



The Vision  
of  
Temecula UMC

Temecula UMC is a Reconciling Congregation. ALL are welcome to the compassionate TUMC family to participate in worship, education, fellowship, missions and ministry, regardless of race, ethnicity, color, age, sex, or sexual orientation. We are people of God that live out our faith every day following Christ.

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# Temecula United Methodist Church THE MESSENGER

January 2023



## Turning Over a New Leaf

The idiom "turning over a new leaf" became known in the 16th century in England. It was understood that the "leaf" referred not to those on a tree but to new pages in a book. To turn a new leaf was to turn to a new, unused page on which to start anew. The term has grown in our understanding today, starting fresh and changing attitudes, relationships, or behaviors for the better. This time of year, as January 1 came upon us, we also might think of it in the way of a New Year's Resolution to do something different, to add to or take away from our way of life, to make a new start for the better. As much as we try, it is difficult to maintain our resolutions. Constant variables in life, some of which we can control but many of which we can't, seem to cause us to forget, drop, or move away from our resolutions. Most times, we laugh about how resolutions are ridiculous or we just aren't disciplined enough to hold on to them. Sometimes we count it as a victory if we can live through even a partial resolution. We lose 10 pounds in the year, not the 30 we planned. Or we did get a different job—just not quite the career move we had hoped for. We adapt and adjust, then move on. We turn over a new leaf.

That's the beauty of turning over a new leaf; it can happen at any point in one's life, not just at the start of a new year. As people of faith, God gives us the opportunity to turn over a new leaf in our lives every day of our walk with God. It's called Grace, a term that we understand to contain forgiveness, the ability to forgive, hope, joy, peace, and most especially an all-consuming Agape Love. With God's grace created within us through the Holy Spirit, we have the ability to re-boot, begin again, and change for the better how we live out our faith. The grace of God is within us.

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### *Rick's Ramblings continued*

The scriptures share this relationship we have with God, from Jeremiah 29:11, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." And from Isaiah 43:18-19, "Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old." "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" "I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

As a church family and as individuals, I invite us, with God's help, to look to turn over a new leaf in our lives. To mend and bring healing to relationships that have been fractured, to offer forgiveness and accept forgiveness that will bring reformations and strength to connections of individuals and communities, to seek to be a peacemaker in how we live, to grow in our love for God and for ourselves as we love others. Let us seek to turn over a new leaf and strive to bring an end to Spiritual and Physical Hunger in the ministries and missions we grow and develop in the coming year.

As we look to turn a new leaf as this year begins, let us do so with these words from Paul to guide us: "Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God." "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

PS: I want to thank everyone in our Church Family for your Prayers, Christmas Cards and Gifts.

Happy New Year!

Pastor Rick

### Prayers and Squares



We are currently in need of expanding our Prayers and Squares team. If you can sew, used to sew, or would like to learn to sew, please do come to Prayers and Squares. I can teach any willing person to sew. We meet the 2nd and 4th Friday mornings from 9:30 to noonish. You would be part of a meaningful

ministry, be part of the comraderies of quilting friends, and have fun too. If you are interested, please come and discuss it with me. We'd love to have you be part of this ministry.

Blessings,

Marlene Oaks

### Worship Scriptures and Themes

#### January

**1 Scripture:** Matthew 2:13-23

**Theme:** God with Us, 2023

**8 Scripture:** Matthew 3:13-17

**Theme:** Linked Forever

**15 Scripture:** John 1:29-42

**Theme:** Christ for the World

**22 Scripture:** Matthew 4:12-23

**Theme:** Lead, Follow, or Get Run Over

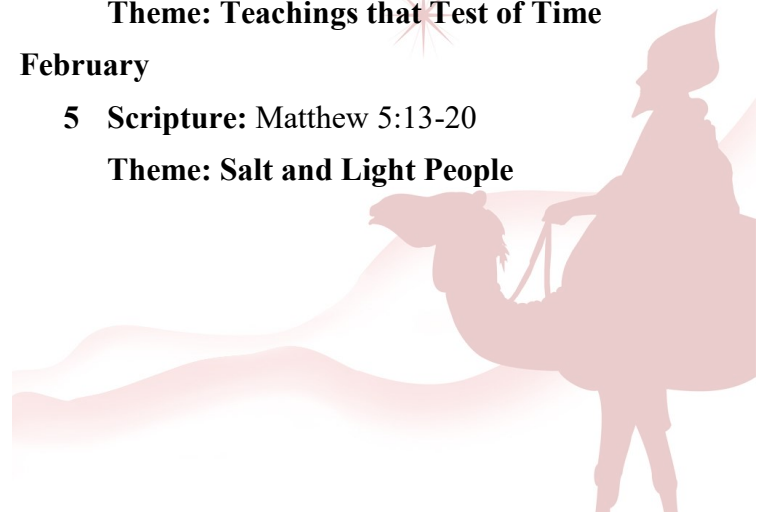
**29 Scripture:** Matthew 5:1-12

**Theme:** Teachings that Test of Time

#### February

**5 Scripture:** Matthew 5:13-20

**Theme:** Salt and Light People



### From The Breezeway



#### TIME TO PACK and PUT AWAY

Join Pastor Rick on **Saturday, January 14, 11:00 AM** following the MONKS breakfast, to pack up and put away the Christmas Decorations.

Men come and have a good breakfast and MONKS gathering, then help with preparing the worship Center for Sunday. With many hands, we should be done by noon and Christmas Decorations will be put away for another year. If you need any information, please contact Pastor Rick.

## Golden Baskets for This Month

### January

- 1 Missionary - Rev. Andrew Soon Lee
- 8 Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- 15 Human Relations Sunday
- 22 Guatemala Student Scholarships
- 29 Christ Ministry Center, San Diego



Rev. Andrew Soon Lee is a missionary serving in Cambodia with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church. He was commissioned in the spring of 2017 and appointed as a missionary in Cambodia in July, 2017. He moved to Cambodia from Hawaii with his wife, Janice Lee, and two daughters, Serena and Reina. To find out more about him and his work click on the link <https://umccambodia.org/>.



The Pastor's Discretionary Fund helps members of the church and the community with emergency needs, such as rent, gas, and food.

### What is Human Relations Day?

We are all family. When we walk past our neighbor who is hiding in plain sight, we limit the gifts and graces that our sisters and brothers in Christ bring to the table. We limit the experiences, the voices, and the beloved community that take place through mutual sharing of gifts. With a special offering celebrating Human Relations Day, we join with United Methodists around the world, remembering that the size of the table of divine love is unlimited.

## Guatemala Student Scholarships

Because of your generous giving last year, we were able to supply more than one scholarship for students in Guatemala. But the need never ends, so once again we are having a Golden Basket for The Guatemala Student Scholarship. As shared before, the Guatemala Government provides teachers at local schools. However, families of students are required to pay nominal school fees for all school supplies, such as pencils, pens, paper, books, etc. The Student Scholarship Fund is used for students (K-University) who are unable to attend school because their families cannot afford to pay these school expenses.

## Christ Ministry Center

### Services Provided by CMC:

- ◆ Good Neighbor Center
- ◆ Spiritual Ministries
- ◆ Free Clinics
- ◆ Brother's Keeper Clothes
- ◆ Prison, Detention, Recovery
- ◆ The Welcome Home
- ◆ Safe Harbor Loft
- ◆ AbundantHELP and much more

To learn more visit their website at <https://www.cummc.org/>

## United Women In Faith



**Jan. 12, 2023** - Board Meeting - Thursday, 10:30 a.m. in Room 1

**Jan. 19, 2023** - General Meeting - Thursday, 10:30 a.m. in Room 1

**Our Gathering For This Meeting:** Setting for the year and "Pledges

for the Missions and Charities", globally and locally.

All women of the church are encouraged to attend. Come and join us!

### SAVE THE DATE

UWF is excited to announce the return of the Tea on **May 13th, 2023, Saturday.**



If you are interested in helping put on this wonderful event please contact Meghann Adesso at [Bigstar951@gmail.com](mailto:Bigstar951@gmail.com).

# Share Your Faith



Introducing a new opportunity for 3 to 4 minutes on Sunday morning. Share your faith story with everyone. Maybe it was long ago, or maybe it was last week. The precious moments of “touching the hem of the garment,” the moments of feeling God’s Presence, the spiritual aha that was meaningful or....Spiritual stories from those we know are deeply meaningful.

As we share our stories, we strengthen and encourage one another. In these perilous times, it is so important to lift one another.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table outside by Pastor Rick’s office. Please give us the gift of your stories.

If you are too shy, write up a paragraph and send it to the office to be in the newsletter.

We pray you will give the gift of yourself and your stories to your spiritual family here at TUMC.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rick or Marlene Oaks.

## January ANNIVERSARIES



Robert & Jennifer Sayne .....	1/05
Jose & Channing Manacop .....	1/10
John & Cookie Gender.....	1/22

## January BIRTHDAYS



Zachary Smith.....	1/01
Dan Little .....	1/06
Hallie Sebanc .....	1/06
Lovely Villanueva.....	1/06
Josh De Wall.....	1/07
Marika Matson.....	1/08
Bert Bjorklund .....	1/09
Bob Holland .....	1/09
Peggy Cowherd.....	1/10
Savannah Hammett .....	1/10
Dwight Weaver .....	1/10
Cris Argenbright .....	1/11
Steve Jones.....	1/11
Eva N Tony .....	1/12
Judy Dermody .....	1/14
Doug Galbraith.....	1/16
Sally Malec .....	1/16
Bret Argenbright .....	1/17
Gloria Galvez .....	1/17
Danilo Gutierrez.....	1/24
Kathy Kasitz.....	1/27
John Oh .....	1/28
Erik Toberman .....	1/28
Melanie Roth-Smith.....	1/31



## Servant Volunteer of the Month - January, 2023

### Sue Bradshaw



It is with great joy that I present a sketch of the life of the amazing Sue Bradshaw. Sue was born at Riverside Osteopathic Hospital and grew up in Colton. She went through high school in Colton schools.

Sue met Lloyd through a mutual school friend. Sue says, "It was love at first sight." "We were smitten." They dated for about 18 months and were married in April, after graduation. They attended San Bernardino Valley College for a time, then Lloyd went to work full time with his dad, apprenticed, and became a union boilermaker. They lived in San Bernardino, Colton, and then Grand Terrace until they moved to Temecula in 2000. By then, Lloyd had earned a CPA degree and was CFO for an HVAC company. Their two boys, Paul and Chris, were grown by that time. Paul has two children: Elizabeth and Dylan.

Sue says she grew up in Colton UMC but got away from it for a time after marriage. As her boys grew up, she went back and got them involved. She was a Lay Leader and Church Council Chair. It was a small church by that time and shared its facility with a Tongan group. She went back to school when both boys were in school. She worked briefly for San Bernardino County Child Support and then for the San Bernardino County Medical Society. She loved it there and was able to do a wide variety of interesting things. She did historical research and helped set up a Medical Museum. She was Director of Communications and Managing Editor of the SBCMS monthly journal, dealt with advertisers, and met monthly deadlines. At the same time, she coordinated the Historical Committee, the Public Service Committee (patient complaints), the Legislative Committee, and a few others. She began there in 1981 and retired 10 years ago.

When they moved to Temecula, she was tickled to discover the house they bought was within walking distance to the TUMC. She started with things like folding bulletins and helping Mary in the office. Eventually she was on the SPRC and Nominating Committee, co-chaired an anniversary celebration of the church, and served on the Church Council for quite a few years. In 2011, Pastor Randy asked her to take charge of evangelism, later called the Welcoming and Outreach Committee, and she was chair until 2019. Sue questioned this calling but studied it, seeking out information, especially with resources from CalPac. She feels gratified by some of the group's accomplishments: the ramp at the front of the worship center; welcoming flags outside; resources and bags for visitors (Pauline's idea); revised and revamped the welcome table; ministry fairs; two weekend celebrations with Servant Evangelist Kimball Coburn; changed the name of our meeting room to Worship Center. She is sad that right now no one is the Welcoming and Outreach team leader, but because of worsening arthritis, she is no longer able to do the work.

Sue says she and Lloyd were rather spiritually naive until they studied with Pastor Randy and, later, Marlene. The classes were exciting, and they became more of a progressive Christian, open, and growing. Lloyd meshed with Randy's scholarly approach and joined the church.

Sue remarked that coming here to this church was like coming home. She wants to thank everyone for their warmth, presence, prayers, and friendship. She appreciates the willingness to go forward in understanding God and Jesus.

What a blessing Sue is to us all.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Marlene Oaks

To nominate someone for Volunteer of the Month, submit the name to Pastor Rick or Marlene. Thank you.