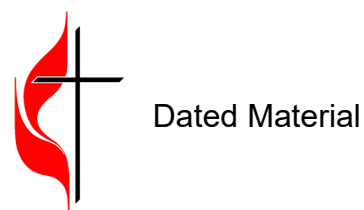




United Methodist Chapel of the Valley
 1465 E. Madison Ave.
 El Cajon CA 92019-1002

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



www.umchapelvalley.org

January 2021

UM CHAPEL OF THE VALLEY

Chapel Challenge

From Julie's Journal

Usually for the January newsletter article, I have traditionally talked about looking back and evaluating and then moving forward and making resolutions. The year 2020 was such a difficult year for so many it is tough to look back and evaluate. I know I was sometimes just doing everything I could to hold on and wait it out. I have heard people talking about doing a re-do or not counting 2020 at all. I know for sure I do not want a re-do and as much as I would love to not count it, I can look back and see that in the midst of many tragic events happening, I have learned valuable information. I know that I have grown stronger in my faith with God being there for me in the depths of the valleys (and there were indeed many!) and God being there during the climbing out of those valleys and even when I reached mountaintops (not quite as many).

In the play Hamilton, the character Angelica, sings a line to Aaron Burr...“You want a revolution, I want a revelation.’ Instead of new resolutions maybe we should look for some God-given revelations. People say they want to go back to normal. I am not sure we can ever go back and even if we could...was it ever normal?”

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Instead, I propose that we look to God for some new revelations about our future forward movement and direction. I know it looks scary but , you know what, it can't be any worse than much of 2020 has been. We have new tools at our disposal to “do church” different...to “do ministry” different. Using our resources in different ways, using our talents (talents we did not even know we had) and combine them with some of the “classic” ways we did ministry to combine into a new and fluid church.

The same can be said about our families and friends. I have friends from back in my college days that live all over the country, we haven't seen each other for years, but since the pandemic, we have been having zoom calls once a month. It has been a blessing and one of our members has MS and is not doing so well and our monthly calls have been so special for her. Using new talents and knowledge combined with classic desire to gather, even if on a zoom call, to get together.

And about all of the resolutions to lose weight, exercise more, read books, organize your house....you now have the time to do all of those things (if you haven't already!)



In January we will still be having our worship experiences on the web and through the devotion guides. Each week we will be having a Zoom "Coffee Time" at 10:00 am. Look for the zoom address on the email or letter that comes with your weekly devotion guide. See you on the web! We will have an in-person worship service on January 10 at 10:30 am. Please look on the other page for details. We will still be having our online presence if you are feeling safer still at home.

- Jan. 3 *Create...Light*
Epiphany
Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12
- Jan. 10 *It's in the Water*
Reaffirmation of Baptism
Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
- Jan. 10 In Person Outdoor Service
- Jan. 17 *Come and See*
John 1:43-51
- Jan. 24 *Soul Alone*
Psalm 65:5-12
- Jan. 31 *PTL: For Real*
Psalm 111
- Feb. 7 *Renew and Soar*
Isaiah 40:21-31

From Julie's Journal

With the vaccines looking promising, albeit a little slower getting to everybody then we would like, 2021 could be a very special year. God is calling us to a new thing. Let us look for the revelations from God and follow the light into our new future. Together on the Journey!
Pastor Julie

I would like to say a very heartfelt thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your Christmas gift was so generous and it went to paying for a portion of a much needed new laser jet printer. Thank you!



Pastor's Day of Prayer

This month the Pastor's Day of Prayer is scheduled for January 14. If you have prayer concerns to be included in her prayer time, please



let the office know by January 13. Please join Pastor Julie in prayer on That day as well.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Katy Elkins	01/04
Barbara Johnson	01/06
Ann McNabb	01/25
Robert & Ellen Draper	01/19

COTV Staff

Pastor:	Rev. Julie Elkins	Lay Leader:	Edna Munro
Organist:	Mary Ellett	Treasurer :	Phyllis Lyle
Choir Director:	Elaine Harvey		

Henry Brown
Robert and Ellen Draper
Patsy McKinney
Becca McLachlan
Vi Moore
Steve Mohr
Donna & Jim Seaton
Renee Calsmer
Lee Carrick
Family of Agustin Valdez
Betty Rudolph



Kay Roberts
All Healthcare workers
1st Responders and all others having to work in different ways
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).

Church Administrative Board Meeting

The Church Administrative Board will be 2 meetings this month. One will be a very short zoom meeting on Thursday, the 7th at 7:00 pm to determine our last 2020 apportionment payment. The second meeting will be our monthly meeting by zoom on January 11 at 7:00 pm. If you do not get the zoom information, please contact Pastor Julie.

In Person Worship Services—January 10

We will be having our monthly in-person worship service on January 10th at 10:30 am. Like the other services, it will be outside. Please bring your own chairs. There unfortunately will be no group singing or recitation allowed. The service will include communion (with individually wrapped communion elements.) The service will be approximately 30-40 minutes and include special music, prayer, scripture, a homily/reflection and communion. Check in begins at 10:00 am. Face coverings must be worn at all times while on the church campus and a minimum of 6 feet of social distance between households will be maintained. The lawn will be clearly marked. Temperature and symptom check screenings are a part of the registration. If there is inclement weather, it will be cancelled. We are following the guidelines of the United Methodist Conference and the County of San Diego. We look forward to worshipping together live and in person. If you still feel the need to stay at home, we will have our regular recording and devotion guidelines sent out.

Pledges and Stewardship

For all who have already returned your pledges for this year (2021) Thank you! We, of course are still accepting them. You can bring them to the outdoor service on January 10 or mail them into the office. If you did not receive one, please contact the office and we will get you one as soon as possible. You are so incredibly faithful during this time and we gratefully appreciate all that you do. As we start this new year, we know this has been such a hard time for so many and we are grateful for the many gifts that have come through. If you would like to start the year with a special gift you can do that and we will gladly accept it. Thank you again for your faithfulness.



The Church office will be closed from January 1st through the 4th and then again on January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.