

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 7, 2025

**LOOKING AHEAD** – Sunday, December 14 - Next Sunday is the third Sunday in Advent. Pastor Mike will deliver a message titled, “Singing Before the World Is Perfect” based on Zephaniah 3:14–20 & Luke 3:7–18. In Luke’s account, John the Baptist sends a heartfelt question from prison: “Are you the one who is to come?” Jesus doesn’t answer with theories or arguments, but with evidence—“Look around: the blind see, the broken are healed, the poor hear good news.” Join us next Sunday as we gather to welcome and embody the joy that is Emmanuel, God with us.

**TODAY’S ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented by Craig and Cheri Torrey in celebration of their 37<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**PEOPLE TO REMEMBER** – We have learned in recent days that long-time church member Carolyn Jurk passed away on December 3. We extend our sympathy to Carolyn’s children. We have learned that Gary Krenz’ sister, Karen, passed away in recent days. We extend our sympathy to Gary. Please continue to remember Laura Lind, Sally Stubbs and Cheryl Hartzell.

### **ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP – December 14 - FROM TRAGEDY TO HOPE: A LOCAL RESPONSE TO SEX TRAFFICKING**

Human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar business and Los Angeles County has the tragic distinction of being one of the nation’s capitals of human trafficking. Kathleen Terry and Deatra Handy (Program Director of Restoration Diversion Services which helped rescue 18 girls last year) will lead the conversation. We meet at 8:30am in the Assembly Hall or join us by zoom at <http://zoom.us/j/3103723898>

**EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE** - MBCC’s Executive Board is proposing amendments to the church’s By-Laws to expand opportunities for members to serve on church Boards or official church organizations as well as reduce the potential for Board chair burnout. A number of specific amendments are being proposed. You may access the detailed changes online here: [mbccucc.org/by-laws/](http://mbccucc.org/by-laws/), or pick up a copy in the office. A special business meeting will be called at a future date to present and discuss these changes.

**ADVENT CELEBRATION** - Our traditional Advent Celebration will be held **TODAY** from 10 – 12 in the Assembly Hall. There will be storytelling, crafts, sweets and a surprise guest! All are welcome. Please join in the fun.

**THEATER BOARD - "The Other Side of Christmas"** will be presented **TODAY** at 2:00 pm. This family-friendly show explores the holiday season through a series of vignettes, focusing on moments that aren’t typically depicted in holiday greeting cards. Tickets Adults-\$15; Children (12 and under)-\$5

**Fiddler on the Roof Auditions** - The Theater Board is holding auditions for the Spring Musical Fiddler on the Roof on Saturday, December 6 and Monday, December 8. Rehearsals begin January 5; performances are March 20-29, 2026. For questions and/or an appointment, contact Susan Norris at [s.norris@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.norris@sbcglobal.net).

**CHRISTMAS GREENERY** - If you ordered Christmas evergreens from the choir, please plan to pick up your item(s) immediately following worship this morning. Cash or check can be used to pay for your order. Thank you for supporting MBCC’s choir!

**ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS FAIR** - On December 14, following the Sunday service, MBCC’s annual Alternative Christmas Fair will be held in the downstairs patio or, in the event of rain, in the Assembly Hall. During this special time of year, we remember those who are struggling and in need. Our MBCC Social Action Board wholeheartedly recommends support of these five local or international charities:

1. **All Peoples’ Community Center** (Provides services for low income families and youth, South LA)
  2. **A Sense of Home** (Supports young people who are aging out of the foster care system, Los Angeles)
  3. **Child Aid Guatemala** (Village Pre-School in El Tejar, Guatemala)
  4. **Finding Hope Africa** (Helping Urban Street People in Zimbabwe)
  5. **Ukraine Humanitarian Aid** (Partnership with Hungarian Reformed Church)
- Donation forms will be mailed to all MBCC households and will also be an insert in the December 14<sup>th</sup> worship bulletin. We will continue to have a “hybrid” Fair, enabling you to donate by mail and/or in person.

### **SOCIAL ACTION - December 13th- Mychal’s Santa Stroll.**

Put on your walking shoes and Santa suit to help support this local and deserving organization. We can meet at the Hermosa Beach post office at 8am to walk as a group. The walk starts at 9 a.m. at the Hermosa Beach Pier heading to the Manhattan Beach pier and back, but walk as much or as little as you’d like. When registering, put MBCC as your group. [santastroll25.funraise.org](http://santastroll25.funraise.org)

### **Community’s Child Diaper Drive**

We are collecting size 4 and 5 diapers, and wipes, for Community’s Child until December 21st. There will be a bin located in the narthex.

### **UCC Christmas Fund**

The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the UCC for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “thank you” gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees. You’ll find offering envelopes in your bulletins if you’d like to direct funds to the Christmas Fund.

**PENINSULA SYMPHONIC WINDS: WINDS JINGLE JAZZ JUBILEE** - Swing into the holidays in style with jazzy arrangements of your holiday favorites. The group is performing in MBCC’s sanctuary on Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 pm. Also performing “Go Tell it on the Mountain” for flute and piano are Pam Conde and Makena James. Suggested donation: \$20.

ACOLYTE: Keira Langley

GREETERS: Dale and Gloria Townsend

USHERS: George and Pam Conde; Craig Torrey and Carolyn Leserman

**If you are visiting with us, welcome! We’re glad you’re here. Please take a moment to scan the code and complete this visitor profile form so that we can follow up with you later this week.**

