

Temecula United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

December 2024

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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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



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DREW

Dear Siblings,

What a blessing it is to celebrate the first journey through Advent with you as we reach the final week of this year. I am personally blessed as I look ahead at all the events that will be taking place for us to join together and celebrate the birth of Christ. We will be doing many of the things you have become accustomed to, as well as a couple of new offerings that I hope will open new connections during the Advent season.

As we pray through the traditions of the church, many of the favorite events will return. As good Methodists, we will have the blessed kickoff to our holiday season with the celebration of our **All Church Conference on December 1 at 12:30 PM**. I know that statement may sound in jest, but Church Conference is not just about business and arranging leadership; it is also a time to celebrate all the work the church has done in that year. From sending forth Pastor Rick into retirement, the beginning of my time of care, growth in music offerings, a new monthly worship time, and all of the outreach TUMC accomplished, there will be so much to celebrate at this gathering.

The day before our All Church Conference, on **November 30 at 2 PM**, we will be celebrating the **Hanging of the Greens**. This is not only a time to prepare the sanctuary for the Advent season; it is also a time to be in community, work, and laugh together as we look forward to our first season

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A Message From Pastor Drew continued

together. Please come, help, and celebrate the transformation of our sanctuary for Advent.

On **December 7 at 5 PM**, we will be moving into another traditional element of the TUMC Advent season with our **All Church Christmas Party**—a time of laughter, celebration, and togetherness. I am very excited to be at this event for the first time. It is in our times of rest and celebration that we build the strongest memories. I pray my first TUMC Family Christmas marks a yearly event that highlights my year.

On **December 19**, our **United Women of Faith** will be holding their **Christmas gathering at 10:30 AM**. Our UMW does so much for the community of Temecula, as well as for each other. Make sure you join them for this gathering to start the Advent season with a joyful light.

We will have two new events this year. On **December 21 at 5 PM**, we will be meeting for the **Longest Night Worship Service**. December 21 is the winter solstice, which is also the longest period of darkness in the calendar year. This is a time to sit together, pray together, and acknowledge that for many, the Advent season is not the most wonderful time of the year. Some grieve and experience loss as they engage with the traditions of Advent.

Another joyful celebration this year will be our new Saturday night format of 2GETHER. We will meet at **4 PM on Christmas Eve** for **2GETHER @ Christmas**. We will be working on Christmas cookies and hearing the story “Peace on Earth,” written by author Paul Dini.

Overall, I am very excited to be in this place of celebration with you. May Christ be real and caring as we embark into the new year and new avenues of service.

God is Love,

Rev. M. Andrew Davis (He/Him/His)
Temecula United Methodist Church
An Inclusive Affirming Community

ALTAR FLOWERS

SIGN UP to bring Altar Flowers in honor, celebration, or memory of a special date for you. Flowers may be brought to the church on the Sunday you signed up for by 9:00 AM and can be placed on the altar.



You can pick up your flowers after the worship service. For more information please contact Anita Accordino at 714-655-0330 and araccordino12@verizon.net



2GETHER @Christmas
December 24 @ 4 pm
Family Friendly
Christmas Cookie Decorating
and a Special Christmas Story from the Pastor

WORSHIP SCRIPTURES AND THEMES

December

- 1** **Scripture:** Jeremiah 33:14-16
Theme: The Candle of Hope
Liturgist: _____
- 8** **Scripture:** Luke 1:68-79
Theme: The Candle of Peace
Liturgist: *Dr. Marlene Oaks*
- 15** **Scripture:** Philippians 4:4-7
Theme: The Candle of Joy
Liturgist: *Briana Ropacki*
- 22** **Scripture:** Luke 1:26-38
Theme: The Candle of Love
Liturgist: *Dr. Marlene Oaks*
- 24** **(All Services)**
Scripture: Luke 2:8-14
Theme: A New Hope
- 29** **Scripture:** Luke 2:41-52
Theme: The Holy Reset
Liturgist: _____

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITURGIST, USHERS AND HOSPITALITY

We are currently seeking additional ushers, liturgists and assistance with hospitality. Soon, the pastor will be conducting a training session for ushers. If you are interested, please email Pastor Davis at

pastordrewdavis@gmail.com.



*****MARK YOUR CALENDARS*****

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 & WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

IN CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

IN CELEBRATION OF NEW YEARS DAY

Newsletter Articles

Deadline is December 15th

BORDER MINISTRY HEALTH CARE KITS

On **MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH** from 9AM - 11AM we will be putting together health care kits for Border Ministries. Stay tuned for an email with a supply list of the items we need.

STEPHEN MINISTERS



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 319-331-1515

Our volunteer care givers are ready to meet with you free of charge! Just contact Pastor Drew for a referral at pastordrewdavis@gmail.com

December

Happy Annivarsary

Nick & Joan Biddle 12/10
Shirley Banquer & Ivonne Cabrerra 12/15
Samuel & Patricia Hill 12/16
Matt & Diana Roderos 12/18
Bill & Zoila Hillier 12/19
Rand & Lila Stolp 12/19
Bruce & LeeAnn Lumsden 12/21
Rowan & Sharon Johnas 12/22
Jo Anne & Larry Bullard 12/25

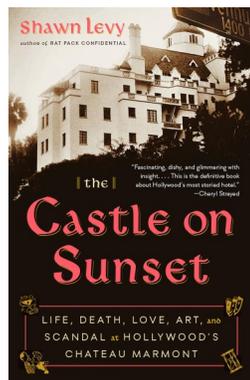
Happy Birthday

George Wuertz 12/06
Matt Ferguson 12/07
David Tayrien 12/08
Charlie Weaver 12/08
Rachel Turner 12/09
Vaneesa Koran 12/11
Toby Hammett 12/11
Leslie Hamilton 12/13
Brandon Ralph 12/14
Nila Gutierrez 12/14
Shelby Salyer 12/16
Rev. David French 12/20
Lisa Glenn-Edwards 12/21
Jamie Turner 12/22
Chuck Washington 12/25
Jonathan Buehler 12/28
Sara Salyer 12/28
Anthony Ramos 12/29
Wesley Teasdale 12/30

BOOK BUDDIES

Castle on Sunset

The Book Buddies book group will meet at **Sue Bradshaw's home at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, December 3** to discuss the *Castle on Sunset*, by Shawn Levy. This is a fascinating history of life, death, love, art, and scandal at the Chateau Marmont, Hollywood's most storied hotel. Since 1929, Hollywood's brightest stars have flocked to the Chateau as if it were a second home.

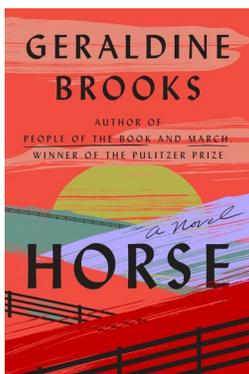


On **February 4**, Sherry Campbell will lead a review of *Horse: A Novel*, by Geraldine Brooks. The full schedule and list of books are available in the church breezeway.

See Ethel Takeguchi or Sue Bradshaw for more information about our book group and if you are interested in Zoom access. Come join us.

We greatly enjoy reading,

discussing and socializing with others who share our interest and love of books.



PRAYERS AND SQUARES

It's Here Annual Prayers and Squares Boutique



Help Prayers and Squares and do your Christmas Shopping with us. All items made by our team for you. **DECEMBER 1ST** before and after church.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



**United Women In Faith
Annual Christmas Party and Potluck
December 19 10:30 - noon
Everyone is invited**



Angel Tree Adopt a Project Touch Homeless Child

Watch for the tree on the table in the breezeway. There will be tags with children's 5 wishes. Select a child, write your name beside the child's name on the clipboard. It is suggested you spend about \$25 per child and get as many of their wishes as possible. You can also do this in pairs if you wish. The main thing is that these children who have been through so much have a happy Christmas. Bring back the gifts wrapped, with the tag securely attached by **December 15th**.

Thank you for your big hearts. Last year the wonderful people of our church adopted 47 children and made their dreams come true.

LET'S DO IT AGAIN. If you have any questions, contact Dr. Marlene Oaks

LGBTQIA+ MINISTRY



With the results of the most recent election, please be in prayer for our siblings in the LGBTQIA+ community.

These siblings have now entered a season of fearful uncertainty, having journeyed through a campaign where their rights were contentiously battled.

For our gay and lesbian siblings, there are fears that their rights to marriage may be revoked, and our transgender siblings find themselves in a moment of uncertainty, wondering if their gender-affirming treatments will still be available to them.

Please be in prayer for our siblings during these moments of uncertainty. Thank you for being a community of care and affirmation for whosoever enters our sanctuary.

Please know that in this time of fear and uncertainty, your open arms of love are especially important.

God is love.
Pastor Drew

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Help adorn the Worship Center for Christmas by purchasing one or more Poinsettias. Do this in Memory or Honor of a Loved One.

You can call, email the Church Office or fill out the order form attached and turn

in on Sunday after worship. Place it in the offering plate. Deadline for ordering is **Sunday, December 15th.**

MYOSKELETAL MESSAGES

Church Members are invited to receive myoskeletal massages at our church. This type of massage involves lots of stretching and will increase range of motion to help manage chronic pain areas. Please wear shorts and a tank top during the session.



There will be no fee and members are encouraged to make donations to the church for this service. Weekly appointments will take place on Mondays. To schedule a session call 951-694-6100.

Thanks
Lesley Gregory

HOLIDAY SCRIP

Purchase Holiday Scrip

If you are thinking about giving gift cards for the holidays, Scrip has over 750 items to choose from. Visit the website raiseright.com to see all items that are available.



When gift cards are ordered through the church, the church receives a rebate for each item. This is a great way to earn money for the church.

Pre-ordering: Pre-orders are due by **Sunday, December 1st.**

Pick up will be available on **Sunday, December 8th.**

Complete the scrip order form attached to this newsletter and return to church or the office with your



payment using cash or a check.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SCRIP!

GOLDEN BASKETS FOR THIS MONTH

December

- 01 Missionary Joel Hortiales
- 08 Justice & Compassion Committee
- 15 Project Touch
- 22 Christmas (No Golden Basket)
- 29 Christ Ministry Center



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.

Justice & Compassion Committee

The Justice and Compassion Committee provides aid for individuals in times of conflict and displacement.

DECEMBER FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED :

Peanut Butter and Jelly/Jam



Transitional Housing with 260 beds to assist single mothers, families, Veterans, seniors, and the disabled – averaging 40 - 55 children daily throughout Riverside County including an emergency housing program.

Local Winter Emergency Shelter provides overnight shelter for approximately four months per year December to April – to meet the needs of hundreds of homeless each winter. Serving dinner and breakfast 7 days per week while shelter is open.

Police Response Program responds 24/7 to calls from local police departments to assist in homeless and abuse situations.

Direct Emergency Assistance for food, clothing, transportation assistance, hygiene items, and various emergency needs.

Community Food Program utilizes our long standing business relationships and new partnerships to provide a stream of food donations that not only feeds our clients in transitional housing, but also supports other local non-profit partners and churches that assist the community.

Resource Referral Center responds to hundreds of calls monthly to provide appropriate resources for any given situation. Project T.O.U.C.H. partners with Social Services, Drug and Alcohol Rehab programs, Mental Health Service, Homeless Prevention Programs, and other community outreach programs.

Divine Discount & Thrift Store Work-ability program trains clients for future work in retail. For more information visit their website at

<https://projecttouchonline.com/>.



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

The above list is just some of the things that Christ Ministry Center does for the community. To learn more visit their website at <https://www.cummc.org/>

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
DIANE MARTINEZ

dottyme2@gmail.com

Welcome & Outreach
SUE BRADSHAW

sueb50@roadrunner.com

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

marleneoaks56@gmail.com

Amplify
AMY ORTH

amyorth19@gmail.com

Finance Care & Tuesday Ladies Bible Study
KAREN BENVENUTO

karenjoeb@gmail.com

Sunday school & The Monks
DAN HENLEY

henley4home@gmail.com

Youth Group
GIAN ADESSO

gadesso25@gmail.com



JOIN US FOR THE
TEMECULA UNITED METHODIST

Christmas PARTY

DECEMBER

7

AT 5:00 PM

FOOD, CAROLS, GAMES,
AND A VISIT FROM SANTA.

BRING YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS
COOKIE TO SHARE.

LET'S CELEBRATE!

\$15 FOR ADULTS
\$8 FOR KIDS

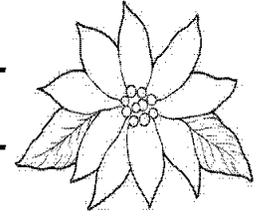
Christmas Poinsettia

Deadline for Ordering December 15th

Quantity: _____ x \$15.00 each = \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____



Please circle one of the following:

In Honor OR In Memory Of



(Dedication will be listed in the Church bulletin)

Please enclose your cash or check made out to TUMC and place with this order form in the offering plate or in the box provided near the exit or breezeway.

Scrip Pre-order Form



If you are thinking about giving gift cards for the holidays, Scrip has over 750 items to choose from. To view a complete list of vendors available from Great Lakes Scrip Center, please visit RaiseRight.com

NAME _____ DATE _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

MERCHANT DENOMINATION QUANTITY TOTAL

GRAND TOTAL _____

PLEASE TURN IN A CHECK or CASH WITH YOUR SCRIP PREORDER FORM (Credit Cards are also accepted with a 4% fee.)

Pre-orders are due by Sunday, Dec. 1st
Pick up will be available on Sunday, Dec. 8th.

If you have any questions, contact Janet Galbraith at 951-764-3938 or email ingalbraith5@yahoo.com Thank you for supporting TUMC