



November 2022



THE TRYLON

SIERRA MADRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Hidden Treasures

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

Matthew 13: 44

2022-23 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Please contact the Church Office if you did not receive your pledge materials.

Commitment Sunday is November 20th, 2022



A Message from PASTOR JAE

Meditation, A Path into the New Season of Thanksgiving



Meditation is one of the spiritual disciplines on our faith journey. With meditation, God helps us build inner and outer strength, based on His solid spirit of peace and compassion. The first time when I heard the word, “meditation,” was when I was at elementary school. There was a Buddhist temple in the forest behind the hill of my school, which was one of the popular school spring picnic areas. There I saw a Buddhist monk sitting with his legs folded across one another. His hands were gently laid on each knee with their palms up. His eyes were closed.

To an elementary school boy, it appeared to be a wasting time, doing nothing but sitting. I did not know what that monk was doing in his mind with that disciplined posture. Later I realized that it was a tenacious pursuit with a quest to find their genuine self, which is the MIND of Buddha within them.

Some say that Christian meditation is different from that of Buddhist or Hindu. They claim that the goal of the Buddhist or Hindu meditation is to empty themselves from within, while the Christian goal is not only to empty themselves, but also to fill Christ within them. However, meditation cannot be judged in that simple way. When our words for arguments and claims stop, meditation begins.

Meditation begins when we lock our tongues in silence. I don't mind any posture that we take, but the key is the energy of thirst or hunger to pursue a connection to the divine God of LOVE and COMPASSION. Realization of fear or meaninglessness on our on-going daily cycles of life an energy source of that pursuit. God whispers and shouts, “Wake up!”



Then the question would be “Do I have that thirst or hunger or that realization of meaninglessness to seek the genuine life of LOVE and COMPASSION for others as well as for MYSELF?” “Do we have the ears to hear God’s whispers?” As far as we have the energy, the energy will find a path of working practices. And what’s amazing is in the meanwhile, our God is already present with us, bringing the spirit of love and compassion from the other side. The spirit of God’s prevenient grace already and always prevails!

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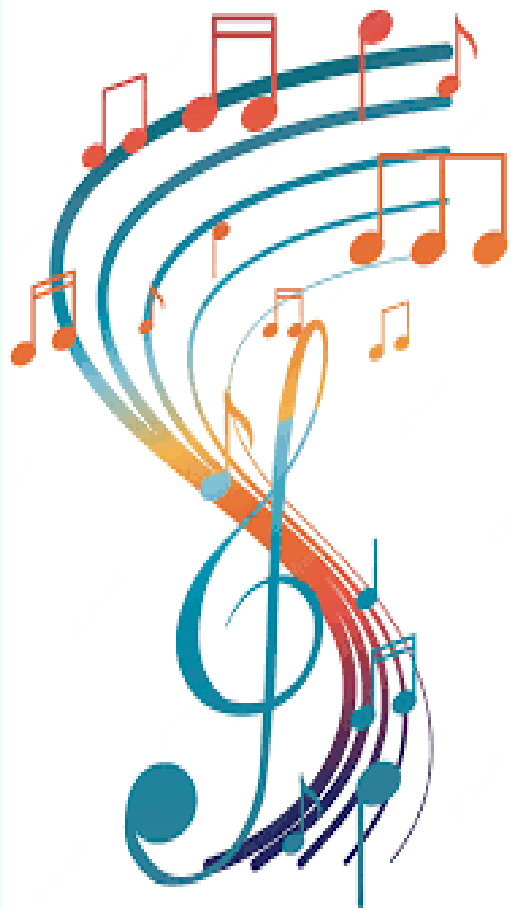
“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus”
(Philippians 4:6-7).

As we are entering into a new phase of season, God seems to lead me, not only to excitement with Thanksgiving, but also to a quiet peace of the Advent. I feel blessed and grateful. According to our Christian calendar, Thanksgiving is the conclusion of one year journey, and the Advent is an opening of the new year. I am thankful that God leads us to conclude a year with Thanksgiving. I am grateful that God lets us begin a new year with the Advent of the new baby Jesus.

My honorable friends, are you ready for Thanksgiving? Our God brings us a new season. May God bless each one of you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Jae Lew



HIDDEN TALENTS CONCERT

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH
AFTER WORSHIP**

A Concert for Amateurs only! If you once played in Band or Orchestra – or have a singing talent you have kept hidden, this is the time for YOU!

Church is the place where anyone can shine their own lights. This creates the Community of God.

After Coffee Fellowship, gather in the Wesley Chapel and we will see the beauty which is hidden in all of us.

November Lectionary Readings:

November 6	Hag. 1: 15b – 2: 9; 2 Thess. 2: 1-4, 13-17; Luke 20: 27-38
November 13	Isa. 65: 17-25; 2 Thess. 3: 6-13; Luke 21: 5-19
November 20	Jer. 23: 1-6; Col. 1: 11-20; Luke 23: 33-43
November 27	Isa. 2: 1-4; Rom. 13: 11-14; Matt. 24: 36-44

Weekly Psalms for November:

November 6	Psalm 145: 1-5, 13-17
November 13	Isaiah 12 or Psalm 118
November 20	Luke 1: 68-69
November 27	Psalm 122

Pastor Jae's Sermon titles and Worship themes for November

November 6	Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost All Saints Sunday – Daylight Savings Time Ends <i>“No Answer Without Questions”</i> Luke 20: 27-40
November 13	Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost <i>“Distractions versus Focus”</i> Luke 21: 5-13
November 20	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Children's Moment <i>“How to Conclude This Year?”</i> Colossians 3: 10-17
November 27	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost <i>“What's Your Anticipation?”</i> Isaiah 2: 1-5

This article appeared in the Cal-Pac Weekly email - 10-25-2022

Our Privilege to Vote in Upcoming Midterm Elections

In a few weeks, we in the United States are entering another season of voting. It may not be a season of the church calendar, with liturgical colors, but it is a sacred season nonetheless.

The Rev. Kendal L. McBroom October 19, 2022

As United Methodists, the right to vote is something we hold and view as sacred. It is our voice and representation while attempting to improve our country, participating in our communities, and making a difference for our families.

We affirm that “the strength of a political system depends upon the full and willing participation of its citizens” (**Social Principles ¶ 164.B**). Our Social Principles assert the belief that to have a viable, strong, and equitable government, the people must participate without unnecessary hindrances and obstacles.

Our vote is one of our strongest vehicles to help express the hopes we have for our children, our grandchildren and for us. It is a mechanism by which a government can truly be made up of by and for the people. As a democratic nation, to vote is to express trust in the processes and structure of the system.

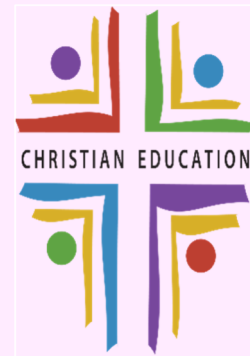
However, a growing number of eligible voters don’t vote because they view it as irrelevant, an unnecessary burden and just not worth the time to participate. This is partly because of unfounded “voter fraud” claims eroding trust in the government. Claims that create suspicion in the democratic process and second guessing the validity of systems to manage fair elections. On the contrary, in America, the election process has the most stringent structures, safeguards and protections in the world.

Even worse, we are living in a time when the right to vote is under attack. Insidious tactics to suppress voter turnout and disenfranchise communities of color have been implemented in multiple U.S. States. One of the biggest barriers to suppress the right to vote in the U.S. is “voter ID” restrictions. Confusion about voter ID can easily turn into disenfranchisement. Eligible voters must understand ID rules to cast a ballot within their State. View the [Vote Riders site here](#) to see the ID restrictions in your State.

During the upcoming midterm elections in the United States and elections taking place in parts of the world, we encourage United Methodists and people of faith to do what it takes to cast your votes and to root voting decisions in the principles espoused by the Author and Finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ. Might justice and peace guide you in your political activity and may your Christian witness be evident to all in your advocacy.

CONFIRMATION AND CHRISTIAN BASICS CLASSES

**Sign up to prepare for confirmation and
Church membership!**



- We are planning Three Sessions beginning December 1st, Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Wesley Chapel.
- Each session will last one hour
- These classes are designed for those who are preparing for confirmation, those who want to re-confirm their basic Christian beliefs, AND those who want to prepare to be members of our Church.
- Sunday, December 25th – presentation of the Liturgy

Confirmation is an opportunity to respond to the grace of God available to us, as acknowledged in baptism, and to promise to live as a person of faith. "What God offers us must be accepted in repentance and faith," *[This Is Your Baptismal Liturgy](#)* states. "Confirmation and reaffirmation are our responses of commitment, profession of faith, and rededication."

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/this-is-your-baptismal-liturgy>



East District – Greater San Gabriel Mission Area

Christmas Meeting and Potluck

Saturday, December 10th – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sierra Madre UMC will be hosting the Christmas gathering of our Mission Area for a meeting and potluck in Hartzell Fellowship Hall.
More details as they become available.



O U T R E A C H

NOVEMBER OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Thanksgiving Food Collection for Foothill Unity Center – on Sunday, November 6th
2. Packing / Distribution event at Foothill Unity. If you would like to join a team to help pack Thanksgiving boxes on site at Foothill Unity, please contact Amy Crismer – amy.crismer@gmail.com or 626-826-6345. (Note that this can be quite physically demanding!)
3. The Angels have landed! Watch for details on how you can sponsor a child and provide Christmas gifts and clothes for low-income families.
4. Our Lunch Bunch event will be on 3rd Sunday, November 20th. There will be a potluck brunch in the Library Lounge to celebrate Thanksgiving and Commitment Sunday. We will also be decorating the Sanctuary and Chapel for Advent and Christmas.

DECEMBER OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Sunday, December 4th – our Annual Alternative Gift Fair, Boutique and Bake Sale.
2. Saturday, December 10th – We are hosting the San Gabriel Valley Mission Area Christmas potluck and meeting.
3. Sunday, December 11th – Christmas Potluck Brunch – this event will include traditions first established by our SMUMC United Methodist Women’s group.
4. Sunday, December 18th – Following refreshments, we will have a Concert – strictly for amateurs! If you have a musical talent to share, even if you have just started learning an instrument, please contact Pastor Jae.
5. Christmas Packing and Distribution events at Foothill Unity.

Are you looking for in-home assistance?



Maria Luna, a member of our church, is available. She does personal care for women or men. No housework, and no less than 5 hours a day. Maria’s contact info is in your church directory, or you may contact Pam in the church office to get in touch with Maria, who can tell you more about her rates and services.



ATTENTION CRAFTERS!

Only ONE month until our AGF and Boutique!

Hope everyone is working diligently on their crafts. We're looking to have a wonderful AGF and Boutique.



Sarah Circle

Book Club meets on
Fourth Fridays

Connie Wortham's
house

CARD CREATION

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



- 3 Diane Searls
- 18 Diane Suzuki
- 20 Stephanie Lan
- 27 Joy Basinger
- 29 Sean Peterson

HAPPY Anniversary

- 11 Paulianne and John Werthwein



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 *

* preferred email

Office Telephone:
(626) 355-0629



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



“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.”
1 Chronicles 16: 34

November

2022 SUNDAY

Sierra Madre United Methodist Church

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MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

30	31	1  All Saints' Day May your All Saints' Day be filled with peace and serenity.	2	3 CHARGE CONFERENCE 10:30 a.m. ZOOM	4 	5
6 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost All Saints Sunday 9:30 a.m. - Worship 10:30 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship Daylight Savings ENDS - 2 a.m.	7	8  Nov. 8 ELECTION	9	10	11  HONORING ALL WHO SERVED November 11, 2022 VETERANS DAY	12
13 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. - Worship 10:30 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship	14  NAT'L OPERATING ROOM NURSES DAY	15 FINANCE COMM. 4:00 p.m.	16	17  NATIONAL BUTTER DAY	18 SARAH CIRCLE 12:30 p.m. Connie's House VERIFY DATE	19  Gettysburg Address Day - 1863
20 Christ the King Sunday Stewardship Commitment Sunday 9:30 a.m. - Worship 10:30 a.m. - POT LUCK LUNCH BUNCH	21	22  National Cranberry Relish Day	23	24 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  HAPPY Thanksgiving	25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	26  SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
27 1 st Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. - Worship 10:30 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship 	28	29 BIBLE-IN-ONE-YEAR Conversations 2:30 p.m. - LL	30 BIBLE-IN-ONE-YEAR Conversations 6:00 p.m. - LL	1	2 Abbreviations LL = Library Lounge SH = Sierra House SHCR = SH Conference Room HH = Hartzell Fellowship Hall WC = Wesley Chapel	