



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: eshinpau@gmail.com

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

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

May 2026

Heart to Heart

What a glorious Easter Sunday!

Over 110 people filled our sanctuary. We celebrated a baptism, our children hunted Easter eggs with pure joy, and together we proclaimed the resurrection of our Lord. I looked around that room and thought — this is what the church is meant to be. Thank you to everyone who showed up and made it happen. You are this church.

But Easter was not the ending. It was the beginning.

On May 24th we celebrate Pentecost — the birthday of the Church. The Holy Spirit swept in like a rushing wind and transformed frightened, uncertain people into a bold, unstoppable community. The Church was not born in a building. It was born in a fire.

That same fire is available to us — right here, right now.

So we continue to honor God. **We show up. We give. We grow together.** We invest in our children and youth. We welcome the stranger. We serve our neighborhood. We keep the doors open wider than we think we can.

Our calling is to tend that flame — **through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.** This is not just our Methodist covenant. This is how a church not only survives, but thrives for generations to come.

The Spirit that showed up in that upper room in Jerusalem is here — in Canoga Park, in us.

Let the fire keep burning.

Pastor Elaine

"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 Shin-Paull

Music Director/ Accompanist

Nathan Stephens

Administrative Assistant

Jyl Lawrence

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



Resident Bishop

Dottie Escobedo-Frank

North District Superintendent

Rev. Garth Gilliam



May Calendar

May Birthdays

- 11 Irma Santos
- 14 Bill Satterlee
- 17 Nancy Johnson
- 23 Suzie Fisher
Jodi Guerrero
- 26 Dante Wilson
Diane Mountford
- 27 Lea Flores

Anniversaries

- 2 Michael & Nancy
Easterly
- 24 George & Irene Miller

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

- Saturday, May 2 Rummage Sale, 8:00am to 1:00pm
- Every Monday Prayer meeting, 7:30pm to 8:30pm
Meeting ID: 898 8990 4696 — Passcode: 875564
- Every Thursday Bible Study, 11:00am to 12:30pm in the Library
- May 10 Mother's Day
- Sunday, May 24 Pentecost Sunday
- Monday, May 25 Memorial Day

May 3rd at noon, An Interment Service for Elizabeth "Libby" Bennett will be held at the site in the Memorial Garden. Anyone who knew Libby is welcome to attend.



May Altar Flowers

- 3 Pastor Elaine
Shin-Paull
- 10 Michael & Miko Mosbe
- 17 Open
- 24 Open
- 31 Open

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.



RUMMAGE SALE - Saturday, May 2nd, 2026 - 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
The Rummage Sale is coming up and we need your help! Sign up with Mike Easterly. See you there!



Mission Team Meeting

No meeting in May

2026 UWFaith Pledges

United Women in Faith members' pledges and special offerings (World Thank Offering, Prayer and Self Denial, and Legacy Fund) make missions happen! The national organization supports both national and international projects and partners. Your Mission Team strives to make sure that our unit supports these worthwhile missions, as well as local missions. We would like to remind all of our members that the collection of annual pledges and special offerings are our only sources of funds which enable us to meet our goals.

During 2025 our unit was able to use \$1,923 of our pledges and special offerings to support National & International projects, plus Local missions of the Outreach Committee and church projects. We also sent greeting cards to members and gave pillows with scripture readings to those who were sick or recuperating. Please consider making your discretionary pledge and special offerings for 2026 today. The dba for the organization has not changed so checks should still be made payable to UMW and either mailed to Chandra Seeger (6625 E Maplegrove, Oak Park, CA 91377) or given to her at church. Thank you for your continued support.

Faith, Hope & Love Circle

At our recent Faith, Hope & Love Circle meeting Miko Mosbe presented the Program "Entitled SEEDS" from the current UWFaith Program book. We were asked to write down any SEEDS of a better future we could think of in our life. Is someone doing some small helping action for another that could be a circle of care? Is there a new person at church? Does a child or grandchild have a lovely quality you think will make the earth more wonderful. Seeds also need nurturing so that they one day may grow into plants. We had a very interesting discussion on the subject.

Confirm gatherings before you go.

Bookends
Wednesday, May 20 at
1:00 pm in Room 10.
The book to be reviewed
is entitled
The Turn of the Key
by Ruth Ware

Sarah Circle
Thursday, May 14 at
9:15 am for breakfast
at Nico's Restaurant

Faith, Hope & Love
Wednesday,
May 13 at 1:00 pm
Church Library
Program to be presented
by Anita Parrinello

Dakota Prairie Hymn

Many and great, O God
are Thy things Maker
of Earth and Sky. Thy
hands have set
The heavens with stars
Thy fingers spread
The mountains and plains.
Lo, at Thy word
The waters were formed
Deep seas obey Thy voice.

Native American Prayer

A Prayer

There is a separate bookcase in the church Library which holds a collection of Bibles and hymnals that were donated by deceased member, Dwight Cushman. I picked up a book called "Union Prayer Book" published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis in 1945. I found this prayer that is appropriate for the unsettled times we are going through.

"May the time not be distant, O God, when Thy name shall be worshiped in all the earth, when unbelief shall disappear and error be no more. We fervently pray that the day may come when all men shall invoke Thy name, when corruption and evil shall give way to purity and goodness, when superstition shall no longer enslave the mind, nor idolatry blind the eye, when all who dwell on earth shall know that to Thee alone every knee must bend and every tongue give homage. O may all, created in Thine image, recognize that they are brethren, so that one in spirit and one in fellowship, they may be forever united before Thee. Then shall Thy kingdom be established on earth and the word of Thine ancient seer be fulfilled: The Lord will reign forever and ever."

Margaret Cates



Picture on the right: Pastor Sang Ho Yi and his wife Jin are seen with our delivery team in the room where homeless people can choose clothes. On Wednesdays their church feeds up to 300 people. They offer showers, haircuts, clothes, hygiene products and food.

FUMCCP Outreach -- May 2026

The Outreach Team continues to serve our church and community with grateful hearts.

T-Shirts — Sixty Outreach t-shirts were ordered at \$20 each. A few extras are available. Contact the church office or Mike or Nancy Easterly to order yours.

Easter & St. Patrick's Day — Goodies were distributed to our church children for St. Patrick's Day, and nearly 100 Easter baskets were assembled and delivered to local shelters — plus bags for our own church children handed out on Easter Sunday. Members of the church donated close to 300 candy-filled eggs for the effort.

Lenten Blessing Bags — Our Lenten Project was a tremendous success. Through the generous giving of 35 families and friends — including UWF and the Daughters of the American Revolution — we assembled 150 Blessing Bags on Palm Sunday. Remaining bags were taken to FUMC-Reseda for their homeless ministry.

West Valley Food Pantry — A donation basket is now placed by the Name Tag table each week. This month's most needed items include canned chili, peanut butter, canned chicken/tuna/salmon, low-sodium soup, pasta and sauce, jerky, and baby/adult wipes.

The team meets on the first Monday of each month at 2pm in the church library. All are welcome. Contact any team member with ideas or questions: Valerie Aivazian, Carol Berns, Mike Easterly, Nancy Easterly, Louis Parrinello, Nancy Summer, Valerie Woods, and Shari Worrell.





On Easter Sunday, little Genevieve Anderson was welcomed into the family of God through the waters of baptism -- on her very first birthday! What a day to be born into this world, and what a day to be born into the Church.

Welcome home, Genevieve.



A heartfelt thank you. On Easter Sunday, our choir and a featured violinist lead us in beautiful worship under direction of Nathan Stephens. What a joy it was to celebrate the risen Christ through such inspiring music.



With over 110 people filling our Sanctuary, it was a truly joyful celebration of the reason Christ - what an amazing blessing to worship together.



A big thank you to Angela Anderson for organizing our annual children's Easter Egg Hunt. With the help of the Outreach Team, we had close to 300 eggs for the kids.

Out in the Fields of God

The little cares that fretted me,
I lost them yesterday
Among the fields above the sea,
Among the winds that play,
Among the lowing of the herds,
The rustling of the trees,
Among the singing of the birds,
The humming of the bees.

The foolish fears of what might pass
I cast them away
Among the clover scented grass,
Among the new-mown hay,
Among the hushing of the corn,
Where drowsy poppies nod,
Where ill thoughts die and good are born –
Out in the fields of God.

Anonymous



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



If you shop at Ralphs, please enroll in the
Ralphs Community Rewards Program.
One quarter last year we received a donation of
\$75.50 for education purposes.

New Church Attendee

Novelette Currie has been attending church recently and she is seeking a job. Her skills may fit well with our aging population.

Novelette's resume

Compassionate and dependable Caregiver with 3+ years of experience providing quality care to elderly and dementia patients in residential and in-home settings. Skilled in medication management, meal preparation, and assisting with daily living activities. Committed to maintaining a safe and supportive environment for clients.

Skills

Dementia Care
Medication Management
Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)
Meal Preparation
Appointment Scheduling
Companionship
Light Housekeeping
Patient Safety Monitoring

Certifications

First Aid Certification and CPR (Renewal in Progress)
Residential Care Facility State License
Other qualification is a Bachelor of Science degree
References can be had upon request

Novelette Currie

Phone: 310-686-2324

Email: novcurrie199@msn.com



Reports from the Administrative Committee

Financial Update

As we delayed the April Administrative Committee meeting until April 28, as of this writing we do not have any financial updates.

Facility Update

We continue to work on updating the facilities.

In April we installed new Heating and A/C units in 5 rooms – Fellowship Hall Office (required as part of our Chaminade lease), the Fellowship Hall upstairs Youth Room 1 & 2, Library, and Pastor Elaine’s office. Pastor Elaine was able to find a member who donated the monies to make this happen! Glory be to God! We will now have decent A/C in these rooms and be able to discontinue the use of the old wall heaters which are original to the buildings.

The second major project we expect will be done before the end of April is painting. Most of this is maintenance and patch work, but will also include the painting of the ceiling in room 10, the Library, Bride’s room, Choir room, and office. This effort is part of the 2026 budget. Special thanks to Tim O’Connor who cut up some oversized items being thrown away. Over the last few years, the cleanliness of the trash bin area behind the Fellowship Hall has greatly improved. Our gardeners will be addressing a main line leak that feeds the water to the mulched area in front of the Education rooms 7 & 8. The main water line to all buildings will be a focus area in the next few years.



User Group Update

Chaminade has started their first wrestling classes in the Fellowship Hall Gym. There are not any additional User Group Updates for this month!



prayer chain:

Louis Parrinello

Deanna Tyndell

Carol Berns

Carol Rogers

Chandra's sister Sherry

Dana Dreyfuss

Darrell Thomson

Katie Bernardo

Barbara Hinton

Jennifer Alderman

Ken Dimmick

Shari Worrell's neighbor,

Deanna Tyndell

Send prayer requests to

Anita Parrinello

luv2bjedi@gmail.com)

and CC Pastor Elaine

(eshinpauill@gmail.com)





FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CANOGA PARK

22700 Sherman Way
West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Non-Profit Organization

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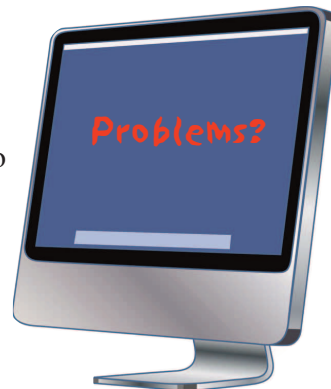
Return Service Requested

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*