

OCTOBER 2024

The Messenger

First United Methodist Church of Riverside
4845 Brockton Ave. Riverside, CA 92506

The Grace of Giving

By Mary Herrmann,
Stewardship chair



Dear First Church Family and Friends:

In January, the Rev. Jaeman Lim, UMC retired pastor, gave the sermon "Do You Like M&M's?" Of course he did not mean the famous chocolate candy, but the M&M of Ministry and Mission.

"I believe that the most basic thing to accomplish the Mission is simply to invite neighbors to our church," he said. "You must invite everyone, whether they are young, old, rich or poor, man or woman, any nationality or background, to this church without hesitation. Because you never know if that person will come to Christ, and the multitude of others that may come to know Christ because of them through you. When did you invite your friends to this church?"

I am convinced that it is the good works of our church that make us so attractive to visitors and new members. Because of you, FUMCOR is flourishing.

Thank you for your volunteer time and talents as well as your ongoing donations of money that keep this church operating. Our missions, activities and events are detailed in *The Messenger* every month. They regularly include partnerships that provide shelter and food to families in need, school supplies at the Bye Bye Summer Bash, supplies for the HOPE Room at Wesley UMC, hygiene items for immigrants, snack bags for the homeless; annual Vacation Bible School for elementary students, youth fellowship that builds trust and community, visits to the homebound to raise spirits. Your donations also help pay the bills for the upkeep of our large church campus, maintain our business operation, and meet our \$54,754 connectional apportionment contribution to the UMC.

This year's Stewardship theme is "The Grace of Giving." The Apostle Paul tells us that we fall in love with money too easily. Money brings with it a challenge to use it as a tool for growing in compassion and faith.

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First United

Methodist Church
of Riverside

Ways to Give...

(Cont. from page 1)

To learn faithfulness, we must learn to give. In the end we will be remembered for not what we own, but for what we do. Good and generous hearts build lives worth living.

October is FUMCOR's Stewardship Month:

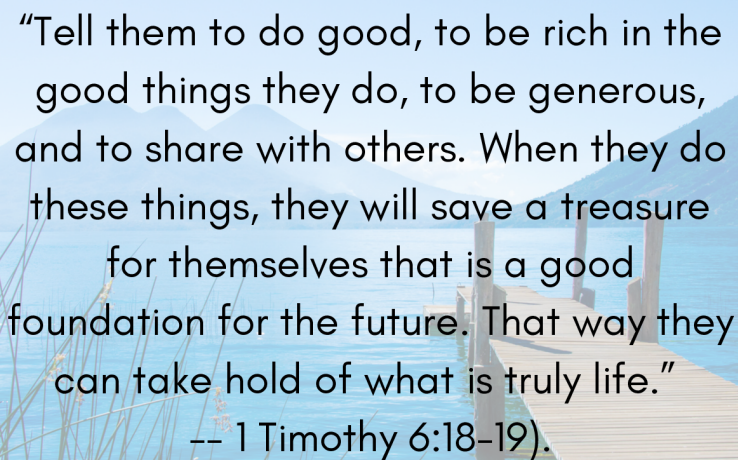
- Pastor Kim will hold an evening Zoom Bible study on "The Grace of Giving" in October.
- On Oct. 13, Pastor Kim will preach Stewardship Sermon #1.
- Commitment Sunday is Oct. 27, and Pastor Kim will preach Stewardship Sermon #2.

But frankly, we practice Stewardship all year long.

Stewardship is about building our personal relationships with God and Jesus, and the Blessings and Joy we receive from that relationship. God loves and gives; we love and give.

Look for your pledge letter in the mail and return it in any way you choose, by mail, in the church offering plate or electronically.

Love and Blessings,
Mary Herrmann



"Tell them to do good, to be rich in the good things they do, to be generous, and to share with others. When they do these things, they will save a treasure for themselves that is a good foundation for the future. That way they can take hold of what is truly life."
-- 1 Timothy 6:18-19).

Volunteer Opportunities

"Bless the Children" Gift Giveaway is in Motion

For six years, First UMC has partnered with Wesley UMC to provide gifts for each child in the 65 families selected for the program. We are asking for donations early so when we receive our list of families in November we can shop before the most popular items are sold out!



We are in the stage where we are collecting \$25 gift cards from Target, Walmart or Amazon so we can shop for you. A little later, we will have the names of families in case you want to buy a specific gift.

On Dec. 16 families will open their gifts at a Christmas party.

THANK YOU for helping make this holiday extra special for so many children. We have a canister in the Narthex for donations and gift cards, or you can hand them to Lee Ann on the patio after church. Contact: Lee Ann Salmon at 951 906-6452

Medicine Bottle Ministry is Ending

Thanks to Lyn and Don Knowles for a decade of dedicated service collecting medicine bottles for reuse. They are giving that project up as of Oct. 15. But they are continuing to collect eyeglasses and cases.

For ways to recycle medicine bottles, look to the pharmacies or medical clinics near you. Some of them have boxes to deposit used plastic bottles. If you want to work on a recycling ministry, let us know.





Get Set for Halloween Hop

What we need:

Candy for the trick or treat portion of the event. NO Peanut candy, because of allergies.

Drop it off at the church office before the event. Any questions? Call Kelly Weakly 951-203-8098

Ghouls, goblins, superheroes and hobos will be out to dance the night away from 5 to 7 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 27, at the annual Halloween Hop.

All ages are welcome to dance to Halloween tunes with a professional DJ or simply sit and enjoy the antics. We provide the pizza. This is a free event, and one of our church's fun traditions. Come join the party in the Fellowship Hall at 4845 Brockton Ave, Riverside.

We have flyers to hand out to neighbors. Pick those up in church. Thanks to Faith and Fellowship and the Outreach committee for all the planning that goes into this event.



Chapel Prayer Circle

On Sunday, Oct. 6, you are invited to participate in the prayer meeting in our chapel.

9:15 am – 9:45 am

Together we may:

- Sit in silence
- Bring your prayer requests
- Pray for those whose names are listed in our bulletin
- Lift up concerns of the world, community and family
- Listen for God's guidance regarding prayer concerns



Welcome Home!

It was an exciting day on Sept. 22 to welcome (from left) David Weise, Julita Nicanor, Char Nicanor Kimball, Billy Gwira, Nan Friedley, Carol Cipra, and Mandy Johnson Bottrell into our fellowship.

The next new member Sunday will be Nov. 24

If you desire to join our church as a member, please contact the church office (951) 683-7831 or Pastor Kim pastorjtkim@firstchurchriverside.org



Laitiy Sunday

Oct. 20

The lay people of the church make up the fabric of support for our missions and ministries. Our guest speaker will be from the Guatemala Project, which helps bring cleaner energy cooking into Guatemala homes. Afterward shop for gifts that will support the project.



Uplift for Youth!

Don't miss out! **SUNDAY Evenings**

**10/6 and 10/20,
5 to 6:30 pm**

in the Youth Room upstairs.

We are inviting all school-age kids and their friends!
Mark your calendars and come join us
for fun, fellowship, and pizza!



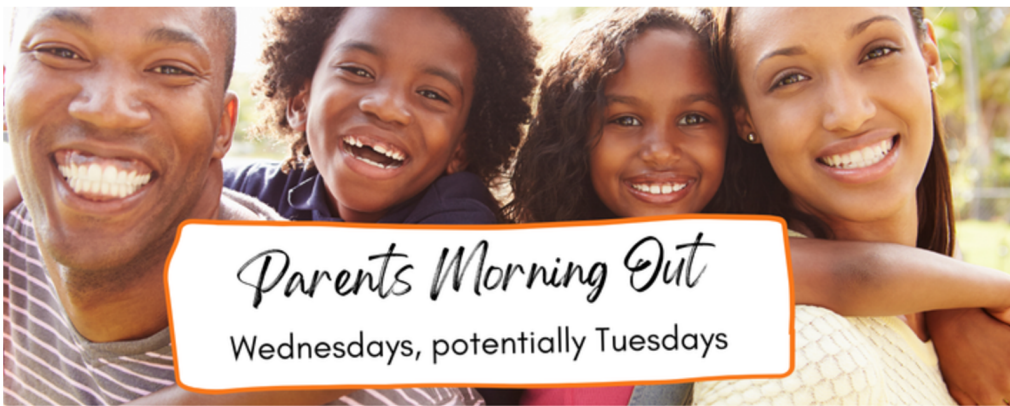
Flapjacks and fixings for FUMPS

Saturday, Oct. 19 8 to 11 am

Come join in on the yummy and fun fundraising!

Yummy flapjacks, bacon, and orange juice will be served with a smile by the First United Methodist Preschool staff and volunteers. Meet your neighbors, bring your friends, while supporting the children's preschool experience. The cost is \$5 for kids 5 and under and \$10 for adults.

FUMPS Office: 951-683-4500



Parents Morning Out

Wednesdays, potentially Tuesdays

Parents may drop off their children (ages 18 months to going into Kinder) for childcare from 9 am to 12 pm in Room 2. This is for our preschool, church, and community parents who'd like some time for themselves. Cost is \$25 per child/\$10 for two siblings.



Scan for
registration

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS
During Sunday Worship Services (10 am) our children listen, learn, and worship with adults before going to Sunday School at 10:15.



United Methodist Men

Sunday, Oct. 13



Trash Talkin' at United Methodist Men Luncheon

The United Methodist Men will host their monthly luncheon after church on Sunday, Oct 13 to engage in Trash Talk. We will explore where trash goes once it is collected from your home, why it is important to recycle, the rules of recycling, and recycling programs that may benefit you. Our speaker will be Janet Moreland, Supervising Recycling Specialist at Riverside County Department of Waste Resources.

Janet has been a proud Riverside resident since 1968. She graduated from Arlington High School, then received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing Management degree from Cal Poly Pomona, then volunteered for the department as a Certified Master Composter from 1994 to 1998. From that effort she was then hired at a Recycling Specialist. She enjoys gardening and chickens.

The United Methodist Men are continuing the weekly Prayer Breakfast, from 7 to 8 am each Friday in Mary's Kitchen. We share fellowship, faith, coffee, donuts. All men are invited to attend!



Chili is King at Empty Nesters on Oct. 19



UMM will team up with the outreach group to put on a Chili Cook off event for Empty Nesters in the Fellowship Hall at 5 pm Saturday, Oct. 19. Bring your best chili if you want to enter the contest, or just bring a side dish to share and join the fun. This is one way we invite people to come and enjoy fellowship at church. This group is geared for people who may have grown kids or no kids at all and who are looking for some company.



United Women in Faith

Welcome!

Dear women of the congregation, guests, and neighbors, we welcome you to attend our meetings, studies, and events. You may also join us on Sunday mornings in Worship at 10 am. For more information you may contact us through our new email address: unitedwomeninfaith.firstumc@yahoo.com

Events and Meetings

No Executive Meeting in October

10/10 Lunch Bunch @Lazy Dog,
380 McKinley, St., Corona - 11 am

10/10, 17, 24 Bible Study via Zoom - 6:45 pm

10/26 Serendipity (the Saturday Circle) - 10 am
Chandler Lounge

Relax with current friends and make new friends!



The United Women in Faith welcome our new women church members. You are invited to join in and attend any of our events! Women who are interested in studying scripture, breaking bread together, creating, serving, and growing in friendship and faith, (church member or not) you are welcome!

"Candle of Commitment"

This is a way we honor and/or memorialize special people. Our unit makes a donation for each honoree. Donations go to the mission work of the United Women in Faith. The Candle of Commitment is lit at the Conference Annual Meeting in October.

This year's honorees are Cindy Qualtieri, Shirley Parks, Pam Conlin, and in memory of Bessie Ridley.



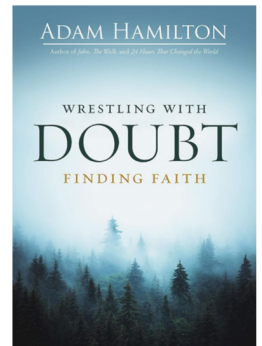
Handcrafters

It is time to start thinking about the Alternative Gift Fair on Sunday, Dec. 1. The UWF will have a table at the Fair. Do you have some handcrafted items you would like to donate to us for sale? All profits will go to our missions. Please contact Pam Conlin 951-237-5470 or Lisa Laird 951-237-7112 if you would like to donate craft items or need more information.



Bible Study Begins

Thursdays
Oct. 10th - Nov. 21
(except 10/31)
6:45 pm via Zoom



"Everyone has doubts. Where is God when bad things happen? Does God hear our prayers? Is there a heaven? How can we know? Often, we treat such questions as the enemy of faith. But uncertainty doesn't mean our belief is lacking. Doubt can be a path to a deeper, richer encounter with God."

If you are new to this study group, call: Pam Conlin 951-237-5470.

Prayers and Praises

We pray for ...

Norma Nelson, Mary Herrmann, Michael Thompson,
Jim Ashworth, Linda Rydzik, Mary Boon, Melva Cooke,
Mack Davis, John and Susan Page-Logger,
Robert and Benita Roberts, LJ Arguelles,
Yvonne Peters, Michelle Arguelles, Marge Wolter,
Margaret Berger, Chandra Roberts

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Please join with us in giving thanks for the birthdays and anniversaries in our congregation.

October Anniversaries

- 12 Tim and Dana Traver
- 19 Roy and Cheryl Riggs
- 20 David and Sarah Fraser
- 28 Jaswant and Chandra Roberts

October Birthdays

- 1 Mary Lou Kerrick
- 1 Lillian Popko
- 2 Shirley Parks
- 2 Micheline Scoggins
- 3 Melva Cooke
- 3 Norma Nelson
- 4 Kim Earhart
- 5 Rolando Arguelles
- 8 Matt Gorder
- 8 John McDonald
- 9 Steve Walker
- 11 Bev DeFrance
- 11 Barbara Spencer
- 15 Liz Jennings
- 17 Corinne Graves
- 18 Jonathon Williams
- 19 Susan Straight
- 21 Susan Tomlinson
- 21 Doris Washburn
- 23 Jim Conlin
- 24 Sabrina Gilbert
- 27 Holly Hough
- 29 Carol Cipra
- 31 Mary Mamea

**Creator God, for daily bread
and all who work
to bring your harvest home
we bring our thanks today.**

**Forgive our ingratitude
we who have so much
yet waste what you have given.**

**For those whose harvest is poor,
whose crops have withered,
water tainted, children starve,
help those who bring relief
and bestow on us
an unaccustomed generosity,
that all might share from your garden
and all might sing your praise.**

**Creator God, provider of all
we bring our thanks today.**

- Author Unknown



All thy works
with joy
surround thee,
earth and heaven
reflect thy rays,
stars and angels
sing around thee,
center of
unbroken
praise!



Special Event



Wedding Bells

Our former lay leader Mimi Luker gets married Saturday, Oct. 12 in Chicago and it will be livestreamed into the Chandler Lounge starting about 9 am. The groom's name is Dave Grimes and they grew up in the same area and live in the same retirement community. Come raise a coffee cup to the happy couple. RSVP to Lyn Knowles daselwonke@aol.com

Ongoing Events

- Chapel Prayer Meeting: 1st Sundays - 9:15 am
- Sunday Worship - 10 am
- Sunday School for Children - 10:15 am
- Sunday School for Youth - 10:15 am
- First Sundays - Holy Communion
- Third Sundays - Response Band leads Worship
- Third Sundays - Faith and Fellowship Events
- Bell Choir rehearsal - 7 pm Tuesdays
- The Response rehearsal - Wednesdays, 6:30 pm
- Aldersgate Chorale rehearsal - 7 pm Thursdays
- Men's Friday Prayer Breakfasts - 7 am

Upcoming Events

Tour with Us



Saturday, Oct. 5 -- We invite the public in to see our stained glass windows, to hear our organ and to learn a little bit more about the 152 years of our history in Riverside. The City of Riverside sponsors Doors Open Riverside from 2 pm to 7 pm at notable historic buildings around Riverside.

Sunday, Oct. 27 -- About 11:15 am, Mike Alfred will give a short tour of the stained glass windows. He will continue this over several months. Plan to stay and learn something new.

Need to Reach Us?

First United Methodist Church of Riverside
4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506
(951) 683-7831 (Mon to Fri 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
secretary@firstchurchriverside.org

Church Staff

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Gayla Lonsbery, Bell Director
belldirector@firstchurchriverside.org

Robert Phillips, Organist
organist@firstchurchriverside.org

Lisa Skiver, Preschool Director
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Jesse Ruiz, Custodial Manager
jruiz28880@aol.com

Brad Tomlinson, Campus Supervisor
bradtomlinson4@yahoo.com



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Kris meets Morticia and Gomez at the organ concert. Invite your friends, wear a costume and come hear the pipes creep and the keys creak. All money raised goes to help update the blood, muscle and sinew of the organ

Shiver to the Sounds of Halloween

By Robert Phillips, organist

At 7 o'clock on Saturday, Oct. 26, as the waning crescent moon floats eerily in the night sky like the Grim Reaper's glimmering scythe, don your favorite shroud and venture into the gathering gloom for a truly terrifying organ concert—"Creepy Pipes and Creaky Keys"—right here in our shadowy sanctuary.

In addition to perennial favorites like Johann Sebastian Bach's "Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor" and a revamped assortment of "Ghoultide Carols," you'll hear sepulchral selections requested by members of our congregation, including a "thrilling" number by Michael Jackson, a "chilling" gothic toccata, and a "distilling" of television and movie themes. You'll take a luxury cruise to the "Isle of the Dead," waltz with vampires, and accompany Modest Mussorgsky to a rather startling art exhibition. Your itinerary also features a musical nature hike that you'll never forget, provided that you survive!

If you are so inclined, come in costume! The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be accepted for the Organ Dedicated Fund.

Your generous donations continue to produce valuable results. In September, organ technician Sean O'Neal completed the labor-intensive process of replacing the brittle, decaying leather pouches on one of the two wind chests for the Great manual (the middle keyboard, sporting loud stops for congregational hymns and bombastic postludes). In the photo at top right, you can see the freshly reathered pouch rails. Sean will thoroughly tune the organ before the concert, and in November, he will reather the second Great wind chest. Then he'll tackle further projects—reather the pedal chests, replacing the disintegrating screen between the pipes and the chancel, recovering an increasingly leaky air reservoir, repairing damaged pipes, and so on.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I'll see you at the concert!

