



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

Summer 2018

Heart to Heart

Stan and I were eating soup and salad at Souplantation. A large extended family came in. Seven adults sat at two tables next to the kids' table. It was a happy gathering, especially when the four kids realized they got to sit together in a booth without parents or grandparents. That was fun!

The moms and dads immediately brought the kids drinks and food. The kids were glad to see lots of macaroni and cheese. Then, the parents went to fix their plates. That's when something special happened.

The kids were different ages – probably seven, six, four and two years old. When the parents left, the oldest child said something to the other children. I didn't hear what she said, but this is what happened next. The kids bowed their heads and said a prayer.

God is great; God is good.
Let us thank him for our food.
By God's hands, we all are fed.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Amen.

The three older children said the words together. The little one just bowed her head, scrunched her eyes, and held them tightly shut with her fingers. And when the older ones said, Amen, she said, Amen.

Proverbs 22:6 – King James Version - immediately came to mind. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." That's the promise Grandma Stipulkosky claimed for her children.

I remember the King James Version, but I also like the New Revised Standard Version. "Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray."

I like Proverbs 22:6 and claimed the promise for my own children. It is important to train children in the right way. But children grow up and sometimes stray from their childhood faith. So, it helps to remember that when our sons and daughters are baptized, they belong to God. And even when they wander far away, the gracious father is watching for the prodigal to come home.

Pastor Lynn Westover



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



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
Codependents Anonymous, Lounge, 7:00 pm
Tuesday Narcotics Anonymous, Hall, 7:30 pm
- Wednesday Men's Stag AA meeting, Parlor, 7:00 pm

Other Activities in July

- Wednesday 4 Independence Day, office closed
- Saturday 7 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Tuesday 10 Administrative Committee, Library, 7:00 pm
- Thursday 12 Bookends, Library, 9:30 am
Sarah Circle, Denny's, 9:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Tuesday 17 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am
- Wednesday 18 Faith, Hope & Love, Dinner at Olive Garden, 6:30 pm
- Sunday 29 Fifth Sunday Potluck, following worship, Parlor

Other Activities in August

- Saturday 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Thursday 9 Bookends, Sagebrush Cantina, Calabasas, noon
Sarah Circle, Denny's, 9:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Tuesday 14 Administrative Committee, Library, 7:00 pm
- Wednesday 15 Courier Deadline for September issue
- Tuesday 21 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library, 10:00 am

Upcoming in September

- Saturday. 1 Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Denny's, 8:30 am
Topanga Canyon Blvd., just north of Roscoe Blvd.
- Thursday 6 UMW Mission Team Meeting, Room 10, 10:00 am



Leisure Club takes summer vacation until October

July Birthdays

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

July Anniversaries

- 7 Lou & Sharon Mountford
- 15 Robin & Ricky Abernathy
- 26 Robert & Flo Lamb

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



ALTAR FLOWERS

For July

- 1 Open
- 8 Lou and Sharon Mountford in honor of their 56th wedding anniversary
- 15 Open
- 22 Open
- 29 Open



Circle Meetings for July

Bookends: Thursday, July 12, at 9:30 am in the Library.
The book entitled "Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman will be reviewed by Margaret Cates. Donna Nall will be hostess and lead devotions.

Sarah Circle: Thursday, July 12, at 9:30 am – Breakfast at Denny's Restaurant, Topanga Canyon Blvd at Roscoe Blvd.

Faith, Hope & Love: Wednesday, July 18, at 6:30 pm – Dinner at the Olive Garden, Fallbrook Mall.

Circle Meetings for August

Bookends: Thursday, August 9, Noon at Sagebrush Cantina, Calabasas

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

Faith, Hope & Love: No Meeting

Future Meetings

UMW Mission Team

Thursday, September 6th at 10:00 in Room 10.

UMW General Meeting

Thursday, September 20th at 9:30 am in the lounge

UMW North District Annual Celebration

Saturday, September 22nd at First UMC Pasadena



August Birthdays

- 1 Grace Leighton
- 2 Sabra Pittenger
- 4 Grant Simmons
- 5 Tom Nowlin
Lee Smith
- 8 Irene Miller
- 12 Helen Robertson
- 15 Charlotte Girvan
Tim O'Connor
- 16 Dean Lottman
- 18 Johnny Ramirez
- 19 Liz Rogers
- 20 Nick Aiani
- 26 Mary Beth Godwin
- 29 Jennifer Alderman

August Anniversaries

- 4 Ken & Lori Dimmick
- 7 Stan & Cathy Plucinik
- 21 Jeff & Grace Leighton
- 27 Don & Evelyn Heim

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



ALTAR FLOWERS

For August

- 5 Given by the Dimmick family in honor of Ken & Lori Dimmick's anniversary
- 12 Given by Liz Rogers in honor of Janet Fox's birthday
- 19 Open
- 26 Given by Pat Connolly in honor of Jennifer Alderman



Pastor Lynn Reappointed

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



Preschool Program

Preschool children and their families gathered on 8 June to celebrate the end-of-the-year. One hundred ninety-two (192) people filled the sanctuary with excitement. Students graduating to kindergarten were recognized and answered the question, *What I want to be when I grow up*. Some answers follow.

I want to be a ballerina.

I want to be a fireman.

I want to be Dr. Woman.

Wendy's Report

We had 11 students graduate at our end-of-the year program! It was a very special day.

Summer school started on June 19th and it will run through July 26th.

We will start our fall session on August 14th.

Wendy

Shower Ministry

Thank you for signing up to help provide food on Tuesday mornings. Sign up on the bulletin board in the parlor.

Sunday School

Farewell to Jackie and Joshua Gardner

It was a tearful time as we celebrated Jackie and Joshua's final Sunday before they move and begin a new adventure. Their ministry with children and youth has been remarkable. They have invested their time, talent and love as they taught Sunday School. The Sunday School gave them a gift and letters of gratitude. The church gave them antique glass candleholders and candles to remind them how they let their light shine. The old song puts it this way, "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine." The prayer shawl ministry sent them off with a prayer shawl, so that they would always know that God and we wrap them in love.

Sunday School Teachers

We will be searching for new teachers for our children and youth. September is the start date. If you are interested in serving or have an excellent idea, tell Pastor Lynn.

Sunday School is on break for the summer.

Congratulations are in Order



The Finley Boys

Garett Finley graduated with honors from El Camino Real Charter High School on June 8. He leaves behind quite a legacy; he holds the record for the longest-running Ball Boy/Manager for the Varsity Football team. Ten years!

Garett will be attending CSUN in the Fall, majoring in Broadcast Journalism.

Kyle Finley ran track for the first time this Spring. He ran the 110 and 300 hurdles. After the first preseason meet he was moved up to Varsity. As a freshman he ended the season with many medals and holds the first place in the city. We're very proud of him!

Marcela's Boys

Erick Rodrigues graduated on June 7 from Canoga Park High School. He will be attending Pierce College this summer.

Dominic Bautista graduated on June 5 from Capistrano Elementary School. The family still doesn't know what middle school he will be attending in August.



UMW Special Mission Recognition ... Ken Dimmick

A suggestion was made 13 years ago by a member of the United Methodist Women's Mission Team that we recognize a man in our congregation by awarding him a UMW Special Mission Recognition award for his hard work, volunteerism and dedication. There are a number of dedicated men currently in our church who spend numerous hours volunteering their time to make our church the best possible place in which to worship. Their many and varied gifts are appreciated and we say thank you to each one of them.

Our selection this year is Ken Dimmick, who was raised in Nebraska, the second of four children. His family moved to California when he was about 3 years old and settled in the San Fernando Valley, where Ken attended Enadia Way Elementary, Columbus Junior High and Canoga Park High School, graduating in 1974. Ken's prowess for football was evident and he was scouted by major universities. However, in his senior year he was injured during a football game that resulted in irreparable knee damage, sidelining his chance for collegiate play.

Ken loves all things mechanical and automotive. Motorcycle riding, dune bugging, water skiing and camping were some of his favorite things to do when he was growing up. He was a member of the Boy Scouts, enjoying photography and printing as a young teen. His first car was given to him by his father – a 1955 VW hunter green bug – the colors of his high school. As a teenager he entered the work force working at a nursery, a local Carl's Junior, and a local nursing home in the dietary department, while trying to find his pathway in life. Eventually he found that auto mechanics would be his future. He had a knack for tinkering with cars, courtesy of his father who owned and operated his own



Lori and Ken Dimmick

mechanic shop. He loved to loiter around his dad's shop on school days off.

Ken met his first wife Sue through a family member. It was love at first sight and they eventually married in 1982. Their first child was born at the end of that year; however, when she was two, God took her to be at home in heaven. Six months after her passing they welcomed a son. The family moved to Arizona to make a fresh start after the loss of their daughter. In 1987, they moved from

extreme heat to extreme cold, moving to Minnesota. Wherever they lived Ken had the opportunity to work in the mechanic field.

The stress of the loss of a child eventually took its toll on the family and a divorce ensued. During the lowest time of his life he heard God calling him to change his life. As God would have it, Ken found his way back to his faith with the support of his parents and the congregation of First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park.

Ken worked as a mechanic and also had a mobile mechanic business on the side. He built up a great clientele, including some famous actors which included Dan Haggerty who went on to become a good friend. Ken, like his father, was very generous with his time and would fix cars for those in need whether they could afford to pay him or not.

Ken joined First United Methodist Church of Canoga Park in the early 1990's along with his parents. He was baptized at this church. In 1997 he became an active participant on the Family Life Committee, serving for many years. He volunteered his spare time helping out the church any way he could. When Pastor Willie joined the congregation, he convinced Ken to become an usher. He has continued as head usher ever since.

Continued on next page

For a couple of years he headed up the sound system crew. In addition he was a member of the Property and Upkeep Committee for several years. He assists with setting up tables for various church functions. He repairs locks on the doors. Ken was proud that during all those years he never missed a week in church. He was always the first to arrive to heat the sanctuary before the congregation came, and was often the very last to leave. In addition he played Santa for several years, helped with the Annual BBQ, assisted with sorting the Christmas

Gifts for the children and prepares the Rose Garden for interments.

In 2011, Ken met his current wife, Lori, while bowling, one of his favorite pastimes. He bowled in several leagues at a time and looked forward to sweeps in Las Vegas. One Sunday he brought Lori to church and the rest is history. They married on August 4, 2012 at the FUMCCP by Pastor Herb and they honeymooned in Alaska. They remain active members of the church.

Shirley Thomson

God has a positive answer

YOU SAY	GOD SAYS	BIBLE VERSES
It's impossible	All things are possible	Luke 18:27
I'm too tired	I will give you rest	Matthew 11:28-30
Nobody loves me	I love you	John 3:16 John 3:34
I can't go on	My grace is sufficient	2Corinthians 12:9 Psalms 91:15
I can't figure things out	I will direct your steps	Proverbs 3:5&6
I can't do it	You can do all things	Philippians 4:13
I'm not able	I am able	2Corinthians 9:8
It's not worth it	It will be worth it	Romans 8:28
I can't forgive myself	I forgive you	1John 1:9, Romans 8:1
I can't manage	I will supply all your needs	Philippians 4:19
I'm afraid	I have not given you a spirit of fear	2Timothy 1:7
I'm always worried and frustrated	Cast all your cares on ME	1Peter 5:7
I'm not smart enough	I will give you wisdom	1Corinthians 1:30
I feel all alone	I will never leave you	Hebrews-13:5

Friends to Remember



Joan Kelley

A visit with Joan at her Senior Living Home, on a cool day in May, found her wrapped in the beautiful prayer shawl Dawn Hromaka had made. "It's so warm and light weight," Joan said.

She welcomes visits and hopes to have her own phone soon. You can call Jeannie, Joan's caregiver, at 818-233-5922, if you would like to visit.

Her address is:

22740 Hatteras Street. #3,
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Ginny Scannell

Ginny is enjoying her new home in South Carolina, very close to her son.

The Blake at Edgewater
1099 Edgewater Corporate Pkwy, #U201
Indian Land, South Carolina, 29707-4523

Telephone: 803-310-4242 (The Blake at Edgewater)

LaDean Owen

LaDean would love short visits from old friends. Please call first to be sure she is receiving visitors, 818-348-1080.



From the Mailbox

To the Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Thank you so much for the beautiful shawl. I feel the blessing when I wrap it around me.

Betty Phillippi



Dear Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship Committee,

Thank you and your congregation for helping me succeed through my college career. The Laura Longman Memorial Scholarship was an integral part of keeping me graduating in four years and helping me stay focused on my studies.

I wanted to share the good news that I received the award of 'Excellence Among All Digital Media Students' and was named Valedictorian upon graduation.

I hope I have continued to bring honor to Laura's legacy. Thank you for your Faith and generosity.

Andrew Zesiger,

*Kendall College of Art and Design
Ferris State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan*



**FOOD
PANTRY**

You are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items on the first Sunday of every month.

Your much-appreciated contributions are taken to the West Valley Food Pantry for distribution to their clients.

Our Scouts

In the month of May, Scouts participated in some Pack and Troop honored traditions. This is the month where Scouts offer their service in honor of our fallen soldiers.

First, our Scouts, along with other Troops and Packs in West Los Angeles, offered their service to place American flags on



graves of fallen soldiers at the Los Angeles National Cemetery on Saturday, May 26th. This is one of our unit's favorite

events of the year, when, in less than 30 minutes, we can turn a field of green into a field of red, white and blue.



Elmo Maiden served as a Grand Marshal for the Canoga Park Memorial Day Parade.



The following Monday, May 28th, both of our units participated in the Canoga Park Memorial Day Parade. This is the second year we have joined other West Valley Troops and Packs in showing reverence for the day by bearing the colors down Sherman Way. Almost 200 Boy, Girl, and Cub Scouts were in attendance.

Victor Avalos



Tom Nowlin
George Dutcher
Willie Wilhelm
Joan Kelley
La Dean Owen
Ann Peterson
Jean Smith
Dawn Hromadka
Mary Beth Godwin
Laurie Berger
Brian Finley



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



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22700 Sherman Way
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Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Canoga Park, CA
Permit #1



An Unusual Request: Wands for Wildlife

Send old mascara wands to Appalachian Wildlife Refuge. The group distributes the brushes to volunteers for cleaning the feathers and fur of injured and orphaned animals, so they can be returned to their natural habitats.



Visit appalachianwild.org for more info.