

**Sunday and Beyond**  
**United Methodist Church of Sitka**  
**303 Kimsham, Sitka, AK 99835**



*"The only thing constant is Change."*

These are the words of the Greek philosopher Heraclitus, about 500 years before Christ. And, certainly, THIS is a time of Change!...

- The cruise season has begun (there were 5000 extra people in Sitka on Thursday!)
- The school year is over! - kids who were 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are now 4<sup>th</sup> graders, and Ian and Brittany, who were high school seniors, are now high school graduates.
- Retirement time has come for some, including Greg and Cynthia Johnstone, now in their new home in Aberdeen, WA.
- It's wedding time for some, like Justin and Nova, which means Justin moves to New Jersey and becomes a dad in the process!
- It's moving time for many, including the Herrings and the Carrolls, who both have new Coast Guard postings in the southern US;
  - and it's certainly moving time for United Methodist pastors and their families... and that means for us that I leave and – finally!! – Bennie Grace Nabua (Pastor Jojo) and her family get to come to Sitka!

Change like this means farewell to old friends and welcome to new faces.

And yet, even when we know it's a good thing, *we HATE change!!* It throws us off balance, causes us great anxiety, and makes US have to change in order to accommodate it. Even when we know change is expected, will be good, we resist it.

When Heraclitus said that change is the essence of the universe, he was making a statement about God. A relationship with God is all about change – becoming other than we were, taking a new path in life, following a new way. Yet we resist change! I suspect that maybe that's sometimes why we resist God.

I hope you remember the quote I gave you from Julian of Norwich: "All will be well, all will be well, all manner of things will be well." These are Julian's words, but the promise is from God. It's a promise that is repeated throughout scripture, over and over, for those who follow God, those who trust God, all will be well.

"The only thing constant is change." But fear not. It is Good News!

*Pastor Laura*

**Calendar of Events**  
**May 21, — May 28, 2017**

**Sunday:** 10:00AM- Worship (Fellowship)

**Wednesday:** 2:00PM- Sew and Go

**Sunday:** 10:00AM- Worship (Fellowship)

**Looking Ahead:** **Sunday, 5/28**, Summer format begins ó If you're interested in sharing music or even poetry or dance during this summer, please let the pastor know.

**Vacation Bible School:** Wednesday, Aug. 9, through Friday, Aug. 11, with closing on Sunday, August 13 (more information later)

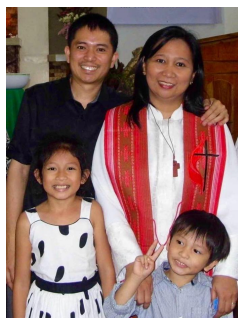
**April**  
**Prayer and**  
**Mission Focus**

Prayer focus:  
Graduates

Mission Focus:  
Heifer International

### SUNDAY, JUNE 18, WELCOMING OUR NEW PASTOR:

Bennie Grace Nabua with husband Jerome and children Julia Francesca and Jerome Bowen Nabua will be here for their first Sunday in Sitka. Please mark your calendar to attend and to give them a warm welcome.



### SUNDAY, JUNE 4, POTLUCK LUNCH AND FAREWELL TO JUSTIN THOMAS

There will be a potluck lunch on June 4 immediately following worship to say farewell to Justin Thomas. Justin has been in Sitka for 8 years and has worked here at our church both as Youth/Children Director and as Office Assistant; he also served on the Eagle River Camp Board. Justin moves to New Jersey to marry his fiancée Nova, who has just graduated from seminary and begins her first pastoral appointment, and he will also become a dad to Nicole. He will be missed!!



### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL THANKS YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

The total offering to support the children's Heifer Project was more than \$200.00, which will be combined with the Sunday School offering to sponsor a helpful animal for a needy family in an undeveloped country. Thanks for your generosity!



### Eagle River United Methodist Camp

Date: Sunday July 16 -Thursday July 20, 2017

Grades: Going into 3rd - Going into 8th

Contact Julia Smith for more information at 907-747-6333

**PANTRY BOX** is now under the coat rack in the narthex. Bring non-perishable foods and paper goods to this box to help with ongoing needs within our church family.  
**GROCERY CART** for Salvation Army food donations remains in the narthex.

### GIVE ELECTRONICALLY

Scan QR code to right or go to [umcsitka.com](http://umcsitka.com) and use our secure web-based pay page. And now, download the **Give+** mobile app from your favorite app store (it's free!) and connect quickly from your smartphone (android or iphone) to our web-based giving page.



### Birthdays in May

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Jolene Bakkes     | 18 Dorothy Orbison |
| 3 Nik Calhoun       | 19 Kai Hirai       |
| 8 Betty Joe         | 19 Sheryl Ginn     |
| 9 Hunter Lewin      | 22 Noah White      |
| 13 Gloria Hagerman  | 24 Bayler Stinson  |
| 13 Nancy Young      | 27 Koen Hirai      |
| 15 Anna Herring     | 27 Jane Seesz      |
| 17 Bonnie Elsensohn |                    |

### Volunteers

- |                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Elementary</i> .....    | <i>Carol Potrzuski</i> |
| <i>Preschool</i> .....     | <i>Marcia Hirai</i>    |
| <i>Fellowship</i> .....    | <i>Julia Smith</i>     |
| <i>Altar Flowers</i> ..... | <i>Jane Seesz</i>      |

**PRAYER CONCERNS.** Nash Family, Karen Iwamoto, Roger Hames Jr., Heidi & Hazel, Dwight and Marilyn Payton, Jason Minor, Jake DenHerder, Hardy Grant, Tom Ferris, Chris (cancer), Allen Walton, Edgumbe Students, Roth Family, Rebecca Short, Harvey Brant, Clayton Family, Yerkes Family.