



## WELCOME TO THE VIEW | JUNE 2023

In this month's issue we have quite a lot to go over! The [June Worship Schedule](#) will be listed, we will get into the [Pride Services](#) we will be offering this month as well as [introduce our guest Ministers for this month](#). We will touch base on Pastor Tracy's time away with the Apache Stronghold at Oak Flat, AZ; [\[please offer the "Sunset Prayer" during Pastor Tracy's time away\]](#), [African Music Sunday](#), the [Church Council meeting](#) schedule, Sandi Ghaffari's [plastic ware announcement](#), and our [food donation update](#).

We also are looking for [Lawn Mowing Volunteers](#); this will be a paid opportunity. We also included our [Pastoral Emergency Contact information](#) while Pastor Tracy is away!

- Peace and Blessing, Briana Rorex

## JUNE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

While Pastor Tracy is with the Apache Stronghold at Oak Flat, Arizona, please view this month's worship schedule featuring our guest ministers!

**June 4: Rev. Peter Sawtell:** Peter is an expert in creation care and eco-justice. Peter will connect the Sunday service to Pastor Tracy's faith-based justice witness with the San Carlos Apache.

**June 11: Rev. Natalie Marionneaux,** Executive Assistant to Bishop Karen Oliveto. Natalie is preaching on Isaiah 43 – *God Makes a Way Out of No Way!* Please come to hear news from the Mountain Sky Conference United Methodist Church and to support Natalie the day before she leaves to Pennsylvania for her full ordination vows.

## PRIDE SERVICES



**June 18: Pastor Tracy** will preach and lead MVUC in our beloved Pride Sunday liturgy followed by Pride Bingo and Cookie decorating. Fellowship Hour will be located downstairs.

### **June 25: CHURCH OUTSIDE: 3 Options!**

1. Join MVUC and other United Church of Christ congregations as we hold church at the Denver Pride Parade. You can join the march or come and hang out cheering those marching. We will hand out MVUC church three-fold brochures.
2. Watch a prerecorded Pride Sunday worship created by MVUC, Bonnie Brea UCC, Park View United Church of Christ, and Sixth Avenue United Church of Christ. A link will be sent on Saturday.
3. Attend the Ecumenical Catholic Church service at Sixth Avenue United Church

## **GUEST MINISTERS FOR JUNE**

**Welcome the following guest ministers; here's a quick look at their lives and professions:**

**Rev. Peter Sawtell** – Peter Sawtell is a United Church of Christ clergyperson who, for the 20 years up to his retirement in 2020, lived out his ministerial calling through Eco-Justice Ministries, working with churches in Colorado, across the country, and around the world. He helped congregations and denominations answer the question, “What does it mean to ‘be the church’ in a world with great ecological and social justice crisis?” On June 4<sup>th</sup>, he'll share thoughts about how eco-justice is central to Christian faith.

**Rev. Natalie Marionneaux** - Natalie Marionneaux was born in the late 60s in Rosedale, LA, across the Mississippi River from Baton Rouge. Both her parents and all her siblings have been teachers. Raised in the French Catholic tradition of south Louisiana, she graduated from St. Joseph's Academy. Her faith has motivated many of her choices in life including working for Habitat for Humanity building houses in rural Mexico after college. In 1995, she moved to Chicago to work in the “Back of the Yard” neighborhood at a Catholic Worker House for political refugees who were survivors of torture. While working at the shelter, Natalie lived in a community with the Cabrini Sisters (yes, the same order of nuns as the Cabrini Shrine in Golden).

Natalie had her own wedding photography business for 10+ years before moving back to Louisiana in 2012. In Louisiana, she became an active at FUMC in Baton Rouge. After attending Cursillo in 2013, she joined the Methodist church and began her candidacy process. She volunteered for Kairos Prison Ministry Inside and even worked at the church as an employee before going to seminary in at Drew Theological School earning her M.A. in Ministry in 2017. She worked with UMCOR in Disaster Response for the Louisiana 2016 Flood.

Natalie was selected and commissioned as a Church and Community Worker (i.e. domestic missionary) with the General Board of Global Ministries in 2018. She moved and worked in the poorest town in Pennsylvania – Johnstown. The town struggled with a 40% poverty rate.

Just last year, Natalie moved to Colorado to work as Executive Assistant to Bishop Karen Oliveto. Smoky Hill UMC in Centennial is her secondary appointment. Natalie also volunteers with Kairos Prison Ministry Outside where she serves as spiritual director. She is also a Coast Guard Auxiliary Chaplain Support Chaplain able to serve active duty units in Denver as well as be deployed for special missions.

Natalie was commissioned a provisional deacon in 2020 and will be ordained in full connection this June 2023 in the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference.

# APACHE STRONGHOLD AT OAK FLAT



This month, between May 30 – June 16, 2023, Pastor Tracy will be accompanying The Community Peacemakers Team alongside the San Carlos Apache and will be serving as a reservist!

To learn more about Pastor Tracy's accompaniment please click [here](#).

## **\*\*Sunset Prayer\*\***

(On the Eve of the Court Case to Save Oak Flat March 20<sup>th</sup> written by Michaela Esau ADAPTED FOR CPT ACCOMPANIMENT)

Tonight, we offer the steps of our day to the Creator,  
the one who gave us bodies to move and the strength to build movements.

As the sun goes down on this night, we ask for protection.

Protect Wendsler Nosie, his family, and all of Apache Stronghold from their persecutors.

Protect the spiritual practice of the San Carlos Apache so their connection with their ancestors and Creator may remain strong.

Protect the trees, animals, and water of

Oak Flat.

May the life You created continue to thrive in this sacred place.

Open our ears to the pleas of Apache Stronghold, and our hearts to the importance of sacred land. Remind us that all our lives depend on the health of the land and spirit.

Take the energy of our bodies, the movement of today's steps, and the power of our thoughts and turn it into protection and strength for Apache Stronghold and Oak Flat.

May the setting of the sun tonight bring an end to the persecution of Indigenous spirituality.

And may the rising of the sun tomorrow bring justice and healing and right relations.

Amen.

## AFRICAN MUSIC SUNDAY

We will be hosting a Senegalese and African concert on **Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>**. Come enjoy joyous African music performed by the band Super Etoile de Dakar and a home-cooked Senegalese meal! Super Etoile de Dakar was founded by Mbaye Dieye Faye and singer Youssou Ndour. Mbaye's son, Falou Faye plays percussion in the band and fun fact; the band hosted Pastor Tracy in Dakar during Sabbatical!



A sign up sheet will be available at each Sunday Worship from June 4<sup>th</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup>; If you are interested in attending, please sign up by Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. We're asking for a \$10 love offering however no one will be turned away!

## HABITAT PRIDE BUILD



Just a reminder that the Habitat Pride Build will take place next **Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**! MVUC confirmed volunteers are Ross, Megan, Holly D., Stanley, Carol B. and Kelly. Let's pray for them and the Habitat Pride Build!!

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Please see below the scheduled Council meetings for the next 3 months:

**Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>:** Council meeting at 6:30 PM

**Starting on July 11<sup>th</sup>,** all Council meetings will return to the **second Tuesday of each month during the same time.**

## PLASTIC WARE USAGE IN BUILDING



As we all know, using plastic ware as well as other non-recycled items are hurtful to our environment! Per Sandi Ghaffari's request, as members and visitors of the Church – please lower the usage of plastic ware while in the building. Doing so will help improve the health of our environment. From now on, we will be using the silverware that's provided [please be sure to wash your utensil after you're done using it].

## **FOOD DONATIONS UPDATE**

Compared to April's food donations (we received 222 lbs.), on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, we received 235 lbs.! We want to give a HUGE shoutout to everyone who donated! There are many of families and individuals in need of food especially with the scarce amount of food assistance. We appreciate you all for your continuous support and thank you!

## **LAWN MOWING VOLUNTEERS**

We are currently looking for anyone who is interested in mowing the Church's lawn! This is a paying opportunity. If you or anyone is interested in this, please contact Bob Anderson at [bobanderson1561@comcast.net](mailto:bobanderson1561@comcast.net) or Briana Rorex at [office@mtviewunited.org](mailto:office@mtviewunited.org).

## **PASTORAL EMERGENCY CALLS; JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>- JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>**

Please call or email Congregational Care Committee members:

Holly Chapman at (720) 207-1142 or email at [knitter1048@outlook.com](mailto:knitter1048@outlook.com)

Meredith Ryan at (720) 312-8561 or email at [mereryan616@gmail.com](mailto:mereryan616@gmail.com)



10700 E Evans Ave. Aurora, CO 80014

(303) 755-3799

[www.mtviewunited.org](http://www.mtviewunited.org)

You can reach Briana Rorex, the MVUC Office Manager during the hours:  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 AM to 2 PM