

## Davar Church

### Sunday Services

Japanese 9:00 am – 11:00 am

English 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

William Carey University (Zwemer Hall L-7)

1539 E. Howard St. Pasadena, CA 91104

<http://www.davarkg.com> (626) 398-2290



It's a tweet!

It's an e-mail!



It's a bird!?

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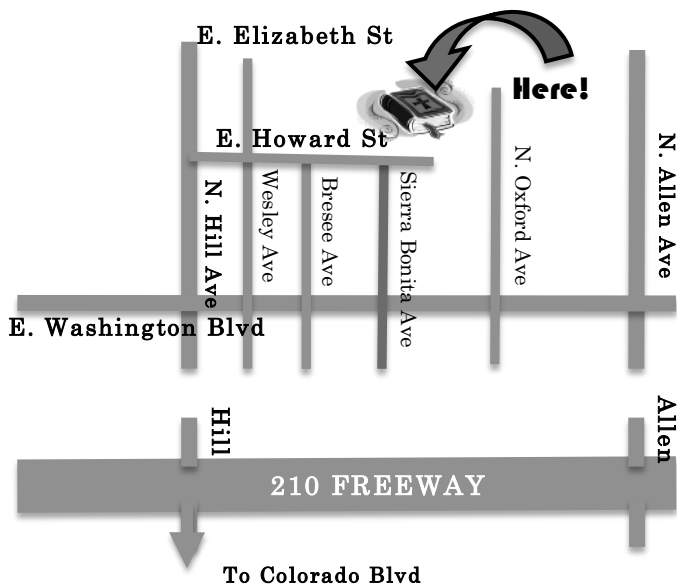
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It's a tweet!

It's an e-mail!



It's a bird!?

Before tweets, e-mails, and texts, before faxes, before airmail, telegrams, or the radio, and even long before the Pony Express, there was... pigeon post. The ancient Persians were thought to be the first to train these birds and use this method. Pigeons have a unique ability to find their way home over long distances, even from completely unfamiliar places. Their ability comes from a sensitivity to the earth's magnetic field, which guides and pulls them back home.

During World War II, pigeons were used by the military to relay vital messages, and save hundreds of soldiers' lives. On D-Day, during the Invasion of Normandy, pigeons were the sole means of communication, as radio messages could be intercepted by the enemy. Carrier pigeons flew over 200 miles across the English Channel, from France to England, while avoiding flying bullets and birds of prey sent specifically to kill them, as the enemy was well aware of pigeons being used for communication. Many birds died during these missions. Of those that survived, several were awarded medals for bravery. Cher Ami, for example, was a French pigeon who saved 194 lives by delivering a message, despite being shot in the breast, blinded in one eye, and nearly losing a leg during the flight. He later died from his wounds.



**Cher Ami**

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**Cher Ami**

The very first bird however, to relay a message, was a dove. The message he delivered was not a message of desperation, but a message of hope and of love, a message not written by human hands but by God. The message was a freshly plucked olive leaf.

Not long after the world was created, a flood was sent to this earth to demolish mankind, as punishment for the wickedness that had grown so prevalent. Only Noah and his family were spared. After the flood, Noah sent out a dove from his ark, to see if there was any dry land. The first time, it simply returned. The second time, it returned, but with an olive leaf clutched in its beak! The third time, it did not return. The message was clear. God had decided to forgive man's sins, and offer a new beginning. His original plan to bless people, to make us fruitful and have us rule over his creation had not changed. The olive leaf was also a harbinger of what was to come—the ultimate message sent by God, in the person of Jesus Christ, sent to die for our sins and erase them once and for all.

It is with this hope that we send out a newsletter, "**The Olive Leaf**" every week, as we try to stay afloat in a world that seems like chaos at times. These are tidings of great joy. God forgives. God rebuilds. God is love. And God is good.

If you'd like to have our weekly letter delivered to you, please go to [www.davarkg.com/English/Newsletter.html](http://www.davarkg.com/English/Newsletter.html).

God bless!

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