



The Courier

First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Church 818.340.2950

Preschool 818.340.6639

E-mail: crossandflame@att.net

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

Pastor: eshinpaul@gmail.com

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

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

September 2022

From the Pastor's Desk...

Happy September! I have been spending my first couple of months visiting or calling, getting to know our congregation. Thanks to Sydney who's been coordinating the calls, I have been able to squeeze in more visits. It's been my pleasure learning how kind, dedicated and supportive people you are – and some of you come with a great sense of humor. I appreciate your time and sharing your life stories with me.

I plan to end the regular visitations in mid-October with the Parsonage Open House on October 16th following the Sunday church worship service. You all are invited to swing by the parsonage to sit and chat with my family over some coffee and finger food. We would love to show you around!

As I began ministry here, a passage from Isaiah was put on my heart when I lifted the church in my prayers:

This is what the Lord says—
he who made a way through the sea,
a path through the mighty waters,
who drew out the chariots and horses,
the army and reinforcements together,
and they lay there, never to rise again,
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls,
because I provide water in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland,

to give drink to my people, my chosen,
the people I formed for myself
that they may proclaim my praise.

Isaiah 43:16-21



Pastor

Elaine Shin-Paull

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

Continued on page 4

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays

- 2 Donald Heim
- 10 Rebecca Roe
- 17 Josh Gardner
Flo Lamb
Sydney Thiroux
- 18 Dominic Bautista
Marion Henry-Karponsov
- 19 Ginger Huston
- 30 George Grengs

Anniversaries

- 7 Byron & Mary McKibben

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



September Flower Calendar

- 4 Open
- 11 Nancy & Roger Johnson in memory of Laura's birthday
- 18 Open
- 25 Open

To make arrangements for Altar Flowers, please call Sydney, in the church office, 818-340-2950, Mary Mackay, 818-731-5872 or sign up on the flower calendar in the parlor.

September 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 Church of Christ, Hall & Lounge, 6-10 pm
- Saturday Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor 9:30 - noon

Other Activities

- Saturday 3 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am
Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way
- Tuesday 6 Boy Scouts Parent Committee Meeting at 7 pm
- Tuesday 13 Boy Scouts Patrol Leaders Council Meeting at 7 pm
- Fri-Sun 16-18 Boy Scouts Beach Campout at Chailo Flats
- Thursday 29 Boy Scouts Courts of Honor, 7 pm

Coming in October

- Saturday 1 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am
Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way



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.



United
Women
in Faith



September Meetings

UWF Mission Team: Monday, September 12 at 10:00 am via Zoom

UWF General Meeting: TBA

UWF North District Annual Celebration: Saturday, September 24,
Virtually

Topic will be "Healing and Joy on our Journey with God"

CAL-PAC Conference 50th Annual Celebration: Saturday, October 22.
An in-person event is being planned.

School Safety For All

I participated in a Faith Talk Webinar on this subject. In the wake of the Uvalde school shooting, communities around the country are rushing to "harden" schools with increased police presence.

But will these efforts really make school safe for students of color who are already over-policed, or will it strengthen the school-to-prison pipeline? There were two guest speakers: Sheri Brady, Vice President of Strategy and Program for the Children's Defense Fund and Emily Jones, United Women in Faith Executive for Racial Justice.

One thing I learned is that there are Freedom Schools, some churches have these schools. What are they? They were formed in the 1960's during the 1964 Freedom Summer in Mississippi They were intended to counter the sharecropper education received by so many African Americans and poor whites. Nearly 40 freedom schools were established serving close to 2500 students, including parents and grandparents. Through reading, writing, arithmetic, history and civics, participants received a progressive curriculum during a six-week summer program designed to prepare disenfranchised African Americans to become active political actors on their own behalf (as voters, elected officials, organizers, etc.). They mentioned that children who have participated in after-school activities are usually more well-rounded. Some churches have Freedom Schools which provide summer enrichment for the children.

Shirley Thomson

*Confirm gatherings
before you go.*

Bookends

Thursday, September 22

1:00 pm

church parlor.

The book entitled
Cloud Cuckoo-Land
by Anthony Doerr
will be reviewed by
Glynene Roe.

Sarah Circle

Thursday, September 8

9:30 am

Breakfast at Weilers Deli,
22323 Sherman Way,
near Shoup

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday,

September 21, 6:30 pm

Church Library.

Trish Simmons will
present the program
and devotion.



Preschool News

Hard to believe but another year of school has started. We still have some Covid restrictions to contend with, but we have a great group of new and returning families for this semester. As always, the first week of school brings lots of smiles and also some tears as our students learn to go off without their parents on the new adventure known as school. Here's hoping for a great year.

Wendy Finley



From the Pastor's Desk, cont. from pg1

God has been doing "new things" from the Beginning. Giving his unutterable name YHWH at the Burning Bush was the epitome of his doing new things. God has led his people continuously and He has never stopped introducing new ways of doing new things.

God wants to do new things at First UMC of Canoga Park.

How do I know? It's obvious. Our world is not the same. So much has changed pre-Covid, during Covid and post Covid. Every time we blink our eye, some things have changed by someone in our world. That's the reality. Some famous theologian said that by the time churches come to realize its need for change they are already five years behind by the time changes are made.

There is one thing remains the same for us, and that is our calling. Our calling is to proclaim His praise. Even the "wild animals honor me(God), jackals and the owls, because I (God) provide water andto give drink to my people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise."

We shall be a church proclaiming and praising God and His work. That's the goal and purpose of our church.

At His Service,
Rev. S-Paull

Introducing New Attendance Card

Starting in September, we would like to try using a new Attendance Card instead of the sign-in system we've been using as a protocol for Covid. You write your name and check the boxes accordingly. You do not need to fill out addresses or phone number if the church office has all of your information (unless you need to update anything). It can also be a way to communicate with the church office or pastor or the staff. You turn to the back of the card and you will find there are places for you to write notes. We will communicate church's needs on the back as well. We ask that you fill it up and drop it into the offering plate every Sunday for attendance.

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park
Attendance Card

Date: _____ 10:00 am

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____

___Member of this church ___Guest for the first time
___Regular attendee ___Repeat guest
___Change in contact info ___Request a call

We want to celebrate your important days with you!
Birthday: _____ Anniversary: _____

Turn to Back →

Note to Pastor: _____

Note to Music Director: _____

Note to Church Office: _____

Add me to the monthly newsletter (*The Courier*) email list using this email address (please print legibly):

Contact me about opportunities to serve (check all that apply):

Audio/Visual team: ____

Facilities Team: ____

Fellowship: ____

Sharing Musical Talents: ____

Child care/Nursery: ____

Please place completed card in the offering plate as it is passed.

Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship Winners Report

This letter is from Debbie (Driggs) Fox, a close friend and classmate of our daughter Susan. She knew and remembers Laura very well.

Nancy Johnson

I appreciate your keeping us in the loop about (my nephew) Benjamin (Driggs) and his receiving the Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship. I thought that maybe you would be interested in what my kids have done since receiving the Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship as well.

Jameson Fox (2009 Recipient) graduated from Brigham Young University (BYU) in 2010 with bachelor's degrees in International Relations as well as Chinese, and a minor in Arabic. He spent 10 months studying Chinese at Nanjing Normal University in China – with a scholarship from the Chinese government. He also spent 4 months in Amman, Jordan with a study abroad group from BYU. He went back the following year as a TA for the same study abroad program in Jordan. He then went on to George Washington University Law School. He was a lawyer for a company that did international media contracts. He is now working at DISH network doing media contract work. He is married to a Chinese woman and they have three children.

Kiira Fox (2009 Recipient): Graduated from BYU with a bachelor's degree in Sociology. She went on for a master's degree in Sociology from BYU. She then got a law degree from the University of Washington, earning an LLM as well. She works for a law firm that does defense appeal work. She has one child.

Danielle Fox (2010-2011 Recipient): Graduated from BYU with a degree in Dietetics. She is now a registered dietician, having done her certification in Texas. She is married and the mother of four.

I truly appreciate this scholarship program and the help it gave to our children!

Debbie Fox



Sunday morning, August 14, Darrell Thomson was present at the worship service and shared his myriad experiences since he was awarded one of the first two Laura Longman Memorial Scholarships in 1985.

Greeting old friends in the foyer after church with Roger and Nancy Johnson and Pastor Elaine

Darrell Thomson (1985 Recipient) graduated from Loyola Marymount University and started his career as a laboratory technician at the VA Medical Center in Sepulveda. He worked in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Basic Sleep Research laboratories, co-authored 5 research journal publications.

In 2003, he became the supervisor of the Neurology Research Division at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix.

In 2015, Darrell was hired by Weill Cornell Medicine in Qatar as the Associate Director of Operations where he oversaw their Research Laboratory Facilities.

On his return to the states in 2017, he served as a grant management specialist for UC San Diego. Since 2021, he has been at the University of Arizona, College of Medicine in Phoenix.



Facilities Update

Landscaping: Water reduction projects - we continue to work on replacing any leaking sprinkler heads and positioning them better for improved coverage and fewer brown spots. Our next effort will be to make sure all sprinkler heads do not extend up higher than ground level and are protected in case they are hit by a tire. We've had a couple of instances where there has been flooding because of broken sprinkler heads!

We're pleased to announce that Devon Cates has volunteered to manage the sprinkler system, including the timers, and identifying leaks and problem areas. Thanks Devon!!

Fellowship Hall: On August 15th we had about 40 damaged asphalt tiles replaced in the Fellowship Hall hallway and professionally cleaned and waxed the hallway, Foyer, and both bathrooms.

Cell Site: An upgrade to 5G is being made to the T-Mobile cell site on our property. Everyone has probably seen the cherry picker which is being used to get the work done. The church will be receiving some additional monies for leaving the cherry picker on the church property during the work. In addition, they will be paying for any damages to the sprinkler system or property. This should all be complete by the end of August.

Parsonage: The chips have been spread along the parkway area between curb and sidewalk. It looks much improved. In mid-August, the new oven which was ordered about 120 days ago, arrived and was installed.

George Grengs



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

Sundays, the first Sunday of every month.

Financial Update

Last month we were in discussions with two new churches who had an interest in the Fellowship Hall Gym/Lounge. I'm glad to say that one of those churches has signed a lease - Church of Christ. They are a Philippine-based congregation of about 100 members who will be meeting on Friday and Tuesday nights between 6-10pm. We have also had an inquiry from one of our past rental groups, Silicon Andhra, who runs an Indian language school. Every new user group is a blessing for us and will help us keep the property in good condition. If you know of any non-profits looking for space, please put out the word that we have space to rent at reasonable prices!

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.

Fellowship Time

Following our morning worship service, we have the opportunity to enjoy meeting new people, visiting with fellow worshippers and talking with long-time friends.

In the past, before Covid, we enjoyed a table full of refreshments to eat as we visited. Then, during the reopening we were encouraged to only provide packaged foods.

What would you like?

What type of refreshments do you enjoy?

What suggestions could you offer to help make our fellowship time special.

What refreshments are your favorites?

Share your thoughts and ideas. Is there one Sunday a month you would like to help provide your favorite snack for the Fellowship Time?

Many thanks, Mary Mackay, 818-731-5872.



From the Mailbox

Moving is like jumping from a cliff into cold water far below. You plunge deeply into the water, gulp fresh air at the surface, and swim to shore. Then, you settle down on the beach with towels, lunch, and shade.

We are safely in Shoreline near our granddaughter and family, but not yet settled. Getting comfortable is harder when you are unpacking as few boxes as possible at a temporary address.

You celebrated our time together in remarkable ways. You planned a joy-filled and fun luncheon, the first such gathering since COVID. You shared words of appreciation and love and gave us many generous gifts. Thank you for every blessing.

We thank God every time we remember you.

Mizpah, *Lynn and Stan Westover*

Gail Engberg Stone has let us know her Mother, Virgene Engberg passed away August 17. She was 97 years young and a longtime member of our church. This is a difficult time for Gail - her husband, Bruce, passed away in January.

Condolences to Gail and the Engberg Family may be sent to

Gail Stone, 393 Hays Cutoff Road, Cave Junction, OR 97523.

In Memoriam – Barbara Dimmick

16 Jun 1934 – 10 August 2022



Barbara received her education in Hastings, Nebraska and attended a Baptist Church, singing in the choir and teaching Sunday school. She married Stan Dimmick, her high school sweetheart, in 1953. She served as Vice President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and received the Mrs. J. C. of the Year award as well as being Campaign Chairman of the State Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The family moved to California in 1958, where she was President of Enadia Way PTA, a Den Mother for the Cub Scouts and active in the Brownies with her daughter. She worked as head cashier at Penny's, T.J. Maxx and worked on the books for Stan's auto repair shop. They were married for 64 years and were the parents of three boys and 1 girl and have 9 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

Barbara enjoyed cooking, camping and her church. She became a member of UMW in 1998, serving as Treasurer and President, and as a member of Sarah Circle. She was on the Church Council, the Education Committee and was active in Leisure Club.

Recently Barbara has been living in a care home under the watchful eye of her daughter-in-law, Lori Dimmick. Memorial services are being planned.



Laurie Berger
Kelly O'Connor
Toby's daughter
Nancy Summer
Chuck Mabry
Bernie Godwin
Paula Slatten
Ken and Lori Dimmick
Tom Quist
Rosalie
(Dana Dreyfuss' siser)
Rosalind Thomson
Natalie and Chris
Ryan
(Geri Allen's
great nephew)
Gail Engberg

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



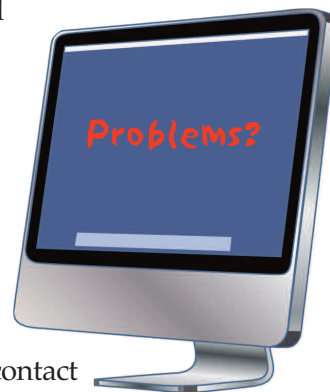
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Return Service Requested

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 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
or 818.632.7538.*