

The Vista

CHURCH CAMPUS LIFE

February 2026
Volume 44, Number 2

Trustee Meeting | Library | Tuesday, January 13th | 1pm

Church Project Meeting | Library | January TBD

Church office & Preschool we will be closed | Monday, February 16th

In observance of President's Day.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH | 6PM.

Our Lenten Bible Study Begins on Thursdays - February 19th, 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th || 10 AM to Noon.

Save The Date: Ahead to March & April ...

St. Patrick's Day - Tuesday, March 17th, **Wear YOUR Green!!!**

Holy Week - Details to Follow

Easter Flowers We will be celebrating Easter Sunday by decorating the sanctuary with a variety of beautiful blooming plants.

Everyone is welcome to purchase plants, in honor, in memory, or in celebration of loved ones. Price TBD

Newsletter Please send your articles and photos for the March newsletter by Wednesday, February 18th to the church office at lahabraumc@frontier.com

UPCOMING SERVICES

Wednesdays, LHUMC 5pm G.A.P. Bring Your Own Dinner & Games | Lounge

Thursdays, LHUMC 2:30pm Exercise Class || Fellowship Hall

Fridays, LHUMC 10:30am Choir Practice || Sanctuary

Sundays, LHUMC 9am Study Class | Library | 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sundays, Church Project 8am - 1pm Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, Classrooms 14, 15, 24,25



La Habra

United Methodist Church

631 N. Euclid Street

La Habra, CA 90631-3806

Office: (562) 691-1797

Website: LaHabraumc.org

Office Email:

LaHabraumc@frontier.com

Office Hours:

Monday to Wednesday
10am to 1pm

Worship Service: 10:30am
Communion Sunday:

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Soomee Kim

Email:

pastor.lahabra631@gmail.com

Cell/Text: (818) 913-3343

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Throughout our lives, we are often carried along by the constant flow of events and obligations. The daily grind, deadlines, and societal expectations shape how we spend our time. This leaves little room for thoughtful reflection. As we age, our responsibilities change. Physical changes have become more noticeable, and health concerns that once seemed far off now need regular attention. Appointments, treatments, and careful monitoring take up more of our schedules. Sometimes, it feels like our days are no longer our own. Even with more experience and wisdom that comes with aging, we do not always handle these pressures better.

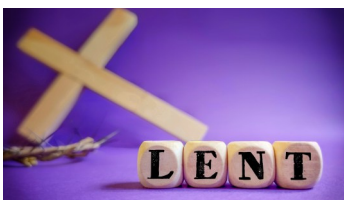
As people around us die, we wonder whether our life truly matters. These moments of loss can prompt us to pause and reflect on the significance of our own journey. The absence of loved ones or familiar faces can leave us questioning what we have contributed, whether we have made a difference, and if our experiences hold meaning beyond ourselves.

Such reflections are not only natural, but they invite us to search for purpose and connection amidst uncertainty. They encourage us to look inward, seeking understanding about how our actions, relationships, and memories shape the story of our lives. In the midst of grief and change, this search for meaning becomes even more profound, inspiring us to consider how our lives fit into a larger narrative—and to discover the impact we have had on others, as well as the ways in which our faith, resilience, and personal growth continue to develop through each season of life.



Carl G. Jung once wrote, “Your visions will become clear only when you look into your own heart. Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes.” Lent is a good time to look into our life and make meanings. As our “Lenten Study,” I prepared Spiritual Auto-Biography Class. It is a six-week journey shared with your church family; with some private reflections you can choose to focus individually. This journey blends personal growth with spiritual development, allowing you to reflect meaningfully on your experiences and intentions. Exploring your life history offers an opportunity to discover more about yourself while deepening your connection with God. In one of the books I read in preparation of this class, the author defines: “Life history is a way of learning more about yourself and learning more about God at the same time. The process combines personal growth with Spiritual growth.”

After talking with some of you, I decided to offer this Lenten Series on Thursdays (February 19th,



26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th) from 10 AM to Noon. We will meet in person at the church.

If you cannot come to church but would like to join, please let me know by emailing me at pastor.lahabra631@gmail.com. I will set up online access especially for you.

Telling Your Story, exploring Your Faith: Writing Your Life Story for Personal Insight and Spiritual Growth by B. J. Hateley, St. Louis: CBP Prese, p. 9, 1985.



Rev. Dr. Soomee Kim

Senior Pastor || La Habra United Methodist Church

FEBRUARY MESSAGE

Church Campus Life

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY - DUE BY MARCH 1ST

It's that time again! We are currently in the process of updating our annual membership directory to ensure everyone's information is accurate and up-to-date. A current directory makes it easier for all members to connect, collaborate, and network effectively within our church community.

We need your help to make this a success!

Simply send your information to lahabraumc@frontier.com with any changes or new picture to add to your profile or contact Pat Gaston. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important update!

PRESCHOOL NEWS

February: During the month of February the children will be learning about sharing.

February Calendar:

Friday 13th Valentine Class Party 11:30am

Monday 16th Presidents Day School Closed



"FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO."
—MATTHEW 6:21

PLANNING A MEETING OR EVENT ON CHURCH CAMPUS???

If you would like to request a room or plan a meeting on church campus please contact Izzy Izaguirre in the church office, (562) 691-1797.

All room requests go directly to her.

Here is the process:

- 1) Either call or send an email to lahabraumc@frontier.com
- 2) Include your name, email, phone number, date and room needed.
- 3) Izzy will call or email to confirm the date/room is available.

Happy February



Birthdays this Month

18 Cathy Doub

24 Peggy Rubel

28 Joan Estes

28 Scott Wirta

La Habra United Methodist Church

Life Events affect each and every one of us. We are born. We grow. We live and we pass away.

Our church family is with us and beside us for many of these sacred life transitions.

"Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there with them."

~Matthew 18:20



Church Campus Life



The G.A.P (God's Awesome People)

This is a fun fellowship group that meets **every-other-month** in someone's home. If you would like to host the fellowship group in 2026, please contact Karen Hill (562) 237-1550.

Future Host:

Please sign up at the next Gap Wednesday Game Night.

Come join us for an evening of Fellowship, games, and Bring-Your-Own Dinner to eat with others.

Great fun and fellowship for all ages.

We meet every WEDNESDAY | 5PM | Lounge

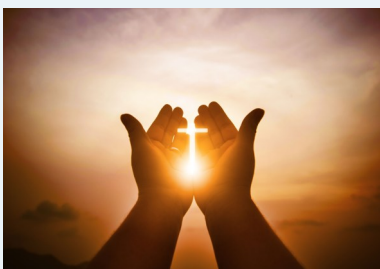
If you have questions, contact the church office at (562) 691-1797.



Breakfast Bags for La Habra Collaborative - We will pack breakfast bags on Thursday, February 26th | 11am | Fellowship Hall

We need granola bars, box juice, and juice cups. Money marked for CRCC will be used to buy cereal, milk, and plastic zip-lock bags.

Bring donations to the church office: Monday - Wednesday: 10am - noon or to church on Sunday mornings. Thank you for your help!



Check us out on the Web and join us www.lahabraumc.org

Facebook: LahabraUMC

YouTube: La Habra United Methodist Church

facebook

You Tube



Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church



January 26, 2026

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

In recent days, events in Minnesota and beyond have caused deep grief, concern, and alarm across our connection. The use of lethal force in public spaces, the detention of naturalized citizens, members of our indigenous communities, children, documented and undocumented immigrants, and the treatment of other vulnerable persons have weighed heavily on the hearts of many in our church. These actions have unsettled communities, strained trust, and intensified fear among those already living at the margins.

Scripture reminds us that “when one part of the body suffers, we all suffer with them (I Corinthians 12:26). As a Connectional church, we are reminded that we are one body that cares for and needs each other. The whole body is suffering, right now, today! The violence being perpetrated on our streets, the loss of safety, and the inhumane treatment of God’s children, are hurting us all. We cannot stay silent in the face of the evils of our day.

The United Methodist Church deplores the use of violence, fear, separation, and intimidation as a means of creating social order. Such means do not build beloved community. We reaffirm our longstanding commitment to the sacred worth of every person and to the way of peace taught and embodied by Jesus. We stand against the separation of children from their families. We detest the inhumane, evil actions that are perpetuated by governmental authorities.

Our Social Principles are clear: “We reject governmental use of threats, extortion, unlawful detentions, extrajudicial killings, and other forms of coercion to silence political opponents and those objecting to unlawful or immoral government policies and practices.” They further affirm that the church has both the right and the responsibility to educate and equip its members to be advocates for justice in the wider world (§163D).

This is a moment that calls for prayerful courage to speak against actions that are bringing harm to our neighbors. This is our time to have an effectual faith that stands with those who are suffering. This is our faithful response to our baptismal vow that summons us into what is required of us “to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God” (Micah 6:8). We must continue to work for justice to help heal the brokenness in our communities and in the world.

We ask you to pray for peace and for justice. And we ask that we work together with our communities so that we can create a world where the sword is turned into plowshares, and the lion lays down with the lamb. May we be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, do our part to bring comfort, just practices, and healing for all God’s suffering people.

In Christ’s peace,

Bishop Tracy S. Malone
President, Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church



CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank
Resident Bishop of the Los Angeles Area

[View email in browser](#)

Over the past few weeks, we have witnessed the shooting of two persons on the streets of Minneapolis by federal officers. Renee Good and Alex Pretti were doing their part to care for their neighbors by witness and by protest, when they were shot and killed. We also watched Liam Ramos, a 5-year-old child, being sent to detention. And we saw an elderly citizen, Chongly Scott Thao, removed from his home while undressed, and carted away in the middle of winter. These are the stories we see, and there are many we don't. News outlets additionally report that eight people have died in dealings with ICE so far in 2026, and that 13 have been shot during immigration operations since September 2025. When we see these acts of cruelty and brutality on our screens, we too become witnesses for God's hurting people. We are stirred to prayer, to lament, and to action.

Below, I am sharing the official statement from The UMC Council of Bishops, released earlier this week. As one body, The UMC Bishops condemn the violence in Minnesota, and recognize that a statement is just one step, our work toward peace happens on the ground.

Grace y paz,

Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank

Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank
Resident Bishop of the Los Angeles Episcopal Area