



IN JOINT FELLOWSHIP

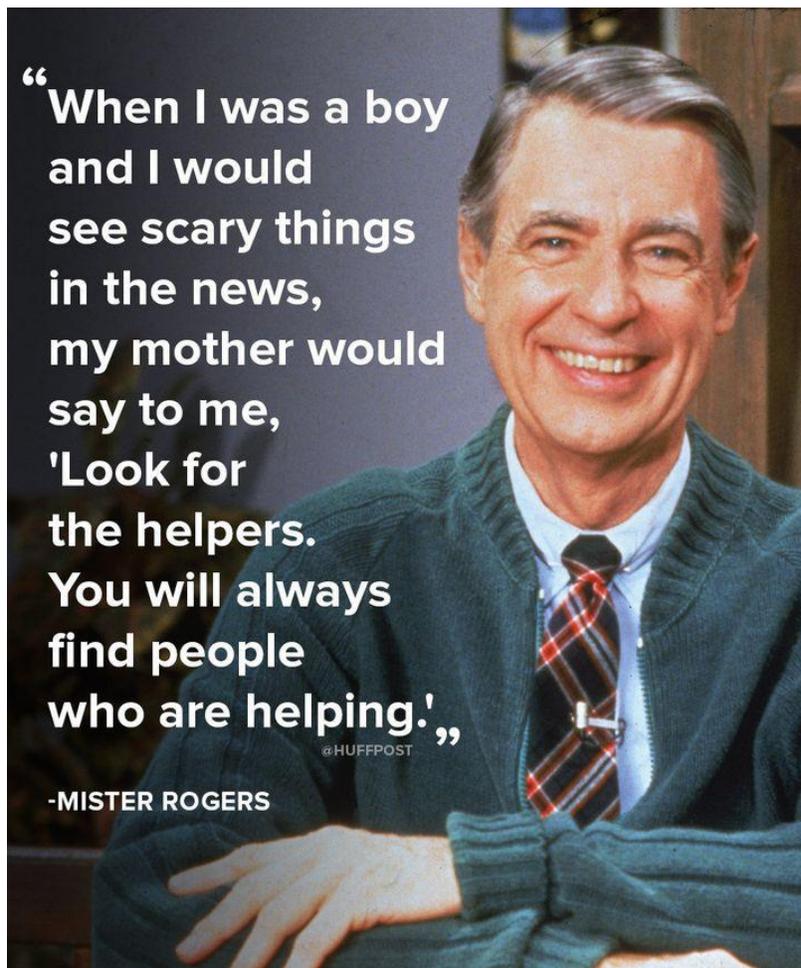
*Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through Christian spiritual transformation, making our work and the church relevant and visible.*

(510) 465-4793

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

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*A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood:*  
*“Look for the Helpers”*

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September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
RALLY SUNDAY

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WELCOME

Rev. Sunae Cho, *Pastor*

INTROIT

Seek Ye First UMH 405

LMUMC Bell Choir

OPENING PRAYER [RESPONSIVE]

Galia Fragoso

To know the warmth of love,  
To have the assurance that someone cares,  
To be confident of our worth,  
To be bold to love in return,  
To be washed over with grace,  
To be accepted as we are:  
This is to know a bit of God.  
Then let us worship our God. *AMEN.*

*Beth Merrill Neil*

OPENING SONG

(Please stand if able)

The Servant Song TFWS 2222 *Organ*

1. *Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I might have the grace to  
Let you be my servant, too.*
2. *We are pilgrims on a journey;  
We're together on the road;  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.*
3. *I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
Speak the peace you long to hear.*
4. *I will weep when you are weeping;  
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Margaret LeWright

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 121:1-8 (NIV)

Brent Kenny

I lift up my eyes to the mountains  
where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord,

the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip

he who watches over you will not slumber;  
indeed, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you

the Lord is your shade at your right hand;  
the sun will not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm

he will watch over your life;  
the Lord will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forevermore.

### Matthew 7:7-8 (NIV)

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

RESPONSE

*Seek Ye First* UMH 405 *Organ*

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness;  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia!*

*Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
Seek, and you shall find.  
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia!*

SERMON

*“Look for The Helpers”*

*Rev. Sunae Cho, Pastor*

BLESSING OUR HELPERS

Rev. Sunae Cho & Helpers

Pastor Sunae:

God of Creation, you have gifted these men and women  
with teaching skills, creativity, and curiosity.

We pray you would fill them with the power and compassion of your Holy Spirit.  
Fill them with energy and insight into your Word, the story of Your faithful heart

Helpers:

You have not called us to be perfect

You have called us to be faithful.

You have not called us to be all-knowing

You have called us to believe.

We dedicate ourselves to the call and task of teaching.

Grant us wisdom, patience and joy in our preparation and teaching of your Word.

Congregation:

God of hope, Guide each teacher as they study your Word.  
Strengthen the gifts you have given them, and energize their compassion,  
Remind us to find ways to support and encourage them throughout the year.  
May we share in their joy and times of difficulty.

ALL:

*We commit ourselves, each to our part, in this joyful task.  
May your steadfast, faithful, covenant love guide all we do.  
Amen.*

*Lois Siemens*

## PRAYERS & GRATITUDES

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ecumenical Version (UMH 894)

\*Please feel free to use the name of your choice for God that speaks to your soul.

*Our \*Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive  
those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the  
kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.*

### PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*Let us offer one another signs of peace and love.*

### LIVING AS THE CHURCH

## OFFERING

### THANKSGIVING SONG      Give Thanks TFWS 2036 (sing 2x)

*Give thanks with a grateful heart*

*Give thanks to the Holy One*

*Give thanks because He's given*

*Jesus Christ, His Son*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart*

*Give thanks to the Holy One*

*Give thanks because He's given*

*Jesus Christ, His Son*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong"*

*Let the poor say, "I am rich"*

*Because of what the Lord has done for us.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart*

*Give thanks to the Holy One*

*Give thanks because He's given*

*Jesus Christ, His Son*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart*

*Give thanks to the Holy One*

*Give thanks because He's given*

*Jesus Christ, His Son*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong"*

*Let the poor say, "I am rich"*

*Because of what the Lord has done for us.*

*Give thanks*

*Give thanks*

CLOSING SONG

*We Are Called* TFWS 2172

(Please stand if able)

*Come, live in the light*

*Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord*

*We are called to be light for the kingdom*

*To live in the freedom of the city of God*

*We are called to act with justice*

*We are called to love tenderly*

*We are called to serve one another*

*To walk humbly with God*

*Come, open your heart*

*Show your mercy to all those in fear*

*We are called to be hope for the hopeless*

*So all hatred and blindness will be no more*

*We are called to act with justice*

*We are called to love tenderly*

*We are called to serve one another*

*To walk humbly with God*

*Sing, sing a new song*

*Sing of that great day when all will be one*

*God will reign and we'll walk with each other*

*As sisters and brothers united in love*

*We are called to act with justice*

*We are called to love tenderly*

*We are called to serve one another*

*To walk humbly with God*

CLOSING PRAYER [RESPONSIVE]

Galia Fragoso

May we stand up and become “the people who are helping,”  
trusting that a little kindness makes a world of difference.

As we extend a hand and heart of care for the least of these  
and live out our call to “be the good neighbor”,

may God continue to pour blessings out into our communities and world.

May we work together with God to bind up the broken, strengthen the weak,  
and offer help to all those who need it.

How is God calling us to be helpers this week?

May we all go to serve, actively loving our neighbor as ourselves,  
through word, action, and simple presence and compassion. *Amen*

*UMC of Red Bank (adapt.)*

POSTLUDE

*Now Thank We All Our God* Organ

Sigfrid Karg-Elert