



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

The ParishScope March 2020



Lenten Study Starts Thursday, March 5th

This year St. Matthew's is going to read *Praying for Jennifer* by John Cobb for its Lenten Study. The Lenten class will meet for 4 weeks from 10:30 am 12 Noon starting on Thursday, March 5. The study will end on March 26.

Praying for Jennifer is about a teenager named Jennifer who is in a very serious auto accident and not expected to live. A nurse tells Jennifer's teenage friends that the only thing they can do to help Jennifer is pray. So even though most of the teens are not religious, they pray. Jennifer makes an amazing recovery. But then at a certain point, no matter how hard her friends continuing praying, Jennifer seems to stop making progress. So, the teens begin asking people questions to explain why their prayers were answered at first and then seemed to stop working. Most of the book is about the various answers people give the teens.

The book is available after church or at the study. Used copies (while they last) \$10, new copies \$14.



UMCOR Sunday, March 15th

The United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, is the humanitarian relief and development agency of the United Methodist Church. UMCOR Sunday is the time we help cover UMCOR's operating expenses. Because of people's generosity on UMCOR Sunday, whenever we take up a special offering – such as to help the victims of a disaster – during the rest of year, the entire special offering goes to help the people in need.

UMCOR, continued from first page . . .

UMCOR works globally to alleviate suffering, and to advance hope & healing. To realize its mission, UMCOR is organized into program areas focused on:

- U.S. Disaster Response and Recovery
- International Disaster Response and Recovery
- Sustainable Development
- Global Health
- Global Migration

UMCOR acts as the hands and feet of Christ's church, moving towards the most vulnerable in their time of need. Helping people in their darkest days doesn't have to be something someone else does. It can be something we do. Join with United Methodist congregations around the globe to share compassionate relief in the midst of devastation. Make a difference on UMCOR Sunday.



Celebrate the Seder (Passover) Meal on Sunday Morning, March 22

St. Matthew's UMC is joining with Blessed Chinese UMC to recreate the Seder (Passover) meal during 10 am Sunday morning worship on March 22. When Jesus gathered with his disciples in the Upper Room to share a meal which became communion, they were probably celebrating the Jewish Seder (Passover) meal. Many who have taken part in the Seder Service talk about how it deepened their faith and changed their experience of communion.

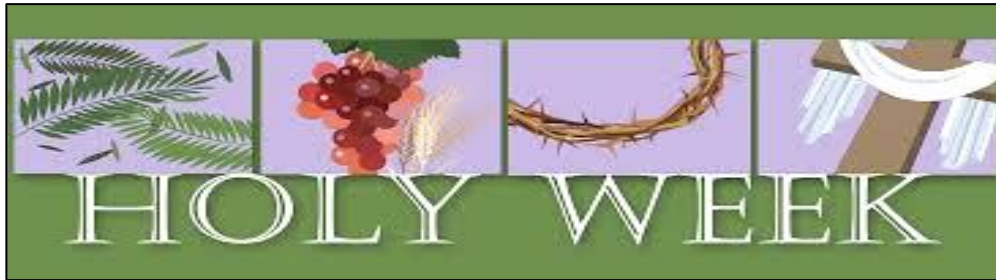
Instead of meeting in the Sanctuary, the two congregations will meet together in the Fellowship Hall at 10 am. Unlike communion which is a symbolic meal, the Seder Meal includes a full meal. Traditionally, it is a feast with lots of family and friends. So, on March 22nd the combined Sunday morning worship service will include lunch. The Feulner's are coordinating St. Matthew's part of the meal. And, the people of Blessed Chinese are preparing the other part of the meal.

The Seder Meal includes a number of special foods. They help people remember the events the Jewish people experienced as God led out of slavery in Egypt towards freedom in the promised land. These include:

- charoset (a mortar of chopped apples, nuts & cinnamon) to recall the mortar the Jewish people used as slaves as they built for the Egyptians
- bitter herbs to remember their tears
- unleavened bread (matzoh) as a reminder of how they had to pick up and go on a moment's notice when God set them free.

The Seder Meal is multi-generational. It includes special roles and games for children. And as it sometimes happens, if the youngest person present is 77, then this person takes on the special role of the child during the service.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Sanctuary and church office. Invite your family and friends to come and share in this unique worship service.



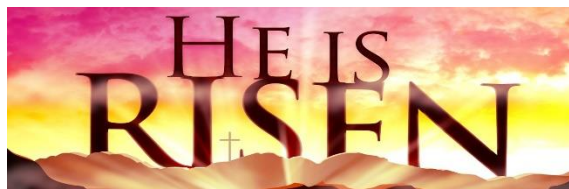
Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter – April 5 to 12



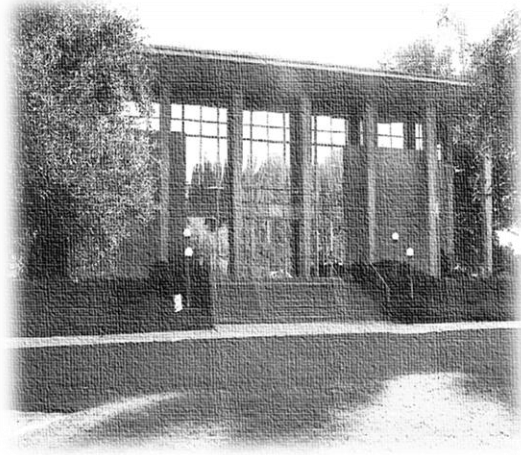
Palm Sunday, April 5 – There will be a procession of the Palms to remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem at the beginning of Holy Week. In addition, the sanctuary will be decorated with Palms. The service will end with a dramatic reading of the Passion Story from the Bible. Because the Seder Meal on March 22nd includes communion, there will *not* be communion on Palm Sunday.



Good Friday, April 10 – There will be a Prayer Vigil from 10 am to 2 pm. People can sign up to pray for 15 minutes (or longer) either in the Sanctuary or at home. Then, at 7 pm there will be a Good Friday service that includes a choir cantata.



Easter Sunday, April 12 – The Easter Cross will be on the front lawn for people to cover with flowers as they come to worship. At the 10 am service, there will be lots of special music from the Chancel Choir and the Bell Choir. The 10 am service will end outside with the congregation singing around the Easter Cross.



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Stewardship Campaign 2020

Hello St. Matthews Family,

I want to bring you up to date on our 2020 Pledge Campaign. We've had some informal talks letting you know what St. Matthew's financial needs are for 2020, as well as letting you know where and how your pledge money is used. We've also given you a "State of St. Matthew's" report after worship at an ice cream social. Thank you to Joy and Terry for organizing the ice cream social and to Diane and Chris for helping out as well.

The 2020 Pledge Cards were sent out February 18th. So far eighteen pledge cards have been returned. The pledge cards that were returned so far show an increase of about 5 ½ percent when compared to this time last year. Plus there are several people regularly in worship who give who weren't in worship last year. And, there are also people at The Palms who give to St. Matthew's as well, so that giving will help us as well.

If you haven't submitted your 2020 Pledge Card yet, there's still time get it in. You can bring it to Worship next Sunday and put it in the offering plate, or you can send it or bring it into the church office. However you decide to submit your pledge this year, we sincerely appreciate it. Thank you for all that you do for St. Matthew's.

Bob Hernandez
Chair, Finance Committee



News and Notes from St. Matthew's Preschool



Spring is quickly approaching, and St. Matt's has so many exciting things to look forward to. Staff and students alike are happy for the additional daylight that comes with this time of year. The children especially happy as they are afforded more outside learning and play time. To be honest, this translates into "FREEDOM AT LAST!" The students really love learning about all the changes that occur within the environment and the beauty of springtime.

As each new month approaches, we find ourselves more and more grateful to St. Matthew's for all the kindness and support the church members offer the preschool. This month we say thanks to some of the members of the men's breakfast club. Terry Feulner, Wes Brown and Rodney Kurimoto have kindly dedicated themselves to undertake several painting projects for the preschool. We also continually owe many thanks to Linda Hall who is forever looking for ways to help the school.

During the month of March we are also planning and preparing for our first fundraiser of the calendar year. It is a themed multi-basket raffle entitled "Together We Can". While this fundraiser may have some similarities to the Silent Auction Fundraisers of previous years, this year we are only raffling off baskets. The baskets will be displayed for four weeks during the month of April. Tickets for each basket will be available for purchase during the duration of their display. Please help us to ensure a successful fundraising event by telling your family members, friends and even acquaintances to buy tickets to help a worthy cause -our students and their education. They may possibly win some amazing goods at the same time!!!

Happy Spring!
Sherry Morales - Director

Recognizing Our St. Matthew's Preschool Teachers



The St. Matthew's teacher picked for this month's highlight is Kim Hernandez. Ms. Kim works with the 2 ½ to 3 ½ year old students in our Orange Room. Ms. Kim started the same day as did Ms. Adriana – last month's highlighted teacher. We have been very blessed with their addition to our teaching staff.

Ms. Kim is an excellent teacher who maintains an organized and dynamic classroom. She is an amazing educator with a well-planned curriculum. She is continually researching projects and activities for her students. She maintains a disciplined classroom by using positive strategies and well thought activities. The students in Kim's class have made remarkable progress since the start of the school year.

These are some of the many positive things to be said about the teachers of St. Matthew's Preschool. To me as a parent, one of the most important aspects of our teachers is their undeterred loyalty to one another and to the school. Not only do they work well together, but they complement one another as well. The atmosphere that they create for one another, the students and their families is unique in its positive balance. And, this atmosphere sets us apart from all the rest of the preschools!

Sincerely,
Sherry Morales - Director



Musical Notes from Elaine Ono, Director of Music

Kayla Rios, flutist, is the Lois Twombly Award Recipient for March and will perform on Sunday, March 8th. She was born in Burbank and is a student at Pasadena City College. She is working on earning her degree in music education. In her spare time, she loves attending heavy metal shows and is a video gamer.



Concert at St. Matthew's on Sunday, March 29th

Alexandra Caselli, jazz pianist, and vocalist, Janet Blake, will perform in concert at St. Matthew's UMC on Sunday, March 29th at 3:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

Alexandra Caselli is on staff as music coach and pianist for the jazz program at Pasadena City College. Alexandra is a graduate from the University of Texas at Austin, TX.

She has backed up artists such as Rich Little, Bobby Vinton, Charo and Debbie Reynolds performing at Harrah's Reno showroom. She has performed as a member of bassist and KTLA's traffic reporter Jennifer York's jazz quartet for 12+ years. She is the Music Director at St. Stephen's of the Valley Lutheran Church.



Singer Janet Blake will also be showcased in the concert. The concert is a Freewill offering concert will all donations to benefit St. Matthew's Music Ministries. Thank you for all your support.



Join Us for "Top-of-the-Hill"

Top-of-the-Hill meets on Monday, March 9th at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Douglas Westfall will present the Story of the Wreck of the Titanic - The Ocean's Greatest Disaster.

Meal cost is \$4.00 payable at the door. RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or Church Office.

Jerry & Eileen Casterline



Easter Food Boxes

The leadership of Pack 710 is attempting to make arrangements with a local grocery store to collect food to be included in Easter Food Boxes. The food boxes will be distributed to needy families at Newton and Kwis schools, as well as other needy families in the community. If you are aware of someone in the community who could use a food box, please inform Louise or Dorothy so they can be included.

Watch Sunday bulletins and emails from the office for further news about how you can help with the Easter Food Baskets.

Dorothy Persinger, Cub Scout Liaison



Report on Scout Sunday Service at St. Matthew's on February 8th

On February 8, members of Troop 710, Cub Scout Pack 710, Troop 985, and Troop 66 presented a Scout Sunday service to St. Matthews United Methodist Church. Five Scouts from Troop 710 gave speeches on the theme Helpful - one of the points of the Scout Law. Recognition was given to the founders of the Scouting movement and to 100 years of the United Methodist Church's chartering of Scout units.

Dorothy Persinger, Cub Scout Liaison



Card Ministry

YOU'RE ON MY MIND...We missed you last week...
Are you feeling better?....

The Card Ministry met last week. They created new cards to send to anyone who needs a snail-mail-hug. Greeting cards are in the Narthex.

Janet Shoop



About Cub Pack 710

Pack 710 has completed their registration for 2020 with 32 youth members and 11 adults. At their December Christmas party the Pack collected books to be donated to Whittier Hospital. In January the Pack held their Pinewood Derby where cars made by the youths were raced on a long track in Fellowship Hall. This is always an exciting event for all Cub Scouts. In February the Pack held their Annual Blue & Gold Banquet honoring the founders of the Boy Scout movement and highlighting achievements earned by the youth members. As a special treat the Cubs Scouts were entertained by a professional magician.

*Dorothy Persinger
Cub Scout Liaison*



Women's Retreat May 1-3

St. Matthew's Women's Retreat is happening May 1st to May 3rd.

This year's theme for our Women's Retreat is "Be a Sunflower..." We are expecting another year of laughter and sharing so invite your friends, daughters, sisters, and mothers to this year's Women's Retreat May 1-3 at Carlsbad California. St. Matthew's Women have a legacy of sisterhood and always enjoy time for sharing, creating, and worshipping. The final day to sign up is March 23rd - so don't delay signing up. Come and fellowship with us. Enjoy great conversations, growth, and food as we feed our souls. Come and enjoy the sisterhood that is St. Matthew's.

Joy Feulner



Vacation Pics from Patty and Joe Graves

Guess which continent Joe & Patty were visiting??? They had a terrific trip!!!



you're in our
PRAYERS

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Prayers for the Family of Mary Acosta who died on February 21 in Bullhead City, Arizona. She had moved there to be close to her family.

Brian Kozak (son of Rich and Denise Kozak) is in the hospital after a serious car accident. He is recovering.

Dick Cline is home and recovering from back surgery.

Prayers for **Donna Lyons**. Donna has a back brace to help heal her back. Prayers for **Gary** as he cares for Donna and deals with his own health concerns.

Andrea (daughter-in-law of Elaine Drake Hurst) as she regains strength after a kidney transplant.

Wes Ojala who is waiting for test results.

Richard Hill (father of Steve Hill) as he recovers from hip replacement surgery. He is staying with his son Steve for several weeks.

Ruth Dryden as she adjusts to her new home. Her new address is Villa Anne,
3011 Nova Scotia Drive, Riverside, CA 92506

Lynette Ratkovic (Committee Chair of Cub Scout Pack 710) has shingles and is expecting a new child.

Jean Lipscomb (sister of Maxine Singiser) who is thankful for good treatment options for her health concerns.

Dennis Cuocco (friend of Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes) who recently had a kidney transplant.

Marylyn Owens (mother of Marilee Hartling) who turned 97 on Christmas Day and recently entered hospice.

Cathy Sardo has entered hospice. You can send her cards at 3534 West Ball Road, Apt. 104,
Anaheim, CA 92804

David Cain (nephew of Betty Williams) who has bladder cancer.

Margie Martinez (niece of Betty Williams) who is in the hospital after a relapse of her cancer.

Steve Hill as he undergoes extensive dental work.

Prayers of thanksgiving that **Charlie Dietrich** is doing much better after receiving cardio-rehab therapy.

Monica Shim as she lives with health concerns.

Jeanine Sullivan as she adjusts to changes in medications.

Kristen Wilkinson, (friend of Carol Rogers), a mother with 4 young children, as she recovers from cancer surgery.

Shelly Sanders (daughter of Tom and Shirley Aney). Prayers of thanksgiving that her wrist surgery went well.

Tom Aney. Prayers of thanksgiving for the recovery Tom is making. Recently Tom was able to come to church.

Evan (son of Eleanor Brown). Prayers for his ongoing recovery.

Chris Kozak (son of Rich and Denise Kozak). Prayers for his ongoing recovery.

Virginia Kozak (mother of Rich Kozak) who is 99 and in hospice.

Rick Lilly (son of Donna Lilly) who has pancreatic cancer.

Bill Cook (college friend of Richard Bentley). Prayers of thanksgiving that he is finally home after a stroke. Prayers for the next steps he hopes to make.

Prayers for the **Craig**, nephew of Patrice (Lori Novak's friend) as he recovers from complications of a serious infection.

Don King who is back home and making decisions about the next steps in his treatment.

Mimi (friend of Betty Williams) who was recently diagnosed with cancer.

Keep the following in your prayers as well:

Bonnie Hauck, Joan Zoller, David Burton, Judy Ketchum, Peter Matsumura, Bob Preston, Harvey Spicher, Elizabeth Gutierrez, Rebecca Oliver, Dorothy Tarvin, Lucille Householder, Diane Crawford (daughter of Shirley Butler), **Marie Peterson, Carolyn Mueller, Jay Youngblood** (grandson of Olga Baker), **Naomi Mueller, Audrey Butler, The Holte Family, Kevin Matsumura, Don and Linda Pastrana, Irma Rosas, Sheryl Boerlin, Adam Bouma** (grandson of Ruth Barnes), **Andrew Aguirre** (grandson of the Dietrichs), **James Michael** (grandson of Lori Novak), **Bill Farley** (son of Kathy Farley).



March Birthdays

March 3	Patty Graves
March 4	Jerry Casterline
March 6	Clarice Bongolan
March 8	Swede Rader
March 12	Joan Zoller
March 20	Ruth Feick
March 23	Carol Rogers
	Morgan Matthews
March 28	Jack Weatherford
March 31	Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes

For Worship, We Always Need . . .



Coffee Fellowship Hosts and/or Hostesses

You only need to provide Coffeetime snacks and take coffee supplies back to the kitchen. Our trusty Morgan Matthews makes the coffee and drinks each Sunday. If you would like to host, contact Carol Rogers.



Chancel Flowers or Food Baskets for Sunday Morning Worship

Contact the Church Office for details.



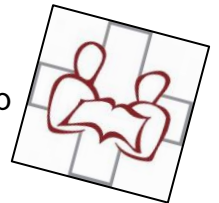
Ushers for Worship

Contact Judy Vroman to serve as an Usher for any Sunday morning.



Liturgists to Assist in Worship

If you would like to be assist in our Worship Services reading the Worship liturgy, please contact Olga Baker.



Counters

If you would like to help count the Sunday offerings, record contributions into a database, and make a deposit of our givings at a local bank, please contact the Church Office.



A Thank You Note



Dear St. Matthew's and Cub Scout Pack 710,

Thanks for the big box of food items for my family that you gave to me before this past Thanksgiving.

Thanks be to God,
Ruth Barnes

A Thank You Email



Good evening Pastor Richard,

Once again, thank you for supporting our Cub Scouts. Many families benefit from this organization and I'm certain all will end up being good citizens. Please give the Congregation our gratitude. Above is picture taken at the Blue and Gold Dinner.

Kind regards,
Emilio Vargas



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  1st Sunday in Lent & Begin Ordering Lilies/Feeding the Hungry 8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am – Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship – 11:15am-Coffeetime	2 9:30am-Shalom (Ofc) 7:00pm-Boy Scouts (FH) 	3	4 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance (FH) 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 4-6:30 Scouts (DH)	5 8:00am-Men's Breakfast 10:30am - Pastor Richard's Lenten Class begins (DH) 1:00pm-Staff Mtg. 6pm-Bells 7pm – Choir Practice 7pm-Cubs (SS) 7pm-Scouts Order of Arrow (FH) 	6 9:30am-10:00pm-Blessed Chinese UMC (FH) 1pm-Martha Circle (Off site) 7:00- 9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH)	7 8am-5pm - Eagle Scout Project – grounds around Fellowship Hall.  Set your clocks ahead 1 hour tonight B4 bed – daylight savings begins March 8th!
8 2nd Sunday in Lent & Daylight Saving Times Begins 8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am – Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship 11:15am-Coffee Fellowship 11:15 – Trustees Meeting (Lawn)	9 9:30am-Shalom (Ofc) Noon- Top of the Hill (FH) 7:00pm-Boy Scouts (FH)	10 11:30am-Aging Gracefully Class (DH) 7pm - SPRC (Office)	11 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 4-6:30 Scouts (DH)	12 8:00am-Men's Breakfast 10:30am - Pastor Richard's Lenten Class (DH) 6pm-Bells 7pm – Choir Practice	13  Preschool Closed for In-Service Training 9:30am-10:00pm-Blessed Chinese (FH) 7:00-9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH)	14 10am-4pm Guild of St. George (FH)
15  3rd Sunday in Lent 8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am – Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship 4-8pm Blessed Chinese UMC (Sanc & FH)	16 9:30am-Shalom (Ofc) 7:00pm-Boy Scouts (FH)	17 St. Patrick's Day  10am-Card Ministry (Office) 7pm-Cub Pack Meets (FH)	18 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11am – Book Club (Office) 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 6:30-Knit Wits (DH)	19 8:00am-Men's Breakfast 10:30am - Pastor Richard's Lenten Class (DH) 1pm-Eve Circle (Off site) 6pm-Bells 7pm – Choir Practice	20 1st Day of Spring 9:30am-10:00pm-Blessed Chinese UMC (FH) 7:00-9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH) 	21
22  4th Sunday in Lent 8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am – Adult Sunday School 10am – Seder Meal, Worship and Communion with Blessed Chinese UMC (FH) 	23 9:30am-Shalom 7:00pm-Boy Scout (FH)	24 11:30am-Aging Gracefully Class (DH)	25 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 4-6:30 Scouts (DH)	26 8:00am-Men's Breakfast 10:30am - Pastor Richard's Lenten Class (DH) 3pm-SGV Coalition for the Homeless (DH) 6pm-Bells 7pm – Choir Practice	27 Last Day to order Lilly plants  9:30am-10:00pm-Blessed Chinese UMC (FH) 7:00-9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH)	28 9am-4pm Blessed Chinese UMC Gathering (FH)
29 5th Sunday in Lent 8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am – Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship 11:15am-Coffee Fellowship 3pm - Concert in Sanctuary 	30 9:30am-Shalom 7:00pm-Boy Scout (FH)	31				

Bold type indicates special activity, changes and/or additions to calendar.

- * St. Matthew's Preschool is open Monday thru Friday from 6:30am to 6:00pm.
- * Every Sunday from 9:00am to approximately 2:30pm – Blessed Chinese UMC occupies the Fellowship, Dodrill Hall and Youth Room.
- * Every Sunday at 11:30am- Hacienda Korean Methodist Church holds Worship in the Sanctuary and Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.
- * Monday thru Friday evenings (time to meet varies 5:30, 6:30, or 7:00pm) – Cub Scout Dens meet in the Youth Room.
- * Every Wednesday Evening from 6:30-9pm Blessed Chinese UMC holds a Disciple Ministry in the Fellowship Hall.
- * Every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm, Hacienda Korean Church is in Dodrill Hall.

Easter Lily Order/Donation to Feed the Hungry From 2020

Please see order form below. **Please pay special attention to the writing in red on this form as this information concerns ordering of live Lily Plants.** As always, any questions, please be sure to give me a call in the office at 626-333-6656. Email your form, bring it by the office, mail it, or drop your order in the offering plate on Sunday morning. *Thanks, Louise*

EASTER LILY ORDER/DONATION FORM 2020

Lily plants are \$10.00 each. You may choose to have a LIVE Lily Plant(s) placed in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday morning . . . **OR** you may wish that instead of placing a LIVE Lily plant(s) in the Sanctuary - the \$10.00 price for each Lily be donated directly to the *East San Gabriel Coalition for the Homeless* in helping feed the hungry in our area . . . **OR** for the price of \$20.00 you order a live Lily plant for the Sanctuary (still \$10) AND the other \$10.00 goes to help feed the hungry.

Please note that whichever you chose, you still do so in memory of or in honor of loved ones and friends and your name will be listed on the "Lily/Donation" list included in our Easter Sunday bulletin. Please also note that your monetary donations to feed the hungry will be credited to your Giving Statement.

Please make your check payable to St. Matthew's UMC with the notation of "Lilies/Donation" on the check. Please print all information needed. ***The last day to place your order is Friday, March 27th.** ***** Since the live Lily plants are ordered thru a Grower – the office MUST receive your order for the Lily plants by March 27th.** If you submit your order for a lily plant after the March 27th deadline then any monies given for the live plant will go to help feed the hungry instead.

Easter Blessings from St. Matthew's UMC Worship Committee

LILY/DONATION FORM 2019

_____ No. of LIVE Lily Plant(s) to order. (\$10 each).

_____ I would like my \$10.00 donated to help feed the hungry.

_____ I want a LIVE Lily Plant AND to donate to help feed the hungry. (\$20.00)



NAME: _____

In honor of: _____

In honor of: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

In memory of: _____

In memory of: _____

*** FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:** Paid: Date _____ Check#/Cash _____

\$_____ Donation to help feed Hungry





ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15653 E. Newton Street, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Phone: 626-333-6656

Email: Office@smumchh.org

Rev. Richard Bentley, Pastor Louise Green, Office Administrator Elaine Ono, Director of Music
Greg Gomez, Custodian Morgan Matthews, Sound Technician
Sherry Morales, Director of Preschool, 626-330-8340, www.smumpc.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

St. Matthews United Methodist Church
15653 E. Newton Street
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

