



14115 Magnolia Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA

Facebook Phone: 818-789-7124 Email: office@churchofthechimes.org

Find us on Facebook

avier ennifer ine G. Staves Elizabeth Bingham, Curtis P Poole Lee. Iorre eek, Church Christian E G roundskeeper Office Manager Senior Minister late ducation Director Minister Coordinator



# **Chiming In**

818-789-712

office@churchofthechimes.org

www.churchofthechimes.org

BLOOI

Next one will be in January 2023...Happy Holidays! Sign up online at www.churchofthechimes.org

Chimes BLOOD DRIVE

of the

Church

BLOOD DRIVE NEWS AND EVENTS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All www.churchofthechimes.org—www.Facebook.com/ChurchofChimes

HAPPY THANKSGNING Thankful, greatful and joyful. 🗲

# **November 2022**

# Volume 73 Issue 7

# FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

# Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

# FAITHFULLY YOURS

I love November. I love pewter gray skies and geese in the air. I like brown leaves on the ground. I love how the pumpkin's bright orange interrupts the subtle colors of autumn as it goes away, preparing for winter to arrive.

My favorite though is what I saw and wrote about years ago as a student at Cornell College in Iowa, when all those subtle colors are shamed in early evening light.

> Black trees against sunset skies, Gnarled fingers reaching towards their heaven.

November is a season of its own, our pause between autumn's crispness and winter's chill. For me it is a time of reflection, quieting, remembering, and above all, thanking. Thanking God for those trees and those sunsets; thanking God for holding those gnarled fingers of ours as we reach for the One who has known us and loved us since the very beginning.

Yes there are cold rains, and wild winds.. Yes, there are Christmas carols before we're ready. There are too many travelers driving the highways, or standing in line waiting to get through the security lines.. For me, at least, there is WAY too much pumpkin everywhere from dog food to milk to...?

But there is that pause in the November month, that time for each of us to reach out to the God who gave us his Son, to thank the ones who have made God known to us.. It is the time to truly be thankful...as sung in the song Sally and I wrote in 4th grade in Mrs, Glassen's Sunday School class:

Be thankful for the harvest, for pumpkins and the gourds, For vegetables and meat, the things we like to eat.

I would add that we must be thankful too for the people who have nurtured us and loved us, for the God who is known to us.

We are thankful too for this beloved fellowship where we are known and loved and where together we offer our deepest thanks for God's only son, who lived for us and died for us, and leads on the path of justice and mercy and love.

With Deep Affection, Beth

#### **SERMON TOPICS FOR NOVEMBER:**

NOVEMBER 6:	Word(le) (Job 10:23-27a)
NOVEMBER 13:	Noisy (Psalms 98)
NOVEMBER 20:	Thanks! (Corinthians 9:6-15)
NOVEMBER 27:	First Sunday of Advent: Rev. Peek Preaching

# **NOVEMBER 2022 HAPPENINGS**

- ⇒ <u>RACIAL EQUITY DISCUSSION GROUP: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> at 11:45AM:</u> This Group Discussion is a place where all views are welcomed as we learn from one another. Contacts: Beth, Curtis or Diane Delaney.
- ⇒ COUNCIL MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1st at 6:30pm
- ⇒ BOUQUET CIRCLE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 11:30am—1:30pm: All women are welcome to join this group who enlighten one another on a variety of topics of interest. Bring a sack lunch. Beverages and dessert
   ⇒ will
- ⇒ TRUSTEES MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15тн at 7pm
- ⇒ <u>VESPERS : THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> at 6:30pm</u>: All women of the church are invited to gather for dinner and conversation at a local eating establishment typically on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Please contact Natalie (nataliefkarp@mac.com) if you would like to join in.
- ⇒ NEW CRAFT CREATIONS: MEETS EVERY TUESDAY at 9:30am 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. They munch their lunch, get background and context for the lesson, and talk about what it means. Join them when you can!
- ⇒ <u>zooм WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: WEDNESDAYs at 7pm:</u> All women of any faith are invited to this virtual gathering of caring, sharing, loving women on Wednesday evenings at 7pm via zooм. For the link, e-mail Jane Poole at: jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net. See you then!
- ⇒ SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: The Men's Group is hosting a Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. It is held in Dreier Hall from 9:30 to 10:15am. We are currently studying the Book of Proverbs. Please feel free to join in at anytime for lively and interesting discussions.
- ⇒ NORTH HOLLYWOOD INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY: NHIFP continues to help the food insecure in our community during the hard times we are in. Contributions of extras such as small bags of chips, granola bars, etc., and diapers for babies & adult are needed as well as hearty soup (not condensed) and peanut butter. Thank you for your continued support.
- ⇒ COTC DRAMA TEAM: Coming soon: A 12 week study workshop on the book, "The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity," by Julia Cameron, is being organized. We hope to start the workshop sometime this Fall. Stay tuned for the Sunday announcements and next month's newsletter for more information on how to get involved.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6



FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MINISTER

**Rev. Curtis Peek** 

#### I have NO REASON TO FEAR!

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

"Fear causes people to live far below their ability. If we are not careful, a thousand fears will attack us when we awake in the morning. There is a fear of the unknown, fear of the future, fear of ill health, fear of what others will think, fear of being shoved aside, fear of growing old, and fear of death, just to mention a few."

Don't give in to fear. Scripture contains the phrases "Don't be afraid" and "Do not fear" more than 300 times. In fact the Bible repeats this command 'fear not' exactly 365 times, or once for each day of the year. It is as if to say there is no day in our lives when we have a reason to fear.

1st Corinthians 15:57 reminds us that we have the victory when it says

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

If you had (past tense) a reason to fear, that reason was nailed to the cross and is now under the blood of Jesus. You have no reason to fear because you are MORE THAN A CONQUEROR! You are an OVERCOMER. You are commanded to live in the OVERFLOW of God's Grace. God says to you like He said to the Apostle Paul:

"...Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city..." Acts 18:9-10 God is with you! Believe it! Curtis

#### Join Us LIVE! On FaceBook...AND Gather With Us in Our Sanctuary for Communion\*, Glorious Music and the Good NEWS!

Sunday Worship Service\* – 10:30am Every Sunday Morning

10@10\* - 10 minute devotional at 10am every weekday—Lively and relevant chats with Beth (MW\*F) & Curtis (TTH)

\*Wednesdays' 10 at 10 offer a mini-Bible study in preparation for Sunday's Sermon.
\*VIDEOS of past Sermons and Devotionals are on Facebook and YouTube.
\*Communion Sacraments served on the 1st Sunday of every month.

#### GET AMUSED....

#### Happy Thanksgiving



been cooked to a delectable, golden

perfection."



WONDER WHY I DON'T HEAR FROM THE

SHEPHERD ANMORE



Here's what happens when a cat

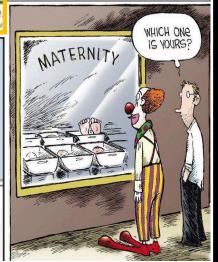


"Remind me never to ask the Youth Group to help fold the church bulletins again."

'Remember, when the farmer comes in, say, 'moo'".







#### **THINGS TO CONSIDER...**





UU Studio City North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry **Thanksgiving Service** 

November 17, 2022 Thursday, 7:30 pm 11235 Moorpark Street Studio City

#### I choose LOVE

I choose Inclusion. I choose Empathy. Compassion. Equality. Dignity. Diversity. I choose Community. Kindness. Integrity. Honesty. Respect. I choose Justice. I choose Facts. Peace. The Planet. I choose Humanity.

#### I choose LOVE.

When you forgive somebody, when you are generous, when you withhold judgment, when you love and when you stand up to injustice, you are, in that moment, bringing heaven to earth." Rob Bell

No matter

you are, remember how blessed

you are

how stressed

He will

Gover YOU

# GOLDEN WEST FAIR 2022 NEWS John Sulliv

#### John Sullivan, Chair Person

#### 2022 Golden West Fair: Lot of Work, Lot of Fun and a Lot of Results

This year saw the Golden West Fair come roaring back after two relatively quiet years. We had our share of challenges including losing ACE rental as a supplier of tables and tents, but with extremely high participation rate within the church and pre-school as well as some friends we were able to host many hundreds (perhaps thousands) of visitors and friends successfully. We sold over 3,700 tickets and all the sales areas did great. So great in fact that we were able to net in the neighborhood of \$12,000 in income for the church although we don't have a final number yet.

There are so many to thank for their time and dedication toward making the GWF successful each year. What would we do without each one of you. Your commitment to this event produces great results for our church year in and year out! Thank you.

This year I'd like to recognize two people in particular who have been instrumental in the Golden West Fair since I assumed a large role in 2014. Jane Poole and Joi Staves.

Jane Poole took my hand in 2014 and showed me the ropes in what is involved to stage a successful Fair. I followed her lead. Since then I've realized that Jane Poole is an absolutely essential element to the GWF each and every year. Without her participation we would be unable to stage the event on the scale that we do. We can only hope Jane Poole stays involved with the Fair for many years to come.

Joi Staves does all those things at the Fair that no one else can or will do. The list of things she does is countless. For example, she opens sheds and the doors to Dreier and Bower Hall on set up days; she moves furniture or tables when needed without being asked to do so; she makes flyers; she stays late with me on the night prior to the Fair doing all the last minute things that need to be done; she cleans up after the Fair. I'm sure Joi does dozens of other things I am not even aware of to help prepare the Fair. Jane and Joi's energy and dedication is unmatched!

We will meet in the month of November to discuss this past year and next year's Golden West Fair. Stayed tuned for an announcement.

# **WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

Natalie Karp, Chair

The Women's Association invites you to attend the 2022 Holiday Boutique on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm in Bower and Dreier Halls. We will once again host this special holiday event to sell our handmade ornaments, handmade hats, scarfs, and other items along with holiday home decor, gift items, plants, bake sale, and a sprinkling of jewelry. Our legendary Santa's Closet with hundreds of household holiday decorations and gifts will be open! We will also have outside craft artist booths, and much more will be available for your shopping enjoyment. We will have a raffle for a beautiful handmade quilt. We will have live holiday music playing while you enjoy a delicious chili and cornbread lunch for only \$6. We hope you come by to enjoy this wonderful event to start off the holiday season. Thank you!

The Women's Association held another very successful Rummage Sale on Saturday October 22<sup>nd,</sup> and we raised \$1,740! Our church receives donations throughout the year, and this is one opportunity for us to sell them to raise money for LAVC Scholarships and things the church needs, like the new dishwasher for the Bower Hall kitchen. It is also a very important event for many people in our community who depend on it and come to every sale we hold.

It takes many helping hands to setup, hold and cleanup one of our rummage sales... Thanks to Louisa, who leads the set-up of the Rummage area—it would not have happened without you! Thanks to Natalie, who leads the New / Like New area—it would not have happened without you! And thanks to Diane for leading the clean up and clear out effort—it would not have happened without you! And thanks to our outside volunteers plus our COTC crew: Michelle, Judy, Jane, Diane, Tess, Shirley, Joi, John, Greg and Javier for Set-up, "Day Of"and Clean-up help—for all each of you did to make this event possible—it would not have happened without you!

# LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

If you know someone who would like to receive a card or note, please send their name, address & phone number to the church office:

office@churchofthechimes.org 818-789-7124

#### Band of Prayer

A church that prays together, stays together especially during challenging times when everything seems to go upside down. What is certain is that God is with us, Bringing things back into focus. ...He hears our prayers. Please send Band of Prayer requests to Sylvia McCormick; miss\_daisy1226@yahoo.com or feel free to call or email the Church Office; office@churchofthechimes.org | 818-789-7124



I'm Hayley, the COTC Social Media Manager...(and I teach gymnastics too.) Thank you for continuing to follow COTC on Facebook & Instagram. Please know that as you LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE on all of the COTC posts-leaving those encouraging or relevant comment and/or an emoji may be just the thing that someone needs...AND the more posts we do-the better the opportunity to reach more people! Please join in! COTC is a diverse and loving community accepting of all people... Together we can reach so many to make them aware of us...Let's do this! And please know that if you need any assistance setting up your social media accounts, get in touch with me. I will help you.

#### **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

# Ally Baker, Director

The Preschool's Fall Session is in full swing. Enrollment for our 22-23 school year is on-going. The Preschool program begins at 2yrs. 7 months through 5 years. The Parent and Me Program offers a class on Thursdays from 9:30 – 11:30am.

We had our first Trunk or Treat gathering since the pandemic, and we're looking forward to all our up coming Holiday events.





For more information on ourPreschool or Parent & Me Program, please contact preschool@churchofthechimes.org or call the church office.



AD for a

FREE CLASS!

# **STAVES CHAPEL ~ STAINED GLASS WINDOWS**

Submitted by Joi Staves

From our roots in England to the founding of our Church of the Chimes, the history of Congregationalism is depicted in the Staves' Chapel's stained glass windows. The fifteenth of the eighteen stained glass windows is pictured below with a description of its significance, and below it are the fourteen windows that were presented in previous editions of Chiming In.

#### **15: WELFARE AND SOCIAL ACTION:**



During the late nineteenth century, many Congregationalists, most notably pastor and writer Washington Gladden, were leaders in the Social Gospel movement This was an effort to change all society for the better to establish the "Kingdom of God on earth" by campaigning for workers' rights, education and health care for the poor, and clean accessible cities. Other Congregational theologians like Theodore Munger and Lyman Abbott pioneered the New Theology, a more

optimistic and socially involved approach to Christianity. By the early twentieth century,

these views were no longer those of the radical few, but dominating the curriculum of most of the Congregational seminaries, and preached from church pulpits across the country.



16: "Founding Church of the Chimes:" will be featured 14: "Spread of Missions 13: "Kawaiahao in the December 2022 edition of Chiming In. to the World"

Church"





Meeting"





12: "Gold Rush Churches"



7: "The First

6: "Mavflower

Thanksgiving"



of Colleges"

5: "Plymouth Landing" Compact Adopted"

4: "Mayflower Sails"

3: "Pilgrims in 2: " The Faithful Holland" are Imprisoned.'



Browne'

#### **DEACON NEWS**

# Greg Abbott, Chair

The Deacons met on October 23 with six present. One of the topics of discussion was communion. We have continuing problems with the cups. Can't get the juice open, juice starting to dry up, etc. We are discussing going back to the pre Pandemic way of separate bread and juice, maybe as early as December. This does require more manpower and more prep work. We will soon begin to work on our Christmas families program. Stay tuned. We also polled the members about keeping two Christmas Eve services as we have in the past. Consensus, don't fix what ain't broke. Until next time, Greg

# **TRUSTEE NEWS**

# Diane Delaney, Chair

Unfortunately, we have another Oak Tree that is not in good health. It is the one near the back entrance to the Sanctuary. We'll be taking steps to save it and hope to be successful.

Curtis Leseman continues to talk and meet with the city to get all required approval to install our electronic church sign. Fingers crossed we will be able to do this soon.

We are beginning to prepare our 2023 Budget which we will present to the Congregation for approval early in 2023. An important and key part of the budget are offerings and pledges, so we will also be planning our 2023 Stewardship Campaign. If you are interested in helping us with this, please let us know, thank you!

# **COMMUNITY & WORLD SERVICE NEWS**

# Robert Dunn, Chair

Look for our Operation Christmas Child booth at the Holiday Boutique on November 5th! Yes, it's time to pack and sponsor shoeboxes full of gifts to send to children less fortunate at Christmas time. We will be in Bower Hall, and are asking people to sponsor a beautifully well-packed shoebox for just \$10 each. Make some child's Christmas special this year!

# **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS**

# Barbara Downs, Chair

#### The Golden West Fair was a success!

The Be Bold youth, led by Jane Poole, designed and built the Haunted House, and our young people did a great job acting and running it during the fair! We also sold snacks and did Color Me Chimes. A great time was had by all. Thank you to all who came out and did a great job for our church and community!

Starting in November, there will be no Sunday gatherings on Communion Sunday (the first Sunday of the month). Children are invited to attend church for the Worship Service and Communion. Children's Sunday gatherings will be held the remainder of each month.

# JANE'S CORNER

# Jane G. Poole, CE Director

# SPHERE OF INFLUENCE... WHAT DOES THIS STATEMENT MEAN TO YOU?

Several days ago I was watching Spectrum One when the reporter announced she would be interviewing Rabbi Steve Leder, Senior Rabbi of Wilshire Boulevard Temple LA for Wisdom Wednesday, a weekly piece Spectrum presents.

The conversation began with the reporter asking Rabbi Steve how he was feeling given the increase of anti-Semitic rhetoric. And more specifically, his thoughts about the horrible banner people hung on an overpass of the 405, and their associated actions.

Rabbi Steve said he had not heard about this disheartening occurrence on that particular morning, but had seen it with his own eyes as he was driving to a meeting. He told her, and we viewers, that it was a horrific display of hate and ignorance.

The reporter asked how we can counter such awful demonstrations of hate. Rabbi Steve then broke down the scene before answering the question directly. First, he said when you looked at the scene there were only seven men there. They were cowardly masked to not show their faces, and the cringe worthy salute they were doing was a display of ignorance.

He then went on to say, as a society, we must become spheres of influence and change. That one person **can** make positive change happen. And that if we bind ourselves together, we can make an even greater sphere of influence.

After a while, his interview ended with a really powerful charge to us – to be people who root out the "isms" in our society and world - anti-Semitism, racism, and all the other isms used against, and, to persecute people. Rabbi's final words were those of encouragement; "As God's people, who deeply care and respect our sisters and brothers in the world, we should say 'We care about you' to ALL."

This surprising statement should be said to the offenders of "isms", to try and enlighten them that we are all in this world together, thus putting the sphere of influence into action. SO, please take action and help stop the hate against our fellow human beings – BE A SPHERE OF INFLUENCE!

Blessings, and please take time to be with God. Jane

All things are possible through the openness of our mind, the gentleness of our spirit, and the act of understanding and embracing." Lily Yeh



# ① November 2022 ①



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 COUNCIL MEETING ~ 6:30pm 9:00am Preschool Chapel Service 9:30am Crafting 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	2 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Bower Hall	<u>3</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	<u>4</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 6:30pm Be Bold Gathering– HH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	<ul> <li><u>5</u> HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE <u>10am to 2pm</u></li> <li>9:00am LM&amp;S</li> <li>9:55am LM&amp;S</li> <li>10:50am LM&amp;S</li> </ul>
<u>6</u> <u>COMMUNION SUNDAY</u> <u>CWS MEETING — 12 Noon</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Service 10:45am Super Kids 11:45am Racial Equity Meeting 12Noon Missions Alive Worship Svc 2:30pm CALWEST Meeting	<b>Z</b> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 7:00pm Sea Scouts	<b><u>8</u></b> 9:00am Preschool 9:30am Crafting 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	<ul> <li><u>9</u> BOUQUET CIRCLE ~ 11:30</li> <li>9:00am Preschool</li> <li>10:00am 10 at 10</li> <li>11:30am Bouquet Circle</li> <li>7:00pm Women's Bible Study</li> <li>7:00pm Boy Scouts—Bower Hall</li> </ul>	<b>10</b> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	11VETERANS DAY OFFICE CLOSED & NO PRESCHOOL9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 5:30pm Be Bold Youth Group	<u>12</u> 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50am LM&S
<b>13</b> 10:30am COTC Worship Service 10:45am Super Kids 12Noon Missions Alive Worship Svc 1:30pm tRPC Worship Service	14 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 7:00pm Sea Scouts	<b><u>15</u></b> TRUSTEE MEETING ~ 7pm 9:00am Preschool 9:30am Crafting 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible—DH 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	<b>16</b> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Bower Hall	17VESPERS ~ 6:30pm*9:00am Preschool10:00am 10 at 103:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall7:00pm Cub Scouts*Subject to change	18 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	19 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50am LM&S
20 <u>CE MEETING ~ 12 Noon</u> <u>Bower Hall Patio</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Service 10:45am Super Kids 12Noon Missions Alive Worship Svc 1:30pm tRPC Worship Service	21 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 7:00pm Sea Scouts	22 9:00am Preschool 9:30am Crafting 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	23 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Bower Hall	24THANKSGIVING DAY OFFICE CLOSED & NO PRESCHOOL10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	25OFFICE CLOSED & NO PRESCHOOL9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	<u>26</u> 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S 10:50am LM&S
27 HANGING OF THE GREENS 10:30am COTC Worship Service 10:45am Super Kids 12Noon Missions Alive Worship Svc 1:30pm tRPC Worship Service	28 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics—Music Room 7:00pm Sea Scouts	29 9:00am Preschool 9:30am Crafting 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics—Bower Hall	30 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Bower Hall			