

Special guest speaker Shamsa Rafay



Shamsa came to the US from Pakistan over 20 years ago with a MA in Economics and 3 years' experience in international banking. She and her husband are the proud parents of three children.

While raising her family, Shamsa has volunteered and provided leadership for many organizations, e.g. serving as Vice President of the Tri-City Interfaith Council. She has received numerous awards, among them the Alameda County Human Relations Commission 2016 "Excellence in Human Relations" award.

As Shamsa talks about the basics of Islam and terms in the news, e.g. sharia, jihad and hijab, you will get an inside look at the life of a Muslim woman in our community today through the stories she tells.

She didn't always wear the hijab – today she does. What prompted her to make this change? What challenges does she face raising children in our society? What is Shamsa's experience of Islamophobia?

She has stories to tell, all of which will bridge our differences and equip us to be better bridge builders in a society torn by fear.

Shamsa's friend **Moina Shaiq** will lead one of the workshops. Moina is President of the Tri-City Interfaith Council, and has conducted "Meet a Muslim" events for several years. She was recognized as a California Woman of the Year in 2008.

Come Celebrate!

*Greet friends from across our district!
Make new friends!*

Sing! Make beautiful music together!

*Worship God,
who makes all things possible!*

*Celebrate the lives of women who have
joined their creator in the past year.*

*Celebrate the legacy of
United Methodist Women.*

Participate in workshops.

Pledge to mission.

*Elect your district
United Methodist Women leaders.*

Share communion.



El Camino Real District United Methodist Women Annual Celebration

United Methodist Women: Bridge Builders



*Let us then pursue what
makes for peace and
for mutual upbuilding.
Romans 14:19*

Saturday, October 28, 2017

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

8:15 Registration

9:15 Gathering Music

**St. Paul United Methodist Church
33350 Peace Terrace
Fremont, California
(510) 429-3990**

Workshops

- Finding Common Ground:** Carolyn Leone Levering and Kevan Insko will lead a panel discussion on the value of looking for that of God in others and within ourselves while seeking to be a voice of conscience in a politically polarized world. Carolyn serves on the board of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, and Kevan is Director of Program and Organizational Development with the Friends Committee on Legislation of California.
- From Diversity to Inclusion:** Dale Weatherspoon, pastor of Easter Hill UMC in Richmond, CA will lead this discussion about moving from a focus on diversity to one of full inclusion. What does each term mean, what is the difference, and why does it matter?
- Tour and Conversation:** Shamsa Rafay and Moina Shaiq will lead two groups on a tour of the neighboring mosque and have time for conversation, during which participants may ask questions about Islam, what it means to be Muslim in the US today, and more. Please note that when visiting the mosque, shoes must be removed.

Display - How is your local UMW engaged in mission?

You are invited to bring a display that describes how your local organization serves women, children, and youth. For example, a display board with photos and text; examples of items you make or give away; a video of your group in action. About 3 feet of table space will be provided for each display. If you are bringing a video, please also bring a laptop or tablet to play it on. If you have questions, please contact the Registrar.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Saturday, October 21

Make checks payable to: El Camino Real District UMW, \$13 per person (includes lunch);
\$25 charged for returned check

Send completed registration form to Registrar:

K Stone, P.O. Box 18153, San Jose, CA 95158

kstone09@ymail.com

408-348-4067



REGISTRATION FORM (Please print & mail to Registrar)

Name _____

Address _____

(City, State, Zip Code)

Phone _____ Email _____

Church (include city) _____

WILL YOU BRING A DISPLAY? YES Type of display _____

Lunch preference: A selection of sandwich & salad box lunches will be available.

Please check here if you prefer the vegetarian option:

Desired workshop:

	1 st choice	2 nd choice
1. Finding Common Ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. From Diversity to Inclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Tour and Conversation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Child Care provided ... (Please send a sack lunch for each child.)

Names & Ages of children: _____
