

# Expectations



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

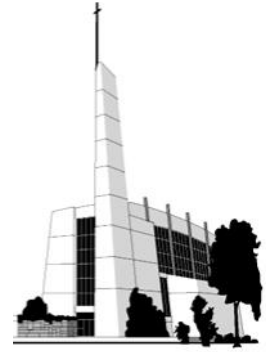
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Web Page~[www.ggumc.net](http://www.ggumc.net);

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## January 2024



## Forever in Our Hearts

"It is with deep sadness that I announce the passing of **Wayne Sheriff**. He was a beloved member of Garden Grove UMC, joining the congregation in the 1980's and serving faithfully in many leadership roles, including most recently as chairperson of the Church Council. A man of faith and servant leader, Wayne leaves behind a great spiritual legacy and will be dearly missed by his family, friends, and neighbors. Wayne's Celebration of Life Service is scheduled for:

*Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m. at Garden Grove UMC,  
followed by a reception in the Acker Hall."*

Thanks and blessings,  
Pastor Lui Tran



## Sock Sunday!

As we have been taught there is a season for all things. We are announcing today that the season for Sock Sunday is coming Sunday, February 11th! These socks will be for the children the Assistance League of Garden Grove. We are inviting all of our congregations to participate in this wonderful giving opportunity. So ahead of time, thank you for all the socks!

- Geri Ogle and Sally Hickman

## Another Successful Christmas Brunch!



Thank you to our A M A Z I N G Samoa Congregation for another successful Christmas Brunch! Our Church and the community are so blessed to have such a giving congregation, especially this time of year!

*More pictures on next page*

## Expectations



“Uncle Jerry” has been volunteering since the start of this wonderful tradition, 15 years ago. Him and his wife, who is now passed, never missed a year to volunteer. He is now in his 90’s and still is so happy to come and lend a helping hand!



Barbara and Herman have also been coming to have Christmas Day Brunch since it all started about 15 years ago. We are so blessed for the ongoing tradition the Samoa congregation continues to give!

# A CHRIST-CENTERED CHRISTMAS!

Prayers for Joyce Hall’s sister-in-law, Mary Harris, who has a broken hip.  
 Prayers for Pamela Banagas, Lydia Carmona's sister-in-law, who had a bad fall and was in the hospital.  
 Prayers & healing for Dr. Anni (Newsome) Erickson, as she deals with surgery for breast cancer.  
 Prayers for Julia and Henry Carmona. Julia is recovering from a significant fall, and will be in rehabilitation for another month, and Henry has a heart condition.  
 Prayers for Jaya Purba's friend, Dennis Taylor, for upcoming test results.  
 Prayers for Richard Walth who has been in and out of the hospital for the last year.  
 Prayers for Dale Batesole's neighbor & her family, Ann,

who passed away 7/30/23.  
 Please continue to keep Stacey Beard's mother-in-law, Kathy, in your prayers, as she is in the beginning stages of hospice.  
 Kim Lormier who is undergoing cancer treatments for liver cancer,  
 Skip Clark who is dealing with pancreatic cancer,  
 Bud Ruhl, Gary Palmer.





**January 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Grace Grey  
**January 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Pamela Hall  
**January 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
William "Liam" Mead  
**January 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Thomas Larson  
**January 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Tofaoali'i Pua  
**January 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Shirley Kerr

**January 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Susana Tu'ua  
**January 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Steiner Faupusa  
Sonia Guerrero  
**January 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Dung Nguyen  
**January 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Linda Gregory  
Mark Schneider  
**January 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Benjamin Tran

**January 28<sup>th</sup>**  
Betty Wilson  
**January 29<sup>th</sup>**  
Jim Kerr

A Very Special "Happy Birthday" this month to **Betty Wilson and Jim Kerr!** Betty will be **94** on the **28<sup>th</sup>** and **Jim** will be **93** on the **29<sup>th</sup>**! 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.*



**February 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Stacey Beard  
**February 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Eketoni Tosi  
Jon Whitford  
**February 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Gary Hickman  
**February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Mackenna Doser  
**February 12<sup>th</sup>**  
David Gregory  
Sharon Rice  
**February 14<sup>th</sup>**  
James Gray

**February 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Rachel Beard  
**February 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Jennifer Newsome  
**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
Christina French  
Janine Ryder



**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](mailto: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/>

# Legend of the Poinsettias

There is a charming story told of Pepita, a poor Mexican girl, who had no gift to present to the Christ child at Christmas Eve services. As Pepita walked slowly to the chapel with her cousin Pedro, her heart was filled with sadness rather than joy.

“I am sure, Pepita, that even the most humble gift, if given in love, will be acceptable in His eyes,” said Pedro consolingly.

Not knowing what else to do, Pepita knelt by the roadside and gathered a handful of common weeds, fashioning them into a small bouquet. Looking at the scraggly bunch of weeds, she felt more saddened and embarrassed than ever by the humbleness of her offering. She fought back a tear as she entered the small village chapel.

As she approached the altar, she remembered Pedro’s kind words: “Even the most humble gift, if given in love, will be acceptable in His eyes.” She felt her spirit lift as she knelt to lay the bouquet at the foot of the Nativity Scene.

Suddenly, the bouquet of weeds burst into blooms of brilliant red, and all who saw them were certain that they had witnessed a Christmas miracle right before their eyes.

From that day on, the bright red flowers were known as the Flores de Noche Buena, or Flowers of the Holy Night, for they bloomed each year during the Christmas Season.

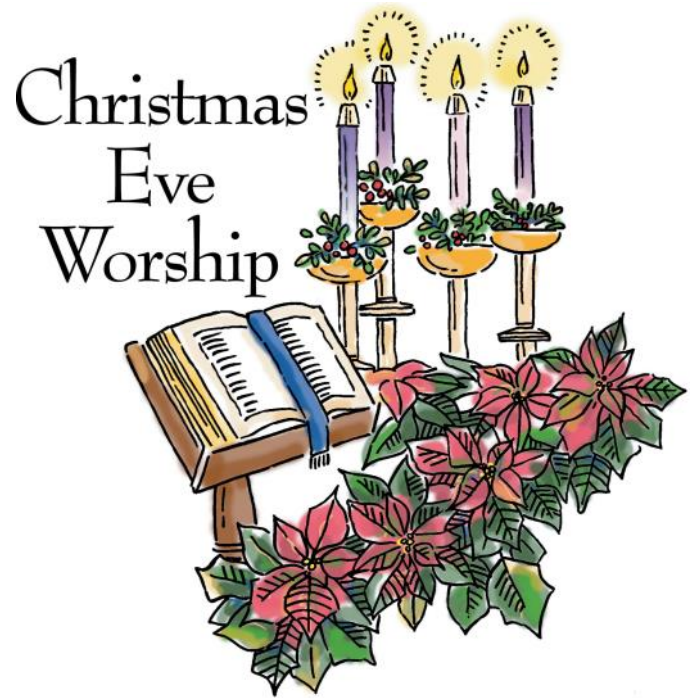
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**In Loving Memory of:**


- † John R. Newsome, M.D.
- † Janice Palmer Tinnesen
- † Kim Trang Truong
- † Loc Van le
- † Carolyn Pringle
- † John Gonzalez
- † Keith & Edra Settingington,
- † Herb & Louise Hickman,
- † Walter & Joan Schaer
- † Graham Grandparents
- † Dyson Grandparents
- † Roger Graham
- † My Parents Mr. & Mrs. Yap - Djenni Yap Purba
- † My Husband S. Purba - Djenni Yap Purba
- † My sisters, their husbands & my brothers - Djenni Yap Purba
- † Jun & Grace Cajuat
- † Justiniano, Rebecca & Rosalinda Sarmiento
- † Jean & Lester Davis
- † Ruth, Carl & Doug Semotan
- † Paul & Ruth Banagas
- † Joe Carmona
- † John Gregory
- † Paul S. Cajuat
- † Mr. & Mrs. Lou Dubravae
- † Mr. & Mrs. William Farley
- † Shirley Kellogg
- † Frank Kellogg
- † Helen Sothan
- † John & Doris Shepard
- † Elwood & Norween Cox
- † Nguyen Van Dang
- † Le Thi Vi
- † Arnel Figueroa
- † Cynthia Sheriff

**In Honor of:**

- † Nine Loving children, seventeen amazing grandchildren, 3 very special great grandkids - Newsome / Palmer Families
- † Our Children & Grandchildren - Larry & Jackie Pringle
- † The Jay Shepard Family, Our Extended Family
- † Patricia Graham
- † Cynthia Brown
- † My Family - Donna Gregg
- † Samoa Congregation



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 United Methodist Church of Garden Grove  
12741 Main Street  
Garden Grove, CA 92840-5204

DATED MATERIAL 12/28/2023



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RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS**

**Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**

The *Expectations* deadline for the February issue (to be mailed on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>) is Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. News and Events for February and March should be in this issue. You may E-mail articles to [ggumc@ggumc.net](mailto:ggumc@ggumc.net), bring them to the Church Office, mail them, or (if they are short) call them in, on or before the deadline.

Sonia Guerrero,  
Editor