

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
EVERY SUNDAY**

**Worship In Person &
Facebook Service: 9:30am**

Afterward, you are invited
to join us for Coffee
Fellowship.

Social Hour:
10:30am - 11:00am
Fellowship Hall

**Communion Service
First Sunday each month**
In the Fellowship Hall

**PLACENTIA
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**
2050 Valencia Avenue
Placentia, CA 92870
(714) 528-1483

Church office hours:
Monday/Friday-Closed
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9am to 2pm

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

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

Pastor Office Hours:
Tuesday & Thursday
9am to 12pm
Please call or email to schedule
an appointment.

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

Office Administrator
Izzy Iz
pumcsecr@gmail.com

The Messenger

PLACENTIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*“Look! I’m doing a new thing. Now it sprouts up.
Don’t you recognize it?”
Isaiah 43:18 (CEB)*

Happy new year, Feliz año nuevo, Maligayang bagong Taon,
新年快乐!

In whatever way you may greet one another, I’m glad to welcome you to 2023. And, I don’t know about you, but I’m excited. I’m excited about what the Lord has done in the past. We ride on the shoulders of those who’ve gone before us, giving us glimpses of the ways the Lord has been at work in our lives, community and creation.

I’m excited about what the Lord plans for the future. We receive the prophetic voices telling us God has plans for us, plans for good. We know lives are changed for the better by God’s love and we will be blessed when we see the Lord’s plans unfold around us.

I’m particularly excited about what the Lord is doing, right here and now. God is with us, not just in name, but as a spiritual presence in our thoughts, words and deeds. We can set aside the ruminations of past hurts and wrongs, embracing God’s pardoning and healing love in this moment. After all, we worship a God who believes in forgiveness. We can let the “what ifs” of the future rest, connecting to the true source of life, our Lord and Savior, Jesus. When we remain focused on the present, celebrating who we are, God’s children, we’re being who God made us to be.

I believe everything flows from this most fundamental state of being. Our diversity, equanimity, acceptance and capacity to love and include others, no matter who they are, what they’ve done, where they come from or whether they believe as we do, becomes possible through the love and uncommon grace of God.

I see in each of you the faith, hope and love of God, embodied in such wonderful ways. May the seeds planted in us blossom and grow, planting new seeds of faith so lives are drawn to God.



With a grateful heart,
Pastor Eric
umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com
mobile: 714.271.3698

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

LOOKING AHEAD UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

**Join us
Bible Study
Pastor Eric Hosting
Monday
10am Zoom
Wednesday
7pm Zoom**

Contact: Pastor Eric Schmidt
umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com
for the Zoom Link

PRAYER REQUEST

Contact the Prayer Line at
pumc-prayerline@att.net or
visit us at
www.placentiaumc.org/
prayer

Contact: Pastor Eric Schmidt
umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com

IN OBSERVANCE OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY

Church office
will be closed on
Monday, January 16th.

In Observance of President's Day

Church office will be closed on
Monday, February 20th.

Bible Study: Online continues with Pastor Eric, Mondays at 10am & Wednesdays 7pm via Zoom

Sunday morning bible study 8:15am to 8:45am in the conference room.

1% Better Challenge Starts January 5th and ends January 29th

Celebrating Women hosts - UMCOR Feminine Hygiene Kits ends February 5th

Leadership Orientation: Sunday, January 22nd at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall

Missions Team Meeting: Sunday, January 22nd after Leadership Meeting in Conference Room

Nurture Group Team Meeting: Sunday, January 29th in Conference Room

Boy Scout Sunday, February 19th

Ash Wednesday, February 22, Ashes Drive Through 12to 12:30pm 7pm church Service

UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONAL: JANUARY/FEBRUARY

An Upper Room Daily Devotional for January/ February issue can be picked up in the church narthex.

RESIDENT READERS

Everyone is welcome. The group is open to anyone. We meet on the fourth Tuesday evening of the month @ 7pm. This is not a "Club" in the usual sense. If a book title looks good to you, get it, read it, and join us for a 2-hour discussion.

For February - Midnight Library by Matt Haig, Watch for details on time and place.

THE CHURCH GARDEN

If you have stopped by the Church Garden lately you saw that it needs some TLC. We are in the process of throwing out the old and planting the new. We are pulling out the old tomato plants and readying the soil for new plants in the Spring. We have trimmed back the basil to help it with new growth. There are still raised beds that need to be cleared of grass, and weeds to be trimmed everywhere - it is a work in progress. Its not Spring yet, but stop by in early February and you will see a lot of bulb sprouts coming up. Soon we will have a garden of daffodils, crocus, tulips, and iris.

We are planning the veggie garden for the Spring, with tomatoes, herbs and zucchini. If you want to start some veggie seeds, or herb seeds, that would be great. Let me know via email. ~Mel Bond romellebond@gmail.com



"Joyfully

Sowing Seeds..."

Garden Update 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

Jesus Welcomed Children and We Do, Too!

We have good news to share with all generations. One of ways we do so is by encouraging families and households to attend. Children are welcome to attend the service. We have a table set up for those who would like to use it with activity books. So invite those friends and family members you haven't seen in a while. If you're willing to be "on call" to lead a Sunday school class, please let us know.

Living Generously

"Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you" (Matthew 5:48)

Thank you for your support of Placentia United Methodist Church through your prayers, presence, giving, service and witness. Your generosity allows us to change the world by sharing God's life-giving love with others. The life-giving ways PUMC cares for our community are possible by your financial support.

We hope you will consider stepping up in faith to support our community as we begin 2023. Our approved 2023 budget is \$207,500, which matches our 2021 actuals and is a 6.5% increase over our projected 2022 actuals. We are investing in ministries to help us connect to our community, sowing seeds of faith.

How is God speaking to your heart? We appreciate the difficulties of giving regularly, particularly on a fixed budget. We invite you to take the "Step Up" challenge with us. Can you commit to giving 1% of your income this year? Or 1% more than you currently give? Even 0.5% makes a difference. Please pray about it and let us know. We will be collecting "Estimate of Giving" forms during January and anytime afterward. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your prayerful dedication and support.

God's life-giving grace has the power to change lives, families and the world. Please join us in this mission. When we pull together, we can do all things in Christ.

By God's extravagant love,

Finance Team

Masks are voluntary during service

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY

**Worship in-person &
Live on Facebook
Service: 9:30am**

Afterward, you are invited
to join us for



Social Hour

10:30am - 11:30am

In the Fellowship Hall.

Water - YES

Coffee - YES

Donuts - YES

Fellowship - YES

Masks - Optional

Join us Sunday Mornings Bible Reading

Conference Room

8:15am to 8:45am

Hosted by Bob McKinnell

Please continue to follow us
on Facebook to help you stay



engaged. Our page which can
be found by searching our
name or typing in:
facebook.com/placentiaumc/

Church Campus Life

A WORD FROM OUR TREASURER

Hello PUMC!

I continue to be your treasurer for 2023. It is a position I take very seriously, striving to be accurate and timely. I am a member of your finance team, and you might wonder what your treasurer does. I'd love to tell you!



Each week, after our Tellers count the Sunday offering and deposit it in the bank, I take their report and post it into our accounting software-Quicken. I work at the 100- foot level and deal with the totals, not the individual donations. At the end of the month, I provide various financial reports, including a narrative summary, and send them to our Finance Committee. Did you know that anyone and everyone can attend the monthly Finance meetings? They are generally the 2nd Monday of the month Via zoom. It's PUMC's financial data and PUMC's information. Just let myself, Elliot Harry the Finance Chair, or Pastor Eric know if you want the zoom link.

I also pay PUMC's bills and process PUMC's payroll.

When I agreed to take this position, I explained I was not an accountant but I am a numbers nerd and enjoy working with figures, reports, doing data analysis and making graphs.

Any time you have any questions about PUMC's financial health, please don't hesitate to ask me or any member of your finance team. They are: Elliot Harry-chair, Jessie Conaway-Financial Secretary, Craig Green-Trustee Chair, Carol Vizenor-SPRC Chair, Margaret Johnson-Member at Large, Pastor Eric, Sue Lacko-Lay Leader and Leadership Council Chair, and myself-Treasurer.

I hope to share with you each Newsletter an update on PUMC's financial health. In the interim, I welcome any and all questions.

Shalom - God's Indescribable Peace to each of you,

Mel Bond, PUMC Treasurer Romellebond@gmail.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! January

Roscoe Johnson-1
Margaret Johnson-4
Pam Triestram-8
Mel Bond-18
Glenn Richards-19
Diane Cooper-26
Gloria Ressler-26

February

Patrice Porter-9
Sue Lacko-16

Birthday list is located
in the back of your
2021 Church Directory



Photos Needed

Please send in photos: Fun photos/selfies/fellowship pics to share for our newsletter and website.

Send to
pumcsecr@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Thursday

9am to 2pm

Monday/Friday - Closed

Senior Pastor

Eric Schmidt

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday

9am to 12pm

Please text, call or email to schedule an appointment.

(714) 271.3698

umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com

Tithes and Offerings

Please give online or place your offering in the basket. Try our online giving service, Tithe.ly, or your preferred electronic means.

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

Thank you for your faithful tithing and generous support.

Photos Needed

Please send in photos: Fun photos/selfies/fellowship pics to share for our newsletter and website.

Send to

pumcsecr@gmail.com

LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER

Liturgist for

Sunday Service:

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

© Signifies helping with communion.

01/08 Bob McKinnell

01/15 Gerry Adams

01/22 Gerry Adams

01/29 Sue Lacko

2/5 John Jenkins

2/12 Marge Crabb

2/19 Kevin K

2/26 Kevin K

3/5 Lillian Blaschke

3/12 Lillian Blaschke

3/19 Carol Vizenor

3/26 Jean Redman

4/2 Leon Cheney – Palm Sunday

4/9 Bob McKinnell – Easter Sunday

4/16 Wendy Elliott

4/16 Wendy Elliott

4/29 Carol Vizenor

Greeters for Sunday Service schedule:

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

First Sunday of the month - Shirley Cheney and Linda Fromer

Second Sunday Jean Redman

Third Sunday Beverly and Craig Green

Fourth Sunday Mel Bond

Fifth Sunday Kathy McKinnell

Coffee Hour Clean Up in Fellowship Hall schedule:

Please contact Sue Lacko if you would like to sign up to volunteer.

1st Sunday Carol Vizenor

2nd Sunday Shirley and Leon Cheney

3rd Sunday Wendy Elliott and Linda Fromer

4th Sunday Diane Cooper and Leisa Luke

5th Sunday Sue Lacko

Tellers 2023 schedule:

Please contact Elliot Harry if you would like to sign up to volunteer.

1st Sunday Bob McKinnell /Carol Vizenor

2nd Sunday Kay Ressler/ John Jenkins

3rd Sunday Bev Green/Leon Cheney

4th Sunday Elliot Harry/Gene Mischler

5th Sunday Elliot Harry/Jessie Conaway

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday (February 22) and ends on Holy Saturday (April 8). The English word “Lent” comes from an Anglo-Saxon word (cuaresma in Spanish and Tagalog), which refers to the lengthening days of spring. The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter.

Historically, new believers were baptized or received into Christ faith on Easter. Lent was a time of preparation for those seeking to be part of the community of faith. Today, it’s a time of self-reflection and deepening our relationship with God in Jesus Christ. For many people, this means giving up something as a sign of contrition, a reminder of what Jesus gave up for them.

If this practice works for you, wonderful. I want to offer another option for showing your devotion to God. Fasting serves as a reminder of the state of our spirit. Our soul is starved for spiritual nourishment! This leads me to ask: What if we focused on feeding our soul, rather than starving our body?

How can you become 1% better in your spiritual life between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday? Here are a couple of practices you might try:

Apologize to someone. Lent is a season of repentance. We usually think of asking God for forgiveness from our sin, but that’s only half of the story. Most sins include hurting others, which mattered to Jesus. He taught forgiveness and mercy. Lent is a great time to seek forgiveness from those we have harmed.

Perform random acts of kindness. Express your love for Jesus by loving others. Pay for the order of the person behind you. Give an extravagant tip. Carry gift cards to give away. Ask others how they are doing, then stop and listen to their responses. Share the love of Jesus in any way you can.

Begin a daily devotion. Did you know 1% of a day is about 15 minutes? Reading a devotion, meditation and prayer is a great way to connect with God and feed your soul. The Upper Room is available at church and if you’re curious about other options, check with pastor.

Serve people in need. Identify an organization with which you would like to participate. Sign up and get trained. Then volunteer to serve throughout the season of Lent.

Visit the lonely. Visit someone who is homebound. Go to a senior center, prison ministry, or any other place where people need some human contact. Play games, tell stories, look at photo albums, and enjoy those about whom Jesus said, “when you have done it for them, you have done it for me.”

Tell others you love them. Some of us struggle to say those three little words. Maybe we assume others already know how we feel. Maybe we think we show our love and don’t need to say it. Or maybe we are concerned it won’t be reciprocated. Fight the fear and say “I love you” to friends, family members, and everyone else you love at least once during the season.

Serve in worship. Your church needs you. Sing in the choir, greet others, make coffee, clean up, serve as a reader, work with the tech team, help a young family with their baby, or find some other way to serve your church. Don’t wait for someone to ask you to use your God-given gifts. Offer yourself in service to your church for the season.

Say “thank you.” Parents, family members, mentors, coaches, teachers, pastors, staff members, volunteers and others have shaped you into the person you are. Send a note of gratitude to one of them. Tell them how much they mean to you and how they inspired you. Consider including a small gift.

There are many ways to be observant during Lent. Be original. Find yours.