



The Vision
of
Temecula UMC

Temecula UMC is a Reconciling Congregation. ALL are welcome to the compassionate TUMC family to participate in worship, education, fellowship, missions and ministry, regardless of race, ethnicity, color, age, sex, or sexual orientation. We are people of God that live out our faith every day following Christ.

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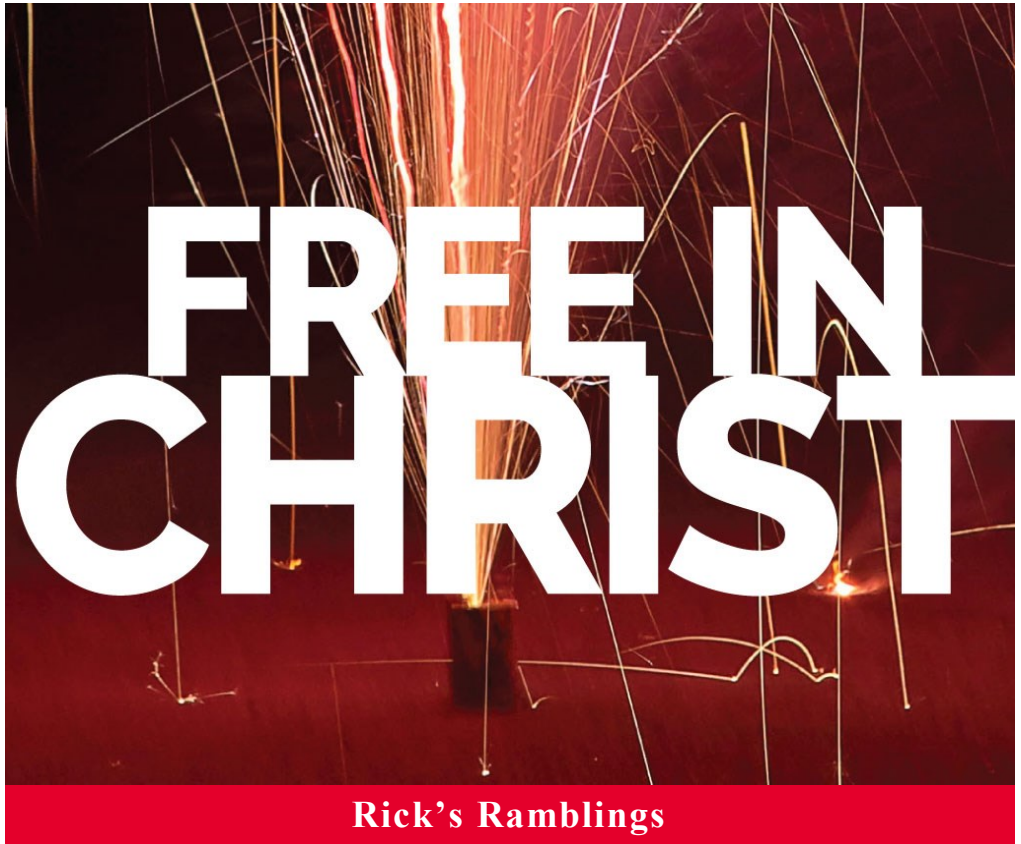


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Temecula United Methodist Church THE MESSENGER

July 2023



Nourish

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

In a follow-up to the Vision of our California Pacific Conference set by our retiring Bishop Grant Hagiya last year, our new Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank set "Nourish" as our theme for our Annual Conference held last week. On the second day, the Bishop emphasized in her address to the clergy session and to the whole conference the need for Clergy to find times for nourishment in order to be able to continue to serve the congregations and places in which they are serving. She also encouraged the lay folks to seek their own times of rest and renewal.

I want to echo the message that Bishop Dottie shared and emphasized. We are reminded from the beginning of the scriptures in Genesis that God finished creation and took a day off. It isn't that God needs a day off, but it is to model for God's creation that rest is a vital part of being a part of the created order. To rest is to revitalize, re-energize, prepare, and be ready. To rest is to recharge the batteries of faith and be ready to live out that faith in our everyday lives. God shares a model of not only living but living with vitality that will empower us to confront that which tries to defeat us in the spiritual and physical realms.

Continued on page 2

Following in the direction of the vision of our Conference, we have set our Church Family vision as "Striving to End Spiritual and Physical Hunger." To live into this vision and offer the ministries and missions to our community and neighbors, we need to find rest and nourishment in our journey of faith so that it will give us the abilities and strength to feed our neighbors. When Jesus teaches that the second greatest commandment is to love our neighbors as ourselves, it isn't that we adore ourselves but that we care for ourselves. That will give us the energy to recognize the gifts of the Spirit and then love our neighbors, whomever they may be.

Ultimately, the place we find our rest is what Jesus teaches in the passage I share at the beginning of my article. We find this rest in Christ, Jesus, who is our Rock. We can go to Jesus for help, comfort, redemption, forgiveness, and love. This rest doesn't make our faith journey easy, but it does let us know we are not alone in that journey, which then gives us hope no matter what we encounter.

Finally, I share that there are at least five Faith Disciplines that can be resources to help us find and receive the rest that we need. Many of you may be practicing and living these disciplines, and some of us may need to be reminded of them and get back to practicing them. First are prayer and meditation. A time to focus on your relationship with God in Christ. To release that which is weighing you down and to lift up that which is bringing you joy. To be open to hearing God's lead for you, which in turn opens you to God's answer to your prayers. The second is reading the scriptures. When reading the scriptures, it is helpful to be in prayer as you reach for help in understanding how it might help in your life. Connected with reading the scriptures is being a part of a Bible Study to learn about these words you have heard and read most of your life and to make these books of the Bible come alive and clearer. Another Discipline is Worship, specifically worshipping within the family of God. Yes, we can be in "nature" and worship God, but worship is about supporting and caring for one another and adding to one another as we nurture each other and are nourished. The final Discipline is Christian Fellowship. This is another way to nurture and support each other. This can be done at meals or social gatherings as well as times of service to others.

So I remind you (and myself) to take time to rest so that your body and soul are replenished!

Peace and Love
Pastor Rick

Worship Scriptures and Themes

July

2 Scripture: Matthew 10:40-42

Theme: *Welcome*

9 Scripture: Matthew 11:16-30

Theme: *Woe is Me!*

16 Scripture: Matthew 13:1-13

Theme: *Beginning Farming*

23 Scripture: Matthew 13:24-43

Theme: *Explaining Parables*

30 Scripture: Matthew 13:31-53

Theme: *Three More Parables*

August

6 Scripture: Matthew 14:13-21

Theme: *You Give Them Something to Eat*

From The Breezeway



TUMC 4th of July Block Party

Come celebrate the 4th of July block party on the lawn to enjoy the afternoon and watch fireworks from Ronald Reagan Park.

The TUMC Church Family is invited to pick up a Parking Pass by **July 3rd**, either at Church on Sunday, July 2nd, or Monday, July 3rd at the Church Office from 9:30AM-1:30 PM.

We ask that you make a donation to support the ministries of the Church and place it in the envelope.

Early Bird Parking for those with parking passes will begin at **4:00 PM until 6:00 PM**. After 6PM parking will be made available to the general public.

There will be great food sold and served by Great Scot BBQ. Bring your chairs, blankets, your own food and non-alcoholic drinks.

Fun will be had by everyone!

★ ★ ★ ★ JULY

Birthdays

Elia De La Cerra 07/01
 Jean Williams 07/01
 Mark McCullough 07/02
 Ryan Hathorn 07/03
 Scott Parker 07/05
 Betty Lou Langlois 07/07
 Joy Oh 07/08
 Lorilyn Teasdale 07/11
 Serena Hughes 07/12
 Meghann Adesso 07/13
 Gilbert Oaks 07/16
 Natasha Davis Turnblad 07/17
 Maria Longley 07/17
 Lily Benson 07/19
 Kylee Riché 07/19
 Vanessa Wagner 07/19
 Heather Bjorklund 07/24
 Rev. Rick Malec 07/24
 Elliot Teasdale 07/25
 Tracy Muehring 07/26
 Camden Saeger 07/26
 Matt Roderos 07/27
 Lois Hoyle 07/29
 Sharon Johnas 07/30
 Garland Smith 07/30

★ ★ ★ ★ JULY

Anniversaries

Chuck & Kathy Washington 07/06
 Josh & Brittney De Wall 07/14
 Randy & Shirley Johnson 07/14
 Dan & Lorna Henley 07/17
 John Paul & Lisa Glenn Edwards . 07/18
 Milton & Ethel Takeguchi 07/25
 Tom Smith & Melanie Roth-Smith 07/26
 Mark & Traci Pawlak 07/27
 Jerry & Debbie Barba 07/28
 Doug & Lucille McGhee 07/28
 Anthony & Katie Ramos 07/29
 Gian & Meghann Adesso 07/30
 George & Halia Wuertz 07/31



Church Office



Our Church Office will be needing help filling in for Adriana, the Administrative Secretary, on **Monday, July 10th thru Friday, July 14th.**

The Church office hours will be modified to **9:30am—12:30pm.**

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Adriana at (951) 676-1800 Ext. 1 or temeculaUMC.Secretary@gmail.com.



Prayers and Squares

We are currently in **NEED of expanding our Prayers and Squares Team.**

If you can sew, used to sew, or would like to learn to sew, please do come to Prayers and Squares. I can teach any willing person to sew.

We meet the **2nd and 4th Friday mornings from 9:30 am to noonish.**

Blessings—Marlene Oaks



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 & araccordino12@verizon.net.



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.

Book Buddies Group



Read Any Good Books Lately?

The **Book Buddies** Book Group meets at **6:00 pm** on the **first Tuesday of each month** from **September through December** and **February through June** in our homes and through Zoom.

The next meeting is **September 5th.**

Come join us and catch our enthusiasm, even if you don’t have time to finish the books. Contact *Ethel Takeguchi* or *Sue Bradshaw* for more information.

We are currently submitting our recommendations for the coming season. For our new schedule of books and meetings, please see the next page for the **Book Buddies Selection Schedule**. Since 2005, we have read 144 fiction, nonfiction, and classics!

BOOK BUDDIES SELECTION 2023-2024

BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR	DATE	HOST
<u>The It Girl</u>	Ruth Ware	September 5, 2023	Diane Martinez <i>Suggested by Pat Lain</i>
<u>Pachinko</u>	Min Jin Lee	October 3, 2023	Ethel Takeguchi <i>Suggested by Ethel Takeguchi</i>
<u>Lessons In Chemistry</u>	Bonnie Garmus	November 7, 2023	Karen Benvenuto <i>Suggested by Sue Bradshaw & Karen Benvenuto</i>
<u>Women Talking</u>	Miriam Toews	December 5, 2023	Viki Cloutier <i>Suggested by Vicki Cloutier</i>
<u>A Prayer for Owen Meany</u>	John Irving	February 6, 2024	Sue Bradshaw <i>Suggested by Sue Bradshaw</i>
<u>The Last Thing He Told Me</u>	Laura Dave	March 5, 2024	Cookie Gender <i>Suggested by Diane Martinez</i>
<u>The Personal Librarian</u> ZOOM MEETING	Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray	April 2, 2024	Carlyn Buehler <i>Suggested by Carlyn Buehler</i>
<u>The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek</u>	Kim Michele Richardson	May 7, 2024	Sherry Campbell <i>Suggested by Sherry Campbell</i>
<u>The Creature From Jekyll Island</u>	G. Edward Griffin	June 4, 2024	Karen Benvenuto-Hostess DarcyThielemann-Reviewer <i>Suggested by Pat Lain</i>
Potluck		June 4, 2024	Karen Benvenuto



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, through conversation and connection, and by engaging in meaningful discussions around the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, his all-inclusive, saving message of grace and love, and what it means for us to follow him today.

We seek to amplify our faith and hope in Jesus. We believe that Jesus was God incarnate—that he was God with us, the Word made flesh—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 want to deepen our knowledge and experience of him as Father, Son, and Spirit; we want to strengthen our faith in the truth he reveals about who our God is, and about our value and worth in his eyes; we want to fortify our hope in his grace for us and the freedom, forgiveness, redemption, and restoration he offers; and we want to learn how to participate with him in his kingdom and how to follow him in his way of light and love.

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; where questions, doubts, and differences of opinion or interpretation are heard and respected; and where people are encouraged to dialogue and share without the fear of judgment or condemnation.

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, and because we believe he calls his followers to do the same, the second and fourth Amplify gatherings each month will be dedicated to small group care and support for parents, friends, and family of those in the LGBTQ community.

I would like to **Welcome All TUMC Members, Families and Friends** to drop by the **Weekly Amplify Meeting** from **6:30-8PM** every **Thursday in Room 1** at the **Temecula United Methodist Church.**

It is a wonderful group growing each month. We talk about Faith, the Bible, and our underserved LGBTQ+ community.

Meetings alternate: one Thursday is fellowship, and one Thursday is a support group and book study.

If you want to learn more about the LGBTQ+ community and support them in faith...this is a great meeting to attend any Thursday. Any Questions? Reach for Art Salyer at (818) 371-1009 and artsalver@gmail.com



Golden Baskets for This Month

July

- 2 SAFE Family Justice Center
- 9 Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- 16 Empowerment Village (formerly known as Rancho Damacitas)
- 23 Christ Ministry Center, San Diego
- 30 Heifer International



SAFE
FAMILY
JUSTICE
CENTERS
RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Ensuring Safety, Protecting Families, and Seeking Justice

The SAFE Family Justice

Centers are a safe place for victims of abuse to get help. SAFE Family Justice Centers provide advocacy and support services to individuals who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, child/elder abuse and services for youth who are at risk. For more information go to <https://safefjc.org/>

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/>



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>

Thank You!

Because of your donations and help on **The Day of Service**, the event was very successful.

With all of the supplies donated and the many people that stayed and helped put together the kits, we were able to make 72 complete kits for the Border Ministry. The remaining supplies were also given to the Border Ministry Program located at Nestor UMC in Imperial Beach. We were also able to make 43 cards that were mailed to Cards for Kindness. I would also like to thank the three people that went to Jacob's House and did yard work. Without your generosity and help this event would not have been a success. Temecula UMC is a very generous and loving congregation. You have made a difference in people's lives with the kits and cards and yard work.

To know more about Border Ministry click on the link <https://www.facebook.com/CalPacLatinoMinistries/>

To know more about Cards for Kindness click on the link <https://www.creativekindness.org/cards-for-kindness>

Sally Malec, Missions Chair



CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF 2023

College Graduates

Madison Baber: Graduate of UC Santa Barbara with a BA and will be attending Creighton University of Health Sciences in Phoenix, Arizona for a Doctorate of PT. Granddaughter of Nora Baber.

Samuel Ferguson: Graduate of Chico State University with a Bachelor's in Child Development. Son of Matt and Lynn Ferguson.

Amanda French: Graduate of College of The Redwoods with Honors, AA in Liberal Arts, AS Major in Science Exploration, AS in Registered Nursing. Granddaughter of Connie & Rev David French.

Ragan Jones: Graduate of Arizona State University with an MBA and working on a Doctorate. Granddaughter of Nora Baber.

Sean Longley: Graduate of Chapman University with a Double Major BA in Economics and a BA Communication Studies. Son of Kyle and Maria Longley.

Ryann McCollum: Graduate of UC Santa Barbara, from a Masters Program. Granddaughter of Barbara Lamb.

High School Graduates

Payton Baber: Graduate of Temecula Valley High School and will be attending UC Berkley. Granddaughter of Nora Baber.

Martha Campbell: Graduate of Linfield Christian High School and will be attending Mt. San Jacinto College in the fall. Daughter of Sherry Campbell.

Maya Cruz: Graduate of Walter Panas High School and will be attending Purchase State University of New York in Purchase, New York. Granddaughter of Earl and Pauline Fields.

Janelle Galvez: Graduate of Mira Mesa High School, in San Diego with Honors and plans to attend CSU Sacramento. Granddaughter of Gloria Galvez.

Jordynn Henley: Graduate of Simi Valley High School and will be attending college in San Diego. Granddaughter of Dan and Lorna Henley.

Aaron Herrera, Jr.: Graduate of Creative Pathways Preparatory Academy in New Smyrna Beach, Florida. Great Grandson of Frances Sandipher.



CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF 2023

High School Graduates *(continued)*

Lachlan Jones: Graduate of Servite High School in Anaheim, California and will be attending Purdue University. Grandson of Nora Baber.

Indira Langhum: Graduate of Potomac Falls High School in Virginia and will be attending Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia. Granddaughter of Earl and Pauline Fields.

Drew Longley: Graduate of Centennial High School in Corona, California and will be attending Chapman University in the fall. Son of Kyle and Maria Longley.

Middle School Promotions

Scarlett French: 8th Grade Promotion from East Linn Christian Academy and will be attending Lebanon High School in Oregon. Granddaughter of Connie and Rev David French.

Bel Lewis: 8th Grade Promotion from Ensign Middle School and will be attending Harbor High School in Newport Beach, California. Granddaughter of Nora Baber.

Seth Precie: 8th Grade Promotion from Mountain Shadows Middle School and will be attending Heritage High School. Grandson of Catherine Buckingham.

Ryan Ross: 8th Grade Promotion from Vail Ranch Middle School and will be attending Great Oak High School. Grandson of Anita Accordino.

Liam Wuertz: 8th Grade Promotion from Temecula Middle School and will be attending Temecula Valley High School. Grandson of George and Haila Wuertz.

Elementary School Promotions

Alyssa Gutierrez: 6th Grade Promotion from Eastvale Elementary School and will be attending River Heights Intermediate School. Granddaughter of Dan and Nila Gutierrez.

Selasi Ntony: 5th Grade Promotion from Paloma Elementary School and will be attending Temecula Middle School. Daughter of Gideon and Eva Ntony.

Luka Wuertz: 5th Grade Promotion from Temecula International Academy and will be attending Temecula Middle School. Grandson of George and Haila Wuertz.