



The Courier

First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

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Join us at church Sundays at 10:00 am

April 2015

Heart to Heart

The year was 1986. Heather was twelve; Lauren, eight.

Lauren could hardly wait. We gathered supplies. Newspapers. Paper towels. Spoons. Jars. A pitcher of water. Vinegar. Dye tablets – nine colors. Hard-cooked eggs. Camera.

We looked forward to the ritual year after year. Some of it was the same. I liked single-color eggs in bright, cool colors. Heather dependably dyed some two-tone eggs. A few eggs cracked in the pan, smashed in a too tightly clenched first, or tumbled like Humpty Dumpty from a spoon. Dye was invariably knocked and spilled. Some of it changed. That year, Lauren wrote Mom, Dad, Heather or Lauren, while Heather lettered David on eggs. Lauren left eggs in the dye longer each year.

On Saturday, we would always leave the colored eggs out for the bunny to hide. On Easter Sunday this year, one egg could not be found. I told the girls the bunny was cleverer each year, because I could remember their first Easters when eggs were hidden two to three feet apart in the middle of the floor.



We looked high and low, but found no egg. Two weeks later, Heather called me at work to give me a message: “We found the last egg!” Another Easter was over. Maybe not. Maybe Easter is over when the last colored egg is gone from the refrigerator. Maybe not. When eggs are dipped into new and colored life, they’re never the same again. And neither are we, who’ve been immersed / poured / sprinkled into new life. Maybe Easter is never really over!

Pastor Lynn Westover

P.S. The egg was hiding with the pendulum inside the grandmother clock.



Pastor

Lynn Westover

Preschool Director

Wendy Finley

**Music Director/
Accompanist**

Paul Cady

**Christian Education
Director**

Margaret Cates

**Administrative
Assistant**

Rebecca Roe

Courier Layout

Sharon Mountford



Resident Bishop

Minerva G. Carcaño

**North District
Superintendent**

Rev. Cedrick D.
Bridgeforth, EdD



April Calendar

Weekly Activities

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

Other Activities

- Thursday 2 Maundy Thursday Joint Worship Service, 7:30 pm
Choir cantata practice following the service
- Friday 3 Office closed
Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7:30 pm
- Saturday 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
Easter Cantata rehearsal 1:00 - 3:00 pm
- Sunday 5 Easter Sunday, Choir Cantata during Worship
I Will Embrace the Cross.....arr. by Camp Kirkland
- Monday 6 Pastor Lynn on vacation, until April 12
- Tuesday 7 Leisure Club, Lounge, 11:00 am
- Sunday 12 Good Samaritan & Food Pantry offerings received
Erl Nelsen's 100th Birthday Party after church
- Tuesday 14 Administrative Committee, Library, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday 15 Courier deadline for May issue
- Sunday 19 Native American Ministries Sunday
- Mon.-Fri. 20-24 Pastor Lynn at continuing education seminar
- Tuesday 21 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am
- Wednesday 22 Education Ministry, Library, 4:00 pm

Birthdays

- 6 Betty May
Nancy Summer
- 12 Otto Bernier
Louis Parrinello
Ted Stanwood
- 13 Erl Nelsen
- 19 Martin Shuler
Karen Yokley
- 21 Ted Jimenez
- 23 Dixie Smith
- 25 Virgene Engberg

Anniversaries

- 10 Louis & Anita
Parrinello
- 12 Stan & Barbara
Dimmick
- 18 Pastor Lynn & Stan
Westover
- 22 Ron & Jennifer
Alderman

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



ALTAR FLOWERS

- 5 Betty May *in honor of her 93rd birthday*
- 12 Peggy Dougherty *in honor of Erl Nelsen's 100th birthday*
- 19 Dixie Smith *in honor of her 76th birthday*
- 26 Open

Upcoming in May

- Saturday 2 Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Memorial service for Pauline Hawley, 11:00 am
- Tuesday 5 Leisure Club, Lounge, 11:00 am

Transportation Ministry

If you need a ride to church, or if you are interested in becoming a driver for the transportation ministry, please contact JoAnn Chadwick-Ellis at 818-932-9724 or Mary Mackay at 818-346-5872.

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday:
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Quiet Work Time is everyday from 1:00 – 2:00 pm.
Phone calls received during that time will be returned after 2:00 pm.



Faith, Hope and Love Circle met on Wednesday, February 25, at Anita Parrinello's house and members brought food items to fill gallon zip-lock bags. These bags are to go to people who could use a lunch. The idea for this project was from Nancy Summer. There were eleven of us who enjoyed fellowship and hot chocolate. The new lady who joined us was Isabelle Walters. It was a treat to get to know her better.

Bonnie Coleman

Mark your Calendars for these future meetings:

UMW Mission Team Meeting

Thursday, May 7..... 10:00 am
Room 10

UMW General Meeting

Thursday, May 21.....9:30 am
Lounge

Miriam Mason & Willie Foreman Scholarships

UWM received the following letter from this year's recipient of the Mason/Foreman Scholarships at Claremont School of Theology.

February 18, 2015

Dear Ms. Thomson,

It is with deep gratitude that I write this letter of thanks. Were it not for your generosity and commitment to seminary education, students like me would be unable to pursue ministry credentials. My last two and a half years in seminary have been some of the most wonderful years of my life. I have been challenged both academically and spiritually. This has been difficult at times, but knowing that I have the support of people like you has made the challenges feel very worth it.

As I am about to graduate this May, please know that you are a big part of that. Please know that the ministry paths that I take are possible only because of your generosity. In this way, I feel that you have a large share in all of my future work. You are an inspiration to me, and it is my hope that your continued generosity will support new students in the years to come. My success and their success is a part of your legacy. I am forever thankful and humbled by your commitment to the future of the church.

May God bless you as you have blessed so many.

In Christ, Sadie Mizisin-Cullumber

~ **UMW Circle Meetings** *~*

Bookends

Thursday, April 9, 9:30 am
Library or Glynene's home
Book: *One Nation*,
by Dr. Ben Carson
Glynene Roe, hostess

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday, April 15
7:00 pm
Home of Helen Macintosh,
23509 Strathern Street,
Canoga Park

Sarah Circle

Thursday, April 9
9:30 am
Breakfast at Coco's

In Memoriam.....Dorsie Jerriel Maiden

21 October 1924 – 26 January 2015

Pastor Lynn

Elmo and Dorsie were married 16 January 1993 at St. John's in the Valley UMC. Elmo talks about how he and Dorsie met, when she was nineteen. He says, "She picked me up or I picked her up on the streets of Ft. Worth." Elmo and his friends were trying to get a ride back to the base. She asked, "Where are you going?" and gave them a ride. Elmo did not get her phone number or anything, but he knew where she worked. So he decided to go back into town and look her up at the bank. As it turned out, Dorsie worked at night, so he could not get in. And he gave up the search.

One day, Elmo saw her again. Dorsie was eating a sandwich, when he walked in. They talked for a time, and she gave him her phone number. Later, Elmo invited Dorsie to dinner at the officers' club. She invited him to go ice-skating and he accepted, even though he had never ice-skated in his life. "But I'd do anything for a pretty girl," he says with a twinkle in his eyes.

When Elmo finished training, he was assigned clear across the country. And he expected to be sent overseas as a pilot. So they said their good-byes.

Eventually, Elmo married Jeanne and had four children. Sometime after her death, he was asked if he ever thought about getting married again. He said, "There was only one other girl I ever cared about. I met her when she was nineteen, before I was sent overseas."

Elmo started thinking it would be wonderful to find Dorsie again after all the intervening years. So he called the Visitors' Bureau and was given the phone number of a Justice of the Peace in Wynnewood, Oklahoma where she was born. That conversation led to some cousins in the area, but they did not know where Dorsie was.

Then, Elmo remembered her brother was a fireman. He called the fire department and was given the brother's phone number. Elmo called her brother and discovered Dorsie was living in Fort Worth. One day, fifty years after they first met, he called her. "Do you know who

this is?" "No, sir." "Do you want to make a guess?" "No, sir." "Do you remember Elmo?" "Yes." And the two started a conversation. Six months later, they were married.



Dorsie was a very enthusiastic, capable woman. She was intelligent and had good common sense. She had a wonderful sense of style and beautifully coiffed hair. She had a wry sense of humor and was often playful in her conversations. She had a sense of adventure and loved to travel with Elmo, whether in his twin-engine plane, or by car to various states, or on a cruise to Alaska. She used to enjoy sewing, cooking and collecting antiques.

Dorsie also loved animals and owned several parrots, a rabbit, and even a wild baby skunk that she domesticated. One night, she was driving down the road with Stinky the skunk, when she was pulled over by a policeman. He shined a flashlight into the car, and the skunk's eyes glowed in the dark. He backed away and said, "Let's just forget the ticket."

Dorsie used to spend a lot of time studying her Bible and teaching her nieces about it. She marked up her well-read Bible. She underlined and highlighted important words and verses with different colors.

As Alzheimer's disease slowly took its toll, unlike some people, Dorsie became softer and sweeter. When you helped her bathe, dress, brush her hair or get a meal, she would say, "I want you to know how much I truly appreciate this!"

Dorsie lived with Alzheimer's for many years. And so, even though we are sad at her death, we are also grateful for the healing she received when she went home to be with God. She enjoyed singing hymns so much, that it is comforting to imagine her now gathered with the saints around the throne and singing God's praises!

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

(1 Corinthians 15:57)



From the Mailbox

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank all of you for all your prayers and cards. The surgery went well, but there is much physical therapy in the coming weeks. I hope to be back in church as soon as possible. God's richest blessings to you.

Amanda Lucas

The Elmo Maiden family wishes to express our sincere thanks to the church for helping celebrate the life of our beloved Dorsie Maiden. We wish to thank the church members for their loving support.

God bless everyone!

The Elmo Maiden family



Hans Holborn
and the gold and ebony Shepherd's Cane, the symbol of the eldest Elder in our conference.

Hans was pastor of this church from 1977-1984.

I continue to enjoy good health and celebrated my 92nd birthday in February. I was recently recognized by the Southern California United Methodist Conference and had the honor of receiving the "Shepherd's Cane;" a gold and ebony cane that has been passed on to the oldest living Elder in the conference over the past 100 years.

Hans



Leisure

Tuesday,
April 7
11 o'clock,
Lounge

Our program will be a sing-along with Virginia Lyons from Chatsworth UMC.

Bring a pot-luck dish to share.

Don't forget our outreach for the shower ministry.

Preschool News

We start off the month with a week of vacation. Easter Break is always a nice way to rejuvenate and come back ready to continue our school year!

We have started Parent/Teacher conferences. This is a great way for our teachers to help our parents understand where their child is developmentally and what they can do to help them continue to grow.

We will have Spring pictures taken this month. We want to do an all-school picture again this year. We have so much fun getting all the kids to smile and look at the camera at the same time! Wish us luck!

Wendy

Plan to attend a special birthday commemoration on April 12 during fellowship time.



Erl's 100th Birthday

Congratulations...

Barbara Dimmick!

Barbara has served the church in remarkable ways. She was recently awarded a glass sculpture representing a ball of yarn for her leadership of the Prayer Shawl Ministry since Easter 2006. Barbara felt a call from God to begin this ministry even though she does not knit or crochet.

Prayer shawls are a powerful reminder of God's love for each of us. Prayer shawls are available for anyone to share with family and friends who are in need of prayer support.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry gathers on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the Church Library. Team members enjoy warm fellowship as they knit and crochet together. Newcomers are warmly welcomed.

Continuing Education

Pastor Lynn will be attending the 2015 Leadership Seminar with Ken Callahan from 20-24 April in San Diego. She can plan on learning about the gift and timing of hope; the re-discovery of credibility and hope in our time; the stages generations live through; and discovering bridges between generations.

Visit Our Updated Website at umccp.org

Good News!

Fourteen members have signed up with UMCmarket. As of 16 March, their online purchases have generated a \$76.48 donation for our church. We encourage you to register. Instructions follow.

1. Register with UMCmarket.org (very simple process)
2. Choose "Canoga Park First" from the list of churches.
3. Shop online through UMCMarket.org at your favorite retailers, such as Amazon, Macy's, Barnes & Noble, Staples, Office Depot, Sears, Old Navy, etc.

It's that easy!

Native American Ministries Sunday, 19 April

One tribe in North America has told this story for centuries: when people "pale as birch" crossed the great water in large canoes, they brought with them "The Black Book." Today Native Americans – with many unique



Navajo Sand Painting

languages, many unique cultures – honor their heritage, and live as Jesus-followers, led by a rotation of primarily Native American pastors.

Through Native American Ministries Sunday, we're able to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus.

When you support Native American Ministries Day, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. And you empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ.

Dr. Richard Twiss, a member of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate from the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota, asked:

"Will we be allowed to develop new ways of doing church that honor God's purposes for the creative expression of our cultures? Will new ministry partnerships and coalitions form? Will you help be a part of this wonderful process of reconciliation, restoration and release?"

Say yes.

Consider Serving as a Liturgist

If you would like to help lead worship, let Pastor Lynn know that you are interested. She is happy to provide training and encourage you on the journey.

Recent Passings

Pat Ferrin

13 February 1926 – 15 March 2015

We are sad to report that Pat Ferrin, longtime member of this church passed away at 6:30 pm on Sunday, March 15. Please keep the Ferrin Family: Tim, Tom, Jim, Jonathan and Liz in your thoughts and prayers. A memorial service will be held, but the details are not known at press time.

Pauline Hawley

14 September – 5 March 2015

Another long-time member, Pauline Hawley, also passed away last month. Services for her are scheduled at our church on Saturday, May 2, at 11:00 am. Please hold Pauline's family in your prayers.

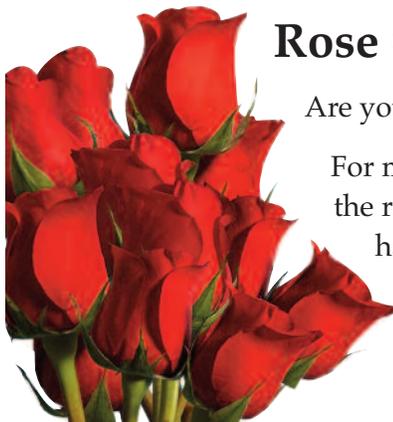
Remembering Gwen Mason

6 February 1922 – 18 January 2015

There was a family service at which Gwen's ashes were buried in the Rose Garden.

Gwen and Chuck Mason were long-time loyal members of this church. They both grew up in small towns stretched along the lines of the Santa Fe Railroad, for which both of their fathers worked. Chuck served in the Army Air Corps on Guam during World War II, while Gwen taught school in Oklahoma City. At the end of the war they both settled in San Bernardino. Chuck worked at Norton Air Base and Gwen was a program director for the YWCA. They met and were married in 1948, adding two sons and a daughter to their family by 1953. The family moved to Canoga Park in 1966 and joined our church. They served the church in many capacities. Chuck served for many years on the Property Committee. Gwen was active in UMW, serving twice as President. They were both involved in the planning and construction of the new Fellowship Hall.

Chuck was a government representative at Rocketdyne until they both retired in 1978, and began exploring America in their VW van. They camped in all the lower 48 and visited Alaska and Hawaii. In recent years Gwen was progressively estranged from everyday life and lived in care facilities.



Rose Garden

Are you able to help beginning immediately?

For many years, Jasper Hood has maintained the rose garden in remarkable ways. The time has come to pass the torch. Jasper can no longer see well enough to prune (annually) and feed the bushes or to remove spent blossoms. Please contact the church office.



The Ferrin Family
in the death of Pat Ferrin
Kolway Family
in the death of
Michele Kolway McClung
Hawley Family
in the death of
Pauline Hawley
Ted Stanwood
Pat Eaton
Charyl Patterson
Stan Dimmick
Amanda Lucas
Elmo Maiden
Ted Jimenez
Hope Schmidt
John Caldwell
LaDean Owen
Paul Morrison
Martin & Margaret Shuler
Joan Kelly

Churches for which to pray:

April 5, 2015

Glendale First UMC, Rich Garner

San Fernando First UMC, Joseph Choi

April 12, 2015

Atascadero UMC, Diane Rehfield

Tujunga UMC, Miguel DeGuzman

April 19, 2015

Canoga Park: Hindi-Urdu Mission, Lamuel Jacob
Lancaster UMC, Terry Van Hook & Jason Woodell

April 26, 2015

Shandon UMC, Ivelisse Castellano
Fillmore: Bardsdale UMC, Bethany Carpenter



To receive Prayer Chain e-mails, please contact Robin Abernathy at robingreenbird@yahoo.com

Preparing FOR Easter

Maundy Thursday Worship

On this night Christians commemorate the supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and instituted the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

April 2, 7:30 pm

Joint Worship ~ First UMC of Canoga Park
with the Hindi Urdu congregation

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 3, 7:30 pm

Worship ~ First UMC of Canoga Park

*If you need a ride to any of these services,
please contact the church office.*

Easter Sunday

April 5.....10:00 am

Contemporary Choir Cantata
I Will Embrace the Cross

arranged by Camp Kirkland



Return Service Requested

22700 Sherman Way
West Hills, CA 91307-2396



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CANOGA PARK

Non-Profit Organization
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