



October 2021



THE TRYLON

SIERRA MADRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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faith >>
FORWARD

Our Annual Stewardship
Campaign is Coming!

Moving Forward By Faith

*“ . . . without faith it is impossible to please God,
for whoever would approach him
must believe that he exists and that
he rewards those who seek him.”*

Hebrews 11: 6

Watch for your Stewardship Letter, and please return Pledge Cards promptly.

RUMMAGE



The FALL
RUMMAGE SALE

has been

CANCELLED

Further details TBA

from Pastor Sharon

The typical expression of opening Friendship would be something like, “What? You too? I thought I was the only one.”

-- C.S. Lewis --

Dear brothers and sisters,

Lillian Daniel once wrote about her dread of being seated on an airplane next to someone who, upon learning she is an ordained minister, declares, “I’m spiritual but not religious.” Daniel comments:

“These people always find God in the sunsets... Like people who go to church don't see God in the sunset! ... Thank you for sharing, spiritual-but-not-religious sunset person. You are now comfortably in the norm for self-centered American culture, right smack in the bland majority of people who find ancient religions dull but find themselves uniquely fascinating. Can I switch seats now and sit next to someone who has been shaped by a mighty cloud of witnesses instead? Can I spend my time talking to someone brave enough to encounter God in a real human community?” (*Lillian Daniel, 7/31/15, “Spiritual But Not Religious? Please Stop Boring Me,” www.lilliandaniel.com*).

I agree. I have a similar dread. Often I withhold my vocational identity, instead answering the “What do you do?” question with something vague, like “non-profit work with the homeless” or some other piece of the complex ministries of the church.

Or better yet, I open a book as soon as I take my seat on the plane, focus intently on the page, and avoid the question – and the questioner! -- altogether.

Here’s what I believe. To claim that we are spiritual but not religious is to say that we have not gone deeply into a particular faith community. It is to say that we are open to everything and committed to nothing. It is a superficial, naïve, trivial approach to connection with God. At the same time, those who claim to be ‘spiritual but not religious’ are clearly searching... We are called to come alongside them and to support them in their search.

(continues next page)

From Pastor Sharon *(continued)*

In this edition of the Trylon, there are many opportunities to go deeper, and to invite others to go deeper, in the search for a connection with God. There are Bible studies, fellowship gatherings, Book Club, Lunch Bunch, worship events, community events, service events, and more.

Go deeper into your faith community. Invite a friend to join you.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Sharon

sharon.snappkolas@gmail.com

661-810-3953, cell

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Ann Dechairo-Marino *(sponsor: JoAnn Williams)*

Sally Follett *(sponsor: Connie Wortham)*

On Sunday, August 29, our church family celebrated with great joy Ann Dechairo-Marino and Sally Follett as they took their membership vows. Of course, they have been a part of the family for a long time, already! What a joy to make it official.

Ann and Sally vowed to support the Sierra Madre United Methodist Church with their prayers, presence, gifts and service. In so doing, they reminded us of our own vows to do the same.

Ann and Sally spoke briefly about the experiences that led them to take this step of membership. Their witness touched our hearts.

In response to the new members vows, the congregation is charged to “Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love” (UMH, p. 38).

That’s a tall order. I think it means, “welcome them in Christian love,” which means invite them to events and gatherings, include them in social get-togethers, and allow them to get involved wherever their gifts and interests lead them.

God bless you, Ann and Sally. Welcome to the Sierra Madre UMC family. SMUMC is stronger and more vibrant because you are here.

October Lectionary Readings:

October 3	Job 1: 1, 2: 1-10; Heb. 1: 1-4, 2: 5-12; Mark 10: 2-16
October 10	Job 23: 1-9, 16-17; Heb. 4: 12-16; Mark 10: 17-31
October 17	Job 38: 1-7, (34-41); Heb. 5: 1-10; Mark 10: 35-45
October 24	Job 42: 1-6, 10-17; Heb. 7: 23-28; Mark 10: 46-52
October 31	Ruth 1: 1-18; Heb. 9: 11-14; Mark 12: 28-34\

Weekly Psalms for October:

October 3	Psalm 26
October 10	Psalm 22: 1-15
October 17	Psalm 104: 1-9, 24, 35c
October 24	Psalm 34: 1-8 (19-22)
October 31	Psalm 146

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

October 3	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost World Communion Sunday <i>“Loving God, Broken World”</i>
October 10	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost <i>“First Steps”</i>
October 17	Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost <i>“Sons and Daughters of Zebedee”</i>
October 24	Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost <i>“Take Heart”</i>
October 31	Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost <i>“Love God; Love Your Neighbor”</i>



CONGRATULATIONS !!!
to YVONNE MILLER
for passing her U. S. Citizenship Test
Well Done, Yvonne

BIBLE STUDY

at the Parsonage

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

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.



“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.



DONATE YOUR LEFTOVER CANDY

Through the month of October

Bring to Church on Sundays or drop it at the Church Office. Cash donations also welcome.



THE CHOIR

Rehearses at **8:30 a.m.** every **Sunday**.
Newcomers are warmly welcomed!
All you have to do is show up early for rehearsal; or see **Jill Schofield** or **Pastor Sharon** if you have any

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.

Lunch Bunch

What is it?

WHO: Everyone! All are welcomed.

WHAT: Lunch/brunch.

WHERE: **October 10** – Sally Follett’s home.

November 14 – Bob & Susan Ross’ home.

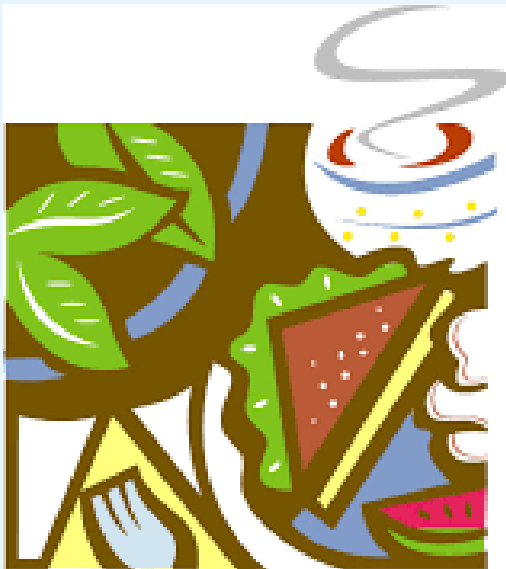
December 12 – a holiday potluck in the Church Library.

WHEN: The second Sunday of each month, following the worship service.

WHY: Fun, food, and fellowship. Friendship evangelism – invite a friend or a family member – even if they didn’t come to church! They can meet you for lunch/brunch and get to know your church family in a relaxed setting.

HOW: How did Lunch Bunch get started (again)? A few people decided they wanted to go out for lunch/brunch after church on the second Sunday of September. “A few” ended up being a crowd of ten. Sally, Bob and Susan offered to host Lunch Bunch at their respective homes for October and November; the group decided wouldn’t it be fun to have a potluck at the church for December, and decorate!

Questions: Contact the church office.



LUNCH

BUNCH

world
communion
sunday



sunday,
october 3rd

CHURCH CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4th
ZOOM - 10:30 a.m.

ALL ARE INVITED!

The Conference will follow the **9:30 a.m. meeting** between **SPRC** and the District Superintendent representative. Both meetings will be on **ZOOM**, access information will be provided before the meetings. Charge Conference forms have changed, and there are workshops offered to guide you through the changes. All forms to be submitted online. Contact the Church Office for information.



SARAH CIRCLE

Book Club meets
every Fourth Friday
of the month

Connie Wortham's
House

GARD CREATION

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



October — BIRTHDAYS —



- 1 David Crismer**
- 3 Dee Suzuki**
Steve Bridal
- 19 Ed Peterson**
- 25 Dick Johnson**
- 27 Phyllis Jenkins**
- 30 Sue Crisp**



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**



“Our help is in the name of the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.” Psalm 124: 8

OCTOBER

2021

Sierra Madre United Methodist Church

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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>3 19th Sunday after Pentecost World Communion Sunday 9:30 a.m. - Worship</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5 BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE - 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>6 NOMINATIONS ??? BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1 WORLD SMILE DAY</p> 	<p>2</p>
<p>10 20th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. - Worship</p> 	<p>11 Happy Canadian Thanksgiving</p> 	<p>12 BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE - 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>13 BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>16 GLOBAL CAT DAY</p> 
<p>17 21st Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. - Worship</p> <p>NOMATIONS COMMITTEE ?????</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 BIBLE STUDY 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Finance Committee 4:00 p.m. - ZOOM</p>	<p>20 BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>21 The Great California Shake Out</p>	<p>22 SARAH CIRCLE ** Connie Wortham's house</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. - Worship</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 BIBLE STUDY 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Card Creation ** Connie Wortham's house</p>	<p>27 BIBLE STUDY at the PARSONAGE 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>28 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 23rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. - Worship</p> 	<p>1</p>	<p>2 ** All meetings to be verified</p>	<p>3 NOTE: BIBLE STUDY sessions each week are the same - Tuesday and Wednesday</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Abbreviations LL = Library Lounge SH = Sierra House SHCR = Sierra House Conference Room HH = Hartzell Fellowship Hall WC = Wesley Chapel</p>	