



The Vision
of
Temecula UMC

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. Rick Malec
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. David French
Admin Secretary: Adriana Zarate
Music Director: Dr. Earl Richards
Accompanist: Dr. Corry Bell
Youth Director: Gian Adesso
LGBTQ+ Coordinator: Art Salyer

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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/temeculaunitedmethodistchurch/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/TemeculaUnitedMethodistChurch>
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IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Altar Flowers | 6 |
| Amplify | 6 |
| Anniversaries & Birthdays | 7 |
| Book Buddies | 3 |
| Church Office | 8 |
| From the Breezeway | 2 |
| Golden Baskets | 8 |
| Prayers and Squares | 5 |
| Rick's Ramblings | 1 |
| Share Your Faith | 4 |
| Stephen Ministry | 2 |
| United Women in Faith | 4 |
| Worship Scriptures and Themes | 2 |

Temecula United Methodist Church THE MESSENGER

September 2023



4 KIDS
MINISTRY

Grandparents
Invite Grandkids
to Church
Grandkids invite
Grandparents
To Church

Sunday
September 10th

Rick's Ramblings

We Are Family

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Deut. 6:4-7

It is our calling and responsibility as members of the Church Family to support and encourage families in the congregation to help their children to learn about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Church, the teachings of the Bible, and their faith. One way we do this is by offering Sunday School for our children. A time for them to come to church, spend some time worshiping with the church family, then go to their Sunday School class. They will be led by caring volunteers who are willing to share and pass on their faith as they teach the curriculum that offers lessons and activities that help the children learn about God, Jesus, the church, and how to serve.

There is a statistic that has stuck with me for quite some time: "85% of the people who come to Jesus do so before the age of 18. Let us remember that the Bible doesn't tell children to become like adults to be saved. Rather, it tells adults to become like children to be saved. The call is not to care for the children and youth, so the church will grow and have younger people do the work around the Church. Churches can grow with people of any age. The call is to grow the faith that leads to sharing and living the Love, Agape, of

Continued on page 2

Rick's Ramblings continued

God through Jesus the Christ. We don't have Sunday School to grow our church; instead, we have Sunday School to bring people into a relationship with Christ. This happens when we offer this ministry and programs for children and their families in our community as well as in our Church.

There are two articles in this edition. I hope and encourage you to read carefully how you can support and participate in our Sunday School and Children's ministry. This also includes asking the parents of the children in the TUMC family to be a part of our Children's ministry. What occurs when this happens is faith mentoring for all members, from one generation to the next, down to our children. Contact me if you will find it fun to serve our children through our **4 KIDS MINISTRY**. If this is a way for you to serve, regardless of age, contact me, and I will get you connected.

Children are a gift from the Lord.—Psalm 127:3

Peace and Love

Pastor Rick

Stephen Ministry



Stephen Ministers are lay people who provide emotional and spiritual support to people who are going through difficult times. TUMC established a Stephen Ministry program early on, and our congregation is

currently blessed with several trained and experienced care givers. Stephen Ministry chapters are also required to have specially prepared leaders to help coordinate referrals and provide training and continuing education. In response to our need for a new Stephen Leader, Anne DiPardo recently completed a 25-hour class to prepare her for this role as our new Stephen Ministry Leader.

Stephen Ministry is all about deep, compassionate listening. The Stephen Minister's role is not to fix or advise, but to walk beside care receivers, providing a welcoming, caring space that invites divine guidance.

If you have gifts for compassion, encouragement, and listening, please prayerfully consider becoming part of this supportive ministry.

Join us on **Sunday, September 17** for a Stephen Ministry Inquiry Session in **Room 1** after Church.

Please contact Anne at dipardo.anne8@gmail.com or **319-331-1515** for more information.

Worship Scriptures and Themes

September

3 Scripture: Matthew 16:21-28

Theme: Misinterpretation

10 Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4-7;

Matthew 19:13-15

Theme: Let The Children Come To Me

17 Scripture: Matthew 18:21-35

Theme: Brothers and Sisters, Church and Kingdom

24 Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

Theme: It's About Following

October

1 Scripture: Philippians 2:1-13

Theme: Christ's Disciples, No Easy Feat!

From The Breezeway

4 KIDS MINISTRY

On Saturday, August 19, five of us gathered to have a discussion about the direction of our Children's Ministry, especially Sunday Morning Sunday School and childcare. We talked about recruiting Sunday School teachers and scheduling them, getting curriculum, and being prepared no matter how many children there are on any particular Sunday. Lorna Henley volunteered to schedule the potential teachers. Pastor Rick will acquire the material used, and we will kick off our new fall schedule for **Sunday, September 10**, with a special fellowship time following the service. As previously done, it will begin with children, from ages 3rd to 5th grade beginning in worship and then being excused after the announcement time.

During this time, we began the plans for this Sunday with a **Grandparents/Grandkids Sunday** (look at the article in this edition). We have also begun planning a short-term Vacation Bible School that will happen during Spring Break.

Also, we wanted to find a way to include more friends of children in our Church Family and the Community, and their families as part of this ministry. So we formed

From The Breezeway continued

From The Breezeway continued

a group called **4 KIDS MINISTRY**, which will gather to check in on how our Sunday Morning program is going and look forward to brainstorming the next event or more for our Children and their families.

Here's how you can make this a thriving group and ministry, we need individuals and parents, old and young, to be a part of this group. If you are interested, contact Pastor Rick or Dan Henley. We will get notice out for our next meeting.

Grandparents Invite Your Grandkids to Church and Grandkids Invite Your Grandparents to Church

As part of the Sunday School roundtable on August 19, a small group brainstormed a way to kick off Sunday School in the Fall. On **Sunday, September 10**, we want all Grandparents in our Church Family to invite their Grandkids (and their parents) to church. And conversely, we want all the Grandkids of our Church Family to invite their Grandparents to Church. We know that not all Grandparents have their Grandkids near them or Grandkids have their Grandparents living in the area. So we ask that you invite friends of your children to be your grandkids for a Sunday and bring the family to Church. Likewise, we ask the grandkids to invite friends who could be their grandparents for Sunday at church. The Children will have a fun time in Church and Sunday School.

After the Church Service, we will have an **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** for all, games on the lawn, and other activities for all to have some fun.

This is sponsored by the **4 KIDS MINISTRY**, a new group being formed (check out the other article in this edition on how you can become a part of the group).



TEMECULA UMC MINISTRY FAIRE

On **Sunday, September 24**, after the Worship Service, the Church Council is sponsoring a Ministry Faire. There will be tables listing the various ministries, missions, and fellowships of our TUMC Congregation. We encourage and invite you to stay after church and check out each table. Each area will be hosted by the leader or representative of each ministry, who can share information and answer questions about their ministry and how you can participate and volunteer to serve. TUMC is a Church for Us All, and together we will

From The Breezeway continued

grow stronger with joy and love. If you have questions, you can contact Pastor Rick.

BLESSING THE GARDEN

There has been work done to spruce up the **Prayer and Meditation Garden** as well as improve it to make it more accessible for all. It's time to Bless this special sacred space. On **Sunday, September 17**, at the end of worship, we will have a time of blessing. This space is open to the Church Family and the community to find rest and renewal in the Lord. This Sunday will also be a time for us to kick off the Support the Garden Campaign. We hope you will plan on being in worship on Sunday, September 17, for this special day.

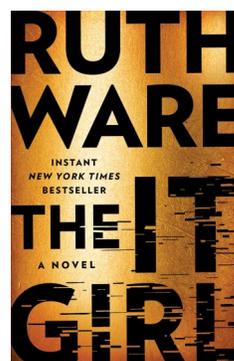


If you have questions, contact Anne DiPardo or Pastor Rick.

Book Buddies

Have You Read "The It Girl" Yet?

"The #1 New York Times bestselling author Ruth Ware returns with an unputdownable mystery following a woman on the search for answers a decade after her friend's murder."

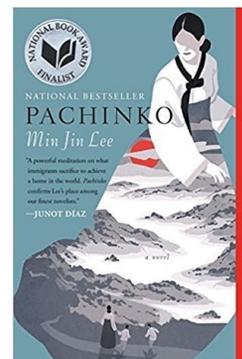


Join the Book Buddies book group at **6:00 pm on Tuesday, September 5** to discuss *The It Girl* at the home of our hostess, Diane Martinez.

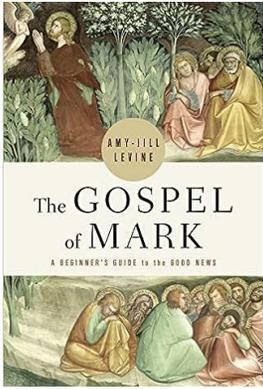
See Ethel Takeguchi or Sue Bradshaw for more information about our book group and if you are interested in carpooling and Zoom access. Come join us for a great discussion.

We enjoy reading, discussing, and socializing with others who share our interest in and love of books.

On **October 3**, Ethel will host a discussion of *Pachinko* by *Min Jin Lee*. The full schedule and list of books is available in the breezeway.



Join the Discussion on this Life Changing Book



September 15th and maybe the **29th, Friday**, at **10:30AM** we will finish our discussion on *“The Universal Christ”* by *Richard Rohr*.

On **October 20th** at **10:30am**, we will begin a journey into an exciting book, *“Mark”* by *Amy-Jill Levine*, AJ for short. She is a Jewish

New Testament Scholar and Professor at Vanderbilt. She offers immense context and perspective, and she is very funny. Get her book wherever books are sold and plan to join the discussion.

Led by Rev. Dr. Marlene Oaks



Introducing a new opportunity for 3 to 4 minutes on Sunday morning. Share your faith story with everyone. Maybe it was long ago, or maybe it was last week. The precious moments of “touching the hem of the garment,” the moments of feeling God’s Presence, the spiritual aha that was meaningful or....Spiritual stories from those we know are deeply meaningful.

As we share our stories, we strengthen and encourage one another. In these perilous times, it is so important to lift one another.

There is a sign-up sheet outside by the Worship Center. Please give us the gift of your stories.

If you are too shy, write up a paragraph and send it to the office to be in the newsletter.

We pray you will give the gift of yourself and your stories to your spiritual family here at TUMC.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rick or Marlene Oaks.

Looking Ahead...

Plan to come for the **Prayers and Squares’ Annual Boutique**

Two Sundays, October 1st & December 3rd

There will be a large assortment of handcrafted items all made by the Prayers and Squares team members like table runners, quilts, wall hangings, bowls and more! Treat yourself and/or purchase gifts.



This year you will be able to purchase **Opportunity Tickets** for a **One-Of-A-Kind King Sized Kaleidoscope Quilt** made out of 48 distinctive kaleidoscope squares. Look for the quilt and the tickets soon!

All proceeds go to Prayers and Squares to buy items needed during the year, such as batting, thread, machine repairs, fabric, etc. The boutiques help make it possible for us to give away quilts free of charge.

Any questions please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,
Rev. Marlene Oaks

United Women in Faith



Thursday, Sep 14th
Board Meeting, at **10:30 AM**
in **Room 1**

Saturday, Sep 23rd
General Meeting, **UWF**
“A Day of Meditation” at

10AM in the Worship Center & Hillside Room
Our Gathering: Join us for a Day of Meditation. Meditation feeds the soul, lifts the body and nurtures us. Everyone is invited to this event! Sign up today in the breezeway or call or email the office. See details on the flyer in the next page.



Prayer is talking to God Meditation is listening to God

You will learn:

•Lectio Divina and Centering Prayer

Divine reading and historic Christian Meditation

•Focusing Your Energy

Bringing in the scattered and busy energy of modern life to focus

•Breathing Meditations

Time honored techniques to still the mind

•Walking Meditations and Guided Meditations

Motion and focus

10—4— Saturday, September 23, 2023

Box lunch available for a \$5.00 donation

Sign up today

This opportunity is offered by international teacher, author, retired pastor, and blogger,
Rev. Dr. Marlene Oaks.

Sponsored by United Women in Faith



A fully affirming and inclusive fellowship gathering

*am*pli*fy - v. to expand, to increase, to strengthen, to make louder*

Amplify is a growing community of Jesus followers and seekers who desire to gather together to draw closer to Jesus through worship, through the reading and study of Scripture, conversation and connection.

We seek to amplify our faith and hope in Jesus. We believe that Jesus was God incarnate—that he was God with us, and because we believe that the entire biblical story ultimately points to him, we want Jesus to be the lens through which we read and interpret all of Scripture.

We seek to amplify the love of Jesus. We believe that God is love; that Jesus is God’s love in person; and that he calls those who choose to follow him to love as he loves—without limit or exclusion; so, empowered by his Spirit, we want to actively look for ways to live out the love and grace of Jesus in our personal lives, in our families, in our churches, in our communities, and in our world.

We seek to amplify the invitation of Jesus. We believe all humanity is uniquely created in God’s image, each one dearly loved and valued by our Father and created with intention and purpose; and we believe that the good news of Jesus and his kingdom invitation is for everyone; so we invite, affirm, and fully include all who wish to come, no matter their age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or mental or physical abilities, believing that Jesus reconciles all things and that he will never turn away anyone who comes to him.

We seek to amplify a culture of value and respect. We believe that all are deserving of honor and respect, so we want our Amplify gatherings to be a safe space where people feel welcomed no matter who they are.

We seek to amplify a community of care and support. We believe that the love and grace of Jesus compelled him to reach out with compassion, care, and comfort to those around him, especially

those who were marginalized, hurting, or in need. Through small group care and support for parents, friends, and family of those in the LGBTQ community.



All Are Welcomed to drop by the **Weekly Amplify Meeting** from **6:30-8PM** every **Thursday** in **Room 1** at the **Temecula United Methodist Church**.

If you have any question feel free to reach out to me anytime at **818-371-1009** or artsalver@gmail.com.

Thanks—Art Salyer

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 to see a full list of vendors. Cards may be preordered when orders are placed. Since the beginning of January, Scrip sales have raised \$520 for the church.



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

If you have any questions or would like to place an order contact Janet Galbraith at **951-764-3938** or jingalbraih5@yahoo.com

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

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 a.m. and can be placed on the altar. You can pick up your flowers after the worship service.



For more information contact Anita Accordino at **714-655-0330** or araccordino12@verizon.net

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Lyn Gruber | 9/01 |
| Ethel Takeguchi | 9/08 |
| Hayes Riché | 9/11 |
| Karen Benvenuto | 9/12 |
| Marie Orillion | 9/12 |
| Jennifer Sayne | 9/13 |
| Monica McCullough | 9/14 |
| Stephen McKown | 9/14 |
| Thelma Loud | 9/15 |



SEPTEMBER Anniversaries



| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Rob and Naila Tayrien | 9/03 |
| Ray Wellman and Kerry Keester—Wellman | 9/07 |
| Matt and Lynn Ferguson | 9/12 |

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Adriana Zarate | 9/16 |
| Diane Greer | 9/17 |
| Carlyn Buehler | 9/19 |
| Rob Tayrien | 9/21 |
| Lloyd Bradshaw | 9/23 |
| Annabel Matson | 9/25 |
| Pat Lain | 9/28 |
| Matthew McCullough | 9/28 |



Golden Baskets for This Month

September

- 3 Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- 10 Empowerment Village (formerly called Rancho Damacitas)
- 17 Christ Ministry Center
- 24 Heifer International

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

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



Housing - A rent-reduced, shared-living stay on our campus for up to 14 moms and their children at a time. Families live three to a house with a combination of private and shared space.

Education - During their two-year stay, women are equipped with resources, mentoring, accountability, education, and community connections designed to empower them and their children to sustainably thrive.

Accountability - Village residents commit and are held accountable to living agreements that ensure safety and enable the thriving growth of all, including moms, kids, staff, and volunteers. These include responsible and supportive co-living, active participation in weekly classes, progress and follow-through toward set goals, clear and honest communication with the advocacy team, and a commitment to physical and emotional safety.



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/>



Nutritious food. Shelter. Clean water. A decent education. Access to health care. And a safe and secure environment.

All fundamental for a life free from hunger and poverty. Yet millions of people can't afford them.

821 million people go to bed hungry every night. **Let's change that.**

Learn more about this organization by reading the Blog at <https://www.heifer.org/blog/index.html>

Church Administrative Office

We will be **CLOSED**
TO OBSERVE
Labor
DAY

Monday,
September 4th