



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.

March 2018

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Lenten Worship Services

Third Sunday in Lent*

March 4, 10:00 am Worship, Monologue – *Malchus, Servant of Caiaphas*

Fourth Sunday in Lent*

March 11, 10:00 am Worship, Monologue – *The Centurion at the Cross*

Fifth Sunday in Lent*

March 18, 10:00 am Worship, Monologue – *A Guard at the Tomb*

Palm/Passion Sunday Worship*

March 25, 10:00 am Worship, *A Service of Lessons and Hymns*
followed by Brunch in the Fellowship Hall

Maundy Thursday Worship*

March 29, 7:30 pm Worship – *Beyond the Shadows*

By reminding us that the Light of the World came to us, yet was engulfed in total darkness as his life slipped away, *Beyond the Shadows* focuses worshippers' attention on the coming resurrection, and how that brightness contrasts with the darkness of the crucifixion.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service*

The Tenebrae service *Choices At The Cross* explores some of the choices faced by those involved in the events of Christ's Passion – ones of far greater magnitude than what we often face on a daily basis. *Choices At The Cross* emphasizes that the most important decision we ultimately face is our response to the question posed by Pilate: "What shall I do, then, with Jesus, who is called Christ?"

Easter Sunday Worship*

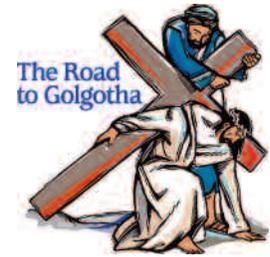
Come and share the Good News of Easter!

24 Hours That Changed the World

Lenten Study ... Sundays at 11:30 am ... March 4, 11, & 18

Walk with Jesus on his final day ... Follow him to the cross ... Desert him ... Deny him. What a difference a day makes. You hear people say that phrase all the time. It could not be truer than when talking about the last day of Jesus' life. Come, experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death as never before.

**If you need a ride to any worship service, please contact the church office.*



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



March 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
Narcotics Anonymous, Parlor, 7:30 pm
Codependents Anonymous, Youth Room, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday Men's Stag AA meeting, Parlor, 7:00 pm
- Thursday Choir rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:30 pm
Narcotics Anonymous Study Group, Lounge, 6:30 pm
- Friday Girl Scouts, email gsavl1896@gmail.com for details

March Birthdays

- 10 Heidi Foreman
Logan Christopher Lee
Maturo-Johnson
Steve Robertson
- 17 Helen Mackintosh
- 19 Erick Rodriguez
- 23 Evelyn Heim
Anita Parrinello
- 30 Kyle Finley
- 31 Byron McKibben

Anniversaries

- 2 George & Karen Grengs
- 11 Tom & Bettye Jo Nowlin
- 29 Roger & Nancy Johnson



ALTAR FLOWERS

- 4 George Grengs in celebration of George and Karen Grengs' anniversary
- 11 Margaret Cates in memory of Darold Allen Cates
- 18 Open
- 25 Roger & Nancy Johnson in celebration of their 38th anniversary

The calendar for altar flowers is hanging on the wall in the Parlor, between the kitchen window and the chair closet. Sign up if you wish to commemorate someone or something special to you.

Other Activities

- Saturday 3 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Sunday 4 Lenten Study, 11:30 am, Sanctuary
- Tuesday 6 Leisure Club, Lounge, 11:00 am
- Thursday 8 Bookends, Library, 9:30 am
Sarah Circle, Denny's, 9:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Sunday 11 Daylight Savings Time starts
UMCOR special offering
Lenten Study, 11:30 am, Sanctuary
- Tuesday 13 Administrative Committee Meeting, Library, 7:00 pm
- Thursday 15 Courier Deadline, April issue
- Sunday 18 Lenten Study, 11:30 am, Sanctuary
- Tuesday 20 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am
- Wednesday 21 Faith, Hope & Love, Library, 7:00 pm
- Sunday 25 Palm Sunday Worship, 10 am, Sanctuary
Palm Sunday Brunch
- Monday 26 – Friday 30 office closed to non-emergencies
- Thursday 29 Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Friday 30 Good Friday Worship, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary

Upcoming in April

- Sunday April 1 Easter Sunday worship, 10:00 am, Sanctuary
- Tuesday, April 3 Leisure Club, 11:00 am, Lounge
- Saturday, April 7 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.



**United
Methodist
Women**

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW Mission

Team Meeting

Thursday, March 1, 2018,
10:00 am.....Room 10

UMW General Meeting

Thursday, March 15, 2018, 9:30 am

Our program will be the Pledge Service.

The 2018 UMW Directories along with the pledge cards have been distributed. Pledges can be given to Chandra Seeger, Treasurer, Shirley Thomson or at the March General Meeting.

North District UMW Local Officer Training

The Local Officer Training session was held on February 3, 2018 at Thousand Oaks UMC. Shirley Thomson and Chandra Seeger, our Treasurer attended. Certificates were presented to Canoga Park 1st UMW for being a 2017 Five Star Unit and as a 60/40 unit. In addition we received reading certificates for 6 members (12.2.%) who participated in the UMW Reading Program. Lancaster UMW had a 32% participation and received the Reading banner.

UMW Special Mission Recognition

UMW Special Mission Recognition was awarded to Lora O'Connor on UMW Sunday. See the story on page 6.

Scouting Sunday



Scout Sunday for Pack and Troop 474 means giving back to our Chartering Organization, The First United Methodist Church. On February 11th, we cooked breakfast for the parishioners, served and sat with them for brunch. It was wonderful to meet our parishioners one on one. During service, Pastor Lynn shared Scouting with

the congregation and invited the Scout Leaders and Scouts to share what we have been doing. This year we were so honored to share the stage with the Girl Scout Troop 1896 who started meeting at our hall this fall. Thanks for bringing Girl Scout Cookies, Troop 1896!



February Circle Gatherings

Bookends

Thursday, March 8
9:30 am

Church Library

Book: *The Orphan's Tale*
by Pam Jenoff

Reviewer: Lynne German
Hostess and Devotions:
Virgene Engberg

Sarah Circle

Thursday, March 8
9:30 am

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

Faith, Hope & Love

Wednesday, March 21
7:00 pm

Church Library

Devotions and Program:
TBA

Hostess:
Lora O'Connor

Memorial Garden

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

Preschool News

We will start our Parent/Teacher conferences this month. This is a great time for our parents to see where their children are and what they need to work on. We have been told by several kindergarten teachers in the area how well prepared our kids are when they start kindergarten.

Hopefully the mischievous leprechauns will pay our classroom a visit again on St Patrick day! The kids love this!

We will be off for Spring Break the end of this month.

We have started enrollment for the Summer session and Fall session. If you know of any one who needs a great preschool, have them give us a call.

Wendy

An Invitation to Join the Easter Choir

There will be a joyful celebration of music on Easter Sunday, April 1. Come to Thursday night rehearsals (7:30 pm) and enjoy the fun, as the choir prepares two anthems for Easter Sunday.

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.

Super Bowl Report

On Sunday, February 4, the Super Bowl food drive netted 186 votes (in items of food) for the Eagles and 26 for the Patriots. Families served by the West Valley Food Pantry are grateful. There will be another food in-gathering on Sunday, March 4.



Next meeting
Tuesday,
March 6
11:00 am
Lounge

What? Bingo will be played and prizes awarded. What else? Prayers and love will be extended to those who need them. Laura Pomeroy will greet us at the door and inspire us with an appropriate devotion. Fellowship and laughter will be shared as well as a pot-luck lunch.

The Leisure Club wants to thank Lori and Tim O'Connor for their many years of service. You will be missed!!! In the meantime, Pat Taylor and her helpers will endeavor to fill their capable shoes. Our membership is dwindling! Encourage your friends to attend. A good time will be had.



Sunday March 25

The Family Life Committee invites you to join your church family for the traditional Palm Sunday Brunch in the Fellowship Hall following worship.



UMCOR Sunday March 11, 2018



Together, we reach children, families and communities who have experienced devastation in the wake of

disaster. When disaster strikes around the globe – Haiti's 2010 earthquake or Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 – so many watching the drama unfold on our living room televisions feel entirely helpless. How could any one person make a difference in the wake of such widespread devastation? As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, is prepared to act.

Your generous giving to *UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)* is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ's church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity – without regard to race, religion or gender – together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic need.

Because you give, the United Methodist Church's compassionate response to human suffering continues today:

- * When tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma, we responded.
- * When children in Zimbabwe lost parents to AIDS, we responded.
- * When a massive tsunami devastated lives in Japan, we responded.
- * And when the next mass crisis occurs, we will be prepared to respond.

UMCOR will be able to offer aid in Jesus' name to those who suffer because United Methodists give through UMCOR Sunday. Please give generously.



Stan Dimmick passed away peacefully on February 16. Please keep all of the Dimmick family in your prayers as they adjust to life without Stan. He leaves his wife Barbara, their four children, their spouses and grandchildren.

Thank you, Pastor Herb

Pastor Herb has decided, as he puts it, to "*hang up my robe.*" He's been preaching for almost 44 years now and will turn 84 this year. His decision was not easy. He's still well able to preach and really enjoys doing so. But his oncologist and family want him to take care of himself. So in the interest of his health and family, he is *literally* hanging up his robe for a suit and clergy shirt. He will continue to help with communion from time to time. And he might possibly preach, if Pastor Lynn is absolutely stuck for pulpit supply.

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, said, "I look upon all the world as my parish; thus far I mean, that, in whatever part of it I am, I judge it meet, right, and my bounden duty, to declare unto all that are willing to hear, the glad tidings of salvation." Pastor Herb, like John Wesley, looks upon all the world as his parish. So it was our joy and privilege to present him with a crystal globe paperweight.

Cooks Needed for Tuesday Shower Ministry

We need a hot, ready-to-go casserole for twenty on Tuesdays by 8:00 am.

Contact Beulah Hajek at 818-883-2616 or by e-mail BSorensonhajek@gmail.com to volunteer or sign up on the flyer posted on the bulletin board in the parlor. Donations to the Shower Ministry fund are always welcome.

UMW Special Mission Recognition – Lora O'Connor

Since the inception of our unit in 1973 our United Methodist Women's Unit has presented Special Mission Recognition Awards. A total of 69 awards have been presented to deserving people for their service to UMW and the church, as well as in other areas. On January 28, 2018, we recognized Lora O'Connor for her outstanding service to this church.

Lora O'Connor, and her sister Lindy, were born and raised in the San Fernando Valley. She attended and graduated from Granada Hills High School in 1967. One of the classes she loved was Home Economics, in which she won awards. After graduating from High School she studied at Pierce College for a short time and then went to work at the Great Western/Washington Mutual Bank for 15 years.

During vacations in Big Bear her stepfather, George, taught her to fish. She grew to love the sport and was twice a recipient of an award for the largest trout caught.

One night Lora decided to go to a dance club and there she met a nice young man named Tim who asked her to dance. They enjoyed themselves so much, they started dating. That was in 1967 and in June of 1969 they were married at the Chapel in the Canyon on Topanga Canyon. They raised two wonderful children – a son Sean and a daughter Kelly.

Lora loves cooking & baking. She enjoys making birthday cakes for family members, especially for her granddaughter Chloe. In addition, she is an avid supporter of her favorite sports teams – the LA Rams & LA Dodgers.

Lora was invited by her friend, Margaret Cates, to come to our church to hear her play the flute. She enjoyed the program so much that she and her



husband, Tim, started attending Sunday services. In 2008 they became members of Canoga Park First and immediately involved themselves in various areas of the church.

As a member of the Worship Committee, one of her desires was to assist with communion and change the paraments. She became a certified Lay servant in 2016.

Since 2013 she has acted as a liaison between the church and the Preschool Board, keeping the Administrative Committee updated on what is happening at our Preschool.

In addition she is a member of the Education Committee and has assisted with teaching our Sunday School on a rotation basis.

Lora became a member of United Methodist Women in 2009 and became a Member-at-large. She later joined Faith, Hope & Love Circle. In 2011 she joined the Mission Team as Hospitality Coordinator and has served on the team for 8 years.

In 2013 she assumed the position of President of Leisure Club. Another committee on which she serves is the Laura Longman Scholarship Committee. A few years ago she joined our Chancel Choir. She and Tim chaired BBQ suppers on Wonderful Wednesdays during August for a few years.

As you can see, most of the positions for which she volunteers harken back to her high school passion for Home Economics. In addition she provides dishes for the shower ministry, has served on the Family Life committee as well as assisting with fellowship time.

Jim and Marie Smith

Two weeks before Christmas, Marie and Jim Smith's mobile home and van burned to the ground. They got out with the dog, but lost everything else. The church family started a fund to help them relocate.



On February 5, Jim and Marie leased a studio apartment at The Press Courier Senior Apartments in Oxnard where her daughter and granddaughter live. The building is brand new. They're still completing the parking lot.

The church family gave money designated to help Jim and Marie relocate and money for the Good Samaritan fund to help where needed. We were able to pay the application fee, the deposits, and a month's rent. Your generosity also provided linens, pillows, pans, dishes, and utensils, as well as a TV and mattress, box springs and frame.

Marie and Jim are so very grateful for everything the church family has done. Jim says, "I've never known a church like this one!"

Seen below is the artist's rendering of the new buildings which is where the Smiths will make their new home. The building is so named because *The Press Courier* used to be published on that spot.

Directory Update

Jim and Marie Smith
300 W 9th St #111, Oxnard, CA 93030



Kay Hall's Family

Barbara, Ken & Lori
Dimmick; Gabrielle

George & Jackie Dutcher

Joan Kelley

La Dean Owen

Nancy Summer

Sue Rosen

The Unemployed

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



Peace Lilies



The Worship Ministry is offering the opportunity to sponsor a beautiful "peace lily" to decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Bulletin inserts will be available for you to place your orders and name the special people in whose honor or memory the plants are given.

Sunday March 11



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CANOGA PARK
22700 Sherman Way
West Hills, CA 91307-2396

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
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Permit #1