

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: Yu-Chen Agostini

Youth Director: Gian Adesso

LGBTQIA+ Coordinator: Art Salyer

The Messenger

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Temecula United Methodist Church THE MESSENGER

January/February 2026



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DREW

Thinking of the year 2026 feels like something out of Buck Rogers to me, but here we are, filled with new futuristic visions of growth, outreach, and connection.

As we look toward the future, one vision that I hold in my heart for this new year is unity. Unity can be expressed in many ways. It can be seen in how we welcome each other in our places of worship and study, in the times we come together to share conversations and meals, and in the moments we engage in new activities with our church family. Unity also manifests in the ways we've reached out to care for the needs of our community.

This year, I hope we can pray through the concept of unity to foster connections with others. I am often reminded of the necessity of filling our own glass so that we can fill others' glasses as well. By taking moments for personal reflection and communal celebration, we allow ourselves to be fed by the Spirit, enabling us to share that Spirit with others.

Last year, our events team exemplified this unity in various ways. They created new activities, such as our trip to the Lake Elsinore Storm baseball game, and revitalized traditional events like our spaghetti dinner. The activities team also brought us our annual tea and Christmas party.

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Our Youth program did many wonderful events such as the youth room refurbishment project, 4th of July and PRIDE food care, their monthly Sunday Night gatherings and have been heavily present for set up for many of our all church events.

In 2026, I hope we find more ways to build community within ourselves while striving to foster unity within our larger community. As we seek opportunities to enjoy the presence of our church family, let's also participate in service projects, such as painting houses, working on yard work, or preparing meals for Jacob's House. These beautiful initiatives allow us to share a cold drink of water with those who are thirsty in our community.

Overall, I feel blessed by the potential that lies before us. Last year, we addressed some of our financial needs, and it was heartening to see an increase in our donations, which will help us care for our church family and our church as a facility. The body of Temecula United Methodist Church has always been a collection of individuals united in response, and I trust you are aware of our needs.

Now, as we set our sights on the future of 2026, it may not be the future of Buck Rogers, but it is indeed a future filled with the promise of unity. May we grow closer as a family and expand our family this year, so that the peace, affirmation, and unity of Christ's grace can be experienced by many.

God is love,
Pastor Drew



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 Janet Delaney at janetdelaney412@gmail.com.

Our volunteer caregivers are ready to meet with you free of charge!

January

- 4** **Scripture:** John 1:1-9
Theme: The Reflection of Perfection
Liturgist: Josh Cummings
Welcome Table: Victoria Roggenbuck
- 11** **Scripture:** Matt 3:13-17
Theme: Baptism of the Lord
Liturgist: Steve Webb
Welcome Table: Peggie Webb
- 18** **Scripture:** John 1:29-42
Theme: Developing the Team
Liturgist: Jordan Tyre
Welcome Table: Nan Wood
- 25** **Scripture:** Matthew 4:12-23
Theme: They Left Their Nets
Liturgist: Nan Wood
Welcome Table: Fran Sandipther

February

- 1** **Scripture:** Matt 5:1-12
Theme: Reflecting the Blessings
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*
- 8** **Scripture:** Matt 5:13-20
Theme: Fulfillment of the Law, Be Salty
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*
- 15** **Scripture:** Matt 17:1-9
Guest Speaker: Dr. Marlene Oaks
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: Fran Sandipther
- 22** **Scripture:** Matt 4:1-11
Theme: No Power, No Wealth, Just Peace
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*

JANUARY

Happy Anniversary

Robert & Jennifer Sayne – 01/05
John & Cookie Gender – 01/22

Happy Birthday

Ron Huffman – 01/06
Hallie Sebanc – 01/06
Josh DeWall – 01/07
Bert Bjorklund – 01/09
Peggy Cowherd – 01/10
Savannah Hammett – 01/10
Alice Reynoso – 01/10
Steve Jones – 01/11
Eva Ntony – 01/12
Doug Galbraith – 01/16
Sally Malec – 01/16
Gloria Galvez – 01/17
Boppie Mitchell – 01/22
Selasi Ntony – 01/23
Lesley Gregory – 01/24
Danilo Gutierrez – 01/24
Peggie Webb – 01/25
Kathy Kasitz – 01/27

FEBRUARY

Happy Anniversary

John & Vicki Cloutier – 02/14
Chris & Allison Riche – 02/22

Happy Birthday

Kent Galbraith – 02/02
Sue Bradshaw – 02/03
Kyle Hotchkiss – 02/11
Sarah Hillier – 02/12
Jorge Adamos – 02/13
Liliana Cummings – 02/13
Debbie Barba – 02/14
Jason Basa – 02/16
Judson McDowell – 02/16
Connie French – 02/22
Hope Zangl – 02/22
Donna Gorman – 02/23
Nellie Hathorn – 02/25
Vicki Cloutier – 02/26
Jaynet Stevens – 02/28

PRAYERS AND SQUARES

Prayers and Squares

Offers you the opportunity to have or gift 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 with your donation to help us be able to give quilts to those in need of prayer.

Pick any special photo—wedding, anniversary, birthday, holiday, vacation, children, grandchildren, grandparents, family home, pets and more.

Pick up your form on the table in the breezeway and turn it in. Email your photo in jpg format to marleneoaks56@gmail.com

And in a couple of weeks take your very own Memory Pillow home with you, or wrap it up to give as the perfect gift.

TUMC FAMILY TREE

If you haven't yet had the chance to submit a photo for God's Family Tree, Maureen McKown is joyfully offering her professional photography skills to help. We are blessed to welcome many new faces into our fellowship, and this is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the beautiful diversity of our church family.



Maureen will be available to take photos on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (before and after worship)

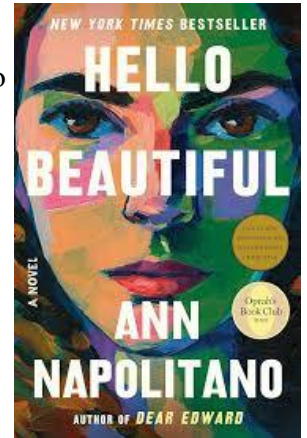
She will print a 4x6 color photo once you approve it and place it on the Family Tree display. What a lovely way to begin the new year with fresh, updated pictures of our growing community.

For questions or more information, you may contact: Maureen McKown
Email: mmmckown@msn.com

BOOK BUDDIES

A Unique Take on Little Women

Book Buddies will meet again on Tuesday, February 3 at 6 p.m. at Vicki Cloutier's home to discuss Ann Napolitano's New York Times Bestseller, *Hello Beautiful*. A rich, complex family saga, the book is a portrait of love and grief in equal measures. In intricately elegant prose, the author explores both the cost and power of loyalty and honesty. There are no heroes or villains here, only people – flawed and loving and striving like the rest of us.



Those interested in attending or seeking more information about the book group should see Ethel Takeguchi or Sue Bradshaw. Participation is open to anyone who shares our interest and love of books. We meet monthly except January, July and August. The full schedule and list of books are available in the church breezeway. And don't miss the well-known classic, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain, on March 3. Please join us.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

**Sign up today!
All are welcome**

"And just as the intelligence in even the tiniest plant causes it to reach out for sustenance, usually the sunshine, so the soul, the spark of divinity within each being, eventually causes that being to reach out for Light."

**Practice
the Presence
of God**

**You are invited to a Mini-Retreat
Saturday, January 24, from 10am-4pm
Spend an experiential, transformative day**

Led by Dr. Marlene Oaks

Sponsored by UWF. All are invited!

**Please bring a sack lunch, or
purchase a boxed lunch for \$8-\$10.**

**To reserve your spot, sign up on the
clipboard in the hall.**

Bell Choir Meeting Sunday, January 25th, at 11:15am

If you're interested in ringing handbells or hand chimes for Easter, please meet in the Music Room after Church on Sunday, January 25th, at 11:15am. New members welcome! We will sight-read music and decide if we want to create two bell choirs for Easter or keep with one, depending on how many people are available and want to ring for Easter.



Handbell Polishing Party

Come one, come all; who wants to help polish our beautiful handbells and enjoy some fellowship time? We will meet in the Music Room on Monday, January 26th, at 4pm.

Regular Bell Choir Rehearsals resume weekly, starting Sunday, February 22nd, after Church, and we perform Easter Sunday on April 5th.

Thanks, everyone.

Debbie Barba - Handbell Choir Director

PURCHASING 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.

Cards can be purchased on Sunday mornings after service using cash, or check. If you have any questions or would like to place an order contact Janet Galbraith. 951-764-3938 and jngalbraih5@yahoo.com.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SCRIP!



As we conclude an exciting year in 2025, filled with many first-time events at Temecula UMC, we would like to thank everyone who played a part in these wonderful experiences.

We had many friends from our worship community come together for the LGBTQ Teens event in the Temecula Valley, where we worked to clear out our sanctuary and transform it into a space of celebration for the queer prom in 2025.

Additionally, we were fortunate to have many dear friends contribute to making it possible to reach the entire Temecula Valley with its first pride gathering in almost five years. It was a blessing to see our parking lot full of the 682 individuals who stopped by to visit this event.

None of this could have been accomplished without the assistance of our entire church family. So many stepped in to serve as chaperones, security, greeters, and friendly faces, making all of these events possible. We look forward to doing it again in 2026.

As we look ahead, we will focus on several key areas for next year, including our involvement with PFLAG, Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays . We want to remind everyone of our committed role in LGBTQIA ministry. If you have questions or wish to engage more deeply with our ministry, please feel free to reach out to Art Salyer, the LGBTQIA Ministry Coordinator, or myself.

One of the first-time events we held at Temecula United Methodist Church was the Transgender Day of Remembrance. This day allows us to take a moment to remember those who faced fatal violence due to harmful actions against their gender and sexual identities. That evening, we named nearly 400 individuals who passed away in 2025 alone due to such violence related to their life journeys.

None of these events would have been possible without the full support of Temecula United Methodist Church. Thank you for the time you dedicated this year to support our siblings in the LGBTQ+ community. We look forward to exploring the possibilities in 2026.

God is love - Pastor Drew

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Our church office will be closed on these dates:

Monday, January 19 - M.L.K. Holiday

Monday, February 16 - Presidents Day

Please submit your newsletter articles for March by February 15.

GOLDEN BASKETS FOR THIS MONTH

January

- 04 Missionary Joel Hortiales
- 11 The Guatemalan Project
- 18 Human Relations Day
- 25 Pastor's Ministerial Outreach Fund

February

- 01 TUMC Youth Group
- 08 LGBTQ+ Outreach
- 15 Ganta Hospital Liberia
- 22 Local Food Pantry

Our Missionary Rev. Joel Hortiales



Joel works closely with the conference executive director of connectional ministries in coordination of Hispanic/Latino ministries, including border ministries in the San Diego and Imperial County areas.

Guatemala Student Scholarship

The Guatemalan Government provides teachers at local schools. However, families of students are required to pay nominal school fees and 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 their school expenses. Scholarships are given to children who live in an area where the "Guatemala Mission Project" has completed service projects in the highlands of Guatemala. Students in need of a scholarship are identified by their teachers and School Director. Parents can also contact a local "Guatemala Mission Project Leader" regarding their need.

Human Relations Day

Human Relations Day is one of six churchwide Special Sundays designated to support ministries and causes important to the entire United Methodist Church. This day invites congregations to strengthen communities, especially those facing poverty, injustice, or lack of opportunity. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of the "beloved community". Human Relations Day calls us to build relationships rooted in dignity, equity, and love.

Pastor's Ministerial Outreach Fund

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



TUMC Youth Group

Our youth program at TUMC is designed to provide a safe space for young individuals to explore their faith, build meaningful relationships, and develop essential life skills. From Bible studies to community service projects, our programs are tailored to meet the diverse needs of our youth.

LGBTQIA+ Outreach

Our youth program at TUMC is designed to provide a safe space for young individuals to explore their faith, build meaningful relationships, and develop essential life skills. From Bible studies to community service projects, our programs are tailored to meet the diverse needs of our youth.



Ganta United Methodist Hospital Liberia

Ganta United Methodist Hospital continues providing quality, affordable care to rural northern Liberia, despite limited local revenue and the need to waive fees for many families. Because service costs far exceed what patients can pay, outside support remains vital. Thanks to generous partner contributions of funds, supplies, and equipment, the hospital has stayed stable and fully operational while exploring more self-sustaining services.

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS

January:
Peanut Butter and
Jelly/Jam

February:
Soup and
Chili



Items Needed for Farmworkers (by Sunday January 18th)

NOTE: Most workers live in old trailers, and many Do Not have refrigeration

FOOD

- Soups (no boxed soups please)
- Shelf-stable milk
- Canned chicken, tuna, or beef
- Water
- Rice
- Healthy snacks for kids/ Juices for kids
- Good can openers

TOILETRIES and PAPER GOODS

- Soaps-bath/ Dish detergent/ Laundry detergent
- Towels/Washcloths
- Anti-itch cream/ Calamine lotion/ Sunscreen
- Feminine hygiene supplies- no pads please
- Paper towels/ Toilet paper

CLOTHES ETC. (Winter needs)

- Work gloves
- Long sleeve shirts/ Sweatshirts
- Bandanas
- Hats with shade brims in the back
- Tarps
- Waterproof clothing: Dollar Tree has a “poncho” for \$2. They were sold out in So. Temecula but may be available at other stores.

