Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church Open Mind. Open Heart. Open Door

We are a publicly declared *Reconciling Congregation* and a member of the Reconciling Ministries Network that advocates and works for a truly all-inclusive church. As a Christian community, we lean in on radical inclusion welcoming to humans of all races, genders, and sexual orientations who are affirmed and accepted as a full participant in the life and work of this United Methodist congregation.

# **Our Vision**

Tipping the world toward love and justice in alignment with God's deepest desire for our lives and all God's creation.

# *Día de los Muertos* The Day of the Dead Celebration

Sunday, October 29, 2023, 10 am

We welcome all visitors today! Thank you for being here and gracing us with your presence. Please fill out the "*Visitation Card*" found in the pew and either place it in the offering plate or deposit into the *Suggestion Box* back in the narthex.

**Prayer Candles** are located back at the narthex for anyone who wants to light a candle for someone or something and offer it to God in prayer.

**Children** are invited to enjoy the resources in the **Children Learning Center** located at the back of the sanctuary during worship. Children are welcome to check out books and activity items to take home by signing the simple "*Check-out Sheet*" on clipboard there.

# Words of Meditation

"You learn more at a funeral than at a feast. After all, that's where we'll end up. We might discover something from it." - Ecclesiastes 7:2 (The Message)

"Practice dying." This was Plato's famous final lesson to his disciples, given just before his own death.

(\*Please stand if you are able)

Prelude

Our Great Savior

Marina Thomas

Rev. John Song

Lighting of Candles

Welcome & the Life of the Church

\*Passing of Peace (Wave to your neighbors near you with "Peace of Christ be with you.")

\*Litany in Unison Everything Has Its Season (Ecclesiastes 3:1-5) Bob Culbertson

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to harvest;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to keep, and a time to release;

a time to hang on, and a time to let go;

For everything there is a season,

#### and a time for every matter under heaven. Amen

*Gathering Song	Standing of the Promises	#374
Children's Time	"God Wants Us to Have Some Fun"	Pastor John

**Hebrew Readings** 

Genesis 3:19b

"You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

# **Ecclesiastes 7:2**

"It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of everyone; the living should take this to heart."

<b>Psalm Reading</b>	Psalm 139			
	The Darkness Is Not Dark to You			
	<sup>7</sup> Where can I go from your spirit?			
	Or where can I flee from your presence?			
	<sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there;			
	if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.			
	<sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning			
	and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,			
	<sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me,			
	and your right hand shall hold me fast.			
	<sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,			
	and the light around me become night,"			
	<sup>12</sup> even the <b>darkness is not dark to you</b> ;			
	the night is as bright as the day,			
	for darkness is as light to you.			
	Leader: The word of God for the people of God.			
	People: Thanks be to God!			
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Special Music	Children's Piano Recital			
	Ethan, Elizabeth, Isaiah and Allyson			
	(Under the tutelage of Marina Thomas)			
Message	"A Message from the Other Side"	Uninvited Visitor		
	2			

#### **Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

Let us respond to this word of grace and hope by the giving of our tithes and offerings, which support the varied ministries of the Watsonville First United Methodist Church, mission at home and throughout the world.

Offertory

Hymn

#### Shall We Gather at the River

#### **Presentation of Offering**

*Hymn to the Trinity	Gloria Patri (Glory to the Father)	#70
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;		
as it was	in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,	
	world without end. Amen. Amen.	
*Offertory Prayer (In unison)		
Accept our gifts from our h	earts, O God, and dedicating our lives in tipping th	ie world
toward love by following th	e Way of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the	e world,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Recessional Song	I'll Fly Away	FWS #2282
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**\*Benediction** [\*This ends the Live Streaming]

#### **Prayers of the People**

- a. Sharing of Joys & Concerns (Please raise your hand & mic will be given to you)
- b. Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer/Padre Nuestro (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

- a. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.
- b. Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre; venga tu reino; hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbanos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo el poder y la gloria por siempre. Amen.

### Postlude

#### Praise Him!

Marina Thomas

We warmly invite everyone to a delicious cup of Coffee, refreshments and fellowship in the Social Hall following worship.

\*If you want to bring Refreshments in the future you can sign up on the clipboard in the narthex or see Marjorie Martinez.

# **Worship Leaders**

Ministers	Each one of us
Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas

#130

Marina Thomas

Choir Leade Liturgist Greeters Head Usher Tech Team Nursery Att Coffee Hour		Carmelita Abenoja Bob Culbertson Harry & Clarice Wiggins Marieta Flores Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis Marjorie Martinez & Marieta Flores
Sun., Oct. 29 Mon., Oct. 30	10:00 am 11:10 am 11:30 am 11:40 am 1-3 pm	Calendar for the Week Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) Celebration Coffee Hour, Social Hall Halloween Costume Contest, Social Hall Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary Sewing Group, St. Stephen's room
Thu., Nov. 2 Sun., Nov. 5	4:00 pm 10:00 am 11:10 am 11:30 am 11:40 am	Food for Children, Back Church Parking Lot All Saints Sunday/ Communion Sunday *Fallback: Turn back the clock 1 hour Coffee Hour, Social Hall Q&A with Pastor Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

# **Upcoming Opportunities!**

# Visit from Missionary Katherine Parker Thursday, November 9, from 12 - 1:30 pm.

Katherine Parker is a UM missionary serving in Nepal. She has been supported by our congregation for many years. Bring your own lunch @ 12pm, dessert & coffee provided by UMW. Her program will begin at 12:30 pm in the Social Hall. Please join us!

# Winter Dinner Program

Salvation Army Winter Dinner Program to feed those in need will run from Nov. 17 through April 2024. We are responsible for creating 100 boxes of meals To-Go every 3rd Friday of the month: Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 19. Just show up at the Salvation Army (214 Union St. Watsonville) by 4:30 pm. Parking is available in the back of the building. If you want to volunteer please call the church office at (831)724-4434 or email us at office@watsonville1stumc.org. Thank you!

# Leadership Council: Sunday, Nov. 12, 11:45 am, St. Stephen's

All Church Window Cleaning Day: Sat. Nov. 18, 10 am - 12 noon (pizza lunch)

Church Conference: Sun. Nov. 19, 11 am, sanctuary

Church Website: <u>watsonville1stumc.org</u>

Email: office@watsonville1stumc.org | Phone: (831) 724-4434

Office Hours: Tue-Thu 9 am – 5 pm, Fri 9 am – 12 pm (Closed for lunch 12-1 pm) 229 Stanford Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

Baptism, Membership, Wedding, Funeral, and Pastoral Counseling are available