



Good News


Morgan Hill United Methodist Church

JULY RADICAL SELF-CARE EVENT

Trauma-Informed Yoga



 Monday, July 13

 7:00 PM

 Morgan Hill United Methodist Church

Radical self-care is a spiritual discipline! Morgan Hill United Methodist Church is committed to creating space each month for us to prioritize and practice reclaiming ourselves for sacredness, reconnecting to the earth and communities of care, and liberating ourselves from weary patterns so

we can create new, life-giving, sustainable paths.

Join us in July for a grounding, inclusive, and trauma-informed **FREE** yoga session for all bodies and all levels of yoga experience. Feel release, liberation, and love in embodied ways as we enjoy a restorative, slow yoga practice and meditation together. While this will be facilitated on mats, we will provide chairs and variations of poses for those who would appreciate these.


Please bring a yoga mat if you have one, wear comfortable clothing, and feel invited to bring any other items you'd like for your comfort. A limited number of extra mats and props will be provided.


AUGUST RADICAL SELF-CARE EVENT



Sound Bath

In August, our Radical Self-Care Event will take us to the intersection of science, spirituality, sound, and somatics - and that's where the magic happens! A sound bath is a meditative experience in which sound vibrations guide our bodies, minds, and spirits to release, reset, and rejuvenate.

 Monday, August 17

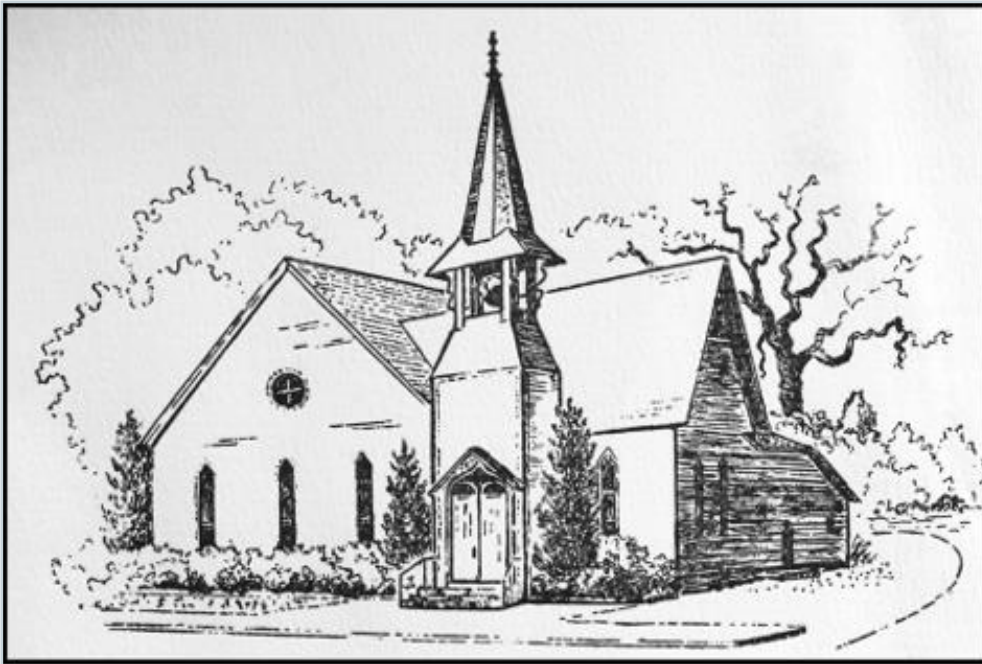
 7:00 PM

 Morgan Hill United Methodist Church

Our skilled facilitator will utilize a number of instruments such as singing bowls, chimes, and other percussion instruments to create a wash of sound that connects with the vibrations in our tissues and brainwaves. This

resonance helps us release tension, stress, anxiety, trauma, and other blockages that we might have been holding. You will sit or recline in a position comfortable to you and receive the sound, quieting your own inner chatter and simply being present to the process that emerges within you.

We recommend bringing your own yoga mat, pillow, blanket, and any other comfort item you desire. We will have a few extra yoga mats, adjustable floor seats with backrests, and chairs.



**Morgan Hill United
Methodist Church**

**17175 Monterey Hwy
Morgan Hill, CA 95037**

669.888.3880

office@mhumc.com

www.mhumc.com

Leadership Team

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Linda A. Holbrook
 Administrative Asst.: Bettie Anderson
 Minister of Young Generations: Dr. Haley Feuerbacher
 Children's Education: Jeannie Clayton, Megan Richardson
 Finance Team Leads: Wendy Ringo, Marilyn Pifer
 Lay Leaders: Denise Melroy, Megan Richardson
 Annual Conf. Rep: Trish Catalano
 Prayer Team: Megan Richardson
 Membership Secy: Janet Ohene-Nyako
 Mission/Outreach Co-Chairs: Cathy Coates, John McCotter
 Newsletter Editor: Bettie Anderson
 Website Editor: Bettie Anderson, Denise Melroy
 Nominations & Leadership Dev. Chair: Rev. Dr. Linda A. Holbrook
 Staff-Parish Relations Chair: Carol Frazer
 Treasurer: Wendy Ringo
 Trustees President: Darcy Foster
 Worship Team Lead: Denise Melroy

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**We are a Reconciling
Church All are welcome!**



**Next Good News
deadline:
August 25, 2026
For September/October
Issue**

Pastor's Prose: New Appointment Year

By Rev. Dr. Linda A. Holbrook, Pastor



On July 1st I begin a new appointment year with Morgan Hill UMC. It is a blessing to be appointed here again. I agreed to serve Morgan Hill in 2021, and believed I would be here a couple of years. And

now I am beginning my sixth year. Each year as the time approached to say whether I would return, it didn't take any time to say yes, I would return.

When I first arrived here, I was greeted warmly by the people of this congregation. At our first Leadership Team meeting, someone commented that maybe I was appointed here "for such a time as this." We begin doing ministry together, and we continue in ministry today. It is a joy to share life with all of you.

I read an article recently about things to do to stay young. First on the list was to keep learning new things. All of you have been instrumental in my learning new things. I have enjoyed getting to know what brings you joy in life and what are the problems you are facing. We have expanded the ministries we provide to the community. We restarted Sharing the Bounty. We have told the librarians and the volunteers at the library that we appreciate them. We have supported Bread for the World with letters to our congressional leaders to end hunger. And there are other things that I will remember after I submit this article.

Second on the list of how to stay young was to have a community. God didn't create us to be alone. God created us to be with others. The people of this church began my community within a few months of my first year here. That sense of community has only deepened. I always know that this community will support me, and I am deeply committed to helping this community in any way I can.

Third on the list is to prioritize any health issues. A couple of years ago, I had breast

cancer for the second time. This community supported me with someone staying over night the day of surgery and many people brought meals. I felt cared for in so many ways. I see how this community reaches out to others who are having physical problems. New people to the congregation sense the caring of this community. I encourage anyone who needs help to admit they need help and then ask for help from this group of extraordinary people.

“God didn't create us to be alone. God created us to be with others.”

Finally, the last thing on that list of how to stay young was to do things you enjoy. I definitely enjoy being at this church and the relationships we are building. I also enjoy travel and since I have been serving this church, I have had the opportunity to take some wonderful trips. I have been to Antarctica, Scotland, Greece, around the world and Norway and Denmark. I enjoy serving other organizations and I have been able to do that. I also enjoy reading, exercising, doing some needlework, and putting together jigsaw puzzles. Thank you for allowing me the time to serve you and also the time for other things.

God has given me the privilege of being in ministry with you the last five years and I am looking forward to a sixth year with all of you. God has blessed me in so many ways and serving this church is at the top of the list. Thank you.

Blessings to all,

Linda

Vacation Bible School Is Coming!

Will You Join the Adventure?



VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION/MEETING

Sunday, July 19, 11:15am **VBS: July 20-24, 8:30-11:30am**
(immediately after church)

This summer, Morgan Hill United Methodist Church is inviting children ages **3–12** to discover that they are a **Force of Nature!**

Force of Nature: Elemental Faith will take place **July 20–24, 8:30–11:30 a.m.** Together we'll explore the gifts of **Earth, Air, Water, and Fire** through hands-on science, storytelling, worship, movement, games, art, and service. In a world that often teaches shame and disconnection, we'll help children discover a different truth: **they belong, they are deeply loved, and they are God's YES in the world.**

Throughout the week, kids will enjoy nature exploration, crafts, music, active games, social-emotional learning, and meaningful opportunities to put their faith into action. We'll wrap up the week with a special **Friday Adventure Day** featuring water games, celebration, and a community service project!

We'd Love Your Help!

Vacation Bible School is always a community effort, and we'd love for you to be part of it.

VOLUNTEERS (ages 13+)

to help lead activities, assist with small groups, welcome families, and make the week joyful for our kids.

SNACK DONATIONS

to help keep our adventurers fueled each morning, individually packaged snacks, fruit, or other kid-friendly treats, we'd be incredibly grateful.

Whether you can give a morning, a week, or simply a box of snacks, your generosity helps make this ministry possible.

Free Registration!

Invite the children in your life and spread the word. Together, let's help our kids discover that they are loved, connected, and a force for good in the world.

Questions, interested in volunteering, or able to donate snacks? Contact **Haley Feuerbacher** at feuerbacherh@gmail.com.



Force of Nature: Elemental Faith is an adventure-filled Vacation Bible School where kids will explore Earth, Air, Water, and Fire - and how God uses these elements to remind us that *we are God's YES - and we are a force for good together!*

In a world that teaches shame and disconnection, this VBS will teach us a different truth. Through games, storytelling, worship, science, art, movement, and hands-on fun, we will grow in belonging, confidence, compassion, mental wellbeing, and love for God, ourselves, others, and earth!

KIDS WILL EXPERIENCE

- Nature & Science
- Wild Worship
- Sacred Stories
- Active Games
- Arts & Crafts
- Faith-in-Action Projects
- Social-Emotional Learning

QUESTIONS? WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

feuerbacherh@gmail.com

FRIDAY ADVENTURE DAY!

Our final day will be a special celebration featuring:

- Water games and outdoor fun
- Music, celebration, and big joy
- A meaningful service project

Don't forget a towel and change of clothes!

- PARTICIPANTS**
Ages 3-12
- VOLUNTEERS**
Ages 13+
- LOCATION**
Morgan Hill United Methodist Church
- COST**
FREE!

REGISTER TODAY!

Scan the QR code or visit

<https://tinyurl.com/zdhm4939> to register



We are proud to be a progressive, justice-hearted, and reconciling community, which means all identities are wanted, celebrated, and sacred here!

You're Invited to Advent Lutheran Church's Summer Day Camp!

Join us this summer from July 27 - 31

Mt. Cross and Advent Lutheran Morgan Hill will be holding a free summer camp for kids in K - 6th grade.

Register here: <https://www.advent-lutheran.org/daycamp>

MT. CROSS DAY CAMP 2026

WEAR LOVE
COLOSSIANS 3:12

JULY 27-31

9AM-3PM

GRADES K-6TH

Admission FREE

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
16870 Murphy Ave, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

FOR MORE INFORMATION
(408) 779-3551
office@advent-lutheran.org
www.advent-lutheran.org

Choose "Traveling Day Camps" Advent Lutheran

REGISTER HERE

SCAN QR CODE



100% TITHE PAYMENTS 2025



In recognition of

Morgan Hill UMC

Diane Knudsen

Diane Knudsen

Conference Treasurer

Samuel Hong

Rev. Samuel Hong

District Superintendent

Sandra K. Olewine

Sandra K. Olewine

Bishop of the San Francisco Area

A HEARTFELT *Thank You* to Our Congregation

Dear Pastor Linda and Church Leaders of Morgan Hill UMC,

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

On behalf of our conference leadership, we thank you for your faithful commitment in paying 100% of your church's tithe. Your generosity and faithfulness reflect not only faithful stewardship, but also a deep commitment to the shared ministry we carry together as the Body of Christ.

Your church's connectional spirit strengthens our collective witness and ministry. Through your faithfulness, lives are touched, leaders are equipped, congregations are supported, and the mission of Christ continues to move forward both locally and globally.

We recognize that every act of giving represents prayer, sacrifice, and trust in God's provision. Thank you for standing together with fellow churches in unity and partnership for the sake of the Gospel.

It is our honor to recognize your church with this certificate of appreciation. We rejoice with you and thank God for your witness, generosity, and steadfast partnership in ministry.

May the Holy Spirit continue to renew your congregation with joy, strength, and abundance as you faithfully serve Christ and shine His light in the world.

With gratitude and prayers,

Samuel Hong

Rev. Samuel Hong

Lessons From Our Sunday School Children

By Megan Richardson, Sunday School Teacher

Mantra for May: "God is for us, God is with us, God is in us!"

We explored one of the biggest and most important questions of faith: Who is God? Rather than pretending that there is one fixed, universal, "correct Christian answer" to this, we invited the students to wonder, imagine, and experience, using Scripture, reason, experience, and theological testimonies. Throughout Scripture and history, people have encountered God in many ways....not as one simple image, but as a living, dynamic presence. We discussed the trinity and how it portrays God in several ways.



We had a discussion of whether God is male or female or both. For Mother's Day, we made hand print flowers and wrote on the petals things we appreciate about our moms.



We celebrated classroom communion for our Bread For The World Sunday lesson. The kids sampled different types of international breads with the goal being to help them explore the idea that Jesus shows us God's love is with us and how to love like God....with compassion that tries to meet people's needs.



For Father's Day, the kids used rainbow scratch paper to depict either a Pride celebration, Juneteenth celebration or love for the father figures in their life.

Mantra for June:

"Diversity is God's Design.

Equity is God's Will. Inclusion is God's Dream. Justice is God's Call."

We discussed how our God is always making the circle bigger, building communities where more people can belong, thrive and share their gifts. June was a busy month where we celebrated Pride month, Juneteenth and Father's Day.



Mantra for June: "Celebration of Everything Rainbow"

The kids built a Lego community to exemplify diversity, equity and inclusion.

A rainbow cake, Colors Goldfish, wrist bands, stickers, glitter and pins were enjoyed by all to eat, wear and share!



A Letter to the Churches, Clergy, and Laity of the El Camino Real District

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

As July 1st approaches and we prepare to begin this new season of shared leadership in the El Camino Real District, we write with gratitude, hope, and anticipation for the ministry we will share together.

We begin by expressing our deep appreciation for the faithful leadership of Rev. Dr. Samuel Hong, who has served as District Superintendent for the past six years. Throughout his tenure, DS Samuel has offered thoughtful leadership, pastoral care, and a deep commitment to the mission and ministry of our congregations and communities. We are grateful for the ways he has strengthened the life of the district and supported its clergy and laity.

As DS Samuel prepares to conclude his service as Superintendent and begin a new appointment as Conference Transition Director on July 1st, we give thanks for his ministry among us and pray God's abundant blessings upon him in this next chapter of service. We encourage clergy and laity throughout the district to share their expressions of gratitude and appreciation with DS Samuel in the days ahead.

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CELEBRATING FREEDOM
at
MORGAN HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



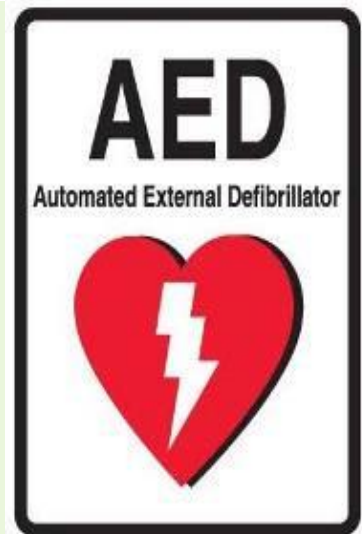
AED at Morgan Hill UMC

Join us for training!
Saturday, August 22, 10:30 am

An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) has been purchased and will be installed in the Fellowship Hall soon for use by our church and all the groups who meet in our building.

We have the AED that is simplest to use with automatic prompts. If you aren't aware, when calling 911, they ask if you have an AED available and will help you use it.

If you would like to be included in the training, please let Susan Armstrong know 805-975-2341.



Wesley Wisdom

“Grow continually, live in Christian community, care for your whole self, serve your neighbors with love, and give thanks to God in all things.”

- **Continue growing throughout life.** Wesley encouraged lifelong learning and continual spiritual growth (“going on to perfection”).
- **Christian Community is essential.** “There is no holiness but social holiness.” Christians grow in faith through relationships, encouragement, and serving together.
- **Care for the whole person.** Wesley was concerned with spiritual, physical, emotional, and social well-being.
- **Faith is expressed through acts of mercy.** Wesley taught that loving God always leads to loving our neighbors in practical ways.
- **Gratitude and joyful service.** Wesley encouraged Christians to receive God’s blessing with gratitude and to serve with joy rather than obligation.

Local Arts and Entertainment

Presented by The Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce

Morgan Hill FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC

<p>June 12th</p>  <p>Mercy & The Heartbeats</p>	<p>June 19th</p>  <p>The Cheeseballs</p>	<p>June 26th</p>  <p>Soul Kiss</p>	<p>July 10th</p>  <p>Carnaval</p>	<p>July 17th</p>  <p>Pop Fiction</p>
<p>July 24th</p>  <p>Misspent Youth</p>	<p>July 31st</p>  <p>Daze on the Green</p>	<p>August 7th</p>  <p>The Houserockers</p>	<p>August 14th</p>  <p>Patron Latin Rhythms</p>	<p>August 21st</p>  <p>Careless Whisper</p>

Downtown Ampetheater @ The CCC
www.morganhillchamber.org

MORGAN HILL
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Insta: @mhcoc
 FB: @fridaynightmusicseries

GROUNDHOG DAY

THE MUSICAL

JUNE 20 - JULY 12, 2026

WWW.SVCT.ORG





Upcoming Birthdays



July 4 Dan Hazen
 July 8 Jenn Oliphant
 July 9 Koiwa Ohene-Nyako
 July 17 Charlotte Saffell
 July 19 Donna Spurlin

August 4 Chuck Foster
 August 14 Bettie Anderson
 August 15 Evelyn Kane
 August 18 Trish Catalano
 August 21 Rachael Odneal
 August 25 Ashley Saffell
 August 29 Wanda Garrett
 August 30 Jeannie Clayton

You Are Welcome Here!

As a Reconciling Congregation, we celebrate God's welcome to us and to all people, including any who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender and their families. At Morgan Hill UMC, your friendship is valued and safeguarded. You are accepted for who you are. You have a home!

Reconciling Ministries Network www.rmnetwork.org



See all holidays and special days at nationaltoday.com