

Chiming In

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
NEWS AND EVENTS

A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All



VBS 2026

Sherman Oaks
Vacation Bible School

Session 1 June 15-18
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Session 2 July 20-24
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM



June 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
Kristina Jasiukonis, M.A., CE Director
Jennifer Lee, Church Office Manager
Allayne Baker, Preschool Director
Joi Staves, Wedding & Events Coordinator
Javer De la Torre, Facilities

SERMONS:

June 7: Matthew 9: 9-13; 18-26 | With the Worst of Us
June 14: Romans 5: 1-8 | On the Way to Hope
June 21: Psalm 103 | Day of the Dad
June 28: Rev. Dr. Louise Goben preaching



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FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

Faithfully Yours

On June 26 I will be boarding an airplane really really early in the morning. I will spend a bit of time in Dallas and then land in Hartford, Connecticut—a small but accessible airport. There I will get a Lyft or an Uber which will drive me to Springfield, Massachusetts. Now Springfield is known because it is there that a man named Nesmith came up with a game when putting a ball through a net seemed like it might be fun. Not surprisingly the Basketball Hall of Fame is right there in Springfield. There is also a Theodore Geisel (AKA Dr. Seuss) museum. I expect to visit them both.

But the real and wonderful and important reason I am travelling literally across the country is because it is there that our National Association of Congregational Christian Churches will be holding its Annual Conference. Its theme comes from the prophet Jeremiah: “Hope and a Future.” Nothing could be important than that for churches these days, and for all who are seeking a place and a way to deepen faith, or discover faith, who are yearning for meaning and purpose. So our 300 some churches will come together to share our ideas, to hear how each of us is staying alert and relevant to the world which needs us more than the world even knows.

There will be business conducted, always necessary for any organization. Our Church of the Chimes moderator, Diane Delaney will be our official delegate and she will be participating remotely and voting on behalf of our congregation. There will be elections of officers and council members. The finances will be explained and examined. There will be much discussion and sometimes some disagreement. Truly congregational.

But there will be fellowship and faith deepening all of us who are there. We will chew over the Bible lectures. We will meet with the youth for the mission project when we will fill ditty bags for seafarers! Seafarers’ Friend, one of the oldest Congregational missions, which has supported merchant mariners for nearly 200 years. Included in the bag will be hats and scarves (over 40) made by our own craft group. We will worship and share the sacrament of communion. We will pray and reflect. We will hear speakers guiding us and our churches into the future. And we will laugh and sign and eat together...and cherish the friendships which are renewed year after year. It is a good thing, this conference---for me, and for our church!

COUNCIL

Diane Delaney, Moderator

Welcome to a new program year, which technically began May 1st, but officially began after our 75th annual meeting held on Sunday, May 17th. We had a productive meeting with the 2026-27 Nomination slate being approved, as well as the much-needed By-laws updates.

Council will meet on June 2nd at 6:30pm in Dreier Hall with our Officers which remain the same, Moderator Diane, Clerk John S., Treasurer John V. Historian Marie, and co-Media Directors Hayley and Joi, and the continuing Board chairs, CWS – Jane, Deacons - Wade and Trustees – Tony, and we welcome 2 new Board Chairs for CE – Barb D. interim and Music – John Luker.

TRUSTEES

Tony Bliss

At the recent trustees meeting, we discussed a lot of new business that we are going to pursue: We are looking into a better camera system for the church. Advances in digital technology, and the great reduction in cost for such a system, makes this doable. The cameras will be able to zoom in on faces and license plates in the event something happens on campus. We are also going to have the Narthex ceiling painted to cover the water marks from last year's storm. Pergola shading is also in process. The chapel door on the parking lot side needs to be replaced as well as the awning.

In other news, the board held elections for the officers: I remain as Chair and Curtis L. Vice-Chair. Kerry comes on as Secretary and Pam and Jule will be our reps for the Personnel Committee. Maryam will serve as our Nominating representative.

NEW PODCAST COMING SOON!

Church of the Chimes is excited to launch its very first podcast! Hosted by Reverend Dr. Beth Bingham and Cat Alvarado, this new ministry will feature meaningful conversations about faith, spirituality, scripture, and everyday life with God. Through thoughtful discussions and personal stories, the podcast will explore how faith can guide us through challenges, strengthen relationships, and deepen our connection with God.

Episodes will be available on platforms including Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and YouTube. We also extend a special thank you to Cat Alvarado for her creativity, dedication, and production work in bringing this project to life. The first episode launches later this month — stay tuned for release details and subscription information!

LGTBQ PRIDE MONTH

Lana Young

Sixty years ago, I gave birth to a ball of energy, love and life. It took 33 hours of labor for him to make his entrance into this world and our family always jokes that he has been running late to every event ever since – including church! He was also one of those kids who started to walk at an early age, about 9 or 10 months and he learned to talk very early as well. He was speaking in complete sentences by the time he was 20 months old. I've teased him for years that once he started talking, he never stopped. There are so many stories about his growing up that I could share, but as June is LGBTQ Pride month, the part of his story I feel is most relevant to share is how, at the age of 28, he started his coming out process as a gay man. He had tried so hard to be "straight" his entire life. I know his life had a good deal of pain in his efforts to be like everyone else. I look back and I wish there had been something I could have done to help or protect him but when I was growing up, no one ever talked about being gay.

I remember when I got the call that started with, "Mom, I have something to tell you and I want you to just listen until I finish." He began to share some of the things he had gone thru in his life. I cried because I could hear the pain, the struggle, the rejection, the humiliation, the hurt and the loneliness he had felt in so many situations that he had never shared with me until that night when he came out to me. Once he gave me permission to speak, the only thing I could think to say was "I love you, son". I look back now and I know that my acceptance of him in that critical moment is why we remain close today. He is in a relationship with someone he has known for almost 30 years, they've been living together for 20 years and they will soon celebrate 6 years of being legally married. He has been fortunate these last 24 years to only work with and for people who not only accept him for being gay but often celebrate the aspects of his personality that being openly gay has nurtured.

Not all parents and family members accept their children when they "come out" as LGBTQ. Those parents and family members are the ones who are missing out. Seeing someone fully accept themselves is such a gift from God to those of us who get to witness their journey. My son and I both feel incredibly blessed to be attending Church with a "Loving and Diverse Christian Community, accepting of all". As June is LGBTQ Pride month, I want to wish you all – whether you are LGBTQ or, like me, an ally - a very Happy Pride Month!

JUNE 2026 HAPPENINGS

- **COUNCIL MEETING:** June 2nd at 6:30pm Dreier Hall
- **BE BOLD:** June 5th and 19th at 6pm Hamilton House
- **BOUQUET CIRCLE:** June 10th at 11:30am Dreier Hall
- **VBS:** June 15th - June 18th at 2-5 PM Bower Hall/ Outside
- **TRUSTEE MEETING:** June 16th at 6:30pm Dreier Hall
- **DEACONS MEETING:** June 21st at 12pm in HH or Bower Hall
- **CHRISTIAN ED MEETING:** June 21st Lower CE
- **CWS MEETING:** June 21st 12pm Dreier Hall
- **SFV PRIDE MARCH & FESTIVAL:** June 27th 10am - 5pm in Van Nuys
- **CRAFT CREATIONS:** MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 10am Dreier Hall
- **BROWN BAG BIBLE:** TUESDAYS at 12pm Dreier Hall
- **ZUMBA:** WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS at 9:45am 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 at 10am - 12pm Dreier Hall
- **GRIEF SHARE:** THURSDAYS AT 12pm, Upstairs Hamilton House

*jesus
loves
you*

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Kristina Jasiukonis, M.A.

As we reflect on the month of May, we know we are blessed within our Christian Education programs. From Sunday School to Youth Group and Community Connection here on campus. The youth enjoyed a special outing, we gathered to see Cinderella at Loius Armstrong Middle School. This spring has reminded us that CE ministry is about creating spaces where babies, toddlers, children, youth, adults and families can feel welcomed, valued, and connected to God and one another. Thank you again to all of our volunteers, parents, Pastor Beth Bingham, Rev. Curtis Peek, church members, and supporters who continue to make these programs possible through your time, encouragement, and care. May God continue to guide our way forward.

As we enter the summer season, we are especially reminded of God's promise to guide and walk beside us in every season of life: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." — Joshua 1:9

This verse feels especially meaningful as we celebrate our eight graduating seniors this year. Graduation is both exciting and uncertain, a season filled with new beginnings, opportunities, and unknown paths ahead. As our graduates step into college, careers, service, and new chapters of life, we pray they carry this promise with them: that God goes before them wherever life leads. Even as routines change and new journeys begin, they remain deeply loved, supported, and connected to this church family. Amen!

We are incredibly proud of our CE seniors, Anabele, Luke, Mateo, Paige, Ricky, Robin, Sophia, and Xander, and grateful for the ways they have shared their kindness, and faith within our community. I have watch some of them grow up from the wee age of 18 months old right here at the church and now they are 18 years old. I have the honor of supporting each one of them in their transition to young adulthood. Life is a journey. May they continue to walk boldly, compassionately, and faithfully into the future God has prepared for them. I will be inviting each of them to the new College Group I am developing to launch this Fall 2026.

Please help us to share the news about our annual Vacation Bible School (VBS), ages 3 to 11 years old. Join us on our themed curriculum, "Road Trip" with our mascot, Scout the dog. Scholarships are available. Invite a neighborhood family or a friend.

COMMUNITY WORLD SERVICE BOARD

Jane Poole

CWS met on May 17 th where during the meeting we elected our officers; Brian Fisk as Secretary, Robert Jones as Treasurer, Matthew Robertson as nominating rep and Jane G. Poole as Chairperson. Jessica Wood was voted as a member of the Board and Michele Marot will be a non-voting member.

CWS regretfully needed to postpone our gala, "Murder Mystery at the Juice Joint". We plan to host it in the Spring of 2027. The event may have been postponed, but CWS will be hosting a Pot-luck Luau party tentatively scheduled for August 1st! So get out your Hawaiian shirt and hula skirt and join us for fun and food from 5:30 – 9:00. Date confirmation and other details to follow.

Michele Marot presented the board with two beautiful handmade quilts one of which will be raffled off at the Luau party and the other one will be a silent auction item for the gala. Stay tuned for details. Thank you Michele! We voted to write a \$500 check for the Pan American Institute in Tijuana, Mexico, which is a NACCC supported school. We also wrote a \$500 check to continue our support for the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry. That's it for now.

DEACONS

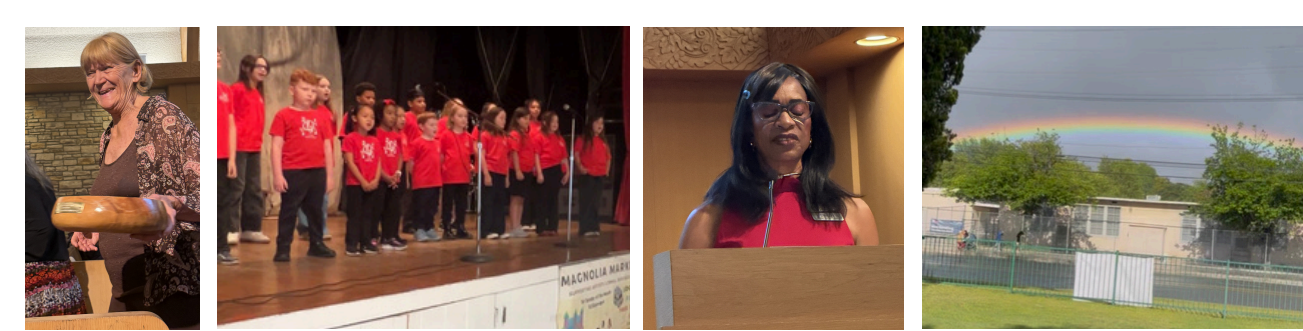
Wade Young

Deacons are looking forward to Laity Sunday on May 31, 2026. Instead of Reverend Beth speaking that Sunday, we have hand selected 4 members of the congregation to speak on the topic of "Everyday Grace".

We are excited to have Paul Blizzard, Jaqie Jones and Skip Jones join the Board of Deacons for this next year. We also welcome both Matthew Robertson and Jennifer Tambree into our Church of the Chimes family as new members! We will soon be having our officer elections for the new church year.

On May 22, the Deacons elected new officers for the 2026-2027 year:

Chair – Wade Young
Vice Chair – Louisa Larez
Recording Secretary – Pam Voetberg
Treasurer – Lana Young
Correspondence Secretary – Jaqie Jones
Nominating Committee Liaison – Lana Young



This summer's program will include: Bible stories and faith-centered lessons, Music and interactive activities, Arts and crafts, Games and outdoor fun, Themed Snacks, Space to cultivate friendships. We are excited to welcome both returning and new families to VBS this year. Whether your child has attended for years or this is their first experience, we hope every participant leaves feeling blessed! I am grateful for the many volunteers who bring this program to life. Their dedication reflects the heart of our church community and our shared commitment to nurturing the next generation. As summer approaches, let us continue building our relationships rooted in compassion and faith. We look forward to all that God has in store in the months ahead. *One correction to last month's CE Chiming-in article, Jule served on the Christian Education Board for 10 years (not 6 years).

Blessings, Tina Jasiukonis - ChristianEd@ChurchoftheChimes.org



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 Vacation Bible School

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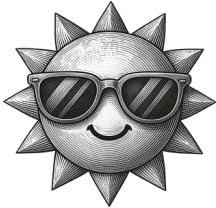
INVITE
 A
 FRIEND!





June



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	2 COUNCIL MEETING 6:45pm 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts ~ CEU 7:00pm Land Light Choir ~ BH	3 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 7pm Mens Group UCE	4 9:00am Preschool 10am Art Class ~ DH 12pm Greif Share ~ DH 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm AA ~ DH	5 BE BOLD 6-8pm HH 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 12:00pm Service Chapel 5pm -7pm Preschool Picnic ~HL 6:00pm BE BOLD 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary 7:00pm DA Ministry in DH	6 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50 LM&S
7 10:30am COTC Worship Svc ~S 10:45am Sunday School ~ CE 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc ~ S 6:30pm TYJ Ministry ~ SC 7:30pm Al Anon ~ DH	8 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	9 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible ~ DH 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts ~ CEU 7:00pm Land Light Choir ~ BH	10 LAST DAY OF PRESCHOOL BOUQUET CIRCLE 11:30am Pot Luck HH 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 7pm Mens Group UCE	11 PRESCHOOL GRADUATION 10am Art Class ~ DH 12pm Greif Share ~ DH 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm AA ~ DH	12 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 12:00pm Service Chapel 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary 7:00pm DA Ministry in DH	13 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50 LM&S
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28 10:30am COTC Worship Svc ~ S 10:45am Sunday School ~ CE 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc ~ S 6:30pm TYJ Ministry ~ SC 7:30pm Al Anon ~ DH	29 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ DH	30 10:00am Craft Creations ~ Dreier 12Noon Brown Bag Bible ~ DH 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE 4:00pm Drumming ~ BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts ~ CEU 7:00pm Land Light Choir ~ BH				