



# The Courier

**First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park**

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

Pastor: [eshinpauill@gmail.com](mailto:eshinpauill@gmail.com)

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

*Sunday Worship at 10:00 am*

November 2022

## Heart to Heart

*There was a boy who would get up and go into the woods everyday. Observing this one day, his father questioned the boy, "son, why are you going into the woods everyday?" The boy said, I go to find God. The father said, "son, don't you know God is the same everywhere?" You don't need to go into the woods to find God.*

*Then the boys said, "God is the same everywhere. But I am not."*

I really love this story. I think I would want to repeat telling this story as often as I can. When I am at a park, or at the beach, or sitting in the backyard of the parsonage, I feel differently than if I were in Costco or at a restaurant. I certainly feel different when I am in the house of God. There is serenity, holiness, and a sense of humility that fills me when I enter the chancel. For this reason, I keep returning back to the church and love being there.

As we are returning back to a "new normal" life from Covid-19 ordeal, why don't we try to put God first in the "new normal" life? If your busy days have taken you away from practicing spiritual disciplines to be more attuned with God before Covid, why not take a control of your days and start practicing them again? Many churches are still struggling to have their members return back to their church. I don't think this is us but it is always good to remind ourselves. I think it's time to return to the woods. Oswald Chambers said, "the keys of the greater works" in our Christian lives is to pray. Prayer is not what prepares us for God's work but it is the greater work! Returning to the woods regularly is the greater work!

By the time you are reading this month's Courier, I should have finished the sermon series on 5 Essential Practices of Christian Walk: Worship & Prayer, Study the Scripture, Serve, Give and Sharing by Hamilton.

Like the boy, I suggest we return to the woods everyday/every week practicing 5 essential disciplines of Christian walk to find our God. I say on behalf of First UMC of Canoga park, "All Are Welcome & Welcome Back."

See you all soon~

*Rev. Shin-Pauill*



**Pastor**

Elaine Shin-Pauill

**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



# November 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 Church of Christ, Hall & Lounge, 6-10 pm  
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
- Friday Silicon Andhra, Rm.10 and Library, 5:30-7:30 pm  
Church of Christ, Hall & Lounge, 6-10 pm
- Saturday Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor 9:30 - noon

## Other Activities

- Tuesday 1 Boy Scouts Parent Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Saturday 5 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am  
*Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way*
- Tuesday 8 Boy Scouts Patrol Leaders Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Thursday 10 Memorial service for Irene Zelaya, 1:00 pm. All guests are invited to join the family for a luncheon at a local restaurant following the memorial service. Please contact the church office to RSVP for the luncheon.
- Fri-Sun 18-20 Boy Scouts Campout at Sage Ranch

## Coming in December

- Saturday 5 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am  
*Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way*

## Also in November

Our 2022 Charge Conference date is set for Nov. 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM. All forms are now available at the Cal-Pac Charge Conference page, with forms #1 through #7 due to be completed ONE WEEK PRIOR to the scheduled CC. Conference led Q&A session recorded video is available on [www.calpacumc.org/chargeconference](http://www.calpacumc.org/chargeconference). If you have any photos of the church ministries / gatherings / service, please email them to the church office by the first week of November. It will be used to create a video for the presentation of the Charge Conference.

## November Birthdays

- 1 Ken Dimmick
- 3 Tom Roe  
Chandra Seeger
- 4 Russ Amico
- 5 Sharon Mountford
- 9 Denise Lenore
- 10 Perla Mercado
- 11 Shawn Alvarado
- 12 Edwin Villacisneros
- 17 Ajae Magnaye
- 27 Jessica Williams
- 29 Noel Roberson
- 30 Midge Herder  
Doris Hood  
Henry Willauer

## Anniversaries

- 20 Janet & Eddy Lauredo

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



## November Flower Calendar

- 6 Open
- 13 Open
- 20 Doris Hood in  
*remembrance of Bill & Ana Bennett and Jack & Betty Barlow*
- 27 Open



United  
Women  
in Faith



## November Meeting

UWF Mission Team: Thursday, November 3 via Zoom at 10:00 am.



### UWF CAL-PAC 50th

Conference Annual Celebration was held virtually on Saturday, October 22. Our unit submitted the names of Grant & Trish Simmons for the Candle of Commitment. They were honored at the Virtual UWF Cal-Pac 50th Annual Celebration. The Candle burned for 1 minute

per honoree to honor the Mission-Minded Men and Women in Our Life.

### Faith Talk

I participated in a Faith Talk conversation with approximately 260 others on the topic "Forging a New Path." Author and former pastor Rebekah Simon-Peter discussed her book, which is a groundbreaking guidebook for the church in this post-pandemic period. As the prophet Ezekiel surveyed a valley of dry bones, God asked him, "Can these bones live?" His prophetic vision hinted at the lifelessness of worship hundreds of years ago. But today, we are grappling with this same question; "Can these bones live?" The author believes they can.

*Shirley Thomson*

*Confirm gatherings  
before you go.*

### Bookends

Thursday, November ?  
1:00 pm  
church parlor.  
Book Selections will be  
made for 2023.

### Sarah Circle

Thursday, November 10  
9:30 am  
Breakfast at Weilers Deli,  
22323 Sherman Way,  
near Shoup

### Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday,  
November 16, 6:30 pm  
Church Library.  
Chandra Seeger  
will provide the program  
and devotion

### Boy Scout – Valley Career College Yard Sale

Saturday, November 12...7am - 2 pm

If you have small household items to donate to the sale, please bring them to the church parlor on Friday, November 11th - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

If you need items picked up, call Mary (818)  
731-5972

to schedule a Boy Scout pick up.

### All Saints' Sunday, November 6, 2022

We will honor our loved ones who passed away this year on November 6 in the 10:00 am Sunday service. If you can't make it to the church but wish your church to call out your beloved, please send the name of the deceased to the church office by Nov. 2 to be included.

### Hangin' of the Greens & Pizza Lunch

Stay tuned for more information. It will most likely take place between Nov. 21 to Nov. 23.

## Financial Update

I'm pleased to update everyone that Sydney Thiroux, our Administrative Assistant, has been able to easily pick up all the check writing responsibilities over the last 30 days and is starting to get more comfortable with processing payroll.

Denise Lenore has graciously offered to oversee the remainder of the duties which will include bank reconciliations, journal entries, issuing financial statements in addition to yearly property tax paperwork from the LA County Assessor's office and Workman's Comp insurance audits – to mention some of the more important tasks. It will take a few months to get control of all these responsibilities as she learns what's entailed.

Thanks to both Sydney and Denise for taking over the many tasks that Marcela Rodriguez has done for several years! They are both off to a good start!

Because of all the changes in our financial team our financial statements have been late. Even though the first six-month statement is still a rough draft, after reviewing all the important categories I was pleased to see the income line items slightly higher than we originally expected in the budget and the expense categories were slightly smaller than we budgeted for. Thanks to everyone for your gifts and help in controlling expenses. It's working!

## Facilities Update

**Landscaping:** We continue to work on the irrigation system and during October we fixed two additional leaks. One caused from the Cell Tower Upgrade project and one near the outside wall of the Choir Room. We have noticed how quickly the grass recovers once the 90-110° weather cooled down. Thanks be to God!

**Fellowship Hall:** Last month I mentioned we were blessed with a designated gift which will enable us to do some maintenance on the FH kitchen. In October we were able to get the numerous kick plate tiles under the kitchen islands replaced along with some floor tiles. We're still looking for



*Fellowship Hall kitchen floor  
kick plates being repaired*

someone to do a deep cleaning of the stove before we conclude the work by installing a new garbage disposal.

Back in the summer we had a flood in one of the FH upstairs bathrooms. With the help of Ken Dimmick, we are making progress in transforming this space into a storage room. New flooring and baseboards will be installed sometime in November to complete the job. The other restroom is now a Uni-Sex bathroom.

**Homeless Problems:** We've seen a slight uptick in Homeless problems over the last 6 months, including a muscle builder who recently shaved his whole body in the main fountain! In mid-October we did about 5 extra sweeps of the property in hopes of keeping the problem at bay.

**Cell Site:** The Cell Tower upgrade is complete except for the sidewalk repair which Signature Towers is responsible for taking care of. We expect it to be complete by Thanksgiving. The church billed Signature Towers for the following: \$4,500 for the cherry picker being on our property (\$100/Day), \$1,030 for sprinkler repairs that was paid out to our gardener, \$500 for management fees to keep inspecting the property for damages, and \$1,000 toward the grass recovery.

*George Grengs*

## Preschool News

In November we look forward to Thanksgiving and our communal feast. The children will all participate in bringing and sharing food, and we'll include a canned food drive to help them understand about sharing on a larger scale. School will be closed on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday of Thanksgiving week.

*Wendy Finley*

## Thank You, Bishop Hagiya!

Bishop Grant Hagiya is retiring at the end of 2022, and as tribute and thanking him for his leadership, the Conference has established the Bishop Hagiya Leadership Fund, intended to support leadership initiatives for clergy and laity in our region. More information will be coming from DS Melissa on how we as a district can contribute as a team and honor the Bishop's legacy in this Conference.



## Altar Flower Dilemma!

The cost of a small altar arrangement, from florists in our area, is now \$65. and yet, you have probably noticed an abundance of flower arrangements and cut flowers in our local markets and stores that are much more reasonably priced.

If you would like to provide altar flowers on a given Sunday, we are suggesting several options to try, and what you need to do.

**First:** Sign up on the Flower Calendar for the date you would like or call the church office.

**Second:** Bring flowers for the altar from your garden on the Sunday you have requested, or...

Option 1: Purchase a flower arrangement or flowering plant & bring it on the Sunday requested.

or Option 2: Bring cut flowers to put into a vase on the Sunday requested. (vases are available in the church kitchen)

or Option 3: Send a check for \$65, marked "Altar flowers." Flowers will be ordered from a local florist.

We hope these options for providing altar flowers are helpful.

Questions? Contact Sydney in the church office 1(818) 340-2950 or Mary Mackay 1(818) 731-5872.

## Volunteers Needed

### Join our Audio and Video Team!

We need 4 to 5 members to rotate weekly to help ease the load of work that a couple of our members have been doing for over a decade. No experience is required!

## Parsonage Open House was a great success!

Thank you all for taking time to come to visit the Pastor's residence. We had about 40 of our church family, neighbors and friends visiting, and the parsonage was full! Thanks everyone for making this a success. We wished we have photos to show you...we were too busy having too much FUN! For a few of our members who couldn't make it, we will do it again~

Love and Hugs to you all!

*Rev. Elaine's Family*



And thanks to the Shin-Paull family for sharing their splendid-looking home and marvelous treats with all of us!

*The congregation*

# God is Calling us to be Faithful Stewards!

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

*– 1 Peter 4:10*

Our 2023 Stewardship program kicked off on Inspiration Sunday, October 23 with the distribution of stewardship packets before worship. If you didn't pick up your packet, it was mailed to you.

Your stewardship packet contains an estimate of giving card that gives you the opportunity to make a financial commitment for 2023. The projected totals help us develop the year's budget.

Here is this year's stewardship program schedule:

## **Gratitude Sunday, November 6**

Bring your completed estimate of giving card to be blessed during worship. Blank cards will also be available at the service. Cards can also be mailed in or dropped off at the church office. Your gifts are seen only by our financial secretaries.

## **Celebration Sunday, November 13**

The Stewardship Committee will share the initial totals for 2023. As a thank-you to supporters of First United Methodist Church, Canoga Park, there will be a drawing for gift cards from favorite local restaurants. Everyone who returns an estimate of giving card has an opportunity to receive a restaurant gift card; names are entered automatically.

Our stewardship program theme this year is "We Are Called to Be Stewards." That includes all of us, the entire church family. Everything we have is a gift from God, and good stewardship means gratefully returning a portion of our many gifts – our time, our talent, our treasure – to support the work of the church. And not just here in our corner of the West San Fernando Valley, but all over the world.

*Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
The Stewardship Committee:*

*Judith Austin and George Grengs co-chairs;  
JoAnn Chadwick, Dana Dreyfuss, Karen Grengs, Trish Simmons, Pastor Elaine Shin-Paull*



## **Live Streaming Available**

Live streaming of Sunday morning worship services are continuing. There are two different ways that you can access live streaming.

Visit <https://www.umccp.org/videos/> and the livestream will be at the top of the page. The livestream will begin a few minutes before the service starts on Sunday at 10 am.

Subscribe to Grant Simmons' YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/user/Spetet> and click on the bell icon to be notified when livestreams begin.

## **Nursery Attendant**

The church is still looking for a nursery attendant to take care of toddlers and young children during church services. Contact the church office if you might know someone who would be the perfect match for the job. A description of the job can be e-mailed to any possible candidates.



**FOOD  
PANTRY**

*Remember to  
bring food for the  
West Valley  
Food Pantry on  
Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of  
every month.*

# Christmas Poinsettias



It's the time of the year for us to honor someone by sponsoring a beautiful Christmas Poinsettia plant to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas.

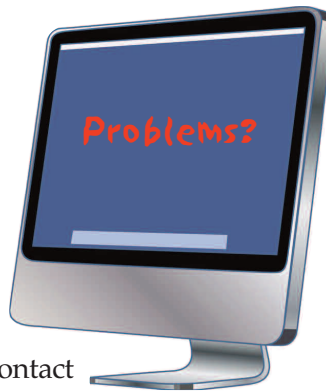
The church office will have order forms available during office hours and at Sunday worship.

Orders are due on December 4.

Please call the church office for more information.

## 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](mailto:george@valterra.com)  
or 818.632.7538.*

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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](https://smile.amazon.com). Select Canoga Park First United Methodist Church as your charity.

Remember to start at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to support the church.



### Travel Mercies

Anita and Louis Parrinello  
Denise Lenore

### Loss of Loved Ones

Family of Irene Zelaya  
Family of Maureen  
Angelinetta  
Family of Barbara Dimmick  
Family of Robin Foreman

### Physical Healing

Brenda Jones  
Helen Robertson, Covid  
Kelly (Tim & Lora's  
daughter)  
Laurie Berger  
Nancy Summer  
Rosalind (Shirley Thomson's  
daughter-in-law)

### Challenges in Life

Billy (Chuck Mabry's  
brother)  
Those who are affected by  
Hurricane Ian:  
Ben & Coreen Avisani,  
(Robert & Flo's friends)  
For the people of Ukraine

### Joy

Robert and Flo Lamb  
New grandson, Liam, born 15  
October 2022  
Pastor Elaine & Gid,  
Recovery from Covid

Send prayer requests to  
Anita Parrinello  
([lwo2bjedi@gmail.com](mailto:lwo2bjedi@gmail.com))  
and CC Pastor Elaine  
([eshinpauill@gmail.com](mailto:eshinpauill@gmail.com))



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**Return Service Requested**