

Reflection

Dr. Beth Bingham ~ Senior Minister

OUR STORY

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Before computers colleges used to let students know whether or not they were accepted for admission by sending letters. And you didn't have to open the letter to know whether or not you got in.

Acceptances came in fat envelopes filled with materials for incoming students. Rejections envelopes were thin. Carefully and politely worded "I am sorry to inform you but.." messages easily fit on one page.

I was waiting to hear from the Lily Foundation about the sabbatical grant I applied for this spring. A letter would be sent to the church in August.

And it came. But I almost missed it. Because it was so thin. They were very sorry that they couldn't fund the grants of everyone who applied but they encouraged our church to apply again in the future. In other words—I didn't get the grant.

Honestly, I knew it was a long shot and I wasn't really expecting the grant. And just as honestly, I was disappointed. But the ideas that emerged in preparing the grant are still important. Pilgrim is a gift to our community and we will explore how our church can become its "sacred center." There are so many exciting possibilities before us.

Our chapel is renovated. We have a labyrinth which we must use more frequently. There is interest in forming small prayer groups. We have an extraordinary number of writers and artists and

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REFLECTIONS (continued from Page 1)

musicians whose creativity expressions are truly sacred. The energy in our ministry to children and youth is infectious and we look forward to welcoming many young lives into our midst.

So, let's be ready to celebrate our faith, and to share our faith, and to deepen our faith together! For we live in a world which desperately needs the words of hope and promise made known to us. Our prayer is for God to grant us the strengthen and joy to make that happen.

BIBLE STUDY AND IMAGINATION HOUR ARE BACK ON SEPTEMBER 14!

WE'RE BACK!!! From 5:45 to 6:45 every Tuesday, beginning on September 14 (except for October 10 during Rummage week), children and youth will gather with Chris for fun and imaginative activities. At the same time there will be a Bible study about the Scripture for the coming Sunday. We have great conversations and welcome everyone to join us.

Caregiver Support Group: September 18

Our Caregiver Support Group is resuming their regular meeting schedule on Monday, September 18 at 7 p.m. This is an important opportunity for those who are caring for others directly, or who have the responsibility for the care of another. We share resources and offer support as well as the deep understanding of the stresses and pressures that caregivers experience.

Please invite any friends you know who could benefit from time with people who share what they are going through as a caregiver. We meet at 7 p.m. in the conference room and welcome all!

COMPELLING CONVERSATIONS; October 1 and October 29 ***A Nation Divided?***

It is a policy of our church, and within our National Association of Congregational Christian Churches that we do not preach politics from the pulpit. We deeply respect the wide range of ideas and perspectives within our congregation. However we do believe that our faith affects the decisions we make. So our Compelling Conversation series is where we share our ideas in civil discourse with open heart and listening ears. Each time we gather we think about an question that seems particularly important at that time. So our first "Compelling Conversation will be "A Nation Divided?" We meet in the conference room at 11:20 after church. There are always light refreshment too. At that meeting we will also think about what issues we want to explore in the future. Each session begins by looking at appropriate Scripture, and then sharing our own experiences. Join us and bring your thinking mind your listening heart and your faithful soul

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At the congregational meeting where the responsibility for serving as the moderator of Pilgrim Congregational Church was transferred to me, I challenged Pilgrim's members, friends, and attendees to join in prayer for the church and its future growth. Pray for our pastor and staff, the officers and members of our boards and committees, our members and attendees, and for the individuals in our communities who need to experience the love and grace of God through Jesus

Christ and his church. As an interim pastor some years ago, I led a church in a study to help them prepare for their future. One of the things emphasized in that study was this: "The world does not need to see what this church can do. The world needs to see what only God can do." The first step toward seeing what only God can do in and through our church is uniting in prayer.

One of my goals as moderator is to attend meetings of the different boards and committees. I have so far been able to attend a meeting of the Trustees and a meeting of the Membership Committee. My personal schedule and work schedule for August has been unbelievably hectic, and September looks to be the same, but as I am able, I will continue. I want to learn more about the church's various ministries and the individuals who make things happen for all of us.

It was my privilege to represent the church at the annual meeting of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches at Piedmont College in Demorest, Georgia. I was proud that Pilgrim had one of the largest delegations, and I was inspired by the speakers, workshops, and the mission project that united the adults, young adults, and youth. Next year the meeting will be in San Diego. If you have never attended a meeting, I believe you would be blessed.

The next Church Council meeting will be Wednesday, September 6. Remember anyone is welcome to attend, and you will get a better idea of the work that goes on "behind the scenes" to continue the church's ministry to our community and the world.

See you on Sunday,
Keith Eades, Moderator

ANNUAL AUCTION ANNOUNCED: Sunday, November 12 5 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel n Claremont WE NEED YOU!

Planning is just beginning for our annual auction which is an evening of great fun and fellowship as well as an important fundraiser for our church. We have both silent and voice auctions and "opportunity drawings" which give everyone a chance to win.

What can you do to help? 1). Donate an item or a service or a ticket. We love getting weekends away, tickets for concerts and sporting events, as well as quality items which you may not need anymore but somebody else does. 2). Get out and get stuff! Visit your favorite establishments, stores, restaurants and ask them to donate something from their inventory, or a gift card. Cash donations are always welcome too. 3) You can help set up and clean up. 4). You can help with decorations. 4). You can invite your friends!

Please join us!

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THE POWER OF LOVE AND PRAYER IS EVIDENT AT PILGRIM LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT HAS HAPPENED



Congratulations to Candace & Brian they were married on February 25, 2017 with their proud parents, members Judy & Don Sanders pictured in Dole Court. Meet Sanders & Sanders.

Landon Olson made his debut on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 weighing 6 lbs, 9 oz. and 18 3/4 inches long . Parents are Jennifer and Andrew. His big brother Preston, Aunt Meggen and grandfather Jon Olson welcomed him into the family.

Aunt Meggen has been busy with various knitting projects for him to grow into!



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Thank you to everyone who shared in our special day! (May 27, 2017)
We are blessed to be part of such an amazing church family at Pilgrim!

Love, Ryan and Mary Prendergast



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HIGHLIGHTS FROM C.E. SUNDAY 2017

By Sara Campbell

Pilgrim Congregational Church's Annual Christian Education Sunday was very eventful with celebration, gratitude and praise led by our youth. The morning started with Christian Campbell committing himself to his Faith and Church through a Confirmation Ceremony. Also, 3 of our younger youth, Madyson Casner, Samantha Campbell and Carina Caballero (photographed in that order) received their bibles amidst thoughtful words and prayer



Christian Campbell being blessed by Dr. Bingham and Chris Williams.



Following these ceremonies, the Pilgrim Youth, Carina, Cynthia and Mark Caballero, Madelyn and McKenzie Eriksen, Christian and Samantha Campbell and Kodie Grey performed the musical "SAM" and was accompanied by the piano music of John Olson. Solos were performed by Cynthia and Carina Caballero and Madelyn Eriksen. We are very proud of our youth as they have proven themselves to be hard workers and dedicated to their Faith.



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HIGHLIGHTS FROM C.E. SUNDAY 2017

Continued from Page 6

Despite the oldest participating youth being 14 and our youngest being four they had all their parts, songs and direction memorized and performed perfectly, even our littlest angel McKenzie. After the play, the CE Board thanked all of our Sunday School volunteers. Following services everyone enjoyed a BBQ and comedic fundraiser by Chris Williams and older youth for NAPF conferences. If you missed this joyous event keep your eyes out for future youth events such as Rally Sunday, Harvest Festival and the annual Christmas Play.

Pictures from the musical "SAM"



ACTORS

Carina Caballero
Cynthia Caballero
Mark Caballero
Christian Campbell
Samantha Campbell
Madelyn Eriksen
Kodie Gray



MUSIC MAN

John Olson
(not pictured)



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PILGRIM'S SUMMER

In case you wondered what our Director of Music does on her time off, well she “hangs 10” in Hawaii with her daughter, Angela, son-in law Robert and Dominic. Sue Winckler with daughter, son-in-law Robert and 3 year old Dominic on Hawaiian vacation. Luau dancers complete the picture.



1969 Director Don Keepers and wife Doreen. "The sheriff there to protect the ladies". Cedar Lake Camp

L.A. COUNTY FAIR TICKETS

Good news Pilgrims! We have \$12 any day tickets for the L. A. County which begins on Labor Day weekend. Their theme this year is DARE TO FAIR.

After Labor Day weekend the Fair will be open Wednesdays through Sundays (closed Monday & Tuesday.) Wednesdays are senior days and admission for those over 60 is FREE between noon and 3pm only, otherwise Wednesday senior admission is \$10. Other days it is \$15. Otherwise check with Megan in the library for the \$12 tickets good any day. Parking is \$15.

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THE CEDAR LAKE CAMP EXPEREIENCE



Kodie Gray, Max Stillions, Mark Caballero



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CONGRATULATIONS to Kristi Hutchinson. She was named one of the Top Ten Workers' Compensation attorneys in the entire state of California!



BEST WISHES TO LORETTA BARKER IN HER NEW HOME
Loretta Barker, a Pilgrim since 1949, has moved to Oregon. We wish her much happiness on her new adventure.

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

JONATHAN E. SHERIN, M.D., Ph.D., Director
ROBIN KAY, Ph.D., Chief Deputy Director
RODERICK SHANER, M.D., Medical Director



SAVE THE DATE

SGV Faith-Based Breakfast Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 28, 2017

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Pilgrim Congregational Church
600 N. Garey Ave.
Pomona, CA 91767

Presentation topic: Life Transitions
(Family Issues & Developmental Stage Issues)

Presented by: Priscilla Conkrite, LMFT

(The goal of this training is to educate clergy on matters/interventions associated with phase of life issues (e.g. empty nest syndrome, bereavement).

Note: This training is open to all spiritual leaders and/or their representatives from all religious denominations including assistant ministers, staff and volunteers.

Light Networking Breakfast

Please RSVP by September 21, 2017 with

Evelyn Lemus at ELemus@dmh.lacounty.gov or (626) 430-2937

Vickie Xu at yxu@dmh.lacounty.gov or (626) 430-2938

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Calling all Knitters & Crocheters!

If you knit or crochet, the Thursday Quilters' Group needs you!

We are participating in a service project for the American Heart Association. Each year they collect red knitted or crocheted baby hats to be passed out in February to celebrate National "Wear Red Day" | (February 2, 2018). Wear Red Day is a day where everyone is encouraged to wear red as a symbol of support for women's heart health. Making and donating the baby red hats is a great way to show the mom's that we support them and to be sure the February babies are dressed festive for their 1st Valentine's Day! If you would like to participate all you need to do is knit or crochet newborn or preemie sized hats in soft, red, cotton or acrylic, medium to heavy weight, machine washable and dryable yarn. More information as well as some simple knitting and crocheting patterns are available at the following website.



http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Affiliate/Little-Hats-Big-Hearts_UCM_487734_SubHomePage.jsp



After you complete your hats please turn them into Nancy Newell by Sunday, October 22nd. Dr. Rev. Bingham will do a blessing of the hats before they are shipped off as one large donation from Pilgrim Congregational Church. The quilter's group have been hard at work but we need more! If you have any questions please call Sarah Campbell at 909-305-3155 or email: sarahmarie91779@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!!!

THANK YOU CHUCK PETERS!

Besides accepting rummage every Sunday, Chuck Peters can be seen in the kitchen washing dishes after the weekly coffee hours and Burger Bashes. This service is sincerely appreciated by the members of the congregation! Stop by to say "hello" and "thanks " on Sunday.

Beth Brooks



Our Christian love and sympathy are extended to the families of Lottie Rosenbloom and Orion Von Stetten. Lottie passed away on May 15, 20017 and Von on August 6.



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Silent Movie Nights at Pilgrim Church 2017



**Pilgrim
Congregational
Church**

600 N. Garey Ave., Pomona
(909) 622-1373

**Live accompaniment
performed by Greg
Rister on Pilgrim's
grand historic
pipe organ**

**\$15
Refreshments
at 6:30 pm
Show starts
7:30 pm**

It seems Greg Rister, the organist for this event, is a Wonder Boy after brain surgery and will be back for the October 21 Silent Movie showing of "Phantom of the Opera." Please mark your calendars.

Susan Winckler

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PILGRIM CHOIR

Pilgrim Choir will resume rehearsals starting Thursday, September 7, 7:30 pm, with their first service on September 10. Since Jessica Soza will be unable to sing with us this year due to her school schedule, we are bringing in Micaela Mazur, daughter of Tom Mazur, to fill out the soprano section. You will be able to hear her lovely soprano voice in a short solo during one of the choir's anthems on September 10. Welcome aboard, Micaela!

For Christmas Eve this year, Pilgrim Choir will be performing a full Christmas cantata (*Winter Rose*) before the service. You have heard some of the numbers from this work over the last few years. Now you will hear it all put together with narration. Truly, Christmas experience! Our major work this year for Choir Sunday will be a compilation of Alleluias and Amens. What a joyous way to worship!

As always, the choir is open to all. We would love to have new members. Please consider joining us.

Susan Winckler



SCRIP

It's Back to School Time! Don't forget Scrip. We have Office Max, Target, Walmart, JC Penny, Macy's, Carters all in stock. We now have Steinmart as well. A new Buffalo Wild Wings is going in the Montclair Plaza and we have that in stock. See me should you need special orders. Thank you.
Nancy Blackstock

SEPTEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

Even though the library committee did not meet in August, we still have new books available for your reading pleasure. The biggest news is that Sue Grafton has come out with her penultimate Kinsey Millhone mystery: **Y is for Yesterday!**

We have Paula Poundstone's book **The Totally Unscientific Study of the Search for Human Happiness**. She will be at Vroman's book store in Pasadena on August 28th and I hope to see her there. The last time I saw her was at the American Library Convention in Anaheim and I laughed so hard my face hurt the next day. Come to the library and check out the latest in good books.

Megan

THE RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING!

This is your last month to clean out those cupboards, closets and drawers ... and bring it to church for the Fall Rummage Sale next month. It will be on Saturday, October 14th from 8 to 3. Our guys have the garage open each Sunday before church to make it easy for you to drop off your contributions. Donation slips are available if you want them for your taxes.

Please remember to save any plastic bags you get when you're out shopping and bring them to church. It's a really good way to recycle them and we need them for our shoppers ... and they're harder to get now.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the Rummage Sale, we can always use more help. There are lots of jobs – and fun and good food. This is a major fund-raiser for the church. If you'd like to help, contact Judy Sanders (909) 597-2254 or Janet Manildi (909) 627-2994. And you're ALL invited to come shop at the Rummage Sale on October 14th. It's for a VERY good cause!

The **A B C S** of
praying for students



Attitude – Psalm 19:14
Boldness – Psalm 27:1
Courage – John 1:9
Discernment – Philippians 1:9-10
Enthusiasm – Colossians 3:23
Friendliness – Proverbs 18:24
Generosity – 2 Corinthians 9:7
Humility – Philippians 2:3-5
Initiative – 1 John 3:18
Joyfulness – Philippians 4:4
Knowledge – Proverbs 18:15
Listening – Proverbs 12:15
Maturity – 1 Corinthians 14:20
Neighbors – Mark 12:31
Overflow – Romans 15:13
Perseverance – Galatians 6:9
Quiet – Proverbs 29:11
Respect – Romans 12:10
Self-control – 2 Peter 1:5-7
Thankfulness – 1 Chronicles 16:34
Understanding – Psalm 119:130
Victory – Psalm 18:29
Wisdom – James 3:17
eXcellence – Proverbs 3:9
Youthfulness – 1 Timothy 4:12
Zeal – Romans 12:11

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RALLY SUNDAY

Our new Sunday School year will be starting on Rally Sunday, September 10th. We're doing something new this year. As part of our celebration, we will be having a "Blessing of the Backpacks", so bring your backpack to church and have it blessed. What a great way to start a new school year!

Another great way is to have lunch with us at the Burger Bash after church. This is also Grandparent's Day, so why don't you invite your grandparents to come have lunch with you? You could show them your classrooms and the Children's Library, too.

This is also the time to get registered for the new Sunday School year. The Registration Table will be at the Burger Bash. Please fill out a Registration Form for each child. Thank you. This really helps us get to know about our kids and keep in contact with them.

Hope to see all of you there to help us celebrate the start of another year of learning. Our theme this year is "The Word of God" and our first topic is "How the Bible Came to Be". I think that sounds like an interesting topic. I'm looking forward to finding out the answers.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to teach ... again. We will be having a Teachers' Meeting after church on September 3rd. Anyone who is interested in helping with Sunday School is invited to join us.

Jan Manildi - Sunday School Superintendent

SAFETY TIP

Submitted by Sharla Wickman

How often have you backed out of a parking spot, just to have another car start to pull out at the same time, someone with a shopping cart start walking behind you (which you can't see until you have backed up enough to see past the car you're parked next to), or a car looking for a spot to park drive behind you? LOTS

If while pushing your cart through the parking lot, driving in the parking lot, or pulling out of a spot. Would it help if you could see a car before it started to move when you are looking in your mirror or driving through the lot. Would it help if you had a heads up that a car was going to start moving out of a parking space. Of course it would.

After going through this for years and watching accidents happen and almost hits I started turning on my emergency blinkers on just after turning the engine on and putting the car in reverse. I have found it is not hard to do and maybe the car across from me could see in his mirror that I was making a move, someone walking to there car could see a warning ahead that I was starting to back out and that person looking for a spot to park would stop in time to let me out safely.

If this e-mail makes sense to you and you think it would be a way to make parking lots safer, please put this into your daily routine and keep this e-mail going so we all can make our busy parking lot's safer.

TURN EMERGENCY BLINKER'S ON JUST AFTER PUTTING CAR IN REVERSE AND STARTING TO BACK OUT.....TURN THEM OFF AT THE SAME TIME YOU START TO DRIVE FORWARD. HASN'T BEEN HARD TO DO AND IT COULD SAVE A LIFE.

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FACILITY USE

When coming to the church, please remember to check in AND out with the office staff. This is extremely important in case of an emergency because if no one knows you are here, no one can look for you. It is also important so that you can know whether or not rooms are being rented by others. Renting our facility to others brings us much needed income. We want our guests to continue to come back to our facility, so we need to be respectful of their space. Also, if you are planning to meet at the church, please let BaLinda know so she can make sure the space you want is available. Following these procedures would be very much appreciated.

We are asking **all ministries** to contact the church office and submit a list of everyone who has keys to the church. We must keep and maintain an updated list for our insurance purposes. Please contact us right away.

	FACILITY USE	
September 7, 2017	Pilgrim Hall -Choir Rehearsal Begins	7:30 p.m.
September 28, 2017	Pilgrim Hall- Health Meeting	9:00 a.m. to Noon
September, 30, 2017	Pilgrim Hall, Kitchen & Gym Eastern Star	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

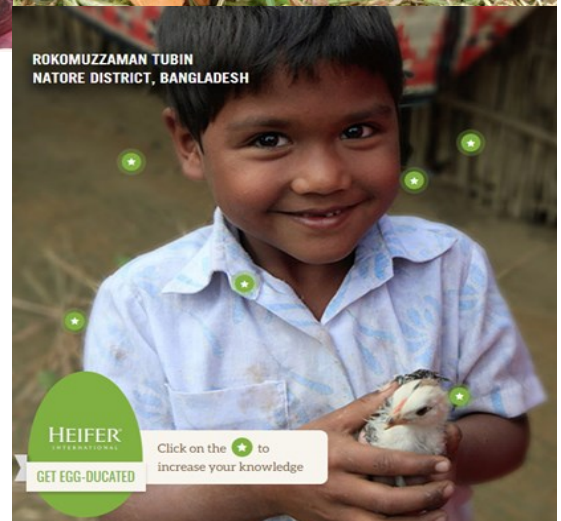
Thank you,
Dee Hupp, Facilities Use Chair

HEIFER PROJECT



Thank you for all of your support with this year's Heifer Project. The kids raised the most money in years. This year the kids got to pick what their money went to. Their selection was: sending a girl to school for a year, a goat, sheep and chicks. They were all excited with their purchases. Thank you for making it all possible!!

Melissa Ericksen & Mary Prendergast Co-chairs



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PILGRIM'S PROGRESS SUBMISSIONS

Deadline Dates

September 22, 2017

October 20, 2017

November 17, 2017

December 15, 2017

REMEMBRANCE

If you know someone who would love to receive a card or note from the Women's Auxiliary; please call or email submitting their name, address and telephone number. We believe in no one being left out, it's always nice to receive a note "Just Because".

You can contact me, Sharla Wickman, at 909-374-9220 or sharla1wick@gmail.com.

TRUSTEES FUND RAISER

WINE TASTING

SUNDAY - October 22TH at 4:00 P.M.

Come join us for a wonderful event at Sherry Glab's home located at: *3605 Leicester Ct., Claremont, CA 91711*. What a beautiful setting for getting together with our Pilgrim friends and family. We encourage everyone to come join us to sample fine wines from the "**Packing House Wine Merchants**" of Claremont, and the yummy food prepared by Sherry and her staff. The cost is only **\$20.00** a person. This is a perfect way to bring some friends to meet our members and raise some money for the good of our Church.

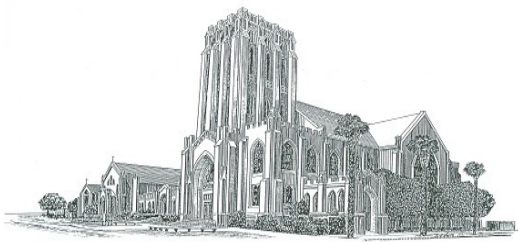
MARK YOUR CALENDARS EARLY FOR THIS EVENT

If you have any questions please call:

Sharon Willison at 909-592-5857.

We thank you for your support!

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Worship Services

Sunday 10:00—11:00am
Church School 10:15— 11:15 am
Children/Youth Worship 10:00am

Tuesday

Twilight Bible Study 5:30 — 6:45pm

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9:00—4:00pm

Office Closed Daily

Lunch 12:00— 1:00pm

600 N. Garey Avenue

Pomona, CA 91767

P- 909.622.1373 F- 909.629.2554

www.pilgrimchurchpomona.com

pilgrimoffice@pilgrimchurchpomona.com



OUTREACH NEWS

Marria Casner
and
Geoffery Lipale

Katy Newton & I attended the International Congregational Conference in Cape Town July 6 - 11. It was the Eleventh Quadrennial Conference & with the theme, "Called to Freedom ", we had wonderful sharing of experiences with Congregationalists from around the world. There will be more of a report and photos at the Sept.17th Meeting of Outreach- all are invited.

News on another traditional fall activity: Hope Partners will hold the Walk for the Hungry on Saturday, October 14 this year. All of us will be involved with the Rummage Sale of course! We wish them the best!

Marria Casner Chair

Activities Events

WEEKLY

Tuesdays

Bunko—11:00 a.m.

Twilight Bible Study 5:45 p.m.

Thursdays

Quilting & Art Time—10:00am to noon

Choir Rehearsal — 7:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATES

Monday, September 4

Office Closed - Labor Day

Tuesday, September 5

Auxiliary Mailing - Gym

Wednesday, September 6

1st Fall Church Council Meeting- 7:00 p. m.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 10

Rally Sunday/Picnic 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 17

Meeting Sunday

Monday, September 18

Caregivers 7:00p.m.

Thursday, September 28

Los Angeles Health 9:00 a.m.

Submission deadline for the October newsletter will be September 22, 2017 at noon.