



Easter Sunday



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*“The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.”*

Mission Statement of the UMC

Greetings Church Family,

In 1980, two brothers, Jake and Elwood Blues, were released from prison. Upon returning to the orphanage where they were raised, they discovered that it was in danger of foreclosure. Determined to prevent this tragedy, they took it upon themselves to save the orphanage, expressing their noble cause with the proclamation, “We’re on a mission from God.”

Well, we’re on a mission from God too! Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Simple. Basic. That’s our noble cause.

But a mission without a vision is like a dream without a plan. Mission is who we are and what we do in the present. Vision is who we wish to become and where we want to be in the future.

Our denomination’s new vision statement complements our longstanding mission, and encourages us to embody the following principles:

- Passionately love God and, like Jesus, embrace and include people of every age, nation, race, gender, and walk of life.
- With a Christ-like heart, journey alongside the most vulnerable, offering care and compassion with joy.
- Follow Jesus’ example by resisting and dismantling all systems of evil, injustice, and oppression, striving for peace, justice, and reconciliation.

The Blues Brothers were on a mission from God. But they also had a well-defined actionable vision: to reunite their band and organize a performance to earn the \$5000 needed to pay the orphanage’s property tax bill. And that vision carried them through the dangers of neo-Nazis, a country and western band, the police, and a homicidal ex-fiancée.

What challenges will our church face for carrying out our mission? What dangers will our vision lead us into?

I thank God for the gift that is Aptos UMC. Your faithfulness inspires me, and I’m blessed to share in ministry with you all. May God sustain us, strengthen us, and lead us to embrace the opportunities before us.

*“The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”*

New Vision Statement of the UMC

Grace and Peace be with you all,
Pastor Gabe

Join us at the Pride Parade and Festival!

Aptos United Methodist Church has a long and proud history of being present at the Santa Cruz Pride parade and festival. **This year the festival takes place Sunday, June 7.**

Please consider signing up for a 2-hour shift helping at our booth. This is a sit-down job, and all you need to provide is a smile and welcoming attitude. We hand out stickers, candy, and water bottles. All these are gratefully received by the parade goers. Many of the parade goers have had a negative experience with organized religion, having been told they are wrong, evil, or worse. This is an opportunity to show people that God loves EVERYONE, regardless of race, creed, or sexual orientation.

A sign-up clipboard will be passed during church, or you can click [here](#) to sign up online.



First Quarter Special Offering Totals

Thanks to generous giving by members of our congregation, the following organizations and projects received these financial gifts during the first quarter of 2026:

Human Relations Day - \$480 Missionary Katherine Parker - \$850 UMCOR Sunday - \$990

May 3 - United Methodist Student Day

Together, We Can Make a Difference! United Methodist Student Day is a time to celebrate the impact of our collective generosity. Join us in supporting students pursuing their dreams of education and ministry.

May 17, 2026

Miracle Sunday!

Support the Endowment for Theological Education Outside the United States!

Love Boldly
by helping people answer the call to ministry.

Serve Joyfully
by contributing to the worldwide connection.

Lead Courageously
by lifting up a new generation of pastors.

May 31 - Peace with Justice Sunday

We are Called to be Peacemakers. Your generous contribution helps fund programs that promote peace, human rights, and justice both locally and globally. Let's work together to create a world where justice prevails.

Small Group Meetings

Small Groups are open to anyone. If you have questions about any of the groups, please contact Pastor Gabe.

- **Blaney Group** - Sunday at 11:15 AM in the Youth Room
- **PACT** - every other Monday at 10 AM (*May 4 & 18*)
<https://zoom.us/j/97895982359?pwd=dURIM091ZXI4V2pLN3ByZkxwT1pHQOT09>
Meeting ID **978 9598 2359** Passcode **813515**
- **Alive Now** - Tuesday at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall
- **Upper Room** - Tuesday at 7 PM (New study book - *The Upper Room Disciples*. Click [here](#) for more information.)
<https://zoom.us/j/94925380499?pwd=OGNpaHc4VmZ2OFhiczVML2M2ME5Ddz09>
Meeting ID **974 1046 9403** Passcode **935450**

Church and Society

From A Methodist Prayer for Peace and Justice in response to the War in Iran:

Creator God, We call on those entrusted with power—elected officials, advisors, and military leaders—to act now, with courage, restraint, and moral clarity.

Spirit of truth, keep us grounded and clear-eyed. Do not let us grow numb to words that normalize destruction. Give us the resolve to speak, to organize, and to stand with those whose lives are treated as expendable. We choose a different way—the way of peace that protects life, resists violence, seeks justice, and insists that every person, everywhere, is worthy of care. Amen.

UMC Position on Climate Justice

We are committed to ministries that address both the impacts and root causes of the climate crisis.

We understand more profoundly than ever the impact our actions are having on God’s Creation. Overconsumption and our misuse of resources have led to pollution on a local, regional and global scale.

The United Methodist Church has long supported action to address the present and growing threat of a changing climate. As scientific evidence confirms the scope of the challenge, our relationships in community deepen our commitment and inform our response.

We therefore support efforts of all governments to require mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Missions

Aptos United Methodist Church continues to offer space to Village Santa Cruz, an organization that helps seniors age in place, stay socially connected, and receive help with short-term projects as needed. The Aptos subgroup of the Village meets at our church on the first Wednesday of the month at 1 PM. The next meeting will be May 6. You are welcome to attend if interested.

“Know Your Rights” cards

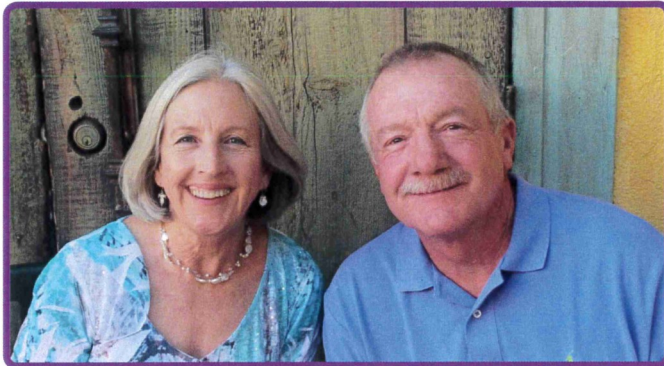
“[Know Your Rights](#)” cards are available in multiple languages. This resource has been provided by Rev. J. Martin Lee, California-Nevada Conference, Executive Director of Connectional Ministries. Please print and share as needed to ensure this vital resource is available in our community. Contact the [church office](#) for more information or questions.

March Financial Report

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Over/Under Budget
<u>INCOME</u>			
Pledge, Plate, Other Giving	39,123.00		
Secret Garden, Building Use	16,981.63		
Investment Income	677.62		
TOTAL INCOME	\$56,782.25	\$63,640.01	-\$6,857.77
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Church Program & Office			
Conference Apportionments	8,979.00		
Church Program Funding	447.90		
Maintenance, Supplies	387.72		
Office Expenses	1,142.17		
Employee Compensation	12,638.74		
Subtotal, Church Program & Office Expenses	\$23,595.53	\$21,476.49	-\$2,119.04
Church Campus			
Custodial	950.00		
Utilities	6,442.54		
Insurance	5,637.08		
Taxes	1,713.90		
Maintenance, Improvements	1,584.99		
Subtotal, Church Campus Expenses	\$16,328.51	\$13,941.99	-\$2,386.52
Pastoral Ministry & Parsonage			
Salary	15,082.02		
Housing & Utilities	1,125.00		
Travel, Annual Conference, Education, Supplies	2,102.27		
Health Insurance	3,384.96		
Pastor's Pension	2,856.78		
Parsonage Mortgage, Insurance, Taxes, Maintenance	6,851.04		
Subtotal, Pastoral Ministry & Parsonage Expenses	\$31,402.07	\$30,743.76	-\$658.31
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$71,326.11	\$66,162.24	-\$5,163.87
NET INCOME - EXPENSES	-\$14,543.86	-\$2,522.22	-\$12,021.64



A Legacy of Love - Remembering Jim Williamson



Jim Williamson, beloved husband, father, brother, friend, and pillar of our NAMI Santa Cruz County community, left this earth on September 19, 2025. Jim and his wife Carol have been involved with NAMISCC for over 30 years. **As we remember Jim, we honor his lasting legacy of love and the impact he had on the lives of countless individuals and families in our community.**

Jim was known for his kindness, warmth, humor, and his deep love for family and friends. He had a passion for golf, skiing, and mountain climbing. He spent his career in public service at the City of Mountain View.

Jim and Carol shared nearly 40 years together, raising two boys: Carol's son, Nate and Jim's son, Andy. In his teens, Nate began to experience serious mental health challenges and was later diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder. Carol recalls they often felt "helpless and hopeless" while trying to get him proper treatment. **When she and Jim connected with NAMISCC, then run by a small group of dedicated volunteers, they finally found a community of others who understood their experience.**

Nate struggled with his mental health until the age of 24, when he tragically died by suicide. His loss devastated their family, and from the depths of that profound grief grew a commitment to help others facing mental health challenges. In the years that followed, **Jim and Carol dedicated themselves to supporting others through advocacy and volunteerism, honoring Nate's life by working to bring help and hope to those who need it most.**

"I'm forever grateful for his love and support."

While Carol joined the NAMISCC board, later serving as President and Executive Director, Jim poured his love into the vital work of building the organization's sustainability. He managed the finances, carefully stewarding precious donor dollars and early grants to help as many individuals and families as possible. He was also a steadfast source of strength and comfort for Carol, who shares, **"I'm forever grateful for his love and support."**

Together, Jim and Carol helped transform NAMISCC from a small volunteer group to an organization serving thousands every year. **Their contributions have changed countless lives and laid the foundation for today's impact.**

NAMISCC is honored to have received numerous donations in Jim's memory, to help sustain crucial mental health services for our community. **These heartfelt gifts will bring much-needed hope and healing, carrying forward Jim's legacy of love.**





Birthdays

- 1 Jenna Wafford
- 3 Connie Moore
- 4 Jenny Lewis
- 5 Kathleen Cook
Zane Ota
Miles Wafford
- 9 Burt Rodgers
- 12 Mykal Philbin
- 13 Molly Hucklebridge
Mike Proffitt
- 14 Barbara Coy-Bulicz
- 16 Kathleen Hoaglund
- 17 Clyde Vaughn
- 18 Sydney Ota
- 20 Amanda Favorite
- 22 Allison Ota
Doug Sampson
Kate Sutherland
- 23 Maya Harvey
Lee MacDonell
- 27 John Green
Mark Hucklebridge
- 30 Paul Moody
- 31 Dan Rossi

Anniversaries

- 15 Joe & Lee MacDonell
- 19 Jim & Carol Williamson
- 23 Jay & Bridget Parr
- 25 Barbara & Linda Sizelove-Secola

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from our calendar or incorrect, please contact the [office](#).

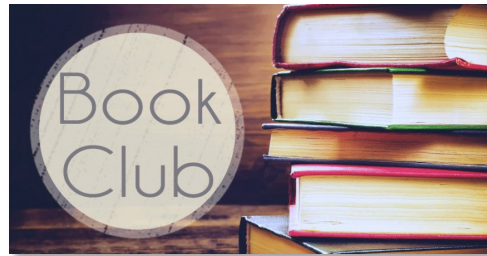


Kathryn Harvey, Lisa Harvey-Duran, Christopher Harvey, and the family and friends of Pharis Harvey on his death on April 15. A Celebration of Life is scheduled for Saturday, May 30 at 11 AM at Aptos UMC.



You are invited to join our Prayer Team.

The Prayer Team receives a weekly email with prayer requests. To **join** the Prayer Team or **submit** a prayer request, please contact the church [office](#).



May 20 *Buckeye* by Patrick Ryan

The Book Club meets at 1:30 PM on the third Wednesday of every month in the Youth Room. *Anyone is welcome to attend.* For more information, please contact Barbara Coy-Bulicz at 689-9772 or bcoybulicz@gmail.com.



Let's Celebrate Together!

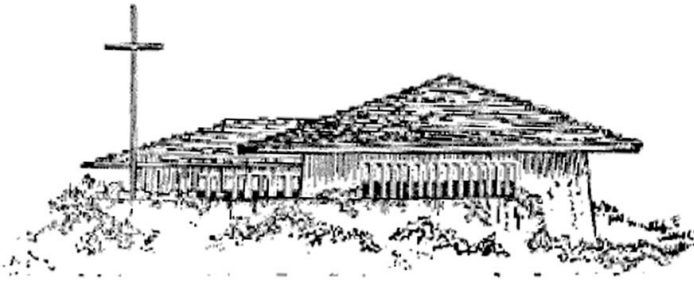


Cailan Darling is receiving her Master's Degree in Business Administration from Cal State Monterey Bay on May 16. Let's celebrate this achievement on Sunday, May 17 with cake and ice cream after worship.

Online Giving

To give online, go to www.aptosumc.org and click on the 'GIVE NOW' button, or click [HERE](#), or scan this QR code using your smartphone. Creating an account online is not necessary unless you would like to set up a recurring payment or if you would like to save your payment information for future transactions. Contact the church office (office@aptosumc.org or 831-688-2210) if you have any questions or need assistance.





Aptos Community United Methodist Church

"The Church Worth Finding"

221 Thunderbird Drive, Aptos, CA 95003

831.688.2210

www.aptosumc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship at 10 AM in person

and livestreamed on  YouTube

YouTube channel: @aptosumc

**Deadline for
June Tide**
Friday, May 15

The Tide is published monthly by Aptos United Methodist Church.

Aptos UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of *all persons*, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities.

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 2:30 PM.

Church Staff

Gabe House

Pastor

gabriel.house@cnumc.org

831.535.2912 (cell)

Sandi Thomas

Office Manager

office@aptosumc.org

831.688.2210

Daniel Goldsmith

Music Director

pianodan@gmail.com

831.345.4995

Ruth Landmann

Facebook

tddynewf@cruzio.com

831.334.0900