



United Methodist Chapel of the Valley
 1465 E. Madison Ave.
 El Cajon CA 92019-1002

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



March 2019

UM CHAPEL OF THE VALLEY

March

Chapel Challenge

From Julie's Journal

I have gone through many emotions since decisions were made at the special called General Conference of the United Methodist Church. (please see the insert for statements of the General Conference) I have been in the depths of grief and loss for the church I have been raised in and have served for all of my life. I have felt love and even joy in the witnesses and their actions at General Conference that God's love and grace still are indeed present in the church. I have felt sorrow, anger, hopelessness, betrayal, loss, hope, faith and resilience...so many emotions and I have questioned my future of serving the church anymore. Yet, I know I must continue to follow my calling to serve God. How that looks in my future I am still prayerfully considering. Yet I know that this Sunday and the Sundays that follow, we at United Methodist Chapel of the Valley will open the doors of the church and worship God who is Love. We will welcome all and love all. And we will continue to make disciples for the transformation of the world through loving and accepting all.

Some of the ways I worked through these emotions I journaled and these are some of my thoughts...Jesus, who is our brother, teacher, leader, Savior, Redeemer, during his time on earth always "erred" on the side of love. He reached out to, sided with, ate with, loved, lifted up those who were viewed in that time as "unclean", "sinners", "less than", "not a part of God's chosen"....

He said, both through his actions and with his words, that they were indeed God's beloved, and redeemed by God's grace and love. Jesus is who I follow and God is who I answer to. And according to Jesus, the totality of the laws, boils down to this, love God with all you are and all that you have and love your neighbor as yourself. That is what I say in my messages and lessons and try to live each and every day. I believe it is my mandate to reach out to, side with, eat with, love and lift up those in the LGBTIA+ community and those who feel harmed by the church, who many in our time (and even the church) see as "unclean", "sinners", "less than", not a part of God's chosen"...I want to say both through my actions and with my words you are God's beloved, you are loved and welcomed into the community of faithful followers of Christ and by me. I will stand with you, I will seek justice with you, I will cry and mourn with you. I am in the valley with you, I will sit by the quiet waters with you so that together we may feel God's refreshing spirit of Grace fill our soul, I will look to the mountain of God's justice with mercy, that together we may seek God's help. You are welcome and loved and valued here in the church where I am currently serving and wherever I serve because together we are children of God, and therefore siblings and members together in the body of Christ.

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- 3/3 *You Glow*
Exodus 34:29-35;
Luke 9:28-36
Communion
- 3/6 *Encountering Jesus: Getting Ready*
Psalm 51
Ash Wednesday
- 3/10 *Encountering Jesus: The Tempter*
Luke 4:1-13
1st Sunday of Lent
- 3/17 *Encountering Jesus: The Women*
2nd Sunday of Lent
- 3/24 *Encountering Jesus: The Lawyers and Pharisees*
3rd Sunday of Lent
- 3/31 *Encountering Jesus: Friends and Family*
4th Sunday of Lent
- 4/7 *Encountering Jesus: The Disciples*
5th Sunday in Lent

(Julie's Journal continued)

So, I pause and watch and wait...I do see some small sprouts of hope and new beginnings. Yet I know there is much work to nourish those very small and fragile sprouts. I will do my best, along with much more proficient gardeners than I, to nourish and water and love that new way to be the community of faith, the "kindom" of God, the church, as God desires. These are some of my thoughts...come and dialogue with me ...I am interested and I care.

Together on the Journey,

Pastor Julie



Pastor's Day of Prayer

This month the Pastor's Day away for prayer is scheduled for March 19. Our Pastor will be away from campus to pray for the church and all persons and situations in need of prayer. If you have prayer concerns to be included in her prayer time, please let the office know by March 18.

An Encountering Jesus Lenten Devotional Book will be available on Ash Wednesday . If you can not come to the service but would like a book, please let Pastor Julie or the church office know and we will get one to you.

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

- 3: Candy Schauer
- 10: Stuart Harvey and Del Owen
- 17: Kay Roberts and Arnie Aranico
- 24: Ed LeClair and Del Owen
- 31: Paul Elkins
- 4/7: Candy Schauer

All Church Meeting

We will be having another church gathering to continue to share about the future path of the church on March 3 following the service. Plan to come and participate.

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
- Steve Mohr
- Joyce Mohr
- Ron Schlichtenmyer



- Renee Calsmer
- Family and Friends of Vera Skalvik
- 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 phone).



Meeting Schedule for March

- March 3 All Church Meeting
- March 11 Finance Meeting 6:30 pm
- March 11 Trustees Meeting 7:30 pm
- March 25 Staff Parish Relations Committee 7:30 pm



Daylight Savings Time on March 10!

Methodists in Motion Relay for Life

We will be having our annual Methodists in Motion Relay team. This year the Relay for Life event is May 4 . We are looking for people to sponsor us and to participate in the days event. There will be more information as the date approaches , we just wanted to have you save the date . Watch for more details and then come and participate!

The annual **FAT TUESDAY** "All-You-Can-Eat" meal is set for Tuesday, March 5, beginning at 6:00 p.m. This will be your last chance to overindulge before the beginning of Lent. Plus there will be entertainment and a talent show suitable for all ages. (You can sign up to be in the talent show on Sundays or by calling the office!) You can expect to heap your plates with sausage, French toast, eggs, pancakes, toppings and more! Coffee, milk and juice will be served.

A sign-up sheet will be available, so that the kitchen crew will know how many persons to provide for. Invite family and friends to this fun and festive event.



Ash Wednesday Service will be on March 6 at 6:00 pm. It is a simple contemplative service with the disposition of ashes and a time of prayer and renewal to help us prepare for the season of Lent. The service will be the start to the Lenten worship series on Encountering Jesus. Please plan to come and start the Lenten season right.