

Simpson United Methodist Church

Simpson News

November 2022 | Volume 53 | Number 11

The purpose of the Lewis and Clark Expedition was to explore the newly acquired western portion of the country after the Louisiana Purchase. For over 300 years, explorers had been looking for a water route connecting the Pacific Ocean to the Mississippi River. The experts were confident that this waterway existed. The assumption of previous explorers led Lewis to believe they would walk up a hill with their canoes on their backs and see the Pacific Ocean from the hilltop. After fifteen months of going upstream, they looked forward to letting the current swiftly whisk them down to the ocean.

It was assumed that the geography west of the Continental divide was the same as the geography to the east. All had believed that in the same way the land rose gently over thousands of miles to a peak, it would descend gently to the Pacific Ocean. Lewis knew he had to cross mountains but what he pictured were the rounded tree-topped bluffs of the Appalachians. In reality, there was no navigable river and no water route. Lewis discovered that 300 years of experts had all been completely and utterly wrong.

Instead of encountering a gentle slope to the Pacific Ocean, Lewis discovered the rugged and unpredictable snowy Rocky Mountains. At that moment, Lewis' plan had to be adapted. Lewis was a river explorer and planned to use his already proven skills to explore the new world by boat. They planned on rowing, and they thought the most challenging part was behind them. But in truth, everything they accomplished was only a prelude to what was in front of them. They had to adapt their skills and techniques to tackle the new challenge.

Simpson is currently undergoing a similar hilltop experience. The COVID pandemic has shifted the lifecycle of many businesses, including churches. Many congregations planned to rely on already proven ministries and existing relationships to carry the church into the future. Our world, culture, and religious traditions are changing.

For Simpson to continue sharing the Japanese American history and culture for future generations, the ministries at the church must adapt. In the months to come, church leadership will engage in church-wide conversations about the existing terrain and resources of the church. The leaders will also listen with open hearts to learn and adapt for the future. Most importantly, we will listen to the Holy Spirit to discern how God is calling this congregation into ministry in this place and at this time.

May we gather together for support in the new, adaptive future.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Leah

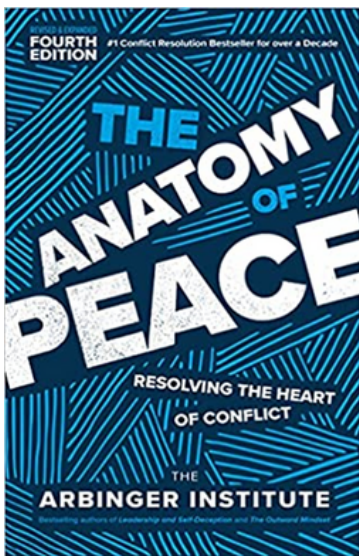
Simpson News and Events

Annual Church Conference



Simpson's annual Church Conference is **December 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. via zoom.** The church conference is a Holy conferencing meeting where we discuss the business of Simpson UMC and elect leaders for the new year. Please be sure to mark you calendars!

60th Anniversary Celebration Ikebana
International Denver Chapter 66
Friday, November 11
and
Saturday, November 12
at
Denver Botanic Gardens,
Mitchell Hall.



The Anatomy of
Peace Book
Study

Friday nights
at 6:00 pm

Hina Matsuri
Planning Meeting

November 13th at 9:00 AM

Come help with this
community event
and ministry to share the
Japanese American
History and Culture

Simpson News and Events

Gochiso Japanese Food Festival

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Thanks to all who helped with our first ever takeout food event. Dennis and I felt that everything worked out – with some last minute changes, of course. This Sunday, we will have an evaluation meeting and we will go over glitches, helpful suggestions, etc.

We want to thank all leaders for each food item: Kevin Shigio, Alan Suzuki, Jane Nakama, Elizabeth and Ellison Namba, Emma and Sarah Shigio, Carol FitzSimons, Pam Shinto, and Owen FitzSimons. A special thanks to John Hall who came up with the very colorful flier and order form; William Murakami who coordinated the orders when people were arriving for pick up; and, Todd Namba who brought in his “gang” to help with the grilling.

And thanks to all those who helped on event day and with the baked manju on the 24th and with the prep work on the 30th of September. It was a LOT of work but hopefully all the fellowship helped!! Thank you to Lynnette Namba and her clean-up crew – the Fellowship Hall and both kitchens are sparkling clean.

Dennis and Charlotte



Simpson News and Events

Worship Schedule

11/6/22	All Saints Sunday and Communion	The Saints Among Us
11/13/22	Ordinary Time	The Risen
11/20/22	Hanging of the Greens	Christ the King
11/27/22	1st Sunday of Advent	More Hope
12/4/22	2nd Sunday of Advent	More Peace
12/11/22	3rd Sunday of Advent	More Joy
12/18/22	4th Sunday of Advent	More Love
12/24/2022	Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 p.m.	Service of Scripture and Song
12/25/22	Christmas NO SERVICE	Enjoy Time with those you Love

Simpson News and Events

DISCOVERING ASIAN DIVERSITY
Cultural conversation & cuisine from China, Japan, & the Philippines
Sat. Nov 5, 2022 @ 11am - 1pm
presented by

SAKURA FOUNDATION

Join us as we share, explore, listen, & build bridges of understanding

- Hear stories & perspectives from Asian community members
- Discuss what it means to be Asian & how we can all be effective allies
- Enjoy a delicious lunch from Manila Bay Restaurant, Hong Kong Cafe, & Sushi-Rama
- *Vegetarian options available

HAPPY LIVING & WELLNESS ADULT DAYCARE
 14015 E Evans Ave
 Aurora, CO 80014

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

Guest Panelists:

Fran Campbell
Filipino American

Drew Domoto
Japanese American

Annie Guo VanDan
Chinese American

Advance tickets via EventBrite
 \$18 General Admission
 \$15 Sakura Foundation Members

<https://tinyurl.com/DADNOV2022>

Sponsoring partners:




Hanging of the Greens

Join us for Hanging of the Greens on **November 20** following service.
 Come decorate the sanctuary and church as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

JARCC Japanese American Resource Center of Colorado
 PRESENTS

Mobile Device Tips & Tricks
 How to Use Your Smartphone and/or Tablet




Where: Simpson United Methodist Church
 6001 Wolff St., Arvada, CO 80003

When: November 12, 2022

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

RSVP by November 10, 2022

Reservations Required, Seating is Limited

Scan this QR code or Sign-up on jarcc-denver.org to register
 Admission is Free!
 Donations are appreciated!
 JARCC is a 501(c)3

For questions, please contact us at jarcccolorado@gmail.com

observant calls encouraging
 non-judgmental phone
 prayers self-care
 supportive nourishing inquisitive
 empathy sympathy

Are you going through a difficult time or feeling alone? Let the Prayer Team help! Call Pastor Leah if you need assistance or want to be on the team!

Welcome Mirror Image Arts to Simpson

FROM THE TEAM AT MIRROR IMAGE ARTS

We want to thank the board of trustees and Pastor Leah for building a relationship and understanding of our organization, Mirror Image Arts. Our organization's passion and purpose is to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline by utilizing participatory theatre.

As a nonprofit organization, we utilize interactive theatre, positive youth development, and trauma-informed and restorative approaches. We work with youth (ages 7-21) in schools and juvenile detention centers. Through our work, we aim to give youth access to the arts while opening spaces for them to express themselves through play, imagination, and dialogue. To feel valued, seen, and heard. To be experts in their own lives and have the opportunity to make mistakes and come back stronger. To practice their resilience and their potential.

Mirror Image Arts was invited by the trustees to rent Rm #10, allowing our growing organization to create a welcoming office for our team. We now call Simpson United Methodist home. We are honored to be stewards of this space with you and look forward to meeting all of you.

If you'd like to learn more about us, please visit mirrorimagearts.org or email Theresa Mazza with any questions you might have at t.mazza@mirrorimagearts.org.

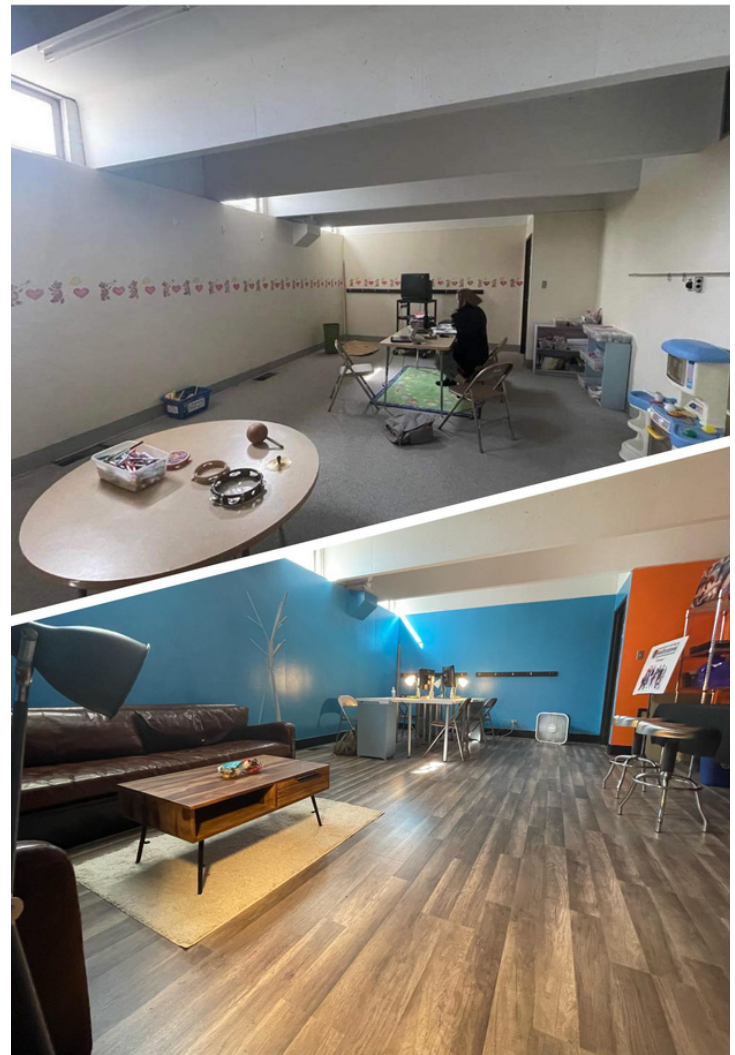




MIA STAFF MOVES IN AND GIVES ROOM 10 A FRESH LOOK

MIA's Remodel

INCLUDED IN THE RENOVATIONS - NEW FLOORING AND BASEBOARDS IN RM #8 WHICH IS A FLEX ROOM FOR MIRROR IMAGE ARTS STAFF FOR REHEARSALS AND MEETING SPACE WHEN NEEDED.



BEFORE AND AFTER VIEW

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 October 31, 2022.



O.N.E. Committee

George and Ruth Kawamura

Brian Lee

Sandie Nakayama

Ron Rigg

Chen Wu

Boxes of Tuna for Our Blessing Box

Alan Suzuki

Trustees' Account: Brian Lee

Utilities: Proceeds from the 2022 Arts & Crafts Showcase.
Charlotte and Ken Namba

World Communion Sunday Ruth Shinto, Leah Coleman

Thank you to:

Paula Matsumoto for the generous financial gift to defray the cost of supplies/food for Gochiso.

Other Gochiso Donations:

Jeff Osaka - rice and skewers

Pacific Mercantile - rice

Tom Uba

Calvin Yukihiro - use of his grill

Tim Taga

Cindy Kondo - meat thermometers

Noelle Maynell - take-out containers

NOVEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 All Saints Day	2	3	4	5 9:00 am Taiko
6 10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE Holy Communion Ad Council Meeting	7	8	9	10 5:30 pm Finance and Stewardship Meetings	11 Veterans Day Office Closed	12 9:00 am Taiko 10 am—2 pm MI using Room #8 12 noon—pm Dean Tsutsui "Mobile Phones— Tips and Tricks" Issei Sanctuary
13 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE	14 Ukulele 10-Noon Memorial Lounge	15	16 7:00 pm Trustees	17	18	19 9:00 am Taiko
20 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27 8:30 am S.P.R.C. 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE	28 Ukulele 10-Noon Memorial Lounge	29	30			

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

NOVEMBER 2022

Phone: 303 - 428 - 7963

Email: simpsonumc@comcast.net

<https://www.simpsonumc.com>

Or current resident

