

September 2025

SIMI VALLEY

Volume 25 No. 9

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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You Are Invited!

To a Catered Lunch

SUN., SEPT. 7TH AFTER WORSHIP

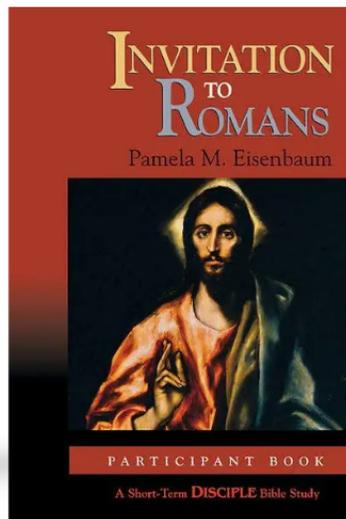


Red's will be catering, and during lunch we will be hearing about a potential dream for our church property and our future in ministry. Stop by the Church Office to pick up a vial of earth from the East Property and bring it with you on September 7th.

SEPTEMBER Worship & Study

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study Class will begin an 8-week study of the book of Romans on Tuesday, September 2nd. This class meets from 1:00-2:30pm and all are invited to drop in for one session or all sessions.



SEPTEMBER 7TH

"Dreams and Discernment"
Pastor Stacy Preaching
Based on Philippians 1:3-11

Holy Communion will be
Celebrated

SEPTEMBER 14TH

"What is Salvation?"
Pastor Stacy Preaching
Based on 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

A Baptism Will Be Celebrated

SEPTEMBER 21ST

"Praying for Peace"
Pastor Stacy Preaching
Based on John 14:25-27

Peace Pole Rededication
Sunday

SEPTEMBER 28TH

Guest Preacher while
Pastor Stacy is on
vacation (Sept. 22nd-
29th)
Potluck with Presentation
after Worship

Newcomer Dinner!

If you consider yourself new to our church, you are invited to join Pastor Stacy for a get-to-know-you dinner on Sunday, September 14th at 5pm at the Parsonage. RSVP to the church office by Friday, Sept. 12th.

On Sunday, September 28th the Rev. Jennifer Gutierrez will be filling the pulpit with the message of the morning followed by a potluck lunch to learn about the non-profit that she is the Executive Director of, CLUE (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice). Rev. Jennifer is an ordained UMC Elder, a mother, and a champion for justice.





"LUNCH BUNCH"

Friday, Sept. 19th 11:30am-1:00pm

Join the LUNCH BUNCH for a fun afternoon of pizza and salad from Costco followed by some of our favorite card games. This is a great "Backdoor" event to invite a friend to, meaning a time to introduce a friend to our church community in a safe, casual environment.

Newsflash: Our Pop-up Plumeria Fundraiser in August raised \$340 for the Sanctuary Refresh fund!

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO DONATED, & GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR NEW PLUMERIA PLANTINGS!



A special thank you to Gary & Ildiko Scott for providing the cuttings



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

And the 10th Anniversary of our Peace Pole



SEPTEMBER 21ST

JOIN US FOR A PEACE-THEMED WORSHIP SERVICE FOLLOWED BY THE RE-DEDICATION OF OUR PEACE POLE

Children's Ministry NEWS

Parents' Night Out

September 19th
5:30-8:30pm
Register by Wednesday,
Sept. 17th

Pre K - K

CONSTRUCT AND CREATE

GOD HAS PLANS FOR ME

SUNDAY SCHOOL

August kicked off our year-long journey through the Bible as we look at God's Big Story.

We began with the origin of our faith. This month we will learn about leaders like Moses and Joshua, how God's people were on the move, and how trusting God helped them be brave and courageous even though they were afraid!

1st - 5th Grade

ON THE MOVE

BRAVE THE UNKNOWN WITH GOD

VBS UPDATE!!!!

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to donate over 400 pairs of shoes to Soles for Souls!

For any questions regarding Youth or Children's ministry, Contact Ms. Becky freedomtake2@gmail.com

Youth Ministry



We would love to welcome all youth to Thursday Night "Dinner & Devotion". Beginning Thursday, September 18th at 6:00pm in Witman Hall. Each week, the youth team will be there for check-ins, dinner, & devotion. We will be finished by 7:15 for those who play bells. All Youth 6th-12th grade are invited to join us!

September at CrossRoads Children's Center

We have had an exciting start to the new school year with many new students, some new teachers, fresh schedules, and new friends. Please keep CrossRoads in your prayers as we begin this school year.

This month, we will be celebrating our V.I.P.s, grandparents, family members, and family friends on Friday, September 5th. It is a blessing to have such wonderful support from our family and friends because it truly takes a village to care for our children. I pray that you have an amazing September!

Mrs. Michelle Gordon

Principal, CrossRoads Children's Center

Lord, what I ask for
September:

NOTE.COM

- Your blessings.
- Be with us.
- Listen to my prayers.
- Guide my way.
- Bless my health
- Protect me
- Take care of my family.



Choir Director Update

The SPRC Committee is continuing its search for our next Choir Director. They have received some inquiries and applications for the job, but have not found a candidate that they have assessed as the right fit for our choir. The choir has been invited to be a part of the process, having had a rehearsal conducted by one potential candidate and will continue to be a part of the process, being given an opportunity to be conducted by any viable candidates, giving feedback post-rehearsal to the SPRC. Please have patience as we work to find a good fit.



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



United
Women
in Faith

COMING UP

Saturday, Sept. 20, 9am-2pm:

North District UWF Annual Celebration & Recognition of Quiet Disciples

Wednesday, Oct. 1:

Board meeting at 10 am in the Chapel

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

CIRCLES

Circle of Joy: Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 12:30 pm at the home of Sandy Stephens, 2758 Fairway Park.

Seekers Circle: Noon on Monday, Sept. 15 in the Chapel.

Night Owls: Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.

Circle of Faith: Wednesday, Sept. 17 at noon at the home of Dona Thanstrom, 2731 Bel Circle.

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

faith

action

sisterhood

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 9/1 Mary Ann Driver
Reba Thomson
- 9/3 Jairo Jimenez
Ashley Trala
- 9/5 Jason Hole
- 9/6 Mike Seckman
- 9/11 Kyle Reynolds
- 9/12 Bill Gearhart
Holly Tignac
- 9/13 Stacy Brooks
- 9/14 John Hole
- 9/15 Emma Horowitz
Debi Jewell
- 9/16 Heather Anderson
Liam Baltazar
Joneel Zinto
- 9/18 Caesar Campos
Adysen Jimenez
Peter Witman
- 9/19 Phil Myers
- 9/23 Kathryn McKee
David Waye
Jessica Waye
- 9/24 Samantha Farr
- 9/25 Pam Keene
Barbara Modlin
Mark Witman
- 9/28 Carolyn Berger
Milena Keene
- 9/29 Bradley Elliott
Christopher Reynolds

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

- 9/1 Todd & Mylene Goldman
- 9/10 Paul & Barbara Witman
- 9/20 Carolyn & Tracy Pankratz
- 9/22 Joel & Gloria McManus
- 9/27 Andrew & Sara Fox



Worship Attendance

	<u>In Church</u>	<u>Online</u>
7/27	119	36
8/03	127	16
8/10	100	40
8/17	91	44
8/24	104	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!

Next Meeting:



**Sunday,
9/14 @
11:30 am**

**NewsLetter
DEADLINE**

**Friday,
September 12**



Recycle Sunday –September 28th

- 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 , glass bottles and plastic beverage bottles) are best.

Thank you for helping us serve our community!

THE

HERALD

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THANK YOU OUTREACH COMMITTEE!

COOKIN' UP DINNER FOR THE COMMUNITY



The Outreach Committee meets the third Wednesday of each month at 1 pm to plan ways to help our local community, including cooking and serving dinner for those in need. The next meeting is Wednesday, 9/17 at 1 pm in the Chapel. This month's Outreach dinner is Saturday, 9/20. Set-up at 4 pm, serving at 5pm. Can't come help but would like to contribute? See Barbara Bagwell for a list of specific ingredients needed.

TUES., SEPT. 30TH

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

This month, our Administrative Council will be voting to take a proposed leadership restructuring to our annual Charge Conference meeting in November. If you would like to be a part of this conversation, join us in the Chapel at 6:00pm.

Print materials are available through
Pastor Stacy.

