The Vision of Temecula UMC Community

Temecula UMC is a caring community dedicated to God's work. We welcome all by creating an atmosphere rooted in the fruit of the spirit. We are a positive, visible presence in our community and a place of comfort and peace. We provide spiritual fulfillment through worship, education, fellowship, missions and actions. We are people of God that live out our faith every day following Christ.

Pastor:

Rev. Rick Malec Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. David French Phone: 951-676-1800 Fax: 951-308-2694

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Temecula United Methodist Church The MESSENGER

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Saturday, December 5th

5:00 PM

ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY Everyone Welcome

Sunday, December 20th

9:00 AM 10:30 AM Choir presents CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION Choir presents CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Christmas Eve Services Thursday, December 24th

6:00 PM

FAMILY CANDLELIGHT CELEBRATION With special music by the Sunday School Children

8:00 PM

CANDLELIGHT/COMMUNION WORSHIP With Lessons and Carols

Music by the Chancel Choir

11:00 PM

CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION WORSHIP With Special Music

SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Sunday School Classes (EVERY SUNDAY) Toddler Room/Childcare (Ages 1–4 yrs.) Younger Elementary Class (K-3rd) Older Elementary Class (4th-5th) Teens (6th—12th)

10:30 A.M. WORSHIP

Childcare: Toddlers—Younger Elementary Toys and books available for children.

Please contact Pastor Rick for information on UMYF

PASTOR

Rev. Rick Malec Phone: (951) 676-1800, ext. 4 E-mail: pastorrick@temeculaumc.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr. Rob Hodo E-mail: rhodo70@gmail.com

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Mary Kottman Phone: (951) 676-1800, ext. 3 Fax: (951) 398-2694 E-mail: tumc@temeculaumc.com Church office hours: M-TH 9 am-4pm/F 9am-3pm

Rick's Ramblings Watch, Wait, Hope

What words do you associate with actions and events this time of year? Well, the first I would think of is "shopping". People begin shopping earlier and earlier for Christmas every year. "Black Friday" has been the designation for the Friday after Thanksgiving for all the retailers to have sales and get those shoppers in. But now the retailers are advertising "Black Friday" sales the beginning of November. The Monday after Thanksgiving is "Cyber Monday" when the Internet wires will be burning up with sales.

Other words are "presents" and "Christmas tree" (which are now on sale before Thanksgiving; oh my, I'm waiting for sales to start on Halloween). There are the words "Santa Claus", "Christmas parties", "baking goodies", "decorations", "lights", and "_____". You can fill in the blank.

Are the words "coming", "watch", "wait", "prepare", "hope" and "peace" on any of your lists? Maybe the last two, but not many would have on their list "watch", "wait", and "prepare". But these are the words of Advent. Advent is the four Sundays before Christmas. Advent is defined from the Latin word *adventus* meaning coming, the coming of Christ. This is thought of in two ways; the celebration of God coming into the world through Christ over 2,000 years ago to live among humanity. And the second coming of Christ to usher in the rest of the Kingdom of God on earth. The practice of this time is believed to have begun around 480 A.D.

We practice Advent in the Church by lighting a new candle on our Advent wreath each of the four Sundays and on Christmas Eve. We also read and study the Scriptures of the coming of the Messiah as told in the Prophets of the Old Testament and in the Gospels. This builds anticipation and it is a time to prepare our hearts, minds and souls for Christ's rebirth with us each year.

Continued on p. 3

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Part of the practice and understanding of Advent is that of watching and waiting. Christ has come and is coming, but it isn't as soon as we would want. But contained within the waiting and watching, there is the joy of hope that God gives to us through the grace of His love for us and all humanity. On Christmas Day, we open all the presents. We have scrumptious baked goods and meals. We travel to be with family and friends. But there is also the anticipation of knowing that God was birthed to a young couple. This was to offer peace, joy, forgiveness and continued hope.

One of the ways we experience the joy of God's love is by sharing God's love and hope of the Christ Child. This is key to our time of preparing, watching and waiting. We should not sit on our hands and do nothing or get bored by doing nothing. Just as we prepare for the fun and joy of Christmas by getting presents, baking goodies, decorating our homes, we can be active in preparing for the Christ Child.

As you will read in this edition of the Messenger we are continuing the **One Person**, One Can giving of non-perishable food items to fill the food pantry. Your family and you can bring food every Sunday of December. You can share gifts and toys for children of need by adopting a family for Christmas, or inviting a family or individual to come and share Christmas with you. Help serve a meal for the Homeless Shelter here in Temecula or in a neighboring community. There are many ways to offer Christ's love during this season of Coming to Christmas.

Sally and I want to wish our Church Family here in Temecula a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Grace, Peace & Hope Pastor Rick



NEW LOOK

One of the strengths that was discovered during our Twelve Keys Study and our Mission/Vision process was the strength of our landscaping and facilities that would be welcoming and inviting and help with visibility of our Church.

You may have noticed the grass in a couple of places is dying. We have heard the call to reduce water usage. As good stewards and representatives of the Church, the Trustees are taking the lead to re-landscape some of our area to be more drought tolerant. So be watching during the month of December. You will see a change to our corner on Margarita and Rancho Vista, in a small strip outside the Worship Center and behind the church facility all the way to the Meditation Garden. The new landscaping will not only be drought tolerant, but add new beauty to our property.



The Trustees are also adding a new simple sign at the driveway that will give our worship times.

They also have installed new lighting under the eves outside the Education Building.

All these updates and additions will enhance and welcome all who come to find home and family at Temecula United Methodist Church.



These trees, which keep their green leaves year-round, are symbolic of Christmas, eternal life and God's everlasting love. In the Bible, evergreen trees are called the "cedars of

Lebanon," suggesting growth (Psalm 92:12), height (Amos 2:9), fragrance (Hosea 14:6) and steadfast faith.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

<u>Sunday</u>

Adult Bible Study with Joe Hughes meets in Room 6 at 9:00 a.m. The class will be meeting on December 6th and 13th to study "In the Footsteps of John Wesley" with Rev. Adam Hamilton. We will not be meeting on December 20th or 27th.

Adult Tagalog Bible Study meets in the Youth Room at 9 a.m. Mission: Grow in Christian faith and watch over one another in love by studying and living the words from the Bible. Contact Boni Gulla.

Sunday School meets EVERY SUNDAY at 9 a.m. Toddler Room/Childcare (Ages 1—4 yrs.) Younger Elementary Class (K-3rd)

Older Elementary Class (4th—5th) Teens (6th—12th)

10:30 a.m. childcare is offered for toddlers through younger elementary. Contact Diana Walker Sunday mornings.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Room. *Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today* by Adam Hamilton is the current topic. Date, time and place of the annual Christmas Potluck for this group will be emailed and announced in the Tuesday Ladies Bible Study. Contact the church office at 676-1800x3 for more information.

Book Discussion Group - This group meets in the participants homes at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month through June, skipping January and July.

December 1, 2015Orphan Train by Christina Baker KlineFebruary 2, 2016Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell

Host: Carlyn Buehler Host: Barbara Gaborko

NEW! Men's Bible Study—<u>A new study will start December 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room</u>. This is a four- week video-based, discussion oriented study, "The Power of a Whisper" by Bill Hybels, pastor of Willow Creek Community Church, South Barrington, Illinois. The four lessons will emphasize how to learn to direct our everyday steps according to "whispers" from God. In this study, we will learn to discern the "voice" of God from the other voices that vie for our attention. We will also learn how to invite His input into your daily routine, how to "practice" His presence and how to allow heaven-sent input to direct your life toward making a kingdom-oriented difference in this world. If you wish to join this study on Tuesday nights beginning December 1st, and will be new to the group, please contact Ron Moreland so he can reserve a study guide booklet for you.

Wednesday

NEW! Morning Bible Study with Pastor Rick at 10 a.m. in the Music Room. The Wednesday morning Bible Study will read and discuss the Scriptures of Advent and Christmas December 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd. All are welcome to join Pastor Rick for these Scriptures.

Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:15 p.m. in the Worship Center. The choir will present "Christmas Celebration" on December 20th at both worship services. If you would like to add to the Christmas harmony and join the choir contact Rob Hodo, Director of Music, at rhodo70@gmail.com.

Thursday

Welcoming & Outreach Committee meets every other month. The next meeting will be January 7th at 10:30 a.m. in Room 6. Contact Sue Bradshaw.

Out to Lunch Bunch meets Thursday, December 3rd, at noon at Guadalajara's, 27780 Jefferson St., Temecula. Contact Sally Messersmith.

NEW! Evening Bible Study with Pastor Rick in the Music Room from 6:30—7:30 p.m. - The Thursday evening Bible Study will read and discuss "Finding Bethlehem in the Midst of Bedlam" by James Moore December 3rd, 10th, and 17th. To get a book for this study, contact Pastor Rick at rick.malec@gmail.com

FROM THE BREEZEWAY

December Worship Themes and Scriptures

6th Theme: *Preparation Again* Scripture: *Luke* 3:1-6 13th Theme: *Needing a Great Christ*

- 13th Theme: *Needing a Great Christmas* Scripture: *Luke* 3:7-18
- 20th Theme: *Jump for Joy* Scripture: *Luke* 1:39-45
- 24thTheme:6:00 p.m.: Grace Filled Story
8:00 & 11:00 p.m.: Peace on

Earth?

27th Scripture: *Luke* 2:1-20 Theme: *Never Alone* Scripture: *Luke* 2:41-52

Let's Fill Up the Food Pantry

You were so generous during our "One Person, One Can" food giving in November! Let us keep it going for the month of December. This is a time to give thanks and receive the joy of giving all that we can and to remember those who are hungry. During this December you are invited to bring canned goods or non-perishable foods for us to deliver to the food pantry at St. Catherine's. There will be a basket in the back of the Worship Center for you to bring your items. It is a great way to have your children help by letting them pick out items as you shop at the store. Let's fill up the basket each Sunday and in doing so we can fill up the food pantry.

YOUTH SPONSORED CAROLING

On Sunday, December 20, the Youth would like to invite our church family to join them for caroling to our homebound and seniors. We will gather at the church at 3:00 p.m. to get organized and head out. If we have enough families and individuals, we will split into more than one group. If you have a homebound or senior you feel would enjoy being caroled, please contact Pastor Rick. If you plan on joining the youth, please sign up in the breezeway.

UM WOMEN

December 10th—UMW Board Meeting at 10:30 a.m. in Room 6.

December 17th –UMW General Meeting/ Luncheon at 10:00 a.m. in the Hillside Room. The agenda is our Installation of UMW Officers for 2016 and Christmas Carol singing plus a gift exchange .(minimum \$5.00 for gift).

Please bring your favorite dish and Christmas spirit. All women of the church are welcome. Join us for fun and fellowship.

MONKS <u>M</u>en of <u>N</u>urturing <u>K</u>nightly <u>S</u>pirit

Contributions by the generations who have served in our military will be recognized at the 8 a.m. MONKS Monthly Breakfast on Saturday, December 12th. This was previously scheduled for the November meeting. Many brave individuals are members of our church; therefore, we wanted a Veteran Services representative as our speaker.

The MONKS extend our invitation to the entire TUMC congregation. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. for the usual MONKS donation; the family will enjoy a complete meal for \$20. We hope you will join us.



Look for the order form in the Sunday bulletin. You may place your order in the offering plate, in the box provided in the breezeway, or bring to the church office.

Deadline to order is December 17th.

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HANGING OF THE GREENS & POTLUCK

Don't forget! Sunday, November 29th, is the first Sunday of Advent. This marks the beginning of the Christmas Season for the Church. All are invited to come help with **Hanging** of the Greens, Saturday November 28th, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., to make the Worship Center ready for this joyous season. We shall begin with decorating

the Worship Center and then have a time for a simple potluck and enjoy Christian fellowship. This is a time for all ages. Come enjoy the fun.

Advent Candle Lighters

One church tradition to prepare for celebrating the birth of Christ is to light the Advent Candles.

Advent is a time to prepare and in lighting each candle we come closer to the celebration of God's gift to humanity in his son Jesus.



Pastor Rick is looking for families, couples, individuals, or friends who enjoy lighting Advent Candles on one of the Sundays in Advent. If

you would like to serve in this way, please contact Pastor Rick at rick.malec@gmail.com

ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Party starts at 5 p.m. Bring a dish to share. Please divide your dish into two (2) disposable dishes with serving utensils so each serving line has the same items. Enjoy a sing-a-long, games, children's crafts and Santa pictures! Sign up in the breeze-way.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

What is Christmas?

It is two weeks off - presents, time to take a trip, parties, and time to sleep in. But is that all Christmas is? You may have seen the saying, **this is the reason for the season!** What is the reason? The real reason we celebrate Christmas is to share in the joy and love of God who was born into the world in the life of Jesus. We probably don't really have a full understanding of what all this means, but come to Youth Group and discover and grow in your faith.

Christmas is about caring, sharing, giving, sacrificing, loving, forgiving, and so much more. Come share in the programs and events of Youth Group this Advent and Christmas Season. What does Advent mean? Check out my Rick's Ramblings to learn. If you know at the next youth group, you might get a prize!

Put the activities listed below on your calendar. Watch for your email, text, and other social media to stay connected with what Youth Group is doing. You won't want to miss it.

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

Parents are always welcomed to help in serving. Contact me any time.

Pastor Rick

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6: YOUTH GROUP 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. We will gather for fun, fellowship, and food. We will take time to work out details for our caroling date.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19: YOUTH GROUP 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Youth will gather to make cookies and put together gift bags and baskets for those for whom we will be caroling to the next day. Come for the fun and pizza as well.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20: YOUTH GROUP 3:00 p.m. -

7:00 p.m. We will gather at church to organize and go caroling to some of our homebound and seniors of our Church family. Parents and family are invited to join us. We will end up at the McCulloughs' home, 41855 Borealis Dr., Temecula, to be a part of their Christmas Party. Parents can pick up youth there.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20: YOUTH SUNDAY LEADING WORSHIP: This is our Sunday to be ushers, greeters and liturgists. Come dressed nicely and be ready to serve. We need ushers/greeters and liturgists for both services. Let us know which service you will be helping. Connect with Natasha nataliaturnblad@yahoo.com.

YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT

Youth Group is once again planning to participate in Sierra Service Project this summer. The dates that we are trying to set are July 23-31, 2016. This is based on availability of SSP. We will let you know once are confirmed.

The location we are hoping to get is Chiloquin, Oregon. It is a community in southern Oregon with which SSP has established a relationship and has had a partnership for the last several years. It is a community of great need and embraces SSP coming to serve with joy.

We are trying something new this year. We will be going as a combined Middle and High School group. SSP has offered this combination to help with smaller groups for the last two years with great success. This will include youth going into the 6th grade through graduating seniors. More details to follow.

DON'T FORGET!

Youth Sunday School every Sunday except the third Sunday of the month when youth lead worship. Sally, Aimee, and Toby look forward to seeing you.

SUNDAY JANUARY 10: YOUTH GROUP 6:00 PM – 8:00 p.m. All youth are invited to gather for the first Youth Group of 2016. More details to follow. But at 7:30 p.m. we will be discussing the SSP Trip, and Pastor Rick wants to invite parents of all youth who are thinking about making this awesome trip to come to ask questions and get details.



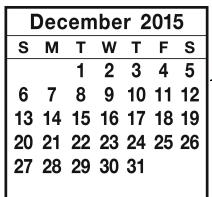
Holiday Scrip News! Submitted by Lyn Gruber

It's time to think about pre-ordering your Scrip for Christmas shopping and presents! Please have your pre-orders turned in by Sunday, December 13th, so we can make sure to have your Scrip before Christmas. Scrip is the perfect gift for stocking stuffers, teacher gifts, and those that are hard to shop for. Keep some on hand for last minute gifts as well; Starbucks, Regal movie passes, See's Candy, Bath and Body Works to name just a few. For those of you who shop online we can order Amazon, LL Bean, Zappos, and don't forget Shutterfly to use for your Christmas Cards or printing photos.

Thank you to all of you who support the Scrip Program. Thanks to your support the program has earned over \$3,000! We always like to see new faces, so come by the Scrip Table after the church services at 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. every Sunday morning and see what we have. Remember, there are a number of gift cards that we do not keep in stock, but we can pre-order. Check out our list at the table or attached with the email Messenger edition, or you can see the full list of Scrip that is available at https://www.shopwithscrip.com



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- 12/1 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Men's New Bible Study
- 12/2 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/Pastor Rick 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 12/3 12:00 p.m. Out to Lunch Bunch 6:30 p.m. Bible Study w/Pastor Rick
- 12/4 5:00 p.m. Christmas Party setup
- 12/5 5:00 p.m. All Church Christmas Party
- 12/6 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:00 a.m. Bible Study w/Joe Hughes 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 12/8 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 p.m. MONKS Planning Meeting 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study
- 12/9 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/Pastor Rick 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 12/10 10:30 a.m. UM Women Executive Committee
- 12/12 8:00 a.m. MONKS Monthly Meeting 9:00 a.m. PALS Cleaning Day
- 12/13 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/Joe Hughes 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 12/15 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study
- 12/16 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/Pastor Rick 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 12/17 Deadline for Poinsettia Orders 10:00 a.m. UM Women Meeting/Luncheon 6:30 p.m. Bible Study w/Pastor Rick
- 12/20 4th Sunday of Advent 9:00 a.m. Choir "Christmas Celebration" 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/Joe Hughes 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Choir "Christmas Celebration" 11:45 a.m. Stephen Ministers meet
- 12/22 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study
- 12/23 6:30 p.m. Trustee Meeting

- 12/24 Christmas Eve—Church Offices close at noon 6:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Celebration 8:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion Worship w/Lessons & Carols
 - 11:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion Worship w/Special Music
- 12/25 Christmas Day—Church Offices closed through January 3rd.
- 12/27 1st Sunday after Christmas Day 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/Joe Hughes 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 12/29 7:00 P.M. Men's Bible Study
- 12/30 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal



Messiah Concert Sunday, December 6th 4:00 p.m.

Grace Presbyterian Church 31143 Nicholas Rd. Temecula. Once again, the concert will include TUMC soloists Earl Fields and Alan Sheaffer. Freewill Offering

Sounds of the Season Christmas Concert December 12, 2015 - 2:30 p.m.

<u>Murrieta Valley High School</u> 42200 Nighthawk Way, Murrieta, CA 92562 Celebrate the Christmas Season with Temecula Valley Master Chorale and a collection of your favorite Christmas songs, and some new ones as well.

General Admission \$15.00

Tickets available at the door.



	<u>Dec. 6</u>	<u>Dec. 13</u>	<u>Dec. 20</u>	<u>Dec. 24</u>	<u>Dec. 27</u>
USHERS 9:00 a.m.	Judy Dermody Larry Messersmith Bert Bjorklund Erik Toberman	MONKS	Youth	6 p.m. tba 8 p.m. tba 11 p.m. tba	Oscar Loud Thelma Loud Sam Hill Pat Hill
USHERS 10:30 a.m.	Dan Henley Lovely Villanueva Janet Galbraith Dick Mohammed	MONKS	Youth	6 p.m. tba 8 p.m. tba 11 p.m. tba	Raul Denisac Dan Henley Gloria Galvez Steve Jones
LITURGISTS 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Darcy Thielemann Gerry Nicholas	Monks Monks	Youth Youth	6 p.m. Raymond Landry 8 p.m. Joyce Little 11 p.m. Claire Chapman- Wright	Toby Hammett Joan Jessup
GREETERS 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Jan Clark-George Jean Williams	monks Monks	Youth Youth	tba	tba Sharon McCarthy
SOUND TECH 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Mark McCullough Raymond Landry	M. McCullough Ken Boyle	Meg & Gian Meg & Gian	tba	R. Edmonds Jeanette Holt
VISITOR TABLE					
9 :00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Pauline Fields Gloria Galvez	Anita Accordino Jean Williams	Sue Bradshaw Dorothy Smith		Sue Bradshaw Marilyn Landry

If you cannot serve as assigned, please call Erik Toberman for 9 a.m. and Dan Henley for 10:30 a.m. ushers and Lorna Henley for liturgists & greeters . Thank you.



Temecula United Methodist Church 42690 Margarita Road Temecula CA 92592-4962

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Temecula, CA

stella&dot INDEPENDENT STYLIST

