

August 2025

Volume 25 No. 8

SIMI VALLEY

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE HERALD

ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Rev. Stacy Brooks
Senior Pastor

Becky Valenzuela
Children, Youth & Family
Ministries



Diane Freyling
Office Administrator

Nancy Reyes
Front Office Assistant

Erin Newman
Communications Specialist



Leslie Frank
Organist



Cindie Stump-Gamboa
& **Kelsey Rodriguez**
Child Care Providers



CROSSROADS CHILDREN'S CENTER

Michelle Gordon
Principal
(805) 526-2887



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➤ AUGUST WORSHIP

3 ASP SUNDAY & HOLY COMMUNION



10 "DISCIPLESHIP P.A.T.H."
EPHESIANS 4:11-17

We will walk through our journey as disciples based on Paul's letter to the Ephesians.



17

"GOING ON TO PERFECTION"
HEBREWS 6:9-12

Rev. John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement in the late 1700s, preached about a believers ability to "go on to perfection" based on Hebrews 6.

DRAMA SUNDAY

The SVUMC Players will be bringing the message through a drama called, "The Complaint Desk." Expect some laughs, followed by the light bulb in your head as they bring the Gospel message home.

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31 "BE PREPARED"

MATTHEW 25:1-13

This Matthew text has Jesus sharing of the Parable of the Ten Virgins, a parable about being prepared.



24



TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Our Tuesday afternoon Bible Study class will be concluding its study on the book of Acts on August 19th and will begin a study of the book of Romans on August 26th. All are welcome to drop in from 1:00-2:30pm on Tuesdays to dive into God's Word.

A student book is available as a supplement to the Romans study, but is not required to attend the class.

Sanctuary Refresh Fundraiser Update



Our **Panda Express** fundraiser on July 17th was a success. Thank you to all who participated!

Total event sales: \$840.55

Amount raised: \$168.11

This fundraiser kicked off our Sanctuary Refresh campaign, aimed at making improvements to our sanctuary in celebration of its 40th anniversary in January 2027.

Up next on Tuesday, August 12th, 3:30-9 pm:
Toppers!

Join Pastor Stacy and church friends onsite at Toppers for a Church Pizza Party from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Toppers has the best pizza, a fabulous salad bar and their pizza cookie topped with ice cream for dessert. Be sure to bring a copy of the flyer, or show it on your phone at the counter.

If you instead order takeout or delivery please mention the fundraiser when you order. (Online orders do not support the qualify, however.)

Pizza Night! Family Fundraiser

Benefiting
**Simi Valley
United Methodist Church**

Where: Toppers Pizza Place
2408 Erringer Rd.
Simi Valley
(805)385-4444 or 495-4444



When: Tuesday, August 12, 2025
3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

What: Toppers Pizza will donate back 20% of pre-tax sales generated by our group!

How to Help: Just follow these steps to help raise funds!
1) Bring the whole family to Toppers during the above period for a great pizza!
2) Show this flyer to the cashier **when you place your order** (or tell operator for phone orders).
3) No coupons or other discounts will be honored in conjunction with this fundraiser.
4) No flyers may be handed out in or around the restaurant during the event.
5) **ONLINE ORDERS ARE NOT INCLUDED.**



Proud to be part of the community!

**Our church website
has been redesigned!**

Check it out!



WWW.SIMIVALLEYUMC.ORG

Your resource for ways to learn, worship, connect and serve, plus event info, a live calendar, and much more. It will be updated weekly, so keep checking back in!



ASIP Sunday

AUGUST 3, 2025



Hear the team's stories, see the pictures of their trip, and be inspired by their work and witness.



August

Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

This month, our Children's Ministry kicks off a year-long journey through the Bible as we look at God's Big Story.



Growing Garden (PreK-K)

This month, we are taking an exciting journey to the moon and back as we learn that God made everything! We want our littlest to know that this beautiful world they live in was created by our loving, creative, and powerful God. All God had to do was say it, and it was! Wow! So, what did God do after He made everything? "God saw everything he had made. And it was very good." (Genesis 1:31 NIV) Then, God rested. And that is what we hope to do this month: Look at everything God made, see that it is very good, and then rest in knowing that our God is powerful, creative and loves us to the moon and back.

Fireside Friends (1st-5th grade)

Every story has a beginning. As we explore Creation and other important moments, kids will discover that not only did God create everything, but even after people chose to go their own way, God had a plan to restore us. We can see how God faithfully began to fulfill that plan in Abram's call and in the lives of Jacob and Joseph. When kids see how God has worked in the past, they can grow in faith that our faithful God continues to work in and through each person who chooses to follow Jesus. This month with "Origin Story", we discover that God loves us more deeply than we can imagine, and because God fulfilled that promise, we can trust God with our whole lives.



End of Summer
Pool Party @ the McInnis' home
Saturday, August 16th
3-5pm
Contact Ms. Becky for the address



ANNUAL BACKPACK BLESSING

All students, teachers, and school staff are invited to bring their backpacks to worship on **Sunday, August 10th** for our Annual Blessing of the Backpacks. Receive a blessing from Pastor Stacy for the new school year and a special prayer tag for your backpack.



SAVE THE DATE!

THURSDAY

Night Live!

5:30-6:30 in the Fireside Room-

All children TK-5th grade

Join us for crafts, games, friends, and fun! Kickoff August 21st!



Youth Ministry:

D&D is back - beginning August 21st! Join our youth team, Pastor Stacy, and friends on Thursday evenings at 6pm in Witman Hall for dinner & devotions.

August at CrossRoads Children's Center

Summer Break is over and now we welcome our new school year this month! It's our "new" month . . . new classroom, new teachers, new friends, new school supplies, and the list goes on. We are so excited that "The New School Year" has arrived!

Please keep CrossRoads in your prayers as our 2025-2026 school year begins. This will be my 19th new school year at CrossRoads! What a blessing it is that God has given me this opportunity.

Mrs. Michelle Gordon

Principal, CrossRoads Children's Center

"The most important day of a person's education is the first day of school, not graduation day."

—Harry Wong, educator, author



Simi Valley, United Methodist Church

Rancho Tape Community Park (Lemon Park)
3700 Avenida Simi

Church in the Community

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7
5 pm - 8 pm

Bring the kids/grandkids – Splash Pad open until 7 pm!

Pack a picnic and enjoy summertime fun and fellowship. We'll be hanging out at the large pavilion by the Veterans Plaza.

LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, August 14,
11:30 am—1:00 pm in
the Chapel

Join us for a potluck
lunch and fun
project!

Thank you to our ADULT VBS CLASSES teachers this year!

Sewing Craft: Juanita Ward

Bowling Outing: Dave & Erin Newman

Cyber Security: Todd Goldman

Strathearn Historical Park Tour: Ruth Dempsey & Laura Jean Hole

T-shirt Tie-dyeing, and Grill, Slide & Game Night: Ms. Becky & Pastor Stacy

Ball Drumming: Nikki/Body Brain Train

Card Making Craft: Carol Conner

Cribbage: Chuck McKee

Bible 101/201, Bingo, Take & Bake:
Pastor Stacy



Missed out this year? Stay tuned for next year's Adult VBS dates!



Next Meeting:
Sunday, August 10
@ 11:30 am

Come check them out!



United Women in Faith
~ COMING UP ~

- Wednesday, August 20: Board Planning Meeting at 10 am in the Chapel.
- Saturday, September 20: North District UWF Annual Celebration & Recognition of Quiet Disciples from 9 am—2 pm.
- Friday & Saturday, October 10-11: Fall Boutique.

Circles will not meet in August.



8/1 Gloria Hasson
 8/2 Patrick McInnis
 8/4 Lisa Lewis
 8/7 Joy Zinto
 8/8 Lynnette Baltazar
 8/9 Barbara Bagwell
 8/12 Zack Goldman
 8/13 James Buckley
 8/14 Bob Hird
 8/16 Diane Freyling
 8/17 Octavio Campos
 Lucas Jimenez
 Amanda Valdovinos
 8/18 Sue Barbour
 8/19 Diana Benson
 8/20 Carolyn Pankratz
 8/22 Katie Camparato
 8/22 Camille Cordova
 8/23 Tony Elliott
 Sharlene Petersen
 Xavier Sandoval
 8/25 Chris Allison
 Debbie McAlister
 Erin Newman
 8/27 Sara Fox
 8/28 Eden Kahl
 Corrine Lightfoot
 Kayana Sua
 8/30 Victoria Keene



8/4 Peyton & Lori Ann Glover
 Dillon & Allie Stites
 8/17 Rich & Maria Reynolds
 8/30 Jessica & Justin Ross



Worship Attendance

	In Church	Online
6/29	106	30
7/6	106	28
7/13	126	28
7/20	110	42

PRAYER REQUESTS

In need of prayer? Please submit prayer requests to the church office via phone or email (svumcinfo@pacbell.net) or by text to Pastor Stacy.

Be sure to include which ways you would like your prayer lifted:

1. In the Friday e-mail
2. During Joys & Concerns in worship
3. In Pastor Stacy's daily prayers

3 Easy Ways to Get Involved

Coffee Hour Fellowship: Refreshments are easy! Just drop off 3-4 dozen treats to our volunteers in the Chapel by 9:30 am! Signups and info are on the board in the Chapel.

2025 Flowers: Signups are posted in the Narthex on the Welcome Wall.

Greeters: Speak to Nancy Reyes if you'd like to greet visitors coming into worship!

HOSTING A MEETING?

Please leave the room as you found it: heat or A/C off, lights off, trash out.

Thank you!



Recycle Sunday – August 24

- Our Outreach Committee is raising money to help cover the costs of providing Outreach Dinners to community members in need that take place at SVUMC on Saturdays.
- Recyclables can be dropped off before worship the 4th Sunday of each month in the east parking lot (by the Cochran Street driveway).
- Clean CA Redemption items (beverage cans and plastic beverage bottles) are best. No glass please.

Thank you for helping us serve our community!

NewsLetter
DEADLINE Friday, August
 15th

THE

HERALD

Simi Valley United Methodist Church

2394 Erringer Road, Simi Valley CA 93065

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*Thank you to all of our
Kids' VBS Volunteers for "Living It Out!"
and working to make this year a success!!!*

Directors: Lisa Lewis & Becky Valenzuela

Registration: Judy Thomson & Theo Dickson

Assembly Leaders: Ms. Becky & Pastor Stacy

Crafts: Ruth Dempsey, Helen Loring, Diane Hayden,
Michelle Gordon, Sonia Dameron & Liz Zeiner

Games: Sam Goldman, Aidan Dickson & Trent Sager

Missions: Theo Dickson

Science: Erin Alexander & Justin Copen

Pre-K: Nancy Reyes, Jasmine Austria, Katie Comparato,
Madison Dickson & Olivia Sandoval

K-1st: Laura McInnis, Renae Hayden, Sara Comparato,
Sharon Maurice & Lizzie Platt

2nd & 3rd grades: Tevita Inoke & Julie Brennan

4th & 5th grades: Zack Goldman & Lili Inoke

Dinner Coordinator: Pastor Stacy

Dinner Assistants/Snacks: Caroline Berger & Diana Benson

Ice Cream: Outreach Ministry

Audio/Visual: Xavier Sandoval, Sam Goldman & Justin Copen

Photography: Amy Comparato