



The Courier

First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Church 818.340.2950

E-mail: crossandflame@att.net

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

Pastor: eshinpauill@gmail.com

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

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

October/November 2025

Heart to Heart

As the leaves begin to turn and the air grows crisp, we're reminded that fall is a season of both gratitude and reflection. It's that special time when we take a deep breath, look back at how God has guided us through the year, and look ahead to how we can live faithfully in the months to come.

This October and November, we'll enter our Stewardship Season, guided by the theme: "Stewardship as a Lifestyle."

It's a reminder that stewardship isn't just a campaign or a Sunday pledge — it's a way of life.

In 1 Timothy 6:17-19, Paul writes,

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth... but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share."

Paul's words challenge us to see stewardship not as a duty, but as a daily rhythm of gratitude and generosity. It's about placing our trust—not in what we have—but in the God who provides. It's about using what's been placed in our hands to do good, bless others, and invest in what truly lasts.

Throughout October, our worship will focus on three simple invitations:

1. Trusting the Giver more than the gift.
2. Rich in Good Deeds – Seeing generosity as a lifestyle, not a moment.
3. The Life That Is Truly Life – Discovering joy and meaning through open-handed living.

We'll also be introducing The Basket Challenge 2026, a yearlong invitation to live out stewardship through small, creative monthly acts of faith, kindness, and giving. It's simple, tangible, and deeply spiritual—a way for every household to experience the joy of giving in everyday life.

This fall, I invite you to pause and pray:

"Lord, how can I live more generously?

How can I trust You more fully with what I have?"

May this season be one where we rediscover the beauty of a grateful heart—where giving is not about obligation but about joy, not about scarcity but about abundance, and not about numbers but about love.

With gratitude for each of you, and with hope for what God will do among us.

In Christ's love, Rev. Elaine Shin-Pauill



Pastor

Elaine Shin-Pauill

Music Director/ Accompanist

Paul Cady

Administrative Assistant
vacant

Sunday School Childcare

Veronica Cabrera
Denise Lenore

Teen Ministry
Dante Wilson

Lay Leader
Roger Johnson

Courier Layout
Sharon Mountford

AV Operators
Bernie Godwin
Preston Simpkin
Michael Mosbe

Resid  Bishop
Dottie Escobedo-Frank

**North District
Superintendent**
Rev. Garth Gilliam



October Calendar

Weekly Activities

Sunday Peace Evangelical Church, Hall, 9:00 am
First UMC of Canoga Park, Sanctuary, 10:00 am
The Stronghold of the Chosen

*A nine-week Interactive Bible Study begins,
in the Library following fellowship time.*

See description on page 7.

Hindi Urdu Church, Sanctuary, 4:00 pm

Monday Virtual prayer meetings: at 7:30 pm on Zoom
Meeting ID: 898 8990 4696 Passcode: 875564
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89889904696?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89889904696?pwd=emhFc01lY3NTNzVkRjJEWCTmZndiUT09)

[pwd=emhFc01lY3NTNzVkRjJEWCTmZndiUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89889904696?pwd=emhFc01lY3NTNzVkRjJEWCTmZndiUT09)

Tuesday Church of Christ, Fellowship Hall, 6:00-10:00 pm
Men's AA Step Guide, Room # 10, 7:00 pm

Wednesday Men's AA Group (Learning to Live), Parlor, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Thursday *Practicing the Way* Book Study,
Library, 11 am, starting Sept. 11

Narcotics Anonymous (Recovery Zone), Parlor 7:00 pm

Men's AA Step Guide, Room #10, 7:00 pm

Friday Church of Christ, Hall & Lounge, 6-10 pm

Saturday Narcotics Anon. (Sharing from the Heart), Parlor, 9:30 am

Other Activities

Saturday 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am

Frank's Weiler's Deli, 21161 Victory Blvd., Canoga Park

Tuesday 14 Administrative Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, Library

Saturday 18 Rockchippers Gem Show,
Fellowship Hall, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday 25 Trunk or Treat, Parking lot from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Sunday 26 Reformation Sunday

Coming in November

Saturday 1 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am

Frank's Weiler's Deli, 21161 Victory Blvd., Canoga Park

Sunday 2 Daylight Savings Ends

Charge Conference date (or possibly the 9th)

Wednesday 12 Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship Committee
3:00 pm in the Library.

November 11 Veterans Day

Saturday 15 Rockchippers, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 to 9:30 pm

November 22 Funeral for Lauren Stipulkosky, Lynn & Stan Westover's
daughter, Sanctuary, 11:00 am

November 23 Thanksgiving Potluck Lunch, sign up on the calendar in
the Parlor for what you would like to bring.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Charlee Houston
2 Geri Allen
Phyllis Umphres
4 Marcela Rodriguez
Lirio Waldman
7 Sarah Alderman
Jenny Ervin
9 Paul Cady
Erin Landrum
11 Angela Anderson
13 Glynene Roe
15 Bernie Godwin IV
Lou Mountford
16 Brio Waldman
19 Trish Simmons
23 Nathan Kaburu
29 Ralph Bermudez

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Ken Dimmick
3 Selina Cho
Tom Roe
Chandra Seeger
5 Sharon Mountford
9 Denise Lenore
10 Perla Merca
11 Shawn Alvarado
12 Edwin Villacisneros
18 Elaine Shin-Paul
27 Jessica Williams
30 Andre Anderson
Midge Herder
Doris Hood

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

6 Rowe, Pat & Gerald Rowe
12 Satterlee, Bill
& Huston, Ginger
15 Palmerlee, Tammy & Matt

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1 Niss, Jeanne & Charles
20 Lauredo, Janet & Eddy

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



Cal-Pac UWF Conference Annual Celebration

will be held October 18 at North Hollywood UMC. The Candle of Commitment is lit and burns during the United Women in Faith (UWF) Annual Conference Celebration. It is a tall white candle, about 4-5 inches in diameter. Each year Women's Division determines how much it costs to be in mission for one minute. Each local UWF Unit has the opportunity to select the person and or people they wish to honor or memorialize. Our Canoga Park UWF unit selected Elizabeth Rogers, to remember for the Candle of Commitment recognition this year.



World Thank Offering

World Thank Offering is an expression of gratitude for God's blessings in your own life and an opportunity for your gifts to improve the lives of women, children and youth through United Women in Faith. This offering allows United Women in Faith members to act for social justice and support communities through spiritual growth, leadership development, economic empowerment, and skills development. Contributions to the World Thank Offering can be made payable to United Women in Faith and sent to Chandra Seeger, 6625 E. Maplegrove, Oak Park, CA 91377. Designate it for the World Thank Offering. You may also give your contribution to Chandra Seeger personally at church.

UWF Mission Team

Will be held Monday, November 10 at 10:00 am via Zoom

Shirley Thomson

Flower Calendar

October

5 Lirio Waldman
12 Open
19 Open
26 Michael & Miko Mosbe

November

2 Selina Cho
9 Irma Santos Family
16 Michael & Michiko Mosbe
23 Open
30 Midge Herder, in honor of her 100th birthday

October Circle Meetings

Bookends

Wednesday,
October 15 at 1:00 pm
in Room 10

Sarah Circle

Thursday,
October 9 at 9:15 am for
breakfast at Nico's
Restaurant

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday,
October 8 at 1:00 pm in
the Church Library
Program & Devotion by
Chandra Seeger

November Meetings

Bookends

Wednesday,
November 19 at 1:00 pm
in Room 10

Sarah Circle

Thursday,
November 13 at 9:15 am
for breakfast at Nico's
Restaurant

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday,
November 12 at 1:00 pm
in the Church Library.

*Confirm gatherings
before you go.*

Quiet Disciple Award – 2025



Michiko Mosbe was recognized as receiving the Quiet Disciple Award at the District Annual Meeting of the United Women in Faith on September 20. Above she is seen receiving her certificate during the worship service here in our church.

Michiko (Miko) Mosbe is a member of First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park and is a recent member of United Women of Faith and became a member of our Faith, Hope & Love Circle.

She is computer literate and knowledgeable about various software programs. Our church was in need of her experience in these areas so she is one of our head counters who inputs the financial information regularly.

She is a member of our weekly church prayer chain as well as participates in our weekly Bible Study. Miko assists with refreshments after church service.

Miko is a person who is eager to do anything that is asked of her.

Congratulations, Miko for being recognized in a meaningful way.

Back To School/Church Sunday

was held September 21st

A. Each 3rd grade student and above received a Bible and a card. Each Bible was wrapped in 4 layers of wrapping paper and tied with twine:

a. The twine represents Jesus Loves You

b. Gold Foil Wrap for
“God’s Promises Are Priceless”

c. then Newspaper Wrap as
“God Speaks Through His Word”

d. then Brown Paper Package because
“God Uses the Ordinary”

e. and finally Colorful Wrapping Paper
as we all find “Joy in the Lord”



Dante Wilson, Veronica Cabrera, and
Pastor Elaine Shin-Paull
with Bible recipients:

Waylan Saulnier, Charlee Houston, Jade Houston,
Dean Ferrante, and Mason Beigi

Administrative Committee Reports

Financial Update

As noted in the August Courier, we had a fraudulent \$8000 check go through our bank account. Since we identified it quickly, it was reimbursed by Bank of America. We have opened a new account and are in the process of changing our signers so that the compromised signature can't be used again. In addition, we've changed to a more secure type of check that is harder to manipulate. We'll keep our fingers crossed that this is the end of it! Many thanks to Margaret Cates for her work with the bank and others to improve the security of our bank account.

Facility Update

We still have a few major projects that won't be addressed until later this year. They are spot painting of an assortment of areas on the inside and outside of the buildings and treating the termites behind the monitors in the sanctuary. We have continued to have problems with our electrical sockets near the entrance of the Fellowship Hall attracting homeless who use them to charge their phones. It's becoming a larger problem, and the Pre-School has lost some new student signups because of the problem. Roger Johnson has come to the rescue and found breaker switches that turn off the outside Fellowship Hall receptacles.

User Group Update

We are sad to report that the San Fernando Youth Chorus has decided to leave our campus. They have been with us for many years, and we wish them all the best in their new practice facility! The Boy Scout troop was disbanded earlier this year, and we hope to have Youth Room 2 (previously the Puppet Room) clean for future use by the end of summer. The Assessor's office sent out an auditor to work with Charisma Pre-School about the amount of property taxes they will be liable for. We're glad to report the amount will be less than previously determined.

George Grengs

Welcome! New Members



Mark Nagy (Affiliated), Valerie Aivazian, Carol Berns, and Valerie Woods joined the church on September 28. Pat McCollam also had his membership reinstated.



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

Simple Plan for October

Try one step. Or try all three.

One minute with God

Sit in quiet for sixty seconds each morning. Breathe. Say, "Lord Jesus, I give this day to you."

Five minutes in the Word

Read a short section of Colossians each day. Ask, "What is God saying to me?" Then live it.

One table a week

Share a meal or coffee with someone you do not know well. Listen first. Ask how you can pray for them.

One seed. One step. One prayer.

God will do more than we can ask or imagine.

Pastor Elaine



Time to Renew

If you are already in the Ralphs Community Rewards Program, please renew after September 1, 2025, so that our church can continue to earn rewards.

June through August we had 19 participating families and earned \$93.36

Not signed up yet? It's free and easy – just visit Ralphs.com, go to "Community Rewards," and select First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park (or enter our organization number). Every purchase you make helps support our ministry at no extra cost to you.

Organization Name:

First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park
Number: CB815

Upcoming Advent Project

Between November 2nd – November 30th, First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park will be collecting monetary donations or \$25 Walmart gift cards as our Advent Project for the two Hope the Mission shelters located in Chatsworth.

Congregants may purchase as many gift cards as they choose but we ask that each gift card does not exceed \$25. These will be distributed to the families the weekend of December 6th so parents can purchase Christmas gifts, clothes, shoes, etc. for their children.

The family shelter houses 48 residents (parents and children) and the T.A.Y (Transitional Aged Youth; ages 18-24) houses 38 youth. Residents are provided three meals per day, enrollment into schools for the children by LAUSD as well as mental health services and clothes, if needed. The T.A.Y. youth must either attend school or have a job to qualify for residence.

If writing a check, checks should be payable to FUMC-CP. In the Memo line, please note Advent Project.

Please drop off or mail the gift cards, checks, or money to the church office. You may also bring to the worship service on Sunday. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Shari Worrell at: sharikworrell@gmail.com or 310-902-0179.

To learn more about Hope the Mission please visit their website www.hopethemission.org.

Shari Worrell

The Stronghold of the Chosen

An Interactive Bible Study

The Chosen is a multi-season video drama, Bible interpretive discussion series. Classes will be conducted for nine Sundays beginning on September 21 in the Library following the fellowship time. Please register using the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the parlor, talking with Roger Johnson or with the church office.

The Chosen, Season 5 invites you into the tumultuous final days of Jesus' earthly ministry – what's become known as Holy Week. Beginning with His triumphant entry into Jerusalem astride a donkey's colt, the story covers a side of Jesus we haven't seen before beginning with His righteous rage at the moneychangers and the Sanhedrin in the temple.

This season's study is for people who want to find a safe place in Jesus. The Stronghold of the Chosen video drama helps us see Jesus, through the eyes of His followers, as the stronghold we want and need in our lives.

What is a stronghold? Well, a stronghold is a place. It's a place of safety, fortified to protect inhabitants against attack. It's a place where people (like us) can feel secure, surrounded by high, sturdy walls. It's a place to be restored and rest. It's a place to plan the way forward.

In The Stronghold of the Chosen study, we'll learn that Jesus is our safe place, along with all the reasons we should run to and remain in Him when hard times come and also when it is time to celebrate.

Join us as we see the events of the Holy Week through the eyes of His followers and understand more deeply how people responded to Him then and how we can respond to Him now.

Roger Johnson



*People lifted on the
prayer chain:*

Tammy Cates Palmerlee

Valerie Aivazian

Ray Aivazian

Marie Rogers

Carol Rogers

Tim O'Connor

Sharon Mountford

Mary Beth Godwin

Mary Mackay

Pastor Lynn and Stan
Westover

Laurie Berger

Denise Lenore

Kathy Borisoff

Edwin Abrena's sister
Grace

Carol Berns' son Casey

*Send prayer requests to
Anita Parrinello
luv2bjedi@gmail.com)
and CC Pastor Elaine
(eshinpauill@gmail.com)*



Trunk or Treat

will be held in the church parking lot
Saturday, October 25
from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

This is a Fall Festival designed to increase awareness within the community and young families of First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park.

This celebration of the Fall season, emphasizes wholesome recognition of costume fun rather than ghoulish spectacle.

World Communion Sunday Celebration, October 5, 2025

On World Communion Sunday, our sanctuary came alive with color, culture, and connection. Members arrived dressed in clothing that reflected their heritage and family traditions, creating a beautiful mosaic of who we are as the Body of Christ -- diverse, yet united in one faith.

The communion table was especially meaningful this year. It was filled with many kinds of bread -- from challah and naan to baguette and Korean traditional crackers—reminding us that the table of Christ stretches across every land and language. As we shared the bread and the cup, we gave thanks for the global church and prayed for peace, justice, and unity among all God's people. The sight of so many nations represented in one sacred meal was a glimpse of heaven on earth. It was a Sunday of joy, gratitude, and deep belonging -- a reminder that wherever we come from, we are one in Christ.



Pastor Elaine serving communion to Dean Ferrante



The whole congregation wearing wardrobes which reflect their ethnicity and background.



Bill Satterlee, Michiko Mosbe, Pastor Elaine, Nanette Roberson and Shari Worrell



JoAnn Chadwick-Ellis and Nanette Roberson share a Scottish heritage

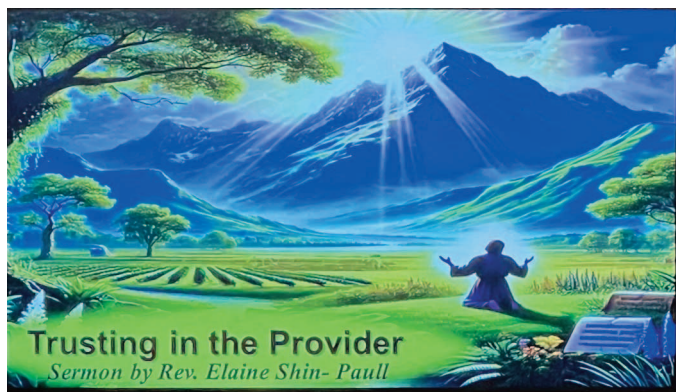
Stewardship as a Lifestyle

Each year in the fall we take a few weeks to talk about Stewardship, but this year we hope to keep our good deeds going throughout the year as part of creating a Stewardship Lifestyle. Whether it's paying it forward, surprising someone with a note or phone call, helping someone that's clearly in financial need – these are the types of small efforts we will make to create a Lifestyle that reflects our Christian stewardship beliefs.

Our Stewardship Lifestyle program at First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park will expand our concept of stewardship as we serve the West San Fernando Valley. For over one hundred years we've been returning God's gifts, and we continue to support the community by sharing our facility with groups that touch individuals. Whether it's Self-Help, Youth Leadership or other Christian churches, they all make a difference in our community. Our members also support ministries to disaster victims, local shelters, and foster kids transitional living. Through the larger UMC we support a wide variety of domestic and overseas disaster efforts and mission help wherever needed.

And within our own walls we return God's gifts by valuing seniors, supporting the bereaved and sick, and helping young people's education dreams come true. It's what our Church Family does!

We use the projected totals of the estimated giving cards to develop a budget for the coming year. Your gifts are confidential and seen only by our Financial Secretaries.



Pastor Elaine's sermon on October 12

And remember, financial gifts are always about your personal approach to stewardship – not the budget. Consider a percentage increase from last year or set a plan for tithing (ten percent of your income), and please remember FUMCCP in your estate plan.

Finally, stewardship isn't only about money – consider sharing your time and talent by trying something new this year! There is always a need for more hands, and many responsibilities are simple but important! Get involved! Contact Pastor Elaine about your interest areas or opportunities that are available.

“Stewardship as a Lifestyle” Program

October 12 – Inspirational Sunday

* Children and Youth will create Stewardship signs for the campaign.

* Your individual stewardship packet will be available for pick-up before worship. If you can't attend this service, your packet will be mailed to you. If you haven't received one for any reason, please call the office or ask

October 19 – Gratitude Sunday

* We'll bring our estimate of giving cards up to the altar to be blessed. If you forget to bring your card, blank ones will be available at the service. Cards can be mailed or dropped off at the office too.

October 26 – Celebration Sunday

* The Stewardship Committee will report the initial totals for 2026.

* As a thank-you for everyone who supports First United Methodist Church, Canoga Park, a gift card drawing will be held; the winners will dine at favorite local restaurants. Everyone who has returned an estimate of giving card is eligible to participate in the drawing; names are entered automatically.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Stewardship Committee:

JoAnn Chadwick-Ellis, Shirley FitzGeorge,
George Grengs, Karen Grengs, Roger Johnson,
Toby Lane, Denise Lenore, Anita Parrinello,
Pastor Elaine Shin-Paul, Shari Worrell



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Non-Profit Organization

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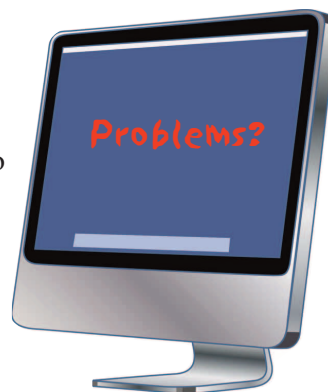
Return Service Requested

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*