

Chiming In

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
NEWS AND EVENTS

A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All



December 2024

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

1115 Magnolia Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423



Dr. Elizabeth Bingham, Senior Minister
Rev. Curtis Peek, Associate Minister
Jennifer Lee, Church Office Manager
Allvne Baker, Preschool Director
Joi Staves, Wedding & Events Coordinator
Lindsay Hill, Facility Manager
Julia Keiper, Christian Education Director
Javier De la Torre, Groundskeeper

SERMONS:

- December 1:** Isaiah 2: 1-5 Let Us Walk!
- December 8:** Matthew 24: 36-44 Let us Get Ready
- December 15:** Christmas Pageant
- December 22:** Luke 1: 26-38 Surprise!



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Faithfully Yours And Prayerfully Yours

It is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas, right here on our church campus. Poles are striped. Trees are up waiting for decorations which will find their way to the trees next Sunday. We're working on lighting the star for light up the night. The holiday boutique got us humming the carols we love, finding exactly the ornament we needed.....Yup! It is indeed beginning to feel a lot like Christmas.

Some might say that the decorations and preparations are extraneous, even distracting. But I am not so sure. Certainly we can get wrapped up in the shopping and wrapping. Certainly we can try to figure out who needs what...

But here at our church, we also know the center of our story. We see the stable in the chancel. We sing carols about a baby who was born in Bethlehem...We listen to the stories of Mary and Joseph and their journey to a stable in a little town. And we will see the story too as our children and youth take us to Bethlehem in the pageant during worship on December 15.

More than anything though, we yearn for the birth of that baby. We long for the hope that baby in a manger brings to us. In these Christmas days let us listen to hear the angels sing their songs of Joy. Let us look to the sky that in the midst of the twinkling stars we might see the star that led the shepherds to the stable. And let us look within our own hearts to feel the love that came down at Christmas, "love all lovely, love divine..."

With wishes for a very Merry Christmas!

Beth

DECEMBER 2024 HAPPENINGS

- **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** Dec 1st , 10:30am Worship Service
- **LIGHT UP THE NIGHT:** Dec 6th at 6:00pm
- **COUNCIL MEETING:** Dec 10th at 6:30pm in Dreier Hall
- **MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE:** Dec 8th 11:30am -2:30pm
- **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** Dec 8th 10:30am Worship Service
- **WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING:** Dec 14th at 10:30am in Dreier Hall
- **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** Dec 15th 10:30am Worship Service
- **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:** Dec 15th during 10:30am Service
- **BOUQUET CIRCLE:** Dec 11th at 11:00am in Dreier Hall
- **TRUSTEE MEETING:** Dec 18th at 6:30pm (Hybrid Meeting)
- **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** Dec 22nd 10:30am Worship Service
- **CHRISTMAS EVE:** Family Service 7:00pm/Candlelight Service 11:00pm
- **CRAFT CREATIONS:** MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 10:00am in Dreier Hall
- **BROWN BAG BIBLE:** TUESDAYS at 12 Noon 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.

MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE



CANDY CANE CARNIVAL

SUN
DEC
8TH
2024



11:30am
TO
2:30pm

POP-UP CHRISTMAS SHOPPING FESTIVAL
AT CHURCH OF THE CHIMES 14115 MAGNOLIA BLVD

Get ready to immerse yourself in the holiday spirit at Magnolia Marketplace, a festive Christmas-themed event designed to bring joy, shopping, and entertainment to the whole community!

- 🎄 Shop for the Perfect Gifts from over 30 vendors
- 🎵 Enjoy Live Entertainment by the Jumpin' Fleas, Salsa dancers and Contortionists!
- 🍪 Delight in artisan baked holiday treats
- 🍕 Pizza, Tacos, Crepes, organic juice and MORE
- 🌟 Disneyland Giveaway! 2pm: Winner must be present to WIN!

Magnolia Marketplace is more than just an event—it's a celebration of community, creativity, and the magic of Christmas. Bring your family, friends, and loved ones for a day of shopping, entertainment, and festive fun!



Thank you to all the walkers!
CROP Walk 2024



Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
COTC Assembled over 50 boxes!



Thank you!
Womens Association
Rummage Sale



Thank You
North Hollywood Food Pantry

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION KIDS CORNER

Julia Keiper

The Christian Education Board and the youth of our church wish you all a very wonderful holiday season. We look forward to lighting the first Advent candle on December 1st and presenting our Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 15th. We are so grateful to the congregation for your continued support for all our activities and adventures.

Our youth in both Sunday School and Be Bold teens were invited by Michelle Marot and the Community and World Service Board to participate in the shoe box gift giving. They gave great care to creating the Christmas cards and filling the boxes. At last count, more than 80 boxes were delivered to Samaritan's Purse for distribution around the world to those in need.

Our Sunday School attendance continues to grow, and we are looking forward to providing a class for very young children and a nursery room for our infants in the lower-level classroom beginning in January. The nursery will include a TV to display the Sunday service and a safe space for our parents to tend to the needs of their infants and very young children.

Our BE BOLD group will be hosting a Bake Sale booth at the Dec. 8th Magnolia Marketplace, and they will use that opportunity to raise funds for their service projects. Please stop by to enjoy a tasty treat and provide a word of encouragement and support for our teens.

A special thank you to Jon Wallace for coordinating the November Coffee Hours and to all the CE Board members for all the service with set up, clean up and serving. As Christian Education director, I would like to extend a word of welcome to our entire congregation. Please know that your thoughts and ideas are always graciously accepted and appreciated. Your support is necessary as we strive to create a safe environment for the children and a meaningful learning experience throughout the year.

You are welcome to join us during the Sunday School lesson, to share your special talents and interests and please consider joining us on the CE Board as we move forward to the new year.

DEACONS

Greg Abbott

The Deacons have begun our biggest annual project, The Christmas Childrens Program. For decades we been working with The Children's Bureau of Los Angeles. This year they have changed their name to All for Kids. While the name has changed, the program will be as last year. We have begun collecting toys, games, sporting equipment, clothing, gift cards (\$25 suggested) and so on. Board chairs, Scout Troops, and the Preschool have been notified so that they can begin shopping. The rest of the congregation is also encouraged to participate. There will be a gift suggestion list on the table in the Narthex and a tree beginning on December 1. Gifts can be brought to the Church office during the week and the Narthex on Sunday morning. All for Kids will use the gifts to stock their LA location where their clients can shop for Christmas. We need to wrap this all up by the second week of December. Last year we did so well that they were able to stock several other locations as well. Lets do it again this year!
Merry Christmas, Greg

CROP WALK

Diane Delaney

We had a very successful 49th Annual San Fernando Valley (SFV) CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, November 3rd, 2024. We raised over \$9,000 and our church raised \$5,865 of that amount!

We had a nice 2 mile walk around the Van Nuys park with 21 walkers from COTC and NUMC, and Oaks Christian had 8 remote walkers! Thank you to all who made donations and to those who walked for this important cause. Remember 25% of the money we raised stays here in the SFV to help the NHIFP, SOVA and the West Valley Food pantry.

Thank you,
Diane Delaney

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH OF THE CHIMES

Advent Worship

The season of Advent is the four weeks before Christmas. Each Sunday during worship we light a candle to remind us of what Christ brings us: Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. Christmas Eve we light the Christmas candle. December 1st the candle will be lit by the Sunday School children. Each week a different family or group will light the candle—if you are interested please let Dr. Bingham know.

Christmas Eve

Family Service at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. The worship will include carols, a children's moment, a story, a short message and the lighting of candles at the end of the service.

Candlelight Service: at 11 p.m. in the sanctuary: This is a service of music and message: The choir will sing, there will be carols and prayer and a meditation. The service finishes outside with candle lighting and singing "Silent Night".

TRUSTEES

Tony Bliss

At our November 18th meeting, the Trustees approved new playground fencing for the preschool, as their fence needs replacing. And by the time you read this, the pergola project should finally be finished. More wood was rotten than originally thought which is why this project has been handled in stages. The Bower Hall kitchen ceiling panels have also been replaced and the tiles in the dishwashing area have been purchased and will be installed by Javier in the next couple of weeks. The damage was a result of the roof leak before it was addressed earlier this year. Finally, thank you to Robert Jones for presenting his furniture storage shed proposal to the Trustees. Robert is purchasing this for the church and will take care of any permit needs, installation and surrounding beautification.

Merry Christmas from your Board of Trustees!

WOMENS ASSOCIATION

Diane Delaney

The Women's Association hosted an amazingly festive Holiday Boutique! There were so many helping hands, too many to name here, but THANK YOU for helping with setup/teardown, staffing, donations, baking, making, live music, several vendors selling items and all those who came and bought items! The Holiday Boutique raised just over \$3,500! This money is used for LAVC scholarships for women as well as church campus improvements. Congratulations to Jane Poole who won the beautiful quilt handmade by Maryam! Thank you to all who supported the Holiday Boutique and our church's Women's Association! Happy Holidays!

RACIAL EQUITY

Diane Delaney

The COTC Racial Equity Group is planning our 3rd Annual MLK Jr. celebration called "Voices of the Valley" for Sunday, January 19, 2025, immediately following the church service. We will have lunch and then a one-hour program. If you are interested in helping to plan or want to speak at this event, please contact Beth or Diane. Thank you!

CWS

Michele Marot

A big thank you to all who contributed donations as well as shipping costs to the Shoebox Ministry here at COTC, 2024. Your generosity has reached far out into the world to give joy to children in need at Christmas! CWS worked very hard this year and, with much help from our church's youth, packed 81 boxes that were taken to the drop off church on November 24th. So enjoy Thanksgiving, and raise a cup of cheer! Thank God for his abundant blessings and that we are in a position to share with others less fortunate!



December 2024



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 HANGING OF THE GREENS 10:30am First Sunday of Advent Worship Svc ~ Communion Served 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ Dreier	2 9:00 am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	3 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	4 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	5 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Jumpin' Fleas	6 LIGHT UP THE NIGHT 6pm 9:00am Preschool 9:45 Zumba 10:00am 10 at 10 6:00pm BE BOLD 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	7 9:00 Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
8 MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE 11:30am -2:30pm 10:30am Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service ~ Communion Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ Dreier	9 9:00 am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	10 COUNCIL MEETING DH 6:30pm 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	11 BOUQUET CIRCLE 11:00am 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	12 9:00am Preschool	13 9:30 Preschool Christmas Pageant 9:45 Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	14 9:00 Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
15 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 10:30am 10:30am Third Sunday of Advent Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	16 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	17 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible	18 TRUSTEE MEETING 6:30pm 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	19	20 9:45 Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 6:00pm BE BOLD 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	21 9:00 Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
22 10:30am Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	23 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 7pm Family Service 11pm Candlelight Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00am 10 at 10	26	27 9:45 Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	28 9:00 Kingdom Camp B-Ball
29 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	30 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	31 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 10:0am Craft Creations ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible				