

SUMC Newsletter

Sunnyvale United Methodist Church

535 Old San Francisco Rd, Sunnyvale, CA 94086



September 2026

Welcome Rev. Oliver Mangubatt, our new co-DS on August 30

Dear Friends at Sunnyvale United Methodist Church,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

It is with great joy and gratitude that I greet you as your new El Camino Real District Co-Superintendent. I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to walk alongside you in this season of ministry and mission.

The ministry of the church is always a journey we make together listening for God's voice, trusting the movement of the Holy Spirit, and faithfully responding to God's call. I look forward to learning from you, hearing your stories, celebrating your ministries, and discerning together how God is calling Sunnyvale UMC to be a faithful witness in your community and beyond.

I am especially looking forward to being with you on August 30. My hope is that our time together will be more than simply a visit. May it be an opportunity to build relationships, strengthen our connection, and remind one another that we are part of a larger United Methodist family serving God's mission together.

May God continue to bless Sunnyvale UMC with a deepening love for Christ, a renewed passion for ministry, and a bold commitment to be God's people in the world.

I look forward to meeting you and sharing this journey of faith and ministry together.

With prayers and every blessing,

DS Oliver Mangubat, D.Min.

El Camino Real District Co-Superintendent



As we welcome Rev. Mangubat, we look forward to the gifts, experience, vision, and Christ-centered leadership he brings to the congregation. His desire is not simply to maintain the church, but to help build a faithful and growing community of disciples who love God, love one another, serve their neighbors, and share the hope and freedom found in Jesus Christ.

Please join us for lunch following the worship service as we warmly welcome Rev. Oliver S. Mangubat, D.Min., as a fellow servant and shepherd in the ministry of Christ. May God continue to guide, strengthen, and richly bless his ministry among us. Together, may we faithfully live out our calling to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We look forward to sharing this time of fellowship and celebration with you!

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

The September 20 lunch has been moved to **October 4!** Join us for a special **Fellowship Lunch on October 4**, immediately following the service. We hope you'll join us for a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and community!

Notes from the Associate Pastor

Pastor Bayani Alkuino



This summer has been full of activities for our whole family - some planned, and others completely unexpected. There were moments of excitement and joy, but also

moments of deep sadness. In early June, my mother passed away, and our family unexpectedly traveled home to the Philippines. In between, there was also the joy of officiating a wedding in the Central Valley and after that taking a family cruise.

Now September is here, and with it comes another transition: the beginning of a new school year. For many families especially our students, this means new schedules, new challenges, and new opportunities. And, as always, we do not know exactly what the coming months will bring.

But perhaps that is where faith becomes most important. We may not know what lies ahead, but we know who walks with us.

Proverbs 3:5–6 reminds us, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean

not on your own understanding.” We may not have all the answers, but we can continue to trust God one step at a time.

As we enter September, may we welcome both the expected and the unexpected with faith, remembering that whatever this new season brings, God is already there. God bless everyone!

Blessings,
Pastor Bayani Alkuino

SUMC MEN'S GROUP

The SUMC Men will be meeting for supper on Monday, September 21 at 6:30 pm in the Johnson-Shaner Room or Nick's Hall. Please let Darryl Alford know if you plan to attend.

GET INVOLVED - JOIN A COMMITTEE

If you want to join a church committee or continue serving on the one you are already part of, please fill out the flyer in the Sunday bulletin or attached to this email. Your time, talents and gifts help make our church community strong and vibrant. Thank you for being willing to serve.

AIDEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH

Join us for a special Birthday Lunch on September 13, immediately following the service, as we celebrate Baby Aiden's 1st birthday! We hope you'll join us for this joyful time as we celebrate the special milestone together and shower Aiden with love and blessings.

NO HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIRE

The annual Holiday faire hosted by UWF will not be held this year because of the lower than usual number of craft items made so far and the complication of the sanctuary roof project. UWF will hold the sale next year, 2027, in October with two years worth of crafts. UWF will continue to meet on Thursdays for socializing and craft making.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

After a refreshing summer break, our Adult Bible Studies will be resuming. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith, share in fellowship and dive deeper into God's word together. Whether you have joined us before or are new and curious, we warmly invite you to come and be part of the group that suits you. All are welcome and bring a friend.

SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY ZOOM MEETING ACCESS & MEETING TIMES

Adult Small Group Meeting 11:30 am in person in the library starting September 13

Adult Small Group Meeting 1 pm Wednesday— Meeting ID 849 9959 1103, Passcode 962817-meets on zoom and in person in the library.

Adult Small Group Meeting 6:30pm Friday

SUMMER AT SUMC



Katherine Parker, our missionary in Nepal



Roy Clifton's 80th birthday



Eleanor Barskey's 103rd birthday



Makeshift sanctuary



Birthdays

7 Margaret Poulivaati	23 Bill Malmstrom
11 Donna Phillips	27 Stephen Jin
16 Jim Marken	Susan Rao
17 Margaret Mason	
19 Brynn Alkuino	



Church and Society

Operation Christmas Child

On September 13th Church and Society will be starting our annual participation in the Samaritan Purse global outreach program. This is the program in which thousands of boxes (referred to as shoeboxes) are filled with small toys, hygiene items and school supplies, and are shipped to children all over the world in time for Christmas. Starting September 13th, after worship and during fellowship time, someone from Church and Society will be in the courtyard handing out the cardboard templates from which the shoebox can be made. We will also give you a list of suggested gift items for boys and girls, and a list of things not to put in the boxes. It is especially important to include some basic school supplies. As you fill the shoebox with the items you know the child will like, imagine the look on their face when they see what's in the box. Have fun filling that box. The filled shoeboxes should be returned by November 1, the latest.



Ready to Learn Program

The goal of this program was to provide every school-aged child "enrolled at Sunnyvale Community Services" a new backpack for starting school. These are children of low-income Sunnyvale families struggling to provide their children with the essential supplies they need to start the year. Our congregation provided 30 backpacks. Without this program, there might have been 30 children starting school unprepared, feeling inadequate and left-out. Instead, with the new backpacks, 30 students started the year with the confidence and tools they needed to thrive academically. Thank you Sunnyvale UMC volunteers for donating your time and money to make sure these children were excited and eager to start school with their very new possessions.

United Women In Faith

UWF Executive Board meeting: September 14th at 12:00 PM in Classroom 2.

UWF Gathering: September 14th at 1:30 PM in Classroom 2.

Craft workshops are being held in Classroom 2 in the Education Bldg. until further notice. Join the craft workers in Classroom 2 from 10 AM until approximately 2 PM, unless cancelled by Tonya Oravetz. Bring lunch or snack if you plan to come and stay for a while. There is a small refrigerator if you need to keep your lunch/snack cool. There is also a microwave.

Scarf project: The next scarf blessing will be mid-late September. Please bring finished scarves to me. 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)