



## Pentecost Merger Celebration of Lake Park and Lake Merritt UMC

*We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads, and along these sympathetic fibers, our actions run as causes and return to us as results.*  
– Herman Melville

*Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples – when they see the love you have for each other.”*  
- John 13:34-35

April 16, 2024

Dear friends,

We rejoice that God so moved the hearts of Lake Park UMC and Lake Merritt UMC that we may now weave our futures together as one church on Pentecost Sunday. Join us as we celebrate this historic merger of our two significant churches and consecrate our ministry and mission before God with the blessing of our annual conference, churches, friends and families near and far.

You will hear the stories of our two churches as we become one. Our own Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño will preach the sermon and bless our merger. Bay District Superintendent Rev. Sun Hee Kim will join and lead with us. Immediately after the service, you are invited to take a church photo in front of the church on the Lakeshore Ave. We invite you, your family and friends to join this historic new beginning!

The Pentecost Merger Celebration Worship service is on May 19<sup>th</sup> 2024, Sunday, at 10:15 followed by a BBQ lunch gathering. The main BBQ will be provided by the church. We invite our church family to bring the sides, salads, and desserts for our fellowship lunch. Judi Fabrizio is helping organize the sign up for the potluck dishes. Please see Judi to sign up and also if you have any questions.

The prophet Isaiah’s words speak to us today: “Be alert, be present. I am about to do something brand-new. It’s bursting out! Don’t you see it?” (Isaiah 43:18) God is about to do something brand-new in and through our new Lake Merritt United Methodist Church. Do you see it? May God bless our new beginning and be glorified through our ministry and mission here in Oakland to the ends of the earth. Amen.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Sunae Cho