

Temecula United Methodist Church

RICK'S RAMBLINGS

I See A New Church

Isaiah 43:15-21

"Forget the former things; See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise."

Bishop Hagiya began his opening address with this: "If we haven't done anything really uncomfortable, not just a little uncomfortable but really uncomfortable, we probably aren't pushing ourselves far enough."

Over the last several months there has been debate, decisions made, and a ruling on those decisions on how the United Methodist Church will minister and embrace the LBGTOIA people and community. I've shared this in previous writings and messages. Many United Methodist Conferences, jurisdictions, churches and people in the United States and Europe cannot agree with the rulings and voted upon, to uphold the Traditional view of dealing with the Homosexual + community and clergy. They have made decisions to resist and not abide by that portion of the Book of Discipline and the ruling of the General Conference.

There are still many conversations and gatherings of United Methodists at all levels as to how we will live out the Gospel and to be faithful first to the way of Christ and the Church.

There are many in our congregation that have asked where we stand. What is our response? How will we move forward to fully live out "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"?

Messenger Addendum

August, 2019

Special points of interest:

- *I See A New Church*
- *Thoughts from Pastor Rick*

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I See A New Church - continued

We want to be totally inclusive in offering and embrace the love of God. This means all are to receive the same ministry and care from their pastor that is called for by following in the way of Christ. Look below for the dates and times in which you can participate in the Congregational Conversations. Once the meetings are done, we will set a time for the whole church family to come together to discover what steps can be taken to create ways for us to not only live together as followers of Christ, but live our faith boldly and openly in this community. Our Bishop and his cabinet mandated at our annual conference that these discussions begin the process as to how we will live out as people of God and as United Methodists. We are to report our pro-

gress at our Church Conference.

The Prophet Isaiah spoke to people in exile who were hoping and waiting to return. He urged them not to be afraid of change, even if it was difficult. Isaiah told them change was necessary in order to live out their faith. This means, in part, for us to be open to change. Change is not necessarily easy but requires us to move beyond our comfort zones, expand our faith and relationship with God in Christ, to be responsible as a people of faith, and to treat everyone and all of God's creation as we

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would want to be treated.

I believe that for us to grow as a healthy congregation, we need to move together as a family of God to do really uncomfortable things in faith. This means that we might welcome ALL, and care for ALL of God's creation.

Peace & Grace

Pastor Rick



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

FROM THE BREEZEWAY

Congregational Conversations

To meet our Bishop's request that all Churches of the Cal-Pac Conference have open discussions on how each Congregation "Sees a New Church", Pastor Rick has set up four initial group story-sharing discussions.

Wed., August 14, at 10 AM and 7:00 PM in the Hillside Room;
Thurs., August 15, 6:30 PM in the Hillside Room; and,
Sun., August 18, 3:00 PM in the Hillside Room.

All are invited to attend any one of these sharing times.

Information from each sharing time will be gathered and will be the basis for a whole church family gathering. If you need further information or have questions, you can contact Pastor Rick or one of our lay leaders, Earl Fields, Adam Hathorn, or Art Salyer.

Wednesday Bible Study Returns

Wednesday Bible Study resumes **August 21, at 10 AM and 6:30 PM**. The group will continue studying the Lectionary Bible Passages for that week's Sunday readings. August 21, the readings will be: *Jeremiah* 1:4-10, *Hebrews* 12:18-29, and *Luke* 13:10-17. All are welcome! I Look forward to seeing you there.

FROM THE BREEZEWAY continued

One Worship Service in August

The Worship Team has decided to designate August as Family Month and invite all to attend **one Worship Service at 10 AM. on August 4, 11, 18 and 25.** If you arrive early, there will be refreshments under the tower outside the breezeway. Come and enjoy fellowship prior to worship. There will also be music playing in the Worship Center for a time of prayer and reflection. In addition, announcements will be presented on the screen for your information. Bring a friend to worship in August during this family time.

SAVE THE DATE!

On Saturday, **September 28,** and Sunday, **September 29,** we have the opportunity to welcome Rev. Kimball Colburn. He is Conference Evangelist to our Church and will lead our community in an exciting event, ***Grow With the Spirit, A Family Gathering.*** This is our chance to invite our neighbors, friends, and family to experience a very uplifting time of music and interaction with Kimball and his wife, Pam. They will bring a level of energy and spirit that will offer the love of Christ and hope of God for all who attend. Please mark your calendars. In addition, send out at least five invitations to others to join your family. If you need more information or have questions, you

Temecula United Methodist Church Presents

Grow with the Spirit

A FAMILY GATHERING



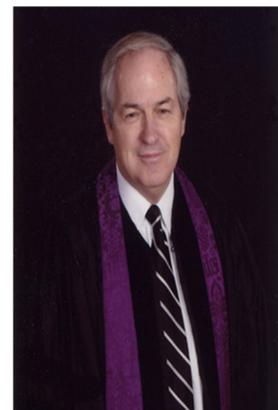
"The Call to be the Church is the greatest and most loving challenge in the world." Kimball Boyd Colburn

Saturday, September 28 • 4:00pm

Saturday Service will be a truly family focused service with lots of singing and interaction with the children and youth. Dinner to follow the Saturday Service.

Sunday, September 29 • 10:00am

Rev. Kimball Colburn will be Preaching.





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.

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The Messenger

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