



2024 Inglewood First UMC Graduates

Promotions:

- **Tapuaki Music of Zion Ngaue-Tu'uholoaki Kinsey**, promoted to 2nd grade, Math Award recipient
- **Bella Rose**, promoted to 7th grade, Charles Helmers Elementary School
- **Nhani Cyrus-Franklin** promoted to 8th grade, Marina Del Rey Middle School
- **Tre' Cyrus-Franklin** promoted to 12th grade at Hamilton High School
- **Max Weiner** promoted to 12th grade at Hamilton High School

Graduations:

- **Olivia Lopez**, graduated from 8th grade, Rancho Starbuck Intermediate with Honor Roll & Art Honors
- **Morgan Wells**, graduating from Hamilton High School with Honor Roll & International Thespian & will be attending American Dramatic Musical Academy in New York City
- **AnnaMarie Baker**, graduated Salutatorian from Morningside High School
- **Frank Baker**, Bachelors in Criminal Justice & Sociology from University of Pikeville
- **Marlon Baker**, Master's in Public Administration from CSU Northridge
- **Melody Ngaue-Tu'uholoaki**, Master of Arts in Education, concentration in Special Education & Education Specialist Teaching Credential from Alder Graduate School of Education
- **Sara Jasmin Diaz-Montejano**; PhD in Education from UCLA



Pastor Dr. Monalisa Siofele Lolohea was born and raised in the beautiful islands of Hawai'i. As a young Samoan-American woman, she knew God was calling her to serve, but she did not know where God was calling her to. And so, after graduating from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA as a Bishops Scholar, she returned home to Honolulu, HI to teach at her high school alma mater, Waipahu High. During her tenure there, she earned her Master of Arts in Education and was selected as one of the first group of educators to participate and spread love for education and compassion for humanity in the Freedom Writers Foundation: whose mission is to provide educators with tools to empower all students to succeed. She met and was empowered by Erin Gruwell, the American teacher known for her unique teaching methods. All the while, Monalisa served as the Youth Director at her local church, under the leadership of her parents, Pastor Joe & Su'e Siofele. She also served in various capacities in the Hawai'i District, Conference Council on Youth & Young Adult Ministries, and multiple non-profit organizations in Hawai'i. In 2007, she left teaching to take a position as a Program Manager and Family Teacher with The About Face Family of Programs who worked in collaboration with the Hawai'i Department of Defense. About Face taught students the importance of interpersonal relationships and life skills training in areas such as critical thinking, decision making, practical skills and financial freedom and investment.

All these secular work experiences enabled Monalisa to travel with her youth and young adult group to places where they shared their Samoan cultural practices, dances, and songs. She also served as the Samoan Club Advisor, teaching language, culture, and art. These life-experiences finally led her to embrace her call to attend seminary and marry the love of her life, Langi K. Lolohea. Together they journeyed to Claremont, CA where they lived for three years until being appointed to her first church, West Kaua'i UMC on her now home island, Kaua'i, Hawai'i, in 2014. Dr. Monalisa continued to nurture her call and passion for young people and ministry. She was reappointed to Trinity UMC in Pomona from 2017-2022. During her time at Trinity, she received a two-point charge: Trinity UMC Pomona and Coordinator for The Young People's Council, at the Conference office.

However, because of her passion in bridging the generations and creating space for young leaders to flourish in their settings through their gifts and graces; Monalisa was appointed full-time to the California Pacific Conference Connectional Ministries Team. As of 2022, she was appointed to an extension ministry, and has served as The Program Manager of the Young People's Ministries of Cal-Pac. Her passion is helping to equip young people bridge the gap between home, school, community, and faith. She taught the youth course at Mission U several times and is grateful to once again build-up the kin-dom of God while doing kingdom work later this summer. She and her husband, Pastor Langi Lolohea believe in supporting one another wholly: body, mind, soul, and spirit. Their motto is: "Be still and know that I am God. The God who supplies, comforts, heals, and empowers." Her greatest blessing is being mother to their five year old daughter, Fai'ana Su'esolo, and love to spend time together as an ohana (family). Whether it's attending multiple church functions, worship, singing in the car, praying for loved ones, they find joy in all they do, for it is to honor and glorify He who is able to supply our every need: Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

May God's amazing grace guide us through this transition and help us to remember that together, we can do more than ever imaginable. With Christ at the center, and His abiding Spirit leading us, all things are possible.

Peace and Aloha.