

Expectations



News from the Garden Grove United Methodist Church
12741 Main Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840-5204

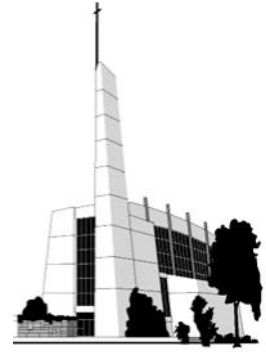
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December 2023

CHRISTMAS EVE



This year, Christmas Eve Service will be in the Sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. All our ethnic ministries - Korean, Samoa, Vietnamese - to participate in our service. A pleasant dinner to follow in Acker Hall. If you plan on coming, please share your favorite Main

Dish, Side Dish, or Dessert. Please refer to the information below for bringing a dish:

Last Names Begins with:

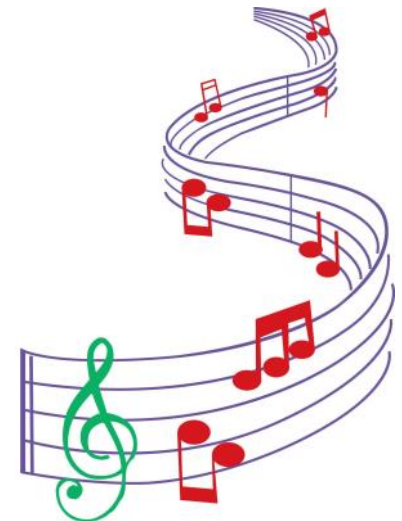
A-L = Main Dish.

M-S= Side Dish.

T-Z= Dessert.

We have found in the past we can run out of Main dishes. Bring generous portions or bring an additional side dish. We want to have plenty of food for all. We look forward to this wonderful night!

Annual Choir Christmas Concert!



*Sunday, December
10th at 6:00 p.m.*

Come one, come all to our annual Choir Christmas Concert! This year, it will take place in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 10th at 6:00 p.m. We are excited to hear the festive music of our new Choir Director, Michael Ortiz! Wassail & cookies to be served following the show! *Freewill donation is greatly appreciated.*



11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Everyone and anyone is welcome! Enjoy a hot meal served by our Samoa Ministry in Acker Hall. This Brunch is made possible through generous donations from community groups, churches, and organizations. Merry Christmas!

Expectations



Be on the lookout for the Angel Tree in the Entryway to the Sanctuary! You just choose a tag with the name of a boy or girl, the age you would like to buy a present for, and then write your name next to the name you chose on the list. Then bring your wrapped gift with the name tag from the tree attached back to the entryway and place under the Angel Tree or leave in the Church Office. Deadline to be determined soon.



ANGEL TREE

The time of Giving

Garden Grove's Annual Winter Fest!

Join the community for Winter in the Grove on Saturday, December 2nd from 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Village Green Park! The event will feature song and dance performances from local schools and performers, holiday crafts and inflatable activities for children of all ages, a holiday craft boutique featuring handmade gifts from local vendors, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus! **Please note, the city will be renting out our lot this Day and parking will be limited to those who HAVE to be here. Please do not come to the Church Campus this day if you are not needed on the church campus for any church related business.** More information about GG Winter Fest: <https://ggcity.org/community-services/winter-in-the-grove>



The Church office will be closed in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.

The office will be closed beginning Friday, December 24th through Friday January 1st.

We will re-open Monday, January 4th.

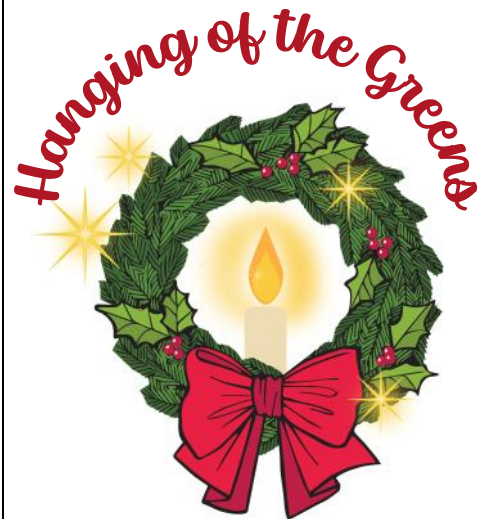
Have a Blessed Holiday Season!



Poinsettia Orders

REMINDER

Poinsettia Order forms are in the Church Office if needed. The deadline to order is Sunday, December 10th. Poinsettias will be delivered the following week. Any questions please call the Church Office.



Come and help Deck the Hall as well as a Sanctuary clean-up on Saturday December 2nd 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Be part of the celebration! Cider, coffee, and donuts will be served. *And remember, many hands make light work.*

- Worship Commission



December 1st
Dionna Dudley

December 3rd
Alex Nguyen

December 4th
Crystal Collino
Gary Cordon

December 5th
David Steppe

December 6th
Linda French

December 10th
Kenneth McCart

December 13th
Siuaki Fukofuka

December 14th
Linda Cajiuat

December 15th
Vivianna Goh

December 18th
Cherie Pua

December 19th
JoAnn Henke

December 21st
Aaliyah Tu'ua
Anaiyah Tu'ua

December 22nd
Tricia Le
Tri Huu Nguyen

December 23rd
Lia Cajiuat
Jack Carpenter
Michael Iwasiwka

December 25th

December 27th
Vivian Delpilar

December 29th
Gary Palmer

December 31st
Steve Woolf



A Very Special *"Happy Birthday"* this month to **Jack Carpenter!** Jack will be **93** on the **23rd**! If you would like to send him a special greeting: His address is 713 S Sonya Pl. Anaheim, CA 92802-1311



January 1st
Grace Grey

January 2nd
Pamela Hall

January 3rd
William "Liam" Mead

January 4th
Thomas Larson

January 9th
Tofaoli'i Pua

January 11th
Shirley Kerr

January 13th
Susana Tu'ua

January 18th
Steiner Faupusa
Sonia Guerrero

January 19th
Dung Nguyen

January 24th
Linda Gregory
Mark Schneider

January 24th
Benjamin Tran



January 28th
Betty Wilson

January 29th
Jim Kerr

A Very Special *"Happy Birthday"* this month to **Betty Wilson and Jim Kerr!** Betty will be **94** on the **28th** and **Jim** will be **93** on the **29th**! If you would like to send a special greeting: **Betty's** address is 27331 Via Olmo Mission Viejo, CA 92691. **Jim's** address is 2131 W. Crone Anaheim, CA 92804-3524.

Expectations

Dear Members and Friends of Garden Grove UMC,

You are invited to a very special Town Hall meeting to be held after the 10:00 am worship service on **Sunday, December 3, 2023**. It will be in Acker Hall and for your convenience, will take place during the monthly Sunday Brunch.

The Town Hall will cover the past, the present, and specially the future of the Garden Grove United Methodist Church. This is a unique opportunity for you to participate in the discussions of what we want for the future of our church home here in Garden Grove.

As an important part of this year's Stewardship Campaign the Town Hall will also provide you with up-to-date information on the financial state of our church to help you plan for your giving in 2024.

The Brunch is provided free by the Vietnamese Congregation and The Town Hall will take place during the Brunch to ensure that it will not take more than an hour.

For more information, check out the E-Blast on Thursdays or any of the below members.

Jackie Pringle, Lay Leader
Jim Spangler, Chairman, Finance
Wayne Sheriff, Chairman, Church Council.



Saturday, December 2nd 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Garden Grove Winter Fest (GGUMC Parking Lot unavailable for use).

Saturday, December 2nd 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – Cleaning of the Sanctuary & Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 3rd – All-Church Town Meeting in the Sanctuary following service.

Tuesday, December 5th 4:00 p.m. – SPRC Meeting in the Lounge.

Wednesday, December 6th 9:30 a.m.– Trinity Circle meeting at Joyce Hall's residence.

Friday, December 8th 5:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary.

Saturday, December 9th 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.– Reflections Funeral in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 10th 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Choir Concert in the Sanctuary. Last day for poinsettia's orders.

Saturday, December 24th 6:00-7:00 p.m. – Annual Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary. Dinner in Acker Hall to follow.

Sunday, December 25th 11:30-2:30 p.m. – Annual Christmas Brunch in Acker Hall.



NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR
Noel Hallelujah Merry Christmas Happy New Year

A Personal Message by Faye Gregory, Ed D, Retired RN, Church Trustee

OUR CHURCH HELPS US HAVE A HEALTHY BRAIN

11/20/23

Recently, I experienced a medical scare related to memory issues. Terror struck as the problem seemed to get worse and worse. What if this was the beginning of *Dementia*?

Wait! Prayers must come first!

Then, I began to look for causes and fortunately, soon learned that a relatively common, recently prescribed pain medication may cause "*trouble with thinking.*" (Mayo Clinic) Within a week after stopping the drug, I noticed improvement and was soon back to my regular "age-related" thinking.

This event started my thinking about the many ways our **Church benefits brain health.**

Our Church is:

A spiritual home replete with opportunities to worship God and follow his son Jesus Christ.

A community to receive support, prayers, and love from friends.

A place to learn new spiritual insights from wise and knowledgeable preachers.

A conduit to connect with our Heavenly Father.

A spiritual home to share financial blessings and feel the joy of giving to safe and honest causes.

An opportunity to socialize, which is a paramount source of brain health.

A chance to use productive physical activity to support events such as church clean-ups.

A space to provide help to others since every effort, no matter how small, is as beneficial to the helper as to those helped.

An environment to practice listening carefully. (Hearing is incredibly important for brain function *and* balance.)

A respite from the troubles of the world. One only needs to *read* the news to be reminded of the need for peace. (*Reading* a daily newspaper engages more brain cells than mindless TV watching.)

Let us thank God for sending his Son, Jesus, for our salvation and joyfully receive the bounties of our church with its blessings of HEALTH and peace.



Sally Hickman is again making Jam for UWF. The money raised will be used to help UWF Missions. Sally has made Lemon/Orange Marmalade as well as Raspberry/Fig Jam. The price is \$5 per jar. If you are interested in buying, You can call Sally directly or she can deliver to the church.



Trustees "Times"

November 2023

WIFI/KITCHEN/HOMELESS were the three topics, all with almost impossible answers, which struck me as major problems facing the Trustees at our last meeting.

#1 Wi-Fi (wireless communication between computers, phone, and printers) should NOT be a problem for us. We have bonified experts, Ed Papp, and Larry Ogle. However, Wi-Fi can't get through the 10 to 20 inch poured concrete walls of our church and outbuildings made of 9-inch cinder blocks filled with concrete, reinforced with rebar. We need to give our experts time and prayerful support as they strive to adapt our aging facility to this required equipment.

#2 The kitchen has been left in a disreputable state, which required hard labor cleanup (thanks Larry and Gerry). We are trying to fairly identify the perpetrators, stop the problems, and create plans to mitigate them in the future.

#3 The homeless people engender our sympathies for their plight. But their use of our grounds as a depository for their excrement and trash, storage for their belongings, and as a night-time music recreational facility, is not acceptable to us or our neighbors, who have called the police several times. As we pursue solutions, please do not approach the homeless. Call the non-emergency police line at (714) 741 5704 and request a patrol officer to escort the person(s) from our church campus.

My thoughts:

1. What if the kitchen "mess maker" was a homeless person who took advantage of a door, carelessly left unlocked?
2. A camera in the kitchen might identify the "mess maker."
3. The camera (if we had one) couldn't be hooked up without working Wi-Fi.
Our budget is severely strained.

The Trustees have their work cut out for them. Supportive prayers are always welcome.

PS Thanks to Secretary Gerry Ogle, for her superb minutes that contribute to my sometimes-sketchy memory.

Faye Gregory, Trustee Member



Edward Ross Oleson passed away on October 23, 2023

surrounded by family which included his wife Joyce Oleson, two daughters Deanna Halsig and Julie Oleson and their grandchildren. Edward wanted to be buried at sea by the US Navy. The final disposition of his remains will be performed on a United States Navy vessel during a committal ceremony that is performed while the ship is deployed. Any condolences can be sent to:

The Oleson Family
4939 Pine St., La Mesa, CA
91942.

Krista Givens, our UMC Missionary, has a special message to share!

"Hello all,
Greetings to you from Torrevieja, Spain. I have just completed my Missionary Newsletter for October (just under the wire!) and I wanted to share it with you. Please click or look up the link here: <https://www.ggumc.net/missionary-newsletter-of-rev-dr-krista-s-givens-for-october-2023/>

From Our Missionaries



Expectations



Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts!

Garden Grove United Methodist Church would like to thank long-time member, Jim (James) Walker for his very generous donation to our Church.

Jim was a member of our Church between 1956 - 1966. He began his membership in high school and was apart of the youth fellowship here at GGUMC.

His fondest memories were the bus rides the Church would take out of state. He helped build the Acker Hall and the classrooms here on the Church campus.

Jim went on to work at Disneyland as a Mechanic Machinist in the Planning Department of Engineering. He now lives in Kansas with his family.

We let Jim know that his donation came at a crucial time for the Church. He left us with this quote:

“The Church is like playing football, it’s a team effort. It’s important everyone works as a team.”

We thank you again, Jim, for your generous donation. Our Church was so blessed to have members like you and we pray all is well with you, always.

Church Staff

The ministers of this Church are its members. They are assisted by:

Bishop	Dottie Escobedo-Frank	Missionary to Cambodia	Rev. Andrew Lee
District Superintendent	Sandra Olewine	Missionary to Greece	Rebecca Swartz
Clergy	Lui Tran, Yong Sam Park, Toné Tosi, Khuong Chau	Vietnamese Administrative Asst.	Phuong Dinh
Minister of Youth/Young Adult Ministries ...	Zi Nghiem	Organist/Pianist	Liz Nguyen
Administrative Assistant.....	Sonia Guerrero	Music Director.....	Michael Ortiz
Director of Youth/Children Choirs	Sally Hickman	Wedding Coordinator	Mitzie Larson
Financial Bookkeeper	Linda Gregory	Membership Secretary	Donna Gregg



Online giving is available at:

<https://www.simplechurchgiving.net/app/giving/ggumc>

Detailed information about Online Giving is available at:

<https://www.ggumc.net/online-giving/>

Direct any Online Giving support issues to linda@ggumc.net

The GGUMC website is under construction. The latest sermons and news, are always available at:

<https://www.facebook.com/GardenGroveUnitedMethodistChurch/>

Link for Live Sunday Services:

<https://www.facebook.com/GardenGroveUnitedMethodistChurch/>

