

Upcoming Meetings and Office Announcements

- December 25 Office closed for Christmas
- January 1 Office Closed for New Years
- January 7 Finance Meeting at 6:30 pm church office
- January 7 Trustees Meeting at 7:30 pm church office



Poinsettias can be ordered for placement around the altar for the worship services of December 16, 23, and 24. The cost is \$7.50 and you can donate in honor or in memory of family and friends. Fill in an order slip on Sunday mornings or call the office. The deadline to order is December 12.



United Methodist Chapel of the Valley

1465 E. Madison Ave.
El Cajon CA 92019-1002

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Dated Material



December 2018

UM CHAPEL OF THE VALLEY

Chapel Challenge

From Julie's Journal

The song, *Silent Night*, is celebrating it's 200th anniversary. "For centuries, the song has crossed borders and overcome crises. It connects people no matter their origin, age or religion, and provides a link back to the time during which it was created. 200 years ago, Joseph Mohr, a priest from Salzburg, and Franz Xaver Gruber, a teacher from Upper Austria, sang the song for the very first time at the St. Nikola Church in Oberndorf near Salzburg. The original poem was authored by Joseph Mohr, whereas Franz Xaver Gruber added the melody on his request. Only a few years later, singing families from the Zillertal valley carried the song from Austria into Europe and the rest of the world. Today, the song is performed in over 300 languages and dialects." (www.stillenacht.com) "This hymn has become the best-loved moment of many Christians—even those who only come to church once a year. Something mystical occurs as we light our candles and sing the hope of "calm and bright"—peace and light for the world." (Dr. Marcia McFee, worship design studio) Join us as we are inspired by the stories of this song and celebrate the renewal of love and light for our time and our communities in a worship series designed by Dr. Marcia McFee. This worship series will go through Advent and Christmas. And I am very excited about this series and the many surprises that will be happening .

I also want to invite you to the Blue Christmas service on December 21. On the back of the calendar inside is the information for this service. Please share this information with family and friends who could be helped by the service. Also, we have included a postcard inviting you to our Christmas Eve service. This also is for you or you can share the invitation with your family and friends. Both of these services are going to be very special and a wonderful time to worship God with our family and friends.

This year has been a challenging one for the Elkins family. I am grateful for our church family who has sustained us during this time. We usually have an open house to thank you all and wish you all a very merry Christmas. This year instead, we will be serving a special coffee hour following the worship service on December 23. We hope you will come and enjoy the food and goodies we will be providing as our way to thank you and wish you a Merry Christmas!

I pray you will have a season full of love, light, joy, peace, hope and love!

Together on the Journey! Pastor Julie

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12/2 *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*

Isaiah 2:1-4; 9:2, 6-7

1st Sunday of Advent—Peace

Holy Communion

12/9 *Glories Stream*

Psalms 86:9-11; Luke 2:8-20

2nd Sunday of Advent—Joy

12/16 *Redeeming Grace*

John 1:1-5, 1, 16-17

3rd Sunday of Advent—Love

12/23 *Let Us Sing*

Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 2:1-12

4th Sunday of Advent—Hope

12/24 *Calm and Bright*

Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Eve Service

12/30 *Is Born*

Revelation 21:1-6

1/6 *Shine*

Isaiah 60:1-6

Epiphany and Holy Communion

Faithful Disciples who are Answering the Call to Serve during the month of December. Liturgists and Scripture Readers

2: Candyce Schauer

9: Stuart Harvey and Del Owen

16: Kay Roberts and Arnie Aranico

23: Ed LeClair and Delyth Owen

24: Paul Elkins

30: Stuart Harvey and Arnie Aranico

Jan 6: Candyce Schauer

Your name could appear here. Talk to Pastor Julie.

News from Our Finance Committee

Thank you for everyone's participation in the recent Stewardship Campaign, and for the increase in the number of "pledgers" and the amount of money that has been pledged. As I write this, Thanksgiving is over, but I am still filled with thanks and joy at what we can do! I am particularly thankful to the members of our finance committee, and to Lorraine Lonn, our financial secretary, and Phyllis Lyle, our church treasurer.

This year has been one of many challenges and issues. Yet, much progress has been made, our sanctuary has a new roof and heater, the parsonage has a new roof and the office has a new computer with better software than we had before. California-Pacific Conference assisted the church updating our rolls of church members, and reducing staff and insurance costs. For 2019, the Conference has reduced the amount of benevolences that we pay. The committees and members who govern our church (especially Staff-Parish and Trustees) are welcoming and open to ideas to change the way we do things, so please contact them or Pastor Julie if you have a contribution. Please also consider attending our Church Council meeting in January, where many decisions regarding the life of the church will be made.

Thank you again for your consideration and generosity in supporting our Chapel of the Valley.

Allen Copeland

Chairperson, Finance Committee

COTV Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Julie Elkins

Organist: Mary Ellett

Choir Director: Elaine Harvey

Lay Leader: Paul Elkins

PowerPoint: Delyth Owen

Ushers: Mike Magnuson

Diane Wellman

Henry Brown
Robert and Ellen Draper
Patsy McKinney
Becca McLachlan
Vi Moore
Vera Skulavik
Steve Mohr
Joyce Mohr



Ron Schlichtenmyer & Family
The Elkins and Harlow Family
Friends and family dealing with illness, treatment, and transitions

If you have a prayer concern, please call the church office, or Pastor Julie, or Candy Schauer and we will start the prayer chain (both email and our phone).

Calm and Bright Outreach Care Kits

This year for Advent and to go along with our worship series Calm and Bright, we want to make care kits. We will be collecting the items below and making these kits through the season. We want to spread hope, light, love, joy and peace to 1st responders and also to those that are affected by natural disasters that UMCOR helps. Please bring these items to church with you on Sundays and following church we will put together the kits to be delivered. We will also be collecting money to help send these kits to UMCOR and to purchase items needed that are not brought during Sunday services. Thank you for your generosity in advance to help us spread the light and love of Christ this season.



1st Responders Kit Materials

- Lip balm
- Small pack of tissues
- Protein bars or granola bars
No peanuts
- Individually wrapped beef jerky
- Hand sanitizers
- Mints or packs of gum
- Pens
- 8 oz containers to hold water
- Airborne or vitamin C, emergen-c
- Small bottle of Gatorade or Poweraid



Hygiene Kit Materials

- One hand towel (15 x 25 –17 x 27 inches)
No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels
- One washcloth
No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels
- One comb
Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth
No pocket combs or picks
Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth
- One toenail or fingernail clipper
No emery boards or metal nail files
- Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger)
No Ivory or Jergen's soap
Do not remove from packaging
- One adult toothbrush
Do not remove from packaging
Personal advertising not acceptable
- 10 adhesive bandages (¾ by 3 inches)