

Chiming In

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
NEWS AND EVENTS

A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All



March 2025

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

14115 Magnolia Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423



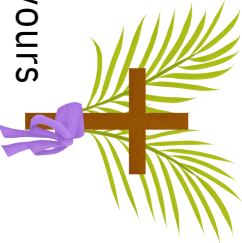
Dr. Elizabeth Bingham, Senior Minister
Rev. Curtis Peek, Associate Minister
Jennifer Lee, Church Office Manager
Allvne Baker, Preschool Director
Joi Staves, Wedding & Events Coordinator
Lindsay Hill, Facility Manager
Julia Kelper, Christian Education Director
Javier De la Torre, Groundskeeper



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Email: office@churchofthechimes.org

SERMONS:

March 2: Luke 9: 23-36 The Shining
March 9: Guest Minister; Danny Lopez
March 16: Psalm 27 Safe
March 23: Isaiah 55:1-9 Covenantally yours
March 30: Luke 15: 1-3; 11b-32 Bad Boy?



Faithfully Yours

Lent is the season, the 40 days, when we walk with Jesus to the cross. The colors are purple and gray. The sounds are somber and quiet. There is a stillness as we realize that the one we have followed, the one who leads on the path of mercy and justice, the one who makes God's love real, will be crucified.

And though we know that just beyond the cross is the empty tomb, let us not skip these quiet days. Let us not turn away from the shadows which are falling upon our master.

Let us instead be with Jesus. Let us go into the wilderness for the 40 days that began his own ministry. And though we will not meet Satan as he did, we can use this sacred time to do what he did. We contemplate who we are to be as God's children, as those who know Christ. We examine those things which get in the way of our faithfulness—the fears, the anxieties, the anger and resentments which sometimes simmer inside of us. Let us take the time to quiet ourselves, to see ourselves, so that we may live faithfully. We may live lovingly.

Let us not be afraid of silence, but relish the time to spend with God. Let us not be afraid of the shadows, for the light of God will always be there for us to see, to light our own way. Let the season of Lent be a time when we allow ourselves to find moments for prayer, quiet, reflection, meditation. So that when we see the cross, we also see the empty tomb, that though Jesus died, he lived again.

Let us see the light even as we walk through the shadows.....



MARCH 2025 HAPPENINGS

- **WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING:** March 8th 10am-11:30am in Dreier Hall
- **NOMINATING FAIR:** March 2nd 11:30am-12:30pm
- **COUNCIL MEETING:** March 4th at 6:30pm in Dreier Hall
- **ASH WEDNESDAY:** March 5th 5:30pm-6:30pm In the Sanctuary
- **WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING:** March 8th 10am-11:30am in Dreier Hall
- **BOUQUET CIRCLE:** March 12th at 11:00am in Dreier Hall
- **ST PATTYS DAY FAMILY CELEBRATION:** March 15th Bower Hall 5:30pm
- **TRUSTEE MEETING:** March 19th at 6:30pm, in Dreier Hall and hybrid
- **CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING:** March 16 after church
- **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.





**ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5
QUIET COMMUNION 5:30 TO 6:30**



Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. It is a day when we reflect on the journey to the cross. Ashes remind us of the sacrifice Christ made. The sanctuary is open from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and you may come any time during the hour, for individual prayer, quiet meditation, and to receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This hour centers us on the life, death and life again of our Lord. "Come when you can. Leave when you must."

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE CONGREGATIONAL?
LEARNING ABOUT OUR TRADITION & OUR CHURCH
SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025**

Whether you are interested in joining our church or are interested in knowing about our faith tradition and the Church of the Chimes—join us on Sunday, March 9 after worship. We will meet in Dreier Hall after you've had a chance to snack and chat during fellowship hour. If you decide to join we will receive new members on March 16.

**WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE:
CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION
SUNDAY, MARCH 23 AFTER WORSHIP**

We are getting together again to wrestle with the question the tough question, Why do bad things happen to good people? We are using the book by Rabbi Harold Kushner as a springboard for our conversation. All are welcome to join us. The discussion has been very helpful for many of us.

**SAINT PATRICKS DAY CELEBRATION
AND BINGO "FUNRAISER"**



Get Ready for a Shamrockin' Good Time!

Join us in Bower Hall for our Annual St. Patrick's Day Family Celebration & Bingo "Funraiser"! Enjoy a festive evening filled with laughter, community, and a bit of Irish luck!



SATURDAY MARCH 15TH 5:30pm



Feast on delicious corned beef and cabbage—we kindly ask guests to bring a side dish (but hold the desserts!).

Play & Win at our exciting Bingo games—fun for the whole family!

Thank you for giving back as all proceeds support "BE BOLD" activities and Sunday School mission projects.

Wear your green and bring your Irish spirit!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION KIDS CORNER

Julia Keiper

Welcome March and the joys of Spring. On Sunday, March 9th, we will advance our clocks by one hour. This will cause us to lose an hour of sleep but gain usable daylight hours to add to our time outdoors and the many spring activities. Sunday, March 9th is also Girl Scout Sunday. Troop 4326 will be here to participate in the coffee hour and hopefully sell you that last box of Girl Scout cookies for the 2025 cookie season. Saturday, March 15th, is the CCOTC annual St. Patrick's Day celebration. This year, John Sullivan will host the corned beef dinner. Your participation is greatly appreciated; everyone is asked to bring a side dish that is not a dessert.

Following the dinner, the church youth plan to entertain you with some lively games of BINGO and delicious snacks. Be prepared for some great prizes for our lucky winners. Check the closet for some green to wear, and as we know, at this time of year, everyone is a little Irish. The proceeds from the BINGO night will support the community service projects of our Be Bold teens and Sunday School children. BE BOLD enjoyed a fantastic night at Modern Aviator with Tim and Lily Marie as our hosts. The evening included sandwiches from Jersey Mike's, a tour of the facilities, and flight time on the flight simulator. Each participant was invited to either take off or land, and based on their very successful performances, we have some future pilots in our group. Be Bold will meet again on (1) March 7 for an evening of food, fun, and friendship at the church and (2) an evening of celebration on March 15 for the St Patrick's Day Dinner and BINGO.

Sunday School attendance continues to grow, and we are using the Cokesbury Curriculum so that our students can learn more about the many heroes of the Bible. During the Sunday School hour, we are able to provide each child with a Bible, and they are quickly becoming very successful at using the Book/Chapter/Verse reference to find the week's lesson in their Bible. It has been an excellent way to introduce the lesson and make the reference very meaningful. It was reported that, in total, the donations to the NHIFP from Souper Sunday doubled the original goal. The kids were rewarded for their efforts with delicious Brownies and ice cream from Michelle and also kazoos. Planning ahead, we are looking forward to the annual Easter Egg hunt on April 19 and the many 75th anniversary celebrations planned for the weekend of May 16-18. As we look to the future, please mark your calendar for July 21-25 and this year's Vacation Bible School program.

TRUSTEES

Tony Bliss

We are pleased to share that the Pergola project has been completed. Soon, thanks to the generous donation of an anonymous church member, work will begin on rebuilding the Bell Tower which is also in drastic need of repair. Our 2025 Stewardship campaign: Stepping Up to Faith, Fellowship and Freedom - is going very well with 36 estimate of giving cards received at this writing. We encourage those that have not yet done so, to please send those to the office when you can.

We are preparing the 2025 Budget and will have our annual budget meeting in March. Date to be announced shortly.

HANDBELLS

Diane Delaney

We have a group of volunteers interested in forming a CotC Handbell Choir! Alexandra will be the Director, working with Bo, Diane, Melodie, Shirley, Susan, Robert Dunn. We will inventory the bells and discuss next steps. Anyone interested in joining the Handbell Choir please contact one of us!

NOMINATING FAIR MARCH 2ND

Diane Delaney

We will be having a Nominating Fair on Sunday, March 2nd after church on the Hamilton House Patio – come by during the reception to talk with Board Members to learn more about the Boards and their key responsibilities. We have openings on Christian Education, CWS, Deacons and Trustees.

You can also talk with the Nominating Reps: Barb D. for CE, Jane for CWS, Pam V. for Deacons, Shirley for Music, and John L. for Trustees. Thanks!

GETTING TO KNOW HILARIO CABRAL

Illustration by Michelle Marot

From humble beginnings, Hilario's life was shaped by his faith, his love for dance, and his belief that God had given him a special purpose. Hilario's remarkable talent for dance and music became evident at a young age. At just nine years old, he made his first television appearance. His talent and charisma caught the attention of many, leading to a once-in-a-lifetime invitation to perform at the U.S.

Embassy. The sight of a U.S. Embassy limousine arriving on his neighborhoods dirt road was a moment of wonder and confirmation that God had a plan for his life. That experience opened his eyes to the opportunities ahead, instilling in him a deep sense of gratitude and purpose.

At eighteen, Hilario was hired to perform in Las Vegas' largest production show, "Jubilee". He had the opportunity to open shows for legendary stars such as Frank Sinatra, Tom Jones, Sammy Davis Jr., Tina Turner, Janet Jackson and the Queen of England during the golden era of Las Vegas entertainment. He performed in Jubilee for 20 years, making his mark in entertainment history while simultaneously achieving his 6th degree black belt Master in Taekwondo.

Despite the highs and lows of the entertainment industry, Hilario has always turned to God for guidance. His faith remains the cornerstone of his life, and reading the Bible and following the teachings of Jesus provide him with strength and confidence. He firmly believes that God's greatness will always sustain him, no matter what challenges arise.

Today, Hilario continues to serve the community by sitting on the Board of CWS and actively participating in the Church of the Chimes. His journey—from a small village in Argentina to the grand stages of Las Vegas and beyond—is a testament to the power of faith, perseverance, and the belief that God makes the impossible possible. Hilario looks forward to continuing his service at COTC, embracing his faith, and inspiring others with his remarkable story.



CHURCH OF THE CHIMES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

We are celebrating our 75th Diamond Anniversary this year!

Please save the date of our anniversary weekend of May 16 – 18 for the festivities! If you want to join the planning committee, please contact Beth or Diane.



2025 LAHSA HOMELESS COUNT

We were once again for the 4th year a Host Site for the LAHSA Homeless Count that took place on February 18th. More than 30 volunteers counted 30 census tracks. Thanks to John, Joi and Diane for counting and supporting this effort.



RACIAL EQUITY

We have delicious soup provided by [Stone Soup Project](#) for sale frozen pints and quarts. Contact Diane Delaney for more information.



MARCH 2025



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						<u>1</u> 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>2</u> NOMINATING FAIR 11:30am 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier	<u>3</u> 9:00 am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>4</u> 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 4:00pm Drumming	<u>5</u> ASH WEDNESDAY 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>6</u> 9:00am Preschool 4:00pm Drumming 7:00pm Jumpin’ Fleas MR	<u>7</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 9:45am Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 6:00pm BE BOLD 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>8</u> WOMENS ASSOCIATION MEETING 10- 11:30 DH 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>9</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ DH	<u>10</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>11</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 10:0am Craft Creations ~ DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics 4:00pm Drumming	<u>12</u> BOUQUET CIRCLE 11:00am 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>13</u> 9:00am Preschool 4:00pm Drumming	<u>14</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>15</u> ST PATTYS FAMILY CELEBRATION BH 5:30pm 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>16</u> CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING 11:30am 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 2pm Confirmation 7:30pm Al Anon ~ DH	<u>17</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>18</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 10:00am Craft Creations DH 12Noon Brown Bag Bible DH 3:00pm Gymnastics CE 4:00pm Drumming	<u>19</u> TRUSTEE MEETING 6:30pm 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>20</u> VESPERS 6:30pm 9:00am Preschool 4:00pm Drumming	<u>21</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45 Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>22</u> STRATEGY RETREAT 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>23</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ DH	<u>24</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>25</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ CE 10:0am Craft Creations ~ Dreier 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics CE 4:00pm Drumming	<u>26</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women’s Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ BH	<u>27</u> 9:00am Preschool 4:00pm Drumming	<u>28</u> 9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba DH 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm RPC ~ Sanctuary	<u>29</u> 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Kingdom Camp B-Ball 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>30</u> 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday School 1:30pm RPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ DH	<u>31</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ BH 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel					