



**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

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The Messenger

December, 2018

Published monthly

TUMC

42690 Margarita Road

Temecula CA 92592

Temecula United Methodist Church

The MESSENGER

December, 2018

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Vol. MMXVIII, Num. 12, Issue 233

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

5:00 p.m. All Church Christmas Party
Everyone Welcome

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

9:00 a.m. "What God Wants for Christmas" play

10:30 a.m. "What God Wants for Christmas" play

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

9:00 a.m. Choir sings "The Story of Christmas"

10:30 a.m. Choir sings "The Story of Christmas"

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

6:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Worship
Special Music

8:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship
Special Music

11:00 p.m. Candlelight & Communion Worship
Special Music

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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.

PASTOR

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

UMYF

Contact Gian Adesso
 email: gadesso25@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr. Rob Hodo
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PIANIST

Dr. Corry Bell
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Jeanette Frisbey
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ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

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 Fax: (951) 398-2694
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 Church office hours: M-TH 9 am-5pm/F 9am-3pm

Rick's Ramblings

Christ Climbed Down

As we begin the Advent Season, head to the celebration of Christmas and the coming of God into the world through Jesus the Christ, I began reflecting on the carol *Love Came Down at Christmas*. It's a beautiful carol and fun to sing. But it doesn't give you the reality that Jesus was born into the struggles of God's people. This song gives us the joy of the season, but not the reason we are worshiping and following Christ.

This got me thinking of another writing, a poem by Lawrence Ferlinghetti written in 1962, *Christ Climbed Down*. I share this poem with you as you prepare your hearts and souls for Christ being reborn within you this Christmas. Do not be swept away by all the hoopla and trappings of a secular Christmas. But pay attention to the reality and simplicity of the sacrifice by which God's love came to us in the birth of God's son. Though some of the images and language may be dated, the thoughts and points made are very much relevant today. I offer this poem to you for devotion and thought this Christmas Season.

Christ climbed down
 from His bare Tree
 this year
 and ran away to where
 there were no rootless Christmas trees
 hung with candy canes and breakable stars
 Christ climbed down
 from His bare Tree
 this year and ran away to where
 there were no gilded Christmas trees
 and no tinsel Christmas trees
 and no tinfoil Christmas trees
 and no pink plastic Christmas trees
 and no gold Christmas trees
 and no black Christmas trees
 and no powder blue Christmas trees
 hung with electric candles
 and encircled by tin electric trains
 and clever cornball relatives
 Christ climbed down
 from His bare Tree
 this year
 and ran away to where
 no intrepid Bible salesmen
 covered the territory
 in two-tone Cadillacs

Continued on page 3

Rick's Ramblings *continued*

and where no Sears Roebuck crèches
complete with plastic babe in manger
arrived by parcel post
the babe by special delivery
and where no televised Wise Men
praised the Lord Calvert Whiskey
Christ climbed down
from His bare Tree
this year
and ran away to where
no fat handshaking stranger
in a red flannel suit
and a fake white beard
went around passing himself off
as some sort of North Pole saint
crossing the desert to Bethlehem
Pennsylvania
in a Volkswagen sled
drawn by rollicking Adirondack reindeer
with German names
and bearing sacks of Humble Gifts
from Saks Fifth Avenue
for everybody's imagined Christ child
Christ climbed down
from His bare Tree
this year
and ran away to where
no Bing Crosby carolers
groaned of a tight Christmas
and where no Radio City angels
ice-skated wingless
thru a winter wonderland
into a jingle bell heaven
daily at 8:30
with Midnight Mass matinees
Christ climbed down
from His bare Tree
this year
and softly stole away into
some anonymous Mary's womb again
where in the darkest night
of everybody's anonymous soul
He awaits again
an unimaginable
and impossibly
Immaculate Reconciliation
the very craziest of Second Comings

May you have a most Blessed, Joy-filled,
Merry Christmas and Hopeful New Year.

Pastor Rick

DON'T FORGET!
CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST
5 — 8 P.M.

Where will you find Good Food, Friends, Games,
Prizes and a Special Christmas Guest?

A — J Salads
K — Z Side Dish

Ham and Chicken Nuggets, Rolls and Dessert will be
provided.

As in past years, please bring your food equally
divided in two disposable containers for two serving
lines, with serving utensils.

Scrip News



It's time to pre-order your Scrip for
Christmas shopping and presents!

Holiday pre-orders are due by
December 9, and ready for pickup
on December 16.

- Preorder forms are attached to the emailed
December Messenger.
- You may also email Janet Galbraith at
jngalbraith5@yahoo.com

New Items for Sale:

- Sprouts \$50
- Cheesecake Factory \$25
- Cold Stone \$5 and \$10

Ralphs/Food4Less: If you shop at Ralphs or
Food4Less, be sure to register your rewards cards to
earn rebates.

Amazon Smile: When shopping log onto Amazon
Smile. Mark Temecula United Methodist Church as
your charitable organization. Amazon will donate
to the church. <http://smile.amazon.com>

All proceeds from sale go directly to the church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Sunday

9 a.m. Adult Bible Study with Joe Hughes - Meets in Room 6 weekly. "Finding Joy in Real Life" with Adam Hamilton.

9 a.m. Adult Tagalog Bible Study meets in Room 8 weekly. Mission: We grow in Christian faith and watch over one another in love by studying and living the words from the Bible. Contact is Boni Gulla.

9 a.m. Sunday School meets EVERY SUNDAY—December Children's Ministry is attached to the emailed December Messenger.



10:30 a.m. childcare is offered for toddlers through younger elementary.

4:30—6:00 p.m. Club 3.16 w/Jeanette Frisbey—3rd to 5th graders at TUMC meet in Room 1, December 9.

12:00—1:30 p.m. Sunday Lunch Book Club— Meets January 6, at Richie's Diner in Temecula to discuss "Love Does" by Bob Goff. We are buying five copies to have available for anyone interested.

Co-Facilitators: Joe Hughes/Margaret Meyncke, 951-551-6231.

6 p.m. Youth Group meets December 2 and 30. Christmas Lock-In December 22nd. Contact Gian Adesso.

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study— Advent Study , In Days to Come—from Advent to Epiphany by George H. Donigian will begin December 4. Annual Christmas Potluck date and location to be emailed to this group.

7 p.m. Book Buddies – 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 4, *The Residence* by Kate Anderson Brower** will be reviewed by Barbara Gaborko at her home.

Wednesday

10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Rick in Room 6. Join Pastor Rick for Christmas with the Advent Bible study *Faithful, Christmas through the Eyes of Joseph*. We are not that different from Joseph. We may not be part of a story that will be remembered for all time. But we do encounter circumstances that we would never choose for ourselves. It is tempting sometimes to just walk away. But Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God, even if one does not understand. He was faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides us as well. Books available from Pastor Rick for \$14.

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir—Weekly rehearsals are Wednesday evenings in the Worship Center.

Thursday

Welcoming & Outreach Committee meets every other month. The next meeting will be **Thursday, Jan. 3, at 10:30 a.m.** in Room 6. Contact Sue Bradshaw.

Out to Lunch Bunch meets the first Thursday of each month at a different restaurant for fun, food and fellowship. The group will meet **December 6, at 12 noon at RJ's Sizzlin Steer, 41401 Kalmia St., Murrieta** Kindly sign up in the church breezeway or RSVP to Sally Malec..

Friday

10:30 a.m. Book Discussion w/Rev. Marlene Oaks meets the first and third Friday of December (7 and 21) in Room 6. Join the discussion *How Jesus Became God* by Bart D. Ehrman, Professor of New Testament at Chapel Hill.

10:00 a.m. Prayers and Squares Ministry — Prayers and Squares Ministry meets December 14 and 28 in Room 1. Email marleneoaks56@gmail.com.



UM WOMEN

December 13—Thursday, 10:00 a.m. UMW
Executive Meeting in Room 6.

December 20— Thursday, 10 a.m. General Meeting and Potluck Luncheon in the Hillside Room. The event for this meeting is the Installation of Officers for the year 2019. Pastor Rick will install the new officers. We will sing carols, parlor games and a gift exchange. (The minimum amount for the gift is \$10.) All women of the church are welcome. Come and join us!

MONKS of TUMC

MONKS Monthly Breakfast Meeting

Date: Saturday, December 8
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Location: Penfold's Restaurant near Temecula Old Town entrance

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Each Sunday

One Person

One Canned Food Item.



Canned food may be dropped off in the basket at the entrance to the Worship Center and in the bin provided under the tables in the breezeway. We remember those in need always, but especially during the Christmas Season.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30 10 A.M. WORSHIP & STAFF APPRECIATION

Sunday, December 30, our church family will worship together at one worship service at 10 a.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee Chairman Ron Moreland and committee members will recognize the staff at this service with reception following.

From the Breezeway

December Worship Themes and Scriptures

2nd Theme: God's Overture
Scripture: *Jeremiah 33:14-16*
9th Theme: *The Great Christmas*
Scripture: *Luke 3:1-6*
16th Theme: *The Story of Christmas*
Presented by Chancel Choir
Scripture: Readings from *Isaiah & Luke*
23th Theme: *Mary's Story*
Scripture: *Luke 1:39-45*
24th Theme: *Good News of Great Joy*
Scripture: *Luke 2:1-14*
30th Theme: *Jesus Still Changes Lives*
Scripture: *Luke 2:22-40*

January

6th Theme: *The Epiphany Hope*
Scripture: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Putting Christmas Away

On Saturday, December 29, Pastor Rick could use help taking down and putting away the tree, garlands and all other Christmas decorations. If you can help or have questions, please contact Pastor Rick.

God's Vision; Setting Our Goals Sunday, Feb. 3 at 10 a.m. & Potluck

Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 3, following the ONE Worship Service at 10 a.m. we will have a potluck and planning. Be a part of a gathering for our Mission, Ministry, and Program Setting for 2019. This is a time to focus on our three Key Strengths to use to set our goals and objectives. This is how we will grow stronger in our church mission and outreach to live the vision to which we feel God is calling us.

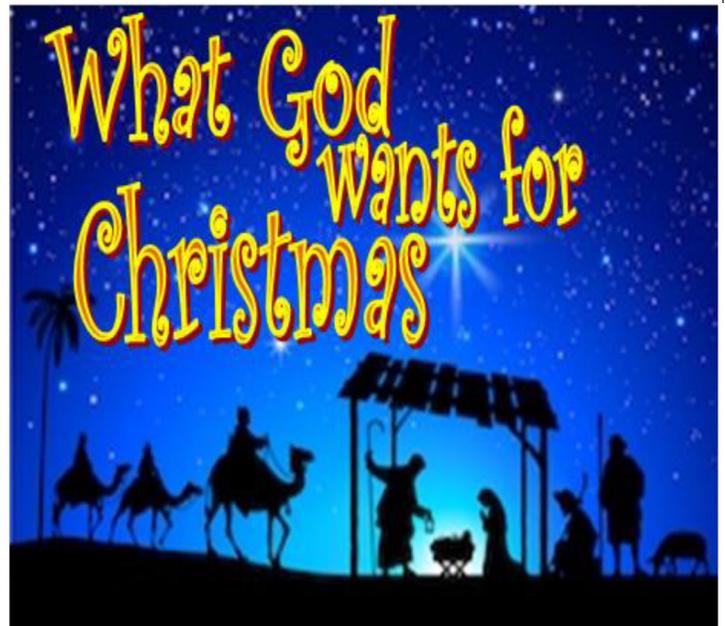
December 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



- 12/1 5:00 p.m. All Church Christmas Party
- 12/2 First Sunday of Advent
 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 - 9:00 a.m. Adult Study w/Joe Hughes
 - 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study
 - 4:00 p.m. Celebrate Messiah 2018
 - 6:00 p.m. Youth Group meets
- 12/4 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study
 - 6:30 p.m. MONKS Planning Meeting
 - 7:15 p.m. Temecula Valley Master Chorale
- 12/5 10:00 a.m. Advent Study w/Pastor Rick
 - 6:30 p.m. Advent Study w/Pastor Rick
 - 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 12/6 12:00 p.m. Out to Lunch Bunch
 - 7:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 337
- 12/7 10:30 a.m. Book Discussion w/Rev. Oaks
 - 6:00 p.m. Parents Night Out/Game Night
- 12/8 9:00 a.m. MONKS Breakfast Meeting, Penfold's
- 12/9 2nd Sunday of Advent
 - "What God wants for Christmas" Play at both worship services
 - 9:00 a.m. Adult Study w/Joe Hughes
 - 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study
 - 4:30 p.m. Club 3.16
- 12/11 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study
 - 7:15 p.m. Temecula Valley Master Chorale
- 12/12 10:00 a.m. Bible Study w/Pastor Rick
 - 6:30 p.m. Bible Study w/Pastor Rick
 - 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 12/13 10:00 a.m. UMW Executive Meeting
 - 1:00 p.m. Card Game Meetup
 - 6:30 p.m. Trustees
- 12/14 10:00 a.m. Prayers and Squares
- 12/16 3rd Sunday of Advent
 - Choir presents "The Story of Christmas"
 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 - 9:00 a.m. Adult Study w/Joe Hughes
 - 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study
- 12/18 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study
 - 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee
 - 7:15 p.m. Temecula Valley Master Chorale

- 12/19 10:00 a.m. Advent Study w/Pastor Rick
 - 6:30 p.m. Advent Study w/Pastor Rick
 - 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- 12/20 10:00 a.m. UM Women Meeting/Luncheon
- 12/21 10:30 a.m. Book Discussion w/Rev. Oaks
- 12/22 7 p.m. Youth Group Lock-in at church
- 12/23 4th Sunday of Advent
 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 - 9:00 a.m. Adult Study w/Joe Hughes
 - 9:00 a.m. Tagalog Bible Study
- 12/24 **Church Office open 9-noon**
 - 6:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Worship
 - 8:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship
 - 11:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion Worship
- 12/25 Christmas Day— A Blessed Christmas to All!
 - Church Offices will be closed thru New Year's Day**
- 12/30 10 a.m. Worship Only—Staff Appreciation
 - 6 p.m. Youth Group meets
- 1/2 **Church Offices open**



December 9, 2018

During the 9:00 and 10:30 Services

What God Wants for Christmas is a kid-friendly, interactive nativity that tells the story of Christ's birth in a simple and fun way for kids of all ages. Create anticipation and surprise, and bring your children, grandchildren and neighbors to church Dec. 9th.

	<u>December 2</u>	<u>December 9</u>	<u>December 16</u>	<u>December 23</u>	<u>December 30</u>
USHERS 9:00 a.m.	Bert Bjorklund Larry Messersmith George Wuertz Erik Toberman	MONKS	Youth	Mark Bowers Bert Bjorklund Larry Messersmith Erik Toberman	10 a.m. only TBA
USHERS 10:30 a.m.	Gerry Nicholas Gilbert Oaks Dan Henley Larry Natwick	MONKS	Youth	Dan Henley Larry Natwick Tri Tricoche	
LITURGISTS 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Sue Bradshaw Peggy Cowherd	MONKS	Youth	Del Malec Hazel Hailstone	Diane Martinez
GREETERS 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Anita Accordino Bonnie DiAngelo	MONKS	Youth	Jan Clark-George Hazel Hailstone	Heather Bjorklund
SOUND TECH 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Mark McCullough	Mark McCullough Ken Boyle	Gian & Meghann Gian & Meghann		Tba
VISITOR TABLE 9 :00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Pauline Fields Dorothy Smith	Anita Accordino Jean Williams	Jean Hawkins Gloria Galvez	Sue Bradshaw Thelma Loud	Jenny Moreland

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



Nellie Hathorn
Owner

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**MONDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24th
LITURGISTS**

- 6 p.m. Penny Wagner
- 8 p.m. Marlene Oaks
- 11 p.m. Kenn Malec

USHERS

- 6 p.m. Erik Toberman, George Wuertz, Bert Bjorklund
- 8 p.m. Larry Natwick
- 11 p.m. Dan Henley, Ron Moreland

GREETERS

- 6 P.M. Barbara Lamb
- 8 p.m. Earl Fields
- 11 p.m. TBA



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THE MESSENGER
 Editor: Mary Kottman
 December, 2018



Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.

- Melody Beattie



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