



Thank You and Goodbye!

Five years of our journey together seems to have gone by very fast. This will be my last letter as I intend to invite your new pastor (we don't know who at this time) to write a brief introductory note for the month of June. I'd like to thank you all for the wonderful and graceful journey with you. My family and I are grateful to every one of you for your love and support.

This is a time of transition as well as an extremely important time in the life of Simpson UMC, and I am trusting God to lead you into a wonderful future. God's message to you is this: "*I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the LORD; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope*" (Jeremiah 29:11). Every transition or change comes with challenges and blessings. It comes with curiosity, expectation, excitement and energy. It is a time to start anew – new vision, new relationship and new direction. Seizing the opportunity and supporting each other through changing and challenging times with care and sensitivity will bring you into that place to which God is constantly beckoning you. I have no doubt that you will welcome and embrace your new pastor with love and compassion as you have done to me.

Our relationship as pastor and congregation will change dramatically. While I will always be your friend, I will no longer be your pastor or be available for weddings, funerals or other events. Your new pastor will have the privilege of being involved in your lives, and I ask that you do your absolute best to welcome and help him/her.

My life has been a series of adventures. The journey ahead is one more such opportunity that I have decided to accept, although I love serving among you. Please keep my family and me in your prayers just as we do the same for all of you. You've been such an important part of my life, and I thank God for the gift of serving and journeying together.

Shalom – Be Well Always!
Tezenlo Thong

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MAY, 2017

We invite you to read and study these passages in preparation
for our Worship Services.

May 7 - Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

May 14 - Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 21 - Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 28 - Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 7:1-11



A big **THANK YOU** to our faithful volunteers Bess Joko, Julia Kamura, George Kawamura and Grace Tochiara for preparing the April Newsletter for mailing on March 28th. Could NOT do it without your help!

You are very much appreciated!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendar and be prepared for a week of fun and learning! Vacation Bible School will be July 24—July 29, 2017. “Camp Out With God” God loves you s’ more than you know. Plan to bring your children and grandchildren to our VBS.

For further information, please contact our Sunday School teacher, Brenda Schroder Morris at 303.981.0391

Simpson United Methodist Church

6001 Wolff St., Arvada, CO 80003-6833

Main Office Phone: 303-428-7963

Email: simpsonumc@comcast.net Website: www.simpsonumc.com

Senior Pastor: Rev. Tezenlo Thong Email: PastorSUMC@gmail.com

Japanese Language Instructor: Miwa Steuben

Church Pianist: Chen Wu Choir Director: Debbie Willeford

Administrative Assistant: Mari Welch Bookkeeper: Lilly Quirk

Director, Youth & Children: Scott Pelletier Children’s Sunday School Teacher: Brenda Schroder



Scan this QR code on left with a QR code reader on your smartphone or tablet and the device will take you right to our new website.

Amazon Smile Link:

Purchases through this link on Amazon benefit our church.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-0507792>

VISION 2017-2019

SIMPSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The focus of our ministry for the next three years, 2017-2019, will be on youth and children. In a way, this is a continuing effort to rejuvenate our church, and we could call the proposed vision *Rejuvenation II*.

We often refer to our children as “the future of our church” or “future leaders.” If it is true, it is also obvious that we don’t have a viable future, because we do not have a sustainable number of children, youth and young parents in our church. Our future is now, and what we do now will determine the future existence of our church. An active and vibrant presence of children, youth and young families will ensure the continued existence of our church beyond us. If we want the church to continue and carry on our legacy, we need to invest in this particular area of ministry now. Therefore, it is with this ministerial concern and urgency, we will focus on engaging in ministry to the youth, children and their families for the next three years. Below you will find the details for 2017.

THEME

“The Future Begins Today”

PLANNED EVENTS FOR 2017

DATE	EVENT/ PROJECT	LEAD ORGANIZER
May 7, 2017	May Day Basket	Brenda
June 10, 2017	Sushi Extravaganza!	Scott
July 17-20, 2017	Vacation Bible School	Brenda
August 6, 2017	UMC Water World	Scott
September 3, 2016	Rally Sunday	Brenda
October 27, 2017	Trunk-Or-Treat & Spooktacular!	Brenda: Trunk-Or-Treat Scott: Spooktacular!
November 19, 2017	Thanksgiving Mission Trip (DenUM)	Scott
December 10, 2017	Christmas Pageant	Brenda
Youth & Children Summer Lock-in		Brenda & Scott

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Is when we honor those graduating from high school.

Sunday, June 11, 2017

CHANGE OF DATE

Friday, September 8, through Sunday, September 10, 2017 is Simpson's All Church Retreat

**“Reconnect,
Reinvent,
Rediscover”**

GROCERY GIFT CARDS

Don't forget to purchase new cards or reload your already existing cards! Simpson receives 5% of all reloads which will go towards helping those in need. We will be waiting in the foyer right after worship on the 1st Sunday of the month to sell these gift cards. If you need a gift card any other time of the month, please call Bob Fujioka at 303-233-8179 or Charlotte Namba at 303-425-7318.

JAPANESE ELDER WELLNESS GROUP

We will meet on the 4th Wednesday of May (May 25) at Simpson from 11:00 am –1:00 pm. Our time together consists of a light lunch, exercise, music, games and a time for community. The food for lunch is always very good and it is fun to see old friends and to meet new ones, Please invite your friends to come join us. **Hope to see you there.**

“Reflections Calendar”

We have had some great discussions on our study of “Believe: Living the Story of the Bible to Become Like Jesus.” Please join us either on Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. or on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. Here is the schedule of upcoming gatherings through June 2017:

May 9 and May 13
May 23 and May 27

June 6 and June 10
June 20 and June 24

IN MEMORY OF:

Julius Otsuki
Nobuko Furuiye

BY:

Yvonne Nakagawa
Carol Yamamoto

***THANK YOU***

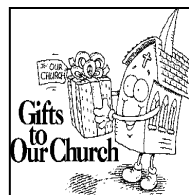
BOILER FUND: Jennifer Lim, Tsuguo Fujita, Japanese Wellness Group, Simpson Bridge Club

HINA MATSURI: M/M Guy Allmeyer, Nichigo Division

UMCOR: (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

Anonymous; Mary Everitt; M/M Owen FitzSimons; Clara Hashimoto; Julia Kamura; Paula Matsumoto; Alben Sakaguchi; Ruth Shinto; Nancy Shock; Grace Tochihara

SCHOLARSHIP : Joseph N. Uemura Trust



All gifts great and small are appreciated equally.

OUR CARE CORNER**Prayers for Those Experiencing Grief:**

The family of Mas Nonaka

Those Experiencing Health Issues:

Masa Nishimura, Miyoko Wells, & Helen Goto

CHURCH BAZAAR REQUEST FROM BAKE SALE LADIES

The Church Bazaar is May 6, 2017. The bake sale needs your donations. We appreciate all the yummy treats the ladies provide each year. We especially need donations of smaller items. If you are able to help out with these items our wish list includes: cookies, small dessert bars, brownies, candies, those cute little sweet breads and other small desserts. Thank you from the bake sale ladies.

67th Annual Asian Food Bazaar

May 6

11:00 a.m. —3:00 p.m

Please join the people of Simpson United Methodist Church for our 67th Annual Asian Food Bazaar. The bazaar includes a chow mein and beef teriyaki dinner plate (suggested donation \$10-adult and \$6 children) as well as sushi, omanju, home baked desserts and various gift items.

Monetary donations to defray the rising price of meat helps in keeping our Church Bazaar costs down. We appreciate your donation of \$10. Also, volunteers are always appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Kitayama, William Murakami, Mary Nishiyama or Tom Fujita.

Thank you from the Bazaar Committee

Memorial Day Service **Sunday, May 28th—10:00 am**

It is the tradition at Simpson UMC to remember those who have passed from this life to eternal life during our Sunday service of worship on Memorial Day weekend. This special service of worship will take place Sunday, May 28th, at 10:00 am.

As part of our remembrance, the families of those who have passed away since Memorial Day 2016, are invited to participate in the service by lighting a candle honoring heir loved ones. Please join us for this special service of worship and time of remembrance.

**YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO REGISTER
FOR SIMPSON'S 2ND ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

DATE: May 20, 2017
 CHECK IN: 7:00 am
 TEE TIME: 8:00 am
 WHERE: Indian Tree Golf Course

Registrations and fees are due by May 13, 2007 (see the registration, donation and hole sponsor form that is part of this newsletter)

All proceeds from this tournament will go toward replacing the current boiler system at Simpson UMC. Please invite your friends to join us for a day of fun, great food, and making new friends!

Easter Lilies

From

M/M Tad Asano
 M/M Dion Dishong
 Mary Everitt
 M/M Owen FitzSimons
 Karen Freml
 M/M Bob Fujioka
 M/M Tom Fujita, Esther Fujita

 M/M Dan Goto
 Dan & Patty Goto, Gordon & JoAnn
 Studebaker, Jim & Sharon Tingstrom
 Ruby Hada
 Hiroko Hansen
 Clara Hashimoto
 Mary K. Ida
 Mark & Patra Iritani
 Julia Kamura, Bess Joko
 M/M George Kawamura
 Robin Miyahara

 Paula Matsumoto

 Rev. John Miyahara Family

 Ritsuko Munn
 Jane Nakama
 M/M Ken Namba
 Mary Nishiyama
 Aiko Okubo
 Nobuko Powell, David Powell
 Debbie Willeford
 M/M Steve Ozawa
 Jenny Mahoney

In Memory Of/In Honor Of

Asano and Kimura Families
 Cliff Cornish, Tony Sandavol
 Martin Everitt
 Wesley Miyamoto
 Belva Freml
 M/M Joe Fujioka, M/M Bert Sueda
 Rev. Jonathan Fujita, Sumiko Fujita Haynes,
 Erik Haynes, Ichiro Fujita, Jean Ward
 George Goto
 Jess and Mary Masunaga

 Ted Hada, Gene & Haruko Sasa
 D/M Miyamoto, M/M Tsubokawa
 Norman Hashimoto, Parents
 Tom Ida
 Daniel & Irene Iritani
 Tom and Ruth Kamura, Richard Joko
 Wally & Masae Sagara, Ejiro & Koto Kawamura
 Min Yamamoto, Betty Kawano, Roy Tanaka,
 Wilbur Tanaka, Dorothy and Saburo Tanaka
 Sam & Doris Matsumoto, Kristine Motoyoshi,
 Kelly Dolezal
 Mitsutaro & Setsuko Miyahara,
 Ben & Florence Miyahara
 Danny, Terry & Eugene Munn
 Mary and Naoye Suzuki
 M/M Charles Miyoshi, M/M Seiichi Namba
 Massey Nishiyama
 Hank Okubo, Candance Okubo, Jane Okubo
 William Powell, Joyce and Danny Stenson
 Ethel McKee, Marilyn Willeford
 In Celebration of Easter
 In support of Bishop Oliveto's election
 as our Bishop

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY 2017

We invite all friends of Simpson to take a professional photograph at no cost by Bettinger Photography. This photograph of you and your family along with your current contact information will be included in Simpson's new directory. If you have your photograph taken, you will receive a free 5 x 7 portrait along with a free church directory. If you choose not to have your photograph taken, you will have to purchase a directory. Photographs will be taken at Simpson on May 19, 20, 21 and 22. We will have sign up sheets at Simpson.

If you would like to have your portrait taken now or in the near future, you may call Bettinger Photography for an appointment at their studio or make an appointment online. These photographs will be taken at their studio indoors or outdoors. For those of you who live in the southern part of the city or will have students home for Spring break before May, this may be more convenient for you.

This is a great way to keep in contact with your Simpson friends and a great way to have a professional portrait of you, your family, and you may even want to include your pet.

BETTINGER PHOTOGRAPHY

Scheduling: 303.400.6023

Toll Free Scheduling: 866.912.9067

Www.Pictorial Services.com

2431 South University Boulevard

Denver, CO 80210

Thanks,

The Directory Committee



OFFICE SCHEDULE CHANGES:

For your information:

Monday, Tuesday:	8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.	Mari will be in the office
Wednesday:	9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.	Lilly will be in the office
Thursday:	8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.	Mari will be in the office
Friday:	8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.	Mari/Lilly will be in the office

Simpson United Methodist Church Golf Tournament

Simpson United Methodist Church is a multicultural congregation rooted deeply in the Japanese American culture and experience. With 110 years of ministry in the name of Jesus Christ and the Japanese American Community of the Greater Denver area, we are continually creating new pages in the history of Simpson United Methodist Church. Along with celebrating and preserving the Japanese culture, we worship together, we celebrate Hina Matsuri and Keiko-No-Hi, we host the Asian Food Bazaar, we collect and deliver food for the hungry, we receive loose change each month to support other ministries, and so much more.

This is the second annual golf tournament hosted by Simpson United Methodist Church. The proceeds from the tournament will go towards replacing our current boiler system. We would like to invite you and your friends to join us for a day of fun, great food, and get to know a group of terrific people.

The golf tournament will accommodate the first 60 golfers who register before May 13. Golf registration includes green fee, cart, and award banquet / meal. All play is in foursomes, however, if you do not

have a foursome, you can still register and we will team you up with other fantastic players. All sponsorships and donations are tax deductible.

Location

The tournament will take place at Indian Tree Golf Club. Located about 20 miles west of downtown Denver, Indian Tree Golf Club is located at 7555 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, Co. 80003. The Indian Tree course is a public golf course that opened in 1970, designed by Richard M. Pheips. It features 6,742 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 70.

Date & Time

Saturday May 20, 2017
Tee Time is at 8:00 am
Check-in is at 7:00 am

Format

Each team will consist of 4 golfers (open, women, and mixed (2 men and 2 women)) and will complete in a scramble format. Players will select the best lie after each shot and play their next shot from the selected lie throughout the round.

Detachable registration form at right.

Any questions, please contact:
Allen Sakaguchi: agsakaguchi@comcast.net
Or
Ruby Hada: rubyhufalio@comcast.net

Registration Form

- Individual Player \$125
 - Senior Player (age 65 and older)..... \$100
 - Please add me to a foursome
- Team Name (if applicable) _____

Team Category

- Open Women Mixed (2 men and 2 women)

Player 1 (Team Contact): _____

Street: _____

City: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Members of Your Team

Player 2 _____

Contact info _____

Player 3 _____

Contact info _____

Player 4 _____

Contact info _____

Hole Sponsor \$50 / hole
(individual or company name on one course hole)
Special recognition in Award Banquet program.
Name of Sponsor: _____

Other Donation \$ _____
Any amount will be greatly appreciated. Please make check out to Simpson UMC, attn: Golf Tournament Donation.
Special recognition in Award Banquet program

Please mail completed registration form, along with your entry fee by May 13, 2017 to:
Simpson United Methodist Church
Attn: Golf Tournament
6001 Welft Street
Arvada, CO 80003

Simpson United Methodist Church

Arvada CO 80003-6833

Telephone: 303/428-7963, Fax: 303/427-1577

www.simpsonumc.com

MAY

2017

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Children Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Email: simpsonumc@comcast.net

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday	2	3	4 7:00 am Make Mochi Manju 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	5 9:00 am Finalize Bazaar Preparation.	6 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Asian Food Bazaar	
7 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE/ Communion SS/Youth O.N.E. Committee May Day Baskets	8 10:00 am Ukulele	9 9:30 am Reflections	10	11 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 10:00 am Staff Mtg. 10:00 am - Bridge Game Day	13 9:00 am Japanese Language Class Talko 12:30 pm Reflections
14 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE/SS Youth Trustees	15	16	17 Articles for Newsletter to office by noon.	18 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	19 10:00 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 - 8:00 pm Directory pictures Nichigo Sanctuary	20 9:00 am Japanese Language Class Talko 6:00 am - Amache Pilgrimage 7:00 am - Golf Tournament 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Directory Pictures in Nichigo Sanctuary
21 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE SS/Youth 11:00 am - Knit & Crochet Retreat Com. in Sanctuary 11:30am - 12 noon Directory Pictures in Nichigo Sanctuary	22 9am-5pm Directory Pictures Nichigo Sanctuary 10:00 am Ukulele	23 9:00 am - Assemble Newsletter 9:30 am - Reflections	24 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Japanese Elder Wellness	25 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	26 10:00 am Staff Mtg.	27 12:30 pm - Reflections
28 9:00 am - Choir Rehearsal Worship Service/Memorial Service SS/Youth Pastor Thong's last Sunday	29 Memorial Day Office Closed 11:00 am - Fairmount Memorial Serv.	30	31 6:00 pm - Finance Committee 7:00 pm - Ad Council			

LITURGISTS

May 7 Cindy Kondo
May 14 Tom Fujita

May 21 Pat Hayashi
May 28 Owen FitzSimons

GROCERY CERTIFICATES

Bob Fujioka

USHERS

Tim Cleary

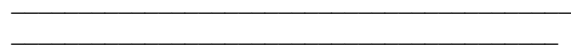
Simpson United Methodist Church
6001 Wolff St
Arvada. Co. 80003-6833

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MAY 2017

Phone: 303 428 7963
email: simpsonumc@comcast.net
WWW.SIMPSONUMC.COM

Or Current Resident



67th Annual Asian Food Bazaar
Saturday, May 6, 2017
11:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m

Please join the people of Simpson United Methodist Church for our 67th Annual Asian Food Bazaar. The bazaar includes a chow mein and beef teriyaki dinner plate (suggested donation \$10-adult and \$6 children) as well as sushi, omanju, home baked desserts and various gift items. Simpson United Methodist Church is located one block east of Sheridan Blvd. on 60th Ave. in Arvada, just north of I-76.