

Simpson News

July 2022 | Volume 53 | Number 7

The dividing conflict within the United Methodists Church — mainly the question of LGBTQ inclusion and affirmation — goes back to 1972, when the General Conference voted to add language to the denomination's Book of Discipline declaring that "the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching."

That language was revisited every four years at subsequent General Conference meetings until 2016, when delegates voted to hold a special session to finally settle the debate. At the 2019 special session, delegates narrowly voted to adopt what was known as the Traditional Plan, which upheld and strengthened language banning the ordination and marriage of LGBTQ United Methodists.

But the debate was hardly settled. Many LGBTQ United Methodists and their allies immediately vowed to resist and remain in the denomination.

Devastated by what he called the "poor witness" of the contentious special session, Bishop John Yambasu of Sierra Leone called a meeting of several bishops from outside the United States, as well as leaders from advocacy groups across traditionalist, centrist, and progressive views.

In January 2020, that unofficial mediation group announced it had reached an agreement: The Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation would allow traditionalist congregations and conferences to leave the United Methodist Church, taking with them their properties and \$25 million to form a new Methodist denomination. The post-separation United Methodist Church would meet later to repeal language barring LGBTQ United Methodists from ordination and marriage.

The Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation, brokered by 16 United Methodist bishops and advocacy group leaders from across theological divides, outlined a plan to split the mainline Protestant denomination over its disagreement about the ordination and marriage of LGBTQ United Methodists.

But before delegates to the General Conference, the denomination's global decision-making body, could vote on the widely endorsed protocol, so-called traditionalists went ahead and launched a new denomination, the Global Methodist Church. And, most recently, several representatives of groups identifying as centrist and progressive announced they no longer supported the protocol.

While legislation to enact the plan still likely will be considered at the next General Conference meeting, wavering support for the protocol leaves the United Methodist Church either imagining a new way forward or plunging into chaos, depending on whom you ask.

So what happened?

Mainly, bishops and advocacy group leaders say, too much time went by. Because of COVID-related delays to the General Conference meeting, four years will have passed by the time delegates finally can vote on the plan they negotiated. "There's a lot that's happened since that protocol was signed, and the context really has changed," said Bishop Thomas Bickerton of the New York Annual Conference, who recently became president of the denomination's Council of Bishops. "We're sad about these departures that are happening, but to think that the protocol is going to be the great solution, I don't know that it will, because it's in the hands of these delegates who are going to amend it and change it and make it what they want."

To read the full article visit: [What Happened to United Methodists' Proposal to Split the Denomination? - United Methodist Insight \(um-insight.net\)](https://um-insight.net)

Simpson News and Events

Church Picnic and Worship

Join us on Sunday, July 24th at Clear Creek Valley Park
We will have service at 10:00 at the park and the picnic to follow.
Please bring a side dish to share. Come enjoy the shade, fields,
playground, fishing and fellowship.

Clear Creek Valley Park
3700 W 58th Pl.
58th and Tennyson



Honoring the Nichigo Congregation

The Nichigo Congregation has contributed to the long history of Simpson United Methodist Church. This year, the Nichigo Congregation has merged with the English-speaking portion of the church.

At the Church Picnic, we will be honoring our Nichigo Congregation members. We will also be raising money to purchase a bench as the start of Simpson's Meditation Garden. If you want to contribute funds for the bench, please designate Nichigo Bench on the memo line or comment field.

Helping Youth Go to Asian Camp



Several Simpson Youth have expressed interest in attending the 2022 Asian Camp in California.
Would you be willing to help financially?

If so, please mark "Asian Camp" on the memo line.

Simpson News and Events

Grocery Rebate for Simpson

For those of you who shop at King Soopers for your weekly groceries, please consider signing up for the Community Rewards Program. All you need to do is get a loyalty card at any King Soopers store and then enroll in their program. Please visit <http://www.kingsoopers.com> to set up an account. Once you have enrolled in the 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. Every time you shop and use your loyalty card, Simpson will receive a percentage of your purchases, no matter how small. If you need help in enrolling, please call Charlotte Namba at 303-425-7318. Thank you for your time and participation in this program.

Peaches

Good news all!!! We have been contacted by the Peach Farm and informed they worked very hard to keep their trees protected during the last late Spring snow/freeze and they anticipate having a great crop this year. The peaches will be ready for us sometime in August but at this moment we are not able to provide an order form. As with many other situations at this time truck drivers have been very difficult to find and of course the daily uncertainties of fuel cost. Simpson, will provide the order form just as soon as we have details so please be patient and ready to make your order soon. Don't forget to pass the word and let all your friends and family know about the best peaches in the West.

Thanks,
Mo Mo Taru

Order Form
Coming
Soon!!

Please check our website



Thank You Very Much

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. Please note that as some prefer to donate anonymously, this is not a complete list of donors. Giving information as of June 26, 2022.



In Memory of:

Tom Ida
Julius Otsuki and William Otsuki
Reiko Urano
Johnie & Miyako Smith, Mas &
Yasuko Nonaka, Mary Nishiyama

Given by:

Mary K. Ida
John & Judy Codrea
Mae Ida
Catheryn Smith & Gloria Smith

Thank you to

Paula Matsumoto for donating 8 gallons of hand sanitizer and two pumps.

In Appreciation

Art Arita
Aiko Okubo – for May Basket

In Honor of 2022 Graduates

Joel Nishida

In celebration

Madisen's High School graduation by Dan, Marni, and Jory

Donation to O.N.E. Team

Brian Lee

Utilities

Charlotte and Ken Namba
Alan Suzuki
Barbara Wong

Simpson Youth Group

Upcoming Events

Please RVSP to all events - revdenise@me.com or 303-882-8641.

DATE AND TIME

July 11-15

June 26-July 1

July 24-July 29

ACTIVITY

Summer Mission Trip (\$\$)

Junior High Asian Camp

Asian Camp

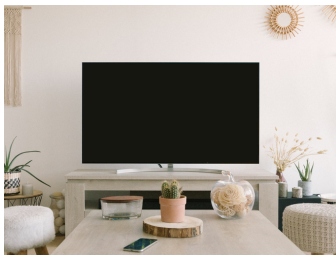
Asian Camp!

Where: Camp Lodestar
(6135 Blue Mountain Rd, Wilseyville, CA 95257)

Asian Camp for 10th graders - college sophomores
will be on **July 24th - July 29th, 2022.**

Junior High Camp for 6th-9th graders will be on
June 26th-July 1st, 2022.

Applications will be available on April 20, 2022. Visit
<https://www.njaumccamps.org/> to learn more!



Do you have an extra TV at your house?

The Youth Group's TV went up in smoke
(literally)!

Please contact the church if you can
donate a TV for our Youth.

Thank you!

Serving Our Neighbors

Breakfast Casseroles

Thank you so much for the help preparing the breakfast casseroles for Arvada Mission. Thank you to our helpers:

Ken & Charlotte Namba
Owen & Carol FitzSimons
Jane Nakama
Julia Kamura
Emily Lundberg



Please forgive me if I left anyone out unintentionally. We appreciate all of you!

John & Terry Hall

Blessing Box Donations

Below is a suggested list of items for the Blessing Box. Many of these items can be purchased at dollar stores and are the ideal size for the Blessing Box.

- Peanut butter (small jars)
- Hamburger Helper or similar
- Individual puddings, fruit cups, and apple sauce
- Cereal and granola bars
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Vienna sausages (little cans)
- Canned instant foods like Spaghetti O's
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Tooth brushes
- Deodorant
- Diaper Wipes
- Laundry soap (small packages)
- Dish Soap
- Hand Soap



Your donated items may be left in the church hallway or the outer office and we will be glad to place them in the storage area for distribution. Thank you so much for your help.

Community Events

COVID Study

Simpson is participating in a study called, "Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations." This study explores the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on thousands of Christian churches in the United States. It includes in-depth studies of churches like Simpson to explore how congregational members and their pastors engaged with the challenges and opportunities presented by the Covid-19 pandemic and how they continue to adapt and change.

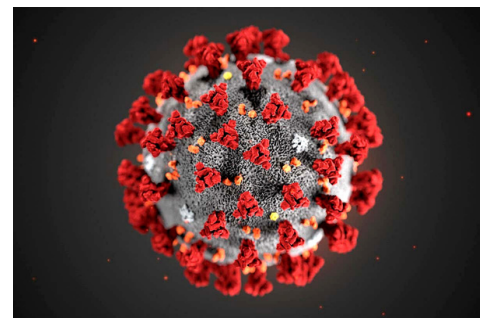
This survey asks questions about your congregations' patterns of attendance, budget and giving for the previous two years, religious education patterns, partners in ministry, and programs/ministries, and response to the pandemic, among other topics. It will take approximately 20-25 minutes to complete. Your participation in the research is voluntary. There is no penalty if you choose to not join research study. You are free to skip any question that you might not feel comfortable answering or may stop your participation at any time.

Your responses are anonymous and confidential. No one will be able to identify you or your answers, and no one will know whether or not you participated in the study. This research is no more than minimal risk. The level of risk is expected to be about the same as risks of daily life. This study will offer no direct benefit to you. Your church will get a copy of the overall findings. Likewise, sharing your experiences and thoughts will help us to better understand congregational life and the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. We would love to hear your thoughts and experiences during this trying time for America and its churches.

We are asking you to participate in the study. Please access the study at the following link:

[Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management](#)

Thank you for your help!



Community Events

2022 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage



The Heart Mountain Pilgrimage will be in-person and taking place on July 28-30, 2022. The 2022 event will feature a screening of Kishi Bashi's new documentary *Omoiyari: A Songfilm*, tours of the Heart Mountain historic site, educational sessions about exciting new projects, and much more. To learn more about the schedule and to register, please visit

<https://www.heartmountain.org/visit/events/pilgrimage/>.

Church Office Hours

Pre-Covid church office hours have been reinstated. Office hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday are 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. The office is closed on Wednesday. Friday office hours are 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

JULY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE Holy Communion	4 Office Closed Observe 4th of July Holiday	5	6	7	8	9 11 am—3 pm John Hall in Memorial Lounge
10 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 Trustees Prepare Casseroles after worship service	11 10-Noon Ukulele Memorial Lounge	12	13 6—10 pm JACGP Memorial Lounge	14	15	16
17 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 Finance	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 CHURCH PICNIC 8:30 am S.P.R.C. 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 am Ad Council ASIAN CAMP	25 Ukulele 10-12 Asian Camp 10th graders to sophomores in college	26 Asian Camp 10th graders to sophomores in college	27 Asian Camp 10th graders to sophomores in college	28 Asian Camp 10th graders to Sophomores in college	29 Asian Camp 10th graders to Sophomores in college	30
31 10:00 am Worship Service						

Simpson United Methodist Church
6001 Wolff St
Arvada, CO 80003-6833

July 2022

Phone: 303 - 428 - 7963

Email: simpsonumc@comcast.net

<https://www.simpsonumc.com>

