



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: firstumccp@gmail.com

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 2022

Heart to Heart

Happy Fall

Did you know that fall started on Sept. 22? It's difficult to feel it with the heat that we endured for many months! Here is what I am thinking for this season:

"Panting, Preaching and Singing"

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God..."

Psalms 42:1-11

An Antidote to "Boredom" is to "Get Outside of Yourself."

Did you know that many teens/people complain that they suffer from boredom? The boredom can be a symptom of emptiness, a sign of emotional thirst, a sign of no goals, a sign of deeper longing, which then leads into other kinds of problems. Do any of you feel bored? Or do you know anyone around you who complains that they are bored? Are you finding yourself binge watching Netflix series? Or on a call chatting without going anywhere with the conversation?

In my mother's land, fall is considered a Season for Reading. I learned later that Fall actually isn't the season for reading. The Sales of books decline drastically in the Fall from those in Summer, in fact. It was campaigned in 1920 to encourage the people of the land to learn Japanese. I won't go into details here – maybe next time...

After one Sunday worship, a couple of members came to me and shared some wonderful insights. One said, "When I get bored, I go find someone to help!" This person is a smart man. He knows how important it is to get outside himself and reach out in love to others in the spirit of Christ. When we see our lives as a partnership with God, we can be better at dealing with the emptiness that only God can fill.

So how about picking up a book or two to read during this Fall? Or go find someone to help?

Faithfulness to Fruitfulness,
Rev. Elaine S-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



October 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 Siliconandhra, 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

- Saturday 3 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, 8:30 am
Weiler's Restaurant on Sherman Way
- Tuesday 4 Boy Scouts Parent Committee Meeting, 7 pm
- Tuesday 11 Boy Scouts Patrol Leaders Meeting, 7 pm
- Sunday 16 Open House at the Parsonage
- Fri-Sun 21-23 Boy Scouts Campout at Camp Three Falls

Coming in November

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

October Birthdays

- 2 Geri Allen
Jackie Gardner
P. J. Umphres
- 4 Lirio Del Rosario
Marcela Rodriguez
- 7 Sarah Alderman
Jenny Ervin
- 9 Paul Cady
Erin Landrum
- 13 Glynene Roe
- 15 Lou Mountford
- 19 Trish Simmons
- 21 Laverna Baker
- 22 Dave Perry
- 24 Paula Slatten
- 30 Beulah Hajek
Marie Smith

Anniversaries

- 6 Pat & Gerald Rowe
- 12 Bill Satterlee & Ginger
Huston
- 15 Tammy & Matt
Palmerlee
- 21 Russ & Lindy Amico

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

October Flower Calendar

- 2 Open
- 9 Open
- 16 Doris Hood *in remembrance of Jasper E. Hood's birthday*
- 23 Robert & Flo Lamb *in honor of their Mothers' birthdays*
- 30 Selina Cho

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



Open House at the Parsonage Sunday, October 16

You are invited to the parsonage for fellowship after the Sunday worship service.

Pastor Elaine and her family are inviting you to come by for snacks and drinks at the parsonage. Fellowship is an extension of worship.

We hope you can come and join the fellowship.

Time: 11:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Address: 22167 Bryant Street, West Hills, CA 91304



United
Women
in Faith



October Meetings

UWF Mission Team: TBA

UWF General Meeting: Will be held for the first time in a couple of years.

Thursday, October 6 in the Parlor

9:30 am for fellowship and 10:00 am for meeting.

Topic will be World Thank Offering which is an opportunity for individuals to respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude.

CAL-PAC Conference 50th Annual Celebration: Saturday, October 22.

An in-person event is being planned at

Pasadena First United Methodist Church. 9:00 am - 3:00pm

Quiet Disciple Award – 2022



The Canoga Park 1st UWF unit selected Charyl Patterson as the person to receive the UWF 2022 Quiet Disciple Award. Although Charyl passed away early this year, she was acknowledged at the North District UWF Annual Meeting, held virtually on September 24, along with the other recipients. Charyl was UWF's Sunshine person for a number of years and sent cards to the church membership for their birthdays, anniversaries, get well cards and prayers. etc. She was grateful for the card ministry that

filled her life with purpose and loved God, her Family, her friends and her Church family.

Resisting Criminalization of Black Children

I recently attended a webinar on this subject. Over 280 persons attended this webinar in which we had a conversation with Professor Kristin Henning. Her new book is entitled "The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth." She writes about her 26 years defending Black children prosecuted for various offenses. In her book she takes a deep dive into adolescent psychology, the racially disparate responses to normal teenage behavior, etc.

Shirley Thomson

*Confirm gatherings
before you go.*

Bookends

Thursday, October 27

1:00 pm

church parlor.

The book entitled

Lincoln Highway

by Amor Towles

will be reviewed by

Doris Hood.

Sarah Circle

Thursday, October 13

9:30 am

Breakfast at Weilers Deli,

22323 Sherman Way,

near Shoup

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday, October 19,

6:30 pm

Church Library.

Anita Parrinello will

present the program and

devotion.

Membership in UWF is open to all

If you are interested in joining, please contact

President,

Shirley Thomson

at 818-348-0414.

Preschool News

As we get back into the swing of things, we just had our Fall pictures taken. We do school pictures in the Spring as well, the parents love to see how their child has changed.

Our modified Halloween parade will be held on Thursday, Oct 27th. Things are still very different, but we're making the best of it.

We are still doing tours and building enrollment. If you know of anyone that needs Preschool, please pass on our information.

Wendy Finley

UMCOR News

UMCOR, our denomination's disaster response arm, has raised more than \$27 million so far to help people affected by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Despite the tumultuous times in which we are living, we are still continuing to live out our faith as United Methodists.

Financial Update

Church of Christ began using the Fellowship Hall, Gym and Lounge twice weekly and Siliconandhra (an Indian Language school) began using two of the sanctuary offices in September. These two rentals will increase our yearly building income budget line item by \$25k/year. Every new user group is a blessing for us and helps us keep the facilities properly maintained.

Marcela Rodriguez, who has faithfully worked as the church treasurer for about 10 years expressed her interest in stepping away from the position earlier this summer. During Covid she was promoted to a new position which has required substantial hours beyond normal and has made finding time to volunteer difficult. We are pleased to see Marcela's career move forward and thank her for many years of faithful service!!

With this change we began training our Administrative Assistant Sydney Thiroux to take over the payroll and check writing responsibilities and to make sure each invoice has proper backup before the checks are written.

In addition, Denise Lenore has volunteered to take over the remainder of Marcela's position which will include doing bank reconciliations and learning QuickBooks so she can handle payroll taxes, end of period adjustments and producing financial statements. We are blessed that Denise has stepped up to take over these church responsibilities!

Facilities Update – Landscaping

Water reduction projects continue. In September we finished repairing or replacing many of the large sprinkler heads that were leaking. Some of these problems were the sprinkler head and some were the connections to the galvanized fittings below. We had to tap some new threads into the galvanized fittings because of the 60 years of corrosion! In addition, we raised or replaced many of the Memorial Garden sprinklers, so they now spray over the plants instead of into the side of the plants. As a result, we were able to drop the zone time in half as we now receive much better coverage. Our next project will be to protect all sprinkler heads that are at risk of being driven over. This has happened more than you would think, causing quite a flood when the sprinklers turn on.

Fellowship Hall

Thanks to a designated gift, we will be doing some maintenance to the FH kitchen in the coming months. This will include re-attaching some floor and kick plate tiles, replacing the garbage disposal, and deep cleaning the stove.

Education Buildings

The Pre-School reported fleas in the back play yard which was addressed in early September.

Cell Tower Site

We have found one additional broken sprinkler pipe under the sidewalk near the cell tower site work area which was repaired in mid-September. Signature Tower, who is doing all the work has sent us a check to cover all repairs.

Parsonage

Pastor Elaine has had a pest company out to try to control insects around the parsonage. We're praying for a successful treatment!

George Grengs

A Call to Prayer and Actions in Response to Gun Violence

The Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church has issued a call to prayer to all churches.

This letter was issued and signed on September 1 by 150 current and retired UMC Bishops.

“Thou shall not kill.” Exodus 20:13

We are called as United Methodist Bishops to respond to the devastation and disruption due to gun violence. Communities around the world are traumatized, we are facing a global and national health crisis, and children, families, and communities are left with emotional scars that beg for angels of mercy and the healing balm of Gilead. The Bible declares in Exodus 20:13 “Thou shall not kill”—yet gun violence continues to escalate. In 2021 and 2022, 43 million more guns were sold in the United States, in addition to the 400 million guns already owned. As of June 2022, the United States has experienced over 300 mass shootings in this year alone. Gun violence is more than a U.S. problem. Across the globe, 44% of all homicides involve guns. According to Amnesty International, 2,000 people are injured every day by gun shots and more than 500 of them die. The Church is called to be an instrument of God’s grace. As people of prayer, we followers of Jesus are called to be “counter-cultural change makers.” To that end, we must reject the idolatry of guns and the distorted attachment to our right to own guns without safeguards for the communities of the world. This is a call to prayer, beginning this September, for all who follow Jesus, the Prince of Peace. This is a call to action for all to weep with those who weep and demand, insist on, and push for positive change from our elected officials. As United Methodists we have made our claim for a more excellent way to live and bring change. “As followers of Jesus, called to live into the reality of God’s dream of shalom as described by Micah, we must address the epidemic of gun violence so ‘that he may teach us his ways and the way we may walk in God’s paths.’ Therefore, we call upon United Methodists to prayerfully address gun

violence in their local context.” (Book of Resolution #3428 2016) This call to prayer is not a shallow request but one that firmly believes that the collective prayers of God’s people will keep this issue in the forefront of our consciousness and guide our intentional discernment of the action needed to bring about change. The United Methodist Council of Bishops commits to leading as peacemakers and prophetic witnesses to make our communities safer by reducing the tragedy and trauma of daily homicides and suicides. We call people to prayer and to work with ecumenical and interfaith partners in our public witness. We call for congregations to use United Methodist Church resources for Bible study and advocacy in their efforts to reduce gun violence. We support the ban on assault weapons and urge Church and government support for communities affected by the trauma of gun violence. We are committed to sharing Christ centered compassion as we walk alongside those who have been victims of gun violence. We call on all United Methodist to advocate for safer communities, safer schools and building bridges to beloved community.

Bishops of The United Methodist Church



An educational non-profit community organization

WOODLAND HILLS ROCK CHIPPERS, INC. TWENTY THIRD ANNUAL GEM SHOW

One Day Only!

Saturday, October 15, 2022
10 am - 5 pm

CRAFTS . JEWELRY . DEALERS . GEMS
MINERALS . ROCKS . FOSSILS . DISPLAYS
DEMOS . SILENT AUCTIONS . GOLD PANNING
HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE DAY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
22700 Sherman Way, West Hills, CA 91307

All are invited
Free Admission

We Are Called to Be 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

The pandemic shutdown ushered in a challenging couple of years for First United Methodist Church, Canoga Park. We navigate such times by taking comfort in knowing that nothing is a surprise to God – we follow where He leads. And now that we are worshipping together in person once again, led by our new pastor, Rev. Elaine Shin-Paull, it's time to think about stewardship in the coming year.

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 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:

Inspiration Sunday, October 23

Your stewardship packet is available for pick-up before and after Sunday worship. If you don't pick it up, your packet will be mailed to you.

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.

And think about serving in a new capacity next year! Giving someone a ride to church or helping the audio/visual team is also good stewardship, just as much as writing a check to keep the lights on. God is calling us to be faithful stewards.

*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*

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.

In Memoriam

Virgene Mullendore Engberg

25 April 1925 – 17 August 2022



Born in Wisconsin 1925 in her grandmother's home, she was raised in Viola, WI, lived on a dairy farm and attended a one-room school without plumbing or electricity where one teacher taught 8 grades. She graduated from High School with 25 students in the graduating class.

Virgene participated in a government program whose purpose was to train young women to work in war plants, which allowed her to earn her way through college. In the Fall of 1944 she enrolled at the University of Wisconsin in Madison as a Home Economics major. She discovered the Eating

Co-op, called the Three Squares, at the Wesley Foundation, where she had three meals a day, six days a week. Virgene met Charles John Engberg at the Eating Co-op and married him on Valentine's day, 1948.

In Spring 1948 Virgene and Chuck graduated from college. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics and Education and received her Wisconsin Teaching Credential.

The Engbergs had two sons – Mark Wayne in 1950 and Eric Lee in 1952. The family moved to California in November, 1952. Their third child, Gail, was born in California in 1956. They purchased a home in West Hills in 1960 with the GI bill and lived there until 2017.

Virgene spent her years teaching Science and Homemaking at Junior & Senior High Schools in LA county. In 1976 her sabbatical fall semester took her to the Orient spending time in Japan, South Korea and China. She retired in 1985 after 20 years with the Los Angeles City Schools.

Virgene and Chuck shared many interests which included Bridge and Square Dancing and they belonged to a group of campers who owned Air-streamers, who travel all over the world taking photos of the trailers in front of many famous tourist sites. Virgene and Chuck had been in every State with the exception of Hawaii. They were leaders of Sierra Club back-packing trips from 1972-1985. They went on 41 Elder-hostel trips which included 7 in foreign countries from 1990-2009.

Virgene volunteered at the West Valley Food Pantry and the Red Cross Blood Bank. She was a member of the San Fernando Valley Quilt Guild, League of Women Voters and Friends of Platt Ranch Library

The Engbergs were members of the First UMC of Canoga Park from 1961 until their deaths. As a member of the UMW, and its predecessor the WSCS, Virgene served in leadership roles and received the UMW Special Mission recognition on January 26, 2014. Virgene was widowed in December of 2016 and within a year she moved to Oregon to be with her daughter Gail Stone and family of Cave Junction, Oregon.



Pat Connolly,
Karen Foreman and her
family,
Peggy Guerrero,
Beulah Hajek,
Marie Smith,
Nancy Summer & her
husband Lee,
Hal Longman,
Mary Beth Godwin's
daughter,
Wendy Finley's friend,
Clark.

*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

Return Service Requested

Thank You, Midge!

During the Pandemic shut-down of our church and closure of the office, our monthly newsletter continued to go out thanks mainly to Sharon Mountford and Midge Herder.

Sharon, as Editor, became the printer & Email distributor. Midge, with the help of granddaughter, Christa, prepared the Couriers to be mailed and took them to the post office. They have continued to do this with the help of Sydney, our Admin. Assistant.

Midge is retiring from preparing the Courier mailing – she has become a “Family Dog Sitter”!

We also thank her for all the years, before Email, when she and a group of dedicated ladies use to prepare over 200+ copies for mailing.

Shirley FitzGeorge, who was part of the team of ladies preparing the Courier for mailing over the years, has volunteered to take over for Midge. We thank you, Shirley!



Looking for a New Home

This Kawaiii upright piano, around 30 years old, Oak wood in color, is in good shape but needs tuning. There is a bench too.

We are looking to give it a new home ASAP.

My brother's home is being cleared prior to resale. My nieces are offering the piano to anyone who would like to have it. Please call me if you could give it a new home.

Sharon Mountford, 818-340-5084.