

Pastor's Page

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

Isaiah 43:18-19

Dear UJCC,

We are in a season of change. On July 27, we bid a fond and loving farewell to Rev. Sungrae, Soojin, Aiden, and Lucy who have been such a blessing to UJCC these past 5 years. Rev. Rae has begun his new appointment on July 1 at Aldersgate UMC, Palo Alto. Let us continue to hold them in our prayers as they begin this new chapter.

And then, on another front, CA emerged from the tier-colored system that dictated our activities during the pandemic. June 15 was the magic date when things went more back to "usual." The following Sunday, UJCC worshipped without RSVPs, entering and exiting from the same doors, and sitting in our cloth sanctuary chairs! (All the things we used to take for granted, right?!)

Committees, ministry groups, and small groups are now free to meet in the church building. Please be sure to let the church office staff know when you will be meeting by filling out a yellow reservation form in the office. You can do so on Sundays. (The church office remains closed for the time being, but plans on reopening soon.) If your group prefers, you are also welcome to continue meeting over Zoom. The church account is available to you. Please contact Kathie Sakamoto if you'd like to set up a Zoom meeting.

With seasons of change come questions. When will we meet our new Associate Pastor? How will their God-given gifts enrich and inspire us? How will UJCC be a blessing to them? When will we be able to sing again in worship? When will we be able to enjoy lunch together during Sunday Fellowship Time once again? In the midst of these and many other questions, we turn to God in prayer and with hope. God reminds us that God's got the Big Picture in mind and God will unfold and reveal the answers when the time is right.

With seasons of change also comes excitement. God has something amazing in store for us! God is dreaming with our church family and leadership about new expressions of ministry and connection that will spring forth! Surely these will be beyond our wildest imaginings... That's just the way God works!

Let us continue to place our hope and trust in God's timing and ever-present grace.

Summer blessings!

Akiko