



# The Courier

First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Church 818.340.2950

E-mail: firstumccp@gmail.com

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

Pastor: eshinpaull@gmail.com

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

*Sunday Worship at 10:00 am*

April 2024

## Heart to Heart



John Wesley, the founder of our denomination, emphasized three simple yet profound rules that intertwine faith with the fabric of daily life. These guidelines not only honor God but also foster the continuous growth and maturation of our faith.

### 1. Do No Harm

Wesley's ethos encourages vigilance in our actions and inactions, ensuring they do not cause harm to others or the environment. Reuben Job articulates this principle beautifully, suggesting that our every deed and silence

should safeguard against inflicting injury on any of God's creations or children. This involves a deep respect for the diverse cultures and life situations of those we serve.

### 2. Do Good

This rule invites us to proactively contribute to the well-being of others, nurturing goodness and fortifying the bonds of community. It's about seizing every opportunity to perform acts of kindness, thereby enriching the lives around us and weaving a stronger social fabric.

### 3. Stay in Love with God

Maintaining a passionate relationship with God is crucial. Job elucidates that in loving God, we derive our moral compass, wisdom, courage, and strength to live authentically. It's through this divine connection that we are inspired, supported, and commissioned to bear witness to the world, embodying the teachings and lifestyle of Jesus every day.

Together, these rules serve as a beacon, guiding us toward a life of purpose, community service, and spiritual depth.

*When our differences are not accepted as our uniqueness and beauty,  
it causes divisions.*

*But when we value our differences,  
we can celebrate all life and cherish it like jewels.*

*Pastor Elaine*



**Pastor**

Elaine Shin-Paull

**Music Director/  
Accompanist**

Paul Cady

**Administrative  
Assistant**

Ebelyn Gaytan

**Sunday School Childcare**

Kaley Mosquera

Veronica Cabrera

**Lay Leader**

Roger Johnson

**Courier Layout**

Sharon Mountford

**AV Operator**

Bernie Godwin



**Resident Bishop**

Dottie Escobedo-Frank

**North District  
Superintendent**

Rev. Melissa Roux

MacKinnon



## April Calendar

### Weekly Activities

- Sunday Peace Evangelical Church, Hall, 9:00 am  
The Chosen Bible Study, Church Library, 11:30 am  
Hindi Urdu Church, Sanctuary, 3:00 pm
- Monday San Fernando Valley Master Chorale, 5:30 - 8:30 pm  
*except 4/22*  
Boy Scout Troop 474, Boy Scout room, 7:00 pm  
Virtual prayer meetings: Mondays at 7:30 pm on Zoom.  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85466860517?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85466860517?pwd=QURDc0FVUU1uZjJBWU9DYUhJVzVYUT09)  
pwd=QURDc0FVUU1uZjJBWU9DYUhJVzVYUT09  
Meeting ID: 854 6686 0517.....Passcode: 229523
- Tuesday Church of Christ, Fellowship Hall, 6:00-10:00 pm
- Wednesday Men's AA Group (Learning to Live), Parlor, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
- Thursday Wesleyan Bible Study not meet in April.  
*will resume on May 23rd at 11:00 am*  
Narcotics Anonymous (Recovery Zone), Parlor 7:00 pm  
Men's AA Step Guide, Room #10, 7:00 pm
- Friday Church of Christ, Hall & Lounge, 6:00-10:00 pm  
SiliconAndhra, Room# 10 & Library, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- Saturday SFV Youth Chorus, Hall & Lounge, 8:30 -12:30  
Narcotics Anon. (Sharing from the Heart), Parlor, 9:30 am

### Other Activities

- Monday 1 Easter Monday, Office Closed
- Tuesday 2 Boy Scout's Parent Committee Meeting, 7-9 pm
- Thursday 4 Funeral Service- Noel Roberson, 10-11 am
- Saturday 6 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am  
*Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way*
- Sunday 7 Funeral service for Mervin Hewitt, 1:00 pm
- Tuesday 9 Administrative Committee Meeting, Library, 6:30 pm  
Boy Scouts Patrol Leader Meeting, 7-9 pm
- Wed. 10 - Sat. 13 Pastor on Clergywoman's Retreat
- Sunday 14 Native American Ministry Sunday
- Monday 15 Tax Day
- Saturday 20 Young Ambassadors, Hall, 12:30 - 5:30 pm  
Rock Chippers, Lounge, 6:30 - 9:30 pm
- Tuesday 23 San Fernando Valley Master Chorale, 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Wednesday 24 Assistance League, Hall, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
- Mon. 29 - Sun. May 12...Pastor on Vacation

### Coming in May

- Wednesday 1 First Day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
- Saturday 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am  
*Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way*

### April Birthdays

- 2 Jeff Leighton  
4 Kay Taylor  
5 Julie Demoraes  
6 Nancy Summer  
7 Alma Anderson  
8 Michiko Mosbe  
9 Kathie Walters  
12 Otto Bernier  
Louis Parrinello  
Ted Stanwood  
13 Ren Natali  
23 Dana Dreyfuss  
Stephen Jones  
Dixie Smith  
25 Miranda Boyer  
28 Andrea Leslie

### Anniversaries

- 1 Arnold, Jonathan &  
Hafner-Arnold,  
Abbey  
10 Parrinello, Louis &  
Anita  
22 Alderman, Ron &  
Jennifer  
29 Mosbe, Michael &  
Michiko

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

### April Flowers

- April 7 - Open  
April 14 - James & Nathan Kaburu  
April 21 - Dana Dreyfuss, *in memory of my family members who have passed*  
April 27 - The Shin-Paull family *in honor of Gid's birthday*  
*If you would like to provide altar flowers on a given Sunday, in honor or memory of someone, please contact Mary Mackay, 818-731-5872.*



## UWF 2024 Directory

The 2024 UWF Directories are now being distributed.

### Prayer & Self Denial

Gifts to “A Call to Prayer and Self Denial” in 2024 will support programs for climate justice put into action by United Women in Faith. Your selfless giving joins the generosity of others who lift their hearts and hands to God to raise the voices to those impacted by climate crises. Contributions for this can be made by check to United Methodist Women dba United Women in Faith with the designation Prayer and Self Denial. Mail your check to Chandra Seeger, Treasurer of our UWF unit at 6625 Maplegrove , Oak Park, CA 91377 or give to Shirley Thomson.

### Earth Day is April 22

God entrusted all of us to take care of his world. We are not doing a very good job. This Earth Day let us pledge to change one thing going forward that will help heal the earth. We can't all plant trees. We can't all afford solar panels on our homes. We can't all join groups cleaning up the beaches. But we can reduce our use of plastics.

Scientists have found that the number of microscopic plastics in bottled drinking water is far greater than previously thought – hundreds of thousands of tiny pieces of plastic per liter of bottled water. Ninety percent of these are so small (nanoplastics) that they are absorbed into our cells and cross the blood-brain barrier.

When plastic trash gets into the ocean, it breaks down into microplastics which are found in the snow on the highest mountains and in the deep ocean. They are in the fish and animals that we eat. They are affecting all living creatures.

We can all do our part. While it is impossible to buy groceries without buying items encased in plastic, we can limit them. It does take work, but we need to try. We can filter tap water and stop buying bottled water. We can use cloth grocery bags or ask for paper bags to bag our food at the check stand. We can use cloth bags to buy in bulk rather than a packaged item.

Let's pledge to do what God asked of us. We can do our part by starting to reduce our use of plastic.

*Margaret Cates, UWF Mission Team*

*Confirm gatherings before you go.*

**Bookends**

Wednesday, April 17  
at 1:00 pm in Room 10.  
The book to be reviewed is entitled *Eager Beavers* by Ben Goldfarb..

**Sarah Circle**

Thursday, April 11,  
9:15 am  
Breakfast at Weiler's Deli,  
22323 Sherman Way,  
near Shoup

**Faith, Hope & Love**

Wednesday, April 17  
at 6:30 pm  
In the library  
Program by  
Anita Parrinello.



Remember to bring food for the West Valley Food Pantry on Communion Sundays

# The Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship Committee of the First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

... had the privilege of awarding one scholarship grant this Easter Sunday, March 31, in celebration of the life and memory of Laura Lynn Longman, (1958 – 1984) who was raised in this Church, who loved her life as a Christian and who loved learning.

This year's scholarship grant recipient is Benjamin Villareal, who will be a Junior in his undergraduate studies at Mount Saint Mary's University, majoring in Nursing. Benjamin and his family have been with our church since 2008. He graduated from Taft Charter High School in 2021 and from Pierce College in June 2023 on the Dean's Honor List. He is now on the Dean's Honor List taking a full load of courses at Mount Saint Mary's University.



**Benjamin Villareal**

United Methodist Church of Canoga Park congratulate this year's recipient, Benjamin Villareal, on his accomplishments to date and look forward to hearing of his future successes.

This year is the fortieth year granting scholarship awards to well qualified upper-class undergraduate students. With this award, 134 scholarship grants have been awarded in Laura's memory to 107 different students for a grand total of \$203,500.

We remember Benjamin when, in his teens he was leading the team of servers at the UMW Silver Tea and helping people at the Summer Barbecues. He is currently working at a local department store as a guest advocate welcoming customers and helping them solve problems.

As a healthcare scholar he has volunteered with "Cope Health Scholars" and at a board and care facility for the elderly. He is currently gaining clinical experience at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center where he is connecting his academic work with practical experience. He is planning to practice nursing, specializing in psychological and the physical well-being of patients and eventually become a physician who advocates for emotional wellness and health equity in underserved communities, serving immigrants and low-income families. He would like to serve as a mentor for pre-health and pre-medical science students.

We, the Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship Committee and the Congregation of the First



## Celebrate Easter at church

- March 24 **Palm Sunday**  
Worship service at 10:00 am  
*Assemble Blessing Bags after Worship Service*
- Friday 29 **Good Friday**  
Worship Service at 6:30 pm
- March 31 **Easter**  
Worship Service at 10:00 am

## Facilities Update:

All known water leaks on the property have been addressed but the water meter is still moving very slowly. We have decided to stop the process of looking for additional leaks as water detection work is much more expensive than any credits, we might receive from the DWP.

The cement and asphalt repairs are complete. Some of the repairs had to be re-done for various reasons but all trip and fall issues have been eliminated.

The Fellowship Hall roof repair has been completed. We had one additional leak after the repair from a vent on the outside south wall above the patio, that has now been replaced.

Paul Cady noticed the Altar holding the candles leaning forward a few weeks ago. After some investigation it seemed clear that after 60+ years it was not secured as well as it once was. It was repaired and is now very solid – like our church!



**Altar being repaired**



**The vertical blinds in the parlor were replaced. They were donated by First Evangelical Church (Denise Lenore, Susie and Kathy's home church).**



## User Groups:

Fit Families Fit Kids who currently rents room 6 in the Education Building has officially signed a long-term lease for the original Boy Scouts room, upstairs in the Fellowship Hall. The upstairs painting and carpeting in the south stairwell, hall, and new FKFF room is near completion.

Soon, we plan to sign a real estate listing agreement to help us rent the Fellowship Hall Gym to an Elder Day Care provider group. This would be a perfect activity for an area of the church that currently has little use.

One of our user groups, Rock Chippers, had their small utility trailer stolen from behind the Fellowship Hall. It has been recovered but the contents are missing.

*George Grengs*

## Lenten Mission Project

The Blessing Bags Committee would like to thank you for your generosity for the Lenten Mission Project. There were enough donations to make 183 Blessing Bags (our goal was 150). Each bag contained a bottle of water, pair of socks, protein bar, snack (peanut butter and crackers, cookies, etc.), deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, hand sanitizer, shampoo, comb, 1st Aid kit, Q-tips, wet wipes, emery board, tissue, lip balm, skin lotion and a scripture card.

Thank you to not only those who donated the items but also to those who helped set up on Saturday and to those who helped assemble the bags, after the worship service, on Palm Sunday.

Besides the 27 families at First UMC-CP who donated to this project we also had community involvement. Sprouts donated 150 protein bars, Rep. Brad Sherman donated 150 combs, Beth Emunah Messianic Synagogue donated 175 pairs of Bombas socks, Students Run LA donated 150 pairs of Bombas socks. Shari Worrell's periodontist, Dr. Saghizadeh, donated toothpaste and her niece in Georgia donated 48 1st Aid kits. Reading about the project on a Facebook page there are now 3 other communities in the USA doing this as their project (Northern CA, TX, CT). We are blessed!

Following the assembling of the bags, those congregation members who wanted to distribute the bags took them with them. Those leftover bags were donated to the United Methodist Church in Reseda. Every Wednesday this church provides showers, lunch for over 200 and has free clothing for the unhoused. When the person leaves following lunch, they are given a Blessing Bag.

Blessing Bag Committee  
Angela Anderson, Robin Anderson, Rev. Elaine  
Shin-Paull, Shari Kelley Worrell

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,  
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,  
I was a stranger and you invited me in,  
I needed clothes and you clothed me,  
I was sick and you looked after me...*  
Matthew 25: 35-36

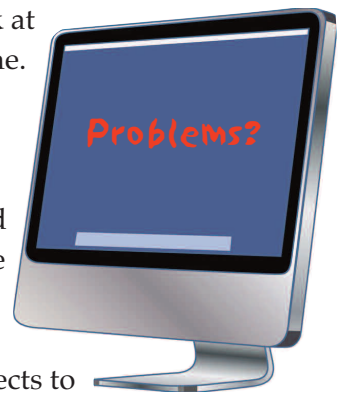


## General Conference

General Conference of the United Methodist Church will be held on April 23, 2024, in Charlotte, North Carolina. If you are interested in following the quadrennial global gathering, please check out [www.calpacumc.org](http://www.calpacumc.org).

## 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 used to work and has gladly looked at several computers for the church and church members. He doesn't come to your house, he just connects to your computer through the internet on the third Saturday of each month between 9-11am. Joe Dedinas was the last member that had great success improving his ability to connect with others. If you or your computer need help, please give me a call and I'll schedule you in!



George Grengs, [george.grengs@outlook.com](mailto:george.grengs@outlook.com) or  
818.632.7538.

## Scout Sunday

Members of our Scout Troop 474 were featured on Scout Sunday, March 10. They participated in the worship service, presenting the colors, and serving as liturgists, and speaking about the highlights of their scouting year.

Following the service they treated the congregation to a delicious pancake breakfast. Thank you, Scouts and leaders!



### Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Pastor Elaine will be on vacation from April 29th to May 12th.

### Substitute Preachers:

May 5 Jan Newton, Administrative Assistant of the North District.

May 12, Rev. Sandy Liddell, a retired clergy of Cal-Pacific UMC who has graced our pulpit several times in the past.



People lifted on the prayer chain:

Jim Davis

Mary Beth Godwin

Ed Mosman

Ken Dimmick

Jeanne Niss

Laurie Berger

Denise Lenore

Noel Roberson's family

Mervin Hewitt's Family

Pastor Lamuel

Kathy Borisoff

Mary Mackay's new great-grandson Malcolm, and his mom

Send prayer requests to  
Anita Parrinello  
[luo2bjedi@gmail.com](mailto:luo2bjedi@gmail.com)  
and CC Pastor Elaine  
[eshinpaull@gmail.com](mailto:eshinpaull@gmail.com)





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**Return Service Requested**