

SENTINEL



vol. cxliii, no. 8

October 2018



HORIZONS

“Be the Hope” became our congregation’s unofficial motto after Hurricane Katrina. It’s taken on a life of its own, showing up on banners and on our beautiful lighted sign at the front door of our church campus.

My favorite “Be the Hope” story came to me via Pastor Robert who heard it from a Preschool dad. Seems that it had been a tough morning for dad and son that day. Getting up, clothed, breakfasted, stuff for the day gathered in the backpack...just trying to get out of the house had been especially stressful and nerve-racking that day. Dad was tense as he drove over to school and had been snapping at his son. Just before arriving at the church, the little boy piped up from the backseat: “Be the Hope, Dad!” he said.

I preached a sermon on “Words Matter” a few weeks ago that struck a chord with many of you. I stand by that, but even so, I know how very often what we DO and who we ARE matters even more than what we SAY. St. Francis put it this way: “Preach the Gospel at all times. When necessary, use words.”

Being the Hope means witnessing to the Gospel, to God’s Good News for each and every one of us and for the world and creation—in everything we do, everything we stand up for, every act of compassion and kindness. It means putting God’s Hope at the very center of our heart so that it radiates through the person that we are.

On Laity Sunday, October 14th, we’ll hear from several of our members of different ages and life experiences as they reflect on what “Be the Hope” means to them. Let’s all be in prayer with them, asking God to increase our faith, confirm our hope, and mold our lives accordingly.

“Let us hold firmly to the hope we claim to have. The God who promised is faithful.” Heb. 10:23

Patrice Jamis

Senior Minister

Preschool Fall Festival & 70th Anniversary

Stay after church Sunday, October 7 as the First UMC Preschool kicks off their new school year, and begins the year-long celebration of their 70th Anniversary! At the Fall Festival look for tacos, bounce houses, T-shirt tie-dyeing, a Chili Cook-Off & bake sale, and more.

Other events throughout the year celebrating the 70th Anniversary include a special Grandparent’s Day/Special Friends Day in Simkins Hall, 70th Day of School, Jog-a-Thon, the Annual Christmas Concert, Spring Fair and Spring Concert.

We look forward to celebrating the next 70 years of educating youth and building community. Come celebrate with us!

Go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/preschool/70th for information on all events throughout the year.



Preschool Fall Festival: Sunday, October 7: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Courtyard



OCTOBER Calendar

Saturday, October 6

9:30 a.m. Blessing of the Animals, Courtyard

11 a.m. *Big & Small Creatures of the Sea* Art Exhibit Opening Reception, Fireside Room

Sunday, October 7 - Presentation of 4th Grade Bibles • World Communion Sunday

11 a.m. Preschool Fall Festival and 70th Anniversary, Courtyard

Friday, October 12

7:30 p.m. Sharerangers Monthly Dinner, Fireside Room

Saturday, October 13

10 a.m. DanceFit, Room 300

Sunday, October 14 - *Laity* Sunday

11 a.m. Third World Handarts Fair, Simkins Hall

6 p.m. simple supper, Fireside Room

Wednesday, October 17

9 -11 a.m. Health Ministry Council Flu Shot Clinic, Simkins Hall

Saturday, October 20

9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilt Workparty, Room 300

4:30 p.m. Messy Church, Chapel/Simkins Hall

Sunday, October 21

10 a.m. Westside Food Bank Hunger Walk, Off-site

11 a.m. Free Blood Pressure Screenings, Simkins Hall

3 - 5 p.m.* Labyrinth Open for Walks (*note new time), Simkins Hall

Thursday, October 25

5:30 p.m. Family Place Community Meal, Off-site

Saturday, October 27

10 a.m. DanceFit, Room 300

Sunday, October 28 - *Baptism*

11:30 a.m. Loving God with Our Minds Book Study/Potluck, Fireside Room

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesday, October 3

7 p.m. Staff-Parish Relations Committee, CR-A

Thursday, October 4

7 p.m. Habitat for Humanity Build Meeting, Fireside Room

Wednesday, October 10

4 p.m. Trustees Meeting, CR-A

Wednesday, October 17

6 p.m. Finance Committee, CR-A

7 p.m. Church Council Meeting, Fireside Room

WEEKLY or BIMONTHLY AT FIRST UMC

Mondays: Church Office Closed

Tuesdays: 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast Bible Study, Fireside Room

Thursdays: 7:40 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

SUNDAYS-AT-A-GLANCE

9 a.m. Lectionary Scripture Discussion, Fireside Room

9 a.m. Partnership with God Sunday School, Room 101

9 a.m. Nursery Care, Room 204

9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Warmup, Choir Room

10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

10:10 a.m. Sunday School, Education Bldg.

10:10 a.m. Youth Connect, Room 203 (*1st & 3rd Sundays*)

11 a.m. Fellowship, Simkins Hall in The Shelby Center

5 p.m. simple church, Chapel

6 p.m. UMYF Meeting, Youth Lounge



Flower Orders: Available dates at press time: **October 14, 21, 28.** Please contact the church office to order flowers for one of these dates.

Blessing of the Animals

All pets large and small, or photos of your pets, and even stuffed animal loveys are welcome to the annual Blessing of the Animals. Come early at 9:30 a.m. for refreshments and bring a photo for the *In Loving Memory* board to honor your pet. Blessings begin at 10 a.m.

Pick up a pet tag, play some games, and be sure to visit the photo booth. You may also bring new pet food and supplies to donate to local animal shelters.

Saturday, October 6: 10 a.m. in the Courtyard



Blessing of the Animals

BIG & small: Art Show Opening

Immediately following the Blessing of the Animals service, all are welcome to the annual Animal Art Exhibit by the local community to promote love for all God's ocean creatures, in all sizes. www.santamonicaumc.org/animals-blessings-art.

Saturday, October 6: 11 a.m., in the Fireside Room

BIG & small
Creatures of the Sea

DanceFit is Back!

First UMC member Whitney Hagan leads DanceFit: "DanceFit is inspired by Zumba, a high-energy interval workout set to upbeat music, featuring choreographed dance tailored for fitness. What if I can't dance? You don't need to be a great dancer to feel welcome in DanceFit! The class is designed for multiple levels, including beginners. We emphasize moving to the music and having fun regardless of your fitness level." Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and bring a towel. Water will be available. No charge but donations appreciated. Kids are welcome. Tell your friends! *Now two Saturdays a month.*

Saturdays, October 13 & 27: 10 - 11 a.m. in Room 300

(*note room change)

Third World Handarts

Missions Council and First UMC welcomes back Third World Handarts (Gifts that Give Twice), a non-profit organization that was founded in Anaheim in 1975 to serve the

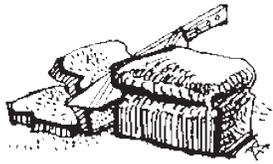


economic needs of the destitute people in the United States, and in developing nations worldwide. Their principal mission is to support the self-employment of thousands of artisans by marketing the beautiful and useful items they craft as a means of supporting themselves and their families. All are welcome to come and shop these wonderful artisan crafts in Simkins Hall after worship.

Sunday, October 14: 11 a.m. Simkins Hall

Introducing *simple supper*

simple church is pleased to announce simple supper, a new potluck gathering of the simple church community. At simple church, we strive to live by a rule of life in three simple rules: do no harm, do good, stay/grow in love with God. This has never been easy, but the first church in Acts 2 laid a foundation. They implemented a simple program to support one another in Christian living: prayer, study, fellowship, and eating together. Sharing a meal has always been a holy act of hospitality and of fellowship, and there is no reason to make it complicated; bring a dish to share, eat, and enjoy. There is no need to RSVP, all are welcome, and we will celebrate with those who are present. So join the simple church community after worship on the 2nd Sunday of each month.



Sunday, October 14: 6 p.m. in the Fireside Room

Health Ministry Council's Flu Clinic

First UMC has the privilege of hosting one of the first flu vaccination clinics this season to be provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. This gives us the opportunity to help keep both ourselves and our community healthy. So, mark your calendar, tell your friends and neighbors, and join us in Simkins Hall to get your free flu vaccine! No appointments necessary.

**Wednesday, October 17: 9 - 11 a.m.
in Simkins Hall**

FREE FLU VACCINE!



Messy Church - October

Messy Church is a great opportunity for families to be together in worship without the worry of being too silly or "messy" because, let's face it, life can be messy! At Messy Church, we grow in our relationship with God and with one another through crafts, activities, music, and stories of God's love. Then, together we enjoy a shared meal. Be ready to get messy! *October theme: Ruth's Loyalty.*

**Saturday, October 20*: 4:30 - 6 p.m. in the Chapel/Simkins Hall
(held on the 3rd Saturday this month)**

Walk the Labyrinth - New Time

Starting this month, the Labyrinth will be open from 3 - 5 p.m. Enjoy a meditative Labyrinth walk, then stay for the contemplative simple church service in the Chapel at 5 p.m. Walking the Labyrinth is an ancient spiritual practice, a way to quiet our minds and open our spirits to the presence of the Holy. If you've never been before, there are printed instructions to help with your walking meditation. Take an hour for yourself in this "device-free" zone. Every step a prayer.

**Sunday, October 21: 3 - 5 p.m. in Simkins Hall
Open every 3rd Sunday of the month, and by reservation.**

Westside Food Bank's 28th Annual 5k Hunger Walk

Join First UMC member **Russ Whittenburg** as he walks to help the Westside Food Bank celebrate their 28th year of walking for a hunger-free community. There's no registration fee, and anyone can walk as an individual or gather as a group to create a team. The program starts at noon and includes music and dance performances, a family fun zone, raffle prizes and award presentations. The 5k begins at 2 p.m. along the beach path. There will also be a Beach Bash After Party BBQ at 3:30 p.m. (tickets required.) Every dollar raised provides four nutritious meals for families in need! To sign up, go to: www.wsfb.org, and look for the First UMC group (First United Methodist Church). You may Contact Russ directly at russwhittenburg@gmail.com, or 320-395-7798.

Sunday, October 21: 12 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Santa Monica Ocean View Park (2701 Barnard Way, SM 90405)

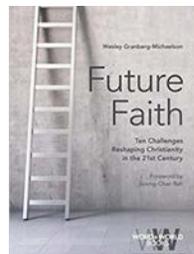


Family Place Community Meal

Going on its third year, simple church hosts the monthly Community Meal potluck with Family Place. A program of Upward Bound House, Family Place provides transitional housing and intensive wrap-around case management for families with minor children in crisis. The Community Meal potluck is an opportunity to help feed about 30-40 adults & children, served buffet style. Invite your friends and join the next potluck for an evening of conversation, crafts/games with the kids, and a shared meal. For more information, or to sign up for the potluck, go to: www.santamonicaumc.org/community-meal. *Every 4th Thursday of the month (unless notated).*

Thursday, October 25: 5:30 p.m. Family Place (1020 12th St.)

Loving God with Our Minds Book Study/Potluck



Future Faith: Ten Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century

Author Wes Granberg-Michaelson has served as general secretary of the Reformed Church in America, director of Church and Society for the World Council of Churches, and associate editor of Sojourners magazine. He observes that Christianity is at a hinge point in its history

due to powerful cultural, social, political, and theological forces now at play. His latest books documents 10 such challenges and invites us into conversation about them. How do we experience and understand these changes? What might all this mean, not only for the larger church, but for our congregation? How can we "discern and welcome the new things God is doing and discover pathways promising renewal in our life together for the sake of this world, so loved by God?" as he asks. Come for a lively and thought-provoking conversation. Book available on Amazon, and at the Sunday Hospitality Table.

Sunday, October 28: 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room

White Ribbon Memorial



As we approach All Saints Day, First UMC will honor those who have died with the White Ribbon Memorial. On the Sundays of **October 21, 28, and November 4**, look for a table set up by the north wall of the

sanctuary near the prayer quilts. There, before or after service, you may write the names of loved ones on a white ribbon (as many as you like or one name per ribbon), say a prayer, and tie it to the string or place it in the bowl on the table. Ribbons hung last year will be rehung this year.

You may also come to the Hospitality Table or the church office for ribbons. For our All Saints Day service on **November 4**, all ribbons will be tied to the string and hung in the sanctuary and Chapel for worship services.

Ralphs Community Contribution Program

Ralphs will donate up to 4% of all purchases to First UMC, at no extra cost to you! This year, First UMC has a new vendor number that must be linked to your account. Navigating the Ralph's website can be a challenge, so we've included instructions on our website to help you sign up for the Community Rewards Program. Go to www.santamonicaumc.org/ralphs. Thank you for your support. If you need assistance with the sign-up, please call or stop by the church office.

FIRST UMC

COMMUNITY

Births

- **Elizabeth Grace Donahoe**, born to parents Thomas & Amanda Donahoe, on May 3. She will be baptized on October 28.

Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of these departed loved ones:

- to First UMC Choir member **Sharon Steck**, who died July 28.
- to First UMC member **David Reid Boone**, who died August 6.
- to First UMC member **Matthew Hoynes**, who died August 17.
- We recently learned of the death of First UMC member, **Earl D. (Bud) Schwab**.

Baptism

- **Cavan Curtis Rold**, son of First UMC members Sarah and Dane Rold, and brother to Dominic, was baptized on September 23 by Rev. Patricia Farris.

LOOKING FORWARD

SIGNing the Song

Let's support our choir's tenor section leader, **William Martinez**, and go see his one-man show *SIGNing The Song* in Burbank the first weekend in November!



Through ASL (American Sign Language) paired with singing, William Martinez's *SIGNing the Song* shares the true story of a boy who grew up in a deaf household with little exposure to TV, radio, or movies. Because of his incredible 8th grade music teacher and the love and support of his parents, he came out of his silent world and discovered his voice through music. ASL and song lyrics meld together into a beautiful unique art form. This family friendly, one-man show celebrates the incredible impact educators and parents have on each child's life, regardless of their struggles. Special guest appearance by the John Burroughs High School "Advanced Vocal Ensemble." Music composed and arranged by David Bawiec.

Show dates: Thursday, November 1, 8 p.m., Saturday, November 3, 3 p.m., and 8 p.m., and Sunday, November 4, 3 p.m.

The November 1 performance will have an ASL interpreter for the deaf and hard of hearing audience.

Admission for all shows is \$35 and tickets may be purchased online at www.colonytheatre.org or by phone at (866) 811-4111. The Colony Theatre: 555 N. Third Street (between Cyprus and Magnolia) in Burbank, 91502. Ample free onsite parking is available. Watch the show promo video here: www.signingthesong.com/promo.

United Methodist Women Holiday Bazaar



United Methodist Women are gearing up for their annual Holiday Bazaar, which benefits mission projects and is UMW's principal fundraiser. The bazaar is a festive way to jump-start your holiday shopping! Don't miss handmade goods, casseroles, fudge, baked goods, attic treasures, a Silent Auction and more!

Friday, November 2: 5 - 8 p.m. \$7.50 entrance, (includes soup, bread, coffee and cookie) in the Fireside Room.

Sundays, December 2, 9, 16 (free) from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. after worship in the UMW Workroom.



HAPPENINGS at First UMC



Anne Premer (upper left) organized the "Living a Brain Healthy Lifestyle" seminar led by Monica Moore, MSG (top) in Simkins Hall, on August 26.



Nathan Oney (top) and Tricia Guerrero (bottom) preached on Sunday mornings in September.



Rev. Patricia Farris led simple church on Sunday, September 16.



Bill & Joan Humphries celebrated their 60th Anniversary in Simkins Hall on September 9.



Sarah and Dane Rold celebrated the baptism of Cavan Rold, by Rev. Patricia Farris, on September 23.



Update from First UMC team leader **Martha Ross**: "The whole *Patience House* site looks substantially different than the last time we saw it. Two of our houses now have roofs on them. And, the new residents who will be occupying the Habitat homes threw themselves a block party at the Presbyterian Church across the street from the build site. We are absolutely thrilled to see these families come together, already forming "a neighborhood" among themselves and with the residents across the street." www.santamonicaumc.org/habitat



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SANTA MONICA

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Church Office Hours: Tues - Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Chapel Open for Prayer: Tues - Fri, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

On the Website

As the preschool celebrates its 70th Anniversary this school year, check out the web page for updates on special celebration events and news.

santamonicaumc.org/preschool-70th

WORSHIP - SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER

OCTOBER 7

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
Presentation of 4th Grade Bibles
World Communion Sunday
Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church

OCTOBER 14

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
Laity Sunday
Sermons by First UMC Laity

5 p.m. simple church

OCTOBER 21

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
22nd Sunday in Kingdomtide
Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church

OCTOBER 28

10 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
Baptism
Sermon by Rev. Patricia Farris

5 p.m. simple church

BE THE
HOPE