



The United Methodist Church
San Francisco Area California-Nevada Conference

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño
Resident Bishop

Laura Roberson
Executive Assistant to the Bishop

January 3, 2020

The Rev. Kaloma A. Smith
University AME Zion Church
3549 Middlefield Rd
Pala Alto, CA 94306

Dear Rev. Smith,

It is with a heavy heart that I reach out to you and our brothers and sisters of the University AME Zion Church to say that we United Methodists of the California-Nevada Conference stand with you in your hour of pain and suffering. We are so concerned about the recent violation of your faith home. Having hateful, and so very deeply vile and disrespectful words graffitied on your church facilities is inexcusable and offensive to all of us.

We regret that the sense of security and comfort of the faithful of University AME Zion Church has been threatened. Please be assured of our covenant to you to stand with you and do all we can to help restore your security and comfort so that you may continue to serve Christ our Lord with the fullness of your commitment and witness.

Be encouraged by the fact that God will use what has been meant for evil by transforming it into good.

We will continue to pray for your safety and that of all the members and constituents of University AME Zion Church. God will be your source of strength in the days to come.

Your Sister in Christ,

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño

cc: Rev. Debra Murray
District Superintendent Shinya Goto