



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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Temecula United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

November 2023



Give Thanks to God

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7

There is a song we sing in worship "Give Thanks". The opening line is "Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son." This is a response to an expression of our faith as we reflect on how God has given to us over the year. As we look over the year, we can all say we have ups and downs in our everyday lives. There have been stresses that have put pressure on us regarding the decisions we make in regards to our everyday living. In all of this, we can point to the joys that reaffirm our hope in our God, who blesses us with ways that lift us from our sorrows and grief and give us strength when we feel we don't know how we are going to manage the difficulties of everyday living. That gives us guidance to make decisions that will be best for ourselves and those we love and care for. This is the key message in the opening line of the song.

When we approach and relate to God with such an attitude of faith, we discover how these joys and, yes, miracles come to us. We see the blessings of hope and fulfillment in the strangers that greet us or share an act of

Continued on page 2

Rick's Ramblings continued

kindness. We know God is present when a surprise email or card reaches us with a word of encouragement or comfort. We are uplifted when a small act on our part to offer help to another returns to us with more joy than we even knew could be possible and didn't look for. In the letter to the Colossians, Paul writes, *"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."*

The second phrase of "Give Thanks" is *"and now let the weak say, 'I am strong'; let the poor say, 'I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us'."* Giving thanks is a verb, an action in how we live our faith, the action of praising God in Worship, and **the action of giving to support our Church** so that we can continue to offer a place of hope and provide help to those who come to our doors looking for a home. The action of reaching out to care for others in our homes, neighborhoods, and the world **through our support of the missions** that engage with the poor and weak, the hurting and sick, the outcast and voiceless in our society. **We praise God by serving in the life of our Church Home.** As we look to 2024, I ask you to pray about where you might serve in the coming year. **Your gifts and abilities might lead you to serve on a committee or ministry team. You might find joy in serving in worship as an usher, greeter, liturgist, the Tech Team, or in the choir.** You may be stirred to help with the **4 KIDS MINISTRY** or with fellowship ministries. Contact me if any of these or other opportunities to serve stir a passion within you.

Giving Thanks is one main expression of our faith in response to the Grace and Love God demonstrated by the example of God's son, Jesus the Christ. **This year, during the season of Advent, noting a time of waiting and preparation for the birth of Christ, beginning the first Sunday of December and going through Christmas, we will be offering our Stewardship campaign, Striving to End Spiritual and Physical Hunger, as we anticipate a new year in which we can continue to Give Thanks to God by our giving.**

By giving thanks and responding to God's Love and Grace, we can ensure that we continue to be a strong and vital presence for Christ's love in this community as an Inclusive, Reconciling, and Affirming Congregation, where all are Welcome.

I want to thank you for all who have given generously so far this year and ask you to pray to give a generous gift to the Church as we close the year so that we might end the year strong moving into 2024.

Peace and Grace—Pastor Rick

Worship Scriptures and Themes

November

- 5 **Guest Preacher: Rev. Tom Rotthar**
12 **Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**
Theme: Do We Have Questions!
19 **Guest Preacher: Todd Stall,**
Seminarian, Perkins School of Theology.
Member of FUMC Escondido
26 **Guest Preacher: Rev. Rob Calderhead**

December

- 3 **Scripture: Mark 13:24-37**
Theme: How to Be Ready



From The Breezeway

New Ministry to Help Physical Hunger

This month the missions committee will start a new ministry to help combat physical hunger. The committee decided to purchase

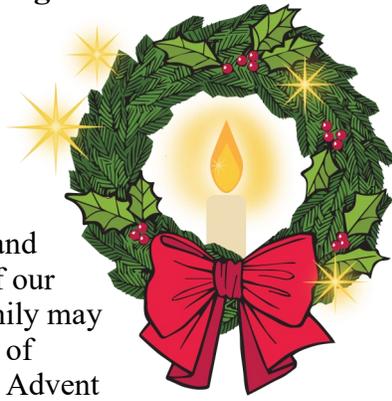
reusable grocery shopping bags to make it easier to collect food for Temecula area food pantries. Bags may be "checked out" then filled up with nonperishable food items and returned to the church at which time you may "check out" a new bag to be filled and

returned. Bags will also be available for purchase for you to keep and use for your own shopping.



Advent Wreath Making

Breakfast for Homebound and our Church Family on Saturday, November 11th.



The holiday season is a time for Thanksgiving and enjoyment. Yet some of our homebound TUMC family may miss the personal touch of congregating in person. Advent reminds us of the hope, faith, joy, peace, and love granted to all of us with the birth of our Savior.

Join us as we connect in person with these family members to participate in Advent. This is a special way we can include them in our Christmas celebration.

BREAKFAST



The TUMC MONKS invite you to help prepare Advent Wreath Kits on **Saturday, November 11th, at 10:30AM**. Come early for a **FREE BREAKFAST at 9:00AM** and stay for wreath-making.

A sign-up sheet for recipients will be available at the event. We will also need volunteers to deliver them in December. These Advent Wreath Kits will be available for sale for your family members.

All Church Conference



The All Church Conference Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, December 10th from 11:30AM to 12:30PM**. It is open for all who wish to attend.

*Church leaders for groups and committees are reminded to submit their All Church Conference Reports by **Monday, November 20th**.*



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.

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.

Would you or someone you know benefit from talking with a compassionate, non-judgmental listener? 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.

If you would like to know more please contact Anne DiPardo at dipardo.anne8@gmail.com or (319) 331-1515 for more information.

Notes From The Office

The Church Office will be closed on the following days in observance of the Holidays.

Nov 13 - Veterans Day

Nov 23-24 - Thanksgiving

Help at the office is always welcomed. If you're interested in providing office assistance, please contact Adriana. Your support is highly appreciated, and it would be great to have someone cover for her when she takes time off in the future.



Please submit your Newsletter Messenger articles by November 15th



presents

Night of Gratitude

Come join us for a celebration of Thanksgiving with expressions of Gratitude offered through music and words, with presenters from many faiths.

Sunday, November 12, 2023, 6:30 pm

hosted by

Temecula United Methodist Church
42690 Margarita Rd., Temecula

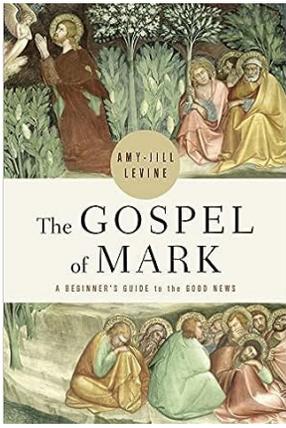
Public Welcome—Free Admission

**Reception with delicious refreshments
following the program**

There will be a collection of non-perishable goods for Community Mission of Hope. Especially needed are shampoo, soap, deodorant, and toothpaste.



Gospel of Mark Discussion



Join the Discussion

1st & 3rd Fridays

Walk through the Bible's earliest source for the life of Jesus with scholar Amy-Jill Levine as she examines John the Baptizer, the Little Apocalypse, the Transfiguration, and several of Jesus's most notable stories and parables.

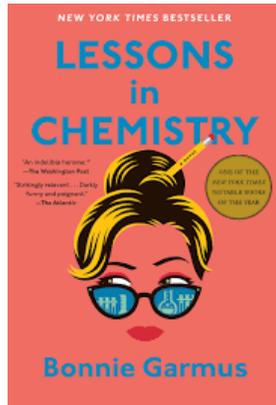
The Good News of the gospel message comes alive in this book as readers see Jesus as divine and human, powerful and weak, approachable yet mysterious. The book features an in depth study of select passages and illuminates the Gospel in its historical context and as a source for the other gospels.

For information contact marleneoaks56@gmail.com

Book Buddies

Lessons in Chemistry

Our book for November is "laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters." Elizabeth Zott isn't just your average woman, but her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. As her following grows as a successful and revolutionary cooking coach, she's daring women to change the status quo. We know that this was not easy in the 1960s.



Join the Book Buddies book group at **6:00 pm** on **Tuesday, November 7** to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus at the home of our hostess, Karen Benvenuto.

See Ethel 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. On **December 5**, Vicki Cloutier will lead a review of *Women Talking*, by Miriam Toews.

The full schedule and list of books is available in the church breezeway.

Prayers and Squares

Plan to come for the Prayers and Squares' Annual Boutique on 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



United Women in Faith

Changes are in the air. The Leadership Team has decided we will focus on Missions. We will continue to meet

monthly for the rest of the year—See our article on our exciting October meeting. In 2024 we will meet quarterly, plus the Tea and our Christmas Party. We look forward to continuing our sharing and caring and making a difference together.

Thursday, November 11th

Board Meeting, at 10:30 AM in Room 1

Thursday, November 16th

Special Guest Speaker, Sarah Stephens at 10:30 AM in Room 1

Our Gathering: Meet Sarah Stephens, a wife, mother of 6 beautiful kids and a non-profit founder and motivational speaker. All are invited to attend. See details on the flyer in the next page.



You are invited to United Women In Faith Thursday, November 16, 10:30-noon

Special Guest Speaker that will move and inspire you!

Sarah Stephens is a wife, mother of 6 beautiful kids and a non-profit founder and motivational speaker. Sarah and her husband have a big heart for the hurting and broken. They started an organization called Make California Gold Again to redeem the state of California! They hold homeless outreaches in downtown LA where they provide free food, hair cuts, clothing, live music, testimonies and preaching- always giving people an opportunity to come to Christ, get off the street, and have a new beginning. They have seen countless lives turned around and are believing God to start teams across California to give people a second chance at life and to DREAM AGAIN!

www.makecaliforniagoldagain.com

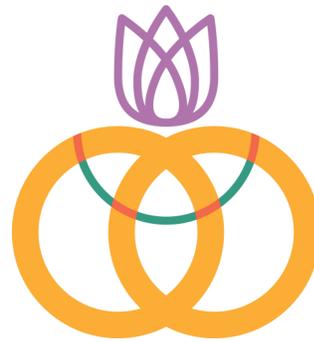
For information, contact Marlene Oaks

November

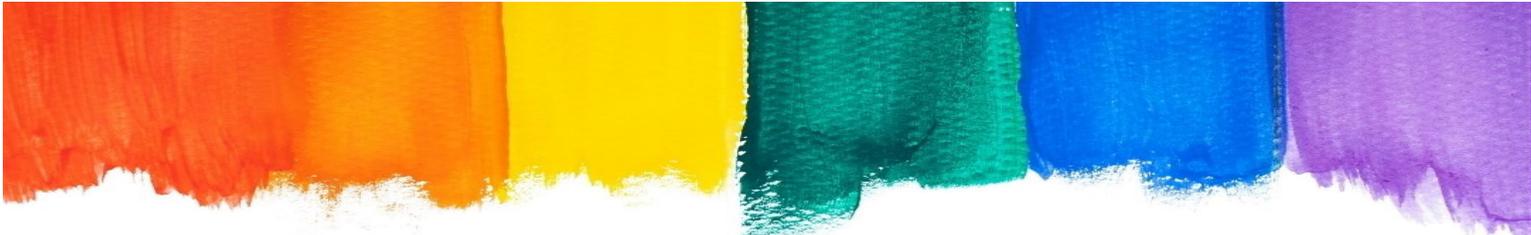
Happy Birthday to...

LeeAnn Lumsden 11/01
Dorothy Smith 11/04
Jo Anne Bullard 11/07
Jodi Dubots 11/08
Lorna Henley 11/08
Chris Richè 11/08
Zoila Hillier 11/10
Jacob Sayne 11/10
Art Salyer 11/12
Nora Baber 11/15
Nick Biddle 11/15
Donald Monson 11/16
Caitlin Teasdale 11/16
Shirlee Armistead 11/17
Janet Galbraith 11/19
Savannah Johnas 11/19
Erik Saegar 11/21
Vanessa Saegar 11/21
Jake Otjen 11/24
Bruce Lumsden 11/27

Happy Anniversaries to...



Mark & Marika Matson 11/03
Ken & Lorilyn Teasdale 11/07
Adam & Nellie Hathorn 11/09
Earl & Pauline Fields 11/15



*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

Golden Baskets for This Month

- 5 Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- 12 Empowerment Village
(formerly Rancho Damacitas)
- 19 No Golden Basket Offering
- 26 Christ Ministry Center, San Diego



Pastor's Discretionary Fund

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



EMPOWERMENT VILLAGE formerly called Rancho Damacitas COMMUNITY MISSION OF HOPE

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/>

MISSIONS Committee

New and returning members of the Missions Committee please plan on attending our November 12, 2023 meeting. We will meet in room 1 after worship, approximately at 11:15 a.m. We will be discussing next year's golden baskets as well as discussing the leadership transition, since I will be stepping down as chair as of December 31, 2023. Please plan and attend. If you are unable to attend for some reason please let me know.
Sally Malec

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



Scrip

Holiday Scrip News

If you are thinking about giving gift cards for the holidays, Scrip has over 750 items to choose from. Visit the website raiserright.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 3rd.**

Pick up will be available on Sunday, December 10th.

Complete the attached order form and return to church with your payment using cash, check or credit card. (There will be a 4% fee on credit card payments.)

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SCRIP



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Scrip Pre-order Form

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
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MERCHANT	DENOMINATION	QUANTITY	TOTAL
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MERCHANT	DENOMINATION	QUANTITY	TOTAL
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MERCHANT	DENOMINATION	QUANTITY	TOTAL
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MERCHANT	DENOMINATION	QUANTITY	TOTAL
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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. 3rd. Pick up will be available on Sunday, Dec.10th.

If you have any questions, contact Janet Galbraith at 951-764-3938 or email jngalbraith5@yahoo.com

Thank you for supporting TUMC