



# The Courier

## First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

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Preschool: 818.340.6639

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

*Sunday Worship at 10:00 am*

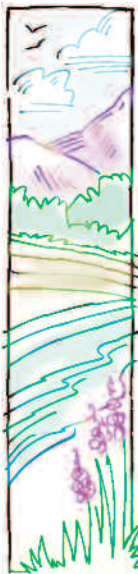
Summer 2017

## A Summer Preaching Series

Pastor Herb will preach five messages from the Book of Romans in July.

July 2	"Is your License Suspended?"	Romans 6:12-23
July 9	"Some Assembly Required"	Romans 7:15-25a
July 16	"This ain't no DIY Religion!"	Romans 8:1-11
July 23	"Thank God we're in Debt!"	Romans 8:12-25
July 30	"Can God Divorce you?"	Romans 8:26-39

## Introduction to Romans



*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God....*

*Romans 8:28*

The Book of Romans provides us with the most comprehensive statement of Christian truth. Here we find an essential theology for a living faith. In short, the truth needed by every person in every age.

We know that this was a strong church. It was also a lay church, and predominantly gentile. The content of this epistle shows a people of great spiritual depth and maturity. They were able to digest the meat of the Word, so we find a major doctrine or theological discussion on almost every page.

This church was severely persecuted seven years after Paul wrote this letter to the

believers there. During that time, persecuted believers spread the Gospel all over the world. It was a church unashamed of its life and witness, willing to stand up and be counted by the side of those who suffered.



## Pastor Lynn Reappointed

Pastor Lynn returns to First UMC at Canoga Park for a sixth year, for which she and Stan are grateful. It is good to serve the Lord together.



**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

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## July Birthdays

- 3 Patricia Rowe
- 9 Maria Cruz
- 11 Roger Johnson  
Jack Taylor
- 12 Gerald Rowe
- 16 Judith Austin  
Guy Maturo, Jr.
- 19 Shirley Thomson
- 22 Dylan Bautista
- 24 Anneliese Laguna
- 25 John Barlow
- 27 Elmo Maiden
- 29 Talia Maturo
- 30 Devon Cates  
Elma Villacisneros

## July Anniversaries

- 7 Lou & Sharon Mountford
- 15 Robin & Ricky Abernathy
- 20 Joe & Sandra Dedinas
- 24 Mike & Shanelle  
LaGrasta
- 26 Robert & Flo Lamb



## ALTAR FLOWERS

### For July

- 2 Given by Charlotte  
Girvan *in memory of her mother, Rose Hadley*
- 9 Given by the Mountfords  
*in honor of their 55th wedding anniversary*
- 16 Open
- 23 Open
- 30 Given by Lynne German  
*in honor of her mother, Mariellen Naegele's, 90th birthday*

# Summer 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, 7:30 pm
- Wednesday Men's Stag AA meeting, Parlor, 7:00 pm

## Other Activities in July

- Saturday 1 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Tuesday 4 Independence Day, office closed
- Saturday 8 Memorial service for the Rev. Dr. Marilyn  
Huntington, Woodland Hills UMC, 1:00 pm
- Tuesday 11 Administrative Committee, Library, 7:00 pm
- Thursday 13 Bookends, Library, 9:30 am  
Sarah Circle, Denny's, 9:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Tuesday 18 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am
- Wednesday 19 Faith, Hope & Love, 6:30 pm, Dinner out (*see page 3*)

## Other Activities in August

- Saturday 5 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Monday 7 Preschool Board Meeting, 1:00 pm, Library
- Tuesday 8 Administrative Committee, Library, 7:00 pm
- Thursday 10 Bookends, Library, 9:30 am  
Sarah Circle; Denny's, 9:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Saturday 12 Methodist night at Dodger Stadium (*see page 5*)
- Tuesday 15 Courier Deadline for September issue  
Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am
- Wednesday 16 Faith, Hope & Love, 6:30 pm, Dinner out (*see page 3*)

## Upcoming in September

- Sat. Sept. 2 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Sat. Sept. 23 **Congregational Planning Meeting**, Parlor, 9:00 am to Noon. Consider yourself invited. Save the date and pray about the future to which God is calling us.



## Circle Meetings for July

Bookends: Thursday, July 13 at 9:30 am in the Library. Hostess is Donna Nall, Devotions by Lynne German. Book entitled "The White Umbrella" by Mary Frances Bowley will be reviewed by Lynne German.

Sarah Circle: Thursday, July 13 at 9:30 am – Breakfast at Denny's Restaurant, Topanga Canyon Blvd at Roscoe Blvd.

Faith, Hope & Love: Wednesday, July 19 at 6:30 pm – Dinner at the Lamplighter, 9110 De Soto Avenue Chatsworth, Tel #818 882-1877.,

## Circle Meetings for August

Bookends: Thursday, August 10 at 9:30 am in the Library. Hostess is Midge Herder, Devotions by Donna Nall. Book "American Heiress" by Jeffrey Toobin will be reviewed by Doris Hood.

Sarah Circle: Thursday, August 10 at 9:30 a.m. – Breakfast at Denny's Restaurant, Topanga Canyon Blvd at Roscoe Blvd.

Faith, Hope & Love: Wednesday, August 16 at 6:30 pm – Dinner at Marie Callendars, 19310 Business Center Dr. Northridge, #818 993-0704.

## Fall Meetings

These these dates for our Fall meetings:

### UMW Mission Team

Thursday, September 7th at 10:00 in Room 10.

### UMW General Meeting

Thursday, September 21st at 9:30 am in the lounge

*Congratulations are in order*

Ann Peterson's daughter, Danielle,  
graduated from Brown University.



### August Birthdays

- 1 Grace Leighton
- 2 Sabra Pittenger
- 4 Grant Simmons
- 5 Tom Nowlin  
Lee Smith
- 7 Alexia Mendoza
- 8 Irene Miller
- 12 Helen Robertson
- 15 Charlotte Girvan  
Tim O'Connor
- 16 Dean Lottman
- 18 Johnny Ramirez
- 19 Liz Rogers
- 20 Nick Aiani
- 21 Sandra Dedinas
- 22 Karen Foreman
- 27 Betty Barlow
- 29 Jennifer Alderman
- 30 Jamie Foreman

### August Anniversaries

- 4 Ken & Lori Dimmick
  - 7 Stan & Cathy Plucinik
  - 27 Don & Evelyn Heim
- If your special day is missing,  
please contact the church office.*



### ALTAR FLOWERS

#### For August

- 6 Given by George Miller *in honor of Irene Miller's birthday*
- 13 Given by Liz Rogers *in honor of Janet Fox's birthday*
- 20 Open
- 27 Given by Jack Barlow *in honor of Betty's birthday*



## Preschool News

We had 26 students graduate at our end-of-the-year program! It was a very special day.

Summer school started on June 20 with a full house. It will run thru July 27. We will start our fall session on August 15th.

Wendy



## From the Mailbox

Dear Roger and Nancy Johnson and members of the First United Methodist Church,

I received your church bulletin, the Courier article, the Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship check and the official grant placard. I am pleased to see that Cameron Zambello will also be able to receive this amazing gift. We both have been blessed to receive such a generous scholarship grant. You Nancy, Roger, Hal and Laura have transformed a sorrow into a loving legacy that is truly inspirational.

This scholarship grant will help me pay for my summer Concept Art class at my college. With senior year just around the corner, I was not sure I would be able to work this course into my semester's schedule. However, with the aid of your grant, I am currently attending it this summer.

You and your church have been a monumental help to my family and me these last two years. I want to thank you again from the bottom of my heart!

Sincerely,  
Andrew Zesiger



Dear Pastor Lynn & Church Family,

...To thank you for your generous gift of time.

We really appreciate you taking time out of your day to come help us.

God Bless,  
Rosie (Haffner) & Marie (Lanning)

Dear Everyone,

I so enjoyed all of your cards, best wishes, and caring messages. I am coming along, but this will take time. I miss all of my church family, and hope to be back soon.

Thank you for all your prayers.

Love,  
Dana Dreyfuss

## California-Pacific Hunger Grant Received

The Shower Ministry has received a 2017 grant for \$350. We thank Grace Leighton for submitting a grant request on our behalf, as well as George Grengs for forwarding information about the grant.



*Elementary Sunday School class celebrating Pentecost – the birthday of the church*

Congratulations to Dante Wilson (upper right) who was awarded “Student of the Year” at Hale Middle School’s culmination ceremony.

### The Lighter Side of Stan and Anita



Stan Westover and Anita Parrinello bet that whoever’s team would go further in the hockey playoffs would win.

Anita’s Kings did not make the playoffs and Stan’s Ducks did. So Anita had to wear a Ducks jersey at dinner at El Pollo – a hockey humiliation for Anita.

## United Methodist Night at Dodger Stadium

**Saturday, August 12 at 6:10 PM**

**Tickets are \$45.00 per person**

This year our seats are in the Right Field Coca-Cola Pavilion, and the ticket price includes all the Dodger Dogs, peanuts, nachos, popcorn and Coca-Cola products you can consume (including bottled water).

To purchase tickets or for more information please contact West District Office at 562-429-1441. The deadline to order is Monday, July 24.

### Thank you from UMCOR

Thank you for your support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Through your gift, you are helping to provide assistance for survivors of human trafficking, funding for health and development projects that alleviate hunger and poverty, holistic community-based health programs, and access to clean water and sanitation. Your gift received on 5/22/17 of \$70.00 is supporting programs that fight hunger and poverty, assist the displaced, and respond to disasters.

### Directory Addition

Julie Demoreas, 22323 Schoenborn St  
West Hills, CA 91304

### Interment

Ivadine N. Erwin

January 17, 1914 – April 22, 2003

A memorial service for Ivadine Erwin, former member of St. John’s in the Valley Methodist Church was held last April 29. Her ashes were interred in our Rose Garden last month.



## Spiritual Gifts

On Pentecost Sunday, we looked at gifts in a broad sense, as the abilities that have been given to each one of us by the Holy Spirit to serve God in the church and in the world. And we talked about specific gifts that the Holy Spirit gives people.

We affirmed that the Holy Spirit has given each one of us a gift for the common good. There are many gifts, one Spirit. Then, we thought about our gifts, about what each one of us can do to contribute to God's work in the church and the world.

Next, we each wrote on a puzzle piece the gift we have been given by the Holy Spirit. Then, the puzzle pieces were assembled. We were shown the gifts side first. Then, we were shown the other side – a church. In other words, all the gifts together built up the church. *(See the next page.)*

The Holy Spirit has given us many different gifts for the common good. As people of God, we are to use the gifts or abilities that we have been given to serve God in the church and in the world. May the Holy Spirit bind us as one, working for the good of the whole church. Amen!

## Newton Fund Grants

Three grants have been awarded:

- 1) Elementary and Youth Sunday School Teachers, as well as two special Sunday School events for 2017-2019;
- 2) Workshop on Visual Media for Church Services; and
- 3) Choir Designated Fund for guest singers and musicians.

## Membership Sunday

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

If you would like to confirm this relationship and become a full member, let Pastor Lynn know. New members will be received on Sunday, August 20, and enjoy lunch together after worship.

## Congratulations, Grace Leighton!

Grace was recognized at Annual Conference as a Certified Lay Minister (CLM). In congratulating her, Pastor Jim Powell, our District Superintendent, mentioned her tenacity in completing the process.

A CLM is a lay person certified for intentional leadership and assigned by the bishop or district superintendent to a ministry. The candidate does not replace clergy – but rather, works with clergy so that the congregation has the leadership necessary for vital mission and ministry. A CLM is not ordained or licensed clergy under appointment of the bishop and must be a part of a ministry team.

Certification requirements include completion of Lay Ministry Academy and completion of Tier 1 Psychological Testing and Evaluation, as well as recommendations from the Home Church Pastor, the Church Council, and the District Superintendent. In addition, the candidate needs Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval after an interview with and recommendation from the District Committee on Ordained Ministry.

As part of a ministry team, Grace will conduct public worship, care for the congregation, preach the Word, assist in program leadership, lead small groups, and establish community ministries. Pastor Lynn Westover has been assigned as Grace's mentor.

Well done, good and faithful servant!

## Scout Troop

The Boy Scout troop which the church sponsors is looking for a new Scoutmaster. If you would be interested in joining the troop's leadership team, please talk to Robert Lamb. He is the church's liaison with the troop.



Many  
Gifts

One  
Church

- Preach & teach
- Teacher
- Teaching preschool children
- Donations
- Treasurer
- Courier editor
- Puzzle maker and solver
- Speaking
- Count offering
- Counter
- Time
- Hard work
- Be helpful
- Helper
- Serve
- Serving
- Support activities
- Offer help
- Sharing
- Ushering Hospitality help – greet
- Shower Ministry – helping the homeless and sad
- Rescue animals
- Drive people to appointments
- Gift of healing others
- Plan and prepare food for events
- Baking
- Cooking
- Prayer shawl ministry
- Crochet
- Knitting, crocheting,
- Share the Bible with my friends who believe!
- Building Maintenance
- Maintenance
- Church maintenance
- Help with sound system
- Sound
- Leader
- Lead
- Sitting on committees for decision making
- Promptness
- Logistics
- Coordinate
- Manage
- Planning
- Writing
- Type like the wind
- Writing
- Attend meetings for knowledge
- Consensus Builder
- Stewardship
- Community outreach funding
- Outreach
- Read
- Review of books
- Helper to Mannten

- Love
- Love
- Loving God and the church family
- Show kindness
- Encouragement
- Giving hugs
- Great hugger
- Compassion
- Humility
- Spread joy
- Smile
- Comedy
- Positive attitude
- Caring
- Friendship
- Fellowship
- Fellowship
- Love & friendship
- Energy in love and service
- Friendships
- Friendship

- Friendly, nice
- Conversation
- Learning from one another
- Generosity
- Understanding others
- Listening
- Listening and sometimes helping
- Art Design
- Art
- Music
- Play music
- Play flute in worship
- Performing Arts/Singing
- Song
- Sing
- Sing
- Singing
- Sing in Choir
- Singing in the choir
- Music

# In Memoriam

Ruth Elizabeth (Bodine) Albrecht  
17 October 1924 – 31 March 2017

Ruth, one of three girls, was born in Bridgeton, New Jersey. She was the daughter of Bodine's Gem O' Jersey Butter Creams candy maker. She met her husband, John Albrecht, in New Jersey and corresponded with him, while he served in the Army during WWII. They were married in Las Vegas and had two sons, Bob and Jeff. Dad was Scoutmaster; Mom was a Den Mother. She was in her early fifties when John died of leukemia in 1982.



Ruth was a Rosie the Riveter in Southern California. She also worked for Avon and in Libby's Dress Shop. Later in life, she worked at the mall on Fallbrook for a few years.

Mom liked to fish, and she played bridge as long as Jeff can remember. She was a fiercely competitive bridge player. She would even keep a second scorecard to be sure the tally was correct.

Ruth, an avid reader, also sang with Sweet Adelines International. She travelled many places to perform and participate in national competitions.

Ruth, a lifelong Methodist, was an active member of First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park for over eighteen years. For many years, she served as the Spiritual Growth person and Treasurer for Leisure Club. Ruth, an avid knitter, was a member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry and created beautiful prayer shawls with her intricate knitting.

Ruth, an active member of the United Methodist Women (UMW), served for a time as Vice President responsible for programs for general meetings. She belonged to Bookends Circle and worked on the monthly book sale. For many years, she made the

afghan for the annual raffle to benefit UMW's mission and ministries work. Ruth received the Special Mission Recognition Award in 2004 and the Quiet Disciple Award in 2014, given to a woman for her service to UMW in a quiet, unobtrusive way.

Ruth, faithful in service and always dependable, was strong and confident. She got through many things, including health issues, by sheer determination.

She could be funny. She enjoyed a good joke and could see the humor in losing her wig in a gust of wind and chasing after it. She had a kind heart and compassion for the less fortunate. She shared her home, helping one friend achieve her education goals and complete the Nursing Assistant and Home Health Aid Programs.

Ruth was feisty. You might even say she was opinionated and outspoken. She would tell you how she felt, whether you were the waiter at a restaurant forgetting her meal or the ushers at church forgetting her blanket.

Ruth fought the good fight for a long time, but her feet suffered terribly. Maybe that is the reason I picture her resurrection in this way. Like Peter with the man lame from birth (Acts 3:2-12), I see the Lord taking Ruth by the right hand and raising her up. I see her feet and ankles made strong! I can almost hear her speak words from Psalm 56 (v13): You have delivered my soul from death, and my feet from falling, so that I may walk before God in the light of life.

Thanks be to God!

*The Rev. Lynn Westover*



# In Memoriam

Martin H. Shuler  
19 April 1919 – 20 March 2017



My Grandfather, Martin H. Shuler was a very special man. He was raised on a farm in Illinois and was a curious and pensive little boy. There was a story about him not making it to school on time even though his mother would send him on his way with plenty of time to spare. When she asked him what he was doing all that time, he innocently explained that on the way to school he decided to sit down on the side of the road and think. All that thinking must have paid off. He grew up, went on to earn two degrees in engineering, was on

the ground floor of the development of radar, and had a long career in the aerospace industry.

In his professional life and in his free time, he marveled in figuring out how things work. He dedicated countless hours to fixing things that needed fixing, and modifying things that already worked (so they'd work better). He enjoyed telling others about his projects. I have fond memories of everyone sitting around the table after a family dinner and Grandpa Martin announcing that he wanted to tell us about a recent project. He'd proceed to do so and sometimes also include an impromptu illustration on the back of a napkin to help us understand. Even if you weren't keeping up with the technical aspect of his explanations, it was easy to appreciate his fascination with all things mechanical or electrical and his amusement and delight in his experiments.

He was very intelligent but he was also incredibly humble. He didn't mind laughing at himself and at his mistakes and he found humor in nearly all situations; he'd happily share his mistakes or his humorous musings with others so they could laugh with him. He worked hard to provide for his family and gave generously to others whenever he could. He was thoughtful, caring and gentle; polite and charming; sincere and honest. He had the strongest of handshakes and gave the most genuine hugs. He warmly loved and supported his wife Margie, holding her hand and doing all he could to lighten her burdens into their 75th year of marriage. He enjoyed good music, and good chocolate. He will be dearly missed.

*Tammy Cates-Palmerlee*



Toby Lane

Sandra Dedinas (*West Valley Healthcare Center*)

Rev. Mark Huntington

Linden Dickerson

Pat & Jack Taylor

Dana Dreyfuss

Jane Card

Jim Smith

Joan Kelley

Barbara & Stan Dimmick

Lori & Ken Dimmick

LaDean Owen

Coral Harper



*To receive Prayer Chain e-mails, please contact Robin Abernathy at [robingreenbird@yahoo.com](mailto:robingreenbird@yahoo.com) "cc" the church office at [crossandflame@att.net](mailto:crossandflame@att.net)*

## 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.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CANOGA PARK

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West Hills, CA 91307-2396

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## Another Graduation

Flanking  
Analyssa Tallas  
at her  
graduation  
were sister  
Alexandra  
Tallas and  
mother Robin  
Mlynarick.

Proud  
grandfather Joe  
Buttmeier was  
behind the  
camera.

## Congratulations

*The President, Faculty  
and Graduating Class  
of  
California State University, Stanislaus*

*announce that  
Analyssa Rylie Tallas  
is a candidate for the degree of  
Bachelor of Arts  
in*

*Biological Sciences  
with a minor in Psychology  
Graduating Magna Cum Laude  
at the*

*Commencement Ceremony  
Thursday, May twenty-fifth, Two thousand seventeen  
Nine o'clock in the morning  
at the University Amphitheatre*