



The Christian Calendar is broken into several different seasons; each celebrating the central mystery of our faith. Each year has two Christ-centered cycles: Advent-Christmas-Epiphany and Lent-Easter-Pentecost. Each cycle begins with a season of preparation (Advent and Lent) followed by seasons of celebration (Christmas-Epiphany and Easter-Pentecost). The seasons after Epiphany and Pentecost are called Ordinary Time because they stand between the Christ-centered cycles and have no central theme. Beginning on Easter, we have entered into a new season of the Christian Calendar.

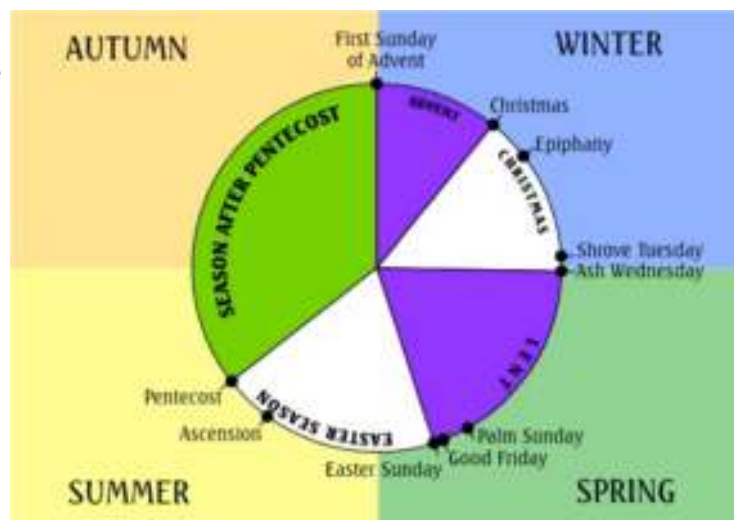
The Easter Season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset on Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. During the Easter Season, we celebrate the resurrection of Christ, ascension of Christ and the giving of the Holy Spirit. The Sundays in the Easter Season often include: Holy Humor Sunday, Ascension Sunday, Mother's Day (not officially part of the Christian Calendar) and Pentecost Sunday.

Holy Humor Sunday, or Bright Sunday, was a custom that was initially developed by the Greeks and was observed the Sunday after Easter. It was to be a day of joy and laughter in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. Some services were based upon the themes of "the joke is on you, Satan" and claims that "God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead." Churchgoers and pastors played practical jokes on one another, told jokes, sang silly songs and danced. Maybe we should consider incorporating Holy Humor Sunday into our worship schedule next year.

Ascension Day commemorates the ascension of Jesus into heaven. After His resurrection, Jesus preached, encouraged and stayed in relationship with his disciples. Ascension Day marks not only the resurrection of Jesus from the dead but also His exaltation to Ruler and Lord. Celebrating Ascension is a reminder for us to reinvigorate our commitment to ministry as we participate in the Kingdom of God each and every day.

Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Easter, comes from the Greek word for fiftieth. Greek-speaking Jews called the Jewish Feast of Weeks the Day of Pentecost. The Feast was originally an agricultural festival celebrating and giving thanks for the "first fruits" of the early spring harvest. With the destruction of Jerusalem, the Feast was refocused to God's gracious gift of the Torah (law) on Mount Sinai. In the present day, churches recognize this day as a day in which the church received the gift of the Holy Spirit enabling the people of God to be witnesses of Christ's love.

We celebrate the Christian Calendar every year because our identity comes from the stories we tell and the rituals we participate in. We immerse ourselves in these stories because our culture loudly proclaims alternative stories that seek to tell us who we "should" be. Each year as we celebrate the different seasons of the Christian Calendar, our new experiences allow us to view the stories from a different perspective and develop a deeper love and dependence on Christ. As the flowers begin to push through the dirt, may this Easter Season be as new and colorful in your world as the awaiting May flowers.



Dear Members of the Simpson United Methodist Church

The Strategic Planning Team had an extremely successful first meeting on Saturday April 6th: The Team members are an impressive mix with a unique set of skills and experience. They are very motivated to do a good job and are confident that Simpson's future can be successful. Please support them as they reach out to the congregation for support and ideas. Please acknowledge their hard work and time commitment. Your enthusiasm is greatly appreciated. You can visit the SUMC website for more information. The Team has its own website page which is located in the upper right hand corner of the website or can be found at <http://www.simpsonumc.com/strategic-planning-team>. The Team has scheduled two more meetings in May to complete their work and hopefully by early June will have a product ready for review by the Ad Council and the Congregation.

The Bazaar is fast approaching at the time of the writing of this Report and the hard work of the Bazaar Committee and all the sub-Committees has once again surpassed amazing! With the congregation coming together each year to implement another successful Bazaar event the outcome truly emphasizes Simpson's ability to have a bright and prosperous future. Keep up the good work, your perseverance is appreciated by all.

The Ad Council has moved their monthly meetings to the last Sunday of each month after service. They need your support and attendance at these meetings to help them understand the congregation's thoughts and concerns. This is your opportunity to be involved and to keep informed. Please plan to attend these important meetings.

As always, please continue to reach out to us. We love hearing from you and appreciate any opportunity to help you stay connected and feel connected. What are your thoughts or concerns? We want to hear about you and your ideas!

On Easter Sunday (April 21), Christians around the world celebrate the joy of Jesus' resurrection. Easter teaches us that sadness and fear do not have the final word. Instead, our strength comes from the joy of knowing that God is bigger than our biggest fears. Dear God, thank you for Jesus and his resurrection. Fill us with your joy today and every day.

May grace and blessings be in your path,

Owen FitzSimons 303-910-2664

Paula Matsumoto 303-908-8456





Sunday school has been a great success for the 2018-2019 school year. We have had so much fun learning Bible lessons and having fun events like Rally Sunday, the Christmas Pageant, and the Easter egg hunt. I want to thank the congregation for all their support of this program. Coming next year I would love to have a Sunday school council to help support this ministry. We still need nursery volunteers! Please contact me if you have any interest in either the Sunday school council or nursery help. shericpelle@gmail.com

May 6th-The Holy Spirit comes

May 12th-Mother's Day crafts

May 19th- last regular school session.

May 26th-Start Summer programming. No Sunday school Memorial Day Weekend

Stay tuned for summer programming schedule dates. We plan to meet several times a month.

Thanks again for your support! Sheri

Wow! It's hard to believe the school year is coming to an end. We have had a great year. We have had many successful events including two great Lock-Ins, some thought provoking discussions, and a whole lot of fun!! I think we have a great foundation for next year.

May 5^h-discussion Sunday and youth council meeting

May 12th- Mother's Day Fundraiser????

May 19th-Boondocks!! Last Sunday for youth

May 26th No youth Memorial Day weekend.



In June we will start our summer programming. Stay tuned for upcoming summer events! Thanks for a great year! Stay in touch with events and fun summer activities!

If you can help with any of these activities, please notify me at aspell.901@hotmail.com

God Bless, Scott

Asian Camp and Junior High Camp Fundraiser

Mother's Day Breakfast, May 12th

Please join us in supporting our youth!

If you have any questions, please contact Tracy or Scott.

We are grateful for the many ways people support our church with generous gifts. It is part of our tradition to publicly thank those who give special gifts. However, as some prefer to donate anonymously, this is not a complete list of donors.



Given By

Peggy Osuga
Jimmy & Dianne Shinto

In Memory Of

Paul Osuga
Louise Kawakami

*In
Loving
Memory*

Gifts to the Church

Boiler Fund

Easter

Hina Matsuri

Human Relations Day

Newsletter

Bridge Club, Jacqueline Cornish, Karla Cornish,
Dion Dishong, Paula Matsumoto, Calvin Yukihiro,
Julia Kamura, Paul Sasa, Stome Tanita,
Johnny Barela, Sakura Square
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Namba
Curtis Higuchi

A big **THANK YOU** to our faithful volunteers Carol FitzSimons, Esther Hashiba, Julia Kamura, Ann Kitayama and Eileen Mayeda for assembling the April Newsletter for mailing on March 26, 2019.

We would NOT be able to do this without your help.

You are very much appreciated!

Church News

Hygiene kits

We are still collecting items for Hygiene kits for disaster victims. We are not asking for complete kits but would appreciate any items in any amount. Thank you. To refresh your memory here is a list of what is needed:

Hand towels	Bath size soap bars
Washcloths	Adult toothbrushes
Combs	Adhesive bandages
Toenail or fingernail clippers	Re-sealable one-gallon bags

Reloadable King Soopers Gift Cards – Big Change in Benefits

If you purchased one of the King Soopers Reloadable gift cards from Simpson, please note that there is a big change on how Simpson will receive their benefits. We have received approximately \$1,000 each year when you bought groceries, prescriptions and gas from King Soopers. Thanks to your participation we were able to continue our mission work.

To participate in the Community Rewards Program you will need to have a loyalty card (Sooper Card, Rewards Card), and a KingSoopers.com account. If you do not have a loyalty card, please visit any King Soopers customer service desk. In order to enroll in the Community Rewards Program you must have a loyalty card. Please visit for <http://www.kingsoopers.com> to set up your account. Once you have enrolled in the Community Rewards Program, search for Simpson United Methodist Church either by name or N1444 and then click on Enroll.

Purchases will not count until you have registered your loyalty card. You will not have to deal with the reloadable card again. Every time you use your Rewards card, money will be donated to Simpson. We are not sure what the percentage will be, but any amount will help with our mission work.

You are still able to use your gift card – zero it out and then you only have to use your loyalty card to help with our benefits.

New loyalty card members are welcome – just make sure you enroll in the community benefits program.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Charlotte Namba at 303-425-7318.

2019 Amache Pilgrimage!

Saturday, May 18th, 2019

Join us for the Amache Pilgrimage

COST: \$30.00 per Person (non-refundable)

The bus leaves Simpson UMC at 6:00.a.m. and returns at 6:00 p.m.

CONTACT: Frank Miyazawa 720 625-1193 or Hiroko Hung 303 979-4127

Easter Lilies

From

Jacqueline Cornish
Bob/Jane Fujioka
M/M Tom Fujita

Dan, Patty & Allyson Goto
Ruby Hada
Hiroko Hansen
Joe, Pat, Brian & Debi Hayashi
Jim Hardman & Pat Hayashi
Evelyn Hayashida
Mary K. Ida
Julia Kamura & Bess Joko
The Jess Masunaga Families
Paula Matsumoto
Rev. John, Andrea & Ben Miyahara

Robin Miyahara

Ray & Geanne Moroye
Ritsuko Munn
Don Nakama
Jane, Kristen & Heather Nakama
M/M Ken Namba
Mary Nishiyama
Yasuko Nonaka
Aiko Okubo
David Powell
Paul & Janet Sasa
Stacey Shigaya
Gloria & Catheryn Smith
Midori Takeuchi
Thomas Tanaka

Debbie Willeford
Calvin Yukihiro

In Memory Of/In Honor Of

Clifford Cornish & Uncle Tony
M/M Bert Sueda, M/M Joe Fujioka
Rev. Jonathan Fujita, Esther Fujita, Sumiko Fujita
Haynes, Erik Haynes, Ichiro Fujita, Jean Ward

Helen & George Goto
Ted Hada, Gene & Haruko Sasa
Dr/Mrs K Miyamoto, M/M Y Tsubokawa
Hayashi's and Mayeda's
Marjorie Hardman
Casey Hayashida & Gerri Ota
Tom Ida
Tom & Ruth Kamura, Richard Joko
Jess & Mary Masunaga
Sam & Doris Matsumoto, Rommy & Troi
M/M Mitsutaro Miyahara, D/D Ben & Florence
Miyahara
Betty Kawano, Roy Tanaka, Wilbur Tanaka,
Dorothy & Saburo Tanaka, Min Yamamoto
Grace Moroye, Hank Okubo
Danny, Terry & Robert Munn
Edna Nakama
Mary & Naoye Suzuki
Tom Udo, Takumi Mukai
Massey Nishiyama
Mas Nonaka, Mitchell Hamai
Hank Okubo, Daughter Candace Okubo
Nobuko Powell, Joyce Stenson
Harry & Mary Ida
Doug & Ruby Sagara
Miyako Smith, Johnie Smith Jr.

M/M I Tanaka, Yuki Nogami, William Tanaka, George
Tanaka
Marilyn Willeford (mother)
Robin Furuta



Simpson United Methodist Church

Arvada CO 80003-6833

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

www.simpsonumc.com

May 2019

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Children Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Email: simpsonumc@comcast.net

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Asian Food Bazaar 11:00 am—3:00 pm
5 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE Holy Communion SS/Youth 11:15 am Youth/Parent Mtg.	6 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm—Strategic Planning Committee	7 7:00 pm—Taiko	8 Noon—6:30 pm ECA—Summer Concert In FH	9 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	10 Bridge Game Day Memorial Lounge	11 9:00 am Japanese Language Class 9:30 am—Taiko 2:30pm-4:00 pm Break Bread Littleton UMC
12 Mother's Day 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE SS/Youth 11:15 Trustee Meeting	13 10:00 am Staff Meeting 10:00 am—Ukulele	14	15	16 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18 Amache Pilgrimage 9:00 am – Japanese Language Class 9:30 am—Taiko
19 9:00 am—Choir Rehearsal 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE Congregational Meeting During Service 11:15 Knit & Crochet Youth to Boondocks	20 10:00 am Staff Meeting	21 10:00 am—Taiko	22 11:00 am APDC Luncheon 6:00 pm Finance Committee	23 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	24	25 9:00 am – Japanese Language Class 9:30 am—Taiko
26 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE SS/Youth 8:30 am—S.P.R.C. 11:15 am—Ad Council"	27 Memorial Day Office Closed Fairmount	28 9:30 am Assemble Newsletter (?)	29	30 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	31 11:00 am Memorial Service with reception to Follow.	

LITURGISTS

May 05 Carol FitzSimons
May 12 Ruby Hada
May 19 Owen FitzSimons
May 26 Alivia Swanberg

GROCERY CERTIFICATES

Charlotte Namba

USHERS

Dan Goto
TBD
TBD
TBD

AV TECH

TBD
Todd Namba
John Hall
Dennis Kitayama

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MAY 2019

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Or Current Resident

