



NOVEMBER 2024



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

SPOOKTACULAR HAPPENINGS . . .

Costume Sunday and our Spooktacular Fellowship was Sunday, October 27th. Here's some of the things we saw:



More on page three

A Message from PASTOR JAE

“With Thanksgiving Approaching, Another New Season Dawns on Me”



As I set out on a recent trail walk to Bishop Pass in the majestic Sierra Nevada mountains, one of the things that I learned was the importance of savoring each moment and pacing myself. The ten-mile trek ascending from 9,000 feet over to 11,000 feet high without knowing the changing weather was not only a physical challenge but also a profound reality check opportunity. I had to acknowledge my own limit of strength and ability. I learned to find joy even amid struggle of the challenging trail walk.

During the walk, thoughts often floated through my mind, and before they slipped away, I had to pause to capture them in my phone’s notes. In those moments, Yang, who was walking behind me, passed by me, moving with a steady rhythm of her own. This happened frequently while on our trail. When I later asked her about her swift pace, she replied, “I am sorry that I couldn’t stop for you. I needed to maintain my own pace.” In that instant, a revelation dawned on me: While we walk together, each person needs to honor their own tempo, and we must honor each other’s pace! In our shared journey, while on the trail or in life, isn’t it beautiful to acknowledge our own limit and capability? Up to this point, what thoughts have occupied me? Have you found moments where you needed to honor your own tempo, even when journeying alongside others?

*“I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from?” (Psalm 121:1).
“Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10).*

Bishop Pass may not pose a challenge for professional alpine hikers. It is an easy route for them to traverse as they journey through the John Muir Wilderness or tackle the Pacific Crest Trail. I found myself grappling with the thought that their walks and pursuits held a greater value and recognition than my own. Yet I learned that if they strive to push their own limits, I must do the same with mine. Wow! The true goal of my journey isn’t merely to reach the highest peaks, but to savor each step along the way to my own “Passes.” I believe that along the way to my own passes, something beautiful unfolds: God helps me discover a lake of a new season resulting in another set of beautiful reflections and inspirations. I am grateful.

(continues next page)

(continued from previous page)

As we reflect on Thanksgiving and our journeys this past year, I believe that the spirit of Thanksgiving lies in honoring our own unique tempo along our Methodist Christian journey toward spiritual perfection, a journey God enables us through His love and guidance. How is your journey this year? What revelation are you waiting for from God this season?

“I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth” (Psalm 121:1-2).

Best wishes,
Pastor Jae Lew

(More Halloween)



NOVEMBER Lectionary Readings:

November 3 Ruth 1: 1-18; Heb. 9: 11-14; Mark 12: 28-34
November 10 Ruth 3: 1-5, 4: 13-17; Heb. 9: 24-28; Mark 12: 38-44
November 17 1 Samuel 1: 4-20; Heb. 10: 11-14 (15-18) 19-25; Mark 13: 1-8
November 24 Mark 13: 1-8; Rev. 1: 4b-8; John 14: 33-37

PSALMS for November:

November 3 Psalm 146
November 10 Psalm 127 or Psalm 42
November 17 1 Samuel 10: 11-14 or Psalm 113
November 24 Psalm 132: 1-12



Pastor Jae's Sermon titles and Worship scripture for November

November 3 Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints Sunday - Stewardship Commitment Sunday
"The Sea Was No More"
Revelation 21: 1-6

November 10 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
"The Homecoming"
Ruth 1: 15-22

November 17 Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
"Planting Hope through Prayer"
1 Samuel 2:11 – 2: 8-12

November 24 Christ the King / Thanksgiving Sunday
Sunday of the Hanging of the Greens
"When All Doors Are Closed . . ."
Revelation 1: 1-10

SARAH CIRCLE BOOK CLUB

Our November book is *“The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie”*
by Alan Bradley

The next meeting is Friday, November 22nd at 12:30 p.m. at Sally Follett’s house.

RUMMAGE SALE NEWS

A huge thank you to everyone involved in the fall rummage sale that netted \$3,332.25 in proceeds. This was one of the highest grossing sales in the last few years, with the exception of the sale in 2022 following the COVID hiatus. Interestingly enough, we have been able to determine that the rummage sale has been part of this Church’s history since around 1960.

It takes a dedicated team of volunteers to make the sale successful.

Months before the sale, there is a sizable effort to sort and price items. And leading up to the week before the date, the marketing of the sale begins on social media and with the large sign in the yard. Then the tables are arranged in Hartzell Hall and the rummage is moved from Sierra House. The week before the sale, last minute donations are priced and the tables are organized. Jewelry is priced and arranged on the tables. Start-up money for the cashiers is obtained from the bank.

And then the fun begins with Pastor Jae (and family) providing a free coffee sanctuary for the shoppers. Security (thank you Jayden) is stationed at the door and shoppers join the line at the door that runs all the way up the walk past the cell tower building in the parking lot.

At the end of the sale, there is another huge task to bag up the unsold items for ACTS, which sells the items in their store and Family Promise families have credit to spend there. Empty racks and boxes are returned to Sierra House and tables are folded and put away. By 2 in the afternoon, it is like the sale never even happened.

The last task is to decide how to direct the proceeds of the sale. Some of the agencies in the past include Family Promise, Journey House, Sierra Madre Search and Rescue, Friends in Deed and the Helping Hands food bank.

Thank you to everyone involved in this effort to serve our community.

See you next year!!

Cindy Crismer



The Church of Childlike Awe

2024-25 Stewardship Campaign

At the outset of our pledge drive, Pastor Jae posed two questions to prospective speakers:

- 1. What does the church mean to you?**
- 2. What are you hoping for in the Church's future, and how would you be part of that hope?**

In coming months we will present all of the stewardship addresses, this month we begin with the testimony of Brian Kim:

I'm grateful to be able to share my families gratitude to the women and men who have faithfully built up this place of worship and community. 20 years ago there was a time in my life when I wondered if God was real. It was an existential period, and I prayed that God would reveal Himself to me, just like in the book of Acts. And He did! I witnessed God heal the sick, redeem the broken, and transform people who gave their lives to Him. I experienced the power of a God who is alive, not just in stories, but in real life. Then, life shifted from being single to getting married, then becoming a parent, and then enter a season where life seemed to slow down yet in the blink of an eye time flew by. In 2018, Atticus was born, and soon after, the world shut down with COVID in March 2020. A year later, Harper was born, and later that year, we settled in Sierra Madre in late 2021, we met Pastor Sharon. That's how we found this church - just a few houses from our new home.

At first, Yojin and I were worried our children would disrupt the service. BUT we remember the usher Peggy warmly telling us, "Let them run around; we don't mind the noise." then Deedee shared the same exact same words, After service, Jill shared the exact same words well. Your words weren't just reassuring - they reflected a community that truly embraced our children. It was clear that this was a church full of wisdom, where children were welcomed as part of the congregation, and not a distraction. When I think about what

(continued page 7)

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

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.



(continued from page 6)

this church means to us, it's clear that this is more than a place of worship - it's a home where faith is lived out across generations. This church has shown us what it means to welcome people with open arms, regardless of life's stage. We've seen how children are not only accepted but embraced here, how the elderly are honored, and how every person has a place to belong.

One of the most beautiful examples of this was the opening of the basement for the children. The church's investment in that space - decorating and filling it with new furniture - reflecting the heart of our congregation that believes in nurturing the next generation. And seeing that space outgrow itself within a year shows that this church is filled with life and growth. We saw the beauty of this community - a blend of generations, each bringing their unique story. This church reminds me of what makes our country, and our faith, so wonderful: people from all walks of life coming together, united by Christ.

The love and support we experienced here were especially evident when our congregation prayed for my father, who was diagnosed with glioblastoma the most aggressive form of brain cancer back in June 2023. He was given just a few months to live. It was through those prayers that we were reminded how precious time is. TIME, one of the most precious gift that God gives us. Another testimony of a miracle - in thanks to your prayers. This church has been annointed with longevity. We've celebrated three 100th birthdays since 2023, even after the challenges of the pandemic. This is a strong congregation - especially the women.... and, of course, Joe, (& Darrel, & Dale). It's a church where wisdom meets youth, where life's seasons blend into a beautiful tapestry of faith. So, what do I hope for in this church's future? My prayer is that we continue to grow together - young and old -cultivating a faith that stays childlike in wonder yet deep in wisdom

While sharing Jo Ann's sense of humor on our license plates. I pray that we become a community where the young learn from the old, and the old are renewed by the joy of children. I pray the middle-aged among us step forward to serve and support, building a church home where God's love is felt by all, and where we live out Christ's command to love one another, and share the gospel in our community and support it across all nations. This is the kind of church I believe we are becoming - a place of harmony, as Isaiah 11:6 describes, where the wolf lies down with the lamb and a little child leads the way. A place where every generation has a role to play, and where we teach one another what it means to follow Christ through the good and the bad. Thank you for welcoming Yojin, Atticus, Harper, and I into this community. We are excited to continue this journey with all of you, growing in faith, living in awe, and building a church that reflects God's kingdom on earth.

- Brian Kim

HOME CARE AVAILABLE

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 for her rates and services.



Sarah Circle
Book Club meets
on Fourth Fridays

Sally Follett's
house

CHARGE CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, November 9th

6:30 p.m. – Hartzell Fellowship
Hall

CARD

CREATION

meetings will be announced.

Call Sally Follett if you want to meet her individually to make cards.



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



- 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**



**“The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;”**

Isaiah 35: 1

November

Sierra Madre United Methodist Church

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

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

2024
SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

28	29	30	31	1	2	
Abbreviations LL = Library Lounge SH = Sierra House SHCR = SH Conference Room HH = Hartzell Fellowship Hall WC = Wesley Chapel					 YOUNG MEN'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST – Library Lounge 7:30 a.m.	
3 24th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. – Worship 11:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship 	4 	5	6  National Saxophone Day	7	8  9 CAF POTLUCK LL CHARGE CONFERENCE 6:30 p.m. - HH	
10 25th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:30 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship	11	12  French Dip Day 12th November	13	14	15	16 CAF SUPER SATURDAY Until 3:00 p.m. HH
17 26th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:30 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship Fall Harvest of Blessings First UMC of San Gabriel 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.	18	19 FINANCE COMM. 4:00 p.m.	20	21  WORLD TELEVISION DAY NOVEMBER 21	22 SARAH CIRCLE 12:30 p.m. Sally's House	23
24 Christ the King Sunday 9:30 a.m. – Worship 10:30 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship  UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY Your generous gift today enriches ministry and connects students to their faith.	25  National Eat with a Friend Day	26	27  National Jukebox Day	28 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  THANKSGIVING	29 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 30	