



**PLACENTIA  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

2050 Valencia Avenue  
Placentia, CA 92870  
(714) 528-1483

**Church office hours:**  
Monday/Friday-Closed  
Tuesday/Thursday 10am to 2pm  
Wednesday 1pm to 4pm

**Senior Pastor**  
Eric Schmidt  
(714) 271.3698  
umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com

**Pastor Office Hours:**  
Tuesday & Thursday  
10am to 1pm or by appointment  
Please call or email to  
schedule an appointment.

**Music Director**  
Laurie Cobb  
(714) 425-5705  
88keymagic@gmail.com


**Office Administrator**  
Izzy Izaguirre  
pumcsecr@gmail.com

**Visit us:**  
website: [placentiaumc.org/](http://placentiaumc.org/)  
facebook.com/placentiaumc/

# The Messenger

## Placentia United Methodist Church January | February Issue 2026

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste,  
how can its saltiness be restored?" Matthew 5:13a (CEB)

Let's start the new year well! We begin 2026 encountering the glory of God,  
 revealed in so many ways. We'll renew our commitment to  
generous living through our "Add a Brick in 2026" cam-  
paign, as we seek to build our church. And we'll make a  
covenant offering of our prayers, presence, gifts, service  
and witness as we renew our baptism.

As we resolve to walk more closely with the Lord, we'll find ourselves led into  
the mission field. You know what I mean: it's what we encounter when we  
walk out of the door of the church.

That's why I offer a "sending blessing" each Sunday, not a benediction. The  
latter implies an ending, while the former implies a beginning. We come  
together, give thanks to God, are refreshed and inspired to go out and share  
the love and grace we've received with our family, friends and neighbors.  
The Holy Spirit goes with us, showing us where God is already at work so  
we may join in.

I think it's a great way to begin the year. We'll then move into Lent, the  
season of preparation for Easter. This year, we're going to reclaim the grace-  
filled, boundary-breaking movement first sending Methodists to the fields,  
the margins, and those often excluded.

Rev. Dr. Ashley Boggan coined a term, "vile-tality." This describes holy  
rule-bending, which is part of our Wesleyan DNA. I invite you to join our  
hope-filled small group reflection during Lent. We'll look at Rev. John  
Wesley's story. And we'll encounter Wesley's provocative, practical  
missiology: field preaching, grassroots community, social engagement, and  
leadership activation.

This isn't nostalgia. It's renewal. It's about mission. Our movement has  
always been bold, Spirit-led and unapologetically focused on reaching those  
left out and left behind. Together, let's reclaim our Wesleyan identity and  
roots. I hope you will join us as we explore how bending the rules for the  
sake of love can spark resurrection in forgotten places.

Let our light shine,  
Pastor Eric

**Pastor Eric Schmidt**  
Senior Pastor || Placentia United Methodist Church

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES



### JANUARY

Margaret Johnson-4

Pam Triestram-8

Mel Bond-18

Diane Cooper-26

Gloria Ressler-26

### FEBRUARY

Sue Lacko-16

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### JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY

Worship In Person &  
YouTube Service: 9:30am  
Afterward, you are invited  
to join us for Social Hour.

**Social Hour:**  
10:30am-11am | Social Hall  
**Communion Service**  
First Sunday each month

**Widows once-a-month lunch is back in session.** All widows are invited on the fourth Friday of every month at 11:45 am.

**In observance of Martin Luther King Day** The church office will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 19th. If you need pastoral care Pastor Eric will be available by phone (714) 271-3698.

**Happy Valentine's Day** - Friday, February, 14th

**In observance of President's Day** The church office will be closed in observance of President's Day, Monday, February 16th. If you need pastoral care Pastor Eric will be available by phone (714) 271-3698.

**Ash Wednesday** - February 18th, Watch for details

**Newsletter** Please send your articles and photos for the newsletter by February 20th to the church office, pumcsecr@gmail.com

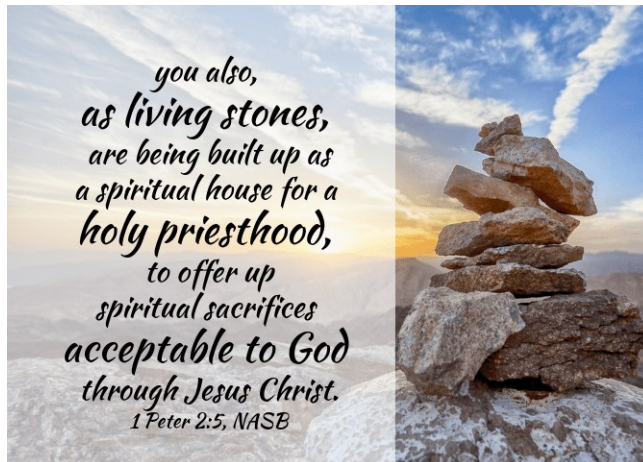
**1st Sunday of Lent** - February 22, 2026

**Palm Sunday** - March 29th

**Maundy Thursday** - April 2nd

**Good Friday** - April 3rd

**Easter Sunday** - April 5th



**Upper Room Daily Devotional January | February**  
Can be picked up in the church narthex.

Why are we Here?  
"Joyfully sows seeds of Faith, so lives are drawn to God."

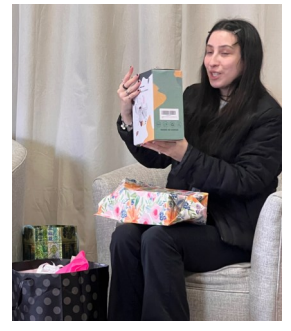


# Church Campus Life

## Samantha Sanchez Bridal Shower!

About twenty women gathered to celebrate Samantha and Elvis at a beautiful wedding shower. The afternoon was filled with gratitude and joy as Samantha and her mother shared their appreciation for the outpouring of love from the group.

Among many thoughtful gifts to help the couple begin their new life, Samantha received a special monogrammed cake cutter and knife set. Guests enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by the PUMC women, and a true highlight of the day was the opportunity for everyone to meet Samantha's lovely mother.





# Church Campus Life

## Congratulations to Samantha Sanchez & Elvis Iniguez on their marriage!

The couple wed on Tuesday December 23, 2025, our own Samantha Sanchez married Elvis Iniguez at the Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles. It was a beautiful, intimate ceremony with family and friends present. The happy couple said their own heartfelt vows and lit the unity candle as a couple.

Following the wedding was a resplendent and elegant reception held at Maggiano's Little Italy in Costa Mesa. And our own Gisela caught the bouquet!!

The couple enjoyed a honeymoon driving up the coast to Solvang and Santa Barbara.

Please join us in wishing Mr. & Mrs. Iniguez a lifetime of happiness.





# Church Campus Life

## ADVENT 2025

Each week, our worship was truly blessed by the members of our congregation who stepped forward to light the Advent candles. We are deeply grateful for your service, which brought the light of Christ to life and made our Advent season so meaningful.

1st Sunday Leisa & Gene Luke and Diane Cooper



2nd Sunday Karen Richards & Joanie Lees



3rd Sunday Leon Cheney and Kay Ressler



4th Sunday Sara & Derrick Floyd



Gerry Adams - Christmas Eve



Dianne & Evan Adams - Christmas Eve







## Church Campus Life

### Placentia UMC's Christmas Sing-A-Long

It was great fun to once again gathered on a Sunday evening for a delicious soup supper, thanks to Sue Lacko, and then joyful Christmas Carol singing. Laurie Cobb provided the songbooks and played the keyboard. Mel Palmer led the singing. We sang many of the old favorites, like "Silent Night", "O Little Town of Bethlehem", and "Joy to the World", ending in a fun rendition of "The Twelve Days of Christmas", complete with hand motions! Thanks to all who attended and made the evening special.



### A "Garden Club Christmas Celebration"



A heart-felt "Thanks" from the Del Norte Garden Club (DNGC) goes out to PUMC for once again allowing us to hold our annual Holiday meeting and party on Thursday December 11. Pastor Eric led us in singing Christmas Carols and then gave the blessing for the meal. Then he and Izzy joined us for lunch. We are forever grateful that DNGC has been able to meet at PUMC for over 20 years. If you have an interest in Gardening, have a garden or just enjoy flowers and other plants, you can visit any time we meet which is the 2nd Thursday at 10a from September thru June. Visitors and guests are always welcome.

Each meeting includes fellowship time at 9:30am and an informative gardening-related program. We offer Horticulture Scholarships each year to students at Fullerton College and will be presenting our 2025 scholarships to 2 Fullerton College students at our January meeting.

Mel Bond, DNGC President

# Church Campus Life

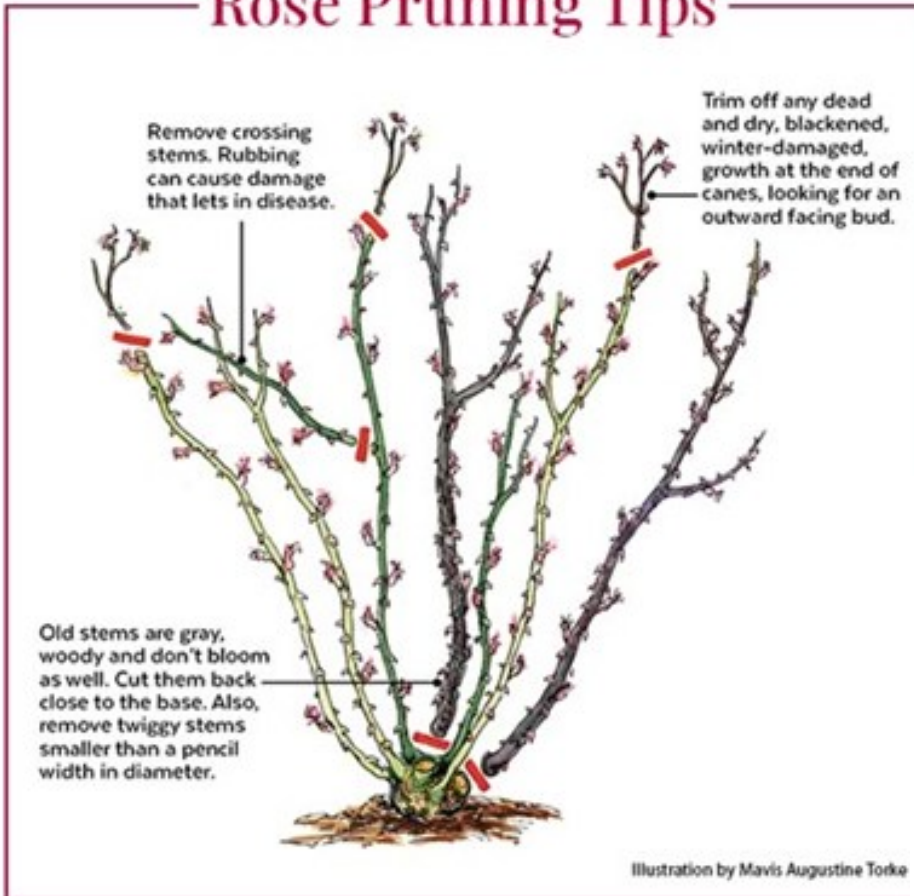
## Readying the Church Roses for Spring



It will soon be time for the annual pruning and cutting back of the roses at church. If you are interested in helping, please let Izzy know and she will pass on your name. We will be setting a date in mid to late January or early February. Watch the Sunday bulletin for both the selected date and backup dates in case of rainy weather. All you will need is your willingness to help. We will provide the tools, gloves, and instructions. In the meantime, be sure to check out the gorgeous blooms after the rain.

How to prune roses: To prune roses, first remove dead, diseased, or damaged wood (the 4 Ds) and any crossing or inward-growing canes to create an open, vase-shape for air circulation, making cuts at a 45-degree angle about 1/4 inch above an outward-facing bud. Trim remaining strong canes by about one-third, or harder for smaller bushes, ensuring the final cut slopes away from the bud to promote outward growth, and always use sharp bypass pruners for clean cuts.

### Rose Pruning Tips



## HAVE A Prayer Request

Visit us at our website:  
[placentiaumc.org/prayer](http://placentiaumc.org/prayer)  
Or contact: Pastor Eric Schmidt  
[umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com)  
Or call the church office  
(714) 528-1483

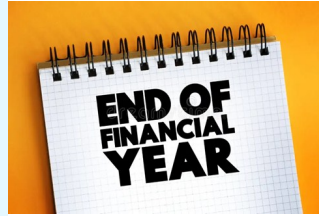


If you would like an update  
about One Life to Love in Baja,  
here is the website address:  
<https://www.onelifeinbaja.org/>



### PLACENTIA UMC SERVICES ON YouTube

Go to YouTube at  
[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)  
Search for Placentia United  
Methodist Church  
Click on the picture of the  
church sign.  
This will take you to the  
home page.  
Click on "Live" to find the  
most recent video (s). Enjoy!



## Church Campus Life

As I write this, PUMC has celebrated its last Sunday of 2025, Sunday December 28, 2025. Our Treasurer Bob McKinnell is working on the December and Year End Financial reports and Summary. Although we will likely end the year with total expenditures exceeding our income, the amount is something we can work with.

We enter into 2026 with a spirit of thankfulness for your generosity and faithful giving, not just financially but through your prayers for our Church and leaders, your presence in worship, both on-line and in person and at gatherings like the Sing-A-Long, your service and your faithful witness to family and friends and our community.

Your giving through missions and other ministries such as the Blessing Boxes will have touched people who you may never meet but who are grateful for your giving. As we enter 2026 and our annual Stewardship, may you let God lead your heart in ever increasing ways of your prayers, your worship, your service, your witness and your giving.

Blessings to you in 2026. Mel Bond, Finance Chair



### CORNERSTONE UMC - CORNER

#### New Life Fellowship

**for Seniors and Retirees** | 10am at church for fun and fellowship.  
Lunch afterwards. Contact Betty Loh-Chen for more information.

**Lean on Me || Wednesday, || 7pm** on Zoom, our Monthly Caregiver Support Group to support one another in joys and concerns of caring for loved ones and those who have lost loved ones. RSVP to:  
[cumc.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:cumc.secretary@gmail.com)

**Tuesday Women's Study (TWS)** resumes at 10am in the Purple Room and on Zoom, January 6th



**PICKLEBALL IS ON ||** Come play the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month in the Parish Park after our lunch fellowship.

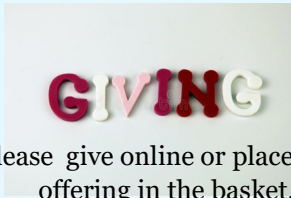


# Volunteer Opportunities



## Photos Needed

Please send in photos: Fun photos/selfies/fellowship pics to share for our newsletter and website.  
Send to  
pumcsecr@gmail.com



Please give online or place your offering in the basket.  
If you'd like to give online to the church, you may do so at the following link: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2650083>

Thank you for your faithful and generous support.



## Are you looking for ways to volunteer?

Volunteering is both exciting and rewarding, especially when utilizing your knowledge, skills and expertise to make a positive difference in the lives of others. The reward is a mutual benefit that transcends to generations to follow. Please contact the church or Pastor Eric for information.

### Liturgist for Sunday Service:

Please contact Leon Cheney if you would like to sign up to volunteer.

01/04 Bob McKinnell	02/22 Leon Cheney
01/11 Bruce Beck	
01/18 Sue Lacko	Alternates:
01/25 Leon Cheney	Gerry Adams
02/01 Bob McKinnell	Margaret Johnson
02/08 Bruce Beck	
02/15 Sue Lacko	

### Greeters for Sunday Service schedule:

Please contact Leon Cheney if you would like to sign up to volunteer.

1st Sunday Shirley Cheney  
2nd Sunday Margie Simmermacher  
3rd Sunday Wendy Elliott  
4th Sunday Karen Richards  
5th Sunday Mel Bond

### Tellers schedule:

Please contact Mel Bond if you would like to sign up to volunteer.

1st Sunday	Bob McKinnell /Craig Green
2nd Sunday	Kay Ressler/Sarah Floyd
3rd Sunday	Leon Cheney/Bruce Beck
4th Sunday	Leisa Luke/Kathy McKinnell
5th Sunday	Leisa Luke/Sarah Floyd
Substitute	Bob McKinnell

### Clean Up in Social Hall schedule:

Please contact the office if you would like to sign up to volunteer.

1st Sunday Sue Lacko  
2nd Sunday Leon Cheney  
3rd Sunday Craig Green  
4th Sunday TBD  
5th Sunday TBD

### Communion Assistants needed, first Sunday each month.

4 people needed, Please contact Pastor Eric, if you would like to sign up to volunteer.