November 2026

The Viewpoint

Laguna Country United Methodist Church

Hope, Love, & Joy Live Here



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A community of faith, growing together in Christ and sharing God's love with all.

9:30 AM
In Person & Online
Sunday Worship

Connect With Us
lagunacountryumc.org

From Pastor Brain



Dear Siblings in Christ,

As we enter November and feel the quiet shift into autumn, my heart is filled with gratitude for the warmth, laughter, and sacred presence that continue to define our life together at Laguna Country UMC.

This past Sunday, we marked Reformation Sunday by returning to the bedrock of our faith: Jesus' Great Commandment in Matthew 22 that love is the fulfillment of our faith calling. In the wider church world, it is easy to fall into the trap of measuring faithfulness by noise, spectacle, or physical hustle. We might look at congregations that send youth crews out to frame houses or organize rallies and wonder if our own calling is somehow smaller.

Yet the gospel reminds us that the body of Christ is blessed with many different gifts across every season of life. Here at LCUMC, our primary ministry is not about swinging hammers on a roof; it is rooted in quiet, life-giving hospitality. It is creating sacred space for those who have been hurt, overlooked, or exhausted by rigid religion. It is offering a ride to the doctor, picking up the phone when a living room has grown too quiet, and holding a hand through seasons of grief and memory loss. Simply being a sanctuary where weary souls can exhale and know they are cherished is holy, front-line ministry.

When Paul wrote that our only continuing debt is to love one another, he was describing the heartbeat of a healthy family. A church family pulls together simply because we care for each other. As we move into November, we are holding that truth close: everything we give—our time, our compassion, our shared gifts is simply our way of taking care of the place and the people we love. It is how we ensure that our doors remain unlocked, our lights stay burning bright, and there is always a seat at the table for anyone seeking grace.

Thank you for the profound ways you embody this love each week—through your prayers, your presence, and your generous hearts. I am so blessed to share this home with you.

Grace and Peace,

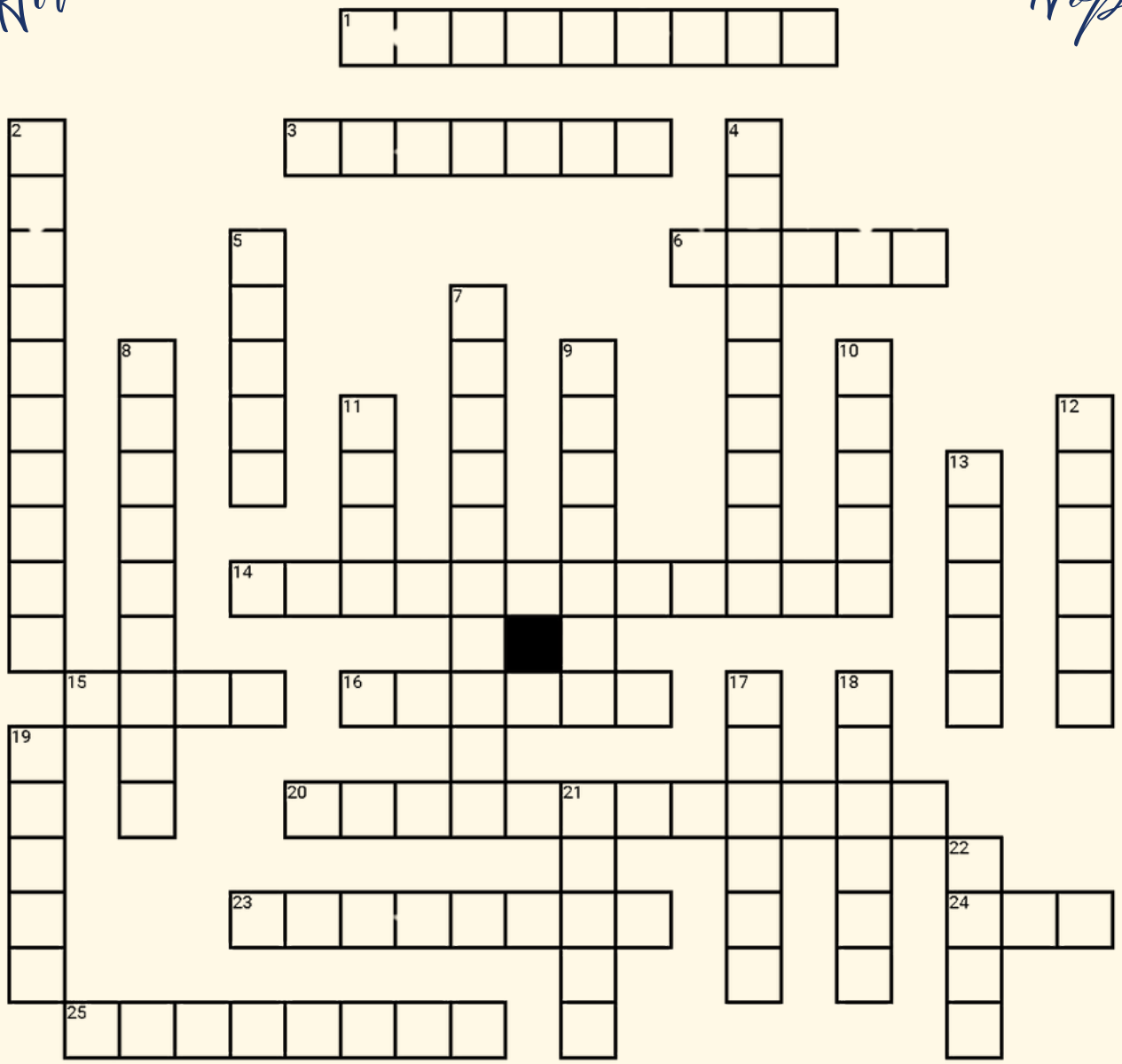
Rev. Dr. Brian James Tipton

Rev. Dr. Brian Tipton
Lead Pastor, Laguna Country UMC

A Place Called Home

November Worship Crossword

Faith & Gratitude & Hope



Across

1. 5 What sacrament do we celebrate as we remember the saints?
3. 25 What angel announced that Zechariah and Elizabeth's prayers had been heard?
6. 19 On November 22, who will lead worship while Pastor Brian is away?
14. 10 What virtue helps us be ready for expected and unexpected needs?
15. 20 Christ the ___ Sunday is celebrated on November 22.
16. 2 On November 1, we remember loved ones on All ___ Sunday.
20. 18 What do we express to God when we recognize our many blessings?
23. 4 According to 1 John 3, we are all ___ of God.
24. 9 What did the bridesmaids need to keep their lamps burning?
25. 14 According to 2 Corinthians 9, God loves what kind of giver?

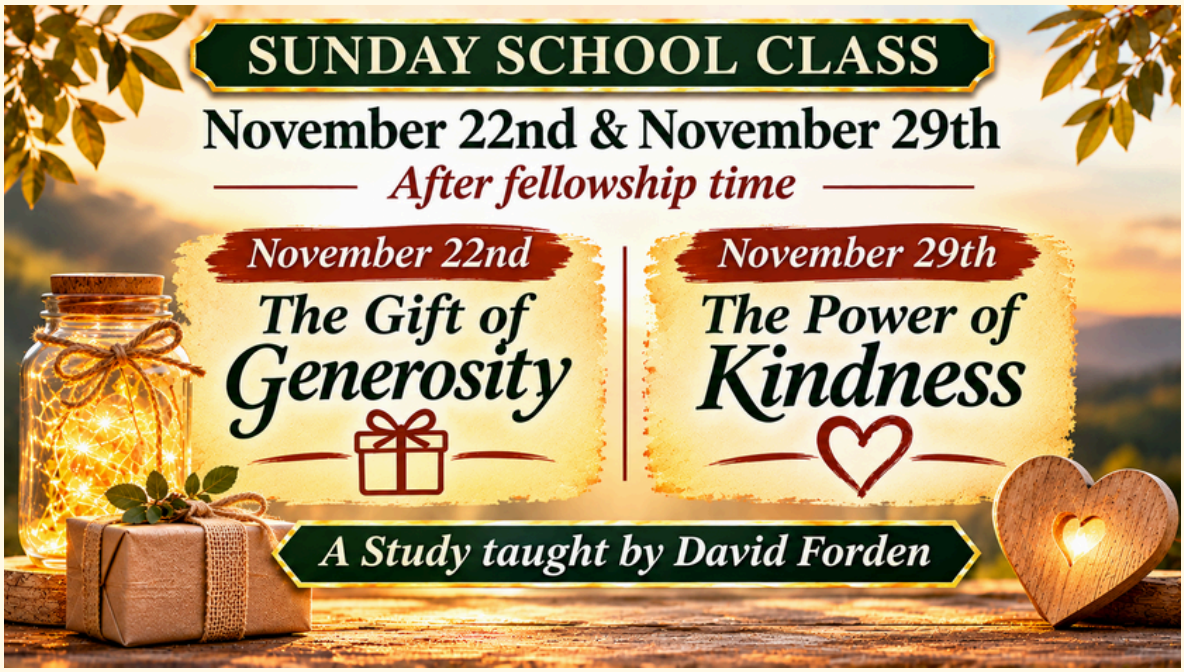
Down

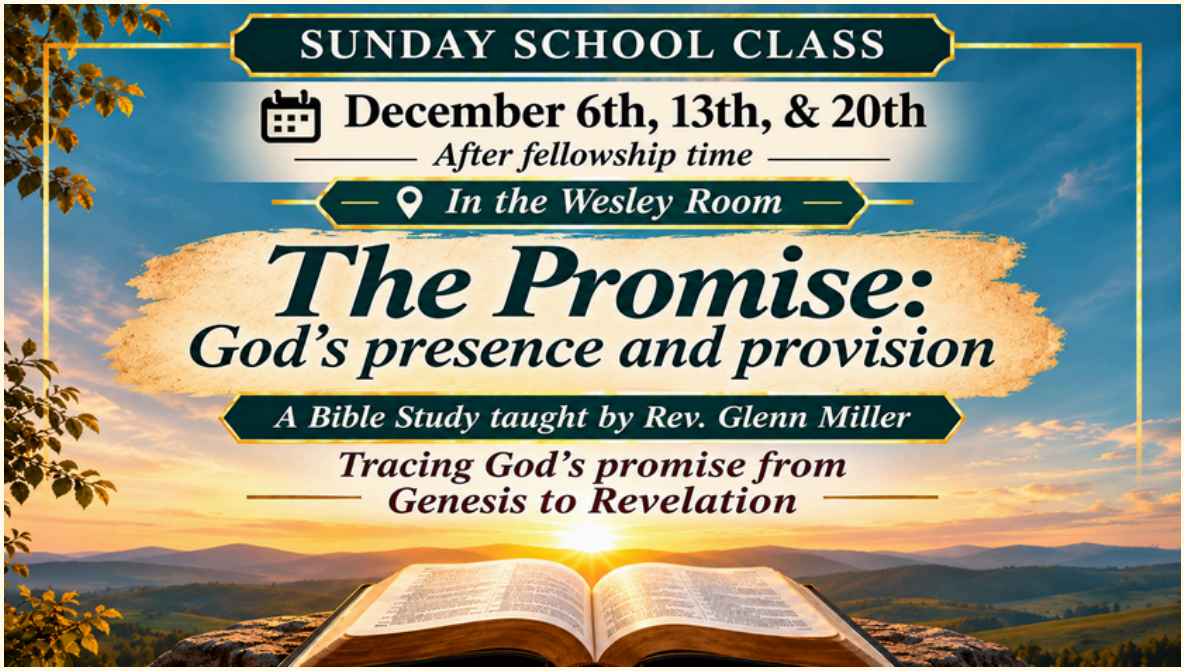
2. 15 What do we practice when we share our blessings with others?
4. 13 What quality is celebrated during Stewardship Dedication Sunday on November 15?
5. 12 What shines when we are spiritually prepared to serve others?
7. 7 What book of the Bible describes the great multitude standing before God's throne?
8. 24 Who was Elizabeth's husband, visited by the angel Gabriel?
9. 17 What do we call the gathering of crops, symbolizing the blessings of giving?
10. 3 What does God wipe away from every eye in Revelation 7?
11. 1 What is the name of our November stewardship campaign? (A Place Called ___)
12. 6 What do we call something meaningful passed down from one generation to another?
13. 11 What newly upgraded system helps our congregation hear worship more clearly?
17. 22 What season of preparation for Christmas begins November 29?
18. 21 In which Colorado city will Pastor Brian attend the Society of Biblical Literature meeting?
19. 8 In Matthew 25, what did the ten bridesmaids carry?
21. 16 What do farmers plant that reminds us how giving produces a harvest?
22. 23 What is the theme of the first Sunday of Advent?

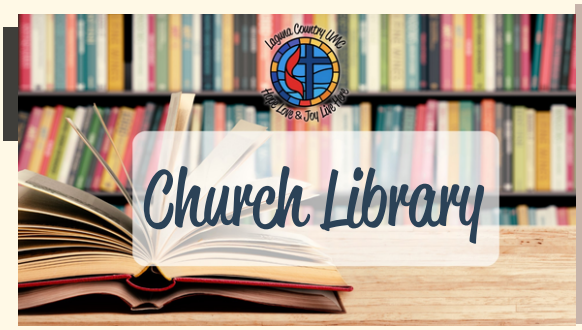
Grow In Faith

Studies & Classes at Laguna Country UMC

Learn more. Grow deeper. Walk together.







Help Us Start Our Church Library!

We're creating a cozy church library—and we need your help! Please donate gently used books like devotionals, Bible studies, children's books, or wholesome fiction.
Drop off donations in the church office during the week or in the foyer on Sundays.
Thank you for helping us build a library for everyone to enjoy!

DIAL-A-Devotion

Dial-A-Devotion always needs a few more dedicated presenters to supplement the group. If you follow this group via phone, you know that it means presenting a message about every three weeks from your home. It allows you to share a message that was meaningful to you or to others. Let the office know if you would like to try it out. 949.837.5433

Nov 1st	XXXXXXXXX	Nov 11th	Meg Estrada	Nov 21st	XXXXXXXXX
Nov 2nd	Elaine Brady	Nov 12th	David Atkins	Nov 22nd	XXXXXXXXX
Nov 3rd	LaFee Family	Nov 13th	Glenn Miller	Nov 23rd	Elaine Brady
Nov 4th	Greg Lewis	Nov 14th	XXXXXXXXX	Nov 24th	LaFee Family
Nov 5th	Sherry Atkins	Nov 15th	XXXXXXXXX	Nov 25th	Greg Lewis
Nov 6th	Laddie Perez	Nov 16th	Liz Heacock	Nov 26th	Sherry Atkins
Nov 7th	XXXXXXXXXXX	Nov 17th	Teri Lancey	Nov 27th	Laddie Perez
Nov 8th	XXXXXXXXXXX	Nov 18th	Dick Obermayer	Nov 28th	XXXXXXXXX
Nov 9th	Laura Daillak	Nov 19th	Marilyn Nicolas	Nov 29th	XXXXXXXXX
Nov 10th	Don Forden	Nov 20th	Judy McCormack	Nov 30th	Laura Daillak





November & December Liturgist

November 1st	Lily Hong	December 6th	Laura Daillak
November 8th	Hanne Booth	December 13th	Meg Estrada
November 15th	Pendra LaFee	December 20th	Sherry Atkins
November 22nd	Frank Bristol	December 24th	Laddie Perez
November 29th	Marilyn Nicolas	December 27th	Hanne Booth

November Anniversaries

Frank and Thelma Bristol

November 7th

November Birthdays

Lynn Burney	Nov. 7th	Ann Forden	Nov.14th
Rex Danford	Nov. 8th	Barbara Gile	Nov. 23rd
Kathleen Ritsema	Nov. 8th	Elaine Brady	Nov. 26th
Shirley Schneider	Nov.12th	Donna Kish	Nov. 26th

Maureen Villaneuva Nov. 26th

Usher Schedule

November 1st	Paul Miller & Marilyn Nicolas
November 8th	Paul Miller & Kelly LaFee
November 15th	Terri Lancey & Frank Bristol
November 22nd	Sue Hicklin & Kay Kelly
November 29th	Amir Atefvahid & Kelly LaFee



Please Remember

Please remember that we can give to the needy of our church and community at any time through the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. To contribute to this fund, simply write a check to LCUMC and include "Pastor's Discretionary" in the memo. Include your contribution in the Sunday offering plate or send it to the Church Office. Thank You!!



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 6:30am AA 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 6:00pm AA	2 6:30am AA 9:30am Outreach Meeting 12:00pm Al-Anon 2:30pm Fellowship Committee 7:00pm AA	3 6:30am AA 9:30am Bell Practice 6:00pm WW 7:00pm Scouts	4 6:30am AA 1:00pm OK Chorale 7:00pm Choir	5 6:30am AA 9:30am WW 10:30am Tellers 1:00pm 8 is Enough 6:00pm AV Staff Training	6 6:30am AA 8:00am WW 9:30am WW 11:30am The Gathering 6:00pm AV Training	7 6:30am AA 8:00am WW 9:30am WW 11:00am AA Celebration
8 6:30am AA Do It Sober 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 6:00pm AA	9 6:30am AA 10:30am Worship Committee Meeting 12:00pm Al-Anon 7:00pm AA	10 6:30am AA 9:30am Bell Practice 6:00pm WW 7:00pm Scouts	11 6:30am AA 1:00pm Admin Council Meeting 1:00pm OK Chorale 7:00pm Choir	12 6:30am AA 9:30am WW 10:30am Tellers 1:00pm 8 is Enough	13 6:30am AA 8:00am WW 9:30am WW 11:30am The Gathering 7:00pm AV Training	14 6:30am AA 8:00am Millennial Choir Rehearsal 8:00am WW 9:30am WW
15 6:30am AA 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 6:00pm AA	16 6:30am AA 12:00pm Al-Anon 7:00pm AA	17 6:30am AA 9:30am Bell Practice 6:00pm WW 7:00pm Scouts	18 6:30am AA 11:00am Lunch Bunch 1:00pm OK Chorale 7:00pm Choir	19 6:30am AA 9:30am WW 10:30am Tellers 1:00pm 8 is Enough 2:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	20 6:30am AA 8:00am WW 9:30am WW 11:30am The Gathering 7:00pm AV Training	21 6:30am AA 8:00am WW 9:30am Men's Breakfast 9:30am WW 10:00am Centro 32 Presentation
22 6:30am AA 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 1:00pm All Church Walk 6:00pm AA	23 6:30am AA 12:00pm Al-Anon 12:30pm Non-Competitive Bridge 7:00pm AA	24 6:30am AA 9:30am Bell Practice 6:00pm WW 7:00pm Scouts	25 6:30am AA 10:30am Men's Group Planning Meeting 1:00pm OK Chorale 7:00pm Choir	26 6:30am AA 9:30am WW 10:30am Tellers 1:00pm 8 is Enough	27 6:30am AA 8:00am WW 9:30am WW 11:30am The Gathering	28 6:30am AA 8:00am WW 9:30am Hanging Of The Greens 9:30am WW 6:00pm Rambling Rogues
29 6:30am AA 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Thanksgiving Fellowship 11:00am Adult Sunday School 6:00pm AA	30 6:30am AA 12:00pm Al-Anon 7:00pm AA					

Sermon Themes

NOVEMBER 1

All Saints Sunday: A Living Legacy
Revelation 7:9–17 & 1 John 3:1–3

Where do we turn when grief touches our lives? On All Saints Sunday, we rest in John's vision of the great multitude, where God wipes away every tear and holds our loved ones in everlasting light. We also claim our sacred identity from 1 John: right now, we are children of God. Celebrating Holy Communion alongside the church triumphant, we honor the saints whose generosity built our foundation, asking how our gifts today plant shade trees for generations to come.

NOVEMBER 8

Prepared for Ministry: Oil in Our Lamps
Matthew 25:1–13

In the Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids, Jesus invites us not into anxious dread, but into steady, practical preparedness. Keeping "oil in our lamps" means tending the spiritual and physical reserves that allow our light to shine bright. As our newly upgraded sanctuary sound system goes live and our stewardship season continues, we explore what it means to be ready for expected ministries and unexpected needs—ensuring our church family is equipped to offer comfort and care whenever a neighbor knocks.

NOVEMBER 15

Stewardship Dedication Sunday: A Harvest of Gratitude
2 Corinthians 9:6–15

What happens when we let go of scarcity and live with open hands? Paul reminds us that authentic generosity is never born of pressure or guilt, for God loves a cheerful giver. Sowing bountifully means sharing our abundance so that everyone has enough, sparking an echo chamber of thanksgiving. As we dedicate our 2027 estimates of giving today, we celebrate a harvest of gratitude, ensuring our doors stay open wide, the table remains set, and Christ's love is made tangible.

NOVEMBER 22

Christ the King Sunday: Laity Sunday

Together by Grace, Grounded in Love
Join us this Sunday as we celebrate Laity Sunday and the important role each of us plays in the life of the church. Inspired by 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10, we'll reflect on how God's grace brings us together and calls us to share Christ's love through faith, service, and community.

NOVEMBER 29

First Sunday of Advent: Hope: Making Room in the Silence
Luke 1:5–25

Where does hope begin when waiting stretches on? The gospel opens not in imperial halls, but in the quiet home of Zechariah and Elizabeth, carrying years of unmet longing. In the temple silence, Gabriel announces that their prayers are heard. Hope arrives in places marked by long waiting, reminding us that God sees our quiet living rooms and prepares a dwelling place. Today we light our Advent Candle of Hope and celebrate the faithful hands of our congregational volunteers during Fellowship Hour.

Caring for Our Church Family

PRAYER • SUPPORT GROUPS • EQUIPMENT LOANS

We're here to walk alongside you with encouragement, resources, and care because you are never alone.

FRESH & HEALTHY

SENIOR GROCERY DISTRIBUTION



Second Harvest food bank drops off perishable and non perishable food for you to come "shop" and take what you need. This free food is offered the first and third Thursdays of each month from 8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

at Lutheran Church of the Cross
24231 El Toro Rd.
Laguna Woods

Support & Wellness Groups *at Our Church*

A PLACE FOR HEALING, ENCOURAGEMENT & COMMUNITY

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)
- Daily at 7:00 a.m.
- Monday at 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Confidential Support • Newcomers Welcome

Al-Anon
- Mondays at 12:30 p.m.

Support for Families & Friends of Alcoholics

Weight Watchers
- Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
- Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.
- Friday & Saturday at 8:00 & 9:30 a.m.

Tools for Healthy Living

OK Chorale
For Alzheimer's & Dementia Patients and Caregivers
Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.
Song • Support • Fun
Everyone Welcome!

Scouts
Building Character & Skills for Life

Square Dance
Fun for Dancers of All Ages

Kalda Child Care Center
Nurturing Environment for Young Children

Hula
Traditional Hawaiian Dance

8 is Enough Barbershop Quartet
Friendship • Harmony • Fun!

Opening our doors to all! Your support connects, heals & lifts up. All are welcome!



JOIN US FOR OUR

Dial A DEVOTION

949.837.5433
Dial for a daily inspiration!

Listen to a message that is meaningful to you and others.

Dial-A-Devotion has a different devotion and presenter each day.

LISTEN
to a message that is meaningful to you and others.

NEW EACH DAY
Dial-A-Devotion has a different devotion and presenter each day.

BE ENCOURAGED
Let these messages uplift your spirit and strengthen your faith.

You will be glad you called!

Here For You

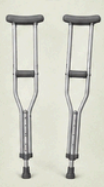
WE HAVE EQUIPMENT

TO HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT.

Our church has the following items available for you to **take and/or borrow:**



WHEEL CHAIRS



CRUTCHES



KNEE SCOOTER



WALKERS
(several available)

If you or someone you know could use one of these items, please **see one of our ushers** or a member of our hospitality team.

We're a church family here to care for one another.
YOU ARE LOVED. YOU BELONG. YOU MATTER.

— Laguna Country United Methodist Church —

Fellowship

JOIN IN COMMUNITY • CONNECT • SHARE • BELONG



NOVEMBER 18TH

Stadium Brewery

Meet in the church parking lot
at 11:30 a.m. to carpool.

Men's Breakfast



NOVEMBER 21ST

9:30 a.m. in the Sun Room

Program Topic: *Thanksgiving*
with a Devotion by Glenn Miller.

Thanksgiving Brunch

NOVEMBER 29TH
during Fellowship Time

A special brunch and program to thank our church volunteers!

the Gathering

EVERY FRIDAY
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Restaurant 19
Laguna Woods Village

A weekly time for lunch, conversation, and connection.



All Are Welcome!

Opportunities



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

1:00 p.m. at Oso Creek Trail

JOIN US FOR

BRIDGE

NON-COMPETITIVE



NOVEMBER 23

12:00 p.m.

Wesley Room



Knitters, Crocheters or Quilters!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

2:30 p.m.

at the Church

Get Involved!

Find more details on our website or contact the church office to learn how you can participate.

Upcoming Christmas Events

AT LAGUNA COUNTRY UMC

Christmas Cantata
Sing We Noel
December 20th
During Worship

Featuring the Church Choir and Special Instrumentalist

Join Us for Our
Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Wednesday, December 24

at 3:00 p.m.

Join us for a heartwarming service filled with Christmas music, candlelight, and the hope and joy of Christ's birth.

Hanging of the Greens
Decorating the church for Christmas

November 28th
10:00 am
in the Sanctuary

Enjoy decorating with cookies and fancy coffee drinks.

Jobs for everyone!

United Women in Faith
Christmas Party

December 19th at 10:00 a.m.
Wesley Room

Potluck

Wear a festive Christmas sweater or outfit!

ALL-CHURCH
Christmas Caroling
to the Homebound

SUNDAY, DEC 13TH
2:00 p.m.

Hoho Holiday Concert

Alzheimer's OC
OK Chorale
A choir for people with dementia, and Alzheimer's and their caregivers.

PEP4U Parkinson's Exercise Program

Tremble Clefs
A therapeutic singing group for people with Parkinson's and their caregivers.

FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST

8 is Enough
A DOUBLE BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Sunday, December 6th • 2:00 p.m.
Laguna Country UMC
24442 Moulton Pkwy. Laguna Woods, CA 92637

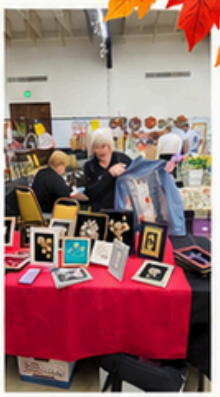
Celebrate the Season with Your Church Family!

Thank You!

A Heartfelt Thank You to Everyone Who Helped Make Our Fall Bazaar a Success!

To all who planned, set up, donated, worked, baked, created, and welcomed visitors—and to everyone who came out to shop and support the bazaar—thank you!






Check out our services at Lagunacountryumc.org or on Laguna Country UMC YouTube

JOIN US FOR A

Christmas Sweets Fellowship

December 13th

During Fellowship Time



Christmas Sweets Fellowship & 12 Days of Christmas Fun!

Get ready for a sweet and silly Christmas celebration!

Bring a plate of Christmas sweets to share!
Whether it's homemade cookies, brownies, candy, cupcakes, or store-bought goodies, all sweet treats are welcome. A special table will be set up for everyone to share and enjoy!

Enjoy a Festive 12 Days of Christmas Program!
Join in the fun with a lighthearted sing-along! Each fellowship table will be assigned a day from the song, with fun props and a table leader to guide the festivities.

Bring your favorite treats, your singing voice, and your sense of humor as we celebrate the joy of Christmas together!

What Going On









Missions in Action:

Serving Our Neighbors

Our Missions Committee is inviting everyone to take part in two meaningful outreach opportunities this summer. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of families throughout our community.

Help Our Neighbors IN TIJUANA

Hear from **Sue Harris** from **Centro 32** who's in charge of delivery, as she shares about the mission.

NOVEMBER 21ST AT 10:00 AM | **IN THE WESLEY ROOM**



Christmas Party for Local Children!

The families we serve in Tijuana are hosting a Christmas party for very young children (around 4 years old) and are asking for donations of:

- Small Stuffed Animals
- Small Cars
- Child Size Blankets (that can fit in a backpack)

FOOD ITEMS:

- CANNED TUNA or CANNED CHICKEN
- Peanut Butter

WE ARE ONLY COLLECTING UNTIL NOVEMBER 21ST!



Join Us for Rise Against Hunger!

Saturday, February 7th
3:00 – 5:00 P.M.
Santa Ana United Methodist Church

We're excited to join four other local churches in a powerful mission effort to package **40,000 meal kits** for Rise Against Hunger—a global movement to end hunger by empowering communities and nourishing lives.

- Our church has a goal to bring **40 volunteers** to help pack meals.
- We're also raising **$3,228** as our share of the event cost.
- Can you lend a hand? Whether by volunteering your time or donating toward our goal, you'll be making a meaningful impact.

Sign-up to volunteer with Frank.

Donate by dropping a check in the offering plate with Rise Against Hunger in the memo line.

Santa Ana United Methodist Church
2221 N. Grand Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Let's come together to make a difference!

24442 Moulton Pkwy.
Laguna Woods, CA 92637
949.837.3414
office.lcumc@gmail.com
lagunacountryumc.org

Laguna Country UMC Staff

Rev. Dr. Brian Tipton Senior Pastor	revdrtipton@gmail.com
Ashleigh Kelly Director of Administration, & Families Ministries	office.lcumc@gmail.com
Richard Warne Music Director	rworglbau@aol.com
Mario Gallegos Audio Visual Director	AV.lcumc@gmail.com