

August 2025

# The Viewpoint

## This Month

- Men's Breakfast
- What's Going On
- Faith, Film and Feast



## Pastor David's *Reflections*



It came in a box with directions on how to assemble it. Each step was numbered. There was a drawing for each step. I followed the directions. It went together nicely and easily. Oh, there was a time when I thought I could figure out how to assemble furniture on my own. After all, I am an intelligent person. That was many years ago, and I learned the hard way, because not following directions, step by step, meant I had to disassemble much of the desk I had been putting together back then and start from the beginning. In fact, I learned that once a manufactured piece of furniture is assembled, it is hard to take it apart without damaging it. Remember the saying, "If all else fails, follow the directions." Last Sunday our Gospel reading was from Luke 11:1-13 where Jesus gives instructions on how to pray. The disciples noticed that he had been praying, as he often did, and one of them said, "Lord, teach us to pray." So he did. Luke's version of The Lord's Prayer (which I believe should be called The Disciple's Prayer) is very simple and has five parts. I would suggest that Jesus gives us a basic formula we can use when we pray: 1 - "Father" - A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP. The actual Greek word is "ABBA:" which in English translates as "Daddy", suggesting an intimate connection. 2 - "Thy kingdom come." SURRENDER to the will of God in all things. 3 - "Give us each day our daily bread." TRUST that God will give us what we need for that particular day. 4 - "Forgive us our sins." HUMILITY in the awareness that we stray from the path. 5 - "Lead us not into temptation." GUIDANCE from God throughout the day. Jesus gave us directions on how to pray. These are the five steps: Have a CLOSE RELATIONSHIP with God, SURRENDER to God's will, TRUST in God, maintain HUMILITY because we stray, and ask for GUIDANCE. I invite you to use this formula in your daily prayers and in your walk with Christ.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor David



# Dial - A - Devotion Ministry

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

1-Aug	Liz Heacock	16-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	1-Sep	Liz Heacock
2-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	17-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	2-Sep	Ashley Kelly
3-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	18-Aug	Laddie Perez	3-Sep	Joy O'Connor
4-Aug	Glenn Miller	19-Aug	Laura Dailak	4-Sep	Greg Lewis
5-Aug	Teri Lancey	20-Aug	Don Forden	5-Sep	Sherry Atkins
6-Aug	Dick Obermayer	21-Aug	Meg Estrada	6-Sep	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
7-Aug	Marilyn Nicolas	22-Aug	David Atkins	7-Sep	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
8-Aug	Elaine Brady	23-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	8-Sep	Laddie Perez
9-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	24-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	9-Sep	Laura Dailak
10-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	25-Aug	Glenn Miller	10-Sep	Don Forden
11-Aug	Ashley Kelly	26-Aug	Teri Lancey	11-Sep	Meg Estrada
12-Aug	Joy O'Connor	27-Aug	Dick Obermayer	12-Sep	David Atkins
13-Aug	Dick Obermayer	28-Aug	Marilyn Nicolas	13-Sep	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
14-Aug	Greg Lewis	29-Aug	Elaine Brady	14-Sep	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
15-Aug	Sherry Atkins	30-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX	15-Sep	Glenn Miller
		31-Aug	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX		

## August Birthdays!



Todd Danford	August 3rd
Joey Pring	August 3rd
Scott Bonhard	August 4th
Eloise Boortz	August 6th
Sara Danford	August 9th
Virgil Brady	August 21st
Mary Barrows	August 24th
LuLu Emery	August 24th
Arthur Feldra	August 24th
Phyllis Millovich	August 24th

## 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

## Looking For Help Around The House?

The men's group is here to help!

- ✓ Barber
- ✓ Gardening
- ✓ Carpentry
- ✓ Cleaning
- ✓ Climbing a ladder
- ✓ Handy Man Work
- ✓ Light Maintenance
- ✓ Mapping
- ✓ Painting
- ✓ Photography
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ and much more...

Call or email the church office to set up an appointment  
949.837.3414 or office.lcunc@gmail.com





## A Note From The Trustees

Please inform Ashleigh at the church office when you notice anything needing the attention of the Trustees, whether it be a water leak or something that is broken.

Thanks,  
Michael Daillak and the Trustees

## The "Prayer Tree"

Dear friends,

If you need prayer or would like to add someone to the prayer tree call Meg Estrada or Joy O'Connor.

The prayer team meets every Tuesday at 10:00 am at Joy's home.

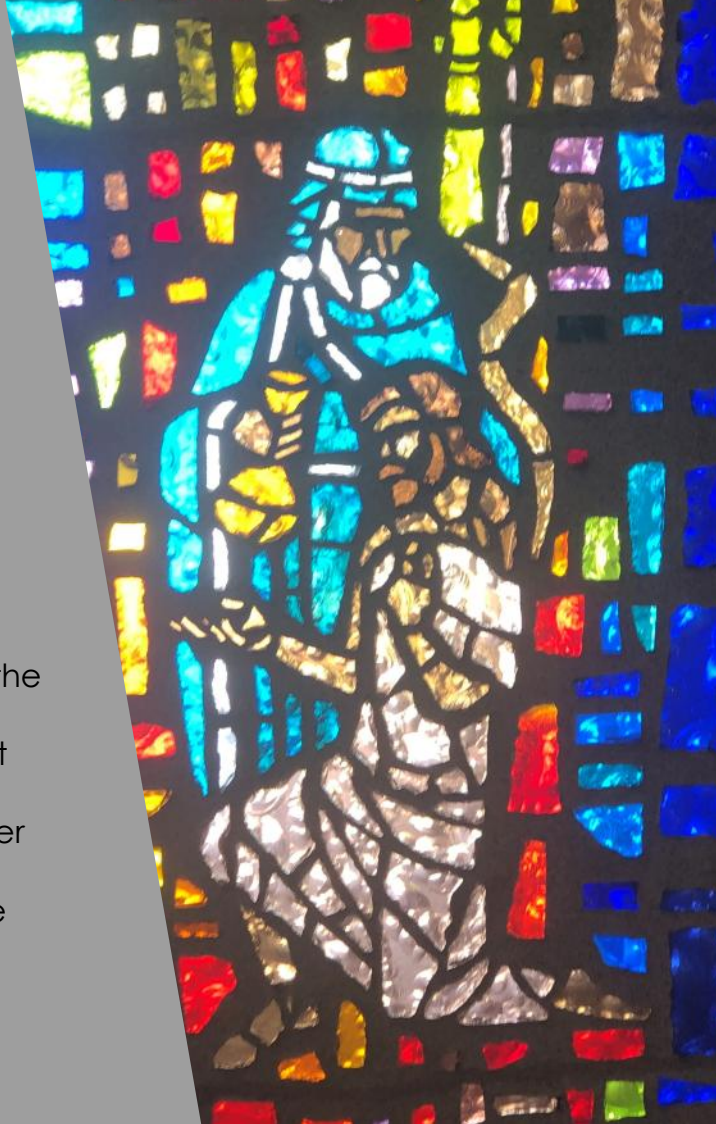
We also have a Prayer Tree, where we pass the prayer along to the others by phone.

You are welcome to join our prayer team. Just let me know.

Meg: 949-702-1835

Joy: 949-461-9021

In Christ,  
Meg Estrada



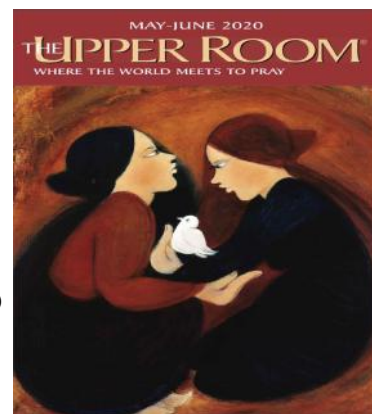
## Liturgists For August & September

Aug. 3rd	Laura Daillak
Aug. 10th	Rex Danford
Aug. 17th	Hanne Booth
Aug. 24th	Marilyn Nicolas
Aug. 31st	Sherry Atkins

Sep. 7th	Pendra LaFee
Sep. 14th	Laura Daillak
Sep. 21st	Bev Miller
Sep. 28th	Frank Bristol

## The Upper Room

The Upper Room devotional is available in the Narthex at the cost of \$1.00. If you wish to start receiving your daily Upper Room devotional by e-mail, you can go to [www.upperroom](http://www.upperroom) and sign up. There is no cost



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!!

# Sermon Themes

**August 3rd Hebrews 11:1-3; Luke 12:32-40 - FAITH AND ACTION:** The writer of the Hebrew letter provides a litany of those who have lived by faith: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Sarah. However, he asserts that they did not live to find the homeland for which they longed. Jesus, in Luke, calls us into alertness and action, to focus on treasures in heaven, reminding us that “where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” It is an admonition to keep your lights lit and ready for the presence of Christ.

**August 10th- Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21 - A DIFFERENT MINDSET:** Paul indicates that we have a choice. We can either focus our minds on “the things that are above,” or on “things that are on earth.” It is quite a challenge for us to focus on the spiritual aspects of life when we are so involved in the matters of the earth - daily concerns, financial needs, tasks at hand. In Luke we have Jesus warning against greed and the false security of material wealth. Jesus invites us to not focus on earthly treasures but to be “rich toward God.”

**August 17th- Hebrews 11:29-12:2 - RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE:** We continue the Hebrew writers list of those who have been faithful to their calling. He lists both men and women who have persevered through all kinds of trials and persecutions, giving great details of what they endured. Then he reminds the reader that since we have all these witnesses to the faith, we too are to persevere as we look to Jesus, the “Pioneer and perfecter of faith.” We are not expected to blaze a new trail, but to follow the trail already created for us.

**August 24th- Jeremiah 4:1-10; Luke 13:10-17 - ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE:** Jeremiah relates how he was called by God to be a “prophet to the nations.” God does not accept the excuses he makes, but empowers him to tackle the tasks given to him. Included in this passage is the beautiful statement: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.” Jeremiah accepts the challenge, as did Jesus, even though he was accosted by the leader of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus dared to heal on the sabbath. This reminds us that the sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath.

**August 31st- Hebrews 13:1-8; Luke 14:1,7-14 - HUMBLE SERVICE:** A lesson on humble empathy is given by the Hebrew writer. It is a challenge to go beyond what is natural and consider the suffering of others. He gives a reminder of the help and protection we receive from God as we do good and share what we have. Luke continues the admonition of humility, generosity, and a welcoming love and promises a reward “at the resurrection of the righteous.”

# August Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober	<b>2</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 1:00pm Hula Lessons
<b>3</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Time 11:00am Adult Sunday School	<b>4</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 9:00am Worship Committee Meeting 12:00pm Al-Anon Meeting 2:30pm Fellowship Team Meeting 7:00pm AA Monday Night 12 & 12	<b>5</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 9:30am Bell Practice 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	<b>6</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 10:30am Tellers 6:00pm Hula Lessons	<b>7</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 1:00pm 8 is Enough	<b>8</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober	<b>9</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober
<b>10</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Time 11:00am Adult Sunday School	<b>11</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 12:00pm Al-Anon Meeting 12:30pm Non-Competitive Bridge 5:00pm Choir Prep 7:00pm AA Monday Night 12 & 12	<b>12</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 9:30am Bell Practice 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	<b>13</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 10:30am Tellers 6:00pm Hula Lessons	<b>14</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 1:00pm 8 is Enough	<b>15</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober	<b>16</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 9:30am Men's Group 1:00pm Hula Lessons
<b>17</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Time 11:00am Adult Sunday School	<b>18</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 12:00pm Al-Anon Meeting 5:00pm Choir Prep 7:00pm AA Monday Night 12 & 12	<b>19</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 9:30am Bell Practice 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	<b>20</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 10:30am Tellers 11:00am Faith, Film, & Feast 6:00pm Hula Lessons	<b>21</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 1:00pm 8 is Enough	<b>22</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober	<b>23</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 6:00pm Rambling Rouges
<b>24</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Time 11:00am Adult Sunday School	<b>25</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 12:00pm Al-Anon Meeting 12:30pm Non-Competitive Bridge 7:00pm AA Monday Night 12 & 12	<b>26</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 9:30am Bell Practice 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Scouts	<b>27</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 10:30am Tellers 11:30am Lunch Bunch- Stadium Brewery 6:00pm Hula Lessons	<b>28</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 1:00pm 8 is Enough	<b>29</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober	<b>30</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 1:00pm Hula Lessons
<b>31</b> 6:30am AA Do It Sober 8:30am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Time 11:00am Adult Sunday School						



# Missions

## Sherman Indian High School

### ITEMS NEEDED

- \*College ruled paper
- \*College ruled notebooks
- \*#2 pencils
- \*Colored pencils
- \*3-ring binders
- Student Supplies:
  - \*Backpacks
  - \*Large beach towels
  - \*hygiene items
  - \*snacks like peanut butter,
  - \*Ramen packages

### SUPPLY DRIVE

You may bring items to the church  
on Sunday or to the office.

The Committee on Native American Ministries of the California Pacific Conference is collecting school supplies for Sherman Indian High School in Riverside, CA. Sherman Indian High School is one of four residential schools for Native Americans still operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The school has a limited budget and the students most often come from a great distance, bringing only basic clothing.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!**



**SUN. SEPT. 7TH AT 3PM**

Santa Ana UMC  
2121 N. Grand Avenue  
Santa Ana, CA 92705

For more information:  
Jesse Roxas, (714) 272-8378; jesseroxas@gmail.com

ORANGE COUNTY  
CENTRAL MISSION AREA  
CHURCHES

**Join Us for Rise Against Hunger!**  
**Sunday, September 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 and to raise **\$3,228** as our share of the event cost.

Can you lend a hand? Whether by volunteering your time, donating toward our fundraising goal, or both—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.

**Let's come together to make a difference!**

# What's Going On

**The Sacristy:** Due to water and fire damage, a total rebuild of the Sacristy (where communion is prepared by Laguna Country and Korean congregations) was needed. This has been completed and is ready for use. We received \$22,000 from the insurance company for this project.

**Rise Against Hunger:** Because of the generous donations of many members of LCUMC, the goal of raising \$3,280 has been reached. The event where food is packaged, sponsored by five United Methodist churches, will take place Sunday, September 7th, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Sign up for the event is available in the Narthex on Sundays.

**Sherman Indian High School Donations:** More than fifteen boxes have been filled with items donated by members and friends of LCUMC. We will continue receiving donations until the middle of August.

**October 4th Seminar:** A one day seminar, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., on the formation of the Old and New Testaments will be held on Saturday, October 4th. Dr. Lee McDonald, a renowned biblical historian will be the speaker. A \$15 registration fee will include lunch. Members of the community and other churches will be invited and members of LCUMC are urged to invite friends to this event.

# What's Going On

**Gift from Campbell Charitable Trust:** A gift of \$68,828.55 has been given to Laguna Country UMC from Wendy and Eugene Campbell who recently passed on. The note accompanying the gift included the following: "They enjoyed coming to church and enjoyed your congregation and the times spent at your church. Although their health limited their attendance, they wanted to leave you with a donation from their charitable trust to further the efforts to spread the word of God."

**Library:** The Education Committee wishes to re-establish a library for the church and will be using the Conference Room in the church office as the location. A library cart will be used to bring books to Coffee Hour on Sundays. They are looking for two volunteers to help organize the library. Donations of books by individuals will be welcome.

**Laguna Woods United Methodist Foundation:** An informative letter was recently sent to members of LCUMC regarding the history and work of the Foundation. In addition, the Foundation wishes to inform members that approximately \$3.6 million has been contributed to the Foundation, approximately \$3.5 million has been distributed to LCUMC, and approximately \$4.1 is managed by the Foundation at this time, including \$2.0 million donated directly to the Foundation and \$2.1 million placed by LCUMC to be managed by the Foundation.

**Freedom Village Service:** A new member, Rev. Steven Jenkins, is providing a half hour devotional time every Thursday, 10:30 am at Freedom Village Residence.



# Save The Date

A collage of playing cards, including a fan of the Ace through King of Spades and a King of Clubs, set against a green background with a subtle pattern.

*Non-Competitive  
Bridge*

August 11th & 25th  
at 12:30 p.m.  
In the Wesley Room

Contact Jan Dvorznak to reserve a place.  
All bridge players welcome.

A plate of breakfast food including pancakes, sausage, fried eggs, and bacon, set against a yellow background with a subtle pattern.

Men's  
*Breakfast*

August 16th at 9:30 a.m.

A collage featuring a movie poster for 'Chariots of Fire', a large pile of popcorn, a clapperboard, and a red starburst graphic, set against a dark background.

**AUGUST 20TH**  
11am-1pm

YOU ARE INVITED  
**FAITH, FILM & FEAST**

WE'LL BE SHOWING THE INSPIRING FILM CHARIOTS OF FIRE. SERVING LUNCH AND A SHORT DISCUSSION. DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE FOR FELLOWSHIP, FAITH, AND FOOD!  
PLEASE RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE AT  
OFFICE@LCCMC.GMAIL.COM OR CALL 949-837-3414

TICKET CINEMA

A yellow background with a subtle pattern, featuring the text 'YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR Back to Church SUNDAY September 14th Bring a Friend!' in various fonts and colors.

**YOU'RE INVITED**  
TO JOIN  
US FOR

*Back  
to  
Church*

**SUNDAY**

**September 14th**

*Bring a Friend!*



# Fellowship Opportunities



**Free Lunch**

**A new weekly gathering for fellowship and support**

**Meets at Restaurant 19  
in Laguna Woods Village  
Every Friday  
from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.**

"The Gathering" includes a free lunch and offers non-denominational, non-political discussion on various topics. This group is for people who wish to meet others or who wish to obtain or provide information that may benefit others. Meetings will be held either in Room 3 or on the balcony, depending on availability. Email [TheGathering.lcunc@gmail.com](mailto:TheGathering.lcunc@gmail.com) to attend, indicating the number of attendees, your name, and if you need a "Gate 12 call-in" option.

## August Lunch Bunch

*August 27th at Stadium Brewery*

*Meet at the church at 11:00 a.m.  
to carpool*




Questions contact the office 949.837.3414 or [office.lcunc@gmail.com](mailto:office.lcunc@gmail.com)

## A Study of the Book of Philippians

Starting June 22nd

Join us for an uplifting Bible study as we explore the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians—a powerful message of joy, encouragement, and faith, even in the midst of hardship.

Sunday's after  
fellowship  
time  
Led by  
Rev. Glenn Miller



No prior experience needed—just bring your Bible, your curiosity, and your heart open to God's Word. Let's grow in grace together!

## CHOIR IS ON VACATION

Our choir is on vacation until September 3rd







# OFFICE Hours

Pastor  
David

Monday - 9 am to 2 pm  
Tuesday - 11 am to 2 pm  
Wednesday - 9 am to 2 pm  
Thursday - 9 am to 2 pm

Ashleigh

Monday - 8:30 am to 2 pm  
Tuesday - 8:30 am to 2 pm  
Wednesday - 8:30 am to 2 pm  
Thursday - 8:30 am to 2 pm & 12 pm  
every other Thur.  
Friday - 8:30 am to 12 pm

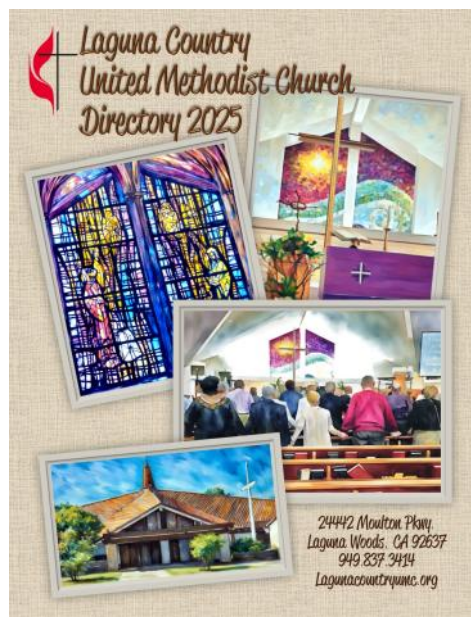
## Directory Corrections & Editions

Thresea Vinegar

45sc54@comline.com

Linda Taylor

linda.taylor@gmail.com



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.

You will be glad you called!



## Sponsor Altar Flowers

*Bring Beauty To Worship*

Would you like to honor a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or dedicate a meaningful remembrance during Sunday worship? You can sponsor a **flower arrangement** to be placed on the altar.

**Cost:** \$50 per arrangement

**Dedicate In:**

- Memory of a loved one
- Celebration of a birthday, anniversary, or milestone
- Honor of someone special

**How to Sign Up:**

- Add your name to the **Flower Chart** in the **narthex**
- OR contact the **church office**

**Payment Options:**

- Place a **check** in the offering plate  
(write "Altar Flowers" in the memo)
- Pay through the **church office**

Thank you for helping to enhance our  
worship with the beauty of God's creation!





# *Laguna Country United Methodist Church*

24442 Moulton Pkwy  
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

**Phone** 949.837.3414

**Email** office.lcumc@gmail.com

**Website** lagunacountryumc.org

## *Laguna Country Staff*



**Pastor David Atkins**

Senior Pastor

davidmft76@gmail.com

**Ashleigh Kelly**

Office Manager

office.lcumc@gmail.com

**Richard Warne**

Music Director

richard.lcumc@gmail.com

**Michael Beu**

Director of Technology,  
Media, & Communications

michaelsbeu@gmail.com