

MAYHEW TORCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF MAYHEW COMMUNITY BAPTIST

VOLUME 55 ISSUE 5 MAY 2018

PASTOR MIKE'S MUSTARD SEEDS...

Pastor Mike's Mustard Seed

Just when you think you might have heard it all, something amazes you. But if Jesus is doing the speaking then there's no way we will hear it all. I recently preached a sermon regarding the humility of our Lord Jesus Christ. One of the main points teaches us that Jesus weaves the tapestry of our lives. He can work in our lives like no other if we will let Him. He is aware of the littlest detail to the biggest. He knew us before the foundations of the world, He knows the hairs on our head and He knows the day we will join Him in Heaven. And yet with all this power, He came as a servant to serve. He served up His life for us.

It is important to remember that Jesus wants us to be servants as well. To carry one another's burdens. When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem for His crucifixion, He told the disciples where to go and find a donkey for Him to ride as He descended into Jerusalem. Again, as Jesus knows the future He knew where a donkey and her cold would be tied up. The disciples did as Jesus asked them and they found the donkeys tied up and returned to Jesus for Him to ride. The donkey carried Christ to His death. Certain history books also tell how a donkey carried Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem for Christ's birth. So if these books are true, the donkey carried Jesus to His birth and His death.

The donkey according to scripture is an animal of humility or lowly.

To ride on a donkey signified coming in peace; this symbolic event served to reinforce what Jesus had told the people of Israel: "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he [is] just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon a donkey, and upon a colt the foal of a donkey." (Zachariah 9:9 KJV)

Christ rode a lowly animal to demonstrate His mission to be a servant to all. He did not ride a Kingly horse as what might be expected by people who wanted Him to be their King of delivery. Jesus saves that for His return where He comes riding on a White Horse. Instead His ride was one of humility portrayed by riding a donkey. A donkey that carried Him into Jerusalem to die on a cross.

I find it very interesting that donkeys are the only animal that has a stripe down its back and a stripe across its shoulders resembling a cross. Here is a picture. Most donkeys have this image of a cross on their back.

Continued on Page 2



Is this an accident of nature or a product of evolution? What are the odds that the very animal that Jesus rode on to be crucified on a cross happens to be the only species that has a cross striped on its back?

For me it's just another excellent demonstration of how God weaves the smallest details into His creation. His creation speaks of His handy work. Even the rocks would cry out the Name of Jesus. This little animal of God's creation, testifies of the burden he bore. The donkey carried Christ into Jerusalem to bare the burdens of the world to the cross to pay the penalty of mankind. It is only fitting that God would honor this humble beast of burden by blessing the donkey with the greatest icon in the world. What cross are you bearing, yours or that of Jesus?

Humble trails,

Pastor Mike

THE LORD CALLS HOME SHANNON HAYES

In April, Shannon left us to go to be with Jesus. Shannon was a long-time parishioner of Mayhew CBC. More about her life and ministry at the church will be in the next Torch. A Celebration of Life will be held at Mayhew CBC on Saturday, June 2, at 11:00.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY COMING SOON

Carl Piepenburg will be starting a Men's Bible Study on Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Crone Hall. Once the exact start date has been determined, it will be announced in the Sunday Bulletins. The Cabinet approved Carl starting up this ministry following numerous requests for a men's class, and Carl stepping forth to lead it.

This is also a great time for couples to come together, with the men going to Crone Hall and the ladies to Satow Hall for Women-to-Women Bible Study, also Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Friends and neighbors are welcome to attend as well.

If you have any questions about the new Men's Bible Study, feel free to contact Carl at 1-916-519-6004.

BIBLE QUESTION FOR MAY

What is the Mizpah? Many of you have stood together in a circle, holding hands, and repeating the Mizpah while looking at each person. It is repeated in Sunday School, in board meetings, and even at Casa Coloma. It has been taken so serious at the nursing home that it is repeated twice so the volunteers can move to the other side of the room and be sure to look at everyone. Where is it found in the Bible, and what does it mean? The answer is on page 18.

Bible Verse for the Month of May



“For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.”

Romans 6:5

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Morning Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. every Sunday

Children's Sunday School : 9:45 Sunday mornings

Adult Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings

Pastor's Breakfast – 1st Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m., Perko's

Fabulous Fellowship Dinners – Tuesdays 4:30 (see schedule above)

Diaconate meetings: 1st Sunday of the month following morning service.

Trustee meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month following morning service.

Cabinet Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

AWANA, last meeting this season, Tuesday, May 1.

Women's Bible Study: 5:30 p.m. each Wednesday

Casa Coloma Health Care Facility: 2nd and 3rd Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. sing-along;
10:00 spiritual message

Dress-A-Girl Around the World – 2nd Thursdays , 11:00 – 2:00

Quilting Group - 2nd and 4th Mondays, 1:00 -3:00

ABWM (American Baptist Women's Ministry) – 2nd Sunday after service.

AGAPE – College and Career Group: Every Friday 7:00 p.m.

Band Practice: Morning service – Sundays 9:15 a.m.

Christmas Collection in Foyer: 3rd Sundays after service.

NOTE: Periodically, a schedule change will occur. Check with ministry coordinators. If you don't know who to contact, ask Anne

EASTER BLOCK PARTY

WOW – Was that really a Mayhew CBC celebration, or was it some sort of City Fair? One could hardly tell which!

The planning had started months ago with meetings between Hannah, Katherena of Yattiyr School and Pastor Mike. Much enthusiasm ensued and the ideas got bigger and bigger! The kids in the school got all caught up in it as did lots of parishioners of the church. It was truly an all-out event, which cannot possibly be captured in a few words or pictures, but here goes a try.

The Sign -

When Pastor Mike gets one of his grandiose ideas, nothing can stop that train! A HUGE, GIANT sign must be constructed to announce to the community the church was having an Easter Event. It would be similar to the 20-foot wide Rope Light sign that towered above the entry gates at the Harvest Festival. This one, however, would make that one pale in comparison!

So off we went to get supplies of many interlocking aluminum poles, all the joints, fittings, other hardware, etc., along with hundreds of feet of 1/16th wire which just loved to get all curled up no matter what. Oh, but what about the lights themselves, and the words? They had to be huge and bright. Yes, 300 feet of iridescent pink LED rope lights should be just fine, and they could be shipped and arrive a few days before the event, and oh, we'd need some white ones from Emigh's Hardware as well. And don't forget the support posts and the cement to hold them in place.

Now it was time to start putting pieces together. Imagine this – THE SIGN WOULD BE 40 FEET LONG and tower into the air from the corner of Ellenwood to the building itself! We started constructing it in Satow Hall, already knowing there was no way to get it out of there in one piece. Numerous strands of the thin wire were stretched across the sections and cinched up with turnbuckles. Now, let's take the whole thing outside to "practice" raising it up, before putting the letters on. A crew had assembled to work on this, and carefully took it apart and marched the two 20-foot sections out to the parking lot, put the polls back together and laid it on the ground. (See picture) Then on the count of three, the five men started walking it up. A little scary! Yes, it would work – eventually!

After carefully measuring where the poles would be mounted, it was time to use Pastor's power auger to dig holes, clean them out and mount the support posts in cement. Then, the process was reversed and it all went back to Satow Hall until it was time to mount the rope lights.

Tables were set up in the upper parking lot. Everything was taken out there, and the entire 40 feet was ready to work on. Meticulously, a few people began attaching the rope lights with ties. It took a long time. Then the entire thing was carefully marched over to Routier Road where it was laid on the cement. Then carefully five men walked it up, each picked his pole up and put it in the holding post. It was heavier now, and tended to wobble as they lifted it. Finally it was there! Carl devised a method to secure it to the fence for stability. All in all, the helpers had been Doug, Kenny, Bob, Robert, Carl, Margaret, Sacha and Robert, Ivan, and our new parishioner Ron who brought his friends Eric and Ivan.

The sign was lit. It was Beautiful and could be seen for many blocks away. (See pictures.)

Lights – Hannah, Tammy and Anne strung lights on the fences and trees. Bob and Ron helped.

Flyers - The school made flyers and saturated the neighborhood with them. An add was also put in the local "Next Door" web page.

Time to Start - The event was advertised as being from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. However, at 5:40, over 100 people had already streamed into the parking lot. Somewhere around 350 people eventually were mingling into all the activities.

The Band – Lots of effort went into setting up the stages and all the sound and electrical equipment. The school did an Outstanding job of playing and singing for the entire two hours. The crowd was delighted and many were participating in the parking lot.

Food – The school had plenty of food and dessert which could be purchased with tickets. (It was also part of their fundraising, as they do not charge tuition.) The numerous tables were packed with people.

Face Painting and Balloon Figures - Holly and Lance were immediately swarmed with eager kids. Holly paint about 50 kids while Lance made all sorts of balloon animals, etc. The line was non-stop.

Games - The upper parking lot was filled with tables and numerous games.

Easter Egg Hunt – Hannah did a great job keeping the little ones happy looking for plastic eggs in the quad area.

Pictures with the Rabbit - Kids could have their pictures taken on the lap of the adorable rabbit. The school provided the volunteer and picture taking.

Cake Walk - There wasn't one. The grounds were too crowded with people to hold the cake/cookie walk.

Raffle Prizes – There were tons of great raffle prizes which had been obtained by the school. It went on and on. A parishioner had donated a new bicycle which was the last raffle prize.

Last, but definitely not least:

Decorated Cars - Three cars were decked out with Easter messages and candy.

Registration Table – Both Mayhew CBC and Yattyir School took the names and phone numbers of people coming in. Bob is leading an effort to call people and invite them to church, if they don't already have one.

All in all it was an Event to Remember. People were saying they hadn't had so much fun in a long time. People were stopping and staring at the sign and commenting at how beautiful it was and they could see it from far away. The event was family oriented and centered on Christ. This is the type of activity the church plans to have periodically throughout the year, with the participation of the school. All of the sign material can be used again. All of the Easter Event wording was rolled up and saved. Different wording can be added as the events dictate. It is hoped the community will look forward to these events. The more we do this, the easier it will become. Some things we could not get to as we

ran out of hours. There's always the next time!

Thanks to all of you who helped and for Hannah's Terrific Coordination. A Huge Thank You to Pastor Mike for his great vision. And a Great Big Thank You to Yattvir School. God really did something special when He put us together and He deserves our thanks and praise.

If you didn't make it by this time, watch for another. See you then!

Submitted by Anne Chapman



DECORATING THE LIVING FLOWER CROSS

Again this year, on the Saturday before Easter, Ted and Joylene delivered a van full of beautiful flowers donated by Golden State Floral in West Sacramento. The ladies spent the morning cutting and putting flowers all over the 10-foot cross to be brought in on Easter Sunday. This is always a special time, being part of a ceremony depicting the rise of Jesus Christ after being crucified on the cross.

There were so many extra flowers for people to take home to family and friends. More flowers were taken to the front of the church for parishioners to take home after Sunday service. A big thank you goes to Golden State Floral for the flowers and to Ted and Joylene for delivering them all.

Also a thank you to those who did a beautiful job of decorating the cross and those who provided goodies: Colleen, Paulene, Lodie, Morena, Otha, Darnice, Bev, Florene, Moriah and Asia.



EASTER SUNDAY

The Lord blessed us with a crisp, calm and serene morning to worship and reflect on the power of the cross and our risen Savior. Everything seems so clear in the quiet of the morning. As the dim light changed to an azure blue, a single bird high in the tree began to sing. On and on it went as it welcomed in a new day. Then a few large birds silently floated through otherwise undisturbed sky, as if they were silently announcing they too, like us, were created by God, in a very special way. Pastor gave a beautiful message and Becca led us in song. Thank you to everyone who came out and to Doug for setting up the sound equipment.

THE LIVING CROSS COMES IN

The stunning cross was carefully brought in by Robert, Carl and Ron. It was such a breathtaking event as they carried it down the middle isle, carefully took it up on the stage, ever so slowly turned it around then lifted it up and onto the awaiting platform and lowered it into its holding place where it stood tall and in awesome wonder! Great job!

BAPTISMS ON EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday's Easter service started off with two beautiful baptisms. Kenny Banks and Kamauri Wills both publically committed to believing in and following Jesus. Baptisms are always blessed events with much joy in our hearts. Congratulations!

DON'T FORGET PETER RABBIT!

Early in the morning, Hannah hid about 400 plastic eggs, which didn't last long once the little ones arrived. Egg hunts are always fun, and can quickly get the attention of the kids before they go off to children's church or other activities. Thanks, Hannah!

THE EASTER MESSAGE

Pastor Mike delivered an awesome message to the packed sanctuary. All the things of this world, all the fame and fortune, “Are Never Enough.” People spend their lifetimes searching, acquiring, and achieving. Still, it’s Never Enough. People who have risen to the top of society or their field go on to take their own lives. Relationships are the most important things in life, yet even relationships with other people are still Never Enough. There is a hole, an empty hole which can only be filled by Jesus Christ.

Toward the end of the sermon, Nella sang the incredible song “Never Enough.” It was beautiful, and personal, because she wasn’t singing it for the congregation, she was singing it “to Jesus.” Following are a few words of the lyrics:

“All the shine of a thousand spotlights,
All the stars we steal from the night sky
Will never be enough
Never be enough
Towers of gold are still too little
These hands could hold the world but it’ll
Never be enough
Never be enough

For me
Never, Never
Never, Never
Never, for me
For me
Never enough
Never enough
Never enough
For me
For me
For me.”

Thank you, Nella, for so beautifully singing this song which took us right to the heart of Jesus so He could fill the hole in ours.

ALL FOR ONE AND ONE FOR ALL

The following is not a “new ministry,” but rather one that has been carried out quietly over the years. Because a “relationship” with Jesus and with other Christians is of prime importance, sharing time together is invaluable. This includes such times as Carl’s and Otha’s “Fabulous Fellowship Suppers,” Pastor’s Breakfast, movies and dinners, and anything else where we gather as a group.

On and off during the years, some of our parishioners may fall into hard times. Those times may be temporary or they may be long term. Either way, no one should need to be excluded from church events or fellowship activities. For many years, a small group of people has anonymously provided funding to cover such expenses. Some of the people who contribute also attend those events and are aware of the need.

The church leadership recognizes that it is likely most of the congregation may not be aware of this silent ministry, and therefore has no opportunity to contribute to it if they would like to. The Trustees and the Cabinet have decided to formalize and broaden this ministry and have approved the establishment of a designated fund, code 501 Never Say No” to Those Wishing to Go, to be used for contributions. For tax credit, contributions must be made to Mayhew CBC (check or cash), and include the person’s name and the code number. Anonymous contributions are perfectly fine as well, and must contain the code number. Please know this is not meant to restrict those who wish to contribute at the time of an event, and the money may be spent immediately.

Be assured, the proposal to expand this ministry is not intended to replace the efforts of those who already contribute. It is already a powerful ministry and is expected to continue. As the church continues to grow, we anticipate having even more events and more people attending.

We are our brother’s keeper and Jesus said, “Feed My Sheep.” Although some of us may never fall into hard times, tomorrow holds no promise in and of itself; only Jesus can do that. This previously silent ministry has been a blessing to all parties over the years, and will continue to be such when it comes from deep within one’s heart.

If anyone has a question, please contact Anne Chapman.

REBUILDING TOGETHER DAY AT LNCOLN VILLAGE

On Saturday, April 21st, about 10 people from Mayhew CBC helped at the annual rebuilding event. Amazingly, our people and some others were assigned to Paulene's house! Fencing, painting, flooring, appliances, yard, etc. were all included. Not only was this a blessing for Paulene but for those who could help out.



THE CLENSING BLOOD

Submitted by Anne Chapman

Every morning a new Bible verse appears on my phone. Following is today's verse:

Come now, let us reason together sys the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. Isaiah 1:18

This verse reminded me of the following story Robin Alexander told the previous Sunday while teaching Sunday School.

The Kingdom of Heaven is Like This.

I grew up in Dixon, California. It had been the third largest sheep producing county in the United States in the past. It even had its own Sheep Slaughter House named Stoven Brothers, which was still operating when I graduated from Dixon High School.

I learned some things about sheep. Left to their own ways, they looked scroungy and had dirt stuck to their wool and had thistles and burs stuck in their coats. They didn't smell good and didn't look good. They also were not well socialized. If you walk toward them, they will walk away.

In contrast, sheep raised by Future Farmers Members were amazingly different. Their wool coats were much cleaner and trimmed so that they looked nice enough to pet. You could pet them because they had been handled and petted since they were young. The Future Farmers held competitions at County Fairs and if they won, they may be entered in the animal competition at the State Fair.

So what is the Kingdom of Heaven like? Thee loved sheep, you and me, are the ones who are groomed from the day we got saved. God loves us and it shows. Those sheep that were turned out into the pasture to fend for themselves by the sheep rancher are like those people who do not accept God's offer of Salvation. They cannot receive the care and cleansing love like God provides for us.

We are Fully Blessed!

Why don't you join us in being fed and groomed by God. Seek His Will for your life.

Robin Alexander

* * *

FABULOUS FELLOWSHIP SUPPERS

* * *

Following is the calendar for the Tuesday fellowship dinners for the Month of May. We look forward to many people joining in this time: Beginning May 8 (after Awana is over, we will meet at 4:30.

May 1 - Mandrin Garden
9185 Kiefer Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95826

May 8 – Casa Ramos
10717 White Rock Rd.
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

May 15 - Texas Roadhouse
6309 Sunrise Blvd.
Citrus Heights (Sunrise and Greenback)

May 22 - Perkos Café and Grill
9647 Micron Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95827

May 29 - Rubio's
3321 Zinfandel Dr. #81
Rancho Cordova, CA

A HUGE MOVIE DAY

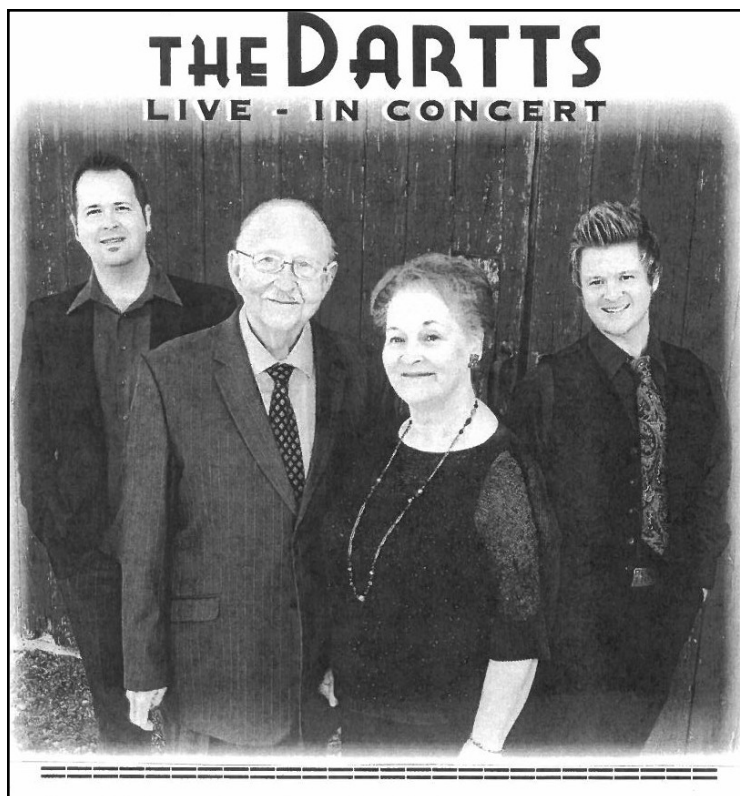
On Thursday, April 19th, 31 of us went to see I Can Only Imagine at the Palladio Parkway Theater in Folsom. Following the film, 25 of us had dinner at the Olive Garden across the street. It was the largest group ever and everyone had a wonderful time.

If any of you wants to plan and organize a similar outing, it isn't necessary to hold back. Most of these things are spur of the moment, even though they entail arranging for drivers, getting the movie tickets, dinner reservations, etc. The more events we have, the better; however, the more people willing to participate in the organizing would help a lot. If you would like to do this but feel you need some tips, call Anne Chapman.



THE DARTTS GOSPEL QUARTET

Looking ahead, The Dartts will be back to give a concert at Mayhew CBC on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 7:00. It lasts about a hour. There is no charge to attend. A free will offering will be taken. They bring many people to the knowledge of Jesus Christ as they tour the country all year bringing the Word in a beautiful and entertaining way. This is a great event, and also a time to purchase a variety of their CD's and other items from this talented Christian group.



BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

It has come to the attention of leadership that sometimes the certificates for Baptism as well as for new members have not been produced. Apologies are in order. An effort is underway to correct this in the future. Records are being reviewed to determine who may still be due a certificate. If this pertains to any of you, feel free to contact Morena Holmes of the Diaconate Board.

AWANA GRND PRIX

The final meeting for this season's AWANA program will commence Tuesday, May 1, at 6:00 p.m. This will be the day of the Grand Prix Races. The cars will be ready, the track in position, along with food and lots of excitement. The design of the trophies Margaret purchased this year are incredible. The kids (and adults) and So Excited! It has been a great AWANA year with lots of enthusiasm.

Although it will be good for everyone to have a few months off, when the group is told AWANA won't be held due to a holiday or that it is ending for this season, there is a cry of "Oh No!" That's really good to hear! The summer goes by quickly and before we know it, the new season will be underway. Whether you come to AWANA or not, please join us for the grand event on May 1.

ANSWER TO BIBLE QUESTION

The "Mizpah" is found in Genesis 32:49. "The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another."

Most of the time this would seem to mean only that we are asking God to protect each other while we are apart. There is more to it, however. This began as a covenant between Jacob and Leban. Jacob was married to Rachel, who was the daughter of Leban. The story is a long one; however, Jacob and Leban had a great falling out and God told Jacob to return to the land of his fathers (Canaan). Jacob fled away from Leban who became furious and pursued him.

Now, Leban overtakes Jacob and the plot thickens. (See Genesis 30:25 – 32:55. Reads rather like a Clive Cussler book.) Meanwhile, God has spoken to Leban and is protecting Jacob. The two confront each other and accusations pour out from Leban. What may seem like a surprise ending, is really an affirmation that God is always in control.

A covenant was made between Jacob and Leban. Jacob took a stone and set it up for a pillar, then Jacob and his brethren gathered stones and made a heap. Jacob and Leban agreed this heap and pillar was to be a witness between them. "And Mizpah; for he said, The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another." Genesis 32:49. And if either passes over the heap and pillar to do wrong or to harm the other, God is a witness between them. Then Jacob offered sacrifice upon the mount and he and his brethren ate bread. In the early morning, Leban went back to his own place.

One last question: How did we come to say the Mizpah at various church gatherings? Floyd Gipson has made this a practice to all hold hands and recite this verse. Thank you, Floyd!

Announcements, Updates and Coming Events

Pastor's Breakfast – For the month of May the breakfast will be held on the first Tuesday, May 1st at 8:30 am. The breakfast will be held at Perko's Restaurant.

Torch articles for the month of June will be due on Monday, April 14th. Articles are to be submitted by email to mayhewcbc@gmail.com.

May Birthdays

5/2– Aisha Motley

5/5– Billie Barlow

5/6– Eleanor Natsuhara

5/6– Wanda Ray

5/7– Steve Pas

5/9– Crystal Johnson

5/10– Vesta Cudworth

5/10– Jessica Daniel

5/13– Maryann Alvarez

5/14– Shaliese Motley

5/14– Sharidonn Motley



5/16– Hannah Guro

5/28– Hope Nelson

5/29– Agnes Deguchi

May Anniversaries

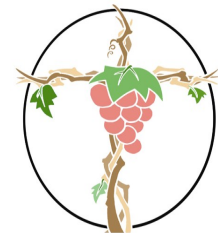
5/12– Roy and Donna Boyd



In Memory Of...

Lillian Kawamura IMO Joe Kawamura

George Sato IMO daughter Ellen Sato Simon



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Mon—Thurs: 9am—2pm

Fri.: Closed

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