



# The Courier

## First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park

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

*Sunday Worship at 10:00 am*

January 2018

## Welcome the New Year at Our Church

### Sunday, January 7 – Epiphany

The Epiphany (Manifestation) of the Lord, an even more ancient celebration among Christians than Christmas, originally focused on the nativity, incarnation, and baptism of Christ. Today we celebrate the coming of the wise men (magi), who brought gifts to the Christ child.

### Sunday, January 14 – Reaffirmation of Baptismal Covenant

Celebrating Christ's baptism by John reminds Christians of our one baptism. During worship, 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.

### Sunday, January 21 – Healing Service

The Bible affirms spiritual healing. "Are any among you sick? They should call the elders of the church and have them pray for them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14).

When pastors and laity pray for people with the laying on of hands or anointing with oil, they are not claiming that they are doing something for the sick. They are not claiming that God will make everything better. They are seeking to be faithful to continue Christ's threefold ministry of teaching, preaching, and healing. The Bible clearly calls disciples to pray with and for one another, and this faithful ministry of touch with prayer shares the grace of God.

### Sunday, January 28 – UMW Sunday

The work of United Methodist Women around the world will be celebrated.



**Pastor**

Lynn Westover

**Preschool Director**

Wendy Finley

**Music Director/  
Accompanist**

Paul Cady

**Christian Education  
Director**

Margaret Cates

**Administrative  
Assistant**

Julie Mosley

**Courier Layout**  
Sharon Mountford



**Resident Bishop**

Grant Hagiya

**North District  
Superintendent**

Rev. Jim Powell



JANUARY



### 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  
John Willauer
- 30 JoAnne McColloch
- 31 Mary Mackay

### Anniversaries

- 26 Dean and Carolyn  
Lottman

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



### ALTAR FLOWERS

- 7 Given by Joan Kelley in  
memory of her husband,  
Maurice E. Kelley
- 14 Open
- 21 Open
- 28 Open

## 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  
Codependents Anonymous, Room 10, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday Men's Stag AA meeting, Parlor, 7:00 pm
- Thursday Choir rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:30 pm  
Narcotics Anonymous, Youth Room, 8:00 pm
- Friday Girl Scouts, Scout Room, 6:00 pm (1st & 3rd Fridays)

### Other Activities

- Monday 1 New Years Day, office closed
- Thursday 4 UMW Mission Team Meeting, Room 10, 10:00 am
- Saturday 6 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Tuesday 9 Administrative Committee, Library, 7:00 pm
- Thursday 11 Bookends, Library, 9:30 am  
Sarah Circle, Denny's, 9:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Monday 15 Courier Deadline, February issue  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, office closed
- Tuesday 16 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am
- Wednesday 17 Faith, Hope Love, Library, 7:00 pm
- Saturday 27 North District Leadership Training, Northridge  
UMC

### Upcoming in February

- Saturday, Feb. 3 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am  
*Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.*
- Tuesday, Feb. 6 Leisure Club, 11:00 am in the Lounge

### Super Bowl Sunday

On Sunday, February 4, bring canned and boxed food for the West Valley Food Pantry. You will have the opportunity to place your donations in a basket representing the team you want to win.

It's a way for you to vote for your favorite team and to donate food for families in need. When the votes are counted, each can or box is one vote.



2017 Silver Tea

### UMW Annual Christmas Silver Tea

The 44th UMW annual Christmas Silver Tea was held December 2nd. It was a big success. Invitations were extended to Chatsworth West UMC, Northridge UMC, Reseda UMC and Woodland Hills UMC. Entertainment was provided by "The Harmonettes," our very own "Men In Black," and Paul Cady. A good will offering was taken for our Good Samaritan Fund and a check for \$500.00 was given to that fund from UMW. Many thanks to Grace Leighton, who planned and chaired this event, and to all the helpers who assisted in achieving its success, including the youth who helped so courteously with the serving!

### Angel Tree

Many thanks to everyone involved in making the 2017 Angel Tree a success: all those who helped prepare the angel ornaments for the Angel Tree by putting the names on the decorations; those who helped on Sunday mornings with the sign-ups and carrying the gifts to the Brides Room; Stan Westover, who helped prepare the gifts for pickup; to everyone who took the angels (50 of them) and bought the presents. It was greatly appreciated. Again, thank you all for participating in this most worthwhile project.

## January Meetings

### UMW Mission Team

Thursday, January 4, 2018 at 10:00 am in Room 10.

### UMW Sunday

January 28, 2018



## January Circle Gatherings

### Bookends

Thursday, January 11

9:30 am

Church Library

Book: *Small Great Things*  
by Jodi Piccoult

Reviewer: Lynne German

### Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday, January 17

7:00 pm

Church Library

Devotions and Program:

Marcella Rodriguez &

Nancy Summer

Hostesses:

Beulah Hajek &

Shirley Thomson

### Sarah Circle

Thursday, January 11

9:30 am

Breakfast at Denny's

8330 Topanga Canyon Blvd.

(north of Roscoe Blvd.)

### Memorial Garden

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

## Preschool News

The Christmas program we had on Wednesday, December 13th was inspiring. It was heartwarming to see all our Preschoolers singing for their families! Santa even made an appearance!

As you are reading this, we are enjoying our winter break! Our first day back to school will be Monday, January 8, 2018, 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 15th. Happy New Year!

*Wendy*



Preschool Christmas Program

## Thanks for your 2017 Service

I wish to thank all who have answered my call and served during Sunday morning services as a greeter in 2017.

I also wish to thank Dante Wilson, Shawn Alvarado, Dylan Bautista, Chris Guerrero for faithfully serving Sunday mornings as acolytes.

Anyone feeling the call to be a greeter, please talk to me during coffee hour.

*Blessings, Lora O'Connor*



Leisure

Next meeting  
Tuesday, February 6  
11:00 am, Lounge

Leisure Club wants to thank Wendy Finley, Robert Lamb, preschool teachers and especially all the children for a great morning

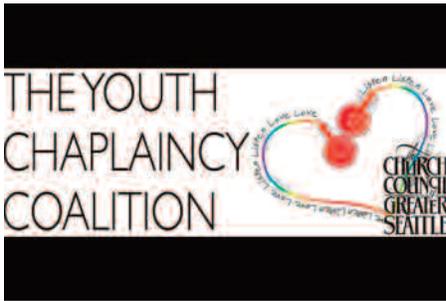
of Christmas songs. It was so enjoyed by all.

Leisure Club is donating a pair of white socks to each man in the Shower Ministry, as well as bringing holiday pies to celebrate Christmas.

*Happy New  
Year*



## Human Relations Day January 14, 2018



Human Relations Day calls United Methodists to recognize the right of all God's children to realize their potential as human beings in relationship with one another. The special offering benefits neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk teens through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

Your generous gifts make a real difference by helping at-risk youth to find a purpose in their lives in the Pacific Northwest Conference.

The General Board of Church and Society awarded a grant to fund *MAP: My Action Planning* for Incarcerated Youth. This program works with incarcerated youth in King County and Washington State detention facilities. With the MAP program, volunteers are trained to mentor youth so that they transition out of detention with the skills and confidence they need to stay out and build productive lives.

MAP allows youth and trained mentors to come together and see where the youth has come from, who they are now and who they want to be. MAP trains mentors to be mirrors for the youth, so they can see the absolute sacred worth that they have as children of God. Mentors also reflect and identify gifts and talents for youth often labeled worthless.

This ministry is just one of many we support when we give on Human Relations Sunday. When you give generously, you encourage ordinary people to have a voice in changing the world.

## Help for Jim & Marie Smith

You may have seen the news report or read about it in the newspaper. Jim and Marie Smith lost their mobile home and van in a six-alarm fire, not connected to the recent wildfires. They were fortunate to escape without injury with their dog, before Jim's oxygen tanks exploded. Now they are homeless and transportation-less.

The church has established a designated fund to assist them at this difficult time. Your donations will be much appreciated.

## The Found Wallet

One of the Boy Scout parents lost a wallet on our premises. It was turned in, intact, by one of the attendees of another meeting that night.

It was challenging to return the wallet, however, because there was no contact number in it. Cash, credit cards, IDs, coupons, and other things were there, but no phone number. Thanks to the Internet, Pastor Lynn, Julie and George Grengs were able to track down the owner and return the wallet.

Check your wallet to see if the good soul who finds it will be able to find you and return it!

## UMC #GivingTuesday 2017

Thanks to you and thousands of donors like you, UMC #GivingTuesday 2017 was a huge success. You gave to more than 300 Global Ministries missionaries and over 600 United Methodist-related projects with \$677,399 raised in one day as we celebrated generosity together on UMC #GivingTuesday.

## 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.

## Remembering Wayne Rosen

Wayne and Sue Rosen began attending our church several months ago. They quickly became assimilated into the life of the church and Wayne was seen helping with set-up for the Silver Tea and Hanging of the Greens. They served as Greeters, attended Leisure Club and the Advent Study. It was a complete shock when he had a heart attack on December 9 from which he died. Most of us didn't really get to know him, other than the warmth of his hugs, so I'd like to share a little of what we missed and would have enjoyed knowing.

Born in Pottstown, Pennsylvania in 1950, Wayne had a twin brother as well as a younger brother and a sister. The twins were drafted together in 1970 and served in non-combat roles in South Korea. Wayne met Sue soon after returning to civilian life and they were married in 1972. Their son Andy was born in 1977 and they enjoyed many family trips together in their travel trailer.

Wayne worked many years as a plasterer until his elbows let him know that it was time for a different line of work. He then worked 13 years at an auto dealership, retiring in 2013. Since their son and granddaughter were living in California, they decided to move west. After a brief stay in Westlake Village, they settled into a townhouse near the entrance to Bell Canyon, where Andy lives. Wayne enjoyed working at Andy's home in the garden and orchard.

Wayne and Sue brought their husky, Lily, to California with them and Wayne enjoyed his daily four-miles walks with her in the Bell Canyon area. Andy has now remarried and Sue has a grandson to join the granddaughter in her life.



Do get to know Sue and help her to adjust to her new life without her soulmate.

The funeral service was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the First Church of the Brethren, 371 N York St, Pottstown, with the Rev. Scott Major, Pastor, officiating. Burial will be in St. Peter's United Church of Christ in Knauertown. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The First Church of the Brethren, Pottstown.

*Sharon Mountford*



## Christmas Cantata

On 19 December the choir presented a lively cantata entitled *It Came to Pass: Emmanuel*. Our loyal regular choir was augmented by several members who joined just to sing this work and also some professional singers to bolster the numbers and add their strong voices to the ensemble.

The congregation appreciated their hours of rehearsal and the polished performance.

# Remembering Jack Barlow

25 July 1924 – 24 December 2017

Jack was born on a ranch in Bishop, California where the family grew alfalfa and raised cattle and sheep. He is the youngest of 4 children – 2 boys and 2 girls. Growing up in the Sierras, surrounded by nature at its finest, he developed a lifelong love of fishing. He believed that tying your own flies was the only way to 'land the big one.' Hiking and backpacking were activities that the whole family enjoyed.



His grammar school days were in a one-room schoolhouse. Athletics played a large role during his youth. Football, basketball and track were among his sports during high school. He served as senior class president. Even in his high school days, he loved little children and would borrow his nephew in his pram to go to meet friends at the soda fountain and show him off.

After graduating from high school, he attended Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo until 1944 when he and his brother enlisted with the United States Marine Corps. He was sent to the University of Redlands for Officer Training, went to boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina and then on to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, and was later stationed at Camp Pendleton.

After the war Jack returned to classes at Cal Poly and graduated with a BS degree in Animal Science. He was hired by the Los Angeles Community College District to teach at Pierce College. He continued graduate studies and received a Masters degree in Education from Cal State Northridge. He taught classes in Animal Husbandry at Pierce College, coached the livestock judging team and started the intercollegiate rodeo team. He was a founding member of the annual Pierce College roundup, which was a favorite event among residents of the San Fernando Valley for over 50 years.

His true love was a petite blonde named Betty. They grew up together and first became romantically involved after they had graduated from college and nursing school respectively. They were married in Reno, Nevada in 1955 and became parents of a daughter and later a son.

Jack was a skilled wood worker. He designed and built the pew candle holders we use for Christmas Eve; designed and built the little white church, on the lawn in front of the preschool, which houses the sprinkler valves; built beautiful wood crosses, angels and Christian fish symbol for friends; and designed and made the wooden memorial plaque in the Narthex.

The Barlows joined this church in 1964 and were active in many capacities. For many, many years they served on the Family Life Committee, where Jack was the beef-cutting expert for the traditional BBQ. He was part of the regular crew which built the Fellowship Hall, was active on the Board of Trustees, Property & Upkeep Committee, and served as an usher.

The memorial service for Jack was on Saturday 16 December at the Westline Cemetery in Bishop, where many of his family members still live.



Sue Rosen

Betty Barlow

Jim and Marie Smith

George Dutcher

La Dean Owen

Toby Lane

Kaye Hall

Sandra Dedinas

Joan Kelley

Barbara & Stan Dimmick

Kraig Miller

Coral Harper

CA Wildfires



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

# Introducing Hamed Bajgiran Tabakh

Hamed comes to us from Tehran via Cyprus. He has a degree in architecture and is studying at CSUN for his Masters degree.

His architectural studies first interested him in the design of houses of worship. So many of them are such magnificent buildings. Why are they so impressive? They are just four walls and a roof, but it is the function of churches which make them fantastic. Hamed feels that he has been called to work within the church, and perhaps to design new churches as well.

Pastor Lynn baptized him on Sunday, 26 November, and welcomed him as a new member of our church. He is an active twenty-something who enjoys swimming, playing billiards, dancing, drawing, photography and music. He is a delight to have around. Get to know him and make him feel welcome here, as one of our newest members.



## Directory Addition

Hamed Tabakh  
21715 Parthenia St. #103  
Canoga Park, CA 91304  
818-625-1994  
hamedbajgiran@yahoo.com

## UMCOR

United Methodist Committee On Relief is currently receiving funds to help the victims of the California wildfires.

The agency provides humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupts life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own.

To give through UMCOR, you can use UMCOR envelopes (in the sanctuary) or give online.

January 15



Return Service Requested

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CANOGA PARK

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