

MURRIETA UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH, 24652 ADAMS AVE., 92562
PO BOX 602, 92564
PH: 951-677-6174
Email: mumc@murrietaumc.org

The *VINE*



MURRIETA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2019



Join Us in Worship by Rev. Scott Andrews

We have a lot going on in our worship services in December. I hope that you feel called to be at any or all of them.

Our first Sunday of Advent is Sunday, December 1st. The sermon title will be "Watchfulness" from Matthew 24:36-44. Jesus is going to return. We believe this today just as those of his time believed the Messiah was coming. Communion will be celebrated.

The second Sunday of Advent will be Sunday, December 8th. The sermon title will be "The Baptizer" from Matthew 3:1-12. John is baptizing in the desert and preparing people for Jesus' ministry.

The third Sunday of Advent will be Sunday, December 15th. The sermon title will be "Wind Shaken Reeds" from Matthew 11:2-11. John has been arrested and sends his disciples to question Jesus. Questions which will help us during Advent.

The fourth Sunday of Advent will be Sunday, December 22nd. The sermon title will be "Quiet Dismissal" from Matthew 1:18-25. Joseph finds out that Mary is expecting. He needs to decide what to do. We are asked to decide "what to do" with the coming birth of Christ.

Our Christmas Eve services on Tuesday, December 24th will be at 5:00 and 7:30 PM. The sermon title for the Christmas Eve services is "Glory to the Newborn King" from Luke 2:8-20. The 5:00 service will have youth involvement and will be family oriented. The 7:30 service will feature the Chancel Choir. Both services will include a Candlelight service.

We will have one Sunday morning worship service on both Sundays, December 29th and January 5th at 10:00 AM each morning.



ALL CHURCH CONFERENCE by Rev. Scott Andrews

The 2019 All Church Conference for Murrieta United Methodist Church will be held on **Monday, December 2nd** at **6:30 PM** in the Sanctuary. Our District Superintendent, Rev. John Farley will preside over our gathering. Everyone is invited to attend.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY



The Children and Youth Choirs are proud to present the Christmas play "**A Star is Born!**". Join us on Saturday, December 7th at 5:00 PM and Sunday, December 8th at 9:00 AM in the Sanctuary. Please come and support our talented young people in a Christmas musical celebration

CHRISTMAS CAROLING GRAMS



It's that time of year again and the Children and Youth Choirs are excited to announce the Christmas Caroling Grams are back! We will sell Grams on the patio between services on Sunday, December 15th and then bring songs of good cheer to the recipients on Saturday, December 21st. Contact Children Choir Co-Leaders Selena Andrews @ selenamumc@gmail.com or Christian Daus @ cristiandmumc@gmail.com with questions.

SAVE THE DATE! CHRISTMAS CAMP



Save the date for Christmas Camp happening Saturday, December 14th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Christmas Camp is a great opportunity for your little ones to make special gifts for family, friends, neighbors, or even teachers to give at Christmas time. This is also a time for any last minute Christmas shopping the adults may need to do without prying eyes! They'll begin camp by making several gifts that they will wrap and end the camp with a warm cup of hot chocolate, cookies and a festive movie. This holiday camp is designed for kids aged 3 to 12 and because we want to provide enough materials for everyone to participate please RSVP by Saturday, December 8th. For more information and to RSVP please visit the church website at Murrietaumc.org/ChristmasCamp or contact Ayesha Sabree, Children's Ministry Director, at ayasha@murrietaumc.org or 951-370-9285 (text only) with questions.

Ayesha Sabree,
Children's Ministry Director



Glory to the Newborn King! by Rev. Scott Andrews

One of my favorite Christmas hymns is "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing". It's one of those hymns that often appear in the background of movies or TV shows during Christmas season. It's even sung in the seasonal classic "A Charlie Brown Christmas". The original lyrics were written by Charles Wesley in 1739. They have been changed over the years. Likewise, the music that accompanies the lyrics today was composed by Felix Mendelssohn much later in 1840. Originally, the hymn was sung to slow and somber tune that we would not recognize today. The question today is have you ever really taken a good look at the hymn and the message the hymn is trying to convey?

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Wesley was telling of the encounter between the heavenly host of angels that visited the shepherds as they were in the pastures watching their flocks of sheep. He was telling of how they wanted to announce to the shepherds what God was doing. They were announcing that a new king was born and that because of this new king there would be peace on earth and that there would be compassionate forbearance to sinners. Ultimately, this will lead to God and sinners being reconciled. Our response will be that the one who makes all this possible is born in Bethlehem.

Then comes the refrain:

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

This of course is a repeat of the opening lines, but it cements in place the purpose or the intention of the hymn: the angels sing that we are to give glory to the newborn King.

We draw ever closer to Christmas. It seems to come faster and faster each year. We have a lot to do. We have children's programs to attend, work gatherings, family celebrations, and decorations to be sorted and put in place. We often become distracted and numbed by all that transpires this time of year. I think we all need to heed the message of this Christmas blessing. We need to give "Glory to the newborn King!" and make that our focus this time of year.

I pray that we take time this Christmas season to give "Glory to the newborn King!"

In Christ,
Pastor Scott

NOTES FROM THE PANTRY

Thank you to everyone who filled a Thanksgiving bag (or maybe more than one) and to everyone who made donations to cover the cost of the hams we were able to include with the bags. Many thanks to the United Church Valley and the Rock Church and to all who asked a friend or neighbor to fill a bag. Thank you to so many generous people. A very special thank you to the Greenleaf family for their donation honoring the memory of Janet Greenleaf Ritter. We're sure that made Janet happy.

Our friends at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints are collecting the special Christmas bags again this year. If you want to be part of the Christmas giving, donations are welcome (and needed) to help cover the hams we'll add to the bags. Those bags will be handed out on Friday, December 20th.

All are welcome to donate to the food pantry for this holiday season and throughout the year.

God bless all of you who make it all possible.

Merry Christmas!
The Pantry team



SONRISERS

Sonrisers is a circle of the United Methodist Women.

Please join us on Saturday, at 8:00 AM on December 7th at Honeycutt Farms (40477 Murrieta Hot Springs Road, Murrieta. In order to get an approximate count please RSVP to Toni Spencer (fwspence32@yahoo.com). We are taking a collection for someone in need at this meeting.

CHILI COOK OFF RESULTS

A big thank you to all of you who came and supported the Sonrisers Chili Cook Off! There were more than 80 of you who came out to support us!

Our winners this year were Laura Rothhaar, Michelle Hilsabeck, and Rafaela Wulf. We had 10 different entries and they were all delicious! With your help we raised \$600.00. It is never too late to donate to the MUMC campership fund. Contact Toni Spencer for more information.

MESSIAH

We hope to see you in our sanctuary on Sunday, December 8, at 6pm for a wonderful performance of Handel's Messiah under the direction of Bryan Boos. The performers are from the community AND include a number of our own church members. There will be a full orchestra. This is an inspiring Christmas tradition that you won't want to miss. Admission is free. We encourage you to bring canned goods for the church's food pantry.

If you have any question, please contact Wes Scott (676-5377).

The Heart of Christmas

One of my all-time favorite Christmas cards reads . . .

Christmas brings out the best in us—our ability to love. Believe in Him . . . and in each other!



I like the way it picks up on the theme of Christmas as a time for celebrating loving relationships, while at the same time reminding us that Christmas is, first and foremost, about Jesus and the impact his life has upon our lives as we put our faith and trust in him. Simply put, the impact of the Christmas message for each of us depends upon what we believe about the God who sent his love in human form, what we believe about ourselves and one another as recipients of that love, and what we do with what we believe.

For most of us, the principal laboratory for learning to live in the light of God's love is our immediate family. If we don't love well there, we're not likely to do so anywhere else. With that in mind, I share with you this anonymously written "Christmas version" of 1 Corinthians 13. While it seems primarily directed to wives and mothers, it doesn't take much imagination to apply it to husbands and fathers, as well.

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows and strands of twinkling lights, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator. If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing. If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels, attend a myriad of holiday parties, and sing in the choir cantata, but do not stay focused on God's love in Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug a child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss a spouse.

Love is kind and considerate, even when harried and tired.

Love doesn't give to get in return, but rejoices in giving without thought of return.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

Games and toys will break, pearl necklaces can be lost, golf clubs may rust.

But the gift of love will endure!

As the "Christmas season," in all its many forms, descends upon us and threatens to distract and even undo us, may your days be filled with the joy of celebrating and sharing the greatest gift of all!

Pastor Tom

Worship Workshop

By Rev. Scott Andrews

We are going to be holding a Worship Workshop on Saturday, January 11 for all of those who would like to help with our Sunday morning worship services. We will have information and training for the following areas:

- Acolytes
- Ushers
- Greeters
- Liturgists
- Sound booth techs
- Hospitality

We will meet in the Sanctuary beginning at 10:00 AM. Coffee and goodies will be provided.

2020 PILGRIMAGE

The response to our initial inquiry regarding interest in a September 2020 pilgrimage to Israel has been substantial and encouraging, so it's "a go."

Laura and I are working with the tour company, Educational Opportunities, in which we have great confidence. They have prepared a personalized brochure for us and we've made it available to you with hard copies and online. Please let us know if you like to see it. We will automatically send it to those of you who have already said you are ready to go or want more information. In the meantime, pray about your possible participation and get back to us with any questions.

As we get closer to the September 8-15 date, we will set up preparatory gatherings for those of you close enough to us to attend. We'll have much more information to all who are joining us.

Shalom,
Pastor Tom and Laura Rothhaar
951-639-3490
LRNTR@aol.com

MUMC YOUTH

We are so excited about the Christmas season this year! There is just already such a feeling of anticipation and hopefulness! John 1:9 reminds us exactly what we anticipate through Advent...

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.



We have so many very special things in store for this holiday season! We have our Ladies' Tea on Sunday, Dec. 1st. We will have a couple of youth tables! Youth just need to be sure to RSVP to Mandy or Jenn and to bring a pair of wrapped holiday socks for our little sock exchange. We are also trying to get together a few youth moms tables! Let us know if you'd like to join in the holiday fun!

We are also doing the Advent Bible Study that the rest of the congregation is doing, except just for youth. It's entitled "Down to Earth". We are hoping it can really bring the true meaning of Christmas to light for our youth! We will meet in the youth room from 6-8pm on Fridays, Nov. 29th, Dec. 6th, Dec. 13th and Dec. 20th. We hope all our youth can join us!

On **Sunday, Dec. 15th** we will have our annual Youth Progressive Dinner from 4-8pm. At this very festive event, we break up into our Junior High and Senior High groups, and travel to various youth homes for the courses of our meal. This year, we will all meet up at the home of Dawn and Joe Rhodes for dessert. We are very excited to christen their new home in Wildomar! Youth just need to bring a wrapped Christmas ornament for the ornament exchange. (make sure to sign up in the youth room, or contact Jenn or Mandy to RSVP).

On **Sunday, Dec. 29th**, we will head out on a little hiking adventure to the Santa Margarita River trail right after the 9am service, 10am-2pm. Bring a sack lunch to eat on the hike, plenty of water and good walking shoes!

Upcoming events:

Friday, January 17th, we will join the youth from Redlands First UMC for a Broomball overnight! The cost is \$15 per person. We will do our lock-in at Redlands UMC. We will leave MUMC at 7pm Friday night, and return Saturday morning at 11am. Breakfast Saturday morning will be included.

Confirmation Class will begin on Sunday, February 9th. Please sign up in the youth room if you're interested in joining the class! We are also in need of Confirmation Angels: both youth angels and adult angels!! Check out the sign up list in the youth room! We will meet Sunday mornings from 9-10am. Confirmation Sunday will take place on Sunday, May 17th.

In the Love and Peace of Christ,
MUMC Co-Youth Directors

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

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



THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT OF UMW in 2019

It is hoped that you got one of the bookmarks distributed at the Christmas Tea that delineated many of the mission projects the Murrieta United Methodist Women (UMW) AND that many of you supported in the past year. Bookmarks will be available throughout December at the Welcome Center. These bookmarks also list the dates of our local unit's next year's meetings and the 2020 Christmas Tea.

A special thanks to those who attended the Christmas tea and donated lotion, hairbrushes, and lip balm for the MUMC food pantry. In the past several weeks, we made our final financial donations to various agencies to continue to support women, youth, and children in need. We contributed board books to the Riverside University Health System's Neo-Natal Unit. We will soon recognize someone within our local church who has conducted many mission projects. We donated to New Entra Casa in San Diego, a home for women exiting the prison system that provides training to help them to secure work and reconnect with their families. We contributed to the Murrieta Elementary School foundation to assist children who show go to school without lunch or lunch money. We hope to do much more next year and we know that we can depend on you for assistance.

Please mark your new 2020 calendars for the UMW meeting on Thursday, January 12 at 12:15 PM in the House Fellowship Hall. Meg Matthews will be speaking about her mission trip to South Africa. This is your opportunity to find out about the distribution of the *Days for Girls* Kits you all helped to make!

Donna Chamberlain,
Communication Coordinator

MURRIETA UNITED METHODIST MEN



In December we meet on December 7th at 8:00 AM in fellowship Hall. All men of the church are invited to come and enjoy breakfast served by the Boy Scouts and also enjoy their presentation on all the exciting things they have done during the past year and also how they have matured and learned more about what it means to be a faithful, honest, strong, and courageous man. Join all of us for Christian fellowship with men of all ages devoted to being Disciples of Christ.

If you would like to have a closer connection to the church, a deeper faith, and a stronger relationship with Christ come join us. We look forward to meeting you. 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.



The Young at Heart group enjoyed our trip to Los Rios Rancho apple orchard in Oak Glen. We had a great meal and an enjoyable hike. The weather was fantastic!



This group invites those in our 60s, 70s, and better! In December we will meet in Fellowship hall on Saturday, December 7th at 5:00 PM and attend the children's Christmas program immediately following a meal. Come watch our talented children as they present "A Star is Born."



PET MINISTRY

A heartfelt THANK YOU the pet food you donated in November and throughout the year. You truly made a difference!! Our next opportunity to donate is on Sunday, December 1st. The shelter is in need of (unopened) food, treats, toys and towels. Begin your season of advent with this special opportunity to give to shelter pets waiting for their forever home. Thank you!

Linda Yankie, Missions Pet Ministry



Thank you!

Your support in this difficult time is very much appreciated. Your kind expression of sympathy, following Chuck's passing, through thoughtful words and cards eases the pain of losing my gentle husband. Chuck cherished his time as a member of Murrieta United Methodist Church.

Blessings,
Ann Reese and family



2019 Monthly Giving for October

Week of October 6	\$19,859
Week of October 13	\$ 7,294
Week of October 20	\$ 7,496
Week of October 27	\$8,820
Total	43,469

Needed Monthly \$50,524
Bruce Hartwig, Finance Chair
annandbruce347@gmail.com

2019 DONATIONS

Thank you so much for your 2019 donations. As we get close to the end of the year please remember that for tax purposes all 2019 donations need to be received in the offering plate by Sunday, December 29th or mailed and postmarked December 31, 2019.



Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash or checks. These cards are ordered at a reduced price and when you purchase gift cards at face value the church receives a rebate with the difference. It's really that simple! You get full value for your money and you also get to help the church. With holiday shopping in full swing, gift cards can be an always welcome solution as gifts—and no shipping hassles or expenses. We keep many cards on hand and with a little lead-time there are hundreds of cards available that we can special order. Do check on availability for special orders. Stop by the Scrip area in the Welcome Center on Sundays if you have questions or call Nancy McNally at 696-1898.

Nancy McNally

PAGES CIRCLE READING CHOICES FOR 2020

Pages Circle



PAGES Circle will continue to meet most months in 2020 on the second Thursday of each month at 10:30 AM at the home of Donna Chamberlain. All women of the church are welcome to join us even if it is only when a particular book looks interesting to you and you would like to discuss with others. Following is a list of what we will be reading from the suggested United Methodist Women's Reading Program in 2020 and what book we will be discussing each month.

January—Loaded: A Disarming History of the Second Amendment by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

February—Working Class Rage: A Field Guide To White Anger AND PAIN by Tex Sample

March—Resist and Persist: Faith and the Fight for Equality by Erin Wathen

April—Easter Stories: Classic Tales for the Holy Season

May—The End Of The Island: Finding Life In The Movements Of Human Suffering, Pain, and Loss BY Jeffrey C. Tucker

June—When Others Shuddered: Eight Women Who Refused to Give Up by Jamie Janosz

July—Storming the Wall: Climate Change, Migration And Homeland Security by Todd Miller

August—The Aging Of Auqarius: Igniting Passion And Purpose As An Elder by Helen Wilkes

September—Which Way Lord: Exploring Your Life's Purpose in the Journeys of Paul by Rob Fuquay

October—What Comes With Dust by Gharbi M. Mustafa

November—Tilly and The Crazy Eights by Monique Gray Smith

December—The Water Walker by Joanne Robertson

For more information, contact Donna at 951-696-1190.



12/2 Ruthanne Berger
 12/2 Lorrie Burkhardt
 12/2 Karen Calvert
 12/2 Helen Johnson
 12/2 Bertha Stanford
 12/4 Keith Signer
 12/5 Xenia Andrews
 12/5 Gwen Jimenez
 12/5 Debi Johnson
 12/8 Karen Ramos
 12/9 Gianna Esber
 12/9 Jonathan Preston
 12/9 Pat Wilson
 12/11 Justin Dubinski
 12/11 Richard Schultz
 12/12 Credith Kraner
 12/14 Cathy Wright
 12/16 Mandy Allen

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

12/17 David Dauz
 12/17 Steve Storrs
 12/18 James Mason
 12/19 Karen Sabicer
 12/20 Jodi Brown
 12/21 Jong Lee
 12/25 Christolyn King
 12/25 Bonnie Radcliffe
 12/27 Ramzi Kattan
 12/27 Joel Vogelgesang
 12/28 Zhanna Preston
 12/30 Belinda Amponsah
 12/30 Josh Flores
 12/30 Carolyn Greywood
 12/31 Joel Thacker

Happy Anniversary

12/1 9 years Lavious & April Watkins
 12/2 41 years David & Susan Jeffries
 12/5 32 years Tom & Ruthanne Berger
 12/8 30 years Doug & Tina Gingrich
 12/9 41 years Dony & Rosie Rosete
 12/16 2 years Ray & Kathy Johnson
 12/18 71 years Gordon & Rosalie Hornbuckle
 12/18 54 years Richard & Kathryn Perry
 12/21 49 years Ron & Denise Guilliams
 12/27 27 years Jonathan & Zhanna Preston
 12/31 31 years Andy & Adriann Huntington



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



<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi9csgWfPpEZ5Plomdk7kQ>

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



Murrieta United Methodist Church

SUNDAY EDUCATION SCHEDULE

9:00 AM: Pre-K - 5th grade Sunday school, Fellowship Hall, following the Children's Message

9:00 AM: Jr. High Sunday school, Youth room, following the Children's Message

1st Sunday of the month: Pre K-5th and Jr. High worship with their families in the Sanctuary

9:00 AM: Sr. High Worship, Sanctuary
9:45-10:15 AM : Children's and Youth Choir Fellowship Hall room 5

Regular Youth Group: Jr. Hi 10:45 PM-12:00 Youth Room
Lunch: all Youth 12:00 PM-12:30 PM, Sr Hi: 12:00 PM-2:30 PM, Youth Room

*Dec 1-One room Children's Sunday school Fellowship Hall
*Dec 8-No Children's Sunday school - Christmas Play
9:00 AM

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

WORSHIP

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Candlelight - 5:00 PM
Candlelight - 7:30 PM



OFFICE HOURS

M-TH 9:00AM-3:00 PM