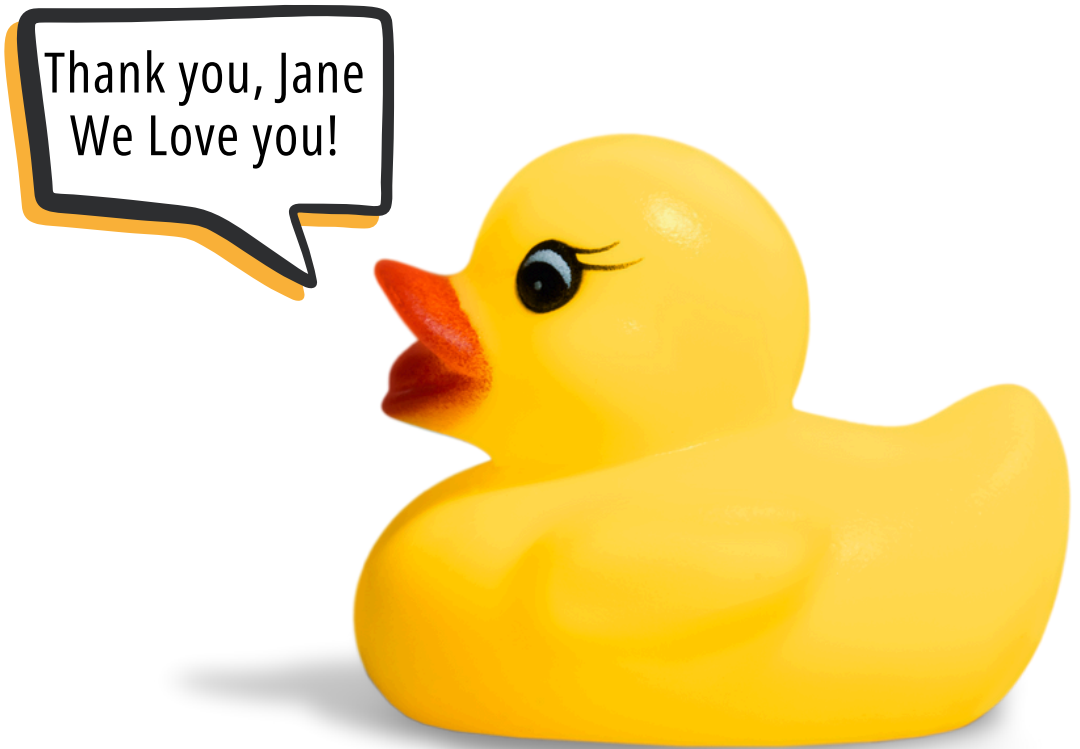


Chiming In

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
NEWS AND EVENTS

A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All



May 2024

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
Jane G. Poole, Christian Education Director
Allayne Baker, Preschool Director
Joi Staves, Wedding & Events Coordinator
Lindsay Hill, Facility Manager
Javier De la Torre, Groundskeeper



Phone: 818-789-7124

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SERMONS

- May 5: 1 Corinthians 11, 17, 20-28 Table Manners
- May 12: Ruth 1: 6-17 Mothers-in-love
- May 19: Acts 2 (selections) Earth, Wind and Fire
- May 26: John 14-1-4, 15-21 Not so Far away



Faithfully Yours

This year there is one of those remarkable synergistic moments in our life as a church—that is when two great things come together in “perfect harmony.”

May 19 is Pentecost Sunday---the Sunday when we celebrate the birthday of the church. Pentecost was a harvest festival 50 days after the Passover, and many people came to Jerusalem to celebrate. It was also the first time that all those who were Christian were together in the same place at the same time. The Holy Spirit swept upon them and they were united into a community of faith and began meeting in smaller groups—the first churches.

May 19 is also the day of the 73rd Annual Meeting of the Congregational Church of the Chimes. Our church was founded by Dr. Walter Staves on May 25, 1950, so that our “birthday” is honored each year as we welcome new leadership to our boards and offices, hear reports of the past year’s activities, and set our eyes on the future.

Celebrating both birthdays on the same day is a witness to our Christian communities continuing over 2000 years. It speaks of strong faith, brave souls, and the presence of the Holy Spirit always with us. So it is with that energy and excitement that Church of the Chimes continues this legacy of faith and love. So....let’s celebrate!!!!

When Bad Things Happen to Good People

There has been interest in a discussion of Rabbi Kushner’s book “When Bad Things Happen to Good People” so I will be gathering a group together. My suggestion is that we meet in person once or twice a month. I would prefer either Monday evenings at 7 p.m. or Sunday afternoons after church. Please let me know your preference so that we can bring on conversation in June. If you are interested but would rather wait until the fall, please let me know! Thanks! Dr. B (aka Beth)

- **MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE:** SUNDAY, May 5th from 11:30am to 2:30pm on the Hazeltine Lawn
- **COUNCIL MEETING:** TUESDAY, May 7th at 6:30pm
- **BOUQUET CIRCLE:** WEDNESDAY, May 8 at 11:30am in Dreier Hall. All women are welcome to join in for our monthly gathering. If you can join us this month, call Barbara @ 747-355-6077 or 818-762-0187.
- **BE BOLD:** FRIDAY, May 10th & FRIDAY, May 24th at 6pm in Hamilton House.
- **VESPERS:** THURSDAY, May 16 at 6:30pm. All women of the church are invited to gather for dinner and conversation at a local restaurant typically on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Please contact Natalie Karp (nataliefkarp@mac.com) if you would like to join in.
- **ANNUAL MEETING:** SUNDAY, May 19th after Worship Service in Bower Hall.
- **TRUSTEE MEETING:** WEDNESDAY, May 22nd 6:30pm in Dreier Hall.
- **MEMORIAL DAY:** MONDAY, May 27th - School & office Closed
- **NEW CRAFT CREATIONS:** MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 10:00am in Dreier Hall.
- **BROWN BAG BIBLE:** MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 12noon in Dreier Hall: This is 45 minutes of lively discussion of the scripture passage for the coming Sunday. We munch our lunch, get background and context for the lesson, and talk about what it means.
- **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. Contact Jane Poole via email at jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net for more information.
- **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** The Men’s Group hosts a Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Sundays (May 12 & 26) in Dreier Hall at 11:45 am. Everyone is welcome so please feel free to join in anytime for lively and interesting discussions!



MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE



MAY 5
11:30AM - 2:30PM
KIDS ACTIVITIES
TASTY FOOD
FREE JUMPING CASTLE
CREATIVE VENDORS
FREE ENTRY & PARKING



Thank you

Honoring Jane Pool



It is with both gratitude and a heavy heart that we bid farewell to Jane, our beloved Christian Education Director, who has faithfully served Church of the Chimes for an impressive seventeen years. Throughout her tenure, Jane's unwavering dedication and passion for nurturing the spiritual growth of our congregation's youth has left an indelible mark on our community. With grace and humility, Jane has embodied the values of compassion, kindness, and faith, guiding generations of young minds on their journey of discovery and devotion.

In celebrating Jane's remarkable service, we are reminded not only of her profound impact on the lives of our youth but also of her unique and endearing quirks, such as her fondness for rubber duckies, which never failed to bring a smile to our faces. Jane's commitment to our church family has been truly inspiring. On behalf of the entire congregation, we extend our heartfelt thanks for her tireless efforts in organizing events, her boundless generosity in giving back to the community, and her steadfast leadership in guiding our youth towards a deeper understanding of their faith. As Jane embarks on this new chapter of her journey, may she carry with her the love, appreciation, and blessings of our Church of the Chimes family, knowing that her legacy will continue to resonate within our hearts for years to come. Please join us on June 9th to commemorate Jane's retirement. We love you Jane!



Did you get married here at COTC?

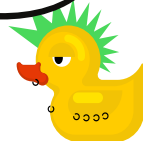
We are creating a display of member wedding photos!

Send your photos to:
office@churchofthechimes.org



Order your COTC T-Shirt in the office! \$10

How many rubber duckies can you spot?



CONGRATS UNIVERSAL GIVEAWAY WINNER: Judy Kemecei





With utmost gratitude, we express our deepest appreciation to Jane Poole, our beloved Christian Education Director. Jane has enriched our community with wisdom, compassion, and faith. We are profoundly thankful for her invaluable contributions.



Thank you Greg Whipple for bringing The Uniting Voices Choir to COTC



Welcome New Member John Paul!



Urban Harvester meeting to end food waste



UNITING VOICES

Greg Whipple, COTC Music Director

If you happened to miss our service last Sunday, you missed quite an inspiring explosion of joyful youth and unity in music! The once-named Chicago Children's Choir, now appropriately rebranded as Uniting Voices Chicago, practically blew our socks off with a powerful display of musicality, discipline, love and unity. They had our congregants literally dancing in the aisles! The congregation's excitement was heightened by a very healthy shot in the arm of visitors who had come to see the choir perform including several alumni who live in the area. We were wowed that they even had that much energy left after spending 16 hours the day prior sharing their talents at Disneyland! Much thanks to everyone who helped support their visit and showed up to be enriched by their message of joyful unity! We hope to host them again whenever they come back to Southern California! In the meantime, if you want to support their cause, please visit their website at unitingvoiceschicago.org.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Diane Delaney, Chair

After our successful "Closing the Gap" Stewardship Campaign, we held a Congregational Meeting on March 17th, and the luck of the Irish was with us! John Van Veen, our Treasurer presented a balanced 2024 budget which was reviewed and unanimously approved by all members at the meeting! A big thanks to John and the Board of Trustees and to all who submitted their estimate of giving card and attended this very important budget meeting. The major repairs of the three flat roofs of Bower Hall were completed on April 5th. We hope there are NO more leaks in these areas. Our next project is to repair the kitchen and stage ceilings.

The pool is open ... early! If you want to use it during the month of May, the key fee is \$125. If you want to use it beginning Saturday May 25th, for Memorial Day weekend, the key fee is \$100. Please contact the church office to pay and get a key, thank you! If you want one of our infamous GREEN Church of the Chimes t-shirts please sign up and pay \$10 per shirt in the church office. We will place the order as soon as we reach 50 shirt orders.

COTC FACILITY USE BY THE COMMUNITY

Our church was a host for Urban Harvester's luncheon and very important meeting of 50+ non-profit community leaders including 11 people from COTC to review the post-COVID 19 survey results presented by Linda Hess, Urban Harvester Founder-CEO/Consultant. You can get a copy of the report here: <http://www.urbanharvester.org/post-covid-19-report.html>

GETTING TO KNOW

Michele Marot

JESSICA WOOD

Jessica Dianne Wood was born and raised in Sandusky, Ohio, and graduated from Sandusky High School. Some of the more interesting jobs she's held include working with a Summer Youth Work Program, working at radio and television stations, for entertainment newspapers, and at an amusement park. When asked what she liked about working at the amusement park, Jessica said, "I'm people oriented, and especially like working with children. They have so much energy!"

Jessica enjoys many different activities including volleyball, swimming, and sewing as well as listening to music and visiting museums. She hopes to do more traveling to different countries in the near future.

A member of the deacons, you'll also see Jessica ushering and helping at our church festivals and events. When asked about people who have had a positive influence on her life, she mentioned Reverend Bingham, Reverend Peek, Ginger, Nancy and Randy, and more!

What brought Jessica to our church? She happened to miss a bus she was taking to her regular church, and decided to check us out! Being a friendly church, Reverend Peek chatted with her after service and told her about the church community. She also met the senior minister at that time, Pastor Perteet, who was warm and welcoming, as was Joi (who is a joy!). Jessica kept coming back to COTC, and after a little while she became a member. "It reminds me of my church in Sandusky, Ohio, a Second Baptist Church. I've found a church home here."

When Jessica gets to heaven, she'd like to ask God why it's so hard, at times, to follow in Jesus' footsteps.



JANE'S CORNER

Jane G. Poole, CE Director

Is it Okay to Pray Boldly?

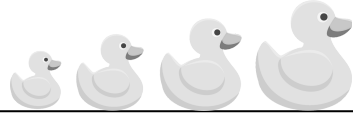
"Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life." Philippians 4:6-7

When I was young, I only prayed before I went to sleep. It was a prayer my mother said when she was young, passed down from her mother who said it with her mother. There is something special about prayers passed down from generation to generation and I felt good reciting this prayer over and over. But as I got a bit older, I realized there should be more to prayer than just the "nighttime, kneeling at the side of my bed prayer", but I didn't have a clue as to how to pray more. Then the Bible came into my life and things started to fall into place. Although I was still reticent as to how to pray, I figured whatever I said to God would be ok, even really big asks. And you know what? This was, and is, OK!

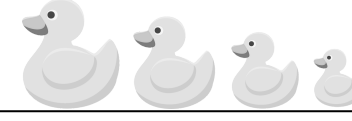
I was reading my devotional the other day and the daily story was about a three-year-old who was in thoughtful prayer witnessed by her grandmother. In the little one's prayer she asked God for unicorns to be made real. Now we might laugh at this little girl asking such a prayer. But if you think about it, she was uninhibited in her relationship with God, and asked boldly from her heart for something she really wanted!

What faith the little girl had. With all our daily comings and goings, it's not difficult to lose our joyful, trusting, and wide-eyed faith. The world around us is spiraling, and unicorn prayers might seem inappropriate. I ask though, why not pray boldly with a childlike faith asking God for big, bold things? Let's be honest, we all experience times when our faith feels small, when we don't dare hope and ask God for really big things ~ like big-time healing or full understanding of a difficult situation. We need to be cognizant in these times, God is the God of the impossible! SO, let's take a page from the unicorn praying toddler and not hesitate to pray to God for the big, seemingly impossible things. Remember, God will always be there for you. Let's all have a unicorn childlike faith and pray boldly! Blessings and hugs, Jane





May 2024



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			<u>1</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>2 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH	<u>3</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>4</u> 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50am LM&S
<u>5 MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE</u> 11:30am -2:30pm 10:00am MAIC Worship Svc 10:30am COTC Worship Svc ~ Communion Served 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ Dreier	<u>6</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>7 COUNCIL MEETING 6:30pm</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics-CE/BH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>8 BOUQUET CIRCLE</u> 11:30am-1:30pm DH 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>9</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH	<u>10 BE BOLD</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>11</u> 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50am LM&S
<u>12 MOTHERS DAY</u> 10:00am MAIC Worship Svc 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	<u>13</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>14</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics-CE BH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>15</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>16 VESPERS DINNER</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH	<u>17</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>18</u> 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50am LM&S
<u>19 ANNUAL MEETING BH</u> AFTER CHURCH 10:00am MAIC Worship Svc 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	<u>20</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>21</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics-CE/BH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>22 TRUSTEE MEETING 6:30pm</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>23 PRESCHOOL TALENT SHOW</u> 5-7pm BH 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH	<u>24 BE BOLD</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>25</u> 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50am LM&S
<u>26 CE MEETING</u> 10:00am MAIC Worship Svc 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm AI Anon ~ DH	<u>27 MEMORIAL DAY</u> 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm AI-Anon ~ Chapel (School & Office Closed)	<u>28</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics-CE/BH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>29</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>30</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics CE BH	<u>31</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ DH 10:00am 10 at 10 11:00am Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC ~ Sanctuary	