

# The Messenger

## Placentia United Methodist Church

November | December Issue 2025

### UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

#### **NOVEMBER All Saint's Day/Communion Sunday, November 9th**

Honoring and remembering those we have lost. Please submit the name and picture of your loved one that has passed away in the last year to be remembered to the church office, [pumcsecr@gmail.com](mailto:pumcsecr@gmail.com).

#### **Memorial Rose Garden Dedication** Sunday, November 9th || 10:45am

#### **It's Charge Conference Time!!!**

Our Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, November 16th || 2 p.m.  
Location: Placentia United Methodist Church, we are hosting!!!  
This year we will be part of a "Joint Charge Conference" where each of our neighboring UMC Churches will share stories and events in their church. The Conference will be called to order by our Pastor Eric Schmidt. Save the date and join us for this special time.



#### **In observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday**

The church office will be closed, Thursday & Friday  
November 27 & 28.

#### **DECEMBER Activities to enjoy this season:**

November 21st – Hanging of the Greens as we  
decorate the church for the holidays || 2pm || Church Campus  
November 30th– First Sunday in Advent with communion - Hope  
December 7th – Second Sunday in Advent - Peace



December 14th – Third Sunday in Advent - Joy  
December 21th – Fourth Sunday in Advent - Love  
**Our Christmas Eve** service is a quiet, in-person gathering with carols and scripture as we celebrate the gift of Christ. The traditional singing of "Silent Night" and candle lighting will close the service.

#### **Joint with Cornerstone UMC || 6pm**

**Christmas Day - December 25th – Christmas Day.** You are welcome to join us for a simple, "unplugged" service with communion at 10:00 am.



#### **Taking Time to Rest**

The church office will be closed December 24 & 25.  
The church office will also be closed, December 31 & January 1. These are regular holidays.



### **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](mailto:umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com)

#### **Pastor Office Hours:**

Tuesday & Thursday  
10am to 1pm  
Please call or email to schedule an appointment.

#### **Music Director**

Laurie Cobb  
(714) 425-5705  
[88keymagic@gmail.com](mailto:88keymagic@gmail.com)

#### **Office Administrator**

Izzy Izaguirre  
[pumcsecr@gmail.com](mailto:pumcsecr@gmail.com)

#### **Visit us:**

website: [placentiaumc.org/](http://placentiaumc.org/)  
facebook.com/[placentiaumc/](https://www.facebook.com/placentiaumc/)



Set your clocks back on November 2, one hour before you go to bed Saturday night



### November

Carlos Flores -6

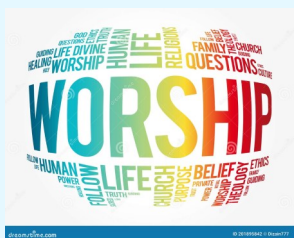
Lillian Blaschke-9

Laurie Cobb-10

### December

Wang Zhang-3

Gerry Adams-16



## 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

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*"Be like people waiting for their master to come home from a wedding celebration, who can immediately open the door for him when he arrives..."*

*Luke 12:36 (CEB)*



Some days it seems like all we do is wait. We wait in line, wait at the doctor's office, wait on the phone, wait for a reply, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera. And it's hard. We've become used to this you-get-what-you-want-when-you-want-it world. We expect to get what we want immediately.

When we don't get what we want, what's our most common response? Impatience. Then frustration. Maybe even anger. Followed by isolation as we walk away. I think these are signs we're looking at things from the wrong end of the telescope. Rather than seeing things from a healthy, spiritual perspective, we can turn splinters into logs.

There's another way to live. It's hopeful. It gives us life. We can live as children do, joyfully awake and aware. Theologian Dallas Willard said, "You must arrange your days, so you are experiencing contentment, joy and confidence in your everyday life with God."\*

When you seek God in each moment, you will find the Spirit present. This changes our lives for the better. And it touches the lives of those around us. When our soul is centered on God, we seek restorative justice for all.

The catch? Being in God's presence is the only thing which makes our soul healthy. And you are the keeper of your soul. It isn't anyone else's job. Our competence and success can't do it. You choose how you want to live. When you are in God's presence, you can give your impatience, frustration, anger and fear to God. God will listen. God will be with you. And God will care for you, holding you close.

During this season of Advent, we'll wait on the Lord's coming together. And we'll rediscover hope. For Jesus' love calms all fears, heals all hurts and restores even the most broken people to wholeness. I don't know about you, but this fills me with joy. Alleluia!

Awake and watching for you, Lord  
Pastor Eric

Pastor Eric Schmidt

Senior Pastor || Placentia United Methodist Church

\*John Ortberg, Soulkeeping, Zondervan, 2014, p. 89

### Why are we Here?

*"Joyfully sows seeds of Faith, so lives are drawn to God."*



Dear CUMC-PUMC worship team, Peace be with you.

Thank you so very much for all you did in support of our joint World Communion Sunday service and lunch. All I heard were superlatives. It was a wonderful day and I saw a lot of smiles. Well done!

To God be the glory, Eric



Just a gentle reminder, during this season, to ensure our office staff can give full attention to your request, please provide two weeks' notice for all administration tasks, create flyers and, website needs. Thank you for your support!

### 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, September 16th



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



### Upper Room Daily Devotional November | December

Can be picked up in the church narthex.

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



## HAVE A Prayer Request

Visit us at our website:  
placentiaumc.org/prayer  
Or contact: Pastor Eric Schmidt  
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

### Faithful and True!

Thanks to each and every one of you who have been "faithful and true" to the ministries of Jesus here at Placentia UMC. It shows in your faithful giving and your faithful attendance in worship and in fun events like the Sing-a-long on 10/27.



We are quickly approaching the end of 2025. Time seems to speed up as it seems we rush to year's end. Please help us finish strong for 2025, as you think about any 1% growth targets you may have made this past January in prayers, presence in worship, gifts, service and witness. As we learned at the All-Church gathering, expenses like insurance may be going up in 2026 and we know prices never seem to drop but keep increasing bit by bit.

As a reminder, the Finance Committee meets monthly, the 2nd Monday of each month via zoom, at 7pm and are always open to anyone who wishes to attend. See me (Mel Bond) prior to the meeting you would like to attend, so that I can provide you with the zoom information.

Thanks to everyone as we look forward to the upcoming holiday season.



## Memorial Rose Garden Walkway



At the time of this issue of the Messenger, we will have already had a rededication of the memorial roses, to include the 9 newest rose bushes over the past year. Each rose bush represents a loved one, perhaps a cherished friend and a memory of a church member long passed on to glory with our Lord.

I have tried to keep up with the roses since Eleanor and Paul Barbor moved away. No one knows roses like Eleanor did and I know I never will, but with the help of some faithful

servants like Karen Richards, we keep them as healthy and thriving as we can.



Most times when I am pruning a rose bush or even weeding beneath it, I want to know whose rose I am working on. I may say a prayer. I may spend time thinking about a friend who is no longer with us. I haven't been here at Placentia UMC for very many years and there are names of people I only hear about when you reminisce about old friends long since gone. I love to listen to those stories about people like Paul Capp or Gene Vincent or Bob Lacko. I never met Wanda Schnebly but I did know Kirby. I never met Jim Redman but Jean became a good friend who helped me greatly get

connected when I moved back to California, introducing me to many of you at church, inviting me to my first Del Norte Garden Club meeting, and even connecting me with the Placentia Women's RoundTable. I did know both Jim and Ginny Walker. I met them my very first day at PUMC. They invited me to sit with them, have coffee with them after the service, and introduced me to many of you. They are missed.



May I suggest that you occasionally take a walk down the Memorial Rose walkway, enjoy the roses, whether they are in full bloom or not, and reminisce about old friends, good times and share those stories with each other. Perhaps you would be willing to write up a few sentences about your memories that we can share in this section of the Messenger. There are many more stories and memories that need to be shared.

Blessings to all, Mel Bond

**MEMORIAL ROSE**

**For Bob Cooper By Diane Cooper**

Read on 11/2/2025



I am sharing this to remind you of the dedication of the memorial roses next week after church.

What was the Indian called who rode backward on his pony called? Contrary, yes contrary. My husband Bob was contrary. He was a creative, think out of the box, smart comedian!

Our church has a walkway from the parking lot to the church patio. Many members of our church are elderly, in their 70's, 80's and 90's. Hence, many of our beloved have passed away. Along this walkway, on either side we have planted a rose bush for each precious person who now resides with our Lord. There are now about 20 rose bushes on each side of the walkway.

My husband Bob jokingly told us he wanted a black rose bush when he passed on. There is no such thing as a true black rose! A natural black rose has yet to be discovered/created. (It would not be able to collect the sun's rays properly.) There are no black roses in our church catalogue.

When Bob passed, we got the darkest red rose to comply with his quirky request. It was a very small and struggling rose bush. Bob was not small; he was six foot four inches tall!

At first the small rose bush seemed to struggle and remain small. When it grew, it sneakily sent its tendrils around the ladies' bush who was next to him! The bush for Queen James. Bob's bush got chastised and clipped back!

When all the rose bushes in his row began to bloom, his had not one dark red bloom!

Last week my daughter Leisa took a photograph of the rose bushes. At that time not one of the bushes on Bob's side of the walkway were blooming. However, Bob's dark red bush was prolific with six beautiful blooms! That was the story of my Bob. Interesting and adored by his family fulfilling his roll carrying on his out of the box ways. Contrary even now with his memorial rose!!

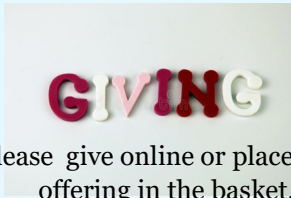


# Volunteer Opportunities



## Photos Needed

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

11-2 Bob McKinnell	12-21 Sue Lacko	Alternates:
11-9 Bruce Beck	12-24 Gerry Adams	Gerry Adams
11-16 Sue Lacko	12-28 Leon Cheney	Margaret Johnson
11-23 Leon Cheney	1-5-26 Sue Lacko	
11-30 Leon Cheney		
12-7 Bob McKinnell		
12-14 Bruce Beck		

### 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.