

Chiming In

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
NEWS AND EVENTS

A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All



February 2026

www.churchofthechimes.org | office@churchofthechimes.org | 818-789-7124

14115 Magnolia Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423



Dr. Elizabeth Bingham, Senior Minister
Rev. Curtis Peek, Associate Minister
Jennifer Lee, Church Office Manager
Allayne Baker, Preschool Director
Kristina Jasiukonis, M.A., CE Director
Joi Staves, Wedding & Events Coordinator
Javier De la Torre, Facilities



Phone: 818-789-7124
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SERMONS:

February 1: Matthew 5: 1-12 Blessings
February 8: Matthew 5: 13-20 Light Salt
February 15: Matthew 17: 1-9 Shining
February 22: Matthew 4: 1-11 Leadeth me NOT

FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

Faithfully Yours

February is the month of valentines and presidents....as a child that meant red construction paper hearts and black construction paper silhouettes of President Washington and President Lincoln.

This year February is also the month when Lent begins. Lent is a season of reflection and contemplation during the six weeks before Easter. We will begin the Lenten season with communion on Ash Wednesday which is on February 18. This service is held in the sanctuary from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. We invite you to “Come when you may, leave when you must.” The sacrament is given individually, so you can come forward whenever you are ready. The sanctuary is silent for personal prayer and meditation.

Lent is a holy time as we prepare to journey with Jesus to his last supper with his disciples, and to the cross, anticipating Easter Sunday when Jesus rises from death. It is a time of reflection about Jesus and his life, and our own lives of faith.

I deeply appreciate what Russian born Roman Catholic writer Catherine Doherty wrote about Lent:

“Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment”

So may we each bravely contemplate our lives with God, ridding ourselves of all the distractions, all the uncertainties that “stand between us and God.” For these Lenten days are our own journey to the center of our faith, to God’s own son and his great sacrifice for us all.

Love, Beth

CHRISTIAN ED BOARD

Jon Wallace, Chair

Welcome to the month of February! The Christian Ed Board has been meeting monthly to plan for various events taking place over the next several months, and we are excited to invite you to our Annual Bingo Night on Saturday, February 7, from 5:00–7:00 PM. The CE Board is thrilled to bring you this event in partnership with our Director of Christian Education, Tina, and members of the COTC Craft Group, with a variety of prizes planned for our BINGO winners.

A light dinner will be available for adults (\$5) and children (\$2). Snacks will also be offered for \$1. This event is a FUNraiser supporting both our mission work and the youth group program.

Vacation Bible School returns this summer! Early-bird enrollment opens February 8, 2026. Due to the popularity of VBS, we are excited to try something new this year by offering two sessions:

June 15–18 (\$60)

July 20–24 (\$75)

For questions, please email Tina at ChristianEd@churchofthechimes.org or stop by the church office to pick up an application. The first 20 families to enroll will receive a free camp T-shirt.

“We love because He first loved us.” ~ 1 John 4:19

GRIEF SHARE

All are welcome to the COTC GriefShare support group, a compassionate 13-week program meeting weekly for 90 minutes. GriefShare offers thoughtful, “just right” guidance to support healing, understanding, and meaning in your grief journey. The first gathering will be held Thursday, January 29, 2026, from 12:00–1:30 pm. Each session stands on its own, so participants may join at any time and need not attend every week. Winter/Spring sessions will be co-facilitated by Tanny Wiggins and Tina Jasiukonis. For more information, contact: ChristianEd@churchofthechimes.org or the church office.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER

Tina Jasiukonis & Jon Wallace

God is Love! As we journey through the month of February, let us open our hearts and continue to pray for one another. Reflecting on the first month in my new role as Director of Christian Education, I feel deep gratitude for the warm welcome and the prayers offered for the children and youth of our church. Please know that we are praying for each of you as well, and for our church as a whole. It is truly heartwarming to read our prayer journal each Sunday morning. The children and youth have so much to share, and we want them to know that they are heard—and that God hears them too.

Announcements: Friends and Family CE Bingo Night, Saturday, February 7, 2026, 5:00–7:00 PM. This is a FUNraiser supporting mission work and fun outings for our youth. Join us—and bring a friend!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) enrollment opens February 8, 2026. We love VBS so much that this year we are offering TWO sessions for the first time ever: June 15–18 (\$60) and July 20–24 (\$75). The first 20 children to register will receive a free camp T-shirt. Please spread the word to friends and neighbors—VBS is open to all families. We can't wait for a summer full of faith and fun!

COTC Youth Group – Be Bold will gather on Fridays, February 6 and February 20, from 6:00–8:00 PM. All middle school and high school students are welcome. Be Bold meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. We are growing! Beginning in March, we will offer two separate youth groups—one for middle school and one for high school. In the future, we hope to also add a College Youth Group as well. Stay tuned.

Save the Date: Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 28 at 10:00 AM.

Palm Sunday, March 29 at 10:30 AM. Children are invited to join in waving palms during worship. Please wear green for Palm Sunday.

May God's love guide us through the days ahead, filling our hearts with peace, joy, and hope. May we continue to grow together in faith and community. Amen. Please keep in touch or reach out for questions:

Tina's email is ChristianEd@ChurchOfTheChimes.org - 818-789-7124.

FEBRUARY 2025 HAPPENINGS

- **COUNCIL MEETING:** Feb 3 6:45pm Dreier Hall
- **BE BOLD:** Feb 6th & 20th 6pm Hamilton House
- **WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING:** Feb 7th 10am Dreier Hall
- **BOUQUET CIRCLE:** Feb 11th 11:30am Drier Hall
- **VESPERS:** Feb 19th at 6:30pm
- **DEACONS MEETING:** Feb 15th at 12:00pm Bower Hall
- **CHRISTIAN ED MEETING:** Feb 15th at 12:00pm Lower CE
- **CWS MEETING:** Feb 15th at 12:00pm Dreier Hall
- **TRUSTEE MEETING:** Feb 17th at 6:30pm Dreier Hall
- **CRAFT CREATIONS:** MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 10:00am in Dreier Hall
- **BROWN BAG BIBLE:** TUESDAYS at Noon in Dreier Hall
- **ZUMBA:** WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS at 9:45 in Dreier Hall
- **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. For more information contact Jane Poole via email at jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net.
- **PAINTING CLASS:** THURSDAYS 10:00am - 12:00pm in Dreier Hall

COMMUNITY WORD SERVICE BOARD

Jane Poole

Our CWS team’s outreach project for January was the coordination of putting blessing bags together. Diane Delaney received a \$1,000 grant from IBM and with that along with donations from the congregation, we were able to buy enough items to fill a little over 150 bags that were put together by the congregation on Sunday the 25th. Miss Cece provided a blessing of all the items after which we all went to work on compiling the bags.

Everyone took some home with them and Lana actually gave one out before she even reached her front door! If you weren’t able to join us on Sunday, no worries. There is a box in the narthex chock full of them. We look forward to doing this again in the future and we thank you all for your support!

We continue to cook a monthly meal that feeds 50 unhoused people at the UUC church and have decided the theme for our May 16th Gala will be a speakeasy murder mystery game. Details will be revealed soon.
Blessings, Jane G. Poole

SHED CLEAN UP

Diane Delaney

Louisa, Brian, Natalie, Curtis, Terri, and Judy, thank you all so much for coming today to sort and organize the COTC donation shed to help us prepare for the women's association rummage sale which will be held in April. We did a great job in only 4 hours with all of us and 2 hired helpers.

TRUSTEES

Tony Bliss

The Board of Trustees is currently reviewing three bids to replace the upper CE building floor. We expect a decision shortly with work to commence soon after. We are also working with our Treasurer John Van Veen on finalizing the new budget with a projected budget meeting date of either Feb 22nd or March 1st. Our Stewardship campaign is also nearing kick-off. More details to follow on both.

RACIAL EQUITY

Diane Delaney

Our 4th annual Celebration for MLK Jr., Voices of the Valley was exceptional with 125 in attendance! We even made the CBS Channel 2 & 9 News! We had a light lunch provided by the church with a special birthday cake for MLK Jr.

Beth kicked off our program with a welcome and prayer. We had several special guests, Congressman Brad Sherman, who presented Beth and Curtis with an American Flag that flew over the White House, Councilmember 4th District Nithya Raman and Anthony Thorton from Assemblyman Nick Schultz’s office, who presented the Racial Equity Committee with an award! Then we heard from our church members Tina, Devon, Caleb, and Curtis.

The San Fernando Children’s Chorus under the direction of Sam sang a few songs. Susan led us in the singing of two hymns and Happy Birthday for MLK Jr. And finally, CC Clark provided the closing message and prayer. We enjoyed artwork by Keith, Michele, Terrie, and Shirley.

Our Racial Equity group hopes everyone takes a moment to reflect on MLK Jr in honor of his birthday and think about the importance of his work in our community.

Scan this code to watch the news segment:

SCAN ME!



FRIENDS AND FAMILY BINGO NIGHT!

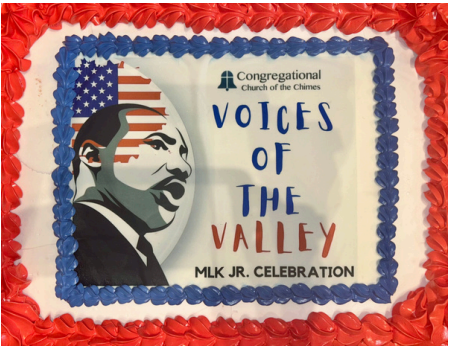
Saturday Feb 7th, 2026 5pm-7pm

Please join us for the all-age Bingo FUNraiser. An evening filled with fun, cool prizes and a light dinner.

Please RSVP to ChristianEd@ChurchoftheChimes.org

Proceeds will benefit the CE Childrens Mission Outreach and Fun Outings for the Youth Group. *Dinner is %5 per adult and \$2 per child. *Menu: A choice of Spaghetti or Bow ties, and Garlic Bread.Snacks will be available during the event for \$1. Come one, come all, we look forward to this wonderful memory making together! Tinas Jasiukonis, Director of CE





Thanks COTC Members for filling over 150 Blessing Bags!



In Memoriam of Madeline Shaffer



Madeline Shaffer came to our church because it was just up the street when her previous church became too far away. Once she arrived, she quickly became a cherished part of our congregation. At 97 years old, Madeline faithfully walked to church every Sunday morning, no matter the weather. She especially loved listening to the music before the service began. She was deeply loved by so many—for her warm smile, her gentle conversations, and the faith that shone clearly on her face. Her passing was peaceful, following a long, faithful, and beautifully lived life.





FEBRUARY



| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <u>1</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 6:30pm TYJ Ministry ~ SC 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH | <u>2</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel | <u>3</u> COUNCIL MEETING DH 6:45PM 9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts ~ CEU | <u>4</u> 9:00 Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH 7:00pm 12 Step Choir Room | <u>5</u> 9:00am Preschool 10am Art Class ~ DH 12pm Greif Share ~ DH 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm Jumpin’ Fleas ~ MR 7:00pm AA ~ DH | <u>6</u> BE BOLD 6-8pm 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 6:00pm BE BOLD 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary 7:00pm DA Ministry in DH | <u>7</u> BINGO FUN RAISER WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING 10am 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 5pm -7pm BINGO |
| <u>8</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 6:30pm TYJ Ministry ~ SC 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH | <u>9</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel | <u>10</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible ~ DH 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts ~ CEU | <u>11</u> BOUQUET CIRCLE 11:30am 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH 7:00pm 12 Step Choir Room | <u>12</u> 9:00am Preschool 10am Art Class ~ DH 12pm Greif Share ~ DH 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm AA ~ DH | <u>13</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary 7:00pm DA Ministry in DH | <u>14</u> HAPPY VALENTINES DAY 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S |
| <u>15</u> CHRISTIAN ED MEETING 12pm DEACONS MEETING 12pm CWS MEETING 12:00pm 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 6:30pm TYJ Ministry ~ SC 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH | <u>16</u> PRESIDENTS DAY SCHOOL AND OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel | <u>17</u> TRUSTEE MEETING 6:30pm 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Craft Creations ~DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible ~ DH 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE 4:00pm Drumming ~ MR 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts ~ CEU | <u>18</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH 7:00pm 12 Step Choir Room | <u>19</u> VESPERS 6:30pm 9:00am Preschool 10am Art Class ~ DH 12pm Greif Share ~ DH 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm AA ~ DH | <u>20</u> BE BOLD 6-8pm 9:00am Preschool 9:45 Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary 7:00pm DA Ministry in DH | <u>21</u> 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S |
| <u>22</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 6:30pm TYJ Ministry ~ SC 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH | <u>23</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ DH | <u>24</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creations ~ Dreier 12Noon Brown Bag Bible ~ DH 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm LC Choir ~ BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts ~ CEU | <u>25</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH 7:00pm 12 Step Choir Room | <u>26</u> 9:00am Preschool 10am Art Class ~ DH 12pm Greif Share ~ DH 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm AA ~ DH | <u>27</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 12PM- 7PM Girl Scout Camp 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary 7:00pm DA Ministry in DH | <u>28</u> 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S |
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