

## JULY 2024 HAPPENINGS

## Faithfully Yours

The theme of our National Meeting was : There is a Time The Scripture was from the 3rd chapter of Ecclesiastes, the passage we all know well because it reminds us, soothes us, encourages us, challenges us. We hear it at weddings, at memorials, at graduations. Pete Seeger even sang it in "Turn! Turn! Turn!" (we sang it too at the meeting).

To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die; at time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted.
A time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance.
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.
The question that we pondered, and puzzled, the question that lies in the heart of our faith in these days---what time is it now? As Christians in fellowship, following Jesus and knowing God, what time is it? Might it be a time for us to share the hope and promise of Christ to a fractured and weary world? Might it be a time for us to feel the Holy Spirit in our midst, empowering us to come together as one? Might it be a time for us to live God's love and share God's love?
Let it be so.

- BLOOD DRIVE: JULY 2 11AM-5PM Bower Hall
- WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING: SATURDAY JULY 6 10AM
- BOUQUET CIRCLE: We will be back in September
- TRUSTEE MEETING:No Trustee Meeting this month
- NEW CRAFT CREATIONS: MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 10:00am in Dreier Hall.
- BROWN BAG BIBLE: No Brown Bag bible study this month. Meeting back in August!
- PRESCHOOL CAMP: Last day of preschool camp July 19th
- VBS : Camp Firelight July 22-26 register online at churchofthechimes.org
- CHRISTMAS IN JULY: Bring gifts and toys for children in need all month July 7-31
- WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: MEETS WEDNESDAYS at 7pm via Zoom. All women of any faith are invited to our gathering of caring, sharing and loving women. We are currently studying the book "Twelve More Women of the Bible" by Sherry Harney. For more information contact Jane Poole via email at jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net.


CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
Sherman Oaks
July 22-26, 2024
9am - Noon


## Register Online at Churchofthechimes.org

Up front a confession. I wasn't really looking forward to going to this meeting. But boy am I glad I did. First off the hotel was awesome, located on Spokane River with an easily accessible park right across the River. Spent time early most mornings walking the various pathways.
The meeting was just as awesome. Great to see some old friends and make some new ones. (Ask Sylvia about the last one). The meetings can be a little dry, but enough humor was mixed in to keep things fun. The Plenary's Sessions (Lectures) I attended were informative and some times challenging. In one three parter, the presenters key point was that we can't do Church the same way we did 75 or 50 years ago and expect succeed. In another, about living in a multi faith world. The presenters came up with a list of 12 different World religions' take on the Golden rule. They had a statement that Jews, Christians and Muslims are all "Children of Abraham". Love that.
In statements to the whole group as well as personal conversations I had, the biggest challenge facing churches is aging infrastructure and aging, shrinking congregations. While we certainly have that first issue, we are doing a good job of bringing in new people to supplement the Baby Boomers and Gen Xers who are at the core of our congregation. Bottom line is that while we are doing a good job we can't lift our foot off the pedal and have to continue to progress and be even better.
I'm looking forward to next years meeting in St. Louis.
Your faithful NACCC rep. Greg

## GOLDEN WEST FAIR

John Sullivan

The Fair this year is on October 5, 2024. By the time you read this we will have already met for the first time. There are many familiar ways to contribute to the effort. If interested in helping reach to John Sullivan.


Our Racial Equity group met on Sunday June 30th after church to discuss Juneteenth. Juneteenth, officially Juneteenth National Independence Day, is a federal holiday in the United States. It is celebrated annually on June 19th to commemorate the ending of slavery in the United States. The day was recognized as a federal holiday in 2021, when the 117th US Congress enacted and President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law. Juneteenth became the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was adopted in 1983.

We will be meeting again in a few months to learn about Coretta Scott King, MLK Jr's wife. We hope you will join us.

## TRUSTEE NEWS

At our June 19th meeting, we continued discussion about replacing the pool fence as the metal links had deteriorated to the point of replacement. After accepting multiple bids, we awarded the job and are happy to announce that the pool fence project was completed on Sunday the 23rd! We are also looking at allowing another church to share our property. This is a big project with many moving pieces. Details will be provided in the near future. The sump pump will soon be installed behind the church to ward off flooding. We are also waiting on another bid for the Bower Hall pergola rebuild/painting project. Once they have been analyzed, that project will move forward. As is customary with many of the boards, the trustees will be taking July off. Our next update will be in August.

## Gennaro Simeone

Born and raised in Everett, Massachusetts, Gennaro enjoyed video studies in high school. He came to California around 2008 to attend LACC and study writing and directing (for film). Currently he loves to write short stories and also to draw. Of further interest, Gennaro was trained in self-defense (kickboxing) at a young age, and he was also a graphic artist by trade.


While visiting a friend who lived near Sherman Oaks Park, Gennaro happened to wander into our church on a Sunday morning. He was greeted by Greg Abbott, who turned out to be a great influence on him over the years, immediately liked the church, and has attended here for about 16 years. "I especially love the coffee hour event - the fellowship. And the snacks!"
Gennaro officially serves as a deacon, but is happy to fill in wherever needed. He would like to see the church grow and expand - that's his vision for our church's future!
When he gets to heaven, Gennaro would like to hear God say, "Good and faithful servant, come and enter your Father's rest."

Start each day with purpose and peace with this prayer activity. This practice is designed to help you focus on what God has placed on your heart, fostering a deeper connection with Him as you begin your day.

## MONDAY

Pray for Healing: Heavenly Father, I pray for healing for $\qquad$ (name or group of people), that they may find comfort and relief from their suffering.

## TUESDAY

Pray for Families: Dear God, I pray for the strength and unity of _ (specific family or families), that they may support and love one another.


Pray for Unity: Lord, I pray for unity among _________ (specific communities or groups), that we may work together in harmony.

## friday

Pray for Our Enemies: Heavenly Father, I pray for $\qquad$ (specific person or group) who oppose or harm us, that they may find love and transformation.

## SATURDAY

Pray for Personal Growth: Lord, I seek personal spiritual growth in $\qquad$
(specific area), that I may become more Christ-like in my thoughts and actions.

Sunday- Join us AT 10:30AM in the Sanctuary to thank God for receiving your prayers, worship and receive the Holy spirit.

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|  | 1 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel | 2 BLOOD DRIVE 2PM-5PM BOWER HALL <br> 9:00am Preschool Camp <br> 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 12Noon Brown Bag Bible <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE\|BH | 3 <br> 9:00am Preschool Camp <br> 9:45am Zumba ~ DH <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study <br> 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH | 4 <br> 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 | 5 <br> 9:00am Preschool Camp <br> 9:45am Zumba ~ DH <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm tRPC ~ Sanctuary | 6 WOMENS ASSOCIATION 10AM DRIER <br> 9:00am LM\&S <br> 9:55am LM\&S |
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| 21 <br> 10:00am MAIC Worship Svc 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ DH | 22 VBS STARTS 9 am VBS 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm Sea Scouts <br> 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH <br> 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel | 23 <br> 9 am VBS <br> 10:Oam Craft Creations ~ Dreier <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 12Noon Brown Bag Bible <br> 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE\|BH | 24 <br> 9 9am VBS <br> 9:45am Zumba ~ DH <br> 10:00am 10 at 10 <br> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study <br> 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH | $\underline{25}$ <br> $9 a m$ VBS 10:00am 10 at 10 | 26 9am VBS 9:45am Zumba $\sim$ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm tRPC $\sim$ Sanctuary | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \mathbf{2 7} \\ & \text { 9:00am LM\&S } \\ & \text { 9:55am LM\&S } \end{aligned}$ |
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