

*A Service Celebrating the Life of*  
**MYRON DALE WINGFIELD**

February 17, 1961 — July 27, 2021

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO  
SANCTUARY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021 2:00 PM

**Gathering Music** ..... Dr. Jaebon Hwang, *organist*

*Video Tribute*, compiled by John Trotter

**Prelude** *Thanks Be to Thee*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)  
Tania Batson, *soloist*

**Words of Grace & Greeting** ..... Rev. Trudy Robinson

**\* Call to Worship**

Pastor: We are here to mourn the death, celebrate the life,  
and give thanks for the new life of Myron Wingfield,

**People: to affirm with praise and thanksgiving  
the goodness of the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us rejoice in God's presence with us, in death as in life,  
among those who mourn today  
as well as with those who now see God face to face.

**People: God's love is over all that is made.  
Blessed be God's glorious name forever. Amen.**

**\* Hymn, No. 100** — *God, Whose Love is Reigning o'er Us*

**Prayer** ..... Rev. Sandra Olewine

**Old Testament Lesson**

Psalm 23 ..... Rev. Greg Batson

**Instrumental Trio**

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, arr. Michael Tyree

Michael Tyree, *violinist*; Edward LaBarbera, *cellist* & Kathy Shoemaker, *pianist*

**Gospel Lesson**

John 15:12-17 ..... Rev. Trudy Robinson

**Words of Hope & Resurrection** ..... Rev. Mark Trotter

**Celebration of Life** ..... Dean Wingfield,

Senator Toni Atkins, Senate President pro Tempore

& Dr. John Wells, President, Emory & Henry College

**Hymn, No. 138** — *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

**Celebration of Life** ..... Rev. John Farley, Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership  
& Luke Wingfield

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** ..... Rev. Sandra Olewine

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\* Hymn, No. 102** — *Now Thank We All Our God*

**\* Benediction** ..... Bishop Grant Hagiya

*(Please be seated following the benediction.)*

**Jazz Benediction**

*Shall We Gather at the River*, Robert Lowry (1826–1899)

Kathy Shoemaker, *pianist*

**Postlude**

*Now Thank We All Our God*, J. S. Bach (1685-1750), arr. Virgil Fox (1912-1980)

**\* Please stand as you are able.**

Participants Today:

Rev. Trudy Robinson, Lead Pastor, San Diego First ..... *Officiant*

Rev. Sandra Olewine, South District Superintendent ..... *Officiant*

Bishop Grant Hagiya, Resident Bishop, Cal-Pac Annual Conference ..... *Officiant*

Rev. Mark Trotter ..... *Preacher*

Rev. Greg Batson ..... *Liturgist*

Dr. Jaebon Hwang, Director of Music Ministries & Organist, San Diego First ..... *Organist*

Michael Tyree, Director of Music, San Carlos UMC ..... *Violinist*

Kathy Shoemaker, Assistant Director of Music, San Carlos UMC ..... *Pianist*

Edward LaBarbera ..... *Cellist*

Tania Batson ..... *Soloist*



*Please join us on the Plaza to the north of the Sanctuary for fellowship following the service.*

The family deeply appreciates your presence, whether in-person or online.

You may write a note of remembrance on the enclosed sheet,

or at the online Guest Book, found at [fumcsd.org/Wingfield-Guestbook](http://fumcsd.org/Wingfield-Guestbook)



*Memorial Designation: Trees for a Change*

*Gifts will support the reforestation of National Park areas that have been decimated by wildfires.*

*The U.S. National Forest Service has identified over 1 million acres of forest land in desperate need of restoration.  
Donations may be made in memory of Myron at [TreesForAChange.com/custom-grove-of-trees](http://TreesForAChange.com/custom-grove-of-trees) until September 25.*

*Myron was born on February 17, 1961, to Reverend Arthur and Willie Wingfield. He was the cherished little brother to Dean and Rhonda Wingfield. Raised in a parsonage family, Myron lived in many small Virginia towns, graduating from Martinsville High School where he excelled in jazz band and was a drum major. Myron studied religion and political science at Emory and Henry College. Myron and I fell in love during our years at Candler School of Theology at Emory University and were married in 1987. Our family's joy was complete with the births of Jesse in 1991 and Luke in 1993.*

*Myron served churches in Westwood, Atascadero and San Diego. He became the San Diego District Superintendent in 2013. These experiences and his work on the Board of Ordained Ministry prepared him for the next stage of his ministry serving as Associate General Secretary at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in Nashville. His love of travel, his openness to new experiences and his ability to address conflict with respect and optimism made these rewarding years for Myron. In 2016, Myron accepted the position of Executive Council Director in Cal-Pac and looked forward to moving home to California.*

*Shortly before that move, Myron's health began to deteriorate as the consequence of radiation treatment for Hodgkin's Disease undergone in 1990. Following major heart surgery, Myron adjusted to living and working with diminished lung capacity until going on disability in 2018. Myron died on July 27, 2021, of Covid-19.*

*Myron exuded joy his whole life. He had more friends than I can count. He did not shy away from uncomfortable conversations and saw in them the opportunity for growth and new insights. You could count on him to be honest and authentic. Myron was a "big picture" type of person who had the patience to stay invested in complex issues, optimistic that better outcomes were possible. Food and cooking, table fellowship and parties were the preferred settings for Myron to share his joy with others. Simply stated, Myron lived grateful. As one who had experienced cancer early in his adult life, he lived every day with a sense of gratitude. When his health declined, Myron never complained but found meaning and pleasure in reading, in political activism, in poetry and music and nurturing countless friendships and being with family.*

*There were three scraps of paper that I discovered in Myron's wallet after he died which speak volumes about who Myron was: The first is a quote by Albert Schweitzer that exemplified Myron's faith to a tee. It begins, "He comes to us as one unknown. Without a name as of old by the lakeside, he came to those men who knew him not. And he speaks to us the same the words, 'Follow Me,' and sets us to the task which He has to fulfill for our time."*

*The second slip in Myron's wallet was a cocktail recipe called Peacock Alley Martinez which is a perfect symbol of the "joie de vivre" that typified his daily living.*

*The third was a worn piece of paper on which was written "A Parent's Prayer." It represents who Myron was as husband and a father: "Let my presence be an island to them in storm-tossed seasons, rising up from troubled waters to offer shelter, respite and firm dry ground. May they find me a haven to tend battered souls until the day the certainty of such solid ground launches them to sail uncharted waters unafraid."*

*It was not uncommon for Myron to announce at the start of a dinner or a gathering, "Love has arrived; Let us begin!" For Myron, that announcement meant more than just the start of a great meal. It was his lived affirmation of faith – that the incarnation of God's presence invited us all to a life of joy and gratitude.*



— Martha Wingfield

# MYRON DALE WINGFIELD

1961 – 2021



  
FIRST CHURCH  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH