



THE TRYLON

SIERRA MADRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

695 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024-2288

PHONE: (626) 355-0629

E-MAIL: sierramadreumc@gmail.com

Follow us on **TWITTER.com:** @SierraMadreUMC

FACEBOOK at www.facebook.com/UMCSierraMadre

WEBSITE: www.smumc.net

September 2021

from Pastor Sharon

“What we must do is commit ourselves to some future that can include each other and to work toward that future with the particular strengths of our individual identities. And in order to do this, we must allow each other our differences at the same time as we recognize our sameness.”

-- Audre Lorde --

Dear brothers and sisters,

The Christian faith is communal. We can't do it alone. We can only live our faith in community.

As my confirmation teacher taught us back in the dinosaur days, the ember goes cold if you move it away from the fire. To keep the fire going, us embers have to stick together.

We've been having some great communal gatherings this summer. The potlucks at the parsonage and in the church library -- we laughed and talked and shared good food. We spun dreams and visions of our past, present and future together. Thank you to June Drenten, Amy Crismer, and Candace Taylor for shopping, set-up and clean-up. Thank you to everyone for all the delicious food and great stories. Special thanks to June for her joyful, bottomless energy and generosity of time.

The Tuesday/Wednesday Bible study folks wrapped up a five-week video study of Ray Vander Laan's holy land tours and teachings on *"Israel's Mission, Becoming a Kingdom of Priests in a Prodigal World."*

from Pastor Sharon (continued)

The new members and sponsors enjoyed a Bagels Brunch at Sally Follett's beautiful home. Thank you, Sally. And a joyful welcome to Sally and to Ann Dechairo-Marino as official members of this church family.

The choir met on Sunday mornings, with a brief hiatus in August. Thank you, Jill Schofield, for your musical leadership. And we met at Connie Wortham's for Book Club every fourth Friday. Thank you Connie!

Leaders and committees met, as needed, to keep the practical upkeep of our mission and ministry functioning. Thank you, Peg Schuster (Finance Chairperson), Bob Travis (Trustees, Council, Foundation Chair), Jill Schofield (SPRC Chair; Lay Leader), Barbie Bevington (Treasurer), Amy Crismer and June Drenten (Outreach Ministries Co-Chairs), Candace Taylor (Bookkeeper), and Laura Snyder (Financial Secretary). Thank you to Pam Ferguson, our Church Secretary and communication central. And an official welcome to Francisco Acero, our new Church Custodian; he is doing an outstanding job of cleaning and maintaining the property.

Each Sunday we have gathered to worship the God who loves us and to witness to the Spirit that dwells among us and testifies to Jesus' presence and power in our midst.

As we return to the activities of the school year, holidays, fall-winter-spring calendar of events, may you always be centered in the beloved community, the community of God in Christ Jesus. We are still coming out of the year of COVID, with questions about what 2021-22 will look like. God is with us and we are together through it all. We are not alone.

There is a place for you here. If you are looking for a group to plug into, a study to undertake, a purpose to commit to, just ask. If you have a need, a prayer request, a struggle you are dealing with, let us know. You are a precious child of God. You are a precious, desired part of this church family.

*Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*

1 John 4:7

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Sharon

sharon.snappkolas@gmail.com

661-810-3953, cell

Bible Study at the Parsonage meets on Tuesday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

This fall we are studying:

Mere Christianity, by C. S. Lewis, with “*Discussing Mere Christianity*” videos hosted by Eric Metaxas; study guide by Devin Brown.

Mere Christianity sessions are interspersed with sessions on Early Christianity, a Ray Vander Laan Bible study series of Holy Land videos.

Mere Christianity is a classic of Christian literature, written by the author of the beloved Narnia books.

Topics covered in this study of Lewis’s profound book include:

- Our Sense of Right and Wrong
- What’s Behind Our Sense of Right and Wrong
- The Rival Conceptions of God
- Free Will and the Shocking Alternative
- Christian Behavior and the Great Sin of Pride
- The Christian Virtue of Hope; God in Three Persons
- Counting the Cost

Each session is self-contained, come when you can! Come to either – Wednesdays are a repeat of Tuesday sessions.

Bible study is a great time of fellowship and learning together, with lots of laughter and deepening of friendships. Hope to see you soon at Bible study.

Bible study on Facebook and email

How can we apply the scriptures and this week’s sermon to our daily lives in meaningful ways? A Bible study handout is emailed each week, on the theme of the previous Sunday’s Bible passage, for personal use. The study is also posted on Facebook; snail-mail upon request. Please contact the church office for more info; Pam will be happy to assist you.

Pastor Sharon is happy to facilitate a group study for you and two or more friends; please contact her if you are ready to organize a Bible study group.

September Lectionary Readings:

September 5	Prov. 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Jas. 2: 1-17; Mark 7: 24-37
September 12	Prov. 1: 20-33; Jas. 3: 1-12; Mark 8: 27-38
September 19	Prov. 31: 10-31; Jas. 3: 13 – 4: 3, 7-8a; Mark 9: 30-37
September 26	Esth. 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22; Jas. 5: 13-20; Mark 9: 38-50

Weekly Psalms for September:

September 5	Psalms 125
September 12	Psalms 19
September 19	Psalms 1
September 26	Psalms 124

Pastor Sharon's sermon titles and worship themes for September (9:30 a. m. Sunday unless otherwise indicated)

September 5	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Communion Sunday <i>“Listen . . . Speak . . .”</i>
September 12	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost <i>“My Mind is Stayed on Jesus”</i>
September 19	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost <i>“Silent Disciples -- ”</i>
September 26	Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost <i>“Who is ‘Us’”</i>



The **Outreach Team** thanks you all for your support of the Back-to-School collection effort. All the backpacks and other supplies were delivered to Foothill Unity and the monetary donations (\$220) were sent to Friends in Deed. Every year these organizations distribute school supplies to low-income families in the local community.

Jill Schofield, Lay Leader

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

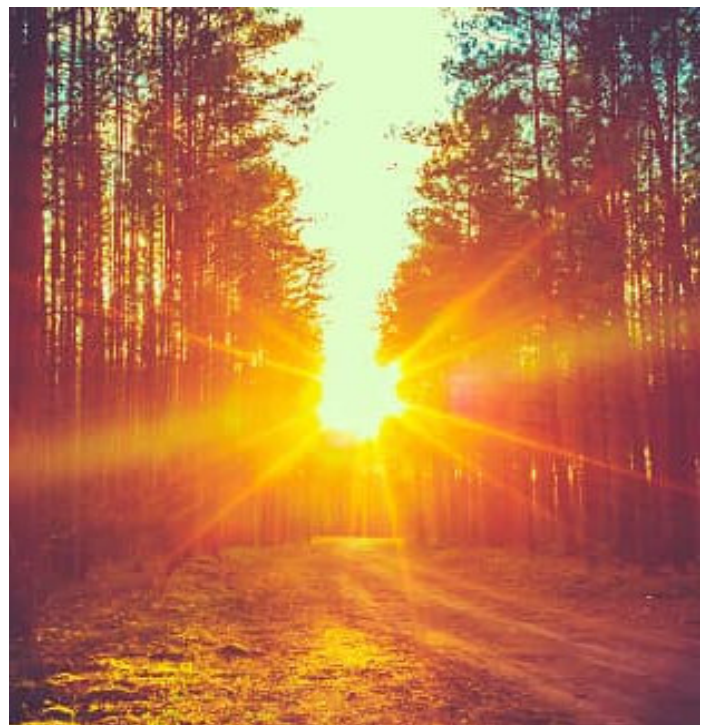
“Read-through-the-Bible” 2022:

Pastor Sharon is inviting our church family to read through the Bible in a year. We will be using a great resource created by Nicky Gumbel, pioneer of the Alpha Course and pastor of Holy Trinity Brompton in London. Pastor Nicky’s resource includes daily readings sent to your email and cell phone, with devotional and study aids if you want to go deeper. You can check it out at bibleinoneyear.org.

For those who want to gather regularly to discuss our daily readings, a group or groups will be formed to do so. Please contact the church office, Jill Schofield or Pastor Sharon to sign up, or for more info. We will begin January 1, 2022. Plan now to start the New Year reading God’s Word together.



THE CHOIR rehearses at 8:30am each Sunday. Newcomers are warmly welcomed! Just come to a rehearsal; or see Jill Schofield or Pastor Sharon if you have any questions.



WORSHIP NOTES

These notes describe the protocols we have been following since we first returned to in-person worship on June 20. The procedures we are following come from the Cal-Pac United Methodist Conference, and from the County health department.

Thank you for your patience, caring and cooperation while we all do our best to keep each other safe and healthy – as we praise God together in our beautiful sanctuary!!

Sanctuary Worship – 9:30AM:

- Wear a mask. For now we are wearing masks in worship. Extra masks are available if you forget to bring yours.
- Clean up after ourselves. We learned this one in kindergarten. Use the hand sanitizer, handwipes and other cleaning products that have been provided around the church buildings, including the sanctuary, the office, the restrooms, and any areas in use. Be safe.
- Communion will be served in individually wrapped packets that contain both a wafer and juice. You may pick up your Communion packet at the door as you arrive for worship. Communion will be received in the pews.
- Sing! Because we are wearing masks, we have been given the go-ahead for congregational singing in worship. Woo-hoo!
- Be sensitive to one another. Some are ready for hugs; others are not. Some want six feet of social-distancing; others are ready to cuddle. Respect one another's space. Ask before you hug, or shake hands. That's a good life rule, in general. Elbow-bumps and fist-bumps are still OK.
- We may not be able to have coffee fellowship for awhile; we'll see. But we can still talk and socialize a bit after worship before we head to our cars.
- Not everyone will feel ready, yet, to return to in-person worship. Not everyone will be able to come to in-person worship. We hold in our hearts and prayers all our members and friends; the Spirit binds us together, even when we are physically apart.

Please feel free to contact the church office if you have any questions about worship protocols at SMUMC.



WHY?

JOIN A BOOK CLUB

?????

MANY THANKS to **Sally Follett** for this contribution!

1. Meet people outside of usual circle.
2. An inexpensive activity.
3. Reading is good for brain activity.
4. Read differently when you are going to discuss.
5. Prompts discussion.
6. Reading offers choices, expands horizons.
7. Read a book you would not have - adds diversity.
8. Fun to meet and chat.
9. Pushes you to finish a book.
10. Encourages background reading.
11. Makes you a better conversationalist.
12. Increases vocabulary.
13. Dinosaurs did not read. Look what happened to them!

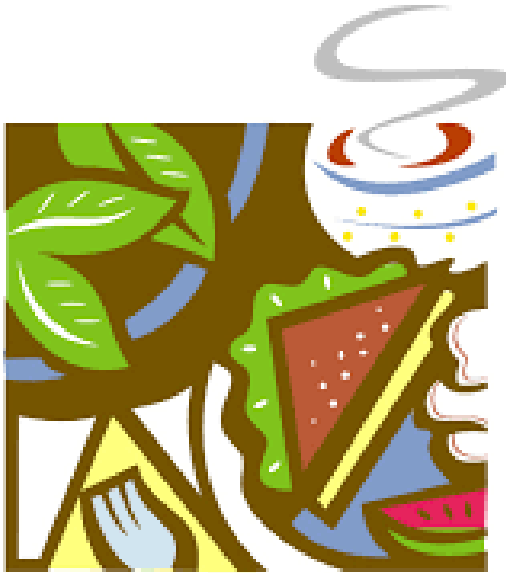


RUMMAGE WORK DAY

SATURDAY, September 18th – 9:00 a.m.

Rummage Room

All distancing and safety procedures will be in place.



LUNCH

BUNCH

It is rumored that, in the past, people would gather at a local restaurant after worship on Sunday for brunch. **CASA DEL REY 9/12**

Once a month someone would make reservations for however many indicated they would like to come. Sometimes extra people would show up; sometimes fewer people would show up than were expected. No worries. Very low key. Just fun, food and fellowship after church.

Would you be interested in starting up **The Lunch Bunch** again after worship? If so, please communicate your interest to the church office or a church leader. Or jot down your input in an email or a snail mail and send it in. Let's do brunch!

THIS SPACE FOR HIRE!

Actually, I'll mention the Boutique - to remind you that we need your crafts! The AGF / Boutique is scheduled for early December. Details will follow as they are finalized.

Anyone with extra yarn? Yvonne Miller needs some supplies to keep knitting!

Better get your Rummage to the Church soon – that Work Day is on the 18th even though the Sale in has been cancelled.

Blessings



SARAH CIRCLE

Book Club meets
every Fourth Friday
of the month

Connie Wortham's
House



- 8 Rev. Inman Moore
- 11 Anna Garzzia
Carolina Garzzia
- 13 Christopher Schofield
- 16 Paulianne Werthwein
- 19 Sadie Vannier
- 23 Connie Wortham
- 26 Peg Schuster
- 27 Laura Snyder
- 29 Margaret Herndon



- 2 Liz and Ed Peterson
- 9 Jill and Tim Schofield
- 20 Leticia and Steve Bridal

GARD CREATION

meetings will be
announced. Call
Connie Wortham if
you want to meet
her individually to
make cards.
(626) 351-9260



Church
Office Hours

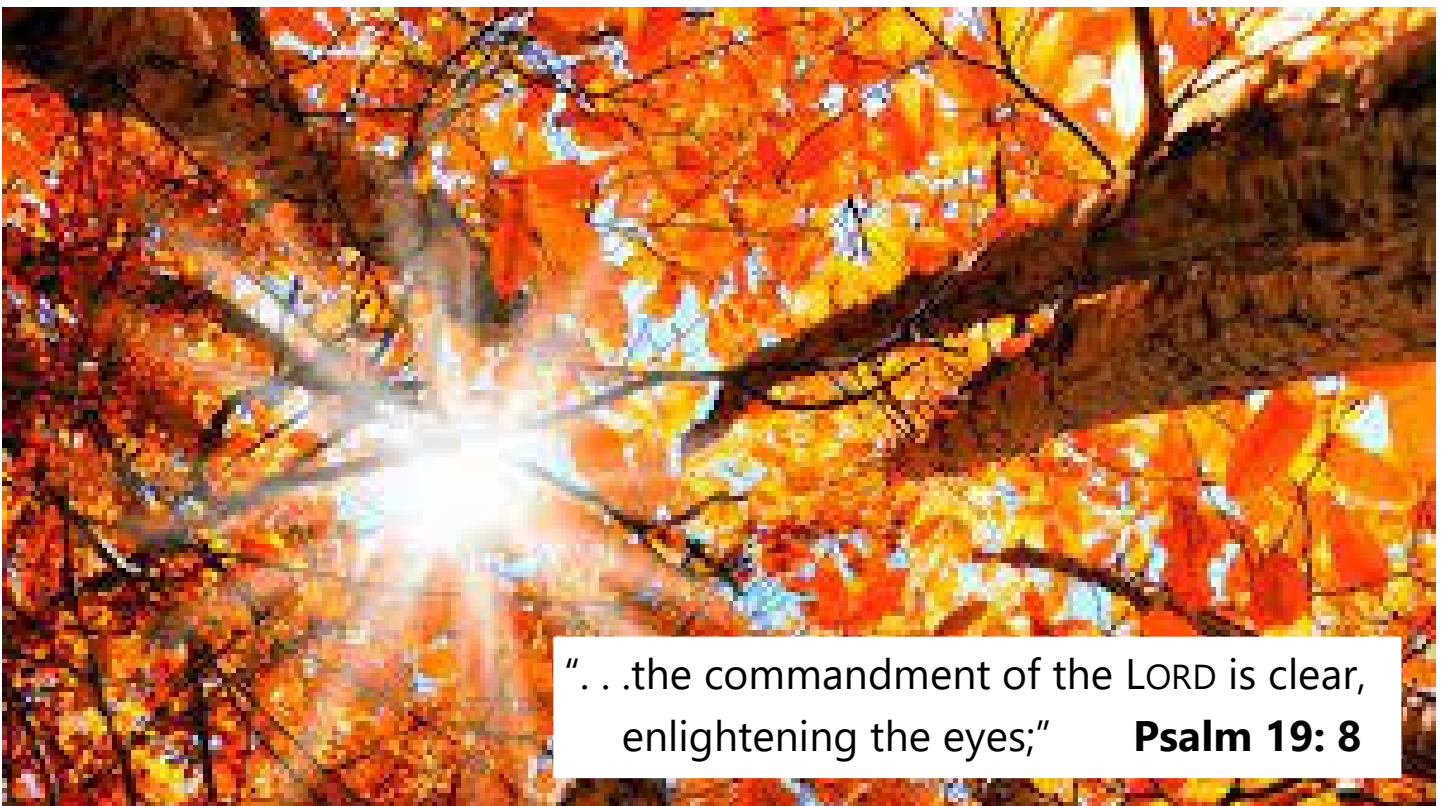
The Church
Office is open
Monday through
Friday from 9 am
to 1 pm. You
can also contact
us at our email
addresses:

sm_umc@verizon.net
sierramadreumc@gmail.com

Office Telephone:
(626) 355-0629



**Sierra Madre
United Methodist Church
695 W Sierra Madre Blvd
Sierra Madre, CA 91024**



“. . .the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;” **Psalm 19: 8**

SEPTEMBER

Sierra Madre United Methodist Church

695 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024

2021

(626) 355-0629 * E-mail: sm_umc@verizon.net * www.smumc.net * Follow us on TWITTER.com @SierraMadreUMC

SUNDAY

MONDAY




TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>29</p> <p>Abbreviations LL = Library Lounge SH = Sierra House SHCR = Sierra House Conference Room HH = Hartzell Fellowship Hall WC = Wesley Chapel</p>		<p>31</p> <p>* Worship by tele- / video-conferencing. ** All meetings to be verified</p>	<p>1</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE – 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 15th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. – Worship *</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE – 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE – 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> 
<p>12 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. – Worship *</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE – 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE – 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>RUMMAGE WORKDAY 9:00 a.m. SH</p>
<p>19 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. – Worship *</p>	<p>20</p>  <p>NATIONAL GIBBERISH DAY</p>	<p>21</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY 3:00 p.m. Finance Committee 4:00 p.m. - ZOOM</p>	<p>22</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE – 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>SARAH CIRCLE ** Connie Wortham's house</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. – Worship *</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY 3:00 p.m. Card Creation ** Connie Wortham's house</p>	<p>29</p> <p>BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE – 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>NOTE: BIBLE STUDY sessions each week are the same – Tuesday and Wednesday</p>	<p>2</p>