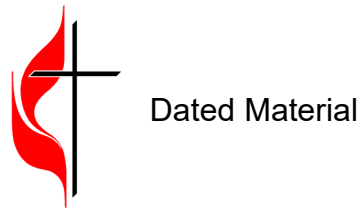




*Autumn shows us
how beautiful it is
to let things go.*

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Oct. and Nov. 2025

UM CHAPEL OF THE VALLEY

Chapel Challenge

From Julie’s Journal

Happy fall y’all! This is our fall edition of the Chapel Challenge. It will tell of the events happening in October and November. I am writing this as I am preparing to go on my much anticipated 40th wedding anniversary trips. I will first be going up to spend time with all of my children and their families in the Anaheim area. As you know, I met Michael in December of 1981 at Disneyland where we were both cast members. We got married on October 12, 1885. This October 12, we will be renewing our wedding vows and then spending the day at Disneyland, including the place where we met, Café Orleans. We have various activities planned in the area and we are looking forward to it. Then we will fly to Maui, Hawaii to spend two weeks there. We went there for our honeymoon and plan on having a wonderful time this time together. I am grateful for all those who are helping the churches while I am gone.

Fall season is a favorite season of mine. I love the changing of the colors (I know we do not get a lot of that in California). I love football season. I love (at least this year) baseball championship season. I love that things are starting new. One thing about fall season as the leaves start to fall and the summer heat starts to die down, it still looks like something new and different is brewing. As we “rake away” the leaves that have fallen, we know that the trees are just getting ready for winter and the cooler months. The energy is pulled into the tree’s core to conserve that energy. This is so the tree can protect itself from harsh conditions to get ready for the spring and new growth. Many think

Inside this issue:

Julie’s Journal and Prayer Time	1, 2
Worship Themes	2
Prayer Concerns and Prayer Chain Info	3
Church meetings	2
Scarecrow Fest	2
Advent Preview	3
Birthday and Anniversaries	3

the fall colors that are produced are beautiful, perhaps the most beautiful of the tree’s cycles...others see that the leaves just drop and it needs to be raked and it is all a bother. Yet, if you know of the work that is being done in the core of the tree, it is important work as the tree, is getting ready. It must spend the winter building the nutrients for its new phase of life. To many, the tree looks dead and lifeless, but it is doing the important work of resting and changing and growing from within.

I believe that we are all like the trees. We have periods of budding and growing, then stretching and continuing to grow with so much energy, then turning colors and going into self protection mode and may look our best. Then we get ready for winter, where life can be hard and it look like we are dying from the outside, our bodies our weary and ragged, yet we are resting and getting ready for what comes next. The church is like that too. We are definitely in the fall phase moving to the winter phase....yet I see the potential to wait and prepare for what comes next! God has plans for us. God is not finished with us. I believe that to my core, which is where the Spirit resides. It is gaining the energy it needs to do the good work of great growth!

May we all have a wonderful fall! I will see you when I get back and we can begin to dream about the “what’s next” phase. See you around town!

Together on the Journey!
Pastor Julie



Worship 11:00 a.m.

Oct. 5 *The Meal* 1 Cor. 11:23-26

World Communion

Oct. 12 *When We Serve* JoDee Rich
Preaching **Laity Sunday**

Oct. 19 *Hymn Sing*

Oct. 26 *Andrew Strother Preaching*

Nov. 2 *Look Up* **All Saints Day**
Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Starting on Nov. 9 we will be having an extended Advent season) with the theme : Once Upon a Time in Bethlehem and Beyond

Nov. 9 *Carriers of the Story*
Psalm 78:1-7; Deut. 6:4-9

Nov. 16 *Called to Tell It;*
Exodus 3:1-12; Luke 4:16-21

Nov. 23 *Making Room for the Story*
Isaiah 40:1-11; Luke 1:5-25

Nov. 30 *The Story Begins with a Whisper* Luke 1:26-38

Dec. 7 *The Story Travels with Us*
Luke 1:39-56 **Communion**

Dec. 14 *The Story Brings Joy*
Luke 2:1-7

Dec. 21 *The Story is For Everyone*
Luke 2:8-20

Dec. 24 *The Story Comes to Life*
Luke 2:1-20; John 1:1-14

Dec. 28 *The Story is Recognized*
Luke 2:22-40



Pastor's Day of Prayer

The Pastor will be having her monthly day of prayers on October 30 and November 24. If you have prayer requests, please get them to her by the day before prayer day.. You are also invited to pray for her on that day as well.



Come and Join in the Fun

The Chapel of the Hills is having their second annual Scarecrow Festival on November 8th from 11:00 am until 3: pm. There will be hayrides, a hay maze, games for the kids, a DIY scarecrow festival contest. There will be various vendors selling their wares and also, a swap meet component as well (people selling their gently used treasures). There will be food and entertainment featuring John Nilsen. It will be a great time.

If you would like to participate by being a vendor or having a booth for your used treasures, please contact Yvonne at the church office of Chapel of the Hills at [Chapelofthehill-scumc@gmail.com](mailto:scumc@gmail.com) or 619-445-3617.

COTV Staff

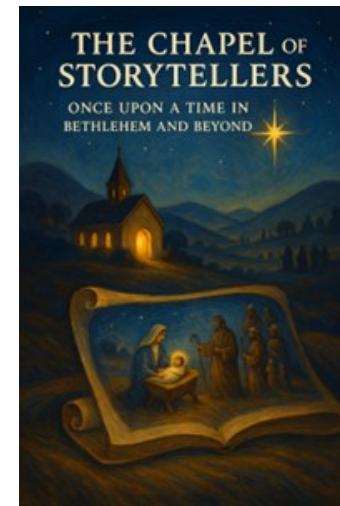
Pastor: Rev. Julie Elkins
Lay Leader: JoDee Rich
Organist: Mary Ellett
Custodian: Andy Phimmasone

Renee Calsmer
Kathie Carrick
Kathryn McCreary
Ann Pickard
David Rudolph
Diane Watters



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).



Coming in November and December

This year, we will journey together as **A Chapel of Storytellers**. We are more than listeners—we are *participants* in the sacred story of Christ's coming. This extended season allows us to slow down, prepare our hearts, and not just hear the Christmas story again, but *live it, tell it, and pass it on*. Through a "Sacred Prologue" (three weeks prior to traditional Advent), we'll explore how God forms us as people who remember, prepare, and speak the story. Then, through Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, we will move into the heart of the Gospel story—placing ourselves within it and bearing witness to the living Christ among us.

We are all storytellers. And this is the story that changes everything. Come hear and participate in *Once Upon a Time in Bethlehem and Beyond*.



Please join us for the Celebration of Life for Rebecca McLachlan. Her service of remembrance is scheduled for November 1 at 1:00 p.m.

Put This On Your Calendar!

Be sure to put on your calendar Chapel of the Hills' Christmas Land of Light and Joy for the third year. Save the date of December 13 from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. You can stroll through an elaborate land filled with lights and inflatables. You can meet and take pictures with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus. There will be treats and hot cocoa. Plan to come and be a part of this beautiful event.

October and November Birthdays and Anniversaries

10/10 Ed LeClair
10/10 Jon Seaton
10//17 Don Pearce
10/22 Linda Dozier
11/02 Julie Elkins
11/15 Jay Jones
11/16 Janice Karns
11/27 Randa D'Aoust



10/12 Michael & Julie Elkins

Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2 this year. Do not forget to set your clocks back.



Church Meeting

We will not be having an October CAB meeting while Pastor Julie is gone. When she gets back, we should know our church conference date and will schedule the board meeting as appropriate to that gathering. Please watch for details for both our church conference and our CAB meeting schedule.

