LAITY SUNDAY 2026

Together by Grace

Be GROUNDED in Love

Ephesians 3:17 (NRSV)

EASTER Hill UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor, Rev. Dr. Dale M. Weatherspoon

Our Mission is to know Christ and to make Christ known

October 18, 2026

Easter Hill: a growing, thriving, diverse and intergenerational church

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Sally Vonner (she/her) is a woman of faith and purpose as a leader, mother, sister, and friend to many. She is a proud member of United Women in Faith. As the General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of United Women in Faith, she oversees the implementation of the organization's vision, mission, and strategic plan to positively impact the lives of women, children, and youth around the world. She collaborates with United Women in Faith's senior executives from the Offices of the General Secretary, Connectional, Finance and Asset Management, Operations, and Transformation on day-to-day operations.

As the General Secretary/CEO she is a member of the General Secretaries Table, the board of Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, TN, and related United Methodist Church (UMC) contexts. She has served various areas of the UMC as a women's retreat leader, jurisdictional conference delegate or alternate (2008, 2016, 2020), and as organizer for immigration assistance and reform, community development initiatives, and dismantling racism at jurisdiction and conference levels. Sally was commissioned as a 10-10-10 missionary by the General Board of Global Ministries in 2000 with placement in the legacy North Texas Annual Conference as the Communities of Shalom Coordinator. She was the Associate Director of Connectional Ministries for the legacy North Texas Annual Conference, 2005-2010.

She is a long-time member of the Black Methodist for Church Renewal at the national, jurisdictional and local levels. Sally is also a member of a women's leadership cohort for Chief Executive Officers with J.P. Morgan Chase, since 2021. She is an active member of the Bergen County Alumnae Chapter of Delta

Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Sally is a graduate of Perkins School of Theology with a M.Div. and Women's Studies Certification and East Texas A&M with a B.S. in Biology. Sally is a long-time member of First UMC Grand Prairie (TX). She regularly attends Teaneck UMC in Teaneck, NJ.

Her favorite pauses include daily quiet time, beach lounging, grilling, attending her daughter's musical performances, reading, and watching sunrises and sunsets.

United Women in Faith

Worship Celebration | 21st Sunday After Pentecost | Year A

October 18, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

The star (🕊) indicates where we are to stand.

Wearing a mask while attending worship service in the sanctuary is optional. Also please register your attendance in the black attendance booklet in the pew.

WELCOME — Mrs. Linda Wright

CALL TO WORSHIP — Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson

We are all called to recognize and join God's mission of love.
We gather to become more like Jesus.

We learn how grace has met other lives.
We wait for God's empowering presence to open our eyes.

We engage our neighbors, online and in person.
And God's love, power, and justice help repair the world.

LAITY SUNDAY LITANY — Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson

Now Abraham was the first to go and must have been a brave man.
Because you did not say where he was going
and still he followed your command.
He shows us that when you ask us to move, we should say:
Lord, here I am.

There are many who are bold,
and, in your name, take a stand
when your people are hurting each other in ways we can't comprehend.
Without a moment's hesitation, they say to you:
Lord, here I am.

When we hear tales of injustice and oppression
happening across your vast land
we believe you want us to respond – to be your feet, to be your hands.
And while I don't know the work you need me to do:
Lord, here I am.

You are working through our lives
to fulfill your mighty will and plan

and it requires a submission we sometimes cannot understand.
But as you promised to never forsake us, we each say:
Lord, here I am.

Ciona D. Rouse, The Africana Worship Book, Year A, Discipleship Resources, p.87

WORSHIP IN PRAISE – **Here I Am, Lord** p. 567 AAHH

MUSICAL SELECTION – **The Solid Rock** p. 385, AAHH

[Ushers may seat the worshipers – Please register your attendance]

PASTORAL PRAYER Mr. Willis Porter

PRAYER HYMN – **My Faith Looks Up to Thee** p. 456, AAHH

MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN Ms. Karolyn Langston

Let the Children Come/Let the Children Go

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson

Lay Servant: It's offering time!

Church: Praise the Lord!

How to make your offering via the "Giving link @ www.easterhill.org/giving"

SCAN ME

OFFERTORY PRAYER Mrs. Jo Ann Lawson

MUSICAL OFFERING – **We Are One** Voices of Easter Hill

DOXOLOGY - p. 650, UM Hymnal

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

SCRIPTURE READING – **1 Corinthians 12: 4-7** Mr. Vernon Goins

SERMONIC HYMN – Voices of Easter Hill

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

INTRODUCTION OF SPERAKER Mrs. Linda Wright

President, California-Nevada United Women in Faith

MESSAGE – **One in Faith, Hope and Love** Sally Vonner

General Secretary & Chief Executive Officer of United Women in Faith

REMARKS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Dale

CLOSING SONG – **Make Us One** p. 2224, TFWS

BENEDICTION Sally Vonner

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given in honor of what would have been Frank Fisher's 100th birthday. We celebrate his lasting musical contributions to Easter Hill United Methodist Church.

OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY AND TO SERVE | SAVE THE DATES!

Today @ 12 p.m. Usher Board will meet in the Beulah Room.

Tuesday, October 20th the 75th Anniversary Committee will meet via zoom.

Thursday, October 22nd @ 11a the Senior will have their potluck meeting in the Mann-Swisher Hall.

Thursday, October 22nd @ 6p Church Council meets via Zoom

The **74th Annual Men's Day** worship celebration will be on **October 25** at **10 a.m.**; **Theme:** "*The Servants of the Lord*" **Scripture:** Isaiah 42 **Guest Speaker:** Michael Kerry Martin, member of Epworth United Methodist Church.

The men will have a table in the Mann-Swisher Hall for submitting your booklet ads, Memorial or In-honor statements immediately following the worship service.

*The United Methodist Men's Day Assessment of **$300** are being collected. Please mail your assessment to John McGill, visit the UMM table in the fellowship hall after church, or put it in the UMM mailbox.* ***We look forward to seeing you there!***

Housing through Homesharing

Educational Workshop

Richmond Commission on Aging (RCOA)

Wednesday, October 28, 2026, from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

3230 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804

This workshop implements **Goal 1 (Housing for All Stages & Ages)** of the California and Contra Costa County Master Plan for Aging, addressing the critical fact that thousands of older adults in Contra Costa County are currently on waitlists for affordable housing.

Welcome & Local Data Overview (1:30 PM)

Chair Michelle Hayes and Housing Committee Chair Gerry La Londe-Berg.

- Framing the "Richmond Housing Mismatch." We will present key data showing that while **50%** of Richmond's older renters are severely rent-burdened and need more affordable options
- An impressive **74%** of local seniors over 65 own their homes but may be cash-poor and struggling with maintenance and mortgages.

Individual Home-Sharing and Community Housing (1:45 PM)

Logan Robertson, Program Director, Front Porch Home Match
Amy Appleton, Executive Director, SHARE Sonoma County.

- **Home Match:** Detailing the individual matching process, safety screenings, and roommate compatibility.
- **SHARE Sonoma:** Presenting the "master lease" model, where a non-profit leases a single-family home to sub-let to seniors and others.
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Senior Legal Rights & Eviction Prevention (2:45 PM)

Contra Costa Senior Legal Services (CCSLS).
Focus: Tenant protections and landlord-tenant dispute resolution processes

Q&A and Public Resource Connection (3:15 PM)

Contact 707-569-4280 for information

EASTER HILL UMC 75TH ANNIVERSARY
Silent Auction & Raffle Donations Needed!

The 75th Anniversary Planning Committee is seeking donations for our upcoming ***Silent Auction*** and Raffle!

We welcome gift cards, gift baskets, merchandise, artwork, collectibles, and other valuable items. All donated items must be NEW, except artwork, paintings, statues, and similar collectible pieces.

Please provide an estimated value for each donated item unless a professional appraisal is available. For artwork and collectibles, please indicate whether a Certificate of Authenticity is included.

Donation Drop-Off: At the church immediately following Sunday worship services throughout October.

Your generosity will help make our 75th Anniversary Celebration a tremendous success!

Thank you for your support!
75th Church Anniversary Planning Committee

Join us as we celebrate 75 years of faith, ministry, service, and community on **Saturday, November 7**; NOTE: Tickets are sold out to capacity.

You may purchase an ad page for the **75th Anniversary Souvenir Booklet**; in memory, in honor, your business card or be a patron listed in the booklet,

The ad space for the Easter Hill United Methodist Church **75th Anniversary Souvenir Booklet** will be on sale in the Mann-Swisher Hall following worship!

Come celebrate this incredible milestone with us! 75 years is a blessing worth celebrating—and we want you to be part of the celebration!

SCAN ME

Make checks payable to Easter Hill UMC or pay online at
www.easterhill.org/giving

Easter Hill United Methodist Church

75th Anniversary Celebration

Guest Speaker: Rev. Ronald Swisher,
Retired United Methodist Clergy

November 7, 2026 | 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Legacy: Standing on the Past, Building for the Future

Jeremiah 29: 11

El Cerrito Community Center
7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito, CA 94530

Dear Friends,
Mark your calendars! The 40th Annual GRIP Harmony Walk is happening on Saturday, November 7, 2026, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at Nicholl Park in Richmond—and this year, we're excited to share that the event is again completely free for everyone to attend.

Want to get involved? Businesses and community groups can sign up to sponsor, donate raffle prizes, or host a booth at the fair. Please contact info@gripcommunity.org or call (510) 233-2141 for more details.

With gratitude, Ralph Payton, Executive Director

BLACK METHODISTS FOR CHURCH RENEWAL

BMCR *Our Time Under God Is Now!*

Western Jurisdiction

BMCR ANNUAL MEETING

Our Time Under God Is Now!
to inspire, influence & impact

11/20-11/22
2026

AT THE
HILTON GARDEN INN
SAN FRANCISCO/ OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE
1800 Powell Street
Emeryville, CA. 94608

REGISTRATION
$125

BMCR ROOM BLOCK
$139

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Rev. Marie Wilson, *Western Jurisdiction Coordinator*
bmcrwj@gmail.com
(510) 408-8559

CALENDAR EVENTS | OCTOBER 19-25

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026
10:30a CD Group | Via Zoom
7p Q Place | Via Zoom
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026
10a Eldertech Training | Via Zoom
6p 75th Anniversary Committee | Via Zoom
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026
11a Senior Potluck meeting | Mann-Swisher Hall
6p Church Council | via Zoom
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026
11a Eldertech AI Training | Via Zoom
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026
9a-Prayer Ministry | Via Zoom
11:30a Choir Rehearsal | Sanctuary
12p UWF Gen Mtg | Via Zoom
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026
10a 22nd Sunday aft Pentecost | **MEN'S DAY | Michael Kerry Martin**

STATEMENT OF WELCOME

All creation is of sacred worth. All humans are sacred images of God. Easter Hill United Methodist Church affirms, without reservation, Jesus' life, and ministry of unconditional love. As an inclusive and nurturing family of families, Easter Hill will continue to welcome and offer hospitality to all people regardless of age, race, gender orientation, religious, economic, educational, or social status.

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Dale M. Weatherspoon, Pastor
Linda Wright, Senior Lay Servant
Audrey Cormier, Organist
Rev. Phillip C. Lawson, Pastor Emeritus
Joyce Clark, Administrative Assistant
Apryle Stanley, Director of Music
Kimberly Harvey, Choir Director
Rev. Sandra K. Olewine, Resident Bishop
Rev. Dr. Debbie Weatherspoon, District Co-Superintendent
Rev. Dr. Mahsea Evans, District Co-Superintendent

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

CONTACT INFO

3911 Cutting Blvd., Richmond, CA 94804
Telephone: 510.235.4226
Website: www.easterhill.org
E-mail: eumc1234@sbcglobal.net
Pastor's E-mail: pastordale316@gmail.com

Wearing a mask while attending worship service in the sanctuary is optional. Thank you for registering your attendance and for worshiping with us.