken hot dogs with sides of potato salad, fruit etc. Be ready to have some summer fun. We would like some volunteers for set-up, serving and clean-up. Please contact the church office at sunnyvaleumc@comcast.net or Darryl Alford if you are available to help.

ICE CREAM SUNDAY

Join us after the service on Sunday, **July 19** for a sweet time of fellowship and fun with Ice Cream Sunday. Bring your sweet tooth and your warm smiles. Let's celebrate summer together.

Vacation Bible School



Philippians 4:13



"I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Bayani Alkuino	12 Ruth Hagan
3 Dawna Eskridge	16 Falesipi Panisi
4 Fulata Panisi	19 Mae Boaz
6 Penny Cole	23 Roan Poulivaati
Chaniel Sylvester	27 Mary Wu
9 Daphne Reginold	29 Sione Panisi
11 Sharon Yang	30 Tupou Panisi



1 Curtis & Lauri McAllister
5 Tomasi & Falesipi Panisi
6 Steve & Mary Wu
27 Ken & Marion Redler

Church and Society

MISSIONARY VISIT

We are delighted to welcome **Katherine Parker**, our missionary serving in Nepal, to our church on **Sunday, August 2**.

Katherine will share the message, "**Healing and Joy on Our Journey to God**," and will also tell us about her experiences and ministry in Nepal during the worship service. Our church has been privileged to support her mission work financially, and we are excited to hear firsthand how God is working through her ministry.



Following the service, everyone is invited to stay for a light luncheon and fellowship. Please join us for this special opportunity to meet one of our **Cal-Nev Conference** missionaries, hear her inspiring story, and encourage her in her ministry.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Back to School Backpack Drive

Yes, even though summer has just started, it's time to think about school! We will be supporting Sunnyvale Community Services Back to School Program. They have been providing backpacks and much needed school supplies to students in Sunnyvale for over 30 years and the need continues to grow. Keep an eye out for more information on how to donate and/or volunteer in the bulletins. If you want to see more information now, go to: <https://svcommunityservices.org/back-to-school-program/> (and you can see who is highlighted)

United Women In Faith

UWF Gathering: no meetings scheduled until September!

Craft workshop: We are "back to work" after a short break while VBS was doing crafts and other activities in the rooms. Join the craft workers in the Johnson/Shaner rooms from 10 AM until approximately 2 PM, unless cancelled by Tonya Oravetz. There are some projects in process and a few already finished for the October Craft Fair. Come and see what project might prompt you to make something unique! Helpful hint: bring lunch or snack if you plan to come and stay for a while.

Scarf project: The full scarf bins are now stored in the cupboards in "The Pit". This is due to the change in the use of the rooms on Sundays while the Sanctuary roofing project is being done. The Youth Group will probably schedule a scarf blessing in September so that people have a scarf by the time the cold weather arrives. Many thanks to the helpful hands! This project is to knit, crochet or weave scarves for people in need. The scarf sizes are a helpful hint, but don't have to be exact: adult 8" x 80", women & teenagers 6" x 60", children 4" x 40". Please let me know if you need help with supplies. (janeedredge@gmail.com)