

Volume 23 No. 4
April 2023

SIMI VALLEY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Herald

ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Rev. Stacy Brooks
Senior Pastor

Becky Valenzuela
Children, Youth & Family
Ministries



Diane Freyling
Office Administrative

Nancy Reyes
Front Office Assistant



Lisa Wall-Urgero
Director of Music Ministry

Leslie Frank
Organist



Mike Seckman
Custodian



Laura Hole
Wedding Coordinator

Mark Witman
Wedding Custodian



CROSSROADS CHILDREN'S CENTER

Michelle Gordon
Director
(805) 526-2887



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SIMI VALLEY

2394 Erringer Road,
Simi Valley, CA 93065-2296
(805) 526-6231

svumc@pacbell.net

www.SimiValleyUMC.org

EGG HUNT : APRIL 1

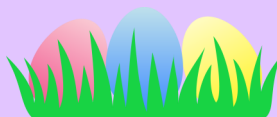
11:00 AM-12:30 PM

FREE GAMES, FOOD, CRAFTS, & FUN!

EGGS AND CANDY NEEDED!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TALK TO
MS. BECKY FOR
MORE INFO OR TO
VOLUNTEER.



Lenten Art Show

Sunday, April 2nd 11:00am-12:00pm
In Witman Hall.

Come see the artwork from our Lenten
series as well as artwork from our
children, youth, & congregation.



Submit your artwork, photograph, or writing for the
show by Wednesday, March 29th.

Flowering Cross

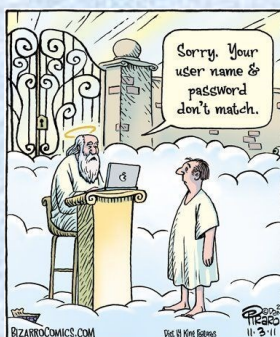
Easter morning, bring fresh
flowers to show signs of the
resurrection life to our
Flowering Cross.

You may place the flowers
in the cross as you
enter worship.



Holy Humor Sunday:

Sunday, April 16th:
Holy Humor Sunday.
This is a Sunday of
music, scripture, and
laughter, remembering
the great joy that the
Easter miracle brings
to all the world.



EASTER IN SIMI!

PALM SUNDAY:

APRIL 2

10 AM: WORSHIP

THE YOUTH & CHANCEL CHOIR WILL
HELP TELL THE PALM PASSION STORIES
WITH DRAMA & MUSIC

MAUNDY THURSDAY:

APRIL 6

12:00-6:00 PM: INTERACTIVE
PRAYER STATIONS IN THE
SANCTUARY

GOOD FRIDAY:

APRIL 7

10:00 AM: WALK TO THE
CROSS ON MT. MCCOY

7:00 PM: TENEBRAE SERVICE
SERVICE OF DARKNESS

EASTER SUNDAY:

APRIL 9

6:30 AM: SUNRISE SERVICE

IN THE MEDITATION GARDEN
WITH COFFEE AND PASTRIES TO FOLLOW.

10:00 AM:

CELEBRATION SERVICE

IN THE SANCTUARY

SING YOUR FAVORITE EASTER HYMNS,
HEAR THE STORY OF RESURRECTION,
AND CELEBRATE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST!

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship with Chancel Choir

Signing for Hearing Impaired

Children's Sunday School

Toddlers-Kindergarten: Garden Room (formerly the Nursery) for an age-appropriate lesson. The Garden Room opens at 9:45 am for drop-off.

1st—5th grades: Fireside Room

11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

6:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship

Alleluia!
HE IS ALIVE!

Sunday, April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday

Be Prepared: "For Change"

Experience the story of the palms to the grave through drama and song.

Communion served

Thursday, April 6, 2023

Maundy Thursday

The Sanctuary will be open from 12:00 - 6:00 pm for all to experience prayer stations.

Friday, April 7, 2023

Good Friday

Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness
7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 9, 2023

Easter Sunday

Luke 24:1-12

6:30 am - Meditation Garden

10:00 am - Sanctuary

Preaching: Rev. Stacy Brooks

Sunday, April 16, 2023

Holy Humor Sunday

1 Corinthians 1:18-22

Preaching: Rev. Stacy Brooks

Sunday, April 23, 2023

Creation Care Sunday

Genesis 1:1-31

Preaching: Rev. Stacy Brooks

Sunday, April 30, 2023

That's Not in the Bible

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Preaching: Rev. Stacy Brooks

Once Upon a Time...

Ask me about my Easter memories and the one that jumps in my head first takes place many moons ago. In this memory I am in elementary school, dressed to the T for Easter Sunday. Picture me as a stick thin kid in the fluffy dress, tights, gloves, shiny white shoes, and Easter hat. This is the way I looked when my mom dropped me off for Sunday school. At the close of service, at least as my memory sees it, my mom came to pick me up and did not find me in my Sunday school class, but instead followed a trail of shoes, tights, gloves, and an Easter hat onto the church playground. Surprise! I do not remember what my mother thought of that moment, but in that moment I was free and living my best life hiding inside the huge tractor tires.

On Easter morning, the women headed for the tomb believing that they would find Jesus inside the closed tomb, wearing all his proper burial clothes. Surprise! Jesus was not in the tomb where He was supposed to be and He was not wearing the burial clothes that they had dressed Him in. Jesus was free!

Our freedom comes on Easter morning. Freedom from guilt, shame, fear, and hopelessness because of Jesus' time on the cross and defeat of death. We can do nothing to earn that freedom, but we can do everything possible to live out that freedom without regret or burden.

This Easter let us live our best life, leaving behind a trail of the earthly trappings we have shed for others to follow, so that they too can find their best life through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Blessings,

Pastor Stacy



Creation Care Sunday. April 23rd.

The Sunday closest to Earth Day is traditionally "Creation Care Sunday" in the church. This year, we will celebrate the beautiful and bountiful creation that God blessed us with on April 23rd. In thinking ahead to that Sunday, consider how you can contribute to our call from God to care for the Earth. Here are some ideas:

- Reduce the amount of water that goes down the drain.
- Reduce the amount of trash that goes to waste by recycling and reusing.
- Plant some flowers or a tree.
- Drive less, walk and carpool more.

In addition, we will be bringing creation into our worship space on April 23rd. If you have a potted plant or flower that you would be willing to loan us for a day, contact Pastor Stacy.



UWF BOARD MEETING

All Officers and Circle Chairs
are asked to attend

Wednesday, April 5

@ 10:00 am in the Chapel

**ALL WOMEN of the church
are invited to attend
ANY and ALL UWF meetings.**

**Save-the-Date
for These Upcoming Events**

Mother's Day Luncheon

Saturday, May 13th

Witman Hall

UWF Cal-Pac Mission U

July 14-16, 2023

Azusa Pacific University

Committee Meetings

Tuesday, April 4 @ 7:00 pm

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Tuesday, April 11

MEOW @ 1:00 pm in Room 12

Finance Committee @ 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 12 @ 7:00 pm

Trustees

Tuesday, April 18 @ 5 pm

CrossRoads Advisory Committee

Tuesday, April 25 @ 6:00 pm

Administrative Council

All meetings will be in the Chapel unless
otherwise noted.



April Circle Meetings

Circle of Joy

Wednesday April 12 - 12:30 pm at the home of Leslie Frank.

Seekers Circle

Monday, April 17 - 12:00 pm in the Chapel

Night Owls Circle

Tuesday, April 18 - 7:00 pm in the Chapel

Circle of Faith

Wednesday, April 19 - 12:00 pm at the home of Jeanne Corr.

Teresa Circle

Meets each month to visit those who are homebound.



United Women in Faith Retreat Day

"Don't Forget the Women— Past & Present"

April 15th from 9:30 am - 4 pm in the Chapel

Pastor Stacy will be leading us through a program of stories, discussion, crafts, worship, and activities to learn about and draw strength from the Biblical and modern women of faith who have gone before us. Lunch included.

RSVP to Ruth Dempsey by April 10th

(805) 501-5874 or

sewinforfun@icloud.com



Wayne and Eleanor Montgomery Scholarship

The Wayne and Eleanor Montgomery Scholarship is awarded to deserving high school seniors by UWF (United Women in Faith.) This scholarship is open to SVUMC members, grandchildren of members, or regular attendees who will be college freshmen in the Fall of 2023.

March 1st- April 15th: Applications available in the Church Office or by emailing Bridget Elliott at bridgetdhe@gmail.com.

Deadline: April 28, 2023: Applications MUST be received via email or US Post.

Return to bridgetdhe@gmail.com or mail to:

Bridget Elliott, 2478 N. Greensward St, Simi Valley, CA 93065.

Arlen Peterson Scholarship

The Arlen Peterson Scholarship is open to active church youth who are Seniors in High School and preparing for a 2-or 4-year college in the Fall. Request an application from the Church Office and return your completed application to the Church Office by April 28th.

Sunday School News

In an effort to best serve all our children, we have made an adjustment to our Sunday morning age/room assignments.

Toddlers-Kindergarten will be with Ms. Cindie and Ms. Kelsey in the Garden Room (formerly the Nursery) for an age-appropriate lesson.

First-Fifth Grade will be with Ms. Becky in the Fireside Room for their age-appropriate lesson.

The Garden Room will be open by 9:45am each Sunday for drop-off, but all ages are invited to begin in worship and move to Sunday school after the Children's Time.

CONGRATULATIONS!



CrossRoads' teacher Mrs. Hannah Frailich gave birth to a daughter, Eloise, on March 15th at 12:11 am. She was 6 lbs., 11 oz. Welcome, little one!

UMYF in April:

Sat., April 1st: Egg Hunt followed by Palm Sunday Dress Rehearsal

Sun., April 2: 9:30am Call Time for Palm Sunday Drama

Regular Program from 6:00-7:30pm.

Sun., April 9: NO UMYF - Happy Easter!

Sun., April 16: Regular Program from 6:00-7:30pm.

Sun., April 23: Regular Program from 6:00-7:30pm.

Sun., April 30: Regular Program from 6:00-7:30pm.



For children ages 4 years —5th grade

**Dinner at 5:00 pm
Program at 6:00 pm**

April 5 : Holy Week, no meeting

April 12, 19, & 26: regular meeting times

Hooray for Spring! The weather starts to get a little warmer as the sun stays out a little longer.

In April, CrossRoads will have its Spring Open House. The teachers do an amazing job transforming the classrooms into special themes they have chosen for this event like the ocean, a reptile museum, and an art gallery, just to name a few.

Ms. Becky has also invited our CrossRoads students to join the church's art show on Palm Sunday. It has been such a blessing to have Pastor Stacy and Ms. Becky so involved with our school's community. The students love them!

SPRING ~ A lovely reminder how BEAUTIFUL change can truly be.

Mrs. Michelle Gordon, Principal





Men's Donut Fellowship

Every Wednesday morning in front of Huddle Hall.

Drop by and enjoy coffee, a donut and some fellowship with the guys!

The next UMM breakfast will be on Sunday, April 16th from 8:45-9:45 am in Witman Hall. Stop by for some delicious, homemade pancakes (or maybe waffles!) to satisfy your physical hunger before we satisfy our spiritual hunger in worship. Suggested \$5 donation.

NOTEable



Holy Week is always an exciting and busy time for musicians – so much of the drama and storytelling of this time is built into

the music of the season. And it's as exciting to learn as it is to experience from the pews! That said, there are favorites, traditional choral anthems that like to reappear every couple of years, and, while there is absolutely nothing wrong with loving what's familiar, there's something to be said for being inspired to make new choices. This season and this Holy Week, I want to express my gratitude to Pastor Stacy for introducing *Full to the Brim*, our Lenten devotional. This series offers suggestions for music selections through the publisher's resource for yours truly, but more importantly, includes magnificent art in the form of images, poetry and prose which inspire music choices. I hope you enjoy what your singers and ringers have so lovingly prepared to enhance your worship experience this Holy Week – and into the Easter season beyond.

WANTED: TENORS AND BASSES

You may have noticed our soprano and alto sections growing! It's a beautiful thing when a choir invites friends to come and sing – or when someone in the congregation decides that maybe it's time to give choir a chance. If that's you, if you are a tenor or bass and think you might like to try choir, reach out to Carol Conner or your Director of Music, Lisa Wall-Urgero for more information. Or just grab a robed singer after church and ask them what it's like! No obligation to sit in on a rehearsal and check it out. We rehearse Thursday evenings 7pm-8:30 and sing most Sunday mornings. Can't make it every week? We can find a work-around!

Lisa Wall-Urgero

Director of Music Ministries



A grateful thank you goes out to all of you who helped us collect bags for Tiny Treasures. We especially appreciate those of you who folded the bags, which helps the store maximize space.

Warmly,
Dee Larkin-Tingstrom
Night Owls for Sarah's House

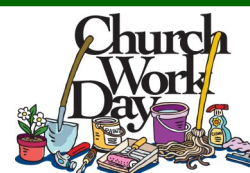
WALKING GROUP!

Meets

Tuesday and Thursday
mornings at 8:00 am
in the church parking lot.

We hope you will
consider joining us.

Everyone welcome!



Join with
other
volunteers
to help

beautify our church campus.
No experience necessary!

Saturday, April 8
8 am - noon

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Schedule:						
9:45am Childcare Open			Wednesday Schedule:		Thursday Schedule:	
10:00am Worship with Sunday School for kids			8:00 am UMM Donut Meet Up (Huddle Hall)	5:30pm Adult Handbell Ensemble		
11:00am Coffee Hour			5:00pm Kidz Bells	6:00pm Adult Handbell Choir		
6:00pm Youth Group			5:00pm Dinner	7:00pm Chancel Choir		
			6:00pm Children’s Program	7:15pm Youth Bells		
2 Palm Sunday	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Walking Group 8:00—9:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	UWF Board Mtg 10:00 am Chapel	Walking Group 8:00—9:00 am	7 Church office closes at noon 10:00 am Walk to the Cross on Mt. McCoy	All-Church Work Day 8:00 am—noon
9 Easter Sunday	10 Easter Monday Church Office is closed	11 Walking Group 8:00—9:00 am MEOW 1:00 pm Rm 12 Finance Mtg. 7:00 pm Chapel	12 Circle of Joy-Leslie Frank’s 12:30 –1:30 pm Trustees Mtg 7:00 pm Chapel	13 Walking Group 8:00—9:00 am	14 Church office closes at noon	15 UWF Retreat 9:30 am—4:00 pm (Chapel) 5:00 pm Dinner Church
16 UMM All-Church Breakfast 8:45-9:45 am	17 Seekers Circle 12:00 pm (Chapel)	18 Walking Group 8:00—9:00 am CrossRoads Advisory 5:00 –6:00 pm Chapel Night Owls 7:00 pm Chapel	19 Circle of Faith—Jeanne Corr’s 12:00-1:00 pm	20 Walking Group 8:00—9:00 am	21 Church office closes at noon	22
23 Recycle Sunday	24 Crop Walk Daily Walk 7:30—8:30 am	25 Crop Walk Daily Walk 7:30—8:30 am Administrative Council—6 pm Chapel	26 Crop Walk Daily Walk 7:30—8:30 am	27 Crop Walk Daily Walk 7:30—8:30 am	28 Church office closes at noon Crop Walk Daily Walk 7:30—8:30 am	29 Crop Walk Daily Walk 7:30—8:30 am
30 Crop Walk Daily Walk 7:30—8:30 am						

APRIL Birthdays

- 4/1 Susan Campos
 4/3 Tom Conner
 4/7 Lisa Wall-Urgero
 Lew Fry
 Richard Thomson
 4/8 Tevita Inoke
 Kinley McInnis
 4/9 Erlinda Aragonese-Moore
 Dolly Austria
 Bill Jennings
 Richard Reynolds
 Ildiko Scott
 4/12 Cori Brennan
 Michael Pahls
 Bill Hunter
 Raven Benassi
 4/13 Lauren (Witman) Ortiz
 Julian Nuñez
 Adalyn McInnis
 4/16 Martina McRae
 Leslie Frank
 4/18 Theresa Chandley
 4/19 Elora Laier
 4/20 Tony Reyes
 Lorient Shaw
 4/22 Ed McRae
 4/23 Kathy Medley
 4/27 Lynn Gearhart

Our Concerns



We Support Our Church by Our PRAYERS

Prayer requests may be submitted via email to the church office, by phone call to the church office, or via text to Pastor Stacy. When submitting a prayer request please include how you would like your prayer lifted.

- In the weekly prayer e-mail.
- In the monthly Herald.
- During Joys and Concerns in worship.
- In Pastor Stacy's daily prayers.

BY OUR PRESENCE



February 2023

2/26 125

March 2023

3/5 125

3/12 119

3/19 117



Income Needed in February: \$40,342.66

Income Received in February: \$51,600.00

Expenses in February: \$40,633.61

(These expenses do not include our February Apportionment payment of \$6,580.02)

BY OUR SERVICE

Dinner Church: Dinner is served to the hungry every Saturday in Witman Hall. Our congregation cooks and serves the meal on the Third Sunday of each month. We will serve this month on April 15th.

Volunteer to Help:

- Plan the menu (The week of).
- Shop for food and supplies (The week of).
- Cook the meal (4:00-5:00pm).
- Serve the meal and clean-up (5:00-6:00pm):

To help with this ministry call the church office at 805-526-6231.

WE  **VOLUNTEERS**

APRIL Anniversaries

- 4/13 Carolyn & Glenn Hunter



Jax Orion Latimer
 will be baptized
 April 2, 2023

Parents:
 Jason and Megan Latimer

Grandmother:
 Virginia Latimer



With Deepest Sympathy

We mourn
 the passing of Charlotte Hole,
 at 102 years old, on March 12th,
 and the passing of Karen Barbour
 on February 9th.

DEADLINE:

Newsletter Articles
 APRIL 14

The

Herald

Simi Valley United Methodist Church

2394 Erringer Road Simi Valley CA 93065

805-526-6231 www.simivalleyumc.org

The SVUMC Car Show

Saturday, April 1st

10:00 am-2:00 pm in front of the Sanctuary

*If you have a car you would like to display,
contact Chuck McKee at (805) 404-0659.*

This is a great event to invite friends or neighbors to.

Lunch will be available, so plan to come see the cars and eat with friends!



It's that time of year when the forces of good join together to battle Hunger!

The 16th Annual CWS Simi Valley 5K CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, May 21, 1:00 p.m.

Walking for a cause was created in 1969 when teens from 2 Methodist Churches in Bismarck, N.D. and York County, PA decided it was time to do something for families who had to walk miles for food and clean water. So, they walked...and hunger has forever been changed.



Now, Church World Service supports people all over the world to lead better lives with clean water, farming skills programs and whenever the need arrives! Our dollars raised support the world and locally, 25% of our pledges go to The Samaritan Center of Simi Valley.

Super Heroes of all ages are welcome! We are hoping to add 50 new walkers this year – are you the one we are looking for?

Please register online at www.crophungerwalk.org. (Simi Valley Walk).

Any questions? Call Nancy Reyes at 805-404-8325.

To get ready for the walk, we will be walking the CROP Walk route every day at 8:00 am beginning April 24. Join us!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 24-28th

Get ready for an exciting week of Twists and Turns! Our VBS 2023 is a fantastical celebration of games of all kinds, from classic table top games to video games and more. We will play our way through VBS while learning that Jesus guides us through all the Twists & Turns of our lives. Registration & volunteer sign-ups coming soon!

