



# 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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United Methodist Church  
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- What is God's big story for your kids in October?
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# Worship This Month:

The Parable of the Talents reminds us that who we are and what we have are gifts from God and we are called to be stewards of them. This month we will look at what God has ENTRUSTED into our care and how we are caring for them.



October 5th:  
**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**  
ENTRUSTED: Our Time  
Based on Matthew 25:14-30

October 12th:  
ENTRUSTED: Our Treasure  
Based on Matthew 6:19-21

October 19th:  
ENTRUSTED: Our Talents  
Based on 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

October 26th:  
ENTRUSTED: Our Hearts  
Based on Mark 7:1-15

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND GET TO KNOW YOU LUNCH

*At the Parsonage*

THIS WILL BE A GET TO KNOW YOU TIME, A TIME TO INQUIRE ABOUT BEING A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH, AND A TIME TO SHARE A MEAL TOGETHER.

	<b>OCT</b>	
SUN	<b>26</b>	11.30 AM
	2025	

RSVP by Friday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>  
at Noon



### DID YOU KNOW THAT KIDS FROM CROSSROADS ATTEND CHAPEL WITH PASTOR STACY & MS. BECKY?



CROSSROADS KIDS ARE AGES 18 MONTHS TO 5 YEARS!



Once a week, all the children from CrossRoads Children's Center are led to the Sanctuary for a time of lessons, singing, movement, prayer, and most of all, learning about God's love for them.



## EAST PROPERTY LUNCH & INFO MEETING

SUNDAY  
OCT. 12TH  
AFTER WORSHIP

Sandee Furuta from the Cal-Pac Conference Office will join us to talk about the process of building on the East Property, if that is the direction we choose to go.

## Vespers Prayer Service

*Join Pastor Stacy for a Vespers Prayer Service in the Meditation Garden on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. This will be a time to pray for our loved ones, our community, our country, and our world. We will ask for healing and understanding of our part in being God's healing hands.*





# CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY MINISTRIES



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

1<sup>ST</sup>- 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

This month, we continue on in our journey through God's big story. Elementary grades will learning about wisdom through the lives of David, Solomon, and other kings of Israel and Judah. Our PreK through K children will be learning about being brave through the stories of Esther, David, Gideon, & Abigail.



"It is much better to get wisdom than gold. It is much better to choose understanding than silver." Proverbs 16:16

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

OCT

# PAJAMA PARTY 17<sup>TH</sup>

5:30 - 8:30 PM

Hey kids! Put on your favorite PJs and join us for a night of fun: dinner, games, crafts, and treats!

Ages 2 years - 5<sup>th</sup> grade



\$20 per child or \$50 per family  
Register by Wednesday, October 15th

PRE K - K



"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid. . . for the Lord your God goes with you." Deuteronomy 31:6

# FALL Festival



Sunday, October 19th 11am-12pm  
Join us after church for some fall fun -  
chili cook off & hotdogs, crafts, & treats!



**It's Butter Braid Time!** Michelle Gordon will be on the church patio after worship on **October 26** taking orders for Butter Braid breads in support of CrossRoads Children's Center. As early as October 13, you may email your orders to her instead at [crossroadscdirector@gmail.com](mailto:crossroadscdirector@gmail.com).

Each pastry is \$16, and year's flavors include Apple, Bavarian Cream, Cinnamon, Four-cheese w/herb, Raspberry, & Strawberry w/cream cheese. The frozen Butter Braid orders will be distributed after church on **November 23rd**, just in time for Thanksgiving gatherings!

**P.S. CrossRoads will also be doing a Toppers Fundraiser on October 8. Watch for the flyer!**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO SOLOI INOKE — UWF QUIET DISCIPLE!**

On September 20th, Soloi Inoke was recognized at the Cal-Pac North District United Women in Faiths annual celebration with the Quiet Disciple award. Soloi is the epitome of a “Quiet Disciple.” She is happy performing the Lord’s work in any capacity as humbly as possible. Her son Tevita refers to his mother as a “Silent Servant.” Soloi’s dedication to the Lord is unwavering as she gives all her praise to Him! Most Sundays, Soloi is busy



coordinating Coffee Hour. You may also see her addressing the congregation as a worship leader. Soloi is also Worship Committee member and a longtime participant in the UWF’s Night Owls Circle. Additionally, Soloi is musically inclined as she’s been an integral member of the Adult Handbell Choir since 2018. Soloi is also a lifelong Methodist! She officially joined SVUMC on March 19, 2006.

We are so grateful for Soloi’s steadfast dedication to the Lord and in particular, to the Simi Valley United Methodist Church. Soloi celebrated her award with her son Tevita, daughters Kalo and Lily, sisters Tapa Maka, Meliame Maka, and nephew Matthew Cowden. Soloi is very deserving of this award and we are all very proud of her!



United Women in Faith

**COMING UP**

Wednesday, Oct. 1: Board meeting at 10 am in the Chapel

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 10-11: **Fall Boutique**

Wednesday, November 5: Board meeting at 10 am in the Chapel

Wednesday, November 12: Craft Night at 6:30 pm in the Chapel

**CIRCLES**

**Circle of Joy:** Wednesday, October 8 at 12:30 pm at the home of Debbie Costello, 1077 Hillview Ln.

**Circle of Faith:** Wednesday, October 15 at noon at the home of Laura Hole, 2848 Waterfall Ln.

**Seekers Circle:** Monday, October 20 at noon in the Chapel.

**Night Owls:** Tuesday, October 21 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.

**Teresa Circle** will meet each month to visit those who are homebound.

THE 2025  
**FALL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10:  
10 AM-5PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11:  
10 AM-3PM

HANDMADE CRAFTS  
LUNCH  
BAKE SALE

Simi Valley United Methodist Church  
2394 Erringer Road  
Simi Valley, CA

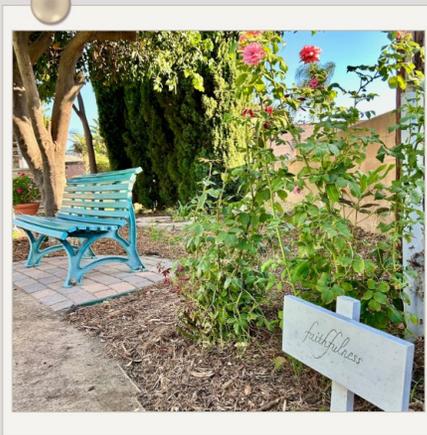
Sponsored by United Women in Faith

# THE SVUMC MEDITATION GARDEN



*Come visit our lovely Meditation Garden on the East Property!*

*Special thanks to Chuck, Mike and Russ and the Gordon and Martinez families for their work beautifying the garden in preparation for Marley & Diego's wedding!*



**TROOP 642  
OF SIMI  
VALLEY  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**



## BURGER BASH OCTOBER 5

**AFTER WORSHIP, WITMAN HALL**

**✔ ALL DONATIONS HELP BRAXTON MARX RAISE FUNDS FOR HIS EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT!**



Braxton will be improving the SVUMC Meditation Garden by creating an engaging and inspirational self-guided tour. Come learn more about Braxton's plan, enjoy lunch, and support a great cause with your freewill donation.



- 10/3 Barbara Brown  
Dillon Stites  
Ayden & Preston Sua
- 10/4 Nancy Reyes
- 10/6 Jill Fernando
- 10/7 Braxton McAlister  
Debbie Post
- 10/8 Wesson Garbo  
Laura Jean Hole  
Wesley Sandoval  
Stu Thomson
- 10/9 Patrick Brennan
- 10/10 Alexandra Keene  
Jessica Ross
- 10/15 Josh Gordon
- 10/16 Carolyn Hoffman
- 10/17 Carol Walden
- 10/18 Susan Heteniak  
Ardis Jay
- 10/20 Gary Bodkins  
Kathy Hobiger
- 10/22 David Wayne, Jr.  
Jivankumar Zinto
- 10/23 Sam Allison  
Astrid Aragonas  
JJ Wayne
- 10/25 Melissa Allison
- 10/26 Kaelyn Motzel  
Judy Orozco
- 10/27 Cheryl Williams
- 10/28 Joshua Greene  
King Jimenez
- 10/29 Mele Maka
- 10/30 Dee Tingstrom



- 10/10 Diane & Robert  
Alexander
- 10/11 Gary & Pam Keene
- 10/12 Corrine Lightfoot &  
Dylan Dutka



### Worship Attendance

	In Church	Online
8/31	108	20
9/7	144	20
9/14	127	32
9/21	61	28

**OUR CHURCH FUNDRAISER AT  
TOPPERS PIZZA ON AUGUST 12  
RAISED \$189.26 FOR OUR  
SANCTUARY REFRESH FUND!**

We celebrated the baptism of **McKenna Ruth Barnard** on September 14. Proud parents are **Samantha & Evan Barnard**.

Congratulations to **Marley Gordon & Diego Martinez**, who were married September 13th at the SVUMC Meditation Garden.

We mourn the passing of **Galen Hokama** on September 2. Please contact the church office for Elizabeth's address.

We mourn the passing of **Ronda Farr** on July 27, and look forward to celebrating her life on October 4.



A Celebration of Life for Ronda will be held in the Sanctuary on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am with a reception to follow in Witman Hall.

### Outreach Update

The next Outreach meeting is Wednesday, **October 15** at 1 pm in the chapel. They'll be serving Outreach Dinner to the community in need on Saturday, **October 18**. Preparation at 4:00 pm; dinner served at 5:00 pm. Contact Barbara Bagwell if you'd like to help!

Recycle Sunday is **October 26**. Bring in your CA Redemption-value plastic water bottles and aluminum drink cans to help with the costs of Outreach Dinner.

Thank you!

**Save the Date for  
Charge Conference**



Charge  
Conference

**Tuesday,  
November 18  
@ 7 pm**



THE

# HERALD

Simi Valley United Methodist Church

2394 Erringer Road, Simi Valley CA 93065

(805) 526-6231 [www.simivalleyumc.org](http://www.simivalleyumc.org)

## Happy 30th Anniversary, SVUMC Handbells!

Simi Valley United Methodist Church has had one or more handbell choirs continuously since 1995. The delivery of the bells and equipment on September 29th, 1995 marked the official beginning. Ringers had practiced the motions using cooking spoons prior to the arrival of the bells!



There were two early handbell choirs: youth and adult, both under the direction of Ronda Powell, an experienced ringer. The first Adult bell choir consisted of Laura Jean Hole, Lynne O'Hanlon, Jeanette and Virgil Stites, Stu Thomson, Barbara Brown, Carole Collins, Kathleen Motzel, Laura Hole and Jennifer Herman. Laura Jean Hole and Stu Thomson are still ringing to this day, with Stu as the director of all bell choirs.

Two more choirs have since been added: Adult Ensemble Handbells and KidzBells. Congrats to all ringers throughout the past three decades, and thank you to our volunteer director, Stu Thomson!



## AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

SVUMC

# Fall Festival

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19  
AFTER WORSHIP

CHILI COOK-OFF & HOT DOGS  
CRAFTS & TREATS FOR THE KIDS

**LUNCH BUNCH**

**Chili, Cornbread, and  
Pumpkin Decorating**

Thursday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
11:30-1:00pm

\*Pumpkins and supplies will be provided.