

**Shepherd of the Hills
United Methodist
Church**

*A Multi-Site Community
of Faith serving the
Saddleback Valley*



HAPPENINGS

November 2019

Pastors:

Rev. Karl Stuckenberg

Rev. Jon Waterson

November Worship

November 3

Inspired -

The Reign of God

Luke 4:16-19

November 10

Thanks You Notes -

Give Thanks to the Lord

Psalms 136

November 17

Thanks You Notes

Hosea 11:1-9

November 24

Thank You Notes -

Thankfulness

Philippians 4:10-20

Sunday Worship Schedule:

Mission Viejo Campus

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

11:00 a.m. Modern Worship

26001 Muirlands Blvd.

Mission Viejo, CA 92691

(949) 837-2941

Rancho Santa Margarita Campus

9:30 a.m. Relaxed Traditional
Worship

11:00 a.m. Modern Worship

30605 Avenida de Las Flores

Rancho Santa Margarita, 92688

(949) 589-1502

PASTOR KARL'S MESSAGE

Dear Church Family,

"Thank you." Two words. Two syllables. Eight letters. And the potential to change your entire life!

More and more, we are learning that taking time to be thankful and expressing gratitude can have a real effect on our well-being. Dr. Amit Sood of the Mayo Clinic writes, "*A daily gratitude practice has been shown to increase your happiness — and your physical health significantly. Practicing gratitude improves sleep, boosts immunity, and decreases the risk of disease.*" It makes me realize that the writers of the Bible may have been onto something with their many directives to "Give thanks" in a variety of ways. Human beings haven't changed all that much since the pages of scripture were woven together. The reality of our intricate design as human beings is that when we are thankful, it changes our lives.

When we forget to give thanks, we forget to remind ourselves of the many blessings in our lives. When we forget to give thanks, we quickly get focused on the negatives, the challenges, and the struggles of life. I'm not saying that giving thanks will eliminate the struggles—not by a long shot—but giving thanks will re-orient our minds and souls that all is not lost. On the night when Jesus knew he would be betrayed, arrested, beaten, and killed, he gave thanks to God as he shared that final meal with the disciples. Giving thanks is important.

During November, Pastor Jon and I are doing a sermon series entitled *Thank You Notes*. We'll focus on what giving thanks looks like, the love of God that draws our gratitude, and hear the stories of people in our congregation for whom thankfulness has made a difference.

You'll also have the chance to participate in our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Project with the people of the Orange County Islamic Foundation and Temple Beth El. This year, Shepherd of the Hills is responsible for collecting 480 boxes of stuffing (6 oz ea.), 240 cans of gravy (14 oz), 240 cans of broth (14.5 oz), and 240 cans of cream soup (10.5 oz). We will start collecting these items on Sunday, November 3, at both campuses. Plan on being a part of this fantastic event. You will be glad you did.

And lastly, I encourage you to take a moment each day to stop and give thanks. Be thankful for the people in your life. Be grateful for the simple gift of each day. And be thankful that we have a God who loves more than we can ever know.

With God's Peace,

Pastor Karl



Around the Church

Thanks Giving: An Interfaith Thanksgiving Opportunity

Sunday, November 24, 4:00-6:00 p.m.,
Orange County Islamic Foundation, 23581 Madero, Mission Viejo, CA.

Each year we partner with our friends from the Orange County Islamic Foundation and Temple Beth El to create Thanksgiving food baskets in support of Families Forward, an organization which serves families in need.

Please help us fill the food baskets by donating 2 boxes of stuffing (6 oz), 1 can of gravy (14 oz/no glass please), 1 can of broth (14.5 oz), and 1 can of cream of soup (10.5 oz). *Donations may be brought to either campus anytime up to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 24 and placed in labeled boxes in narthex at MV campus or on the alter at RSM campus.* Also, we need 5 volunteers to set up at 3:00 p.m. and 3 drivers with trucks to take baskets to Families Forward at the end of the event between 6:00- 7:00 p.m. Bring family and friends to the event to help assemble food baskets! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Diane Thomas at (949) 228-1582 or dthomas222@hotmail.com.



Town Hall Meeting -All Church Conference – Sunday, November 10

November 10, our annual Church Conference will be held. All members and friends of Shepherd of the Hills are invited to attend the Church Conference at 3:00 p.m. in the Mission Viejo Sanctuary. The agenda items include all matters of church business.



Mexico Mission 2020: January 16-20 • Ensenada, Mexico

Interest Meeting: November 10, 2:00 p.m., MV Sanctuary

The Mexico Mission trip is January 16-20, and our mission is to construct finished houses in only three days and provide hope through the Vacation Bible School Program.

Shepherd's Mexico Mission is through a partnership with YUGO (Youth Unlimited Gospel Outreach). YUGO's Ensenada Outreach Center has been partnering with churches throughout the Ensenada area for years.

The Mexico Mission offers the choice of either home construction or providing ministries to the local children through a VBS program. Any high school youth or adult can participate in either the housebuilding or children's ministry. Families who wish to attend with children 8th grade or under are welcome, but children must be under a parent's supervision at all times. There is no child care or specific program for families attending the mission trip.



There are two scheduling options available this year: 1.) You may come down with the team on Thursday, January 16, at 10:30 a.m. (suggested for construction teams), or 2.) You can come with the team leaving on Friday, January 17 at 7:30 am (VBS teams). Both teams return Monday, January 20 around 1:00 pm.

There is an **Interest Meeting** on Sunday, November 10 at 2:00 p.m. in MV Campus Sanctuary--bring your questions!

Orientation Meeting December 8, 2:00 p.m. in MV Campus Sanctuary.
Registration deadline is December 8.

More information and sign-up form is available on the church website, www.sothumc.org, as well as in the Mexico Mission brochure.

Holy Communion (Eucharist) Sunday, November 3

Communion Sunday will be observed on Sunday, November 3 at both campuses at both services. Our communion offering will go to support world hunger. Approximately 842 million people are estimated to be suffering from food insecurity or chronic hunger, regularly not getting enough nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. Chronic hunger kills more people every year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined; in fact, poor nutrition contributes to 45% of deaths in children.

Give Ministries

Hunger Sunday November 3

Sunday, November 3 is "Hunger Sunday". We have joined forces with South County Outreach to alleviate hunger in South Orange County. The first Sunday in November we will be collecting the following items: flavored rice, ramen noodles, salad dressings, mustard, mayo, ketchup, and jelly.

The collection barrels will be out in front of the entrance to the sanctuary at the MV campus, and in the lobby at the RSM campus.



Operation Christmas Child is Underway

Operation Christmas Child is in full swing. You can pick up a preprinted shoebox (or plastic box for \$2.00) on Sundays for you to fill. We will be collecting filled boxes beginning Sunday, November 3, and final collection day is November 10.

If you are unable to pack a box: The first thing you can do is pray for these children and all the volunteers that make this "labor of love" happen. Next you can help cover the shipping costs, \$9.00, by donating cash or checks written to "Samaritans Purse" with OCC written in the memo line. Turn your donations in at the GIVE Table or the church office. In addition, we need donations for extra supplies. Anything you can do will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued generosity and blessings to these children.



The Community Table Is Every Wednesday at RSM

The Community Table provides a free meal to anyone whose budget is stretched or who wants to share a meal with others. Meals are served every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. See www.sothumc.org and follow the link on the home page for information on all the ways you may get involved.



Meal Train

The Meal Train program is one of our ministries which provide meals (usually dinner) during a time when cooking is the last thing on your mind. We have volunteers ready on a moments notice to help out and would be so blessed to do so. Contact Kathy Toon at (714) 292-7742 if you want yourself added to the list of volunteers or if you know of a family in need. Life changes, so if you do not want to remain on the Meal Train list, just give Kathy a call, and she will gladly remove your name, so you will not keep receiving the Meal Train notices.

How to Give to Shepherd Online

Select one of these options:

- From your Mobile Device - Select a campus and Text the following:
 - Mission Viejo - Key Word: **SOTHMV** to 77977
 - Rancho Santa Margarita- Key Word: **SOTHRSM** to 77977
- Visit MyShepherd at sothumc.ccbchurch.com and click on Give, located in the left column of the home page.
- Visit the church website at sothumc.org and click on the Giving link.



*Daylight Saving Time ends on
Sunday, November 3, at 2:00 a.m.*

Remember to set your clocks back one hour
before going to bed Saturday night, November 2.

Prayer Ministry

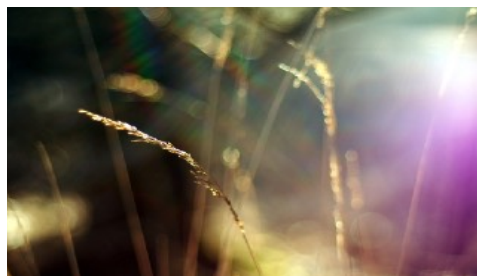
Silent Saturday: "Hospitality of the Spirit"

Saturday, November 9
8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
MV campus

Breathe in the Living Spirit of God with Centering Prayer, journaling and walking a labyrinth. Holy Communion will be served.

New to Centering Prayer? No experience required, simply the desire to "Be still and know that I am God." Ps. 46:10

\$25 donation includes breakfast and lunch. Register at www.sothumc.org, email jyamada@sothumc.org, or call the church office at (949) 837-2941.



"Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me." Rev. 3:20

Sunday Centering Prayer - Sundays 8:30 a.m.

In preparation for Sunday Worship, join us in the MV Prayer Room for a time of silent prayer.

Leaders are Bob Olson, Vivian Martin and Tom Roberts. Questions? Feel free to contact leaders or Jill at the church office.

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."
James 4:8

"A Taste of Centering Prayer"

Sunday, November 3 from 8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. Join us in the MV Prayer Room for a brief introduction to Centering Prayer.

Learn how easy the method is, the benefits to mind, body, spirit and soul while building our relationship with God and one another. Our time includes 5 - 10 minutes of quiet.

"Be still and know that I am God." Ps. 46:10

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thanksgiving is a time when we focus on things for which we are grateful. This is something we should do every day but sometimes in the hectic pace of daily life, we forget to acknowledge how blessed we are.

I would like to thank the women of the Knit Wits who knit and crochet prayer shawls and prayer squares for our ministry. They spend their own money and they give of their time to knit and crochet the shawls which we give to those in need. It takes time to make a shawl and these ladies are willing to give of their time for others.

People often give me the credit for this Ministry and while I started it, it would not be successful if it weren't for the women who do the work. So, I thank you and bless you for making this ministry an important part of Shepherd of the Hills.

If you would like to join us, please contact Marilyn Widen (MV) at (714) 821-9634 or Debbie Chawer (RSM) at (949) 292-5709.



Prayer Chain:

E-mail sent to members of the Prayer Chain

Prayer Teams:

Available weekly during both MV worship services and Communion Sundays at RSM

Centering Prayer:

Christian Meditation, Sundays at 8:30 a.m. in the MV Prayer Room,
First and Third Friday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the MV Sanctuary and every Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. in the MV Sanctuary

Prayer Room & Prayer Garden: Anyone interested in becoming a part of Prayer Ministry, please contact Diana Annett at annett1@cox.net or (949) 533-3028.

Walk the Prayer Labyrinth:
RSM & MV Campus

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests can be made by calling the church at (949) 837-2941 or emailing jyamada@sothumc.org or cbohmholdt@sothumc.org.

If you have a confidential prayer request or concern, please email it to pastoralcare@sothumc.org.

If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, please contact Carolyn Bohmholdt at cbohmholdt@sothumc.org.

"...God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them."

--1John 4:16

This 'n' That

UMW in November

Fall Boutique is coming soon, November 17 in Shepherd Hall. Hand made items, like new items, baked goods, and jams will be available. We hope many of you are working on items to donate. This is a major fundraiser to support our local and global mission projects.

Begin again your **World Thank Offering** for the coming year: If you had your annual breast exam this year, way to go! Add a \$1 to start the year.

Deborah Circle will collect items for Operation Gratitude for the military: small candy canes, individual packets of cocoa, thank you notes for their service. Watch weekly happenings for additional items, or Contact AJ Lane at ajlane04@gmail.com.

Sarah Circle meets November 19, 1:00 p.m. at Lee Leatherman's home, 28089 Calle Valdes, MV.



Shepherd Seniors Brunch in November

The Shepherd Seniors brunch group meets November 10 at 11:00 a.m. for brunch at the Sizzler, 25301 El Toro Rd., Lake Forest. RSVP by November 9 to Thelma Hoffman, (949) 770-4278 or thoffman10@cox.net. Newcomers welcome!

Adorn our Churches with Poinsettias for Christmas

Did you know the shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought to be a symbol of the star of Bethlehem which led the wise men to Jesus? The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent His purity. Stop by the Office Table/Poinsettia Table on the MV campus patio or the RSM Lobby beginning Sunday, December 1 to order poinsettias to decorate our sanctuaries. The poinsettias are \$13.00 each and may be taken home following the Christmas Eve services. If you choose, you may dedicate your poinsettias in memory or in honor of a loved one (s). Also, If you do not want to take a poinsettia home, please feel free to donate the \$13.00 toward the cost of the poinsettia.



Shepherd Seniors Wood Project December 10

12:30-2:00 p.m., MV Shepherd Hall. Our holiday woodworking project will be led by Reverend Jerry Carter. The project is cedar luminaries, 5.5" x 8.5", unfinished. Jerry will do all the cutting of the wood, and we will assemble the luminaries after lunch. Cost is \$15 for lunch plus \$5 for each luminary ordered. (Luminaries must be pre-ordered and paid for by Sunday, December 3.) Everyone will get an LED battery light and a written plan explaining that a person can buy a small glass candle or some other LED candle if they wish.

Shepherd Seniors Fellowship needs your help! Please step forward and offer your leadership help to Sunny Hartman (sunesue3@yahoo.com) or Avis French (eavisf@cox.net), and we'll be able to add additional events in the future.



Around the Preschool

'Paint Night' Fundraiser for the Preschool

Shepherd of the Hills Preschool is holding a Paint Night fundraiser for the Nancy K Senertia Transitional Kindergarten Scholarship on Wednesday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m. at Pinot's Palette in RSM. Tickets are \$40. Please join us for an evening of fun, food, fellowship, and art. Create a charming, holiday-themed painting during an evening of fun and food, while raising money for a great cause. Register at www.pinotspalette.com/ranchosantamargarita/event/379025

November Is a Month for Thankfulness

November is a time to give thanks at our preschool. We spend the month talking about our families and how each child is a unique part of their own family who take care of each other. The children also learn about which foods are good for them, and they bring cans and supplies to school for South County Outreach. In the classroom the children chart what they bring and are always excited to see whether we collected more tins of vegetables, pasta or toothpaste! At the end of the month, each class prepares and cooks a dish for our Thanksgiving feast. We sit down together as a school to give thanks to God for our many blessings and enjoy the food each class has prepared. We are then joined by our preschool families for a Thanksgiving Chapel where the Pastors share a Bible story and the children sing a song of Thanks to God. Happy Thanksgiving! Becci Lukes, Executive Director, Sarah Galliver, RSM Site Director

Shepherd of the Hills
United Methodist Preschool



Resource Team & More

Resource Committee

Financial Statements

Quarterly Financial statements were mailed the first part of October to those who pledge. If you did not receive your statement or do not pledge and would like to receive a statement, please let us know by contacting the Mission Viejo Campus at (949) 837-2941. You can also review your giving in MyShepherd. Go to your personal account. On the dashboard find Involvement and tap it. You will find three dots; tap the dots on the side and it will show where you can get your Giving Statement and your Pledge statement. Please review your statements and let the MV church

office, (949) 837-2941, know of any needed corrections or if you have any questions.

Are you Caught Up On Your Pledge?

This is an excellent time to consider catching up on your pledge if you are behind. During November and December, please make an effort to bring your pledge up to date. "Give not grudgingly or out of necessity for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7). "Giving must be done willingly, with a ready mind." (2 Cor. 8:12) We should not grieve over what we have given. Do not feel sorry for ourselves, thinking about all the things we wish we could have done with that money. Do not give because someone pressured or embarrassed us. Instead, consider it a privilege to give.

Stephen Ministry

Christ caring for people through people

Stephen Ministry is a caring and supportive ministry for anyone going through a difficult time in their life—a divorce, grief, financial problems, etc. It is confidential one-on-one care provided by a Stephen Minister who has received intensive training and can walk a person, with Christian love, through this period in their life.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this ministry (a friend, a relative or someone in the community), please let us know. If you would like information on becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact us at afranchello@sothumc.org, speak with us on a Sunday (you can recognize us by our blue name badges), call the church office or speak with a pastor.



Pastoral Care at Shepherd of the Hills

James 5:13-15 reminds us that as the church we are to care for one another, especially in times of struggle and illness. Pastoral care is important in the spiritual life of a church, and Shepherd of the Hills wants to walk with you when life gets hard. Our Pastoral team wants to pray with you before surgery, visit you in the hospital, and walk with you through tough times. In addition to our Pastoral team, we have trained Stephen Ministers who are here to care for you as well.

If you are in need of pastoral care, please call the office and let us know. We also have set up an email address at Pastoralcare@sothumc.org that is confidential and will go directly to our pastoral team so we can respond to those needs.

Confidential Pastoral Care

pastoralcare@sothumc.org
or 837-2941

Veterans Recognized on November 10

Veterans Day is a well-known American holiday, but there are also a few misconceptions about it — like how it's spelled or whom exactly it celebrates. To clear some of that up, here are the important facts you should know.

Veterans Day does NOT have an apostrophe.

A lot of people think it's "Veteran's Day" or "Veterans' Day," but they're wrong. The holiday is not a day that "belongs" to one veteran or multiple veterans, which is what an apostrophe implies. It's a day for honoring all veterans — so no apostrophe needed.

Veterans Day is NOT the Same as Memorial Day.

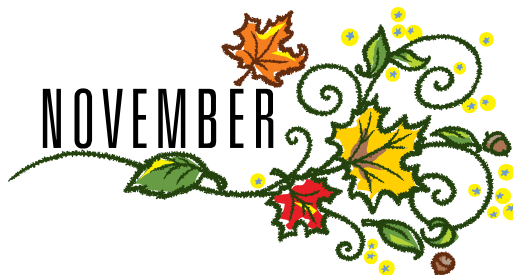
A lot of Americans get this confused, and we'll be honest — it can be a little annoying to all of the living veterans out there. Memorial Day is a time to remember those who gave their lives for our country, particularly in battle or from wounds they suffered in battle. Veterans Day honors all of those who have served the country in war or peace — dead or alive — although it's largely intended to thank living veterans for their sacrifices.

Please stop by the office table at MV or in the lobby at RSM, and if you are a veteran, complete the form. Names will be printed in the bulletin on Sunday, November 10.

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

November Birthdays

November 1 Tim Smay
Michael Strawn
November 2 Dominic Zappia
November 3 Kent Marshall
November 6 Mia Johnson
November 7 Carol Klaus
November 8 Jim Moss
November 10 Cameron Short
November 11 Ramona Alpizar
Kathe Enright
Vicki Faivre
Michael Foundoulis
November 12 Alyssa Martin
November 13 John Bower
Carol Cann
Rob Foote
Kelly Herbka
Carolyn Johnson
Jacki Roberts
Tony Zarifis
November 14 Ricardo Flores
Petah Kelsey
November 15 Marcia Easton
Jean Lehman
November 16 Rachel Johnson
November 18 Kristen Stuckenberg



November 19 Jennifer Curry
Pasty Recht
November 20 Jake Ford
November 21 Jeff Hulbert
Don Keith
November 22 R.G. Wenzel
November 24 Donn Johnson
Terry Wright
November 25 Darlene Robertson
November 26 Larry Cann
Rachel Colwell
Don Mosher
Bethany Widen
November 27 Steve Aird
November 28 Joan Krohngold
November 29 David Dutcher
Mark Selawski

November Anniversaries

November 4 Mike & Karen Moore
November 7 Tom & Julie Major
November 12 David & Rebecca Bush
Craig & Debbie Chawner
November 14 Robert & Denise Westcott
Kevin & Mary Jo Colwell
November 18 Jim & Carol Moss
November 29 Dave & Peggy Dutcher

If we missed or incorrectly listed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know at the church office. Thank you!

'Happenings' Deadline...

The *Happenings* deadline is generally the 10th of every month

(December *Happenings* deadline is Monday, November 11).

Deadline for the weekly *Happenings* is noon Mondays for the following Sunday.

Please e-mail articles to
jyamada@sothumc.org and
bwestcott@sothumc.org.

Activities Calendar Online

For up-to-date information on church events, see the online calendar at sothumc.org.

Shepherd of the Hills UMC Staff

Karl Stuckenberg.....Lead Pastor
pastorkarl@sothumc.org
Jon WatersonSite Pastor
pastorjon@sothumc.org
Sam Nason.....MV Director of Youth Ministry (Interim)
snason@sothumc.org
Kim NasonRSM Music Director
knason@sothumc.org
Cara GallegosMV Director of Traditional Music
cgallegos@sothumc.org
Philip Bardowell.....MV Modern Worship
pbardowell@sothumc.org
Will Ferguson.....RSM Modern Worship
wferguson@sothumc.org
Doug Nason.....Director of Visual Arts
dnason@sothumc.org

Confidential Pastoral Care

pastoralcare@sothumc.org or 837-2941

Laura ArciniegaDirector of Family Ministries & Discipleship
larciniega@sothumc.org
Cristina Flores.....RSM Children's Ministry Director
cflores@sothumc.org
Amy StrawnChildcare and MV Sunday School Coordinator
astrawn@sothumc.org
Becci LukesPreschool Executive Director
blukes@sothumc.org
Sarah Galliver.....Preschool Site Director
sgalliver@sothumc.org
Jill YamadaChurch Administrator
jyamada@sothumc.org
Bob Westcott.....Communications
bwestcott@sothumc.org



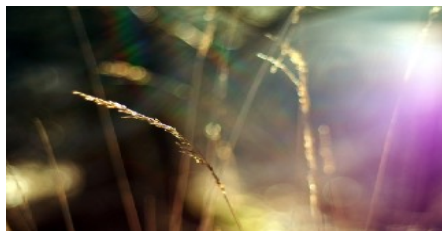
Connecting people with Jesus and each other so they become deeply committed followers of Jesus Christ

26001 Muirlands Blvd.
Mission Viejo, CA 92691
Phone: (949) 837-2941
Fax: (949) 837-4175
www.sothumc.org

Return Service Requested

Happenings

Issue 11 Volume 52



*Silent Saturday, November 9
see page 4*



*Mexico Mission
see page 2*



**Interfaith
Thanksgiving**
November 24
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
See page 2

Shepherd of the Hills

Seven Grace Disciplines:

*Celebrate • Devotion • Development
Tithing • Service • Sharing • Sabbath*



MV:

Mission Viejo Campus
26001 Muirlands Blvd.
Mission Viejo, CA 92691
949-837-2941

RSM:

Rancho Santa Margarita Campus
30605 Avenida de Las Flores
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688
949-589-1502

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www.sothumc.org

Facebook Groups:

Shepherd of the Hills UMC
Shepherd of the Hills UMC
Rancho Santa Margarita Campus

Sunday Morning Worship:

Mission Viejo Campus
9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
11:00 a.m. Modern Worship

Rancho Santa Margarita Campus
9:30 a.m. Relaxed Traditional
Worship
11:00 a.m. Modern Worship