

The Messenger

**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 - 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/Thursday 10am to 2pm
Wednesday 1pm to 4pm

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
10am to 1pm
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

Placentia United Methodist Church

**January February Issue 2025
A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**

**“There’s a season for everything
and a time for every matter under the heavens.”**

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (CEB)

By many accounts, Solomon was one of the wisest people who ever lived. He experienced many things seeking answers to the questions and doubts which filled him. His writings communicate a “been there, done that” view. And while you can get a sense of disillusionment from some of his writings - “all is vanity” (1:2), Solomon always returned to God.

Solomon’s writings are beautiful poetry. They speak to the eternal dichotomy of life. We might say opposites attract. When we know joy, sorrow may linger, too. Where we have hope, resignation may be nearby. While we are filled with love, apathy can raise its head. This is the way of mortal life, a cycle we all know.

Thankfully, faith enters the picture. Solomon also wrote, “God has made everything fitting in its time, but has also placed eternity in their hearts” (v11). And then he goes on to say we should enjoy ourselves and do what is good while we live.

We don’t have to succumb to the monotony of life. There’s more to life than sound bites, fads, or the latest crisis. When we look at the world with eyes of faith, we see the good, lovely and beautiful around us. We know love through the people with us. We see God’s hand at work. And this gives us hope.

God’s grace is like a safety net, making good things happen. We may not be sure why they happen, but we can appreciate it when they do. I believe God constantly sends us divine reminders: we aren’t alone. God is with us!

I’m excited about this new year and the new season we are in. I feel God’s presence is with PUMC, guiding us and inviting us to participate. We have experienced the bittersweetness of life. Let’s now experience some of its sweetness as we walk together.



We are here, Lord. Send us!
Pastor Eric

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

Looking Ahead

UPCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY THIS SEASON:

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 20th. 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 17th. If you need pastoral care Pastor Eric will be available by phone (714) 271-3698.

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

Bible Study †††

Join us Sunday Mornings
Bible Reading
Conference Room
8:15am to 8:45am
Hosted by Bob McKinnell



JANUARY

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
2024 Church Directory

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



Cornerstone UMC NEWS

PICKLEBALL IS ON!

Come play the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month in the Parish Park after our lunch fellowship. Winter Fun with Pickleball, Puzzles and Paper Projects!

COME JOIN US FOR A FREE CONCERT SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 || 3PM

LA MIRADA SYMPHONY
Featuring our own talented pianist, Suzanne Wong
14900 La Mirada Blvd., La Mirada

Church Campus Life

Rev. Dr. Hortiales, Border Ministries



Here are a couple of pictures from a trip to Palm Hill UMC in Chula Vista to drop off the gifts Placentia UMC provided. Rev. Dr. Hortiales is taking the gifts to Tijuana in December! So our timing was good. Thank you so much Pastor Eric for delivering our congregation's gifts to Rev. Joel. Your timing was excellent!

Christmas Sing-Along 2024





A New Season and a New Way

“Let’s strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up” *Romans 14:19*

The Leadership Council believes refocusing on nurture, missions, and worship & witness can rejuvenate us and help us make disciples. They’ve been exploring ways we can reorganize so each member of our congregation can be supported in what God calls them to do.

We introduced the idea to the congregation at our Open House in September and again at our All Church Gathering in October. And our District Superintendent, Rev. Moonyoung Lee, has approved our proposal.

The next step is to develop a plan to help Placentia UMC be best positioned to serve our community now and in the future. We envision a two-part process. One part will be to engage with you, the people of our congregation, as we explore some questions together:

What is God calling our congregation to do?

How can a simplified structure help us to make disciples for Jesus Christ?

What is our hope?

What does success look like?

This will most likely be done through a series of conversations with the congregation, perhaps facilitated with a survey. We want to hear from you!

The second part will be to form a small core team to look at how we can be supportive and accountable as servant leaders. We will learn from you and then work to streamline our teams so our resources will better align to the ministry work we do in our community.

If you are interested in helping with this initiative, please speak with Pastor Eric or a Leadership Council member. We set the timeline. It’s important to do this seasonal work right, not fast. We will communicate what we learn and where we are as we go, through the newsletter and other means.

I ask for your prayer, thoughtful reflection and participation. Together, we can do great things. God is with us.

To God be the glory,

Pastor Eric



E-Recycle Event

Thank you to everyone who participated in our E-Recycle fund raiser event in December and invited friends and neighbors too. Although we don't have the final results yet, the turnout was great. Perhaps we could schedule another in the Summer. And thanks to Wendy Elliot for coordinating the event, from your PUMC Finance Committee.

Looking forward to 2025

As your Finance Committee is in the process of closing the books for 2024, we thank you all for your faithful support of Placentia UMC. We appreciate all your prayers for our church and our staff, for your faithful presence on Sunday mornings and our special events, for your gifts of service and financially and for your spirit-led willingness to be a witness to your families, friends and our community. 2025 looks to be another challenging year as expenses like utilities and insurance continue to rise, but we have great faith that God has a wonderful plan and purpose for PUMC.

We will begin our 2025 stewardship program in early January
"Let's Thrive in 2025."

It is an opportunity for each of us to take some prayerful time to contemplate our continued faithful support of prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness and to keep a copy to hang on the fridge as a reminder throughout the year.

Thank you from your 2025 Finance Committee.
May God continue to bless you all and our Church.

Upper Room Daily Devotional: January/February
Can be picked up in the church narthex.



PLACENTIA UMC SERVICES ON YOUTUBE

Go to YouTube at 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!



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

A New Season of Servant Leaders



We are beginning a new season in this new year. We have a new leadership team to guide and support Placentia UMC in 2025 and beyond. We are grateful to those who served last year, many of whom continue in their roles. We appreciate those whose terms have ended. And we welcome some into new roles!

Here are your servant leaders for 2025*

Lay Leader is Sue Lacko.

Leadership Council are Sue Lacko (Chair), Mel Bond, Leon Cheney, Wendy Elliott, Craig Green, Leisa Luke, Bob McKinnell and Kay Ressler. Sue and Kay are PUMC's voting members on the Joint Parish Council for CUMC and PUMC.

Finance Committee are Mel Bond (Chair), Bob McKinnell (treasurer), Jessie Conaway (Financial Secretary), Sue Lacko, Leisa Luke and Craig Green.

Trustees are Craig Green (Chair), Shirley Cheney and Kay Ressler. Craig and Kay serve on the Joint Parish Trustees which serve CUMC and PUMC.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee are Leisa Luke (Chair), Shirley Cheney and Karen Richards.

Nominations are Pastor Eric (Chair), Mel Bond, Leon Cheney, Sue Lacko and Kay Ressler.

Missions and Outreach are Wendy Elliot (Chair), Margaret Johnson, Jessie Conaway, Dianne Adams, Kay Ressler, Leisa Luke, and Melanie Palmer.

Worship Team are Pastor Eric, Laurie Cobb, Reese Adams, Leon Cheney and Izzy Izaguirre.

Nurture Groups are led by Leon Cheney (Chair). Group leaders are Leone & Shirley Cheney, Bob & Kathy McKinnell, Eric & Esperanza Schmidt, Sue Lacko and Karen Richards.

Sue Lacko has graciously agreed to be our Membership Secretary. And Wendy Elliott will be our Lay Delegate and representative to Annual Conference. (* pastor is a de facto member of all committees).

Please join me in welcoming these servant leaders. Thank you for your passion, devotion and the good work you do and will do! If you are interested in helping with any of these ministries, please let a team leader know.

Lord, send us!

Pastor Eric

Volunteer Opportunities

Senior Pastor Eric Schmidt Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday
10am to 1pm

Please text, call or email to schedule an appointment.
(714) 271.3698
umcpastorschmidt@gmail.com

Church office hours

Monday/Friday-Closed
Tuesday/Thursday 10am to 2pm
Wednesday 12pm to 4pm

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

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.

1/5 Bob McKinnell
1/12 Bruce Beck
1/19 Sue Lacko
1/26 Leon Cheney

Communion Assistants needed, first Sunday each month. 4 people needed, January || February.

Please contact Pastor Eric Schmidt if you would like to sign up to volunteer.

Greeters for Sunday Service schedule:

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

1st Sunday Shirley Cheney
2nd Sunday Gene and Mary Mishler
3rd Sunday Beverly and Craig Green
4th Sunday Karen Richards
5th Sunday Mel Bond // Alternate

Tellers 2024 schedule:

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

1st Sunday Bob McKinnell /Craig Green
2nd Sunday Kay Ressler/Mel Bond
3rd Sunday Bev Green/Leon Cheney
4th Sunday Leisa Luke/Gene Mishler
5th Sunday Mel Bond/Leisa Luke
Substitute Bob McKinnell

Social Hour Clean Up in Fellowship 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