



# The Appian Wayfarer

## Want to contact our new pastor?

Email: [pastoremy@esumconline.org](mailto:pastoremy@esumconline.org)

Phone Number: 510-815-9816

Her office hours are varied due to COVID19. She will do her best to get back to you as soon as she is able. You are invited to set up an appointment or drop into her Zoom office hours each Tuesday 1-4pm.

Meeting ID: 961 9433 9082

Password: 399100

Her Sabbath day is on Fridays. All are encouraged to have a day of Sabbath. Rev. Emily practices what she preaches and makes sure to find time to care for her family and herself.

## Online Motion Class

Hope you all had a lovely weekend. It is challenging to find ways to be together/apart. Zoom communities are great and I hope you benefit from them. They can never replace a hug longed for, but our hope is our trust that this will end. We will have a different 'normal' but a better one than this. Moving is good for your muscles and your mood. It raises endorphins! So, let's feel good!



You will need a chair, a block, and a ball (one of the bigger ones if you have it). Of course, all the moves can be done without props, but I find they add an element of challenge and just plain change. See you soon!

Jacqueline Corl is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Mon: Balance & Range of Motion at 1:30 PM

Wed: Balance & Range of Motion at 10:15 AM

Fri: Stretching for Balance & Yoga at 10:00 AM

## Memory Garden



Dear Church,

You are invited to enjoy the expansive view of our updated Memory Garden when you enter from Argyle Rd. A few plants have been pruned, but there are mostly new trees and shrubs in place. We thank Ricki for countless hours of hard work, but more help is needed to continue making our church a beautiful and welcoming environment. In order to maintain the garden's manicured landscape, we need financial help. Because new plants need water to root and established ones need water to survive, it also produces a healthy crop of weeds where the weed barrier cloth allows it. A gardener has been hired to take care of the work needed. With care, and the new timed sprinkler system, this garden can continue to flourish. Please mark your gift for the "Landscaping Fund" to specifically go to this project. If you have any questions call Bob Patterson at (510) 222-5592.

## Emily's Musings

It's hard to believe that it has already been a month since I first started my ministry here at ESUMC. I feel so warmly welcomed and am thrilled to be your pastor. I know this has all been very strange, but you have made me feel right at home. I must be honest, figuring out how to be a pastor in a pandemic is both an odd and trying experience. And I wouldn't trade it for anything! My ministry calls me to enter into challenging situations and live into unfamiliar experiences. Every pastor that goes into a new church becomes a missionary to that community. It has been a delight and honor to start my journey with each one of you. Since I am not able to be with you in person, I recognize the value of everything that is offered to me, and I appreciate all those who have gone out of their way to help me.

One way that this has truly been an honor is through the Meet and Greets held over the past few weeks. I appreciate all of you that took the time to take part. Each one of them was unique and joyful, while we also covered the important question of "who is ESUMC?" I asked each person to answer the question: "Where do you see ESUMC in 5 years, and how do you see yourself as a part of it?" I explained that when members are usually asked about the future of the church, they will often say that they want more young people involved. I ask the second part of the question so that you all know that you are a part of making that happen. All of you provided such meaningful answers that show the true heart of the community of ESUMC. We talked about how church is a unique place in our society where people of all ages and backgrounds come together for a common good. We talked about how it's important for us to get connected to the broader community. We are no longer at a time where people go to church. The church must go to the people and find where God is working already in the world. This church has already started to find ways of

working in the world. How can we show people what this church has to offer? This is just the beginning of the conversation. I will provide more feedback on the Meet and Greets over the next few months as we continue to vision the future of our church.

## Current Events Reflection

While I was in seminary, I briefly served as the Vice President of our student body. My job was to have some oversight over the staff of the school newspaper, but I primarily stayed out of what was being published. One morning, a friend who worked in the printing room saw a copy of the paper that was to be published the next day. She had concerns because when you opened to the main articles, you saw two of them depicted on two pages like an open book. On one side, the title read "Blue Lives Matter," in red font, and on the other read "Black Lives Matter," in blue font. This was concerning to me, as it read as though they were two opposing sides of a coin.

Already in my sermons so far, you have heard me talk about the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement a few times. To me, this is not a political statement. It's a statement that recognizes the humanity of our black siblings. Yes, all lives do matter, but they can't all matter until black lives matter. I know that these can be difficult conversations. I hope that as we all get to know one another, we will learn that having difficult conversations can be a very healing experience. I am a pastor that believes that churches are sacred places where all should feel welcome. It is our responsibility to challenge one another on our ways of thinking, so that we may all grow in Christ's love. As John Wesley said, "though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike?" Instead of shying away from topics that make us uncomfortable, it is so essential to engage in them and truly listen to one another. This is the work of our church in a divided country.

I stopped the publication of the newspaper that day because I knew that showing these important testimonies was important, but it was even more crucial not to have them appear as oppositions to one another. You can believe that both black and blue lives matter. The paths being trod are interwoven, but not oppositional. They form a Venn diagram, not a pie chart. The very notion that BLM and the police are diametrically opposed is a false dichotomy, it suggests an "either/or" dilemma that just isn't real. As the BLM website states, "This does not mean, however, that police are not implicated in a system that criminalizes black people." The moral imperative of Christian faith invites us always to seek full humanity for all of God's children... and all really does mean all. I encourage you to pray. Pray for demonstrators, pray for the police, pray that we can live in a world where the inherent value of people is recognized. While we pray, we can also act. Who can you have that difficult conversation with? How can we make a difference, even while we are in our homes? Let's continue to talk. Let's continue to challenge our own assumptions and our own inner biases. Through the grace of God, our hearts and minds are opened to a new world of possibility.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

everyone born in the month

# AUGUST

- Aug. 2 – Morie Oberg
- Aug. 4 – Ruth Parker
- Aug. 7 – Cheryl Brown
- Aug. 9 – Mark Zier
- Aug. 12 - Amelia Hancock, Byron Mauk
- Aug. 13 - Gerry Woods
- Aug. 15 - Bernice Cooledge,  
Jackson Wieland
- Aug. 23 - Bob Paterson, Carol Strauss
- Aug. 25 - Paulette Collins
- Aug. 26 - Doris Morris
- Aug. 31 - Pam Butler, Isaac Patterson



**Wednesday @ 10 am**

Meeting ID:  
965 0250 6049  
Meeting Password:  
610727

**Thursday @ 7 pm**

Meeting ID:  
948 5108 4509  
Meeting Password:  
894099

All are welcome to join in ESUMC's Bible Studies, whether you're a master theologian or have never opened a Bible! Studies will be held every Wednesday and Thursday. For any questions contact Rev. Emily at [pastoremily@esumconline.org](mailto:pastoremily@esumconline.org)

## ESUMC Financials

July 2020

Income	\$115,782.09
Expenses	\$121,174.31
Shortfall	(\$5,392.22)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>August Calendar 2020</b>						1
<b>2</b> 10 AM <b>Worship, (online)</b>  12:15 PM <b>Small Group (online)</b>	<b>3</b> 1:30 PM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>4</b> 4 PM <b>Faith Exploration (online)</b>  7:30 PM <b>Kairos (online)</b>	<b>5</b> 10 AM <b>Bible Study, (online)</b>  10:15 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>6</b> 10 AM <b>Photo Club, (online)</b>  7:00 PM <b>Bible Study (online)</b>	<b>7</b> 10 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>8</b>  10 AM <b>Blessings Closet</b>
<b>9</b> 10 AM <b>Worship, (online)</b>  12:15 PM <b>Small Group (online)</b>	<b>10</b> 1:30 PM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>11</b> 4 PM <b>Faith Exploration (online)</b>  7:30 PM <b>Kairos (online)</b>	<b>12</b> 10 AM <b>Bible Study (online)</b>  10:15 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>13</b> 10 AM <b>Photo Club, (online)</b>  7:00 PM <b>Bible Study (online)</b>	<b>14</b> 10 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 10 AM <b>Worship, (online)</b>  12:15 PM <b>Small Group (online)</b>	<b>17</b> 1:30 PM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>18</b> 4 PM <b>Faith Exploration (online)</b>  7:30 PM <b>Kairos (online)</b>	<b>19</b> 10 AM <b>Bible Study (online)</b>  10:15 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>20</b> 10 AM <b>Photo Club, (online)</b>  7:00 PM <b>Bible Study (online)</b>	<b>21</b> 10 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 10 AM <b>Worship, (online)</b>  12:15 PM <b>Small Group (online)</b>	<b>24</b> 1:30 PM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>25</b> 4 PM <b>Faith Exploration (online)</b>  7:30 PM <b>Kairos (online)</b>	<b>26</b> 10 AM <b>Bible Study (online)</b>  10:15 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>27</b> 10 AM <b>Photo Club, (online)</b>  7:00 PM <b>Bible Study (online)</b>	<b>28</b> 10 AM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>	<b>29</b>
10 AM <b>Worship, (online)</b>  12:15 PM <b>Small Group (online)</b>	1:30 PM <b>Motion Class (online)</b>					

## Prayer Concerns

Family of Ray Lussier; Edna Luffey; Paulette Collins; Mort Weishahn; Morie Oberg; The family of Nancy Corl; Lee Hunt; Paddi Just and the family; the family of Pauline Webber; Teresa Berenger (Madeleine Trouerbach's daughter); Sherry Banks; the family of Judy Buhlis; Jerry Patterson and Dana Miller (brother and daughter of Bob Patterson); Robert Johnson (former colleague of Karen Jarrell); the family of Helen Holzinger (Joan's mother); Annette Allan (Noel Stout's sister); the family of Parker Walker; Ron Driskell (Karen Jarrell's colleague); Gary Dwiggin; Hailie James; Leota Merrithew, family of Teresa Morin Stanton (friend of Lee Hunt); Victor Nozzolillo; the Fleming family (Darlene, Steve, Denise Roby, & Michael); Laureen Kelly and Linda Goodman (nieces of Darlene); Gary Spearie (Paula Hammond's brother); those who continue to be impacted by natural disasters and the COVID-19.

# Wayfarer

August 2020 issue

**El Sobrante United Methodist Church**  
670 Appian Way, El Sobrante, CA 94803



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Resident Bishop, Minerva Carcaño  
District Superintendent, Schuyler Rhodes  
Pastor, Emily Pickens-Jones  
Director of Music, Eileen M. Johnson  
Lay Leader, Jacqueline Corl-Seidel  
Lay Minister, Charlene Kafer  
Treasurer, Marilyn Lomelino  
Office, Erika Cortez

### Find ESUMC online

[www.esumconline.org](http://www.esumconline.org)

Facebook, search for "El Sobrante United Methodist Church"