

The Vine

April 2019

MURRIETA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,
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Passover Lambs and Hyssop Branches
by Rev. Scott Andrews

Light of the World
By Rev. Scott Andrews

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." - Matthew 5:14-16

"The Sermon on the Mount is perhaps the greatest sermons preached by perhaps one of the best preachers around!" A seminary professor once said this - tongue in cheek of course - to a class I was a part of. Of course, it is the great sermon of Jesus. Of course, Jesus is the great preacher of the New Testament. And yet, we all need to spend more time in this section of Matthew's gospel (Matthew 5:1-7:27). Over the next few months, I'm going to use selections of this sermon for my monthly Vine article.

My home town had a small municipal airport just North of town. Small aircraft could easily land and take off from this airport. Crop dusters and small personal airplanes used this airport. The runways were expanded a few years after I moved away to accommodate some smaller jet planes but by and large it was a small town, small airplane airport. Near the center of the airfield there was a tower that would shine lights in the evenings. The two lights would rotate at the top of the tower. The lights on the tower could be seen for miles. Our farm was 3.5 miles away from the airport and we could see the lights shining every night. If you were driving into town from the North, it was a welcome beacon that told travelers they would soon be home.

I've thought of that airport beacon many times over the years especially when I've read this passage from Matthew's gospel. Jesus tells his disciples and all who will hear that they are "the light of the world". He's telling them that they are called to shine the light of God into the world. A world that for many seemed so dark and lonely. A world that seemed to be filled with despair and chaos. He reminds them that they have received God's light and that this light should never ever be hidden. It should be shared freely and openly. It should shine so that the world might see that there is indeed goodness and mercy for all who seek it.

There are some who would say that we are living in very similar times to the time of Jesus. We seem to be living in times that are filled with a lack of civility and compassion. A darkness that permeates decent conversation and fills us with a feeling of hopelessness. We feel overwhelmed by a voices raised in anger and fingers pointing in seemingly every direction. I think Jesus might have words for the church that echo what he said to those at the sermon mount.

I believe that Jesus would call up all of us to let God's light to shine in all our interactions. Whether they are in the lively discussions amongst friends but also in the discourse of disagreement with those who wish us ill, Jesus would call us to let God's light shine not only in our words, but in the actions we take with those around us. He would call us to let God's light shine and show that common courtesy and civility are the better way. He would call us to stand boldly - even if we stand alone - and let God's light shine into the world and share God's better way.

In Christ,
Pastor Scott

We're In This Together



Super Bowl LIII was one of the more forgettable games in the history of that classic; but it did embody a lesson worthy of our attention. The LA Rams and the New England Patriots went into that matchup with something fundamental in common. In New England it's called the "Patriot Way;" in Los Angeles it's the "Way of McVay." The former owes its identity to legendary 66-year-old coach Bill Belichick; the latter to the youngest head coach ever to make it to the Super Bowl, 33-year-old Sean McVay. What both "ways" share is a philosophy and a way of being and doing summed up in a mantra which McVay drilled into the Rams from the moment he arrived in the spring of 2017. The team had gone 4 and 12 the previous season. They had a considerable amount of individual talent, but were not functioning well as a team. In just two seasons, McVay turned that around and took them to the Super Bowl. Along with a couple of fortunate player acquisitions, the key was that mantra: "*We not me.*" It was painted on locker-room walls; it adorned the front of team T-shirts; it was repeated so often that it became a part of even casual team conversation. McVay's rationale is simple: "It's always going to be about the team."

Love him or hate him (and he generates a lot of both), it must be acknowledged that Bill Belichick has had phenomenal success through his long career with the Patriots. He'll be the first to tell you that a lot of that success is based on the guiding principle that "no individual player is above the team." Unlike the personable McVay, Belichick has often been brutal (some would say cruel) in his enforcement of that dictum, not hesitating to cut from the team any player who does not conform. Not everyone appreciates his personality or his methodology; but it's hard to argue with the idea that his enforcement of a team mentality, not unlike that of the Rams, has generated a record that McVay will have to hang around for a long time to match.

What does any of this have to do with us here at MUMC? Just this: When we're doing ministry at its best, we're functioning, not as a collection of isolated individuals, but as a team. That's one reason why the whole idea of collective spiritual gift discovery is so important. If we are going to be maximally effective disciples of Jesus Christ, we need to be working together, blending our gifts into a cohesive whole. That means, first of all, discovering our own gifts mixes and linking them to our personalities and passions (all of which is why we have been, and will again be, conducting spiritual gift discovery classes and workshops); then meshing what we individually have to contribute into a unified, wholistic, God-directed ministry plan for the whole church.

So, if you have not already done so, take advantage of our next spiritual gift discovery opportunity and let Pastor Scott and our Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development know you're ready to be a part of the team.

Pastor Tom

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Holy Week

by Rev. Scott Andrews

Holy Week this year runs from Palm Sunday on April 14 through Good Friday on April 19. Join us this year for worship and service.

Palm Sunday (April 14) will focus on Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Luke 19:28-40 will be our scripture lesson with Pastor Scott preaching a sermon entitled "An Unbroken Colt". Maundy Thursday (April 18) will include a meal, communion, and worship. John 13:1-17 is the scripture lesson with a sermon entitled "Epsom Salts" from Pastor Scott. Good Friday (April 19) will conclude Holy Week with a Tenebrae Service. Multiple scripture lessons will tell the story of the last seven "words" or "saying" of Christ. Pastor Scott will be preaching a sermon entitled "Crucifixion" from John 19:16b-30.

We are also going to have two service opportunities during Holy Week this year. The first is our blood drive on Sunday, April 14. We will also host a Rise Against Hunger event on Wednesday, April 17.



Blood Drive

Lent is a time of the year where we think of sacrifice and serving others. One way that we can serve others is by donating blood. Therefore, we are going to host a blood drive on Sunday, April 14 from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up to give blood at the Welcome Center.



On Wednesday, April 17th, 6:30-8:00 PM, members and friends of our church ages 2-102 have an opportunity to share in a service project to feed hungry children around the world. We'll gather to scoop, measure, and package over 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger. Come to the Welcome Center on Sundays to sign up to attend this Missions Team sponsored event.

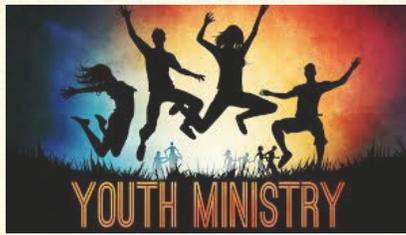
Meg Matthews, Missions Chair
310-625-5501



MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Thursday, April 18th at 6:00 PM we'll gather together for a simple sandwich meal, Worship and Communion in Fellowship Hall. Sign-up to attend at the Welcome Center on April 7th and

April 14th. A donation is requested of \$2.00 per person (\$10 for families of 6 or more). Children are welcome, there is no childcare that evening.



YOUTH NEWS

Hello everyone! Easter is just around the corner and our youth Lenten Bible study is in full swing! It's not too late to join us on Monday nights from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM at the Starbucks on Madison Ave. in Murrieta! It's a great way to keep focused on Jesus during this very exciting time in our spiritual journey! In this time, this passage from Romans 6:5 really speaks to our hearts:

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

We have several very meaningful events planned for Holy week and youth have been invited to help! On Wednesday, April 17th are participating in the Rise Against Hunger event where we package meals for thousands of people in other parts of the world with the rest of our church community. Youth will help set up the stations and to help clean up. The Youth are also serving the meal on Maundy Thursday, April 18th. These are both great ways to serve God! There will be no Easter Sunrise service this year.

Upcoming events:

Regular youth group 12-3pm in the youth room on Sundays April 7th, 14th and 28th with a break on Easter Sunday, April 21st.

Regular Youth group 12-3pm in the youth room on Sundays, May 5th, 12th and 19th, with a break for Memorial Day on Sunday, May 26th

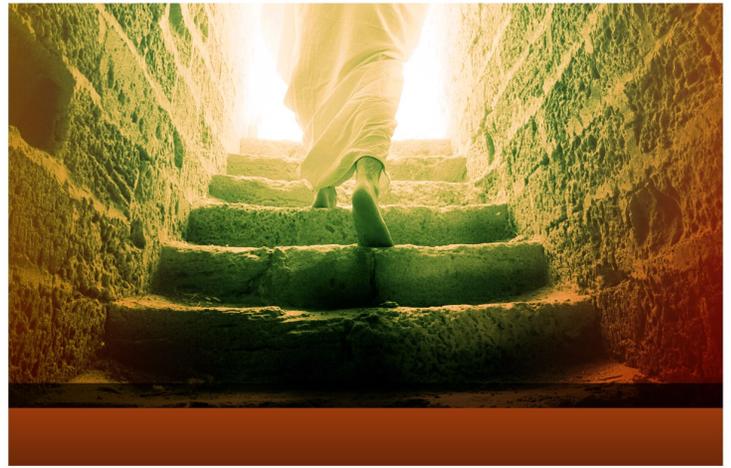
Sunday, June 2nd: Promotion Sunday recognition of graduates (Kindergarten, 5th grade, 8th grade and High School SENIORS!!) in both 9 & 11 services, and Youth Promotion Pool party at the Pilkington's 12-4pm!!

Thursday, June 27th-Sunday, July 7th: Sierra Service Project (our Youth Summer mission project)

Co-Youth Directors,

Jennifer Jones
(951)239-9220
Kravmamabb@gmail.com

Mandy Allen
(951)536-5817
Mandyallen1216@aol.com



EASTER DONATIONS

Children and Family Ministry is asking for donations of Easter candy, a small toy or small snacks donations as Easter egg fillers. These items include candy, small toys, or small snacks. Thanks to last year's donations we do not need Easter eggs - just candy. Candy must be individually wrapped and chocolate free. We are also asking to borrow any outdoor games such as Corn Hole, Giant Jenga, etc. Items can be dropped off Sunday mornings at the Sunday school table inside the sanctuary or at the church office during business hours. Please have your donations to us by Sunday April 14th.

PALM SUNDAY

Children and Family Ministry is excited to have the children participate waving of the palms on Palm Sunday at 9:00 AM again this year! After the Children's Message they will be led to their Sunday school classes. Please have your children meet me in front of the sanctuary starting at 8:50 AM. We look forward to seeing them there.

EASTER EGG HUNT



GAMES

Join Children and Family Ministries on Easter Sunday, April 21st, for a day of family fun! We'll first start off with an egg hunt for Pre-k and under, kindergarten through third grade, and fourth through fifth graders. After the Easter egg hunt, children, youth and adults can enjoy crafts and games on the lawn. There will also be desserts served in Fellowship Hall. All activities will take place at 10:00 AM—11:00 AM. Don't forget to bring your Easter baskets! There is no Sunday school on Easter Sunday.

For questions please contact Children and Family Ministry Director Ayesha Sorensen at ayasha@murrietaumc.org.

Ayesha Sorensen
Children's and Family Ministry Director
Murrieta United Methodist Church

You are cordially invited to the
Sixteenth Annual Gala, Golf, and Giving
benefitting the food pantry!



Gala – Dinner and auction - Sunday, May 19nd.

Want to enjoy an evening of great food and festivities? The Golf Dinner, Gala and Auction will be held on Sunday May 19th at the Bear Creek Golf Club. The evening starts at 5:00 PM with a social hour followed at 6:00 PM with a delicious Texas Barbeque dinner - all for \$50!! The gala dinner and auction are for everyone, not just golfers!

Golf—Tournament at Bear Creek Golf Club - Monday May 20th.

Want a chance to play one of the premier golf courses in the valley? Your entry fee covers prizes, golf, cart, range balls, morning coffee and rolls a box lunch for the tournament day *and* your dinner and auction at the Sunday Gala. Registration begins at 8:30 AM with a 10:00 AM shotgun start. Cost is \$150 per individual. Special packages are available.

Giving – All proceeds benefit the Food Pantry

Please consider donating a gift certificate or item from your business for our auction and/or opportunity drawing. Auction items and certificates are needed by Thursday, May 16th.

Now in its nineteenth year of operation, the **Food Pantry** provides basic food supplies each week for 100-150 families. Around the holidays, (Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas), those numbers increase to 200 per week!

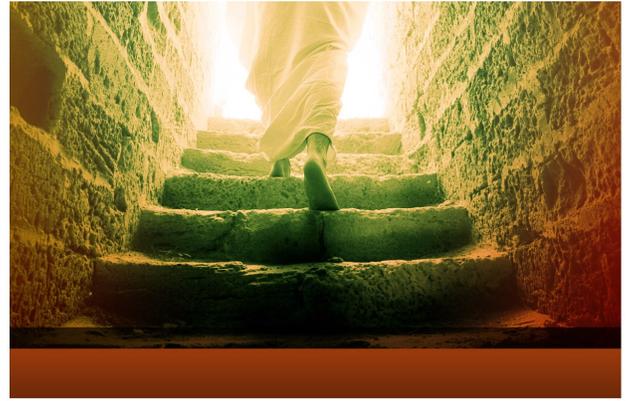
You may register for the events at the Welcome Center between services on Sunday, visit the Church website at murrietaumc.org or at the Church office during the week.

For more information stop by the Welcome Center on Sunday for details and entry forms or contact Bruce Hartwig at 951-696-5115 or annandbruce347@gmail.com

Last year the event raised \$15,000 for the Food Pantry, and with your participation and support we can top that this year.

Thank you for your generosity for this great cause!

-Your Gala, Golf, and Giving Committee



NOTES FROM THE PANTRY

Our attendance for March at the pantry was running around 110 each week, but there are always more at the end of the month when the Missions team serves breakfast. Help arrived from the Annual Tour de Murrieta & Kids Bicycle Race on March 9th as the children brought canned goods instead of paying an entrance fee for their race. A local real estate office collected food and the National Honor Society Chapter at Vista Murrieta High School collected supplies for the homeless. The Breakfast Lion's Club collected cans of soup for the pantry at their Stone Soup luncheon. What would we do without our friends in the community? We are truly grateful to them all.

The absolute two favorite items from the choice table are Dinty Moore Stew and Canned Chicken breast. Both of these items are too expensive for the pantry budget so they only appear on the table when someone donates them. If you're thinking of bringing something for the shopping cart on Easter, either of those items will make someone happy the following Friday.

Blessings,
The Pantry Team



YOUNG AT HEART

Those of us who have graduated from the 345s are invited to meet at Fellowship Hall on the second Saturday of each month for either a potluck or an event out in the community. On April 13, we will gather from 5 to 7 pm for a potluck. Bring a dish to share and your plates and silverware. We also have a chance to take advantage of a special Easter presentation at Calvary Chapel in Hemet (**26121 Hemet St, Hemet, CA**) Saturday, April 20. It will be a musical presentation called We are Witnesses. Contact Judy Adams to find out more!

For more information and to RSVP for the musical please contact Judy Adams at (951) 764-6608 or Carol Scott at (951) 676-5377 or wscott6@verizon.net.



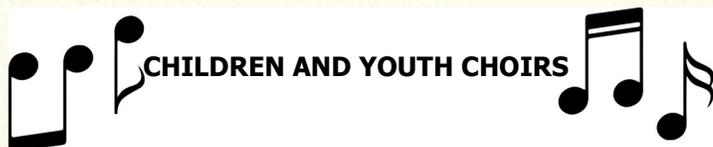
MURRIETA UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Methodist Men's group meets the first Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is on April 6th. All men of the church are invited to come and enjoy friendship, breakfast and Christian fellowship with men devoted to being Disciples of Christ.

This month we continue the book study of Adam Hamilton's Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why. The UMM Book study is held each Sunday between services, from 10:15 to 10:50 AM in Fellowship Hall, room 8. Books are available at the class.

Join us if you would like a closer connection to the church, a deeper faith, and a stronger relationship with Christ. For more information please contact our President, Dave Mathews, at 619-997-7594, the Chaplain, Andy Huntington, at 951-698-3824, or our Treasurer Mike Knowles, at mikek_bus@msn.com.

Dave Mathews
President, UMM



The Children and Youth Choirs are still going strong! We are always looking for more beautiful voices, so come on by to sing with us! Children is from 10:15AM-11AM and Youth is from 11AM-12PM every Sunday in Room 2! If you want to get to know more about the choirs, email Selena at selenamandrews98@gmail.com or Christian at dauz.christianl@gmail.com



SONRISERS

The Sonrisers circle of the United Methodist Women want to thank all of you who supported our spaghetti dinner fundraiser. Your donations help to send

the children and youth of our congregation to camp and to Sierra Service Project.

The Sonrisers is a circle of the United Methodist Women. Our main purpose is to support the youth of our church. We meet for breakfast the third Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to join us. Our next meeting is on Saturday, April 20th. After breakfast we will finish up the *Days For Girls* Hygiene Kits to send to Africa. We are asking for donations of women's size 5, 6, or 7 colored panties for the kits. Place them in the collection box in the Narthex by April 14. For more information please contact Toni Spencer at 619-504-8950.



2019 Monthly Giving for February

Week of February 3	\$14,056
Week of February 10	\$ 9,280
Week of February 17	\$ 6,159
Week of February 24	\$ 6,633
Total	\$36,003

Needed Monthly \$50,524

Bruce Hartwig, Finance Chair
annandbruce347@gmail.com



Our Pet Ministry is moving forward with some of our new plans! We would like to highlight different member's pets each month. Please send me a picture of you and your pet(s), so you all can be the celebrity of the month. I will come to you to take your picture if you don't have one.

Your donations for the last three months (Jan., Feb. and Mar.), for donations to Animal Friends of the Valley is 380 lbs. Pet food, 57 cans of food, and 192 lbs. of kitty litter. You also donated 5 pet beds, a cat tree, many towels, dog treats and blankets. A huge thank you to everyone! The next pet food donation day is Sunday, April 7th. Please bring (unopened) dry and canned food, clumping cat litter (please no clay litter), treats, toys, towels, and blankets.

Insights, observations or ideas:

With the wide use of essential oils, caution is important when pets are in your home. Of special concern are tea tree oils and oil concentrates. However, be cautious using any oils, whether in a register or directly on your skin as they are poisonous and can be fatal to pets (even just inhaling them).

Linda Yankie
Pet Ministry
affectionatecare@gmail.com
714-832-5463

TIJUANA FEEDING PROGRAM

You have undoubtedly heard about the people who have traveled up from Central America to the US border. These are God's people and they are stuck there with little money for an extended period of time. God is calling on us to help.

The Joint Commission of Methodist Churches in both Cal-Pac and the Northern Baja California Conference have developed a mission project to feed 300 migrants 3 meals a day for six months. The money for the food, as well as the cooks, has been secured from UMCOR. What we need now are volunteers to go to Tijuana and serve the food and clean up afterwards.

The Murrieta Church has committed to arrive in Tijuana on Friday evening, April 12, serve food on the 13th and 14th, on June 14th -15th and again August 3rd -4th. We need 8-12 volunteers for each trip and encourage you to call Tom Pilkington or stop by the Welcome Center to sign up. We have sleeping cots at a Methodist Church in Tijuana but you need to bring a sleeping bag (or blanket) and a pillow and we will be able to enjoy the food we are serving. Each volunteer must have a valid passport to be able to reenter the US.

Tom Pilkington (909-645-1212)
email: tompilkingtom@gmail.com



Murrieta United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men would like to thank all who donated items to the kit of comfort for Mark Sorensen's volunteer work with the children's disaster services. The items provided will allow for safe, child directed, and creative play which will help the children process what has happened all around them.

Donna Chamberlain
Communications Coordinator

PAGES CIRCLE

PAGES Circle will meet on Thursday, April 11th at 10:30 AM to discuss *Be Still! Departure from Collective Madness* by Gordon C. Stewart. It contains thought provoking, poetic essays. Call Donna at 951-696-1190 for more information. All women of the church are welcome.

EARLY RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING

Saturday April 27, 2019, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Murrieta UMC at 24652 Adams Ave, Murrieta CA 92562-9149
MUMC Youth Room

Registration Cost: Registration is \$40. Registration cost includes light lunch, manuals, safe sanctuary training, and background check.

Registration Deadline: Registration and payment are due by Friday April 26, 2019. Please go to this link to register. <https://calpacumc.formstack.com/forms/index.php>

Additional Materials: Participants owning a laptop or Wi-Fi-enabled tablet are encouraged to bring one, in order to efficiently process paperwork related to certification.

About the Class: The instructor for this class is Ken Ellis. Early Response Teams (ERTs) fill specific needs in the early days after a disaster, such as cleaning out flood-damaged homes, removing debris, placing tarps on homes and otherwise helping to prevent further damage, while providing a caring Christian presence. To be eligible for an ERT team, participants must take the 8 hour Basic Class ERT. After completion, participants will receive an ERT identification card which is valid for three years.

"YOU'RE INVITED"



Friday Breakfast

The Friday Breakfast Team would like to invite you to come and serve our community by helping to serve breakfast on the last Friday of each month. There are two opportunities to help; Thursday afternoon at 4:30 PM prior to the last Friday we set up the Fellowship Hall, or Friday morning between 6:00 AM and 9:00 AM to cook and serve breakfast. It is a great way to have fellowship and serve the community. Our next Friday breakfast is on April 26, 2019. If you would like to help, please contact Mark Sorensen at 951-514-7326.

Mark



GUATEMALA MISSION PROJECT

Carol Conger-Cross and her team are coming here on Sunday, April 28th to sell beautiful handmade items made by Guatemalan natives. For over 20 years the Guatemala Mission Project, has helped to provide medical care, dental services, homes for widows, schools, classrooms, medical and dental clinics, and wood efficiency stoves. Come and join us on the patio between services and after the 11:00 AM service. For more information please contact Wes or Carol Scott at 951- 676-5377.



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|------|------------------------|------|--------------------|
| 4/1 | Julia Rivera | 4/13 | Brandon Noa |
| 4/2 | Eula Anyiwo | 4/14 | Rachel Mathews |
| 4/3 | Richard Reid | 4/14 | John Whalen |
| 4/4 | Bonnie Berry | 4/16 | Adrianna Audenino |
| 4/4 | Marsha Ellingboe | 4/16 | Candace Saxman |
| 4/5 | Elyse Gingrich | 4/16 | Lila Scola |
| 4/6 | Kimberly Holcomb | 4/17 | Maurice Landford |
| 4/7 | Doug Gingrich | 4/18 | Elva Kopplin |
| 4/7 | JC Hansen | 4/19 | Lindsay Moenho |
| 4/7 | Ayesha Sabree-Sorensen | 4/20 | Debbie Hanlon |
| 4/8 | Aiden Malcolm | 4/22 | Tommy Boone |
| 4/8 | Logan Malcolm | 4/23 | Jonathan Culhane |
| 4/9 | Hannah Crissione | 4/24 | Rosalie Hornbuckle |
| 4/9 | Tai Faaiu | 4/25 | Nichole Kohrmann |
| 4/9 | Judy Macdonald | 4/30 | Bob Laugalis |
| 4/9 | Carol Scott | | |
| 4/13 | Mallory Barr | | |
| 4/13 | Afi Noa | | |



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|------|----------|----------------------------|
| 4/4 | 38 years | Jim and Linda Mason |
| 4/7 | 18 years | Dean and Shari Lenz |
| 4/9 | 59 years | Bob and Sandee Beam |
| 4/11 | 38 years | Tom and Lynne Mathews |
| 4/12 | 34 years | Dave and Sheryl Mathews |
| 4/16 | 17 years | Gary and Carolyn Smith |
| 4/22 | 47 years | Alvaro and Adeline Jackson |
| 4/22 | 30 years | John and Karri Whalen |



Loving God, Loving Others, Serving People



MURRIETA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
24652 ADAMS AVE.
P.O. Box 602 , 92564
MURRIETA, CA 92562

Return Service Requested



Murrieta United Methodist Church

Sunday Education Schedule

9:00 AM — Children's Sunday school for Pre-
K - 5th grade & Jr. High(F/H)
9:00 AM — High school Youth—worship in
the sanctuary
10:15 AM — Children's Choir
11:00 AM — Youth choir
12:00 PM — Youth Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
12:30 PM —3:00 PM Youth Group (Youth
Room)

* Nursery and Child Care are available 8:45
AM to 12:15 PM

**No Sunday school 1st Sunday of each
month—worship with families in sanctuary

A Monthly Publication
Editor: Judy Gilmore
Deadline: Mon. April 15rd
(Due by Noon)

E-Mail articles to
judyg@murrietaumc.org

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE 9:00 AM & 11:00 PM

Murrieta United Methodist Church



<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiv9csgWfPz6Plomdk7kQ>

Find us 
on Instagram
<https://www.instagram.com/murrietaumc/>



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