

# United Church of the Valley

A Partnership Church: United Church of Christ and Disciples of Christ

[www.unitedchurchofthevalley.org](http://www.unitedchurchofthevalley.org)



Pastor's Page -Rev. Joe Zarro

November 2011 -- Volume 19, Issue 3

Brothers and Sisters,

On trash day a few weeks ago, I didn't close the gate properly and my dog, Carly, got out. When I noticed she was missing I started driving around the neighborhood looking for her. Soon, I got a call from a neighbor who had her. When thanking her, she told me she hoped people would do the same for her dogs.

The very next week, on trash day, I saw a little dog wandering down the street with no owner. It took following him down the street with some dog treats to convince him to let me read his collar and call his owners. Just like me, they didn't close their gate and their dog got out. I told them that my dog got out the week before and was recovered by a neighbor, and I was happy to pay it forward.

It's not every day that you are given the opportunity to do the exact same small act of kindness that you just experienced. Perhaps it was because I was on my way to Bible study, but it stuck in my mind as an example of how grace works. I didn't do anything to deserve my neighbor's kindness, in fact I irresponsibly let my dog out in the neighborhood and Carly was trespassing in my neighbor's garage. But the natural reaction of experiencing grace and the kindness of a neighbor is to show it to others. I had to go out of my way to retrieve Taj for his family, but I was happy to do it because of the blessings in my life and the natural impulse to bless others.

We don't do anything for God's grace, love and mercy. They are just gifts given to us, a blessing that we are simply lucky to receive. The just and unjust receive God's love equally without condition. The natural reaction to this gift should be to spread the blessing, to show others the same love that God shows you. The author of the letter 1 John 4.11-2 comes to the same conclusion: "since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

We should love each other, and be kind to one another, because we are loved by God. In a way, it turns intuitive cause and effect on its head – instead of good things happening to good people, unconditional love is given to all and causes goodness, kindness and gratitude in many. All of us have hardships, some more deeply than others, but by virtue of being children of God, all of us have things for which to be grateful.

The fall is a season of gratitude – gratitude for the abundance of the harvest, gratitude for the things that sustain life, and gratitude for the community that sustains and feeds one another. It is my hope that we can all recognize things for which we are grateful, like a deed of kindness from a neighbor, and react with love and positive action.



There are many great opportunities to express gratitude in positive action with UCV this November. On **Nov. 20 at 7 p.m.**, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, I will be officiating the **Interfaith "Night of Gratitude"** at the LDS church on 29658 North General Kearny Road in Temecula, CA. Not only will we be building unity in thanksgiving, but we will also be taking a collection for the local food pantry. Also, all this month UCV will be doing a **special food drive** for the Murrieta United Methodist Food Pantry, which assists more than a 100 families with putting food on

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From the Minister of Music

Lynne Bradley [lbradley93168@roadrunner.com](mailto:lbradley93168@roadrunner.com) (760)-723-8758

One of the special things about UCV has always been the community of caring people that express their love in so many ways. My recent accident and hospitalization certainly was a beautiful example of our caring community in action. I can't begin to say thank you to all who sent cards, called, and brought flowers while I was in the hospital. I appreciated Joe's concern and the communion that he brought. Once I got home, there were some meals in the freezer, people willing to help drive me to therapy appointments and even a pajama party with two adorable 4-legged friends. I'm grateful for so many prayers and love sent my way.

Sherry Turner, Susan Miyamoto and all the choir members have done an awesome job of rehearsing on Thursday nights and keeping good music happening on Sundays. I'm proud of everyone for their dedication and willingness to pitch in!!!

My recovery is coming along very well. Unfortunately, I'm not cleared to drive for a few more weeks, but I will look forward to seeing everyone soon and getting back in the saddle because there's a lot that we are working on to be ready for the Advent and Christmas Season.

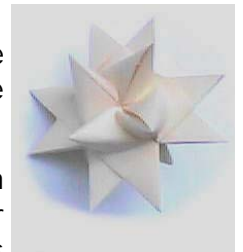


CHRISTMAS CANTATA

**Cantata Sunday** is **Sunday, Dec. 4**. We will be doing an Advent Lovefeast and Communion Service (see details below). This will be a time to share some of the beautiful music of the season to get you in the spirit of the season. We always have additional singers join us for this special service. Rehearsals only run for about 5 weeks, so even if you can't commit to participating in choir regularly throughout the year, we encourage you to join us for this special service. If you are able to join us, please talk to Sherry Turner or e mail me ([lbradley93168@roadrunner.com](mailto:lbradley93168@roadrunner.com)).

**Traditional Moravian Lovefeast**

The Lovefeast we will share during worship on Dec. 4 will probably not follow all the traditions of a Moravian lovefeast, but understanding some of these traditions may make the experience of our UCV lovefeast even more meaningful.



The lovefeast is based upon the Agape feast of the early churches which were partaken in unity and love. In the Moravian tradition, buns and coffee are served by "dieners" or servers, reminding us that we are all called to serve one another. Devotional music is sung by the choir and hymns are sung by the congregation. In an Agape feast, all classes of people ate together (unlike common practice in that time) in love, unity and equality.

Since the lovefeast is a separate act from communion, the UCV Lovefeast will be followed by the sacrament of communion.

**Special Recognition** - Marie Orillion received notice that her research paper, "Balancing the Tension between Accountability and Teacher Inquiry in Induction Policy," has been accepted for presentation at the American Educational Research Annual Meeting in 2012. AERA received over 11,000 paper submissions this year, so it is a very real honor to be included. Congratulations, Marie, on reaping the rewards of your hard work!

**English as a Second Language**

Last month we had three new students - and several of our pupils are advanced, with a desire to have a greater command of the English language in grammar and composition. Teachers, retired teachers, college students - you are **particularly** needed to help these students!



We also are looking for volunteers who can assist the students learn more basic English language skills. No prior experience is needed (you'll have on-the-job training). Please talk to Corina for more information, and to begin to know some wonderful, dedicated and interesting people who are working hard to learn English.

## Our Wider Community



**Interfaith Council of Murrieta  
& Temecula Valley**  
*invites you to attend*  
**World & Community Religions  
Lecture Series**

*Free to the public*

41870 Kalmia St., Suite 110, Murrieta, CA

**Tuesday, November 15 7:00 to 9:00 pm**

**"Women's Rights in Islam"**

Presenter: Dr. Ali Salem

1 hour lecture, followed by Q/A

***Future Lecture Series Topics:***

**11/22/11 "The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)  
and His Treatment of Non-Muslims"**

Presented by Br. Asif Balbale

**11/29/11 "Islam and Human Rights:  
Myths and Realities"**

Presented by Dr. Ahlam Mohtaseb



**Riverside County Regional Park  
& Open Space District and the  
Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation**  
present the 3rd Annual

## **Family Wildlife Day**

**Saturday, November 5, 2011**

10:30 am—3:00 pm at the

### **Santa Rosa Ecological Reserve**

39400 Clinton Keith Rd., Murrieta

951-677-6951 [www.srpf.org](http://www.srpf.org)

*Presentations all day long*

Adults \$3, Children (2-12) \$2, Under 2 Free

*Refreshments available for purchase*

The Santa Rosa Plateau Foundation raises money to make sure that every 3rd grader in the valley is given the opportunity to visit the plateau. They provide transportation and a docent. Nature classes are also available. UCV member Dean Newell volunteers every week for this.

The Santa Rosa Plateau

Foundation is a strong  
supporter of the Children &

Nature Network. The vision and mission is to increase  
awareness about the importance of nature in today's  
youth. Browse their website

([www.childrenandnature.org](http://www.childrenandnature.org)) to learn more about their  
program and what they have to offer your family.



## Monthly Book Discussion Group

**Saturday, November 19**

from 9:30 to 11 am

at **The Community House**

24973 Washington



The following books have been selected for  
the next three months. Read them and join us for  
discussion!

November 19: ***Top Secret America*** by Dana Priest

December 17: ***Making Our Democracy Work***  
by Stephan Bryer

January 21: ***In the Garden of Beasts*** by Erik Larson

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their tables. Every Friday morning they dispense food – if you are interested in volunteering time to help the pantry please contact me at [revjoe@unitedchurchofthevalley.org](mailto:revjoe@unitedchurchofthevalley.org).

Of course, harvest time is also time to submit pledges for the following year. The original Biblical tithe predates coined currency, and asks the landowners of Israel to leave 10 percent of their harvest behind for the poor to come and collect. For over 4,000 years, the fall has been a season of generosity, and at UCV we appreciate and are grateful for the generosity of so many people doing their best to show others the love that God shows them. Thank you and God bless.

Your servant,  
Rev. Joe Zarro



Have you visited our website lately? We now have a new site under development—and would appreciate your feedback. You can view the new site at either [www.unitedchurchofthevalley.org](http://www.unitedchurchofthevalley.org) OR via our alternate (and shorter) URL : [www.ucvchurch.org](http://www.ucvchurch.org). Check it out!

**NOVEMBER YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:**

*Middle and High School Youth meet at The Community House or other designated location most Sundays during the school year. Invite youth you know to join us!*

The Following are dates and events for November: Please note times and locations of meetings. Some locations and times have changed for this month.

**Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>** – Youth Group Meeting at Rev. Joe's 5 – 7 p.m. I can take any youth who would like come.

**Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>** – Tamale Making Event – at the Wolfes' home. 4 – 7 p.m. Come help prepare tamales for our annual Christmas Bazaar sale. We will have some tamales for dinner too.

**Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>** – "Night of Gratitude" service by the Interfaith Council at 7 p.m.

Parents and siblings are invited to join us for dinner and the service. Youth are asked to "Dress Up" for this special occasion. Also remember to bring \$\$ (about \$10.00) for dinner. The service will be at the LDS church near the Promenade Mall in Temecula. We will be going to dinner at one of the restaurants in that area.

**Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> – NO YOUTH GROUP MEETING – THANKSGIVING WEEKEND.**

Everyone should have their **2012 God's Creations** wall and pocket calendars to sell now. If you do not please let me know or if you need extra. This is one of our annual fundraiser so SELL, SELL, SELL! These make great Christmas gifts for everyone.

Contact: Corina Wolfe [clucya@yahoo.com](mailto:clucya@yahoo.com) (909) 519-8087 for more information.

**Youth Report to the Congregation**

On Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> the youth group participated again in the Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in Temecula. We had a small team this year but it was still a fun and worthy cause to support every year to celebrate our own survivors and to honor those we have lost.

We also had a small Good-bye brunch for Brittany on Sunday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> after the Race for the Cure. Brittany's parents hosted the brunch and we had 7 youth attend and a few church members

On Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> the youth went to Riley's Apple farm in Yucaipa. Unfortunately the apple picking was not very "fruitful" since the orchard had a bad season this year and the crops weren't as abundant. We still had a great time walking around the farm and participating in a few tries in archery, knife throwing and sampling some apple cider. Some of the youth also found some pumpkins at the small pumpkin patch on the farm. It was a lot of fun since many of us had never been up to the farm.

The **God's Creations—2012** wall calendars and pocket calendars have arrived. Please visit the youth table to purchase your calendars now since they go fast. They make great gifts for friends, families and coworkers. Only \$7.00 for the wall calendar which provide a lot of space for writing notes and we now have this year pocket/purse calendars with a notepad for only \$5.00. This is one of our annual fund raisers so please help support the youth by buying your 2012 calendars from any youth. They have several to sell to you.



**Equal Exchange merchandise** is offered for sale every Sunday morning. We have just restocked a large selection of coffee, cocoa, tea, almonds, and chocolate available - as well as handcrafted items from Nicaragua! Come by and see what looks good and help support Youth Ministries.

Remember the youth are **recycling your CRV marked cans and bottles**. Don't forget to bring them at the end of each month.



**Peppermint Ridge** Empowering Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Since 1959

**2011 Love Walk**  
1K/5K Fun Walk  
**Saturday, Nov. 5**  
Sign In: 9am Start: 10am

Crossroads Church 2331 Kellogg Avenue, Corona  
**Contact Tracy Mauser today!**  
**951-273-7329** [www.lovewalk.org](http://www.lovewalk.org)

## Our Wider Church & Community



### **SCNC-UCC Southern Association Fall Meeting: "Global Ministries and the UCC"**

- Donna Richards

I attended the Southern Association fall meeting this past month. The program was about Global Ministries, presented by Revs. Gaye and John Buttrick. The two have observed Palestine with the United Nations. They showed pictures of how detrimental Israel's occupation is to the people of Palestine. They gave us letters to send to our US Senators and Representatives. Donna will have copies of letters placed on the table by the camp board. There is also a Sabeel (a Palestinian Christian peace organization) statement about the dilemmas and opportunities facing the Palestinian people, information about several Israeli peace groups whom these people met and suggested resources for Palestine and Israel. Clearly, it is an area in the world where peace and justice is desperately needed.

The 2012 budget for the Association was presented. There were many cuts to make it balance. Sadly, Palomar Cedars Camp – a rustic campground on Palomar Mountain owned by our Southern California Nevada Conference – will be sold. The next Association meeting will be in February. Contact Donna or Beth if you would like to represent UCV.

Donna and Marcia Willoughby also attended an information meeting for the UCC General Synod which will be held in Long Beach in June of 2013. They are looking for about 300 volunteers, financial support, and cookies. Watch for more information after the 1st of the year.

### **A DAY IN SAN DIEGO**

- Bob & Carol Wyatt

On Saturday morning, October 22, we drove to San Diego to attend the Pacific Southwest Regional Assembly of the Disciples of Christ at University Christian Church. It was a time to see old friends, make new ones, discuss church issues, and be inspired by liturgical drama, praise music, and interesting speakers. Several members from the United Church of Christ were also in attendance. The theme for the day was "Deeper Roots, Higher Reach" taken from Ephesians 3:14-19.

In bringing us the "State of the Region" address, our Regional Pastors Don Dewey and Susan Gonzales-Dewey spoke to us about the importance of listening to each other, honoring our differences, loving our neighbors, and sharing the Word of God as we deepen our roots in God's love. The four Regional goals they set before us were:

- To become one church, pro-reconciling, anti-divisive
- To be a missional church, reaching out to community
- To be developing vital, healthy congregations
- To be a well-organized Region in order to share information with churches

Guest speaker David Shiley challenged us as individual churches to build relationships by listening to each other without judgment and building trust. He spoke of building "bridges" to bring new people to church by inviting them to social or mission events where they can be introduced to church in an informal and unthreatening way. He encouraged pastors to equip their members to invite new people.

Our small group discussion centered around things our churches do best, where we need to improve, and what we would like to do to help. Since we are entering our Stewardship phase at UCV, we would like to see a deeper commitment of members in church attendance, financial support, and sharing of time and talents. We encourage you to be in prayer about this as we make our commitments to United Church of the Valley for 2012.



**From the SCNC Pilgrim Pines Board of Directors:** Like many camps around the country, Pilgrim Pines is in deep economic trouble. While the camp's financial situation has been precarious for many years, we are now at a **crisis point**. We have exhausted the possibilities for borrowing more money, we are not able to meet the debt burden of the camp, and we continue to have greater expenses than revenue.

The question before us all is: "**Will Pilgrim Pines survive?**" It is a tragedy that many camps and retreat centers across the country have ceased to exist despite long and deeply meaningful services to their loyal constituencies. If we fail to navigate through the current storms we too may have to close. But we pray and work and hope that we will survive, and we believe it is possible

In this extreme crisis we need help from all friends of Pilgrim Pines, especially crisis financial contributions to meet the current year's necessary obligations. Any size of tax-deductible gift would be welcomed, and your board is beginning with our own contributions. Please mail your contributions to Pilgrim Pines Camp, 39570 Glen Road, Yucaipa, CA 92399 in order for your full gift to be received immediately. Or, you may follow this link to give online (<https://www.justgive.org/basket?acton=donate&ein=95-6134975>), and be sure to type "Pilgrim Pines" in the "Designate my donation" section.

**[Ed. Note: Gifts may also be made through UCV. Mark your checks: Pilgrim Pines]**

**UCV Church Moderator's Report:  
THE 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER—November 2011**

This has been an extremely full year and as we enter the fourth quarter we face some challenges as well as amazing opportunities. Just look at the church calendar and you can't help but get excited. Look at this wonderful newsletter and the programs and missions of the United Church of the Valley. Come to Sunday services and hear our pastor, choir, church members and many speakers who celebrate the joy and love of a still speaking God.

Now, let's talk about the challenges. Obviously the budget is an ongoing concern. After the stewardship campaign, a special budget committee will deliberate and in December present a budget to the church council for review and adoption. It will then be presented to the church membership before the annual meeting in January for a final approval. Having been through this experience before, I can tell you that it is simultaneously a great source of anxiety and an even greater spiritual reward. We don't approach this as a burden but as a gift where we get to experience grace and God's presence.

We are a small church but we do big things. It doesn't happen because some individual comes in and saves the day but because we show up and are present and pay attention and we do it in community and emphasize respect and love. During this beautiful season of fall and Advent we will come together and witness first-hand the miracles that come from being present with others to "do good and fight evil".

*Join Ann Marie Marquez in a  
public awareness presentation*

**Thursday, November 17th - 7:00 pm**  
at The Community House

**GMO Roulette-**

**How do genetically modified foods (GMOs)  
impact you, your family, and the world?**

- ◆ Learn what GMOs are and why they are being created
- ◆ Discover why this topic is so important
- ◆ Gather tools you'll need to make informed choices

***It's the most wonderful time of the year—***  
and filled with some exciting activities and events.

Here are a few of them through December 2011:  
*(Watch for details in weekly service bulletins, on our website & calendar—[www.ucvchurch.org](http://www.ucvchurch.org)—and in next month's newsletter)*

**Nov. 19 (Saturday): Christmas Bazaar Workshop**  
at The Community House. We will put together Moravian Christmas stars and gift items for the bazaar.

**Nov. 20 (Sunday): [Celebrate 'Extravagant Welcome' with Friend-Raising Sunday!](#)**


*If you invite them, they will come!*

We are participating in the UCC's nationwide [Each One Bring One Sunday](#), asking each UCV member to invite co-worker(s), family member(s) or friend(s) to join you for a day of fellowship and worship! On this Sunday:

- Our monthly **Fellowship Meal**—(Details in the next few weeks—ask Corina how you can help)
- All-church **Christmas photo** for Christmas Card to be sent to all UCV Friends and Family. This is a UCV tradition and is a good way to keep in touch with church friends and family. We will have extra cards at the Christmas Bazaar.
- **Special Food Pantry Collection** for Thanksgiving.

**Nov. 27 (Sunday - tentative) "Hanging of the Greens" & Workday** at The Community House

**Dec. 4 (Sunday) Choir Cantata LoveFeast**

**Dec. 10 (Saturday) Christmas Candy Tubes** -   
Please save your bathroom tissue tubes to be used for the candy packages we give to the Food Pantry clients. We need 200 this year. Contributions of small wrapped candies and wrapping paper are also needed.

**Dec. 11 (Sunday) Bell Sunday**

**Dec. 11 and 18: Christmas Bazaar!** We need donations of handmade items and food to sell at our annual bazaar after worship. Contact Kathy Linsley for details.

**Dec. 12 (Monday) Las Posadas/UCV Christmas party—** a time to celebrate with our Homework Club and English Class families.

**Dec. 18 (Sunday) Children's Christmas Pageant**

**Treats for the Table & Flowers**

Please help us to fill up every Sunday, by signing your name on the list at the back of the worship hall.



## SAVE THE DATE!

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

We're calling on members to show their United Church of the Valley spirit in a holiday tradition. We are well known in this community for our fun-loving marching **Kazoo and Handbell** unit that marches in the **Murrieta Holiday Magic Parade** each year. More details will be forthcoming - but be sure to put **Saturday December 3** on your calendar! No past experience is required. We get together a couple hours before the parade at the Community House to learn simple music, and we then enjoy some pizza. Lynne will not be able to direct us this year—but we are hoping the youth will take charge. An additional rehearsal may also be scheduled. Details are not yet known, but the parade is usually around 5:00.

## Casting Call

### Looking for musical talent—

Children and youth are invited to “jam” with the minister to help create a unique Christmas Pageant this year.

We would like to get more youth involved - but need to know where the talents are. Can your son or daughter play drums? Guitar? Piano? Band or orchestra instrument? Would your child like to sing a special song?



**Please contact** Pastor Joe, Lynne Bradley or Beth Elwood to let us know what talents are hidden in our midst. **EVERY child** will have a role in the Christmas pageant!

**Homework Club has begun!** We are offering homework assistance on Mondays from 2:15-3:30 (Murrieta schools' early release days) and would like to offer on Tuesday & Wednesday from 3:15-4:30, as we did last year - **BUT we do not have enough volunteers!** Our students are eager and want to learn! Please give some prayerful consideration to being a mentor in helping a child develop good work habits and understanding - which will be a base for them to grow into successful students and confident adults! Both adults or high school students are encouraged to make this your mission. Contact Beth or Joe if you want to know more about sharing your time and care.



### Small Group Study

UCV currently has two small group studies, open to anyone who wishes to join in discussion and perhaps is seeking to renew or refresh your mind. Come join us!

**Tuesdays 9:30 am - Lectionary Bible Study**

at The Community House

**Tuesdays 7:00 pm - Book discussion**, meeting at members' homes. (See weekly bulletin for location.)

Currently studying **The Illuminated Life** by Joan Chittister. We welcome anyone would like to join our discussion...it's OK if you have not done the reading. The book can be ordered through amazon.com.

Contact Nita for more information 951-805-3039.

### Patchwork Cross Banner

Donna Richards is collecting 6 inch cotton squares for a quilted cross patchwork wall hanging. You are invited to bring patches of fabric that have special meaning to you or your spiritual life - or just something that you like. There will be a quilting party at Donna's home to put it all together. Look for a box on the back table by the camping board to place your squares.



## Building Faith in our Community

Please join us on **Monday, November 7th from 12-1pm** for a

### Faith Luncheon

*hosted by Habitat for Humanity Inland Valley*

Find out how Habitat can help our church and congregants and learn how to get involved in Habitat's housing ministry. Together we can make a difference in our community!

Please RSVP to Sara at 951-296-3362 or [sara@habitat4inlandvalley.org](mailto:sara@habitat4inlandvalley.org)

## Community Contributions Renewal Time

UCV receives contributions from Ralphs, Vons and Pavilions supermarkets - based on our participants grocery purchases - **but you must register your club cards** to designate **us** as the recipient. This is a budgeted income for our church, and a way for you (and your friends) to make contributions to our operating and mission expenses **WITHOUT** having to spend anything more than what you already do on your food and other purchases.

### Ralphs Rewards:

RALPH'S COMMUNITY CARD NEW TERM  
REGISTRATION BEGAN ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

In order for UCV to receive contributions from Ralphs supermarkets - based on our participants grocery purchases - Ralphs Rewards members must re-register their cards each year. Go to [www.Ralphs.com](http://www.Ralphs.com), (Go to bottom of home page: Services - Community Contribution - Participant "Enroll". Create an account, or confirm your enrollment through your profile. If it doesn't show United Church of the Valley, type in our number: **82905**, and save.) If you need assistance, or don't have computer access, Debbie Hudson can help you sign up after worship on Sunday morning.



### eScrip (& Vons)

**You must renew your Vons club participation by November 1**

Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). If you **participated** last year, click on **"YES RENEW!"** Enter your phone number, email, or Club Card number. If you are **new** to the program, click on **"1-Sign Up"**. Our group ID is **500003781** (or **United Church of the Valley**, if by name). Follow the instructions online. Register your **Vons** or **Pavilions** Club Card **and credit cards** for UCV to receive **up to 10%** of your purchase price at many stores and restaurants. (Information is secure.) Be sure to check out the **Dining Rewards** from the main page, or go to <http://escrip.rewardsnetwork.com>.



## Stewardship Message

- Austin Linsley

On Sunday, October 23, 2011, we began our annual stewardship campaign. This week we discussed the church we want to have next year, with an eye on the church we want to have in five years. We discussed staffing, facilities, and programs. Next week we estimate how much each of these churches will cost. On Sunday, November 6, we explore what each of us needs to do if we are going to have a church next year and five years from now. The stewardship campaign concludes Sunday, November 13, when pledges are formally made, that is, when pledge cards are collected.

My goal is to give every member and friend of the United Church of the Valley a chance to make an informed decision about his or her role in the financial life of this church. We all need to know what it will take to succeed. I'm pretty sure there is a connection between the financial and spiritual health of this organization. It is hard to talk about because we don't keep our checkbooks and bibles in the same psychological desk drawer. However, for the next couple of weeks I hope you will open both your checkbook and your bible at the same time. There is a ledger that connects them. See if it balances.

**Keep this part** \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
**FOR YOUR RECORDS**

With others in the congregation of **United Church of the Valley**, I/we plan to give the following financial support for the ministries of the church beginning **JANUARY 2012**:  
*(NOTE: This amount is for our church's budgeted mission spending plan (general operating expenses) and should NOT include intended special mission offerings, building fund or Community House gifts.)*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  each week  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  each month  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

For an annual total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR CHURCH RECORDS** *(Please return this portion)*

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST Zip \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning **JANUARY 2012**, I/We plan to give

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  each week  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  each month For an **annual total** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to the church financial secretary.

I/We want to support our church, but are unable to make a pledged commitment at this time.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



*Partners in Christ's Service - at United Church of the Valley*

	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 27
	<b>All Saints Sunday</b>	<b>Stewardship Sunday</b>	<b>Friend-Raising Sunday</b>	<b>1st Sunday in Advent</b>
<b>Treats for the Table</b>	Archie Aitcheson & Florence Wolfe			Jo & Craig Heidman 30th Anniversary
<b>Flowers</b>	Archie Aitcheson & Florence Wolfe	Don Benedict		Beth & Larry Elwood in honor of Valerie's & Bryan's Birthdays
<b>Stone Ministry</b>	Debbie Hudson	Sara Zarro	Sherry & Michael Turner	Larry Elwood
<b>Ushers</b>	The Harris Family	Steve Falgout & Archie Aitcheson	Carol & Bob Wyatt	Andrea & Gerry Nicholas
<b>Special Offering or Ministry</b>			Community House	<i>Coins, Recycling &amp; Birthday Bank</i>

*There are many opportunities for each of us to be a part of the worship experience at United Church of the Valley!  
How can you serve? Please call the church office or sign your name on the board on Sunday.*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



### Happy Birthday

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>NOV 3</b> Anne Crutchfield | <b>NOV 23</b> Valerie Elwood  |
| <b>NOV 7</b> Dee Nagle        | <b>NOV 26</b> Kara Richards   |
| <b>NOV 13</b> Jesse Thomas    | <b>NOV 28</b> Kathryn Barnett |
| <b>NOV 16</b> Kirsten Turner  | <b>NOV 30</b> Bryan Elwood    |
| <b>NOV 17</b> Sean Barnett    | <b>NOV 30</b> Sherry Turner   |
| <b>NOV 21</b> Dean Newell     |                               |



### Lunch Bunch Locations

- Nov 6 Mimi's Cafe**  
40825 Winchester Rd, Tem
- Nov 13 Hungry Bull**  
40476 Murrieta Hot Springs Rd
- Nov 20 All- Church Fellowship Meal**  
Friend-Raising Sunday  
River Springs Center
- Nov 27 Olive Garden**  
29025 Overland Dr, Temecula

*All are invited after worship on Sunday morning!  
See **Marcia Willoughby** for more information*

### Happy Anniversary

- NOV 22** Paul & Carol Thompson  
**NOV 27** Jo & Craig Heidman (30)

*Contact Beth to make sure we recognize you on your special day!*  
951-698-1520  
Beth@  
unitedchurchofthevalley.org

### UCV CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 517, Murrieta, CA 92564-0517

**Sunday Worship:** 41866 Kalmia St, Murrieta (River Springs Charter School, in The Courtyards)

**Church Phone:** 951-698-1520 (Office at The Community House, 24973 Washington Ave.)

**Office Email:** admin@unitedchurchofthevalley.org

**News:** newsletter@unitedchurchofthevalley.org

**Pastor:** Joe Zarro RevJoe@unitedchurchofthevalley.org Blog: revjoezarro.wordpress.com

**Moderator:** Kathy Linsley

kathy@unitedchurchofthevalley.org





On **November 6**, we will remember the "**Saints of UCV**" in our worship service. Following are the members of our fellowship who have joined the great communion of Saints in heaven. (*Listed alphabetically*) Bold text indicates those who have passed since our last All Saints recognition.

## Worship at UCV

- Susan Stillings, Worship Chair

October has been a month of busy Sundays. On October 9, Fr. John Forney, a leader in the Inland Valley chapters of Progressive Christians Uniting presided over the service and presented a very thought-provoking sermon on what being a progressive Christian means to him. The next week Hadi Nael of the Islamic Center of Temecula Valley shared with us the hopes, dreams and struggles of the local Islam community as they attempt to build a Mosque. Later in the service Austin Lindsey alerted us to the upcoming Stewardship Campaign; and during the service of the last two Sundays in October, he challenged our members to reflect upon their vision of The United Church of the Valley and by what financial means the vision can be realized. Kudos go to the members of the choir for the wonderful music they provided and to and Sherry Turner and Lorian Dunlop for stepping in and rehearsing and directing the choir during Lynne Bradley's recovery.

November marks the final three "ordinary" Sundays of the liturgical calendar and the beginning of Advent. Green of ordinary times will be continued to be the colors featured in the altar and lectern decorations. However, "Heads Up!" on November 20 - a beautiful new decoration for the lectern and a stole for Joe will make their debut, thanks to generous anonymous donations by members of our parish family. The last Sunday in November begins the season of Advent, with its special music and colors of blue and purple. Again keep your eyes open for new sights in and about the altar.

One more time, thanks goes out to members who have contributed to the worship services during September and October. The sign up for flowers and ushering has been very supportive. Please keep up the good work.

We can always use more hands and more ideas. Anyone who would care to join the Worship Committee please let me know. 951-461-4941 or [stillings@verizon.net](mailto:stillings@verizon.net).

Lois T. Aitcheson	Joined UCV 9/25/01	Died 6/27/04
Louise Balsiger	Joined UCV 1/21/07	Died 5/27/07
Richard Brown	Joined UCV 2/13/94	Died 11/20/09
Alice J. Cojerean	Joined UCV 10/21/97	Died 4/14/10
John F. Cotton	Joined UCV 9/30/98	Died 4/14/10
Frank Cross	Joined UCV 1/23/94	Died 2/18/01
Floyd Jack Frost	Joined UCV 1/17/05	Died 8/31/06
Jordan Michael Greer	Church School Student	Died 9/9/03
Russell Greer	Joined UCV 7/17/05	Died 2/13/10
James Hein	Joined UCV 9/18/94	Died 3/20/02
Ilarae Hamrick	Joined UCV 2/5/06	Died 8/14/10
<b>Virginia Jacobsen</b>	<b>Joined UCV 11/15/99</b>	<b>Died 8/1/11</b>
Chas. Koehler	Friend since 2006	Died 1/21/09
Kathryn Luhring	Joined UCV 1/30/94	Died 8/25/06
Corinne Lunzer	Joined UCV 1/23/94	Died 11/10/00
Walter Lunzer	Joined UCV 1/23/94	Died 3/5/10
Joan McGee	Joined UCV 11/15/99	Died 11/21/07
Helen Newell	Joined UCV 4/9/95	Died 4/27/06
<b>Rita D. Park</b>	<b>Joined UCV 1/11/02</b>	<b>Died 7/16/11</b>
Adriana Pastoor van Mil	Joined UCV 7/26/95	Died 8/17/01
Wesley Pierson	Joined UCV 2/27/94	Died 12/23/07
Beth L. Pollard	Joined UCV 2/23/01	Died 5/30/07
Edward J. Pollard	Joined UCV 2/23/01	Died 8/31/09
Stephen Rhoads	Joined UCV 3/6/94	Died 3/7/99
Herb "Bud" Schneider	Joined UCV 10/13/04	Died 4/22/08
Marie Schneider	Joined UCV 10/13/04	Died 6/10/08
Betty Seemann	Joined UCV 9/25/94	Died 3/29/09
Scott St. Clair	Joined UCV 2/20/94	Died 6/17/98
Elizabeth Ann Shaw	Joined UCV 1/15/99	Died 4/19/03
Betty P. Smith	Joined UCV 1/23/94	Died 3/1/04
Grace Temple	Joined UCV 1/12/01	Died 4/28/10
Bonnie Thomas	Joined UCV 5/24/09	Died 3/24/10
Richard M. Trevor	Joined UCV 10/30/97	Died 4/15/99
Fran Wetzler	Joined UCV 2/10/05	Died 10/29/10
Dean Wolfe	Joined UCV 4/14/96	Died 12/6/05

# United Church of the Valley

## NOVEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>30</p>  <p><b>Reformation Sunday</b> 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sunday School</b> 11:15 AM Tintinnabulators Rehearsal 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 4:00 PM - 7:30 PM <b>Pumpkin Glow</b> 7:30 PM <i>Sunday AA</i></p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM <b>Homework Club</b></p>	<p>1</p> <p><b>All Saints Day</b> 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM <b>Lectionary Bible Study</b> 7:00 PM Tuesday Night Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM AA <i>Men</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Cantata &amp; Choir Rehearsal</b></p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM <b>Peace Vigil</b></p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM AA <b>STEP Program</b> 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM <b>Family Wildlife Day</b></p>
<p>6</p>  <p><b>All Saints Sunday</b> Daylight-Saving Time Ends 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sunday School</b> 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM <b>Cantata Rehearsal</b> 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM <b>Youth Group</b> 7:30 PM <i>Sunday AA</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM <b>Homework Club</b> 7:00 PM English Learners Class</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM <b>Lectionary Bible Study</b> 7:00 PM Tuesday Night Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM AA <i>Men (Meal)</i></p>	<p>10</p>  <p><b>CAN-TA-TA REHEARSALS</b> 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM <b>Interfaith Council</b> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Cantata &amp; Choir Rehearsal</b></p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Veterans Day</b> 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM <b>Peace Vigil</b></p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM AA <b>STEP Program</b></p>
<p>13</p>  <p><b>STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</b> 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sunday School</b> 11:15 AM Tintinnabulators Rehearsal 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM <b>Youth Group - Tamale Party</b> 7:30 PM <i>Sunday AA</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM <b>Homework Club</b> 7:00 PM English Learners Class</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM <b>Lectionary Bible Study</b> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Church Council</b> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Interfaith World Religion Lecture</b> 7:00 PM Tuesday Night Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM AA <i>Men</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Cantata &amp; Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:00 PM <b>GMO Presentation</b></p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM <b>AA Board Meeting</b> 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM <b>Peace Vigil</b></p>	<p>19</p>  <p><b>Christmas Bazaar Workshop</b> 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM AA <b>STEP Program</b> 9:30 AM <b>Book Discussion Group</b></p>
<p>20</p>  <p><b>Friend-Raising Sunday</b> 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sunday School</b> 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM <b>All-Church Fellowship Lunch</b> 7:00 PM <b>Interfaith Night of Gratitude</b> 7:30 PM <i>Sunday AA</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM English Learners Class</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM <b>Lectionary Bible Study</b> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Cantata &amp; Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Interfaith World Religion Lecture</b> 7:00 PM Tuesday Night Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM AA <i>Men</i></p>	<p>24</p>  <p><b>Thanksgiving Day</b> 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM <b>Peace Vigil</b></p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM AA <b>STEP Program</b></p>
<p>27</p>  <p><b>Advent</b> <b>TCH Workday</b> 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM <b>Worship &amp; Sunday School</b> 11:15 AM Tintinnabulators Rehearsal 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch 7:30 PM <i>Sunday AA</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM <b>Homework Club</b> 7:00 PM English Learners Class</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM <b>Lectionary Bible Study</b> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Cantata &amp; Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Interfaith World Religion Lecture</b> 7:00 PM Tuesday Night Study</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM AA <i>Men</i></p>	<p>1</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM <b>Cantata &amp; Choir Rehearsal</b> 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM <b>Choir Rehearsal</b></p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 AM - 8:00 AM <i>Morning AA</i> 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM <b>Peace Vigil</b></p>	<p>3</p>  <p><b>Holiday Magic Parade</b> 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM AA <b>STEP Program</b></p>

Please check weekly worship bulletin and website for updates

*Some Good News from*  
**The United Church of the Valley**  
A United Church of Christ and  
Disciples of Christ Congregation  
**PO Box 517**  
**Murrieta, CA 92564-0517**



*Church Office & Weekday Activities at*

### **The Community House**

24973 Washington Avenue  
951-698-1520

[www.unitedchurchofthevalley.org](http://www.unitedchurchofthevalley.org)

**Rev. Joe Zarro, Pastor**

[revjoe@unitedchurchofthevalley.org](mailto:revjoe@unitedchurchofthevalley.org)

**Lynne C. Bradley,**

Director of Music Ministries

[lynneb@unitedchurchofthevalley.org](mailto:lynneb@unitedchurchofthevalley.org)

**Rev. Dr. Randall A. Leisey,**

Minister Emeritus

**Beth Elwood, Administrative Secretary**

[beth@unitedchurchofthevalley.org](mailto:beth@unitedchurchofthevalley.org)

**Sherry Turner, Financial Secretary**

[sherry@unitedchurchofthevalley.org](mailto:sherry@unitedchurchofthevalley.org)

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, or prefer an electronic version, please contact the church office.

**Address Correction Requested**

#### WHERE WE WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS:

Worship and Children's Sunday School begin at 10 a.m. every Sunday at River Springs Charter School, 41866 Kalmia, in Murrieta

From Interstate 15: Take the Kalmia/California Oaks exit in Murrieta and go west for about 1/4 mile.

After crossing Adams St., turn left into The Courtyards. Parking is in front and behind the complex (accessible ramp entrance in back).

From Interstate 215: Take the Clinton Keith Exit in Murrieta and go west. Turn left at the light onto California Oaks.

Continue on Cal Oaks about 1/4 mile past Interstate 15. After crossing Adams St., turn left into The Courtyards.

### **FOOD PANTRY—THANKSGIVING MEALS**

This year the following items have been requested for Thanksgiving meal bags for the patrons of The Food Pantry at United Methodist Church.

- **Instant potatoes**
- **Canned sweet potatoes**
- **Canned pineapple or other fruit**
- **Package of small marshmallows**
- **Hot Chocolate Mix**
- **Any other canned or package food item**

MEALS FOR



THANKSGIVING

You may pick up a Community House Shopping bag on Sunday morning to do your shopping, and then return the canned and packaged goods in a paper bag—keeping the blue cloth bag for yourself as a thank you gift! Thanksgiving meal bags need to be returned by **Sunday, November 20.**

Everyone is also asked to bring extra food on that day to help stock the Food Pantry for weekly distribution.



### **Night of Gratitude**

The Community Thanksgiving service is set for **Sunday, November 20th at 7:00 pm** at the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints** in Temecula. The address is **29658 North General Kearny Road**. This annual event is coordinated through the Interfaith Council. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening full of thanksgiving and friendship. *(See front page for additional information.)*