



fairview community church

all are welcome

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The congregation of Fairview Community Church (FCC) is proud to introduce Reverend Doctor Monica Corsaro as their Settled Senior Pastor. Her selection was confirmed in January 2023 and she officially began leading the church on February 15. She has been off and running ever since, meeting the people of Costa Mesa and Orange County.


Rev. Dr. Corsaro holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from Illinois State University, a Master of Divinity degree from Iliff School of Theology, and a doctoral degree from Wesley Theological Seminary. For more than 20 years, she has pursued a career that combines both traditional ministry and political activism. She has led United Methodist and Christian Church, Disciples of Christ congregations in the Seattle area and has served as the campus minister at the University of Washington and, most recently, at several small liberal arts colleges.

Monica Corsaro brings with her years of experience as a strong advocate for social causes. She was the Director of Social Justice Ministries for the Church Council of Greater Seattle and the first-ever chaplain in the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (serving in the states of Washington and Oregon).

Monica co-founded the Religious Coalition for Equality, a non-profit of religious leaders from across the state of Washington, whose one purpose was to pass marriage equality legislation. Although there had been attempts to address this topic over many years, success was finally achieved after the religious communities were organized and worked closely with the state legislature. Washington State became, through a citizens' initiative, the first state in the Union to establish full marriage rights for same-sex couples. It is clear that Monica has public policy know-how, and can read, decipher, advocate for, and write policies. This, we are sure, will prove to be a useful skill as Fairview Community Church looks to the future and how the church can use their many resources on the corner of Fairview and Fair.

As the pastor of Rainier Beach United Methodist Church in Seattle, Monica successfully challenged the Boy Scouts of America, ensuring that local troops have the autonomy to choose their scoutmaster regardless of that person's gender or sexual orientation. Monica has shown that she will step up to speak on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves and that she knows how to effect permanent policy change for inclusion, equity, and diversity.

Rev. Dr. Corsaro recalls: "My mentor in college, the campus pastor at Illinois State University, encouraged me to use my faith to make the world a better place... to be a church minister, but never forget to reach out to the larger world. In fact, I take seriously the notion: 'The world is our parish.' Knowing how diverse our world is, I believe I am called to serve and care for all, no matter their context or faith."



“Monica brings with her a wit and energy that is contagious and, while she does not take herself too seriously, she does take the ills of the world seriously,” said Libby Cowan, FCC’s Governance Board Moderator. “Fairview Community Church feels that she is THE pastor to lead them into the future that lies ahead.”

Pastor Monica is a passionate fighter for full inclusion of all people who want to be in intentional community. She joins the Fairview Community Church congregation in welcoming people of all races, languages, ages, genders, sexual orientations, physical or mental abilities, economic or marital statuses, and faith backgrounds.

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