



THE TRYLON

SIERRA MADRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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**DECEMBER
2023**



On **SUNDAY, December 3rd**, 2023, Sierra Madre United Methodist Church celebrates the 70th Anniversary of its Founding!

Please join us in a day of celebratory Worship and activities!

9:30 a.m. – Worship in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. – Shop the Alternative Gift Fair / Boutique / Bake Sale in Hartzell Fellowship Hall

11:30 a.m. – Celebratory Luncheon in the Library Lounge/Patio



A Message from PASTOR JAE

“The Baby Jesus Is Coming. The Fore-Vision Will Continue to Be Alive!”

The other day when I was in my office in the afternoon, there were some creaking sounds from the sanctuary, just behind the door. To see what’s happening, I walked out to the sanctuary. Strangely enough, there was no sound at all. I walked back in. Then after a while, again, there was the same noise, and I noticed that it was the sound which was made by wooden part of the sanctuary structure. All of a sudden, there was an inspiration. ***Our church is alive!*** Not only the congregation, but also the building itself is alive.

As I prepared for our 70th church anniversary celebration, one of the things that kept my attention was ***the Trylon***, standing next to the sanctuary. ***Do you know what the first building structure was built***, when the church building project was launched?



It is the Trylon, which was chosen as the name of our church monthly newsletter. I was inspired! Because it contains a foundational message that our church, Sierra Madre United Methodist Church was built on God of Trinity, the Father and the Son and the

Holy Spirit. Recently, Mr. Francisco Acero, our church campus manager, repaired the lights to illuminate the structure at night. ***It is beautifully alive again!*** I am grateful. According to Jo Ann Williams, the three-acre property of our church was purchased by our annual conference of the United Methodist Church in advance, with the information that a new community with hundreds of houses will be built across the street, Michillinda Boulevard. What a fore-vision it was! I am blessed that I am part of that Methodist fore-vision here at Sierra Madre.

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With our 70th anniversary celebration, we are walking into a new season, the season of Advent. Father God is sending his son, the baby Jesus to a small village, which no one could expect. Again, the hidden Christ, the baby Jesus! This is not only a blessing, but also an inspiration. I am proud that I am a follower of that baby Jesus. One of my foundational scriptures, Isaiah 11:6-9 leopard will lie down with the goat, the lion and the yearling together, ***and a little child will lead them.*** ... They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” This season of Advent is always an inspiration! I’ll see you at the service on Sunday. Amen.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Jae Lew

The special events in December

- ***70th Anniversary Celebration, Sunday, 12/3, 9:30 am, Sanctuary***
- ***Advent Concert Celebration, Sunday, 12/10, 6:00-8:00 pm, First UMC of Temple City. Christmas Event of Greater San Gabriel Valley Mission Area of our East District. Our church choir will participate.***
- ***Christmas Caroling at Nursing Homes in town from 12/11-22. British Home, Kensington, and Arcadia Living***
- ***Amateur’s Talent Show and Carol Singalong, Sunday, 12/17, 11:00 am, Wesley Chapel***
- ***Sierra Madre Christmas Candlelight Walk, Sunday, 12/17, 7:00 pm***

December Lectionary Readings:

December 3 Isa. 64: 1-9; 1 Cor. 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 24-37
December 10 Isa. 40: 1-11; 2 Pet. 3: 8-15a; Mark 1: 1-8
December 17 Isa. 61: 1-4, 8-11; 1 Thess. 5: 16-24
December 24 2 Sam. 7: 1-11, 16; Rom. 16: 25-27; Luke 1: 26-38
December 31 Isa. 61: 10 – 62: 3; Gal. 4: 4-7; Luke 2: 22-40

Weekly Psalms for December:

December 3 Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19
December 10 Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13
December 17 Psalm 126
December 24 Psalm 96
December 31 Psalm 148

Pastor Jae's Sermon titles for DECEMBER

December 3 **First Sunday of Advent – 70th Anniversary Celebration**
 “The Hidden Mustard Seed and the Yeast”
 Matthew 13: 31-35

December 10 **Second Sunday of Advent**
 “What Proclamation Are You Making?”
 Isaiah 40: 1-10

December 17 **Third Sunday of Advent**
 “God's Will for the World”
 Isaiah 61: 1-8

December 24 **Fourth Sunday of Advent – Christmas Eve**
 “Whatsoever, the Baby Jesus is Born”
 Luke 2: 1-14

December 31 **First Sunday after Christmas – New Year's Eve**
 “When the Time has Fully Come”
 Galatians 4: 4-9



Foothill Unity Center, Inc.
Helping People. Changing Lives.

The Angels are HERE!

Foothill Unity's angel adoption program is a way to provide Christmas gifts for children of low-income families.

Angel tags are available from Joyce Kenyon, and gifts must be brought to Church by Sunday, December 3rd.

Last Year we sponsored 30 children. Can we do more this year?

Tour of Foothill Unity Center

Raina Martinez, our Foothill Unity contact, has offered to give us a tour of their new facility in Monrovia to watch how they prepare for their Christmas distributions of gifts and food. The tour will be on Thursday, November 30th at 10:00 a.m.

Carpooling from Church will be available. Raina has told us that now is the time that they register those families who need help, so if you know of anyone who would benefit, please have them contact Foothill Unity at 626.358.3486.

Distribution Events:

Some Members of our congregation have helped at Foothill Unity's distribution events in the past (school supplies, Thanksgiving and Christmas distributions).

These events can be quite physically demanding, but if anyone is interested, there is a sign-up link for shifts on the Foothill Unity website.



SARAH CIRCLE BOOK CLUB

For December meeting, the Book Club is reading various books about Julia Child.

The meeting will take place Friday, December 8th at 12:30 p.m., at Connie Wortham's house.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS



The Sierra Madre Chorale

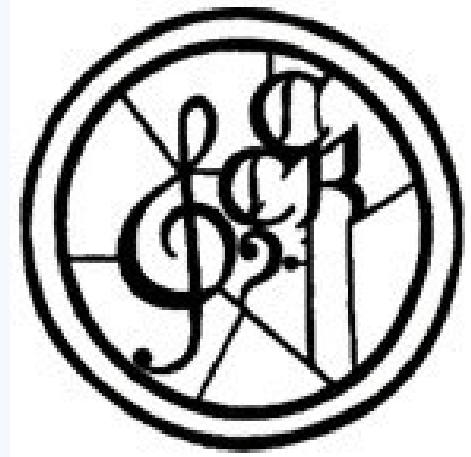
will be performing two concerts

Friday, December 8th at 7:30 p.m. and
Sunday, December 10th at 5:00 p.m.

The concerts will take place at:

St. James United Methodist Church
2033 E Washington Blvd
Pasadena, CA 91104

Tickets available at their website,
sierramadrechorale.org, or at the door



The Community Chorus of Redlands

will be performing a Christmas Concert
on **Sunday**, December 10th at 4:00 p.m.

The concert takes place at:

St. Rita Catholic Church
321 N Baldwin Ave
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

FREE WILL OFFERING

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.

From the Lay Leader:

History of the Alternative Gift Fair and Boutique

We held our first Alternative Gift Fair (AGF) in 2007, raising around \$3000. The goal was to provide opportunities to give meaningful gifts rather than more “stuff” to friends and family while also helping others in our community and around the world. Such gifts might be a flock of chickens through Heifer, a can of nails for Habitat for Humanity or medical equipment for our missionaries in Mexico. During the early years we sold Fair Trade coffee, and items on consignment from 10 Thousand Villages and SERV and had a chance to meet representatives from each organization.

Then in 2012 June Drenten joined our congregation, bringing along her talents for making crafts and homemade items. Thus, the Boutique was born to supplement the AGF. Each year June and her team work hard to create a wonderful display of handmade items, and others bake cookies and Christmas treats for our Bake Sale. Traditionally all proceeds from the Boutique and Bake Sale go to Family Promise of San Gabriel Valley, a program of which SMUMC was a founder member.

The AGF/Boutique event also offers an opportunity for the congregation to sign Christmas cards for our homebound members. Connie Wortham has produced beautiful home-designed cards for many years.

Our 17th Alternative Gift Fair/Boutique/Bake Sale will be held on December 3, 2023 upstairs in Hartzell Hall in conjunction with our 70th anniversary celebrations and will also be available the following week after worship. Please help us with this important Outreach Ministry.

Jill Schofield, Lay Leader



Ongoing Opportunity

We collect food donations on the first Sunday of every month, to be distributed to our local foodbanks.



Please Note:

The food banks to which we send your donations **will not accept** food in opened containers or with expired ‘use by’ dates. Please just throw them away rather than bringing them to First Sunday.



NOVEMBER

- 3 Diane Searls
- 18 Diane Suzuki
- 20 Stephanie Lan
- 27 Joy Basinger
- 23 Connie Wortham
- 29 Scott Peterson

DECEMBER

- 8 Scott Basinger
- 9 Ning Basinger
- 12 Dwayne Miller
- 24 Yvonne Miller
- 28 Chandler Guzman
- 29 Geoffrey Basinger
- 31 Dr. Richard Mittleman



NOVEMBER

- 11 Paulianne and John Werthwein

DECEMBER

- 10 Patricia and Jonathan Nieto



Sarah Circle

**Friday, December 8
Meeting**

**Connie Wortham's
house - 12:30 p.m.**

**CARD
CREATION**

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



**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**



December

2023

SUNDAY

Sierra Madre United Methodist Church

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

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

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>3 First Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. – Worship 11:00 a.m. – AGF/Boutique/Bake 11:30 a.m. – LUNCHEON</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>International Volunteer Day</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8 SARAH CIRCLE 12:30 p.m. Connie's House</p>	<p>2 CAF Pot-Luck HH</p> <p>9 BRIDGE LUNCHEON - HH</p>
<p>10 Second Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:30 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>ADVENT CONCERT – Greater SGV Mission Area Churches – 6 – 8 p.m. First UMC of Temple City</p>	<p>11</p> <p>THE SMUMC CHOIR will be caroling at nursing homes 12/11 to 12/22</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>  <p>HAPPY NATIONAL DAY OF THE HORSE!</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Crosslife Church Dinner HH</p>
<p>17 Third Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:30 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship 11:00 a.m. – Amateur Talent Show – Wesley Chapel</p> <p>Sierra Madre Candlelight Walk – 7:00 p.m. – St. Rita</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>Charles Wesley Birthday</p>	<p>19</p> <p>FINANCE COMMITTEE 4:00 p.m. SHCR</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>CROSSWORD PUZZLE DAY</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:30 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship</p> 	<p>25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Festival Of Enormous Changes At The Last Minute</p>
<p>31 First Sunday after Christmas 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:30 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship</p> 	<p>1 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Abbreviations LL = Library Lounge SH = Sierra House SHCR = SH Conference Room HH = Hartzell Fellowship Hall WC = Wesley Chapel</p>	