Chiming In

NEWS AND EVENTS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES www.churchofthechimes.org—www.Facebook.com/ChurchofChimes

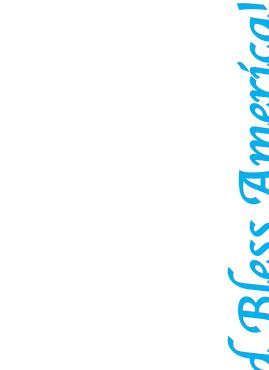


SEPTEMBER 2020

Phone: 818-789-7124

Email: office@churchofthechimes.org





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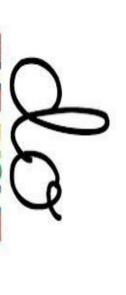
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FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

FAITHFULLY YOURS

I love baseball, and it was really hard for me to start a spring without it. I have loved baseball since I was a kid and it was inevitable that our son would love baseball too. For a while, before it got too expensive and our schedules got too crazy, we had part of a season ticket package to the Anaheim Angels.

Going to games was a family delight. We had seats near enough to the field that Teddy could get autographs nearly every game (this was when attendance was hovering below the 20,000 fan threshold). We loved yelling and screaming. The greatest moments were, not surprisingly during the 2002 World Series. We had some tickets for some games. I lost my preaching voice the Saturday night when the Angels came back in the 7th inning overcoming a Giants' lead to win the game and play for the championship the next night. My husband and son lost their voices when the Angels won the Series (while I was at the church Halloween party.) There was nothing like being in a loud, crazy happy screaming winning crowd.

Which means that although baseball is back, and nine men take the field and pitch and hit and catch, the other half of the game is gone—the fans. Oh, in some stadiums there are cardboard cutouts of fans which pretend to be real. In fact in one game a staff person replaced the poor guy who had been hit and knocked over by a home run ball. And there are loudspeakers with someone playing recordings of fans yelling appropriately for a good play or a bad play or a strikeout or a home run.

But the strangest thing has happened the more games I hear. I am beginning to believe those yells. I am beginning to identify the fans in the seats. I am beginning to forget that this is a short season with new rules in empty stadiums.

In some ways, I realize, it isn't all that different from our own worship except the sense that you are in the pews is real. Every Sunday we look out and we see your faces. Every Sunday we bow our heads and we hear your voices joining us in prayer. Every Sunday, and every day when we do our 10 at 10 devotions, we feel you all close.

Because, you see, we don't need cardboard cut outs or fake noise to make God real. God is real! God is here! And God is gathering us together even though we might be, in only some ways, far apart.

Just know that whenever our doors do open, our smiles will be broad and our hearts will burst. But in the meantime our faces wear God's smile. Our eyes see God's love. Our ears hear the songs of God's angels. And our souls are truly touched by the hands of God!

Love and blessings to all, Beth

COMMUNITY & WORLD SERVICES NEWS Diane Delaney, Chair

CWS continues to donate \$300 each quarter to the NH Interfaith Food Pantry; additionally Diane Delaney was able to secure a \$500 grant for the Church from the 2020 IBM Volunteers Program to benefit NHIFP as part of Martha's Challenge and the SFV CROP Hunger Walk. Speaking of the SFV CROP Hunger Walk, save the date – Sunday, October 25th for our virtual / family unit walk – we will walk "together" on that day with our family/friends who we are "isolating" with due to COVID-19.

Please join the Church of the Chimes Team to walk and/or make an online donation to the San Fernando Valley CROP Hunger Walk fund to help our team meet its goal of \$5,000. CWS will receive 75% of the walk proceeds to help hungry people around the world and 25% will go locally to the NHIFP, the SOVA Food Pantry and the West Valley Food Pantry.

DELANEY FAMILY FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER

GOOD NEWS!!! The Delaney Facebook Fundraiser has reached its goal—actually exceeded its goal! In less than a month more than 25 of you good, generous folks joined them to raise over \$2,700 for the church. This is so important for us so that we can keep things going as we continue to hope for and be ready to gather in our Sanctuary for our Sunday morning worship.

In the meantime, we are **Streaming Live** on Sunday mornings, and every weekday at 10am for 10 minutes, and that will continue even after we open our doors so those who are still not ready or able to join us physically will be held close together.

HEAL THE BAY'S COASTAL CLEANUP MONTH - September 5 - 26, 2020.

This year, Coastal Cleanup Day became Coastal Cleanup Month as Heal the Bay participants will spend the entire month of September celebrating our watersheds & coastline with decentralized cleanups and weekly programming. Church of the Chimes suggests we do something similar here in our SFV. Between now and the 26th, let's share time together with our family members or housemates as we clean up our street, park, favorite local shoreline, or any other location you call your happy place, and take pictures, lots of pictures—and send your favs to the church for October's Chiming In and our Facebook page. Please include one with everyone standing beside all the trash collected along with an estimate of how many pounds were picked up so at the end of the month we can recap our total effort toward keeping California clean.

FACEBOOK NEWS: Keep sharing, liking and following!

Our Facebook page continues to grow with 525 Likes and 561 Followers—up over 100 each since March and; we finally broke our goal of 500!

Humor from the Pulpit

For me, one of the surest ways to grab one's attention for the sermon is a joke from the preacher before he/she begins. Rev. Curtis Peek did that with his story about a horse who wouldn't move until it heard the command "Praise the Lord". Recall that the rider uttered these words, and the horse began to move. When he repeated it, the horse went a little faster, and with the next "Praise the Lord," the horse went into a full gallop! Unfortunately, this horse, faithful to his master's command, was racing toward a cliff. Frantically, he needed to stop this steed and searching for words, he said "Amen." The horse, as it was fast approaching this cliff, stopped just in the nick of time. And feeling much relief, the rider looked to the heavens and prayed, "Praise the Lord.!" Not only did this story capture my whole-hearted attention, I even remembered his sermon on Jacob wrestling with God.

However, there is one story from the pulpit by Dr. Richard Bower, that is etched permanently in my memory, even after more than twenty-five years. He was relating an incident of the chairman of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company. It was a beautiful spring Sunday afternoon, so the Chair of Mass Mutual suggested to his wife that they take a leisurely drive to see the countryside of Springfield, MA. As they were driving, he took note that the gas gauge showed they were running low, whereupon they pulled into an old country story, one with a gasoline pump in front. As he was watching the elderly looking attendant fill his tank, his wife went into the store.

After this attendant completed the fill up, he returned to the front of the store and sat down. Then, the wife came out and out-of-the-blue started a lively conversation with this attendant. The Chair sat patiently in the car until this sparkling conversation was completed. After driving off, the Chair waited a little while before discussing the storefront scene. It turned out that the attendant was an old high school classmate, who in fact dated the wife on several occasions. After much ease, the Chairman professed to his wife, "Aren't you glad that you married me, the Chairman of Mass Mutual, instead of him as you would only be a wife of a gas station attendant?" Whereupon the wife responded, "Listen, if I had married him, he would be Chairman of Mass Mutual and you would be pumping gas!"

Hope is hearing the melody of the future; Faith is dancing to it today. -Ruben Alvarez Faithfully Yours continued...

ZOOM STUDY: Dr. Bernice King and the Church in Racial Justice Sunday, September 13 1 p.m.

This is a time when our nation is examining what changes must be made to insure justice for all people.

An interview with Dr. Bernice King, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s youngest daughter, is posted on our church website. We invite you to watch it, and then join us via **zoom** on **Sunday, September 13 at 1 p.m.** to talk about what she says and how it relates to our church and our lives. We will meet from 1--2 p.m. and may schedule further sessions.

If you are interested in participating please call or email the church office to get the link to join this **zoom** meeting, and if you aren't sure how to connect we will help you get ready.

A number of you have wondered what our role can be, and this is a great beginning for a continuing conversation. If more information is desired please feel free to email Rev. Peek (<u>curtispeek201@gmail.com</u>) or Dr. Bingham (<u>ebingham@churchofthechimes.org</u>).

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

We have had communication from Lifetouch, our church directory company. The part of their operations affecting our directory is still suspended so we continue to be in a "holding pattern." As soon as they reopen we are sure the turn around time will be quick. Thank you so much for your patience! In the meantime, please call or email the church office to confirm that all of your contact information is accurate...If you have already done so, **THANK YOU!**

THE CONGREGATIONALIST MAGAZINE

The September issue of our congregational magazine is now on line. There are a number of interesting articles, including some thoughtful columns reacting to racial injustice and how churches are handling worship and activities through the Covid 19 pandemic. And on page 26 there is an article about one of the first women ministers active in the NACCC in its early decades. You might spot some familiar names.

Life is an endless series of tiny miracles...God is so good!

THE ENTIRE CHURCH OF THE CHIMES CAMPUS IS CLOSED!

INCLUDING THE OFFICE.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE PASTORAL CARE PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL DR. BINGHAM'S LAND LINE (747) 264-0285. IF YOUR NEED IS OF A LESS URGENT NATURE, PLEASE CALL (818) 789-7124 AND/OR SEND AN EMAIL <office@churchofthechimes.org>.

A Message from our Moderator, Sylvia McCormick

Please note that the next council meeting is scheduled for September 22nd.

Although I am looking forward to the time when we can gather together again in the Sanctuary for worship, as I watch the Sunday morning worship service **Streaming Live**, I feel like I am sitting in my usual pew, and that Beth, Curtis, Greg, Alan and Jane are looking directly at me, and talking to me. It is a comforting feeling. I hope you all are enjoying the Sunday service and the daily devotions. It keeps us all close.

Blessings and good health to everyone. Until we meet again, Sylvia

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, MEDITATION, MOTIVATION AND DEVOTIONALS

STREAMING LIVE ON FACEBOOK

Sunday Worship Service — 10:30am Every Sunday Morning Sermon Topics for September:

September 6: Matthew 11: 25-30 "All Ye Who Labor"

September 13: Matthew 18: 21-35 "For-Giving"

September 20: Curtis Preaching—Subject to be determined September 27: Philippians 2: 1-13 "Complete My Joy"

10 at 10 — 10 minute devotional at 10am every weekday Lively and Relevant Conversations with Beth & Curtis

VIDEOS of past Sermons and Devotionals are on Facebook and YouTube

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY WITH JANE — Wednesday at 7:00pm via zoom
A new study called "HeartSpa ~ 6 sessions on Spiritual
Refreshment" will engage your mind and enrich your soul.

Join in whenever you can.



STAY SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY Wear a mask...Save a life



NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

Robert Jones, Chair

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD WHEN WE ALL GET TOGETHER AGAIN

We thank those currently serving on Boards and Committees for continuing to do so until we can have the Annual Meeting. For those who do not currently serve on a board or committee, we invite you to consider the various positions where vacancies currently exist. Through offering your time and talents, you will be helping Church of the Chimes on our continuing path, as a vibrant and deeply caring church. If interested please let the church office know. Thanks.

"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

AND I SAID "Here I am; send me!" ISAIAH 6:8

GREAT RECIPE of the MONTH

SLOW-COOKER SHORT RIB TACOS

2½ pounds boneless beef short ribs1½ tablespoons gochujangKosher salt & ground black pepper¼ cup light brown sugar

2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil ½ cup rice vinegar

1 large sweet onion, diced 12 eight-inch flour tortillas

3 cloves garlic, minced ½ small green cabbage, finely shredded

2 cups beef broth 12 dill pickle spears

1 cup crushed tomatoes ½ cup roughly chopped cilantro

SLOW-COOKER SHORT RIB:

Season the short ribs with salt and pepper. In a large pot, heat the oil over medium heat. Add the short ribs and sear until well browned on all sides, 9 to 12 minutes.

Remove from the pan and place into the slow cooker. Add the onion, garlic, beef broth, crushed tomatoes, gochujang, brown sugar and vinegar and stir to combine.

Turn the slow cooker on low; cook the short ribs until they are very tender, $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 hours. Remove the meat from the slow cooker and shred with forks. Put remaining ingredients from the slow cooker into a medium pot. Bring the mixture to a simmer and cook until slightly thickened, 15 to 20 minutes. Add the sauce to the meat and toss well to combine.

MAKE THE TACOS:

In a large skillet, heat the tortillas one at a time. To build the tacos, divide the meat, cabbage and dill pickle spears between the tortillas. Top with black pepper and cilantro.

ENJOY!

GET AMUSED...







The manager at our local IKEA is retiring, so I sent him this cake...





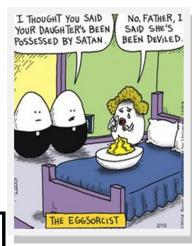
SOME DRINK DEEPLY FROM THE WELLS OF KNOWLEDGE. OTHERS JUST RINSE AND SPIT.



THAT CAME TO YOU IN PEARS



After 50 years as the church organist. Gladys made a genuine effort to adjust to the new worship format.





THE CHURCH OF THE CHIMES IS LIVE ON-LINE



Visit our website:

https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofChimes

Find an abundance of information regarding all the various activities on campus; listen to audios of past sermons, plus you can view past copies of Chiming In and/or request future editions be emailed to you.....

If you need help connecting to and/or otherwise utilizing any of these on-line tools, please call the church office and we'll find someone to get you started.



Visit, Like, Share, follow our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofChimes/

View up-to-date information on programs and live stream events such as Sunday Services and Daily Devotionals (10 at 10 with Beth).



Visit various productions on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrL12TLj2XfbBtgAOY0rjjA

Weekly Worship Services and Daily Devotions are now available on YouTube. We'll keep you posted as we add other things.



Get this app on your smart devices and then arrange conference call events to meet with Church Boards, Committees, Bible Studies* and/or other groups up to 100 participants.

*e.g., Wednesday night Women's Bible Study with Jane. https://zoom.us/meetings

Let's Keep In Touch

When we can't embrace we can send our love through the mail.

If you know someone who would like to receive a card or note from the Women's Association.

Please call or send an email with their name, address & phone number to the Church office office@churchofthechimes.org

818789-7124

-or-Joi Staves joistaves@gmail.com 818-648-1638

We believe in no one being left out; it's always nice to receive a note

Band of Prayer

A church that prays together, stays together
Especially during these challenging and
uncertain times when we are separated
by the need for social distancing
and don't know what happens next...

What is certain is that God is with us, filling in the spaces between us and He hears our prayers.

Band of Prayer requests may be sent via email to Sylvia McCormick; miss_daisy1226@yahoo.com or feel free to call or email the Church Office; office@churchofthechimes.org 818-789-7124

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER!

TRUSTEE NEWS Greg Abbott, Chair

The Trustees met in executive session on August 18. Again, John Van Veen gave us a extensive report on the current financial position of the church. We are beginning to see some income from the film industry. The preschool had its Summer session with reduced enrollment, 10 per class down from the 20 previously allowed. The fall session will open with 24 children and may be increase per CDC guidelines. Tuition had been increased pre-COVID for this September, and was raised once again post-COVID.

There are still many more unknowns than knowns, as far as income goes. It also doesn't seem that our representatives in Washington are in any hurry to come up with a new relief package. For now, we are making no cuts and will begin to borrow from our endowments as we are allowed. The endowments however are not a bottomless pit. We will continue to monitor the situation.

A quick word about income from the congregation. In the early days of the Church, about 80% of the budget came from the congregation. That has reversed. You all have been doing a good job of keeping up with your estimate of giving. However, please consider raising the amount you give so we can, even to a small degree, reduce our dependence on outside income. We know we can do this. Just witness Diane Delany's fundraiser that surpassed the \$2500 goal.

DEACON NEWS

Nancy Nelsen, Chair

As we head into the sixth month of being separated, we continue to stay connected although apart. Our prayers are with all of our church family that you stay safe and well. We hope you join us with your prayers for this crazy mixed up world right now, and please reach out to others in our church family by text, email, phone, or Facebook. Receiving a connection from someone helps brighten the days. As Pat Olsen and I were Facebooking back and forth recently, we were talking about the little things that we see, such as beautiful flowers or a sunset or sunrise...and feel, such as a snuggle from a child or a dog or cat...and hear, such as a bird's song or your favorite music...or even taste, such as a special meal or treat or your favorite coffee. These things can cheer us to help overcome frustrations and discouragement. So, use your senses to receive the little delights that God provides in our world around us.

Remember to "tune in" to our weekly worship service **Streaming Live** on Sunday mornings at 10:30am on our Facebook page. Plus for uplifting and inspiring devotionals, don't forget our "10 at 10" also **Streaming Live** every weekday morning with Beth and Curtis. Videos are available on our Facebook and on YouTube. If you have specific needs, please contact Beth or Curtis.

JANE'S CORNER continued...

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."

Anne Bradstreet—Writer, Poet, 1st Woman to be published in Colonial America.

"Hope is not pretending that troubles don't exist. It is the hope that they won't last forever. That hurts will be healed and difficulties overcome. That we will be led out of the darkness and into the sunshine." Unknown

"Today I choose to live with gratitude for the love that fills my heart, the peace that rests within my spirit, and the voice of hope that says all things are possible." Unknown

<u>Food for the Soul</u> — Aided by the concordance from one of my Bibles, "Jesus Centered", along with verses from my personal favorite collection, below are Bible verses as food for your soul.

"Such things were written in the scriptures long ago to teach us. And the scriptures give us hope and encouragement, as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled." Romans 15: 4

"As we pray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have, because of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 1:3

For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night." Thessalonians 5:5

"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

"So now, I am giving you a new commandment; love each other just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13: 34-35

I hope these tidbits of wisdom and scripture fill your heart with goodness, peace and love.

Blessings, love and hugs, Jane

(Remember to spend quiet time with God!)

JANE'S CORNER

Jane G. Poole, CE Director

"Food for the Body - Food for Thought - Food for the Soul"

<u>Food for the Body</u> — Food nourishes us, and if we eat the right kinds of food, it helps us be a healthy human. I would venture to guess, those of us reading this issue of <u>Chiming In</u> have the food we need to sustain us. However, food for the body isn't enough for a whole being. We need more...

<u>Food for Thought</u> — Inspiration is something we need for encouragement, to spark creativity, provide motivation and it helps create vision for our lives. I subscribe to a site called PassItOn.com and daily I receive an inspirational quote. Here below, I'm sharing some of my favs to hopefully inspire you.

"A tree is known by its fruit; a person by their deeds. A good deed is never lost; whoever sows courtesy reaps friendship, and whoever plants kindness gathers love." Saint Basil (329-379)—Bishop Of Cesarea

"What soap is to the body, laughter is to the soul." Yiddish Proverb

"Take care, be kind, be considerate of other people and other species, and be loving." John Lithgow (born 1945)—Actor, Musician, Author

"Integrity is choosing courage over comfort; choosing what is right over what is fun, fast or easy; and choosing to practice our values rather than simply professing them." Brené Brown—American Scholar, Author, and Public Speaker

"When something bad happens you have three choices. You can let it define you, let it destroy you, or you can let it strengthen you." Theodor Seuss Geisel— Writer, Cartoonist, Animator

"The first duty of love is to listen." Paul Tillich Theologian-Philosopher

"Respect is one of the greatest expressions of love." Don Miguel Ruiz-Author

"You can always, always give something, even if it is only kindness!" Anne Frank—Diarist

"Love is better than anger. Hope is better than fear. Optimism is better than despair. So let us be loving, hopeful and optimistic. And we'll change the world." Jack Layton—Canadian Politician Continues on the next page...

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Jane G. Poole, CE Director

<u>Women's Bible Study</u> — The group started a new study called "HeartSpa ~ 6 sessions on Spiritual Refreshment. All women are invited to join this caring, sharing, loving group of women on Wednesday evenings @ 7:00pm via **zoom**. Contact Jane to join in!

KID's Sunday Gathering Times — Jan Long and I met the other day to talk about the kids' Gathering Times on Sundays. We will be launching a new program for both Elementary and Youth groups. We'll kick it off with a couple of quick 20 - 30 minute check-in zoom sessions on September 6th & 20th. And I mean QUICK as I know you kids are really Zoomed out from school! We really had a great time the last time we got together, so let's give it a try everyone. We'll be launching the new programs starting on September 27th. The new programs will be forward thinking and engaging, with three Gathering Groups:

Early Elementary Pre-K – 2nd Grade
Older Elementary 3rd – 5th Grade
Youth Group Middle – High School

The new programs will be announced shortly!

A Contest...May the Best Name Win

We're having a fun contest to name the new Gathering Groups. A Starbucks gift card will go to those who come up with the three names chosen! So get your creative juices going, submit the name and reason you chose the name to Jane in an email by September $15^{\rm th}$.

When we are finally able to get back together, we want to host an art show featuring the amazing art the kids have created while home bound. The pieces are truly amazing and deserving to be showcased!

Love and Blessings, Jane

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Ally Baker, Director

Our preschool fall session starts on September 8th. All the guidelines Ally so diligently implemented for keeping everyone safe during the Summer Session are now tried and true, and will be closely followed.

For more information about the Preschool, *Parent & Me Program and/*or future school events, contact the Church Office (818) 789-7124 or email Ally at preschool@churchofthechimes.org.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

Natalie Karp, Chair

Nothing new to report this month. We're looking forward to when we can gather together again, and in the meantime we continue to support each other as best we can. Please let us know if we can help anyone in any way.





Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	2 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via zoom	3 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	4 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>5</u>
6 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook	7 LABOR DAY Office Closed 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	9:00am <u>Preschool Resumes</u> 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	9 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via zoom	10 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	11 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>12</u>
13 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook 1:00pm ZOOM STUDY: Dr. Bernice King and the Church in Racial Justice	14 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	15 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	16 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via zoom	17 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	18 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	19
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