



May 2022

The Courier

First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Church 818.340.2950

Preschool 818.340.6639

E-mail: crossandflame@att.net

Website: <http://www.umccp.org>

Pastor: preachingbarefoot@att.net

Welcome to First Church where everyone is either our friend or family.

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Heart to Heart

I told Koby, our next-door neighbor, that he is going to enjoy meeting the new pastor's husband Gideon, who is also Jewish and fluent in Hebrew.

Koby said, "It'll be fun to talk and get acquainted. But we're going to miss you."

"I'll miss you too," I said. "You've been wonderful neighbors in the Biblical understanding of neighbor. Thank you."

Koby and his brother have off-road buggies that they start up from time to time. Koby smiled mischievously when he asked, "So, you haven't minded all the noise?"

"No, because you come with the noise!" He said, "Aww. That's so sweet."

As Stan and I search for a house to rent near our granddaughter and family, we hope for a nice neighborhood and good neighbors. This brings a story to mind.

A man entered a village and went to the monastery on the edge of town, where he was welcomed by an old monk. The man said, "I'm deciding whether or not to move here. Can you tell me what kind of people live here?"

The old monk said, "Tell me what kind of people live where you come from." The man said, "They are mean, contentious, judgmental, unfriendly people." The monk said, "Those are exactly the same kinds of people who live here." The man left the village and never came back.

Half an hour later, another man entered the village. He went to the monastery to see the old monk. This second man said, "I'm thinking about moving here. Can you tell me what kind of people live here?" The old monk said, "Tell me what kind of people live where you come from." The second man said, "They are kind, peaceful, compassionate, loving people. I will miss them very much." The old monk said, "Those are exactly the same kinds of people who live here."

We go with God, so Stan and I trust we will again live among kind, peaceful, compassionate, loving people.

Pastor Lynn Westover



Pastor

Lynn Westover

Preschool Director

Wendy Finley

**Music Director/
Accompanist**

Paul Cady

Certified Lay Minister

Grace Leighton

**Administrative
Assistant**

Sydney Thiroux

Courier Layout

Sharon Mountford



Resident Bishop

Grant Hagiya

**North District
Superintendent**

Rev. Melissa Roux

MacKinnon



May Calendar

Weekly Activities

- Sunday Peace Evangelical Church, Hall, 9:30 am
San Fernando Valley Youth Chorus, Hall 1:45 pm
Hindi Urdu Church, Sanctuary, 5:00 pm
- Monday Harmonettes, Fellowship Hall Lounge, 10:30 - 12:30 pm
Cub Pack 474, Boy Scout Room, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
- Tuesday Boy Scout Troop 474, Boy Scout room, 6:30 pm
- Wednesday Men's AA Group, Parlor, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
- Thursday Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor 6:00 - 8:30 pm
Choir practice, Choir room 7:00
- Friday Girl Scouts, Scout Room, 6:00 - 7:30, 1st and 3rd Friday
- Saturday Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor 9:30 - noon

Other Activities

- Tuesday 3 Boy Scouts Parent Committee Meeting at 7:00 pm
- Tuesday 10 Boy Scouts Patrol Leader's Council Meeting at 7:00 pm
- Saturday 14 Raymond Allen's Memorial Service, 2:00 pm
- Saturday 21 Dito Godwin's Memorial Service, 1:00 pm
Rockchippers, Lounge, 6:30 pm
- Sunday 22 Scouting Ministries & Pancake Breakfast
- Saturday 28 Young Ambassadors, Lounge & Gym, 2:30-7:30 pm
- Sat. 28-Mon. 30 Boy Scouts Backpacking in San Jacinto
- Monday 30 Office closed for the Holiday

Coming in June

- Saturday 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am
Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way
- Sunday 5 Communion, Pentecost, and Retirement Luncheon,
following worship
- Sunday 12 Lynn & Stan Westover's final Sunday

Live Streaming Now Available Thank You, Grant Simmons!

Some of us will gather for worship in the sanctuary. Some will be able to worship at home, since we are now live streaming the services. We look forward to embedding the live streaming link on our website (umccp.org). Until that happens, here's how to watch at home.

Go to YouTube five minutes before worship begins;
Type in Spetet.

The live stream prompt will pop up. Click on that.

May Birthdays

- 4 Robin Abernathy
- 5 Donna Nall
- 7 Carolyn Lottman
- 11 Irma Santos
- 12 Matt Palmerlee
Hamed Tabakh
- 14 Wendy Finley
Bill Satterlee
Flora Wilhelm
- 17 Nancy Johnson
- 20 Sharay Abernathy
- 22 Lindy Amico
- 23 Garrett Finley
Linda Woods
- 24 Laurie Berger
- 26 Cheryl Willauer
- 27 Lea Flores

May Anniversaries

- 13 Zelaya, Sal & Irene
- 24 Miller, George & Irene

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please let us know.



Altar Flower Dedications

If you would like to sponsor or provide flowers for the altar, you may;

- 1) sign up on the flower calendar in the Parlor, or
- 2) call Mary Mackay at 818-346-5872 to talk about the date and dedication message you would like.



UMW 2022 Directory

The new 2022 Directory has been distributed either in person or by mail. The Pledge card was included.

A Call To Prayer & Self Denial 2022

The objective of this service is to highlight the lay Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner, administered by United Methodist Women. Women are encouraged to give thoughtfully to support the education and training of deaconesses and home missionaries who work in ministries of love, justice and service, as well as retired deaconesses who continue to make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth. 100% of the dollars given through A Call to Prayer and Self Denial goes directly to fund the project designated for that year. Checks to support Prayer & Self Denial can be made out to UMW and mailed to Chandra Seeger at 6625 Maplegrove, Oak Park, CA 91377.

Cal-Pac Annual Conference 2022

This will be a virtual conference, June 16-18.

Faith, Hope & Love Circle – History

In 1998 at a UMW Meeting a suggestion was made that we resume having a night circle for those who were not able to attend circle meetings during the day. Since previous night circles, Rachel and Sisterhood had disbanded, this resulted in the formation of a circle named Faith, Hope & Love.

In the beginning there were only a few members (3) in the Faith, Love and Hope Circle, with Diana Thomas as Chairperson. This circle today has 13 members. At each month's meeting a member presents a short program of their choice which includes a devotion and a discussion period afterward. Prior to Covid 19 we would serve some food and drinks.

Over the years this circle has provided either Christmas and/or Thanksgiving baskets, containing food and personal items for someone in our church who was in need. The recipients are determined by the Pastor. Twice a year we eat out usually in June and December We meet the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the church library. If interested in joining, please contact Shirley Thomson at 818-348-0414.

At the March meeting Lora O'Connor presented the program. See her notes on page 4.



*Confirm gatherings
before you go.*

Bookends

Thursday, May 26

1:00 pm

Church library

Before we were Yours

by Lisa Wingate

Glyne Roe, reviewer

Sarah Circle

Thursday, May 12

9:30 am

Breakfast at Weilers Deli,

22323 Sherman Way

near Shoup

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday, May 18

6:30 pm

Church Library

Margaret Cates will

present the program and

devotion.



Reception for the Westovers

On Sunday, June 5th you are invited to a Retirement Luncheon for Pastor Lynn and Stan, following our morning worship service. Our Pentecost Sunday will also include a play, featuring our church members, directed by Paul Cady.

This will be a time, as a church family, to celebrate with Pastor Lynn and Stan as we send them into retirement with our love and best wishes.

Everyone is welcome to attend the luncheon! You do not need a ticket – just let us know you plan to attend so that we may order the food. This will be a served buffet luncheon in the Parlor and on the patio, following the service.

A sign-up sheet for the luncheon will be available on Sunday, May 15th and May 22nd. You may also contact anyone on the Reception Committee to let us know you plan to attend.

It will be a special day and we hope you are able to attend.

Reception Committee:

*Margaret Cates, JoAnn Chadwick-Ellis, Karen Grengs,
Grace Leighton, Mary Mackay, Lora O'Connor,
Glynene & Tom Roe, and Phyllis Umphres*

Native American Ministries

Sunday, May 1

Last year \$453,155 was contributed towards ministries funded by the Native American Ministries Special

Sunday offering. Because of you, we are able to develop and strengthen Native

American ministries in the Annual Conferences, Native American rural, urban, reservation ministries and communities relating to the General Board of Global Ministries.

It also provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology. Without your generosity, these ministries could not be achieved!



Spring Sing!

Madrid Theatre
21622 Sherman Way
downtown Canoga Park

May 22, 2022

5:30 p.m.

Tickets, at the door, \$10
Special Guest Appearance
by our

Men in Black

Religion and Food

In March, the Faith, Hope & Love circle met and I did a program on Religion and Food.

The evening before Jesus' death was spent around a meal with his disciples. Jesus chose bread and wine to convey his body and blood to his followers. This "last supper" became a bedrock of Christian tradition throughout history.

God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has a fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food."

Not all can draw, paint or sculpt, but all must eat.

Jesus himself cooked. In John 6, Jesus multiplies 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish to feed 5,000. In John 21, Jesus appears to his disciples on a seashore after resurrection, tending a fire to cook fish and bread.

Cooking and baking of bread is a creative outlet which can be shared with others. The reward of this creative practice is the meal.

As you eat, look around your table and remember those people that planted, picked and prepared the food.

Click glasses together, fill each other's plates without hesitation, and relish the creative joy of serving, and feasting together.

Blessings, Lora O'Connor



Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship

awarded two scholarship grants of \$3,000 each this Easter in celebration of the life and memory of Laura Lynn Longman, (1958 – 1984) who was raised in the First

United Methodist Church of Canoga Park, who loved her life as a Christian and who loved learning. This year is the thirty-seventh year granting scholarship awards to well qualified upper-class undergraduate students. With the two awards presented this year, 128 scholarship grants have been awarded in Laura’s memory to 101 different students for a grand total of \$188,500.

Sara Chao

will be a Senior this fall at Biola University, Torrey Honors College in La Mirada, California, majoring in Biology for her Bachelor of Science degree. She intends to graduate in May of 2023.



Sara has been a member of the Saddleback Church, Lake Forest, CA and participates in their College ministry Life Group, and volunteered at their Light of the World and Food Pantry ministries. She also contributes positively to the Biola University Track Team.

Sara feels called to direct her career path into marine biology; as she volunteers at the Aquarium of the Pacific giving her more first-hand experience in marine biology. She is a Certified Diver in “Scuba Diving International” and a member of the Biola University Scuba Diving Club. This summer she will be attending the Torrey Honors College Study Abroad Program at Cambridge University. Sara is glad to have returned to the campus learning experience at Biola.



Benjamin Driggs

will be a Junior this fall at Brigham Young University (BYU) in Provo, Utah, majoring in Bioinformatics (a combination of life sciences and computer science). He expects to graduate in December, 2023.



Ben, having a background in the Chinese language, served a two-year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints immersed in a Chinese/Taiwanese community here in Southern California learning to love their language and culture before beginning his studies at BYU. He loves to play music on the piano or baritone saxophone and listen to music, especially music with moving melodies and meaningful lyrics.

Ben plays intramural soccer and participates in the Chinese club at BYU.

Ben’s long term plans are quite flexible as he approaches his upperclass studies. His goal is to find a career in which he can use his bioinformatics training to make a meaningful impact on society and to start and support a family in a Christ-Centered home.

We congratulate these two excellent students on their accomplishments to date and look forward to hearing of their continued progress and success.

In Memorium...Jane Bayless



We recently found out that Jane Bayless passed away in August of 2021. She was 91 years of age. Upon joining the church in October of 2002, she became very active in various areas of the church serving on the Family Life Committee for several years as well as the Education Committee.

In 2008 she joined United Methodist Women and in 2010 was awarded the Special Mission Recognition Award along with LaDean Owen for their service to the church. For a number of years they both worked in the kitchen preparing snacks for the children in Vacation Bible School and doing hospitality for UMW. Information on the disposition of her ashes is not available at this time.

Bishop Theodulph?

Having offered to bring a flower arrangement from my garden for the Altar on Palm Sunday, Mary Mackay asked to whom I would like to dedicate it.

The Palm Sunday memory which came to mind was the year when Marilyn Cushman produced one of her marvelous performances with the children. It portrayed Bishop Theodulph, the composer of the hymn *All Glory, Laud and Honor*. The Good bishop was accused of treason after Charlemagne's death and is in jail. He is heard singing this hymn. The Bishop was played by our son Brian, and daughter Diane delighted in being his jailor!

So I dedicated the flowers to the memory of Dwight and Marilyn Cushman and to Bishop Theodulph.

Sharon Mountford

Amazon Smile

You shop. Amazon gives. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the church.

Start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. Select Canoga Park First United Methodist Church as your charity. Remember to start at smile.amazon.com to support the church.

Assistance League®

Presents Authors Luncheon

Members of Assistance League of San Fernando Valley and their guests have missed the annual Authors Luncheon. In April 2020, just days before the event, COVID-19 cancelled the fundraiser. What a disappointment to all concerned. With fingers crossed this in-person fundraiser is once again on the agenda – scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2022, at the Hilton Woodland Hills.

In addition to four authors who will each make a presentation, the day will include vendors for shopping, our famous money book and opportunity baskets. There will be three luncheon choices listed on the invitation as well as the names of the authors and a short bio of each of them.

The event begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. Valet parking is \$10 and self-parking is \$14. Ticket price is \$80. Invitations will be emailed; if you would like to receive an invitation please email Dorothea Taylor, dorotheastaylor@gmail.com who will send you one. If you have questions, call Jeanne Morales, co-chair, at 818.903.3143.



Preschool News

Spring semester is in full swing!

We've let our Preschool families know that it's time to enroll in Summer Session, which runs 6 weeks, starting the last week of June. We are also accepting registrations for Fall semester, which will start in August again this year. We get a lot of our students from "word of mouth," and are pleased that we do have a reputation for being such a good school.

Wendy Finley

Facilities Update - May 2022

Irrigation system/Grass areas:

We are identifying lawn areas that can be converted to wood chips to reduce watering. Our gardeners have said Calabasas residents must cut water consumption by 50%. If the drought continues it's only a matter of time before Los Angeles will see something similar.

As of mid-April, when this was written, Rohan's Eagle Scout project is about 90% complete. The only remaining issue to complete the project to replace the parkway grass with gravel is to bend over some of the exposed weed matt. We hope that will be done soon!

We are trying to trap some of the pesky gophers in the grass areas near the sign at the front of the property and on the west side of the access road. The gophers avoided our first attempt. It will be a process!

Fountains:

The Maynard/Sherman Way Fountain will be on a new schedule of 9am to 1pm daily.

Fellowship Hall Kitchen:

We were inspected by the Fire Department and were cited for an out of date Fire Suppression System over the Kitchen Stove/Oven. Our current system is a dry product and the new systems use a liquid. The repair is being contemplated but we have an anonymous member who will cover the cost of about \$7-8,000. We are blessed!

Roofs:

We have accepted our roofer's quote for repairing the roof section from the sanctuary kitchen to the Library. The quote was for about \$7,000. This will be paid for by the Capital Fund. Thank you and blessings to anyone who has given a designated gift for the Capital Fund. It's the only way for us to pay for these larger repair and maintenance issues that are not in the budget! New contributions are always welcome. Just note Capital Fund on your check!

Parsonage:

In the next 60 days we will begin the renovation of both the inside and outside of the Parsonage for Pastor Elaine Shin-Paull and family just as we did for the Westover's before they arrived. The outside landscaping will include drip irrigation and quite a few Lantanas because they are water tolerant and flower much of the year. For the inside we are focusing on the basics 1) carpet cleaning 2) paint 3) plumbing fixture replacements 4) oven replacement 5) window covering replacements. There is quite a bit more to think about but we'll have to prioritize projects based on the money available. Again, these repairs will be paid for through the Capital Fund.



Pastor Lynn & Stan
Pastor Elaine & Gideon
Laurie Berger
Russ & Lindy Amico
Jeanne Allen (Betty Allen's
daughter)
Geri Allen
Pat Connolly
Barbara Dimmick
Karen Grengs & family
Frank & Diane Rosales
Dixie Smith
Mary Beth Godwin
Beulah Hajek
Albert Magnaye & sons, AJ
& Maki
Lou & Sharon Mountford
Louis & Anita Parrinello
Nancy Summer
Irene and Sal Zelaya
Ukraine
World Peace

*Send prayer requests to
Anita Parrinello
(luv2bjedi@gmail.com)
and CC Pastor Lynn
(preachingbarefoot@att.net)*

Memorial Garden

Interment in our
Memorial Garden
is open to all
who request it.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CANOGA PARK

22700 Sherman Way
West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Return Service Requested

In-person Worship – COVID Protocol

Enter and exit as directed.
Masks and social distancing are recommended.
Increase fresh air by opening windows and doors.
Serve food in outdoor spaces.
Use hymnals, orders of worship, prefilled
Communion cups and the offering box.
Position singers or musicians playing wind or brass
instruments closer to the locations where the air is
exiting the room.

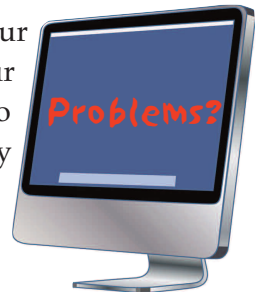
Thank You

Mike and Andy from Lynch Plumbing for fixing a broken toilet in the sanctuary on Thursday, April 14, 2022 free of charge. We are so grateful for their generosity, and we are grateful to Men's AA for connecting us.

Lynch Plumbing's contact information
818-483-0139 ... info@lynchplumbing.com
Blessings, Church Office

Edwin's Computer Ministry

If you're having problems with your computer and would like someone to look at it (for free) please contact me. Edwin works in the IT department at Valterra Products, where I work, and has gladly looked at a number of computers for the church and church members. It's done remotely (he doesn't come to your house, he just connects onto your computer through the internet to work on it) on the third Saturday of each month between 9-11am. If you or your computer needs help, please contact me and I'll schedule you in!



*George Grengs, george@valterra.com
or 818 632 7538.*