

Simpson News

October 2023 | Volume 54 | Number 10



Rev. Brian with Bishop Roy Sano

During the last week of September, I represented Simpson at the National Japanese American United Methodist Caucus (NJAUMC) Retreat in Burlingame, CA. This gathering was the first one the caucus had since before the pandemic. It was an exciting opportunity for me because I was finally able to meet pastors like Rev. Allison Mark (Faith UMC - Torrence, CA), Rev. Karen Yokota Love (Blaine Memorial UMC - Seattle, WA), Rev. Akiko Miyake-Stoner (United Japanese Christian Church - Fresno, CA) and others in-person. Our time together was spent deeply conversing about the future and how the caucus can support all member congregations. In addition, I met Bishop Roy Sano, who signed my copy of an essential Asian American theology book he edited in 1976. Many of these NJAUMC pastors have inspired and supported me since my internship at Simpson. Now, they are inspiring and supportive colleagues as I become Simpson's pastor and their newest colleague.

A meaningful and memorable part of my time with the caucus was spent with Rev. John Miyahara, who grew up at Simpson. While some of you may remember him as a "very naughty boy," he has become an important mentor and role model for me. He continues to serve in the US Navy and was recognized as a distinguished alum by the Boston University School of Theology in August. You can read about Rev. John at <https://bit.ly/RevJohnM>.



Rev. Brian with Rev. John

On the last day of the retreat, Rev. John offered a moving devotion for the caucus. In it, he reflected on his thoughts as he held his newborn son. As a father, Rev. John shared his hope that he would be able to give his son two essential things - roots and wings. While I cannot do justice to Rev. John's exact words, it left an impression on me about our life together at Simpson and how we bless the people we encounter. My experience of Simpson is that you are a community that is rooted in the Japanese American experience and also a community where all can discover and reclaim their roots. Being rooted in one's identity gives one the freedom to soar. I believe that Simpson continues to be a community that is a safe perch for all to soar from to freely to be and become the people God calls them to be.

--Rev. Brian

Simpson News and Events

Kiero no Hi Potluck

Thanks to the members of Simpson and Westminster for their food contributions to the Keiro no Hi potluck luncheon to honor our over 80-years-old elders—there were so many yummy things to eat!

Special thanks to the following people for their help with food and special goodies preparation and clean-up. Your help was very much appreciated!

Karla Cornish	Bobby Wong
Noelle Maynell	Pam Shinto
Cindy Kondo	Patty Sauter
Cyndy Shiohita	Theresa Doi
Kaylin Shiohita	Terry and John Hall
Jan Ogawa	



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



Simpson News and Events

GOCHISO Japanese Food Festival

Simpson will host the Gochiso Japanese Food Festival this fall. You can order the form in the newsletter and also download it at <https://bit.ly/GOCHISO-Fall2023>.

Order forms with payment are due on October 23rd. You can pay electronically at <https://bit.ly/GOCHISOPay>. Order pickups will be on November 4th from 11 AM to 3 PM.



Knit and Crochet Group



The Simpson Knit and Crochet Group meets on the third Sunday of the month after Sunday worship in the Memorial Lounge. Many of the group donations provide warmth and love for cancer patients, the elderly and young children.



In addition, Simpson folks are welcome to join the Westminster UMC Prayer Shawl group on the second Tuesday of month at 10 AM in the Memorial Lounge.

New Simpson Leaders Needed!

One of my important responsibilities is identifying, preparing, training, and supporting the lay leadership at Simpson. As I begin my pastorate, my hope is that this time will be an opportunity for you to explore serving Simpson as a congregational leader alongside me. I'm seeking individuals who are willing to serve on the Nominations Committee to help me identify new leaders. In addition, I am also seeking individuals who might be interested on serving on the Board of Trustees, Finance Committee, and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC).

If you have questions about serving or would like to share your experiences of serving at Simpson, please contact me at revbrian@simpsonumc.com or 720-381-4129.

Simpson News and Events

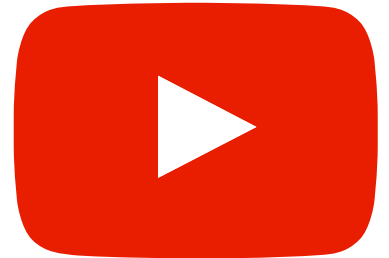
Zoom Worship and Youtube Channel

We will resume offering worship through Zoom starting August 6th. The Zoom link for worship is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87520951862?pwd=VUZlQkNMd2ZvSTZYVVd0eElUVZkQT09>

Simpson also has a Youtube channel now! Please go to <https://www.youtube.com/@SimpsonUMC-ArvadaCO/> and subscribe to it.

If you experience technical difficulties, please contact Rev. Brian at revbrian@simpsonumc.com or 720-381-4129.



Join the Joint Westminster-Simpson UMC Choir



All are welcomed to join the joint Westminster-Simpson Choir. The choir will rehearse in the Sanctuary at 9:15 AM on Sundays. If you interested in singing or know someone who might be, you may contact Judy Sapegin at orffgm@comcast.net.

If you would like to Rev. Brian at revbrian@simpsonumc.com.

Seeking Volunteers for Worship

Are you intersted in helping with worship? On the table in the Nichigo Sanctuary you will find sign ups for Lay Readers, Ushers, and Technology Assistants. We will do training and help anyone to help you join in.

If you would like to Rev. Brian at revbrian@simpsonumc.com.

Doumo Arigatou Gozaimasu

We are grateful for the many ways people support our church with generous gifts. Our tradition is 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 September 25, 2023.



In Memory of:

Yukio Furuiye
Emiko Ripley
Ruby Hada
Jane Shioshita
Johnie & Miyako Smith
Nobori Furuiye
Richard Iriye
Richard Iriye
Ritsuko Munn

Given by:

Masako Furuiye
Masako Furuiye
Nancy Wandt
Cynthia Shioshita
Catheryn Smith and Gloria Smith
Carol Yamamoto
Alan Suzuki
Joan Bruffy
Masako Furuiye

Wages

Masako Furuiye

Building Maintenance

Tad & Naomi Asano

Simpson's Stories

In the August newsletter, I asked for you to share stories of what you learned at Simpson about living a good life. Here is a reflection from Stacey Shigaya:

Over the years, Simpson has played a role in many stages of my life: as a Sunday School student I learned Bible Stories. As an adult, I was a Sunday School teacher and delighted in seeing the joy on the faces of the kiddos as they made crafts, hunted for Easter eggs, or saw Santa Claus in the Fellowship Hall. Recently I was part of the leadership at Simpson and learned more about the ins and outs of keeping our doors open and dealing with the many issues of maintaining a church. The Common Thread that ties all of these experiences together is the sense of family at Simpson and the very meaningful cultural connection we all have to one another, regardless of our ethnicities. I am blessed to feel at home when I am at Simpson and that I am part of a loving community.

GOCHISO Japanese Food Festival

Order Form

GOCHISO

SIMPSON JAPANESE FOOD FESTIVAL

Simpson United Methodist Church
6001 Wolff Street, Arvada, CO 80003

**Saturday,
November 4,
2023**

Pick up time:
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



**Must be in by OCTOBER 23
ORDER TODAY!**

Take out order form must include payment with your order (see two ways below).

Deadline for orders is October 23, 2023.

If you have any questions, please call Dennis Kitayama @ 303-550-4327 or Charlotte Namba @ 303-425-7318.

Please make your check payable to **Simpson United Methodist Church**.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Check Number: _____ OR Online Payment ☐

Description	Price	Quantity	Total Amount
Teriyaki Beef Bento	\$20		\$
Yaki Manju	\$12/tray of 6 pcs	tray(s)	\$
Sushi			
Maki Sushi Roll	\$12/roll	roll(s)	\$
Inari Sushi	\$10/tray of 6 pcs	tray(s)	\$
California Roll	\$12/roll	roll(s)	\$
Total	(you'll have to do your own math here, sorry)		\$

You can use the fillable fields, and either print & mail with a check; **OR email your saved form and pay online.**

Please mail your order form with payment to:



Simpson United Methodist Church
6001 Wolff Street
Arvada, CO 80003
Attention:
Simpson Food Festival Committee

OR to pay online, **1.** scan this bar code—



then 2. email your order form to:

SimpsonUMC@Comcast.net

Subject line:

Simpson Food Festival Committee

OCTOBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 am Worship Service Holy Communion 9-10 am WUMC Sunday School 1-5 pm Pastor Leo	2	3 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	4 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	5	6 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	7 9:00 am Taiko
8 10:00 am Worship Service 9-10 am WUMC Sunday School 1-5 pm Pastor Leo	9 10 am-noon Ukulele Memorial Lounge	10 10-11:30 am Memorial Lounge WUMC Prayer Shawl Group 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	11 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	12 1-2:30 pm WUMC UWF Deborah Circle Memorial Lounge 5:30 pm Finance and Stewardship	13 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	14 9:00 am Taiko
15 10:00 am Worship Service 9-10 am WUMC Sunday School - Memorial Lounge 1-5 pm Pastor Leo	16	17 7-8:30 pm WUMC Administrative Council in Memorial Lounge 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	18 7pm SUMC Trustees 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	19	20 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	21 9:00 am Taiko
22 10:00 am Worship Service 9-10 am WUMC Sunday School 11am-3pm Arts & Crafts Showcase 11 am SUMC Ad Council 1-5 pm Pastor Leo in Sanctuary	23 10 am-noon Ukulele Memorial Lounge 7-8:30pm WUMC UWF Memorial Lounge	24 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	25 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	26	27 7-10 pm Pastor Leo	28 8:00 am FH and kitchen area to make Yaki Manju 9:00 am Taiko 1 pm JARCC and SUMC Presents: Shang-Chi and The Legend of the 10 Rings
29 10:00 am Worship Service 9-10 am WUMC Sunday School—Memorial Lounge 1-5 pm Pastor Leo	30	31 7-10 pm Pastor Leo				

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

OCTOBER 2023

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Email: simpsonumc@comcast.net

<https://www.simpsonumc.com>