

**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**

**PLACENTIA  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

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

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

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

**Senior Pastor**  
Eric Schmidt  
(714) 271.3698  
[umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:88keymagic@gmail.com)

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

# The Messenger

Placentia United Methodist Church

**November/December 2023 Issue**  
**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

*“Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,  
And they will call him, Emmanuel.”*

**Matthew 1:23a (CEB)**

Emmanuel. What a name! I'm grateful Matthew shares not only the story of Jesus' miraculous birth, but who he is. Matthew tells us Emmanuel means "God with us." Jesus is God incarnate, divinity in human form in some mysterious way we still don't understand yet trust and believe.

God heard the cries of the people of Israel as well as the cries of people from other nations and tribes. A response was needed and so God acted. And we celebrate the gift God gave all people each year at Christmas. Alleluia!

I wonder what God must have thought. Made in the divine image, given all we need to live and thrive in relationship with God and all people, we choose to become obstinate rather than respectful. Like children, we want our own way, even when we know what we're being offered is best.

How do you comfort a child who is afraid of the dark? One way is to say, "don't be afraid, there's nothing there." This leaves us on our own to cope with our fears. God's way is to say, "don't be afraid, I'm right here with you." God's presence comforts us no matter what our fears are or what we're facing in life. And Jesus came to show us God is with us in every moment of life.

As we prepare our hearts during this season of Advent, looking forward to the joy of Christmas, I hope you will find time to rest in the Lord. Once again, we can rediscover God's deep love and know peace.

Esperanza and I pray for you and your household. May God bless you this Christmas and in the New Year.



By God's love,  
Pastor Eric

[umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com)  
mobile: 714.271.3698



Why are we Here?

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

## Bible Study †††

### Join us Sunday Mornings

Bible Reading

Conference Room

8:15am to 8:45am

Hosted by Bob McKinnell



### Prayer Request

Contact the Prayer Line at  
pumc-prayerline@att.net or visit  
us at [www.placentiaumc.org/  
prayer](http://www.placentiaumc.org/prayer)

Contact: Pastor Eric Schmidt  
[umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com)

# Looking Ahead

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

### Mark Your Calendar!

We invite you to invite your family and friends to join us each Sunday during Advent as we celebrate “God’s Good Gifts.” Each week we’ll explore a gift together, rejoicing in God’s gifts of hope, peace, love and joy.

Activities to enjoy this season:

- November 26<sup>th</sup> – Joint PUMC/CUMC service, lunch and Hanging of the Greens as we decorate the church for the holidays. A special treat: we will receive new members during the service!
- December 3<sup>rd</sup> – First Sunday in Advent with communion. “The Gift of Hope” is our theme.
- December 10<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday in Advent. “The Gift of Peace” is our theme. You’re invited to join us for a Christmas Sing-along and perhaps caroling at 2:30pm.
- December 17<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday in Advent. “The Gift of Love” is our theme.
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday in Advent. The theme of our morning service is “The Gift of Joy.”
- 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.
- December 25<sup>th</sup> – 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 Monday and Tuesday, December 25 & 26.

The church office will also be closed Monday and Tuesday, January 1 & 2. These are regular holidays.

Pastor’s Bible study will meet December 20<sup>th</sup>, take December 27<sup>th</sup> off, and resume January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Missions Update

During November, members are asked to either, donate to a fund for Christmas gifts for *Pastor Joel Hortiales, Hispanic/Latino Ministry and Border Concerns refugees*, or buy a stuffed toy, sweater or blanket to be used for that purpose.

During the month of December, the opportunity to “Send A Girl To School” through *Heifers Program* will be offered. \$275.00 are required for each girl.

# Church Campus Life



Love to Sing?  
So do we!

**Bring your family & friends  
and join us for a Christmas  
sing-along, refreshments  
and perhaps some caroling**

**Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> @ 2:30 pm  
Placentia UMC**

Hosted by Brea UMC, Cornerstone UMC and Placentia UMC

## Save the Date!

**This is a joint CUMC & PUMC program  
Celebrating Women Come and Be Refreshed!**

Saturday, January 20, 2024 9:00 am ~ 2:30 pm

Speaker Judy Johnson will be leading an interactive program.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be served.

RSVP is requested. Cost is \$5.

**You're invited to join us as we celebrate God's Good Gifts**

December 3, 10, 17, 24 at 9:30am

## Resident Readers

**Update - No November meeting.**

**December meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5th.**

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7p. There are a few new members who have joined in. The gatherings are fun and friendly. The book discussions are thoughtful, informative, and not-always-so-serious. Join us!

Contact Izzy (714) 5281483 or Margaret if you'd like to join the group. Everyone is welcome!

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**Upper Room Daily Devotional: November/December**  
Can be picked up in the church narthex.

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November

Kaye Burlingam-5

Carlos Fuentes-6

Lillian Blaschke-9

Laurie Cobb-10

Esperanza (legal)

Sue Hinshaw -27

December

Wang Zhang-3

Gerry Adams-16

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



*Merry  
Christmas*  
& **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## Photos Needed

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

Send to  
pumcsecr@gmail.com

# Volunteer Opportunities

## 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 more information.

## Liturgist for Sunday Service:

Please contact Leon Cheney if you would like to sign up to volunteer. © Signifies helping with communion.

11/5 Wendy Elliott	12/3 Craig Green	12/31 Sue Lacko
11/12 Wendy Elliott	12/10 Bob McKinnell	01/07 Sue Lacko
11/19 Leon Cheney	12/17 Bob McKinnell	
11/26 Craig Green	12/24 John Jenkins	

## Greeters for Sunday Service schedule:

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

1st Sunday	Shirley Cheney and Linda Fromer
2nd Sunday	Jean Redman
3rd Sunday	Beverly and Craig Green
4th Sunday	Mel Bond
5th 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	Jean Redman
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 2023/2024 schedule:

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

1st Sunday	Bob McKinnell
2nd Sunday	Kay Ressler/ John Jenkins
3rd Sunday	Bev Green/Leon Cheney
4th Sunday	Elliot Harry/Gene Mischler
5th Sunday	Elliot Harry/Leisa Luke
Substitute	Bob McKinnell

## 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

## Church office hours

Tuesday to Thursday  
10am to 2pm  
Monday/Friday - Closed

## 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 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