



Northridge United Methodist Church

November 2023

Volume 40, Issue 11



### The Heavens Declare

(A New Way to Worship)

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

7 PM in the Sanctuary

### Charge Conference

**Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**

6-8 PM via Zoom

### Youth Gathering

**Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**

5-7 PM in Fellowship Hall



### Interfaith

### Thanksgiving Service

(with Temple Ramat Zion, Our Lady of Lourdes, and Islamic Center of Northridge)

**Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**

7 PM in the Sanctuary & YouTube

### Advent Study "All the Good"

**Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

(December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>)

7-8:30 PM at the Parsonage

## Northridge United Methodist Church

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

[www.northridgeumc.org](http://www.northridgeumc.org)

[office@northridgeumc.org](mailto: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 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.....TBD

## Sunday Worship

10:00 AM (English)

11:30 AM (Korean)

# Celebrations

***Jazz Vespers*** on **November 12, 6 PM** in the Sanctuary

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

**Karen Evans & Friends**



No Tickets Necessary. Freewill offering.

Videos of all services are archived on YouTube.

<https://youtube.com/northridgeumc>

## Prayer

Rev. Kee Chul Nam,  
Jack Kister, Wayne Aller,  
Kaitlyn Wright, Anita Ruiz,  
Carol Allen, Linda Kahmann,  
Christine Coons, Shiny Angle,  
Saundra Blankenship,  
Joanne Christensen,  
Charles Mortensen,  
Cari Banke-Warder,  
Dr. Bruce Warder

The Celebration of Life service  
for Jim Benham will be held  
on Friday, November 10,  
at 2 PM in the Sanctuary  
with a reception to follow  
in Fellowship Hall.

## Upcoming Sermons

**November 5 (All Saints Sunday)**

“You CAN Make It Better”

Matthew 5:1-12

**November 12**

“People Who Make Meaning”

1 Peter 2:1-10

**November 19**

“The Perfect Barbie-land/Kendom”

Revelation 21:1-7

**November 26**

“Christ the King”

Matthew 6:25-33

# Pastor's Corner



Even though Costco and many other retailers have already begun selling Christmas decor and presents, Thanksgiving is still around the corner and November is still with us. It can be frustrating to see our psyches being pushed so quickly through the seasons by the world around us. Too often we begin to worry about things that are still literally two months away! This can especially be the case for churches as we try to help one another be present in God's grace each day, not just on special celebrations.

As a pastor, Ralph and I plan months out for activities and significant public services like Christmas and Easter, but our weekly worship worries seem to reset each Sunday afternoon and begin anew on Mondays even when we prepare ahead. It's one of the ways that I try to remain present to the worship each Sunday instead of trying to rekindle an inspiration from months before. But, alas, our culture needs us to have as much time as possible to convince us to buy the things we don't need and so we now can find Christmas gifts in the aisles in late September. (Please forgive the rant that I am using as a metaphor.)

As a month, November contains three significant celebrations for us to remember this year: All Saints Sunday (Nov 5th), Veteran's Day (Nov 11th), and Thanksgiving (Nov 23rd). Each of these celebrations are times of gratefulness and thanksgiving for God's blessings in our lives. Celebrating the lives and legacies of the Church Triumphant that has transformed our lives through their life, witness, and ministry takes place on All Saints Sunday. We recall and are thankful for those who served in our military to protect us and to fight for justice around the world on Veteran's Day.

Thanksgiving Day is perhaps the most remembered day of celebration and has more of a cultural and historical tradition attached to it. We show our gratitude for the hospitality and knowledge passed on by Native Americans to the early European settlers in America. For most, we simply are thankful for the lives that God has blessed us with or the opportunity to take a few days off work and prepare for the Christmas onslaught. This year of all years, we ought to be thankful for the land in which we live where we have been able to live in relative peace for many years.

This November, I would like to encourage everyone to spend extra time each day recalling the blessings that God has provided in your life. Recount the many individuals that have helped you become who you are today, those past and present. Remember each day the ways in which God has shaped you in your and the changes in your actions, personality, and well-being through God's grace. Each and every day, say, "Thank you" to God as you remember what God has done through your church and family of faith.

This November be grateful. This November, show God your gratitude. This November, express your recognition that you are indeed blessed by God.

Stay present...stay grateful. Amen.

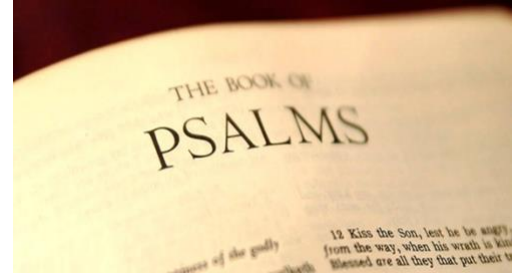
—**Douglas Dickson** (Senior Pastor)



# Upcoming Events

## The Heavens Declare!!! Exploring Psalm 19

Saturday, November 4th we will be gathering in the Sanctuary for a time of worship as we celebrate God's Creation and reflect on how we find God in the midst of God's handiwork from 7-8 PM. Come and worship with us! You can stop by the Farmer's Market before or following the service and enjoy the celebration!



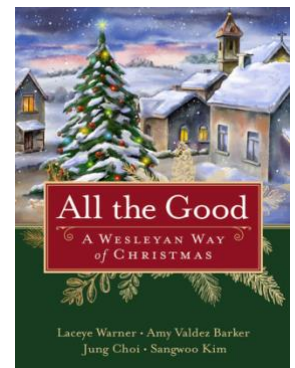
## Youth Gathering



Join us on Sunday, November 19th from 5-7 PM for NUMC's Youth Gathering as we explore some big issues facing youth throughout the world. We'll have some yummy food for dinner and end the evening with some rousing games and activities! Don't miss it!!!

## All the Good

This Advent discussion group looks at the Wesleyan "means of grace" in light of Advent. The study features a diverse group of Wesleyan scholars and leaders and explores how we experience God's grace in the Advent Season leading up to Christmas. Pastor Doug will be leading the Advent study beginning Wednesday, November 29th and continue through Advent on Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. **The study will take place at the parsonage located at 19128 Salt Lake Place in Porter Ranch.** Sign up in the Narthex or Church Office.



## Check your Mailbox and Email in November!

Northridge UMC's "Living in Generous Gratitude" starts in November.



# Snippets of Campus Activity

## We Have Trees on Our Campus!

You're probably not sure when was the last time you noticed that we have a lot of trees on our campus. Lately you've paid more attention to the shade that they provide. When our tree service, Trees 'N Things, prepares a plan for trimming and shaping, they include the type of tree and the quantity. Our campus of 5.5 acres has 64 trees, and here's how they are listed....

Ficus, 2; Carrotwood, 1; Modesto Ash, 1; Orchid, 1; Mimosa, 2; Liquidambar, 7; Pine, 15; Jacaranda, 2; Pear, 2; Melaleuca, 6; Red Iron Bark Eucalyptus, 2; Camphor, 3; Canary Island Pine, 7; Chinese Elm, 9; Tulip, 3; and Floss Silk, 1. For the most part, I am unable to identify the various trees, and it's a real treat to follow along behind Nicolas (from Trees 'N Things) while he does the identifications.

The WMD crew and Jorge spend quite a bit of time each week making sure the irrigation system is working properly. We are truly blessed to have such a verdant campus. Just thought you'd like to know how you're getting your shade.

—Dusty Stiles (Chair of Trustees)





# Outreach

## San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission

### Home Again and Renewed Hope Update



NUMC Missions appreciates the many years of leadership from Lulu Emery in coordinating the dinner staffing for SFVRM Home Again and Renewed Hope. The Home Again program is now back to full occupancy with about 80 women, men and children. The Renewed Hope program continues for about 20 men.

Unfortunately, we do not have enough funding to continue serving two meals per month. Starting in September we are back to serving a meal on the first Tuesday of each month. We need one/two volunteers each month to plan the meal and purchase the food items for preparation in the SFVRM kitchen. Additional volunteers (usually four) are needed to help with food preparation and serving. The preparation normally starts at 5 PM with serving beginning at 6 pm. The team is normally done before 7 PM.

Nancy Kaplan and Mike Easterly have volunteered to co-coordinate the scheduling of volunteers starting in November. We will be asking for meal planners to sign up for each month of 2024. We will also be building a list of volunteers for helpers who can be contacted the week prior to the dinner to complete each month's team. Watch for the sign-up sheets starting in November.

We also need donations to continue providing financial support for these meals. Costs normally run between \$100 - \$150.



REFUGE



RECOVERY



RESTORATION

—Mike Easterly





Cont'd



# CSUN Foster Youth Pantry

Pictures of the foster youth pantry filled with items donated by you, the congregation of NUMC!



**List of Items Needed for the Month of November:** Food, both canned and boxed, that can be cooked in a microwave, healthy snacks and individually wrapped toilet paper.

I have learned that our congregation is the only group supplying the foster youth pantry. What a privilege! Thank you for your generous hearts.

—Shiela Attarian

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## From the NUMC Video Library.....

Looking back into the video archives, we discover some wonderful events. We look this month to 2007, Dec. 9, the 3 PM Handbell Holiday Concert in the Sanctuary, conducted by Gretchen Keeler and featuring 14 ringers, F. William Parker, Benito Galindo (soloist) and Jan Shaffer (flute)



<https://www.facebook.com/northridgeumc/videos/3514302312146599>

—Dusty Stiles (Chair of Trustees)

# 5 WAYS TO GIVE

## Giving via Our Website

NUMC can receive one-time or recurring gifts through the E-Giving services provided by our servicer – Vanco. The current DONATE option on NUMC's [www.northridgeumc.org](http://www.northridgeumc.org) website home page. Gifts can be one-time or recurring from credit card, debit card, checking or savings. You will be asked if you want to add 2.75% to help offset processing fees.



## Giving via Text Message

NUMC also has a text option using the 10-digit Vanco Text # **833-906-1867**. Text '**Funds**' to receive a list of NUMC's Give by Text Funds.

## Giving via In-Person

Drop your gift into the offering basket on Sunday morning.

## Giving via Mail

You can also support our ministry by sending a check via mail. Please mail it to us:

Northridge United Methodist Church (**NUMC**)  
– 9650 Reseda Blvd. Northridge, CA 91324



## Giving via Vanco Mobile App

We encourage you to download the free **Vanco Mobile app**. It is available in the Google Play store and the Apple App store. Download it today. And search for our Church:  
**Northridge United Methodist Church**



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## 11 월 설교

**11 월 5 일 (성찬식)**

사도행전 시리즈

**11 월 12 일**

사도행전 시리즈

**11 월 19 일**

사도행전 시리즈

**11 월 26 일**

사도행전 시리즈

## 11 월 교회 소식지

**1 장-** 11 월 교회 행사를 소개하는 장입니다. (오른쪽: 사역자 명단)

**2 장-** Jazz Vespers 연주가 11 월 12 일 (주일) 오후 6 시 예배당에서 있습니다. / 11 월 설교 제목, 성경 본문 / 중보 기도 명단

**3 장-** 담임 목사님의 묵회 칼럼입니다. 11 월은 추수감사절을 지키는 달이니만큼, 매일 시간을 내어 하나님께서 우리에게 주신 축복을 회상하고 어떻게 우리를 인도하셨는지, 또 하나님의 은혜를 통해 우리의 삶이 어떻게 변화되었는지 돌아보며 감사하는 시간을 가지는 11 월이 되기를 기도합니다.

**4 장-** 찬양 예배를 위한 모임이 11 월 4 일 토요일 오후 7 시 예배당에서 있습니다. / Youth 를 위한 친교 모임이 11 월 19 일 주일 오후 5-7 시까지 친교실에서 있습니다. / 대강절 성경 공부가 11 월 29 일 수요일 오후 7 시부터 Doug 목사님 사택에서 있습니다. 사택 주소: 19128 Salt Lake Place in Porter Ranch

**5 장-** 우리 교회 근황을 소개하는 장으로 이번달은 교정에 있는 나무에 대해 소개합니다. 우리 교정은 5.5 에이커로 대략 64 그루의 나무가 있습니다. 정기적으로 조경 및 다듬기 서비스를 받고 있으며, 매주 수요일 WMD 멤버들이 낙엽으로 인한 관개 시스템을 확인/보수하는 작업을 진행하고 있습니다.

**6 장-** Home Again & Renewed Hope 저녁 식사 봉사 사역이 매달 첫 번째 화요일 오후 5 시에 있습니다. 봉사자로 섬기기를 원하시는 분들은 사무실로 연락바랍니다. 또한 기부로 돕고자 하시는 분은 Payable to: NUMC / Memo: Home Again, Renewed Hope 으로 작성해 주시기 바랍니다.

**7 장-** 우리 교인분들께서 기부해주신 CSUN 물품이 팬트리에 정리된 사진입니다. Shiela 는 우리 교회가 Foster 학생들을 위해 물품을 기부하는 유일한 교회로 감사의 마음을 전합니다. CSUN Foster Youth 프로그램에 지속적인 관심과 지원 부탁드립니다. 필요한 물품 목록을 확인해 주세요 / 2007 년 12 월 벨과이이가 크리스마스 연주회를 열었습니다. 다시 보기를 희망하시는 분은 링크를 클릭해 주세요. <https://www.facebook.com/northridgeumc/videos/3514302312146599>

**8 장-** 헌금할 수 있는 방법을 소개하는 장입니다. (웹사이트, 문자 메시지, 우편, 모바일 앱 Vanco, 예배 헌금)

**10 장-** 우리 교회 성가대 리더로 섬기고 있는 Dr. Gaga 와 Organist 로 섬기고 있는 이호준 박사님께서 연주회를 엽니다. 장소는 Pierce College 이며 11 월 9 일 목요일 오후 1 시 PAB Mainstage 에서 열립니다.

**11 장-** 우리 교회 성가대의 크리스마스 콘서트가 12 월 16 일 토요일 오후 6 시/ 12 월 17 일 주일 오후 2 시 예배당에서 열립니다.



# Voice Recital

Dr. Garineh Avakian- voice  
Dr. Joseph Lee- piano



Garineh Avakian is originally from Los Angeles, California. She graduated with a doctorate of musical arts in vocal performance from the USC Thornton School of Music. She holds a bachelor and master in music from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, also a Graduate Certificate Diploma from the USC Thornton School of Music. She has minored in both piano and conducting during her graduate studies. Currently Dr. Avakian is a tenured associate professor of voice and choral music at Pierce College in the Los Angeles Community College District. She has been on voice faculty and has taught advanced music theory/musicianship, piano, and voice at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy College and Conservatory for the Performing Arts in Hollywood.

Dr. Avakian is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society, she serves on the Southern California Vocal Association board and is a member of the American Choral Directors Association. She is also a proud member/chorister of the Los Angeles Master Chorale since 2015. Dr. Avakian has been on faculty as a full-time visiting assistant professor in vocal arts and commercial piano at the University of Texas at El Paso. She currently is the Director of Music at Northridge United Methodist Church where she conducts the Chancel Choir. She regularly performs as a soloist with various organizations in the greater Los Angeles area and has a private voice studio as well.



Joseph Hojun Lee is a versatile musician. As a solo / collaborative organist and keyboardist, he has performed at Carnegie Hall, Schoenberg Hall, Crystal Cathedral, First Congregational Church, Westwood Presbyterian Church, Beverly Hills Episcopal Church, Walt Disney Concert Hall in USA, Sejong Center, Seoul Art Theatre, Seoul Arts Pool Center, London Cathedral, Southwalk Cathedral in England, Swansee Cathedral, St, David's Cathedral in Weils.

Mr. Lee is a composer and arranger, who encompasses a wide range of compositions: from solo to Orchestra and Art song, Chorus to Opera. His works have been performed in America, Canada, Europe, and Egypt. Recently, his choral works has been performed by Los Angeles Master Chorale and Seraphic Fire. His works have been published through Hal Leonard, Fred Bock, Colla Voce. Currently, he is organist at Northridge United Methodist Church, and faculty at California Art University.

**Thursday, November 9, 2023**  
**1pm/ PAB Mainstage**  
**Free Admission!**

6201 Winnetka Ave. Woodland Hills, CA 91371



If you need an accommodation due to a disability to attend the event, please contact us 24 hours in advance at [avakiagk@piercecollege.edu](mailto:avakiagk@piercecollege.edu)





*The NUMC Chancel Choir presents a*

# *Christmas Concert*

**Program includes:**

**Amahl and the Night Visitors, G.C. Menotti**

**Ceremony of Carols, B. Britten**

**Celebration Ringers**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 @ 6PM**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 @ 2PM**

**Free Admission**

**Donations Welcomed**

*Dr. Garineh Avakian-Director of Music*

*Dr. Joseph Lee-Pianist, Organist, Handbell Director*



**NORTHRIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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