



Northridge United Methodist Church

March 2024

Volume 41, Issue 3



A Disciple's Path
Sundays during Lent
(March 3, 10, 17 & 24)
8:30 AM in the Church Library

A Bake Sale
Sunday, March 17th
9:30 AM to 2 PM
in Fellowship Hall

Palm/Passion Sunday
Combined Service
Sunday, March 24th
11 AM in the Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday
Thursday, March 28th
6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall

Good Friday Service
Friday March 29th
7 PM in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday
Sunday, March 31st
6 AM Sunrise Service
10 AM Sunday Service
11:30 AM Korean Service

**Northridge
United Methodist Church**

9650 Reseda Blvd.
Northridge, CA 91324
(818) 886-1555

www.northridgeumc.org

office@northridgeumc.org

*To celebrate God's grace and love
while inspiring disciples of Jesus Christ
for ministry in our community and the world.*

Senior Pastor.....Rev. Douglas Dickson
Associate Pastor..... Rev. Ralph Kwon
Communication Ministry Coordinator
.....Suhyun Kwon
Office/Campus Administrator
.....Peggy Walters
H.R. Coordinator.....Elizabeth Beckman
Treasurer.....Joyce Scanlin
Dir. of Preschool.....Debbie Goodman
Dir. of Music.....Dr. Garineh Avakian
Section Leaders.....Monika Bruckner (Alto)
Michaela Metivier (Soprano)
Jacob Stucki (Baritone)
Timothy J. Simon (Tenor)
Organist/Dir. of Handbells.....Dr. Joseph Lee
Sound Technician.....Russ Pedigo
Sunday School Teacher.....Kay Holmen
Sunday Childcare..... Bonnie Sanchez
Custodian.....Jorge Alvarado
Sunday Custodian.....Salman Yates

Sunday Worships
10:00 AM (English)
11:30 AM (Korean)L

Celebrations

Jazz Vespers on **March 10, 6 PM** in the Sanctuary

“Hear the Word of God through Music and Art.”

The Louis Van Taylor Quintet

No Tickets Necessary. Freewill offering.

Videos of all services are archived on YouTube.

<https://youtube.com/northridgeumc>

Prayer

Rev. Kee Chul Nam,
Kaitlyn Wright, Anita Ruiz,
Carol Allen, Linda Kahmann,
Christine Coons, Sue Fritsche,
Ginny Johnson, Randy Wiafe,
Margaret Thomas, Jack Kister,
George Bilenjian, Wayne Aller,
Saundra Blankenship,
Cari Banke-Warder,
Dr. Bruce Warder,
Ardarita Konialian,
Darlene Averetta,
Silvia Andresen

Upcoming Sermons

March 3 (Communion Sunday)

“Get Out There!”

John 4:5-15

March 10

“Being Christ to the World”

John 3:14-21

March 17

“Making Preparations for the Future”

John 12:1-8

March 24 (Palm Sunday) 11 AM

“Palm Sunday Celebration”

Matthew 21:1-11

March 31 (Easter Sunday)

“He Is Risen Indeed!!!”

Luke 24:1-12

Pastor's Corner

I love the month of March! As the temperatures rise to a comfortable level and the flowers begin to blossom I absolutely enjoy spending time outdoors. The thing about March is that the evenings are still chilly even with the blessedly warm days. This year, March is different... this year, March contains the celebration of resurrection, not simply as the wildlife and fauna re-emerge from the cold Winter, but more importantly the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, our Lord—our Savior.



In Christian tradition, during the Lord's Supper we proclaim the Mystery of Faith, "Christ has died; Christ is Risen; Christ will come again!" The middle phrase has long been viewed as both the most vital and most complex statement that bears the core of our beliefs and faith. The resurrection of Jesus is, in fact, the primary and most vital function of our faith! In what form Jesus rose from the dead is still debated to this day and will likely be until the end of time.

One often missed points of the statement that Christ is indeed risen is the very real presence of Christ in our midst now and evermore. The proclamation is not that, "Christ was risen." The phrasing is, "Christ is risen." He remains with us today and everyday until the end of time.

The resurrection of Jesus also helps us to know that there is resurrection of ourselves as well. Because Jesus rose (Paul calls him "the firstborn among the dead") we can trust that we, too, will rise. In other words, Jesus become the testimony to the world that there is indeed life after death.

This Easter I encourage you to consider how you live in the knowledge and trust of the resurrection of Jesus, the Christ. How does the immediate presence of Jesus in the your life transform how you live? How you treat other? How you care for yourself? And how does your knowledge that there is life following death change how you move forward in life? How you view death? What remains important to you?

This Easter, consider what it means to live 'eternally' in the here and now. God bless you all. I look forward to seeing you on Easter Sunday!

—**Douglas Dickson** (Senior Pastor)

Pastor's Corner

Even If You Are Compelled to Carry the Cross

Lent is an important season for believers in Jesus. This is because by observing Lent, one can fully understand the true meaning of Easter and completely rejoice.

I also have a Bible verse that particularly resonates with me during this Lent. It is "Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" (Matthew 20:22b, NRSV) When I deeply pondered these words, Simon of Cyrene suddenly came to mind. In Mark 15:21, it is recorded that Simon of Cyrene was compelled to carry Jesus' cross.



Today's pastoral letter will share three reflections on Simon of Cyrene carrying the cross. First, In the case of Simon of Cyrene, carrying the cross was an unexpected event. It was a task completely different from his original purpose in Jerusalem. However, Simon left a great legacy in helping the Son of God, Christ. Sometimes, God's work involves unexpected events that are not part of our plans. Yet, we can see that this path is a blessed one opened by God for the salvation of others.

Secondly, the incident experienced by Simon of Cyrene was a difficult one. It was a painful experience to bear the cross of the prisoner while being a spectacle for the onlookers, and the cross used for the execution was very heavy. Being led out to face the Romans who invaded his country was a disgraceful act on a national level. It was mentally and physically agonizing as well, yet it was a divine calling and became a glorious path.

Thirdly, the fact that Simon of Cyrene took up the cross instead brought salvation to the entire family. According to Romans 16:13, Simon of Cyrene's two sons, Alexander and Rufus, became faithful Christians and served as workers in the church, helping Paul and the apostles.

Therefore, during this Lenten season, we should meditate on the fact that small offerings like material possessions, time, dedication, and love, even when given hesitantly like Simon, can be used by God to accomplish great things.

Jesus is still questioning many Christians today, asking "Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?" We hope that our answer will be "Yes, we can drink it" as our confession in the name of the Lord.

—Ralph Kwon (Associate Pastor)

Snippets of Campus Activity

Our “Good Times Farmers Market”...

Congratulations sure go to Roger (the dad) and Roger (the son) for arranging for all the permits and vendors that make up our Farmers Market. The market has been held every Saturday from 5 AM till 9 PM in our north parking lot. The vendors of food and drink often include, just to name a couple, The Roaming Thai Kitchen, the Salvi Soul Pupusas truck, El Chaparrito Tacos, the JamaicaMeKrazee natural food juices. There's fresh made pizza, pupusas, custom milk shakes. Other vendors include goat's milk soap, massage, freeze dried candy, (this week) Girl Scouts with cookies, (every week) homemade honey, sports memorabilia, jewelry, hand-made soap, toys for kids and pets and occasional specials. Some weeks there's a car show from a local car club. In February we were visited by the Grupo Folklorico de West Los Angeles dance group, featuring Aztec dances. Their performance was colorful and energetic, exploring a type of dance rooted in history. Maybe the trickiest part of enjoying the events at the Farmers Market is that you don't really know what will be available each week, as vendors may not be available each time. And a performance by a dance group is likely a one-time event. The best answer is to drop in each week to find vendors you expect to see, and to discover new vendors, new exhibits and new presentations. Roger and Roger are working to make every Saturday eventful and satisfying.

—Dusty Stiles (Chair of Trustees)





Save the Date!

Palm Sunday Combined Service & New Members' Sunday —March 24th at 11 AM

Palm Sunday celebrates the day that many in Jerusalem joined together to proclaim Jesus as the Christ, the Messiah, their Lord. Coming up in March will be a day for all of us to do the same. As our choir leads us in worship and song, we will be receiving new members at Northridge UMC during the Sunday worship service. If you haven't had the opportunity to join NUMC and would like to become a member, please notify our church office by filling out the New Member Information that is available in the Narthex or church office and be sure to be present for our March 24th service where all will be invited to join in membership.



Holy Week Services

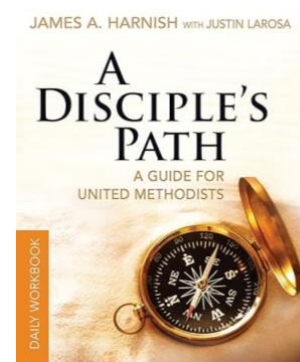


Easter comes early this year! March 31st is the day to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. The week prior to Easter will begin with a special Palm Sunday celebration featuring our church's music department. Maundy Thursday, March 28th, will feature a special communion celebration as we recount the Lord's Supper. The following day, Good Friday, will take a

reflective look at the death of Jesus and meanings behind Jesus' revealing words on the cross. Be sure to join us for all of our times of worship and reflection during Holy Week.

A Disciples Path: Marks of a Christian Disciple from a Biblical and Wesleyan Perspective

Join us each Sunday during Lent in for "A Disciple's Path" as we look at the Wesleyan perspective on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. This class is for all persons and begins at 8:30 AM on Sundays in the Church Library and will continue through Lent. This class functions as a New Member Class as well so anyone interested in joining the church should try to attend. Don't miss this ground-breaking perspective on God's grace and Christian discipleship! Join us each Sunday during Lent! (March 3, 10, 17 & 24)



(Continued)

A Bake Sale on Sunday, March 17th, 9:30 AM to 2 PM in Fellowship Hall

Attention All Bakers!!!

The new you of the Northridge united women in faith (NUWF) is planning a bake sale on Sunday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) from 9:30 AM until 2 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Your culinary help is needed to make the sale a success. Proceeds go to the missions that the NUWF support. So, roll up your sleeves, look for grandmas' old recipes, turn on the oven and start having fun.

The baked goods should be at Fellowship Hall no later than 9:30 AM on Sunday morning.

Please let Dorine Collins know if you will be baking!

House Phone: (818) 993-7939

Text: (818) 469-7226

Email: jauntydor@aol.com



CSUN Foster Youth

Seventeen CSUN foster students joined us for a Valentine's Day baking and decorating class. Special students. A very special day.

The number of foster youth at CSUN is growing, so are the needs of their pantry. We are the only group supplying those needs. If each family or individual could donate just one item each month, we could make an even greater difference. Thank you for your consideration and generous support. For further information please contact Shiela Attarian.

-Shiela Attarian

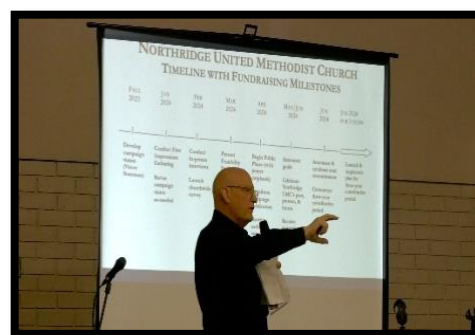


From the NUMC Video Library...

This month we replay a current event; we look at the First Impressions Meeting. Pastor Doug Dickson of NUMC and Don Smith of Horizons Stewardship present the beginning session of preparations for the NUMC Capital Campaign. Also, Greg Norberg and Dusty Stiles present a summary of the Church's recent campus repair activity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4IL2qP1mwQ>

-Dusty Stiles (Chair of Trustees)





3 월 교회 소식지

- 1 장- 3 월 교회 행사를 소개하는 장입니다. (오른쪽: 사역자 명단)
- 2 장- Jazz Vespers 연주가 3 월 10 일 (주일) 오후 6 시 예배당에서 있습니다. / 3 월 설교 제목, 성경 본문 / 중보 기도 명단
- 3 장- 담임목사님의 목회 칼럼입니다. 이번 3 월은 부활 주일이 있는 달이기도 합니다. 이번 부활절에는 우리에게 '영원히' 살아가는 것이 무엇을 의미하는지 생각해 보시고 하나님의 축복이 모든 분들에게 임하시길 소원합니다.
- 4 장- 부목사님의 목회 칼럼입니다. "억지로 진 십자가라 할지라도?" 라는 제목으로 구레네 시몬이 십자가를 지는 사건을 설명합니다. 사순절 동안 우리가 묵상해야 할 것은 시몬처럼 머뭇거리면서, 억지로 내놓는 작은 물질, 시간, 헌신 사랑일지라도 하나님께서는 그것들을 통해 큰 일을 행하시는 분이라는 것을 기억하시며 의미 있게 보내시길 소원합니다.
- 5 장- 우리 교회의 근황을 소개하는 장으로, Farmers Market 을 소개합니다. 매주 토요일 오후 5-9 시까지 교회 주차장에서 열리고 신선한 농산물과 먹거리를 즐길 수 있고 무엇보다 지역 사회에 도움이 될 수 있는 활동에 많은 참여 바랍니다.
- 6 장- 3 월 24 일 종려주일은 연합예배로 오전 11 시 예배당에서 드립니다. 새로운 교인들을 환영하는 자리이며 성가대가 예배를 인도합니다. / 고난 주간 예배: 종려주일 예배 오전 11 시 예배당 (3/24), 성목요일 예배 오후 6:30, 친교실 (3/28), 성금요일 예배 오후 7 시 예배당 (3/29), 부활절 새벽 예배 오전 6 시 친교실 앞 마당, 오전 10 시 예배당 (영어) 오전 11:30, 예배당 (한국어) 에서 드립니다.
- 7 장- 여선교회 Bake 세일이 3 월 17 일 오전 9 시 30 분부터 오후 2 시까지 친교실에서 있습니다. 참여를 희망하시는 분들은 Dorine Collins 에게 연락해 주시기 바랍니다. / CSUN Foster Youth 에 많은 관심 부탁드립니다.
- 9 장- 우리 교회 성가대 지휘자 지도 아래, 어린이 성가대가(5-12 살), 3 월 7 일 목요일 오후 6 시 30 분부터 시작합니다.
- 10 장- 교회 운영을 위한 기금 모금 행사인 병코 게임파티가 (주사위 놀이) 4 월 6 일 토요일 오후 3 시 친교실에서 있습니다.
- 11 장- 교회 소식지에 광고 심기를 원하시는 분은 LPi, Michelle Jacobs 에게 연락해 주시기 바랍니다. 광고 심기를 희망하시는 분이 많을 수록, 매달 발행되는 교회 소식지를 무료로 받아 보실 수 있습니다.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR



WHEN?

THURSDAYS

6:30PM-7:15PM

Rehearsals begin March 7, 2024

WHERE?

**NORTHRIDGE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

9650 RESEDA BLVD. NORTHRIDGE CA 91326

WHO?

CHILDREN AGES 5-12

WITH?

**DR. GARINEH "GAGA" AVAKIAN
DIRECTOR**



Free Admission/ Call to Sign up

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Lets Play

BUNCO PARTY

Join us for a FUN afternoon
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Our Church Operations

Saturday, April 6, 2024

3 PM

in Fellowship Hall

\$20/person

Snacks, prizes, all ages welcome!

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PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated

Michelle Jacobs from LPi, our newsletter printer, will be securing new ads for our center in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our center thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our newsletter successful, and you attract customers!

Newsletter advertising

is a cost-effective way to advertise 12 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, members will support you!

Digital advertising allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a center profile page on OurSeniorCenter.com — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!



Michelle Jacobs
(800) 950-9952 x2215
MJacobs@4LPi.com

Michelle Jacobs from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation



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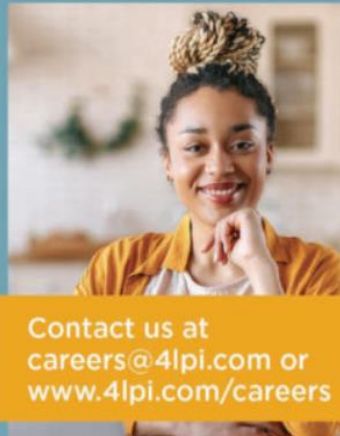
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CONTACT ME

Dave Hyde

dhyde@4LPi.com

(800) 950-9952 x5820

