



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: eshinpau@gmail.com

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

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

May 2024

Heart to Heart

Following a prolonged rainy season in Southern California, it's a relief to see the blue, clear skies, budding flowers, and to feel the warmer breezes on our faces. The joy I felt this Easter Sunday still fills my heart. I am carefully guarding and nurturing this joy, like a flame on a candlestick, ensuring it remains bright and unflinching.



The Acolytes, choir, AV supporters, ushers, greeters, ladies in the kitchen, children hunting for Easter eggs, and the entire congregation were all orchestrated by the Holy Spirit, each playing our part in celebrating this special day of the Lord. I pray that you too are guarding and nurturing your joy that you've experienced. It takes effort to remember the good moments and allow them to nourish our souls, enabling us to thrive in our present and future days in the Lord, who is our joy.

May this month be another time of celebration for all of us. Let's celebrate family, all mothers and mother-like figures, our own children and the children of God, and the family of God to which we are bound by the blood of Jesus.

Happy May, everyone!



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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May Birthdays

- 4 Robin Abernathy
- 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
Suzie Fisher
- 24 Laurie Berger
- 26 Diane Mountford
Dante Wilson
- 27 Lea Flores
Aubrey Juarez

Anniversaries

- 24 George & Irene Miller

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



May Flowers

- 5 Michael & Michiko Mosbe
- 12 Open
- 19 Elma Villacisneros
- 26 Irma Santos

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.

May Calendar

Weekly Activities

- Sunday Church service, 10:00, Sanctuary
Peace Evangelical Church, Hall, 9:00 am
Hindi Urdu Church, Sanctuary, 3:00 pm
- Monday San Fernando Valley Master Chorale, 5:30 - 8:30 pm
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?pwd=QURDc0FVUUU1uZjJBWU9DYUhhVzVYUT09>
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 will resume 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

- April 29 - May 12 Pastor Elaine on Vacation
- Wednesday 1 First Day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
- Saturday 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am
Frank Weiler's Deli, 2116 Victory Blvd., Canoga Park
- Sunday 5 Guest Preacher, Jan Newton, Administrative Assistant of the North District.
The Chosen Bible Study, Church Library, 11:30 am
last session, resumes in September
- Tuesday 7 Boy Scouts' Parent Committee Meeting, 7-9 pm
- Sunday 12 Mothers' Day,
Guest Preacher, Rev. Sandy Liddell, a retired clergy of Cal-Pacific UMC
- Tuesday 14 Administrative Committee Meeting, Library, 6:30 pm
Boy Scouts Patrol Leader Meeting, 7-9 pm
- Saturday 18 Rock Chippers, Lounge, 6:30 - 9:30 pm
- Wednesday 22 Assistance League, Hall, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
- Saturday 25 Young Ambassadors, Hall, 12:30 - 5:30 pm
- Monday 27 Memorial Day, **Church Office Closed**

Coming in June

- Saturday 1 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am
Frank Weiler's Deli, 2116 Victory Blvd., Canoga Park
- Tuesday 4 Boy Scouts' Parent Committee Meeting, 7-9 pm



United Women in Faith



UWF Mission Team — Meeting in May TBA

Cal-Pac Annual Conference 2024

The 40th annual session of the Cal-Pac Annual Conference is being held June 12-15 at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport. The theme is “Ending Spiritual & Physical Hunger: Flourish”. The United Women in Faith luncheon is being held on Saturday, June 17.



Mission U

2024 Mission U is being held at Cal State Long Beach July 12-14. Theresa Ellis is the Co-Dean. CSULB campus is beautiful and has state-of-the-art classrooms and meeting spaces. They offer a wide-ranging menu in the dining hall and the dorm buildings have lots of common areas.



Voices From The Field

The quarterly Voices From the Field events feature leaders sharing their work and life stories, daily challenges, hopes and dreams. This conversation series highlights United Women in Faith initiatives supported by Mission Giving — initiatives that significantly improve the lives of women, children, and youth, down the block and around the world.

Confirm gatherings before you go.

Bookends
Wednesday, May 15
at 1:00 pm in Room 10.
The book to be reviewed is entitled *Kafka on the Shore* by Haruki Murakami.
Reviewer Sandy Bell

Sarah Circle
Thursday, May 9,
9:15 am
Breakfast at Nico’s Restaurant
7166 Shoup Ave.,
West Hills

Faith, Hope & Love
Wednesday, May 15
at 6:30 pm
In the library
Program by Margaret Cates.

Pastoral Care

During Pastor Elaine’s vacation, from April 29 to May 6, if you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Roger Johnson, our Lay Leader: RogerJ4634@twc.com.



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

The Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship Awarded on Easter Sunday



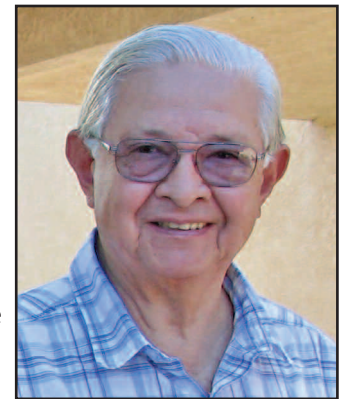
Benjamin Villareal was awarded the Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship on Easter Sunday.

He 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.

Pictured above are Benjamin and his family with Pastor Elaine Shin-Paull, Nancy (Longman) Johnson and Roger Johnson.

Remembering Sal Zelaya

Sal Zelaya was born and raised in Nicaragua and came to the United States on a basketball scholarship. He met and married Irene in Milwaukee, where he worked as an accountant for CBS and where they had a son and a daughter, Roger and Daina. After moving to Los Angeles, he continued his profession in the aerospace industry.



He always supported Irene in both her professional and subsequent volunteer activities, first at St. Paul's and subsequently, here at Canoga Park First Methodist. Throughout their married life they traveled to many parts of the world and presented slide shows on the destinations they had visited. Sal was an excellent photographer.

During his career and after retirement, he was an avid golfer and enjoyed doing projects around the house. He and Irene were also involved in social activities with his former colleagues in the aerospace industry and family activities with their son and daughter and continued supporting her efforts in supporting sacred dance at Canoga Park and other Methodist churches.

Sal Zelaya's gravesite service is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 31.

Remembering Noel Roberson



A memorial service for Noel Roberson was held at church on Thursday, April 4, followed by a luncheon at the Hidden Lake Clubhouse.

Noel passed away peacefully with family by his side on March 4, 2024, at the age of 83.

He was born in Longview, Texas, and spent his school years in Lubbock. It was during high school that Noel met the love of his life, Nanette Nelson, whom he married in 1962. The union was blessed with two daughters, Gina and Shayna.

With a Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas Tech University, Noel took a sales position with Thomas J. Lipton, where he would remain employed for 27 years. Lipton would afford the Robersons the opportunity to move to California in 1968.

The family lived in Encino and then Torrance before making their forever home in West Hills. Over the next twenty years Noel would enjoy hobbies such as photography, antique collecting, and home improvements. Memorable family outings included trips to Hawaii, New York, attendance at the 1984 Olympic Games and annual water-skiing trips to Lake Havasu, Arizona.

After retirement in 1992 from the Lipton/Lawry's food franchise, Noel and Nanette crossed the pond to admire European artifacts, traveled to China, partied it up in Jamaica and even enjoyed a hot air balloon flight as they drifted over the Giza plateau.

In the end it was cancer that swept Noel from the earth to the heavens, where we know he will rest peacefully until we meet again.

Donations in Noel's memory may be sent to the American Cancer Society — donate.cancer.org.

Remembering Mervin Hewitt



Mervin's life story began in harmony in the pleasant parish hills bordering Saint Andrew and Kingston on the western end of Jamaica. Nothing could have prepared her for losing both parents in her youth. After such

significant changes in her family life by the age of 14, she was lovingly raised by her grandparents, Leonora and Josiah Collins. Mamie Leah, as Leonora was known, taught her the resilience and determination that came to define her. With her siblings, Jethro, Gilbert, Amy, Carrol, and Jasmine, she navigated life's journey.

Her education at Windsor High School in Kingston led her to a fulfilling career as a licensed practical nurse. Her gentle hands cared for many at Issac Barrant Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital. Mervin also brought her caring spirit to the National Children's Home in Jamaica, where she served as a House Mother, a role that showcased her natural nurturing qualities before she retired.

Mervin's legacy is vast, with 6 children, 24 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, and numerous great-great-grandchildren. Her heart was filled with love, shared with Herbert Murphy and later, Herman Hewitt, who preceded her in death but remained cherished in her heart.

She lived in the US for over thirty years and enjoyed travels to England and Germany with her family. Her faith, cultivated in the church, was her guiding light. Her spiritual journey started in the Pentecostal church where her grandfather was a minister. Later becoming a Methodist she attended Methodist churches wherever she lived.

In her final years, she was lovingly cared for at a nursing home, where she formed close bonds with her caregiver Maria and her favorite nurse, Marguerita, who helped to ensure her last days were peaceful and dignified.

Lenten Mission Project

Thanks to Shari Worrell for organizing the very successful Lenten Project, preparing 183 Blessing Bags for giving to the unhoused. 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.



Seen here at the assembly area on Palm Sunday is the Kaburu family -- Jimmy, Juliet and Nathan

From the Mailbox



Dear Pastor Shin-Paull,
Shari and the Canoga Park
UMC Congregation,

I want to extend our deepest gratitude for your generous support in providing "Blessing Bags," socks, combs, hand sanitizers and hygiene essentials for our homeless men and women.

Your kindness and compassion are truly touching and will make a significant impact on the lives of those in need within our community and, hopefully, will bring hope to those who are struggling. We are grateful for your partnership and support as we continue our mission of serving and caring for those who are less fortunate.

May God continue to bless your congregation abundantly.

Warmest Blessings,
Shirley Malorzo,
Kingdom Food Pantry Team Leader
Reseda First United Methodist Church
818-581-8583



Facilities Update

We continue to work on many day-to-day items like: Toilet Flappers, Toilet flush valves, Urinal Flush Valves, Doors Problems, Sink Drips, Light Timers, Replacement lights etc. It's a big facility and there's always something that needs attention.

With the weekly rain in March and April we've had the sprinklers off much of the time which is always a good thing!

The Easter planting of flowers at the front of the church and in the Memorial Garden continues to look great and the first bloom on the roses are just starting. A wonderful flood of color for springtime!

User Groups

In the Fellowship Hall, Fit Families Fit Kids just completed the painting and carpeting of the upstairs hall and their new room is complete. FUMCCP paid for the upgrades to the stairs and stairwell. We hope to have an open house on Sunday, April 28 so everyone can see the fresh new look!

Charisma Pre-School who leased the Education Buildings has begun the facility upgrades that are part of their new lease. The new HVAC system has been installed and the copper re-piping of the building is in process. The water to both the Education Building and the Yellow House is now supplied through copper pipe eliminating any galvanized piping which for years has added to a rust problem in the freshwater system. It's very exciting to see these buildings get the needed repairs that have been put off for years.

We continue to work on a real estate listing agreement as we look for additional Fellowship Hall user groups.

George Grengs



People lifted on the prayer chain:

Pastor Lynn and Stan
Noah Cousino
Chandra Seeger
Lora O'Connor
Denise Lenore
Lou Mountford
Paul Cady
Mary Beth Godwin
Marilu Mampell
Laurie Berger
Jennifer Ervin
Ardeen and Vivian Wolfe
Family of Cheyenne Loomer
Mary Mackay's great grandson Malcolm
Family of Dorothy Werkheiser
Vance Nowak
Shari Kelley Worrell
Family of Amanda Lucas

*Send prayer requests to
Anita Parrinello
luo2bjedi@gmail.com)
and CC Pastor Elaine
(eshinpau@gmail.com)*

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 or 818.632.7538.



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22700 Sherman Way
West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Return Service Requested



**The 40th Annual Session of the
California-Pacific Conference
Ending Spiritual & Physical Hunger**

June 12-15, 2024 California & Hawai`i

The 2024 Annual Conference will be held at the
Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport.

Reservations for hotel rooms can be made by calling
818-843-6000 and mentioning the Cal-Pac UMC group.

The deadline to reserve is May 17, 2024 at 5pm.