



The Courier

First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

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website: www.umccp.org

Preschool: 818.340.6639

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

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

January 2017

Heart to Heart

New Year's Resolutions can be a pass/fail sort of thing for people. You decide to do or not do whatever it is. But two weeks into the New Year, you slip up and feel like you failed. So you give up.

I have found a better way forward. Take it one day at a time. It is more helpful to grow forward in a sequence of one-time actions.

If you decide to *Be grateful*, pick a day and count your blessings. If you decide to *Be at peace*, pick a day and say, *Today I am going to live a day of peace and calm.*

More difficult things work the same way. For example, if you decide to *Forgive others*, it's not that you somehow muster up all your courage and will to forgive each and every person who has hurt you or done wrong to you. It is that you forgive one time with one person. One time, for some specific event, you forgive one person who has hurt you. Then, you do another one-time. And another one-time. And you are on your way.

Some months ago, I decided to *Be healthy* one day at a time. I say to myself each day: *Eat at home more, Eat out less, Eat fruits and vegetables, Make healthy choices, and Exercise.* Some days go well – some not so much. But the very next day, I get a *Do over*, because it's one day at a time. And I am making good progress.

Consider growing yourself this year one day at a time. There are many things you might choose, including the following. Be mindful. Breathe. Drink enough water. Enjoy life. Forgive yourself. Forgive others. Get enough sleep. Give yourself time. Have fun. Listen. Love yourself. Love one another. Pray. Read the Bible. Relax. Serve someone. Smile. Take a break. Think before speaking. Take a walk.

Try one day at a time. You'll like it.

Pastor Lynn Westover



Pastor

Lynn Westover

Preschool Director

Wendy Finley

**Music Director/
Accompanist**

Paul Cady

**Christian Education
Director**

Margaret Cates

**Administrative
Assistant**

Julie Mosley

Courier Editor
Sharon Mountford



Resident Bishop

Grant Hagiya

**North District
Superintendent**

Rev. Jim Powell



January Calendar

Weekly Activities

- Sunday Peace Evangelical Church, Hall, 9:30 am
Hindi Urdu UMC, Sanctuary, 5:00 pm
- Monday Cub Pack, Scout Room, 7:00 pm
Monday Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor, 8:00 pm
- Tuesday Shower Ministry, 8:30 am - noon
Boy Scouts, Scout Room, 7:00 pm
Tuesday Narcotics Anonymous, Hall, 8:00 pm
- Wednesday Men's Stag AA meeting, Parlor, 7:00 pm
- Thursday Choir rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:30 pm

Other Activities

- Sunday 1 New Year's Day. Worship at 10:00 am
- Monday 2 New Year's Day observed. Office closed
- Tuesday 3 Leisure Club, Lounge, 11:00 am
- Thursday 5 UMW Mission Team Meeting, Room 10, 10:00 am
- Saturday 7 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Thursday 12 Bookends, Library, 9:30 am
Sarah's Circle; Denny's, 9:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Tuesday 10 Administrative Committee, Library, 7:00 pm
- Sunday 15 Courier Deadline for February issue
- Monday 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, office closed
- Tuesday 17 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am
- Wednesday 18 Faith, Hope Love, Library, 7:00 pm
- Sunday 22 UMW Sunday during worship, 10:00 am

Upcoming in February

- Saturday 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Tuesday 7 Leisure Club, Lounge, 11:00 am

Directory Changes

Sharon Mountford

The new pictorial directories were still hot off the press, when a glaring error was noted. The phone number for the church office is 818-340-2950, not as I had typed it with inverted digits.

We will try to keep you informed as any changes to member information reaches the office.

Shirley Thomson has a new cell phone: 818-456-3470.

Birthdays

- 3 Robert Hromadka
- 4 Ralph Knapp
- 13 Joan Kelley
- 14 Mary McKibben
- 15 Sylvia Buttemeier
- 21 Lora O'Connor
- 22 William Landrum
- 25 Mervin Hewitt
- 26 Brian Finley
- 26 John Willauer
- 30 JoAnne McColloch
- 31 Mary Mackay

Anniversaries

- 26 Dean & Carolyn Lottman
- 29 Lois & Ted Jimenez

If your special day is missing, please contact the church office.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Flower Calendar for 2017 is posted in the Parlor. Please sign up for any special days when you would like to honor someone with altar flowers.

- 1 Open
- 8 Open
- 15 Liz Rogers *in honor of the ushers*
- 22 Open
- 29 Open



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW Mission Team

January 5, 2017 at 10:00 am...Room 10

UMW Sunday...January 22, 2017

Angel Tree Report

Many thanks to everyone involved in making the 2016 Angel Tree a success. All those who helped prepare the angels for the Angel Tree by putting the names on the angel decorations; helping on Sunday mornings with the sign-ups; carrying the gifts to the Brides Room; Tim O'Connor & Stan Westover, who helped prepare the gifts for pickup; to all the persons who took the angels (82 of them) and bought the presents. It was greatly appreciated. Thanks to all for participating in this most worthwhile project

Silver Tea Recap

The 43rd UMW annual Christmas Silver Tea was held December 3. It was a huge success with approximately 65 persons attending. Invitations were extended to Chatsworth West UMC, Northridge UMC, Reseda UMC and Woodland Hills UMC. Representatives from three of the four churches attended. The entertainment was provided by our very own "Men In Black," Paul Cady and Scott Spindel. A Freewill Offering was taken for our Good Samaritan Fund and a check for \$500.00 was given to that fund. Many thanks to Grace Leighton who chaired this event and to all those helpers that contributed to its success including the youth who helped with the

servicing. Many compliments have been received.



Bookends at their December dinner out



Chairman Grace, guests and servers



Circle Meetings

Bookends

Thursday, January 12

9:30 am

Church Library

Book: *City Bakers Guide to City Living* by Louise Miller

Reviewer: Glynene Roe and

Hostess: Virgene Engberg

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday, January 18

7:00 pm

Church Library

Hostesses: Beulah Hajek and Shirley Thomson

Sarah Circle

Thursday, January 12

9:30 am

Breakfast at Denny's
8330 Topanga Canyon Blvd.
(north of Roscoe Blvd.)



Leisure

Club

Tuesday
January 3
11:00 am
Lounge

The Leisure Club enjoyed having the preschool children sing for them at their December meeting

Lora says Leisure Clubbers will open the "JAR."
Bring a potluck dish to share.
Don't forget the shower ministry collection.

Preschool News

The Christmas program we had on Wednesday, Dec 14th was inspiring. It was heartwarming to see all our Preschoolers singing for their families! Thank you to our church family for coming to watch us sing! A good time was had by all.

As you are reading this, we are enjoying our Winter break! Our first day back to school will be Monday, January 9, 2017, ready and refreshed for a new year! It's a good time for parents to start their little ones who weren't ready in September, but now can start Preschool.

We will observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 16th.

Happy New Year!

Wendy



Leisure Club



Christmas Program

From the Mailbox



First United Methodist Church,

Taking a moment to keep
in touch,

Because you're thought
about so much.

I wish to express sincere appreciation to the church for the copy of the 2016-17 Directory you recently mailed to me. I have many fond memories of experiences and activities in the church and the many friends there.

Each month I look forward to receiving a copy of the Courier, Thank you so much for this service. It always gives me a "lift."

With all best wishes and blessings on you & yours,
Sabra Pittenger

On behalf of the scouts and families of Troop and Cub Pack 474, I wholeheartedly wish all of the First United Methodist Church community a blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. May the light and love of the Reason for the Season be with you now and always. We are grateful for your 55 years of sustaining sponsorship, friendship and support.

Robert Rees, Scoutmaster

Our Audio Visual Ministry Needs You

Audio Visuals enhance worship in remarkable ways. Carefully selected art interprets the theme for the day. And many people find it easier to follow the liturgy and sing the hymns during the service. We need additional people to join the team.

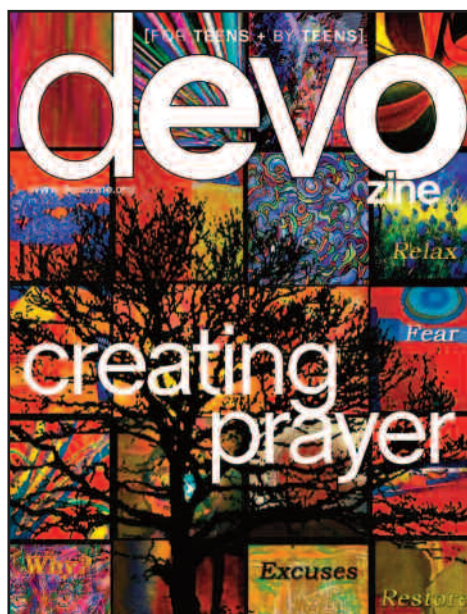
Since Trish and Grant Simmons will be out-of-town mid-January to mid-February, there is an immediate need for volunteers to step forward.

Grant is always willing to help someone learn how to do this ministry. Contact Grant Simmons, Pastor Lynn or the church office to join the team.

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

During worship on Sunday, January 15, you are welcome to reaffirm your Baptismal Covenant. The Baptismal Covenant is God's word to us, proclaiming our adoption by grace, and our word to God promising our response of faith and love.

Christians are encouraged to reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant from time to time. Such reaffirmation is not, however, to be understood as the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is not administered to any person more than once, for while our baptismal vows may be less than reliable, God's promise to us in the sacrament is steadfast.



The Upper Room

The publishers of The Upper Room also have other devotional publications which may be of interest to your family.

Devozine

Written by teens for teens ...

<http://devozine.upperroom.org>

Pockets

A fun devotional magazine for children ages 6-12

... <http://pockets.upperroom.org/>

Remembering Chuck Engberg

6 December 1922 – 30 November 2016

The church celebrated the life of Chuck Engberg on December 7.

Charles John Engberg, the second of eight children, was born 6 December 1922 in Racine, Wisconsin to William and Lydia Engberg. After graduation from Washington Park High School in 1941, Chuck worked as an electrician at Young Radiator Company in Racine. In the fall of 1942, he started college at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.



Then, Pearl Harbor and World War II changed everything. In January 1943, Chuck entered service as a Cadet for the Army Air Corps. After Basic Training, he was sent to Portland, Oregon for a special one-year pre-meteorology program. When he completed this program and Officers Training in North Carolina, he attended Communication Officers School at Yale University. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps in November 1944 and sent to Midland Army Air Base in Texas. Later he was posted to an air base south of Calcutta, India. While driving to an ordnance depot for supplies, a tire blew out, the truck rolled over, and Chuck woke up in the hospital. He received a medical discharge in June 1946.

In the fall, Chuck enrolled at the University of Wisconsin with majors in Physics and Education. He ate three meals a day, six days a week at the eating co-op called Three Squares, where he met Virgene. Study dates became “dates” and they became engaged. A bout of the mumps forced postponement of the wedding until Valentine’s Day in 1948.

Chuck and Virgene moved to California in November 1952 with their sons, Mark and Eric. Their daughter Gail was born in California. They lived in several places in Southern California before settling in West Hills in 1959.

Chuck is survived by Virgene; Eric Engberg and Jackie Valentine, and Gail and Bruce Stone; four

grandchildren - Richard, Matthew, Mike, Eden; four great-grandchildren - Myles, Maysie, Ashley, Alexandra; and one great-great-grandchild. Their son Mark died in 2012.

Chuck worked fifteen years in the Nuclear Division of North American Aviation in Downey, California. Later, the division became Atomics International and relocated to Canoga Park. In 1957, he switched from Technical Information and Publication to doing research in solid-state physics and ceramics. CJ also taught physics and math classes at Pierce College, Canyon High School in Saugus and Southwest College. He retired in June 1989.

He was a Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader. He took Eric fishing and all the neighborhood kids surfing. Chuck bought the very first Apple products. He enjoyed photography and working with wood.

CJ was intelligent, open-minded, tolerant, always kind, and friendly. He was curious about other people – about their lives and culture. At campgrounds, Chuck encouraged the family to go and introduce themselves to everyone. Dad would say, “Everyone’s your friend after you meet them.”

The Engbergs shared many interests, including playing Bridge and square dancing. Chuck loved visiting the national parks and leading Sierra Club hikes in the mountains. He and Virgene belonged to a group of RV’ers who owned Airstreams and travelled all over the world. They took Sierra Club Trips from 1972-1985 and 41 Elderhostel trips that included 7 in foreign countries between 1990-2009.

From the beginning, the church has been an important part of their life together. Chuck and Virgene met at Three Squares at Wesley Foundation in the Methodist Student center and were married in a Methodist Church. They have been members of First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park since 1961. Chuck helped pound nails to build the sanctuary and later helped with fellowship hall. In recent years, he enjoyed the monthly Men’s Breakfast.

Chuck lived with Alzheimer's for a long time. And so, even though we are sad at his death, we are also grateful for the healing he received when he went home to be with God just before his 94th birthday.

Chuck liked singing I Love to Tell the Story. They sang it together the last time Virgene visited. This is the last stanza of that hymn.

*I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.*

Human Relations Sunday

Emma Wooten, 85, jotted down her prayers with Scriptures and put them in her Bible. Then she prayed over the list and asked God to provide.

Her list was simple — but impossible for her to accomplish alone. Wooten's home was in dire need of repair. She had tried to insulate her water-damaged house with cereal boxes. Ceilings buckled under a leaky roof. Electrical wiring was unsafe.

Thanks to Partners in Ministry (PIM), Wooten's prayers were answered. PIM, explained the Rev. Anna Troy, "reaches people where they are and works with them to achieve their goals."

Three main areas of focus include urgent home repair, an after-school program for at-risk children and youth and a resource/referral center for area families. A community garden provides fresh, healthy food for people of all ages.

"Within each of these ministries," Troy said, "education is a key component" to equip people "to work their way out of difficult situations." In 2015-16, PIM provided urgent home repairs to more than 40 families, fed over 4,000 families and mentored more than 300 children.

As God answered the octogenarian's prayers, the PIM mission team from Canaan United Methodist Church, Winston-Salem, N.C., also benefited. "The team and our coordinators," Troy said, "were extremely blessed by Emma's love, thankfulness and faith in God."

Generous gifts on Human Relations Day enable Partners in Ministry and other Christ-centered programs to reach out to Emma Wooten and other people who long only for helping hands and loving hearts.



**Your gift encourages acceptance
of all of God's children.**



Darren
Betty May
Dixie Smith
Ruth Albrecht
Elmo Maiden
Maxine McAuley
Charlotte Girvan
Martin Shuler
Margaret Cates
Virgene Engberg
Grace Leighton's mother,
Doratheia Whitten
Barbara & Stan Dimmick
Jasper & Doris Hood
Ted Jimenez
LaDean Owen
Coral Harper



To receive Prayer Chain
e-mails, please contact
Robin Abernathy at
robingreenbird@yahoo.com
"cc" the church office at
crossandflame@att.net

Memorial Garden

Interment in our
Memorial Garden
is open to all who
request it.



You are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items on the first Sunday of every month.

Your much-appreciated contributions are taken to the West Valley Food Pantry for distribution to their clients.

Transportation Ministry

If you need a ride to church events, or if you are interested in becoming a driver for the transportation ministry, please contact JoAnn Chadwick-Ellis at 818-280-6441 or Mary Mackay at 818-346-5872.



Return Service Requested

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