



WOODLAND HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

# The Connection

October 1, 2017

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## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE OCTOBER 7

WHCC's annual "Blessing of the Animals" service will be held Saturday, October 7 from 9:00-9:30 AM in the fenced patio outside Harter Hall. We hope you will invite friends and neighbors to this time when we celebrate the special role animals play in our lives. Questions? See Pastor Craig.



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Be a part of the future of WHCC. Take advantage of the opportunity to serve the children and the community. Sunday School teacher are needed. Teachers typically serve for one month at a time and then take a few months off. Individuals need to have been attending for at least 6 months and be willing to take a background check. Interested? See Children & Youth Ministry Director Emma Wilkins right away.

Also, a Cub Scout leader is needed. If you can serve, contact Emma Wilkins.

Woodland Hills Community Church 21338 Dumetz Road Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Worship and Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. (818) 346-0820 Office Hours 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. M-F

whccucc@gmail.com www.woodlandhillscommunitychurch.org

## OCT. 8 ACCESS SUNDAY

We will have a chance to think about what it means to be an Open and Affirming congregation, especially for those who require accommodations. Come to Conversations That Matter to hear about some ideas to make our sanctuary more comfortable and accommodating to those in wheelchairs or using walkers.



## WEST VALLEY FOOD PANTRY

The shower program at the Pantry is up and running smoothly. About 20 homeless folks shower on Monday mornings at a shower truck on the north side of Prince of Peace church. The church has a vegetable garden and fruit orchard which provides fresh veggies and fruit to the Pantry clients. The gray water from the shower truck is used to water the garden. The West Valley Food Pantry is one of the missions our congregation supports.



## WORLD WIDE HURRICANE RELIEF

WHCC's parent denomination – The United Church of Christ – has created an effort to help those affected by the recent devastating hurricanes. If you would like to help out, visit the website at [http://www.ucc.org/disaster\\_hurricane\\_2017\\_relief](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_hurricane_2017_relief). You can donate for United States and International aide for those effected by these natural disasters. You can also send personal checks directly to Wider Church Ministries, Financial Services – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.



## SING-A-LONG SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF 2017

October 7—Annie Get Your Gun  
November 4— Oliver  
December 2—Chitty Chitty Bang Bang  
Thanks for a fun filled year!  
2018 Sing-a-longs will begin February 3



## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

There is an important anniversary that we will be observing serving this month: the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reform.

Why is that anniversary important?

Institutions are like many of us. It's easy for them to fall into ruts and do things that don't represent their best self. So five hundred years ago a German professor of theology, composer, priest, and monk by the name of Martin Luther challenged the church to be its best self – and the Protestant Reformation was born. Because one individual had the strength and courage to step forward, the Christian church was changed forever.

So how can you best celebrate this anniversary? By doing what Martin Luther did: by connecting with your passion, sharing your vision of what the church could be, and then rolling up your sleeves and getting to work – as you turn your vision into reality!

My prayer for us is that the Reformation won't be looked at as a one-time event from the distant past. Rather, my hope is that the church will continue to be reformed as we persist on our journey to become the church God would have us be!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Craig



**To contact Pastor Craig Peterson**

**call 818 346-0820**

**or email him at church at**

**whccpastor@gmail.com**



## **CROP WALK NOVEMBER 5— COORDINATOR NEEDED**

For nearly half a century, CROP Hunger Walks have ensured that more people worldwide have access to nutritious, sustainable food sources. Stand with neighbors in your community who rely on food assistance programs like the West Valley Food Pantry. If you feel called to coordinate our church's participation in this event, contact Jeanne Mowers.

Happy Birthday!



### *October Birthdays*

October 4—Kathryn DeAnda

October 9—Marnie Tallant

October 23—Pam Eychner

October 27—Bob Tallant



### First Annual Children's Church Group Photo



The children were rounded up on Welcome Sunday to have a group picture taken. The plan is to take a picture every Welcome Sunday to see how the kids are growing.

*Train children in the way  
they should go; when they  
grow old, they won't depart  
from it. Proverbs 22:6*



Lou Benedict is in hospice care in his own home for his final few days. Please surround Lou & Kevin, Kevin's son, Corwin, and the rest of Lou's family with prayer during this difficult time for them all.

Continue to pray for Kit Hinkle who is recovering from a sprained wrist and torn rotator cuff.

Jeanne's daughter, Kathi, is having ongoing trouble with her eyes and is undergoing surgery. Prayers for a quick recovery.

Barbara Robinson is ill with pneumonia and needs our prayers for a speedy recovery.

Kathryn Baker's sister has been admitted to hospital again in Chicago for treatment of leukemia. Pray for her and for Kathryn as she travels to be with her.

Zazel asks for prayers for Lake as she awaits the completion of her apartment remodel. Lake is currently living with Zazel.

Prayers of thanksgiving for the great time had by those who went to Worship in the Park.

Prayers for everyone impacted by the recent natural disasters, the hurricanes and earthquakes.

## MOVE THAT BUS! Church in the Park 2017



About 40 members of the congregation joined with other local United Churches of Christ for a morning of fun, fellowship, music and food. Thanks to Larry Moad, Jonathan Carlisle and Lyn Owen for organizing the transportation and delicious lunch. The children prepared a special song which they presented, then they got to attend outdoor Children's Church. Those who got to go saw old friends and made some new friends. Plans are already being made for next year!

