

EASTER LETTER

FIRST COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MEDFORD

Dear FCUMC family,

I pray it is well in your soul in this unexpected situation. Please know you are in my prayers and God's care.

Before proceeding to the rest of this letter, I invite you to watch a part of Moana (2016 film). Although the full movie will surely allow your family to have extra fun with its fantastic music and beautiful story, if you do not have enough time for that, please use three minutes of yours following the link below:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFsEUHyQTwQ

In the featured scene, Moana's grandma dies. However, she left an essential message for Moana, "Go." Yet Moana hesitates, "Not now, I can't." "You must. The ocean chose you," grandma replies. Moana can't make her decision because she doesn't want to leave her grandma, "I can't leave you," she cries. And here comes grandma's eye-opening line, "There is nowhere you could go that I won't be with you."

Like Moana's grandma, Jesus is calling us today; he is calling all of us, saying, "Go." But what do we say? "Not now, I can't." "You must," Jesus replies, "I chose you to go and share the Good News with those who need this. I chose you to live out my unlimited love, so all my children can celebrate that love!" What are we waiting for? Are we hesitating because we are worried about leaving Jesus? Are we hesitating because we think Jesus wouldn't be there beyond the great wave?

Jesus is telling us, "There is nowhere you could go that I won't be with you." Yes, there is nowhere that Jesus won't be with us. Let us not be afraid. Let us not be scared. Let us go and do what Jesus has called us to do. We are not staying with Jesus' dead body in the tomb. He is risen, and he is waiting for us to come beyond the great wave! Christ is risen! Let's not stay in the tomb.

With love and peace,
Pastor Suji

* If you want to hear more about this message on Moana and Easter, please join our Easter Service at 10:30 on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/firstcommunityumc).

