

Our Church Homes

From the very beginning, attaining our own facility was considered extremely important, with attempts to own a home working briefly. However, for the most part, nomads we remained. Even with a regular meeting place, we have always had to rent additional space elsewhere for special events and meetings including a basement in a building, the Moose Lodge, a Baptist Church, synagogues, a clubhouse, a school auditorium, and a number of recreation centers. Finding a church home of our own has always been on our minds. Fundraisers for a permanent location were held frequently, especially in the 60's and 70's, and many properties were investigated.

Some of Our Homes

- 1962** On February 1, The Tri-Valley UU Fellowship is chartered by the UUA. Our meetings are held in members' homes for the most part.
- 1963** In April, a house is leased for a brief time at 367 Ventura Blvd, and we meet at the old YMCA after August.
- 1964** We rent a three-bedroom house at 65 Wilbur St. The March Newsletter reported, "A new place of worship has been obtained that is directly behind the Richfield station, which is at Moorpark Road and Wilbur. Now we won't have to drag out our props and things for every meeting." By the end of the year, this house is referred to as Fellowship Hall.
- 1965** Sunday evening meetings featuring speakers are so well attended that the Community Methodist Church at 1000 Janss makes one of its rooms available to us.
- 1966** The evening meetings move back to Fellowship Hall at 65 Wilbur. Other venues are used for special events, such as the Annual Meeting and Winter Festival Potluck held at the Horizon View Clubhouse and the Spring Festival held at Trinity Baptist Church.
- 1967** The Board discusses the possibility of merging with the Ventura church to buy property together. The search for larger quarters continues. 3/8 of our annual income is set aside for the building fund. The property at 65 Wilbur is no longer used. Space at Methodist Church is rented and by November, all Fellowship events are held there. We have 22 pledging units.
- 1970** We purchase a house at 1789 Wellesly Drive for \$25,000 with 20% down payment. Our Annual Budget is \$6665.
- 1974** The home is sold as there are problems with zoning restrictions. \$5,000 profit from the sale is invested in stocks and earmarked for future housing needs.

- 1977** Sunday morning services are held at the Arts Cultural Center of the Conejo Valley, "an old Spanish ranch house nestled among ancient oak trees overlooking the city golf course." Rental is on a three-month basis.
- 1982** We meet at Fellowship Hall of the Church of the Oaks, 950 Warwick Avenue, that we rent from the United Church of Christ.
- 1989** Beginning September our Sunday Services are held at the YMCA, 4031 N. Moorpark Road because Fellowship Hall does not meet our needs and use of the sanctuary there was uncertain.
- 1991** In September at the beginning of the church year, the Fellowship begins meeting at Old Meadows Park on Marview off of Erbes Road.
- 1994** An offer for a property on Townsgate is turned down, and we move back to the Church of the Oaks. This time we have use of the sanctuary as well as Fellowship Hall.
- 1996** In October we move to the Goebel Center when the Church of the Oaks is to be sold by the United Church of Christ.
- 1998** We rent our first church office (in Westlake) so that we will have a Minister's Office and place for meetings during the week.
- 2000** We move to a larger church office at 100 Rancho Road in Thousand Oaks. Sunday Services continue at the Goebel Center.
- 2008** Our first Sunday Service in our new church home at 3327 Old Conejo Road in Newbury Park takes place on July 13.