

Temecula United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

May 2025

TUMC is an Inclusive, Reconciling and Affirming Congregation. All who seek God are welcome. Join our TUMC family to participate in worship, education, fellowship, ministry and mission, regardless of race, color or ethnicity, age, marital status, gender, sexual identity, expression, physical or mental ability...*anyone who comes to me, I will never drive away.* John 6:37

This is a place where you will find welcome, support, comfort, and strength for your life.

- Pastor:** Rev. Drew Davis
- Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Dr. David French
- Admin Secretary:** Adriana Zarate
- Music Director:** Dr. Earl Richards
- Accompanist:** Dr. Corry Bell
- Youth Director:** Gian Adesso
- LGBTQIA+ Coordinator:** Art Salyer

The Messenger
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Temecula CA 92592

- Phone:** 951-676-1800
- Website:** www.temeculaumc.com
- Facebook:** www.facebook.com/TemeculaUnitedMethodistChurch
- Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/temeculaunitedmethodistchurch/>
- YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/c/TemeculaUnitedMethodistChurch>
- Office e-mail:** TemeculaUMC.Secretary@gmail.com



Afternoon Tea

Hosted by United Women In Faith

Join us

May 17th 2:00 - 4:00

*for Tea and Fellowship at
Temecula United Methodist Church
42690 Margarita Road, Temecula, CA 92592*

\$15 Per Person

*Stop by TUMC or Contact Meghann Adesso for
tickets and more information!*

(951)526-7730 or Bigstar951@gmail.com

Raffle, Auction, Tea and So Much Fun!



IN THIS ISSUE

A Message from Pastor Drew	1
Anniversaries & Birthdays.....	3
Book Buddies	4
Golden Baskets	6
LGBTQIA+ Ministry.....	5
Prayers and Squares.....	4
Scrip	6
Stephen Ministry	3
TUMC Food Pantry	6
United Women in Faith.....	4
Volunteers Wanted	3
Worship Scriptures and Themes	2
Writers Circle	5

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DREW

April showers bring May flowers, and I am excited to move into this month of celebrating motherhood in all the ways it is displayed and seeking new opportunities to engage with our community.

Last month, we had the blessing of celebrating our monthly mission project focused on creation care. Numerous siblings joined together to do some necessary work in the garden. We removed olives from the ground and cleared the path to make it cleaner and more visible.

That time was not just about cleaning up; it was also an opportunity to build

Continued on page 2

new relationships. It was a blessing to hear the conversations taking place while watching people react



to the music that was playing. Through this, we were both caring for creation and fostering new relationships that I hope will become sustainable.

At the end of the afternoon, we gathered for a time of music and communion. It was an immense blessing to share this time with our siblings in the garden. The songs we sang while sharing communion in nature provided a wonderful conclusion to a beautiful afternoon.

I look forward to our outreach opportunities in May. Our theme for the month will focus on reaching out to unique needs. Our dear friend Lois Foster is currently connecting with a couple of area care agencies, and we will have more information on this before the end of the month. Due to everything happening in May, this will become an end-of-the-month project. We are well on our way with our fifth outreach project, which will have a unique focus.

Please remember that we will have our UWF Tea on **May 17**. I encourage you to join us and consider sponsoring a table. Let's come together for this time of community. Whenever we share in relationships and spend time together, we strengthen our community of faith. This will be a great opportunity to connect.

Our gathering this month will also have a unique focus. I've invited Lois Foster to join us that day to share her knowledge of American Sign Language. We will spend the evening exploring sign language as a mode of communication, prayer, and worship. Please come and help us learn this new way of communicating so that we can truly strive to make it possible for everyone to hear the message of Jesus's grace.

We will also be going out into the community in May. Anyone interested should contact Pastor Drew at pastordrewdavis@gmail.com regarding our

presence at **Riverside Pride** on **May 10**. Within this newsletter, you will find an article from our LGBTQIA+ coordinator, Art Salyer, expressing the importance of attending pride celebrations to foster community and awareness that Christ's grace is truly for everyone. I have always enjoyed these gatherings, as they have allowed me to make new friends, hear new life stories, and witness the joy and celebration of the acknowledgment that the church is not a place of hate but a place of loving, affirming care.

I look forward this month to seeing the flowers that will bloom from the work we have been doing together as Temecula United Methodist Church. I continue to hold you all in my prayers, and I hope you are doing the same for our faith community. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all as we go out to serve our community as the loving, affirming hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

God is love.
Pastor Drew

WORSHIP SCRIPTURES AND THEMES

May

- 04** **Scripture:** John 21:1-9
Theme: I Believe We Have Met Before
Liturgist: Jordan Tyre
Welcome Table: Fran Sandipher

- 11** **Scripture:** Philippians 1:3-5
Theme: Mothering in Every Context
Liturgist: Dr. Marlene Oaks
Welcome Table: *Sign up today*

- 18** **Scripture:** John 13:31-35
Theme: Cross the Line with Christ
Liturgist: *Sign up today*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today*

- 25** **Scripture:** John 14: 23-29
Theme: When Jesus Steps Aside
Liturgist: *Sign up today*
Welcome Table: Anita Accordino

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

LITURGIST, USHERS AND WELCOME TABLE

We are currently seeking additional ushers, liturgists and assistance at the welcome table. For more details email Pastor Davis at pastordrewdavis@gmail.com or Anita Accordino at araccordino12@verizon.net. Sign up sheet is located at the welcome table.



NOT ANOTHER CHURCH COMMITTEE

Are you the party planner at your job or in your family? Do you love to host people and make sure everyone has a good time? Well now is the chance to take that talent and use it at Church! We are putting together an Event Committee. A group who wants to help create fun community building events and fundraisers here at TUMC. If you have ideas and want to help bring them to life please reach out to Meghann Adesso at bigstar951@gmail.com or 951-526-7730.



STEPHEN MINISTRY



TUMC's Stephen Ministers are volunteers trained to walk beside people experiencing difficult times. It's confidential and free, and available to anyone regardless of their affiliation with TUMC.

The TUMC Stephen Ministry chapter provides opportunities to talk openly and confidentially to a compassionate, non-judgmental listener. If you'd like to know more information, please contact our Stephen Leader, Dr. Anne DiPardo at dipardo.anne8@gmail.com. Our volunteer caregivers are ready to meet with you free of charge! Just contact Pastor Drew for a referral at pastordrewdavis@gmail.com.

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
May 15th**

MAY



Happy Anniversary

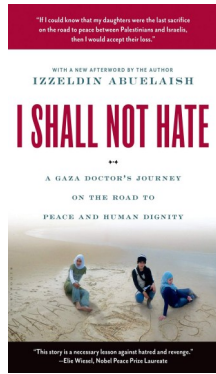
John & Gail Croteau 11th
Jim & Diane Greer 13th
Pastor Drew & Gretchen Davis 23rd
Steve & Linda Jones 29th

Happy Birthday

Jessie Boyle 8th
Alan Sheaffer 9th
Lauren Hathorn 10th
Jan Tramontano 14th
Jim Greer 15th
Victoria Roggenbuck 17th
Kyle Longley 17th
Callie Rae Dubots 18th
Daniel Thompson 19th
Barbara Lamb 22nd
Cookie Gender 23rd
Drew Ramos 24th
Penny Wagner 24th
Catherine Buckingham 26th
Nancy Hammett 26th
Larry Messersmith 26th
Molly Edwards 29th
Raymond Mayhugh 31st
April Tayrien 31st

BOOK BUDDIES

You are welcome to join the Book Buddies on **Tuesday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m.** at the home of Sarah and Zoila Hillier. Our book of the month is **I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey on the Road to Peace and Human Dignity**, by author **Izzeldin Abuelaish.** *"In this book, Doctor Abuelaish has expressed a remarkable commitment to forgiveness and reconciliation that describes the foundation for a permanent peace in the Holy Land."* -President Jimmy Carter, Nobel Peace Prize laureate.



See Ethel Takeguchi or Sue Bradshaw for more information about our book group. Participation is open to anyone who shares our interest and love of books. On **June 3** Karen Benvenuto will host our annual potluck during which we will announce our new book selections for 2025/26. The full schedule and list of books will be available in the church breezeway. Come join us.

PRAYERS AND SQUARES



Prayers and Squares

Offers you the opportunity to have your very own MEMORY PILLOW, With your special photo printed on fabric and made into a quilted 18" pillow-

And support Prayers & Squares at the same time. Pick up your form in your Sunday bulletin or on the table in the hallway, and turn it in.

Email your photo in jpg format
And in a couple of weeks take your very own Memory Pillow home with you.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Tickets now available

For the 2025 UWF

Opportunity Quilt

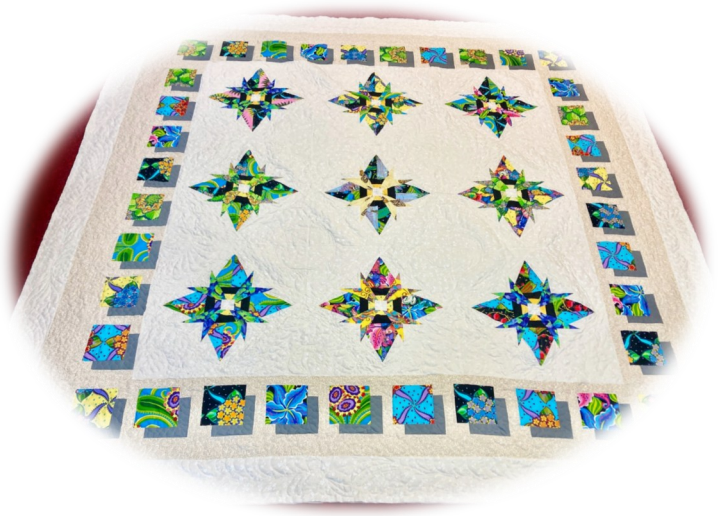
"9 Rays of Hope"

104", Rays are paper pieced, floating squares are pieced, all is free motion quilted.

One of a kind, designed and created by Marlene Oaks

Tickets \$10 or 3 for \$20

The winner will be drawn at our Annual Tea, May 17, 2025



HAPPY
Mother's
DAY

The Church Office will be **CLOSED** on Monday, May 26th in Observance of Memorial Day



3RD ANNUAL RIVERSIDE'S Inland Empire PRIDE

SAT - MAY 10, 2025
WHITE PARK - 12-9PM

TOGETHER WE ARE UNLIMITED

Find us on social @RiversideLGBTQ

120+ Vendors
Music · DJ · Drag
Food · Beer Garden
Art · Youth Zone
Workshops

RSVP for free tickets → riverside.lgbt/festival

EMILY'S SPACE

COMING UP IN MAY

6 MAY IMPROV + DRAWING NIGHT
LEARN TO IMPROV HOSTED BY ELI. ART SUPPLIES WILL BE PROVIDED. SNACKS + BIRTHDAY PIE W/ICE CREAM, AT UNITED CHURCH OF THE VALLEY

MAY 10 BONUS EVENT: DRIVE UP TO VISIT THE EMILY'S SPACE BOOTH AT THE INLAND EMPIRE PRIDE IN RIVERSIDE AT WHITE PARK -3936 CHESTNUT ST FROM 12-9PM. VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.RIVERSIDEPRIEIE.ORG](https://www.riversideprideie.org) FOR THE DETAILS!

13 MAY GAMES AT HARVESTON
GAMES INCLUDING WATER BALLOONS AND A 3-LEGGED RACE! 5-GIFT CARDS WILL BE HANDED OUT TO THE WINNERS. SNACKS PROVIDED. MEET NEAR PLAYGROUND OFF BALBOA DRIVE.

20 MAY WALK THE LAKE ELSINORE LEVEE
WALK THE LEVEE WITH US AS WE DISTRIBUTE OUR PAINTED ROCKS ALONG THE TRAIL. WE WILL MEET + WALK TOGETHER FOR 40 MINS- TAKE A SNACK BREAK AND WALK BACK 40 MINUTES. WEAR COMFORTABLE WALKING SHOES.

27 MAY SCAVENGER HUNT
GET READY FOR A FUN PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT IN OLD TOWN MURRIETA! YOU WILL BE PAIRED INTO TEAMS. WINNING TEAMS WILL RECEIVE A PRIZE.

EVENTS SCHEDULE

For more details and updates about these events, please visit our website or follow us on social media

RSVP NOW

Pride Events give us that opportunity to love that community.

3. Know someone: many folks have never met, talked to, gotten to know, or made friends with somebody in the LGBTQIA+ community. Many of us grew up not understanding or even being frightened of folks from this community. These events are a great way to get to know people that perhaps you don't know.

4. Fun: Pride Events are, as a rule, celebrations. They are fun, energetic, full of love, and pride. You will for sure have a good time at these events.

You will see postings of Pride Events in the Messenger. Feel free to reach out to me or pastor Drew for more information. You are always welcome at these events. As a reminder, we have the Amplify Group that meets at our church every Thursday at 6:30 PM. This is an LGBTQIA+ community group, including supporters. We speak about scripture and about the community and support each other. This is a great way to get started.

Art Salyer
LGBTQIA+ Ministry Coordinator
818.371.1009

WRITERS CIRCLE

Come join the Writers' Circle no matter whether you are an experienced, amateur, or wannabe writer. We will share our thoughts, ideas, and writing with fellow scribes while we support each other in order to motivate and inspire new pieces. Meets every other Tuesday at 10:30AM. The next meetup is May 13th. To participate contact Lois Foster for more details at (815) 519-1838 and/or loisf21@gmail.com.

Writers Circle

TUESDAYS AT 10:30
CONTACT
LOIS FOSTER
FOR DETAILS
LOISF21@GMAIL.COM

Why should I attend a PRIDE Event?

I get asked from time to time why I attend as many PRIDE events as possible. Here are a few of my reasons:

1. Support: it is important for “straight” folks to participate in these events in order to show support of the LGBTQIA+ community. It shows that you are willing to be part of that community and support them in a very personal and direct way.

2. Love: our faith tells us to love everyone, even though we don't completely understand them at times.

GOLDEN BASKETS FOR THIS MONTH

May

- 04 UMCOR Native American Sunday
- 11 Mama Lynn Center - East Congo
- 18 Pastor's Ministries & Outreach
- 25 St. Catherine's Food Pantry



Native American Ministries Sunday

When you give to the Native American Ministries Sunday offering, you help indigenous ministries thrive. Your gifts may support a Native American seminary student's tuition, provide continuing education for pastors enrolled in the Native American Course of Study, secure a grant to churches that need to restore their worship space or other challenges, assist the work of your annual conference's Committee on Native American Ministries and much more.

Mama Lynn Center - East Congo

In the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, women and girls trained at the Mama Lynn Center are supporting themselves and becoming indispensable to their families.



East Congo has been called the "rape capital of the world" — a place where rape is used as a weapon of war. To support women who are victims of sexual violence and those abandoned by their husbands and families, the United Methodist Church in eastern Congo established the center in 2018.

The Tennessee, Memphis and California-Pacific conferences joined with the East Congo Episcopal Area, raising funds to build the self-care center. Every year for more than three years, the center has mentored United Methodist pastors' wives, women who have been sexually abused and those who have been abandoned by their husbands.

Pastor's Ministries & Outreach

This fund helps members of the church and the community with emergency needs, such as rent, gas, and food.



St Catherine's Food Pantry

Food Pantry | Society of St. Vincent de Paul
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Temecula Chapter provides food for families on a weekly basis to Temecula Residents.



Food Pantry Items for June Pasta and Sauce



TUMC SCRIP

What is Scrip? Purchasing Scrip cards is a simple way of raising money for the church budget. Simply purchase gift cards at face value and the church receives a percentage of the sales. The Scrip box has a variety of cards including gas, stores and restaurants. You may also go to [RaiseRight.com](https://www.raise-right.com) to see a full list of vendors. Cards may be preordered when orders are placed. Since the beginning of January, Scrip sales has raised \$520 for the church.



Cards can be purchased on Sunday mornings after service using cash, check or a credit card. Credit cards will have 4% service fee. Scrip cards are also available to purchase throughout the week during church office hours.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order contact Janet Galbraith at 951-764-3938 and ingalbraih5@yahoo.com.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SCRIP

VOLUNTEERS & CARE

If you are looking for a way to be more involved in our family or seeking care in a specific area, one of these leaders might be able to assist you. If you are searching for something that is not listed, please reach out to Pastor Drew. You may be the leader he is looking for.

LGTBQIA+ MINISTRY
ART SALYER

artsalyer@gmail.com

Handbell Choir
DEBBIE BARBA

muedme@me.com

Stephen Ministry
DR. ANNE DIPARDO

dipardo.anne8@gmail.com

Hospitality & Worship Care
ANITA ACCORDINO


araccordino12@verizon.net

Choir & Music
DR. EARL RICHARDS

earlrichards02@gmail.com

Missions
SUSAN MCCLELLAN

Missions

Finance
MICHAEL ROPACKI

FINANCE

Facility Care
MARK MCCULLOUGH


mrkmmnk951@gmail.com

Pastor & Staff Care
ADAM HATHORN

adam.hathorn1@gmail.com

Prayers & Squares
United Women of Faith
DR. MARLENE OAKS

United Women in Faith
marleneoaks56@gmail.com

Amplify
AMY ORTH

amyorth19@gmail.com

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study
KAREN BENVENUTO

karenjoeb@gmail.com

Sunday school &
The Monks
DAN HENLEY

Men's Group
Sunday School
henley4home@gmail.com

Youth Group
GIAN ADESSO

YOUTH GROUP
gadesso25@gmail.com