A welcoming family of Christian faith for all people.

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The next Circuit Rider will go out JAN. 27th
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DATED MATERIAL
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JANUARY EVENTS

Every week
Tuesdays @ 11:15 exercise in choir room
Tuesdays @ noon golden agers in fireside room:
Fridays @ 10:00 Bible Study in fr. Bring a bible.
See Sheryl Meadows for details. Fun for all!

Jan. 6: UMW Unit meeting & installation @ 10:00
Jan. 6: Paper Drive @ 8:30
Jan. 7: Trustees in lounge @ 11:30
Jan. 13: All church work day @ 8:30
Jan. 16: All church meeting @ 7:30 in FR
Jan. 18: Maggie-lu fellowship @ 10:00 in FR
Jan. 20: UMM breakfast @ 7:30 in FH
Jan. 27: North District Workshops @ Northridge
Jan. 28: UMW Sunday Service
Jan. 30: umw exec board @ 10:00 in lounge

Upcoming in February:
Feb. 3: paper drive @ 8:30
Feb. 8: UMW unit meeting @ 10:00 in fh
Feb. 10: UMM Sweeheart Breakfast
Feb. 11: Scouting Sunday
Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday

Today she is considered quite the feminist. For many years she was considered by the church to be a prophetess. In 2012 Pope Benedict had her name entered into the catalog of saints. Later that same year he named Hildegard a 'Doctor of the Church', making her one of only 4 women to be so honored, the others being Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena, and Therese of Lisieux.

There is a great book out titled "50 Women every Christian Should Know". As time and space allow, you will be introduced to one of these women every month, starting with Hildegard. I hope you enjoy learning about them all.
Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

Hildegard was the tenth child in her family, and as such was “tithed” to the church as a child. She officially entered a convent at age 16, and became a Benedictine nun, and later she was elected Abbess of the same convent, in 1136.

It was about the time Hildegard became Abbess that she started having visions similar to what she had experienced as a child. Now she was old enough to understand that these visions were interpretations of Scriptures. She also heard a call to “Say and Write What You See and Hear”.

Considering the time during which she lived, this proved to be somewhat challenging. At that time males were educated, but Hildegard, not being a male, had only a rudimentary knowledge of German and Latin. Driven by the visions and her inability to comply, she reached out to a male friend and confidante, who negotiated with the Pope permission for her to do this writing. She went on to write (with help) three comprehensive theological works.

In her lifetime Hildegard von Bingen became ariter, composer, naturalist, theologian, abbess, and a visionary. Reading her resume, one might think she lived in the 21st century, which is quite remarkable, considering she was born more than 900 years ago, in a time when most women could not read or write,
NORTH DISTRICT TRAINING WORKSHOPS

On Saturday, January 27, a series of workshops is being offered by the North District at Northridge UMC. All are invited to go to these workshops, at a minimal cost of $15, which will include lunch. Registration is open on January 3rd.

The topics for the workshops will include:
- Worship Music Transitions
- Staff Parish Relations
- Tables 1, 2, 3 Reports Training
- Human Trafficking—the church needs to respond
- Ways to help people with disabilities belong
- Youth and young adult ministries
- Local church social media
- Clergy and Staff Benefits
- Worship Team Building
- Church Facility Use Guidelines
- Evangelism in the Print and Digital Age

Look for the registration forms in the narthex, or check with the church office if you do not see any. All are welcome. Deadline for the early bird price is January 19th.

ELANE’S BIRTHDAY

Elane Pierce celebrated her 90th birthday in December and her sons threw a big celebration! Below are just a couple of photos to share with those who were unable to make it.

Our Christmas baby doesn’t look a day over 80. Be sure to give her your best wishes.
Saturday, January 6th, will be a program that will include the installation by the North District President, Amybeth Lake, of the officers for the new year. We will be having several guests, as the North District Executive Team will be meeting after. All women are welcome to join us for brunch and meeting. Call if you need a ride to or from. Sheryl Meadows 818-521-2032 or the church office 818-344-7035.

Sunday, January 25th, we will celebrate UMW Sunday. Our speaker will be Heather Wilson, who has spoken at the church in the past.

Help Wanted

Are you willing to be an usher or as greeter? Talk to Sheryl Meadows or Jerry Gable to find out more and to volunteer. NOT a fulltime job.

Food Pantry News

Looking for a few good helpers. Long time worker Joe left to move up north, closer to family. He has left a big hole in the workforce. Fran is looking for people willing to help pick up bread and other items. She also needs help on Wednesdays, as Joe used to keep an eye on things, help check folks in, and help to maintain order. Interested? See Fran Wildroud on church on Sunday or call her at 818-342-6368.

Winter Camp

Is on its way! Save the Date: February 10-11 at Wrightwood. More details to come
**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Bill Calkins is continuing to recover. You can call or send cards. Check before considering a visit.

Please provide the church office (or Sheryl) with your joys and concerns to be included in the next Circuit Rider. If we do not hear about them, we cannot include them.

**ESTIMATE OF GIVING**

As of this printing, I am pleased to announce that the estimate of giving for 2018 from the pledge cards is $62,498. It is not too late to turn one in. See an usher any Sunday or call the office to have one sent to you.

**IMPORTANT!**

Do you have suggestions for articles for the Circuit Rider? Please let Sheryl Meadows or the office know.

If you do not want your birthday or anniversary to be published, please call the office or let Sheryl Meadows know.

The same holds true if you are unsure if we have the correct dates and you wish them to appear.

**CHRISTMAS OUTREACH**

This year’s Christmas Outreach program was a great success. It was held on Saturday, December 16th.

As you can see, our Santa was a great success. He is one of our own members, and makes the perfect Santa Claus! I just will not reveal our Santa’s true identity for those who do not know.

Stuffed toys were handed out to each child, as well as to the Head Start children. A big thanks to Julie Altamirano and her PetSmart store for the great donations!