



"IN-TOUCH" with MUMC **October 15, 2025.....Coming Events.....**



OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

The Staff Parish Relations Committee invites you to join us in celebrating Rev. Melissa Rusler and Rev. Dr. Tom Rothhaar during the month of October. There will be a basket in the church entry way where you can drop off your notes, cards, and any other tokens of appreciation for our pastors.

Thank you, Pastor Melissa, for shepherding our congregation with humor and grace.

Thank you, Pastor Tom, for your pastoral care of us in times of illness or need.

Murrieta United Methodist Church is so blessed to have you both!



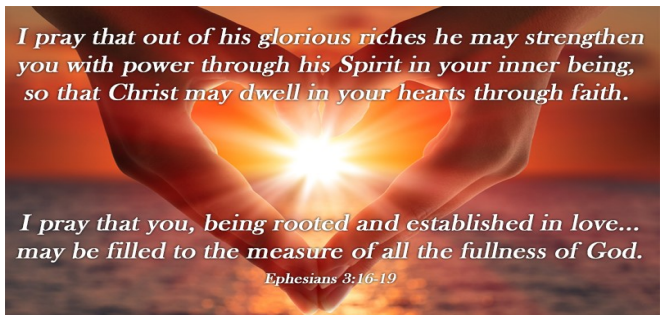
BLESSING BAG DRIVE

The Caring Ministry will start collecting contents to be placed into the Blessing Bags in November. As you know, this is now an annual event which supports those in need and especially those in our community and especially those that are unhoused. A list of specific items needed can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Collection will begin on October 19th and end on October 26th. If you prefer to donate money towards this event, please enter "Blessing Bags" in the memo. The team thanks all of you in advance for laboring in His vineyard.

Our Vision:

To build a community where ALL are welcome to grow in faith in Jesus through study, worship, prayer, and an invitation to serve God, our neighbor, and beyond.



Laity Sunday

Join us for worship **Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM.** Certified Lay Minister Susan Jeffries will bring the message:

"Together by Grace: Be Strong in the Spirit"

The scripture reading is:
Ephesians 3:14-21

This Sunday, some of our youth will be joining the Praise Team, so you will not want to miss it! Below are links to Sunday's praise songs if you would like to listen this week:

Raise A Hallelujah

https://youtu.be/FRo7kFI7hBw?si=O_IQvV-J7b40VGWB

The Jesus Way

<https://youtu.be/ARSGgC9iQb0?si=ipRC0RULX0T9y5tn>

If you wish, you can join us for worship online. Go to our website – www.murrietaumc.org – and then click on the link titled "Worship Live Stream".

MISSIONS

MISSIONS MEETING OCTOBER 19TH

Please join us for our missions team meeting at a new time and day. We will be meeting on **Sunday, October 19th, at 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.** Bring your coffee and join us as we plan our next events. Any questions, please email Carol Scott at wscott6@verizon.net



NOTES FROM THE PANTRY

Plastic market bags have returned to the top of the Pantry's "Most Wanted" list. With so many families coming each week, the huge pile of bags you donated which looked like it would last to Christmas, or at least Thanksgiving, went out very quickly.

THANKSGIVING BAGS ARE COMING!

Baron's has again donated their big red bags for Thanksgiving bags, so we'll be handing them out in a few week or so for those of you who fill the special bags for Thanksgiving.

Thank you for all you do.

Blessings,

The Pantry Team



HOLY LAND ART SALE OCTOBER 26TH

The Mission team will sponsor a sale of beautiful olivewood carvings made in the Holy Land. Proceeds will go to artisans in Bethlehem. Join us **on the patio on Sunday, October 26th.**

POT LUCK LUNCH NOVEMBER 2ND

The missions team would like to invite you to a potluck after church on **Sunday, November 2nd in the Fellowship Hall.** You can meet our missionary from Cameroon, Mike Scott, and find out what he has been doing with World Team Mission Society.



MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA

Join us on a mission trip to Guatemala! The team will be installing energy efficient stoves and ventilation stove pipes in the Chichicastenango area. Cost will be \$2200 per person. The team will leave from San Diego on

January 23rd and return February 2nd. Any questions, please email Wes or Carol Scott at wscott6@verizon.net



CHOPIN REVISTED: A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON CHOPIN CLASSICS BY BRYCE RUSSELL

Our very own Bryce Russell has written a new book of Chopin arrangements that explores the

question: What if Chopin wrote music during a different era of history? Bryce answers the question with this collection of Chopin's most famous pieces, arranged in the style of jazz. Our congregation has enjoyed Bryce's musical talents for years, but even we might be surprised by these very surprising arrangements!

Congratulations, Bryce!



With Deepest Sympathy

Our prayers of condolence are extended to Rob Calderhead on the death of his wife of 56 years, Connie, who passed into heaven on October 7, 2025. Please keep the entire family in your prayers.

Beloved church member, Elva Kopplin, passed into heaven on October 2, 2025. A memorial is being planned for November 22nd.

A STEWARDSHIP & GENEROSITY SERIES

Counterculture

Coming Soon: "Counterculture" – A Stewardship Series on Faithful Living and Generous Giving

Our world is full of messages about success, security, and status. We're told to hold tightly, accumulate more, and measure our value by comparison. But what if the way of Christ leads us in a completely different direction?

This fall, we will launch a four-week series called Counterculture — a call to live generously, love deeply, and root our identity not in the world's expectations, but in God's transforming grace.

Rooted in the Wesleyan and United Methodist tradition, this series will challenge us to resist the pressures of consumerism and scarcity-thinking. Instead, we'll explore what it means to be people of compassion, humility, action, and generosity. Each week, we'll look at scripture that highlights how followers of Jesus are invited to live by a different standard — one shaped by God's love, not by cultural norms.

Series Highlights:

Week 1: Who Are You?: Transformed, Not Conformed – How God reshapes us from the inside out (Romans 12:1-2)

Week 2: Who Are You Wearing Today: Clothed in Christ – Living with compassion, humility, and love (Colossians 3:12-17)

Week 3: Love in Action – Generosity that's visible and concrete (1 John 3:16-18)

Week 4: Authentic Loving, Authentic Giving – Giving flows from knowing who we are (Matthew 22 & Genesis 1)

At the conclusion of the series, you'll be invited to respond by turning in an Estimate of Giving Card for 2026, as an act of prayerful commitment to live more generously in the year ahead.

We know that giving is about forming our faith and not just about funding a ministry. And we're already seeing powerful ways that our congregation is choosing to live counterculturally every day.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday, October 15

- 8:00 AM—4:30 PM Home School~ Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM Food Pantry Prep
- 10:30 AM Lectio Divina~ Sanctuary
- 6:30 PM Al-Anon~ Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal~ Sanctuary

Thursday, October 16

- 9:00 AM Food Pantry Prep
- 10:30 AM Disciple Bible Study~ Fellowship Hall Rm 4

Friday, October 17

- 8:00 AM Food Pantry

Saturday, October 18

- 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous~ Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 19

- 8:30 AM Missions Meeting~ Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 AM Worship~ Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Sunday School Pre K-5th~ Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 AM Youth Sunday School~ Youth Room
- 10:00 AM Presbyterian Church of Ghana~ Fellowship
- 11:15 AM Study & Discussion Group~ Youth Room

Monday, October 20

- 8:00 AM—4:30 PM Home School~ Fellowship Hall
- 5:30 PM Finance~ Zoom
- 6:30 PM Women's 12-step Meeting~ Youth Room

Tuesday, October 21

- 10:00 AM Women's Alcoholics Anonymous~ Youth Rm
- 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study~ Zoom

Wednesday, October 22

- 8:00 AM—4:30 PM Home School~ Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM Food Pantry Prep
- 10:30 AM Lectio Divina~ Sanctuary
- 6:30 PM Al-Anon~ Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal~ Sanctuary

Thursday, October 23

- 9:00 AM Food Pantry Prep
- 10:30 AM Disciple Bible Study~ Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 PM Nominations~ Zoom

Friday, October 24

- 8:00 AM Food Pantry

Saturday, October 25

- 8:00 AM Al-Anon Alathon~ Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous~ Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 26

- 9:00 AM Holy Land Art Sale~ Courtyard
- 10:00 AM Worship~ Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Sunday School Pre K-5th~ Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 AM Youth Sunday School~ Youth Room
- 10:00 AM Presbyterian Church of Ghana~ Fellowship
- 11:15 AM Study & Discussion Group~ Youth Room



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please email prayer requests to mumc@murrietaumc.org and your prayer will be forwarded to Pastor Melissa, Pastor Tom and our email prayer team. You can also leave a prayer request on the church office voicemail, 951-677-6174. Thank you.

If there is a **pastoral emergency** please call or text Pastor Melissa at 714-856-6817 or Pastor Tom at 714-478-9266.

Church office hours are 9:00 AM—1:00 PM Monday-Thursday.



TITHES & OFFERINGS

We are grateful for your continued support of the ministries of our church. There are three ways to donate to the church. First, you can mail in your donations to the church post office box at Murrieta UMC, PO Box 602, Murrieta, CA 92564

Second, donate online on our website at www.murrietaumc.org or scan the QR code below to set up your donation.

Third, put your donation in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Thank you.



Scan to donate
from your phone



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2-Oct	Mavis Akiyoshi
2-Oct	Annette Parr
5-Oct	Paula Walker
7-Oct	Trinity Alcazar
8-Oct	Debbie Blow
8-Oct	Eva Nyan
9-Oct	Skylar Sorensen
10-Oct	Gini Knowles
11-Oct	Leonard Jensen
15-Oct	Sarah Hansen
16-Oct	Bob Beam
16-Oct	Brianna Noa
17-Oct	Joe Rhodes
20-Oct	Bryan Daut
20-Oct	Susan Shadwick
21-Oct	Joe Hathaway
21-Oct	Reiza Navarro
25-Oct	Mike Knowles
25-Oct	Dianne Muras
25-Oct	Carl Noblitt
27-Oct	Joyce Okey
27-Oct	Nick Radcliffe
27-Oct	Jeff Stanley
28-Oct	Wes Scott
29-Oct	Renato Navarro

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

7-Oct	30 years	Rita and Larry Schoonover
15-Oct	37 years	Ed and Susan Carmichael

BLESSING BAG ITEMS NEEDED

The Caring Ministry will be assembling bags to give to families or individuals in need. We are seeking donations from those who can give any of the specific items below. There will be containers in the Narthex where items can be dropped off. If you prefer to contribute money towards the purchase of these items, please include "Blessing Bags" in the memo of your check. Please call Eula Anyiwo at 909 731 6706 with any questions you may have.

NECESSITIES	NON-PERISHABLE FOODS HIGH DEMAND
Gallon-size Ziplock bags Band-Aids Travel-size baby wipes Hand sanitizers Washcloths Travel-size first-aid kits Small water bottles Pencils Post-it-notes	Granola Bars Energy Bars Tuna Crackers Raisins Peanuts Apple sauce self-opening Canned fruit Gum Hard candy Beef jerky stick
TOILETRIES TRAVEL SIZE	
Toothbrushes Toothpaste Floss Soap Deodorant Shampoo Conditioner Comb Hairbrushes Personal feminine hygiene items Sunscreen Chapstick	Inspirational/encouragement notes List of local resources
OTHER PERSONAL ITEMS	
New socks (men, women, babies, and children) New underwear (men, women, and children)	