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**BISHOP MARY ANN SWENSON**  
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**REV. DR. PAULA FERRIS**  
**REV. JOY PRICE**

# THE METHODIST

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[WWW.NORTHRIDGEUMC.ORG](http://WWW.NORTHRIDGEUMC.ORG)

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL: (818) 886-4949

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9:00 & 10:30 AM

*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors*



## “Why You Won’t Be Left Behind”

*What Jesus might say today about the Book of Revelation*

The Book of Revelation, with its coded numerology, its fixation on the fantastic and its thinly veiled condemnation of everything Roman sounds like something for the Sci-Fi Channel. It’s always been a challenge for mainstream Christians to find meaning in this book.

In fact, for much of very early Christian history, there was strong advocacy NOT to include this book in the Bible because it was so inextricably linked to a specific time and specific places and people. However, it was eventually approved for inclusion and has been the talk of the party ever since.

Due to the popularity of the best-selling series of books, *Left Behind*, fascination with the Book of Revelation is enjoying one of its many cyclical resurgences among conservative Christians.

However, fewer than 10% of American Christians consider themselves Biblical literalists. What then, do we have to say about this book?

For several months, Pastor Joy and I have been studying intensively with our Scholar-in-Residence, Dr. James Goss. Some of you studied this book with him when he taught a class on the Book of Revelation here last year.

Throughout October, Pastor Joy and I will be presenting a series of five sermons stemming from our study with Dr. Goss. We believe that there is something for us in the Book of Revelation, especially if we use the teachings of Jesus as a pair of glasses through which to read and understand this purposefully coded book.

*Continued on Page 6*

## NUMC Hosts Board of Laity Empowerment Convocation

The Board of Laity will present the 2006 Lay Empowerment Convocation on October 14 from 8 AM to 3 PM at NUMC.

Dr. Jerry Campbell, President of Claremont School of Theology will be the keynote speaker at this event that serves as a resource to strengthen the partnership between laity and clergy in our conference and local churches.

The theme this year is “Partners in Ministry.” Workshops will be held on such topics as dealing with difficult people, revitalizing a dying church,

Relational evangelism for United Methodist Men, what is important to youth, sharing of church facilities, Christian education and lay leadership. A Bible study will be offered by Rev. Soomee Kim.

Registration information is available on the Cal-Pac Web site at [www.cal-pac.org](http://www.cal-pac.org) in the yellow box on the homepage. Click on “Lay Empowerment Convocation.” Please register by October 9. Contact Carol Mayer at 626-568-7354, email her at [cmayer@cal-pac.org](mailto:cmayer@cal-pac.org) for more information or, pick up a brochure in the church office.

## Open Hearts

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Bill and Marilyn Bowen on the birth of their first grandchild, a boy, **William Edward Bowen**, born on September 22nd. His proud parents are William L. and Janine.

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Happy Birthday to **Ruby Shapel** who celebrated 75 years of life on September 30th.

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Happy Birthday to **Chuck Axtell** who celebrates 90 years of life on October 10th. (Chuck has been a member of NUMC since April 1958.)

### In Gratitude

Dear NUMC Family,

The family of Marvin Shapel wants to thank all of our friends at NUMC for their kind thoughts, cards and prayers during his recent back surgery and rehabilitation.

You are all wonderful,

Marvin & Ruby Shapel, Charlie Atteberry,  
Louie & Dorrel Atteberry and Sherrie Tallman



Condolences to Jacquie Spoehel O'Connor on the death of her father **Ed Spoehel**.

Prayers of comfort for **Luisa Burkes**, mother of Ruth Walston.

Prayers of healing for: **Sally Arnold; Dr. P. Bonado and Peiter Torres** (relatives of Ellie Madrid); **Jennifer Boss** (friend of Jack & Sherry Kister); **Mike Gaba** (Sue Hollahan's son-in-law); **Michael Eearly; Anne Early; Berta Erdos** (friend of Mary Ellen McComb); **Ruby Freeark; Ruth McGinnis** (Frank and Freddie Lu McGinnis' daughter); **Jacquie O'Connor; Paul O'Connor; Becky Phillips; Dana Phillips; Margaret Phillips; Mervin Schmidt** (Gene's brother); **Carol Turner; and Elizabeth Walters**.

Prayers of protection for Bob King's grandson, **Major Nathan Brouner** deployed to the Middle East for the sixth time.

Prayers of thanks for Katie Soukup's cousin **Nick**, safely returned home from Iraq.

## Group Offers Support & Healing

If you have experienced a deep loss, you are welcome to the Grief Healing Support Group meeting every Sunday, from noon to 1 PM, in the Library.

Grief comes in many forms, whether a loved one has died, you or a loved one has a serious illness, divorce, or any other trauma, you are welcome at any time.

Call the church office for more information.



Former member, Winifred Pacha, passed away in Colorado on Monday, September 25th. She was 90 years old. She is survived by her son Mike and daughter-in-law Ginger. Graveside services for Winnie will be held at Oakwood Cemetery in Chatsworth on Friday, October 20, 2006, at 11 AM. Rev. Joy Price will be officiating. Friends are invited to join the family for this memorial.

Would You Like to ALWAYS be "On The Money" with Your Giving?

### NORTHRIDGE UMC is pleased to announce Electronic Giving

You can keep your giving current by setting up automatic transfers electronically.

If you have any questions, you may contact our Business Manager, Dorrel Atteberry at

[dorrel@northridgeumc.org](mailto:dorrel@northridgeumc.org) or, visit the *Electronic Funds Transfer* table

after church or, call the church office at 818-886-1555.

**MISSION**  **Voices**

**Join the All-Church Mission Trip**

I'm often asked why there are no local Mission projects. Actually, there are many worthy projects right here in the valley and our church has often been involved. Habitat for Humanity, Chrysalis and North Valley Caring Services have all benefited from our support.

You may not think of these as real Mission projects, but they most certainly are, for distance does not define Mission. Webster's dictionary tells us that the origin of the word Mission is the Latin "mittere, denoting the sending of the Holy Spirit into the world." It is only when we open our hearts to the love of Christ that we can truly perform the work of Mission, either around the globe or around the corner.

You may have noticed that I capitalize the word Mission. This is a deliberate attempt on my part to associate Mission in all of our minds with God, Christ and the Holy Spirit. To have the word and idea stick in your mind and find a place in your heart so that all the church will join in our upcoming Mission project at North Valley Caring Services on October 21st.

This Mission will be a one-day local project where we will need open hearts and willing hands of all skill levels, as we repair, organize, clean and paint. Some of you will want to be there but cannot – you can still help. If you really cannot join us in body that day, join us in spirit and in gifts that day by paying for your time. Decide how much time you would have liked to work and then, at \$10/hr., donate to the project. Your donation will help purchase the supplies and equipment needed to make this Mission a success.

All of us at NUMC can be a part of this Mission. This is an all-church Mission and only together can we make it a success. Please mark October 21st on your calendar as a chance to join your church family in the work of love with your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service.

See you all there,  
*Ric Wilson*

**Usher Team Members Meet Everyone**



Volunteers are needed to usher on one of our usher teams, once a month, for either the 9 or 10:30 AM service.

This is a great way to get acquainted with your fellow worshippers. Anyone interested in helping please contact Ken or Joanne Buttrey.



**NUMC Will Host 2006 CROP Walk for Hunger**

The world's resources are not distributed fairly. Some lack the basics of nutritious food and clean drinking water while others have vastly more than they need.

On Sunday, November 5th, the 31st Annual Valley CROP Hunger Walk will again raise funds to help build a world that works for all people. This year the wheelchair accessible route will begin at NUMC and walkers will return here for refreshments and entertainment.

We will need volunteers to register walkers, sell raffle tickets, and a host of other necessary tasks. New this year is a way to create a personalized web page for seeking donations from friends and family. Just go to: [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org) for information.

Stop by the sign-up table and join us by walking, sponsoring a walker, or volunteering to help host the event. Contact Barbara Shields for more information.

*Your Church and Society Team*

**Cal-Pac UMW Events Planned**

District United Methodist Women Officer Training will be held on Friday, October 27, with the Annual UMW meeting celebration on Saturday, October 28.

Both events will be held at Wilshire United Methodist Church, Los Angeles. The meeting's theme will be *Bringing in the Peace*, with the keynote speaker, the Rev. Sandra Olewine. The registrar is Helen McVey and registration is available on the Cal-Pac UMW Web site: [www.calpacumw.org](http://www.calpacumw.org).

Attendees are asked to wear black or dark shoes to show solidarity with those whose footsteps are working for peace.

**Congregational Needs**

**MAGAZINES WANTED:** The Church and Society Team is looking for donations of current magazines. Others will enjoy reading what you have enjoyed. Please bring your donations to the magazine table on the patio on Sunday mornings. Thank You.

**REFRIGERATOR NEEDED:** One refrigerator, (preferably one that has the "Energy-Star" label for low energy consumption), for North Valley Caring Services. It will be used to keep drinks cold for the children's after-school program -- therefore it does not have to be a very large capacity refrigerator. Please call the church office if you have one to donate or know of someone who does.

## Open Minds



### Dinner Bridge Sat., Oct. 14th – 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall

For reservations, please call one of our co-hosts, Jean Thompson, Betty Erlandson or Jean Johnson by Tuesday, October 10th.

## OktoberFest Plans Continue

This year's OktoberFest and Ministry Faire is an all-church event with many exciting opportunities for involvement.

On Friday, October 20th, we will need volunteers to help decorate the Fellowship Hall for the all-church Dance and Dessert Extravaganza on Saturday night.

On Saturday, following a breakfast provided by the Men's Club at 8 AM, we will leave the church parking lot at 9:30 AM for an All Church Mission Trip Day at North Valley Caring Services to undertake much needed repairs and cleaning of facilities. There is a job for every talent and physical ability.

We need willing hands to paint, fix, tidy, sort and clean. Can't work? Be a sponsor, we have expenses to cover. Write a check!

That evening we will have an OktoberFest Dance and Dessert Extravaganza. We will have dance instructors present from 7:30 to 8:30 PM, followed by dancing for all ages. The dance needs volunteers to set up, clean up and especially to bake and donate cookies, pastries and other snacks which will be sold at the dance, all proceeds going to our Mission funds. We'll also need folks to tend the refreshment tables.

The OktoberFest Worship on Sunday will be a single, combined worship service, at 10 AM, followed by food, fun, games for young and old and entertainment. We'll have some of our local artists and hobbyists on display. The Ministry Faire will give our community a chance to see all the ways we are in ministry and will give our members a chance to get involved in a wide variety of ministries in our church, in our neighborhood and in the world.

Mark your calendar now for this dynamite church event.

### Borrowed Wheelchair Missing?

If anyone borrowed a wheelchair from the church, and you have no more use of it. Please return it to the church so it can be made available for others.



## Book Club Meeting Planned

We will meet in the home of Dorine Collins at 7:30 PM on Monday, October 23rd to discuss John Borendt's book *The City of Falling Angels*. Call her if you would like to attend.

November's book will be *Night* by Elie Wiesel.



## Singles to Attend Theatre

Are you an active single looking for some fun and company on a weekend afternoon or evening? Join the gang here at NUMC. Our next outing is for dinner and the theater on Saturday, October 28th.

Join us for a bite to eat at Carrows on Devonshire at 5:30 PM. Then we're off to see "On the Verge" at Theatre CSUN. "On the Verge" is a comic jaunt through time, space, history, geography, feminism and fashion. Three Victorian ladies venture out for deepest Africa but end up confronting Cool Whip, TV dinners, and the future of the world. The play will be held at the CSUN Studio Theatre beginning at 8:00 PM. Tickets are \$16 for General AdMission and \$14 for Seniors.

Sign up at the Singles Table on Sunday mornings or call the church office beginning October 15th. Carpools will be arranged. You are always welcome to bring a friend to these exciting events!

## Propositions Discussion Planned



Sandra Wolber from the League of Women Voters will be at NUMC on Sunday, October 29th, at noon, in the Fellowship Hall (right after second service coffee time) to discuss the propositions on the November 7th ballot.

There are 13 propositions on the ballot, Five of them are bond initiatives. The propositions will effect many issues: punishment for sex offenders, parental notification needed for termination of teenage pregnancy, taxes on cigarettes, clean money election campaigns, a tax to help fund K-12 education, a tax on producers of oil extracted in California, government acquisition and regulation of private property and more. These are all important and it is imperative for us to know the particulars of these initiatives so we can be educated voters.

Those who vote via absentee ballot have until October 31st to submit their ballots. This discussion is an opportune time for everyone who plans to vote. Please join us.

## Association Plans Auction

The San Fernando Chapter of the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers will hold their annual Auction of plants, tools, equipment and garden supplies on Wednesday, October 18th beginning at 6 PM in Fellowship Hall. Entry fee is \$5 per person.



The public, as well as landscapers and nursery owners, are invited to participate. There will be plenty of prices below wholesale. Besides plants, garden products and tools, the association will also have snacks and drinks for sale. Proceeds help support our local schools.

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## Rockhounds Sponsor GEMboree



The GEMboree is coming again to NUMC on Friday, October 27, 3 PM - 9:30 PM and Saturday, October 28, 10 AM - 5 PM, sponsored by the Del Air Rockhounds Club.

The show is FREE and appeals to all ages. Some of the attractions will be demonstrations, exhibits, cutting and polishing stones, sawing in half a geode you have selected to expose its hidden beauty. There will be dealers with jewelry, gems, beads, crystals and unique holiday gifts. Other activities include games, plant sales, silent auction, hourly door prizes, plus hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, drinks and pie.

Come celebrate Halloween early by visiting the HAUNTED MINE, one of the highlights of the show! Step inside and see the weird, glowing rocks change color in the ghostly dark!

If you have any questions, please contact Dick Flaherty or the Wendlers.



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## Bowling League Season in Progress

Come join us at 9 a.m. on Wednesday mornings at the Matador Bowl and enjoy a group committed to fun and companionship... with a little bowling thrown in for good measure. Even if you have never bowled before, this is the group for you. We are a non-sanctioned league. (This means we make up our own rules.)



We bowl three games and are through about 11:30 a.m. Our league began in mid September and ends the middle of May, 2007. We do not bowl the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you are interested, please call Joann DeSantis.



## Taizé (A Service of Prayer)

Taizé, a service of prayer — in song, word and silence — is held on the fourth Sunday of every month at 6:30 PM, in the Sanctuary. This month's service will be on October 22nd.

Experience a time to detach from the confusion, noise and busy activities of your everyday world and reflect on the living presence of Christ in your life.

Childcare is available.

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## Disposable Dusting Cloths:

### Super Convenient or Wasteful?



The answer is BOTH. Luckily, greener cleaning options abound and are just as easy to use. Save cash and lower your eco-impact by ditching the one wipe habit. Tackle your chores with reusable cloths and natural cleaners.

Micro-fiber dusting cloths and mops naturally attract dust and dirt and can be washed and reused instead of becoming landfill.

Common dusting sprays are flammable and contain petroleum products. Natural cleaners are safer and use fewer non-renewable resources.



We can lessen our impact on waterways, where a 2002 study found disinfectants in 66% of U.S. streams sampled. We can save money by using all our old clothes, socks and old towels for dusting. All can be washed and reused.

To find products that are eco-friendly and will do a good cleaning job for you, go to these web-sites: [www.starfibers.com](http://www.starfibers.com), [www.safehomeproducts.com](http://www.safehomeproducts.com), [www.treehugger.com](http://www.treehugger.com), [www.methodhome.com](http://www.methodhome.com) and [www.drugstore.com](http://www.drugstore.com).

For those without computers, I tried to find stores where these products are available, but was not successful.

## NUMC Children, Youth and Parents

### Handbell Choir Invites Young Ringers



Hello! I'd like to introduce myself. I am Pearl Marshall, your new handbell director for children and youth. I recently moved here from Maryland where I taught handbell ringing to people of all ages.

I am very excited about our plans for the handbell program this year. The Children's Chimes (Grades 1-4) and the Methodist Ringers (Grades 5-12) will ring regularly in church service, as well as take part in special performances including a presentation of the Sunday School curriculum in the spring.

I hope you will consider joining the handbell program this year. You don't even have to know how to read music! This is a great place to learn music and have fun at the same time.

Rehearsals are on Wednesdays in Room 5/6. Children's Chimes meet from 4:30 to 5:30 PM and Methodist Ringers meet from 5:30 to 6:30 PM.

**Parents:** We will need volunteers to stay in the room with us during rehearsals. There will be a sign-up sheet in the rehearsal space. Please stop in and see us.



If you have any questions, please contact the church office at (818) 886-1555.



## Why You Won't Be Left Behind

*Continued from Page 1...*

We'll be broaching such challenging topics as the relationship of the godly to the ungodly culture in which we live, the persistence and the difficulty of evil, the centrality of worship to the Christian faith and more.

Please join us, and bring a friend, throughout October as we explore this challenging and inspiring part of our faith heritage.

*Shalom,*

*Pastor Paula*

### Newsletter Deadline and Printing Schedule

<u>Deadline to submit articles:</u>	<u>For printing in Issue of:</u>
Thurs., Oct. 15, 2006 by 4:30 PM	Oct. 23, 2006
Thurs., Oct. 26, 2006 by 4:30 PM	Nov. 6, 2006
Thurs., Nov. 9, 2006 by 4:30 PM	Nov. 20, 2006
Tues., Nov. 21, 2006 by 4:30 PM	Dec. 4, 2006
Thurs., Dec. 7, 2006 by 4:30 PM	Dec. 18, 2006

## At-A-Glance for Everyone

### October

- October 9... **Missions Team Meeting** — @ 7:30 PM in Kendall Bldg.
- October 10... **Vision Team Meeting** — @ 7:30 PM in Library
- October 14... **Lay Empowerment Convocation** @ 8 AM to 3 PM on campus
- October 16... **Church and Society Team Meeting** — @ 7 PM in Kendall Bldg.
- October 17... **Noon Fellowship Group** — @ 11:30 AM in Kendall Bldg.  
**Caring Ministries Team Meeting** — @ 4 PM in Library  
**Finance Team Meeting** — @ 7:30 PM in Library  
**Trustees Team Meeting** — @ 7:30 PM in Kendall Bldg.
- October 18... **California Association of Nurseries & Garden Centers Auction** @ 6 PM in Fellowship Hall
- October 20... **OktoberFest Decorating Team** — @ 7 PM in Fellowship Hall
- October 21... **Men's Club Breakfast** — @ 8 AM in Fellowship Hall  
**OktoberFest All-Church Mission** — @ 9:30 AM meet in Kendall Bldg. To go to North Valley Caring Center  
**OktoberFest Dance & Dessert Extravaganza** @ 7 PM in Fellowship Hall
- October 22... **OktoberFest & Ministry Faire** @ Noon in Fellowship Hall & Patio  
**Taizé, Service of Prayer** — @ 6:30 PM in Sanctuary
- October 23... **Methodist Money Makers** — @ 7 PM in Library  
**Celebration Quarterly Team Meeting** — @ 7:30 PM in Kendall Bldg.
- October 24... **Team Leader Huddle** — @ 7:30 PM in Kendall Bldg.
- Tuesdays...* **Cracker Barrel** — @ 10 AM in Library  
**Senior Exercise Program** — @ 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall
- Wednesdays...* **Weekday Maintenance Volunteers** — @ 8:30 AM in Church Office  
**Children & Youth Handbell Rehearsal** — @ 4:30 & 5:30 PM in Room 5 & 6
- Fridays...* **Cracker Barrel** — @ 10 AM in Library
- Sundays ...* **Book Study** — @ 8:00 AM in Library  
**Worship Services** — @ **9:00 & 10:30 AM**  
**Grief Healing Support Group** — @ Noon in Library  
**Young Adults** — @ 7 PM in Room 4  
**Taizé, Service of Prayer, — @ 6:30 PM on 4th Sunday of each month.**  
**Childcare available at all services.**

## Speaker to Attend Noon Fellowship

Northridge United Methodist Women Noon Fellowship Group will meet in the Kendall Building on Tuesday, October 17th. We will gather at 11:30 AM with lunch being served at noon. Our guest speaker, Sharon Elkins, will share some of her experiences serving in the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

All women of the church are invited.

## Young Adults Plan October Fall Retreat

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Young Adult Fall Retreat sponsored by the Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries.

The theme is "Behind the Mask" and will be held the weekend of October 27-29.

The retreat will be held at the Huddle Hut at Camp Wrightwood, so spaces are limited. The Rev. Lui Tran will be the keynote speaker.

Please don't miss this opportunity to worship and fellowship with young adults from all over the conference. Catch up with old friends and make some new ones.

The cost is only \$40. Registration forms have been mailed to churches.

If you have questions, please email **C a n d i e O ' D e l l** at [wwjd998@hotmail.com](mailto:wwjd998@hotmail.com) or email Susan Faber at [seaf416@aol.com](mailto:seaf416@aol.com).

If you haven't received a brochure you can also download one at [www.Cal-Pac.org](http://www.Cal-Pac.org) and click on the young adult link. See you there.



## Meet Our New Members

The following people became members of our congregation on September 24th:

**Bill Williamson** — Bill likes to attend both services. He works as a Learning Center Librarian at the Union Rescue Mission. He enjoys reading, writing, listening to music and painting ceramics.

**Lane Wray** — Lane likes to attend the 10:30 AM service. He just moved to Los Angeles to pursue his acting career and, in his spare time, enjoys golf, reading and exercise.

## Author John Fanestil Launches Website

John Fanestil, author of *Mrs. Hunter's Happy Death: Lessons on Living from People Preparing to Die*, has launched a new website: [www.lessons-on-living.com](http://www.lessons-on-living.com).

Fanestil visited NUMC this past May to talk about his book. The website is aimed at drawing lessons on life and faith from people who are customarily ignored or overlooked.

At the website people can learn more about Fanestil's work and subscribe to a free monthly newsletter.

## Prop 89 Discussion Helps Inform Voters

There will be a discussion of Proposition 89 at 7 PM, Wednesday, November 1st, in the Kendall Building.

The discussion will cover how publicly financed elections work from both the national and state perspective. With all the advertising regarding PROP 89, the Clean Money and Fair Elections Initiative, it's hard to know just what is included in this complicated ballot proposition. Join us for this informative meeting.

## Bishop's eNewsletter Available Now

There has been some confusion surrounding the release of Bishop Mary Ann Swenson's new e-Newsletter, e360, containing her thoughts and reflections. If you are signed up for Cal-Pac Update, you are signed up for Bishop Swenson's newsletter and special announcements.

If you would like to respond to what is written, send an e-mail to:

[calpacbishop@earthlink.net](mailto:calpacbishop@earthlink.net).

Bishop Swenson's blog will be set up in the very near future.

## 2007 Entertainment Books Available from Youth

The 2007 Entertainment Books are here! They will be offered for sale after church services on Sunday mornings. Help support our Youth Group and start saving on your entertainment costs today!