



# CHIMES

## Whittier First UMC

Good News for All...through learning, action, and love

**IN-PERSON & ONLINE Worship every Sunday @ 10am**

 **Whittier First United Methodist Church**

 **facebook.com/WhittierFirstUMC**

WhittierFirstUMC.com | Info@WhittierFirstUMC.com | 562.698.0022 | 13222 Bailey St., Whittier CA 90601 | 01.11.24



*John 1:43-51*

We often think that the first Christians were spiritual giants, paragons of virtue, and pillars of faith. But the first Christians were ordinary people like us. They were everyday people with everyday problems. They worried about paying their bills, and prayed to God for protection and guidance for their families. They were flawed and broken, just like we are. The beginnings of Christianity are marked as much by failure as success. But, somehow, in the midst of it all, God grew a church to serve the world. What can we learn about our lives today from those early Christians? What can we learn about our faith today from those early Christians? More than you think. Join us this week as we begin a new sermon series "Once Upon a Time: Lessons from the Beginning of Christianity." This week, we begin at the beginning, with a simple invitation, "Come and See." -Pastor Jon

## COMING UP AT WHITTIER FIRST UMC

Sun, 01.14.24

- 10 am **Traditional Worship**  
Sanctuary/Online
- 10:20 am **Children's Sunday School**  
Library

Mon, 01.15.24

**Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s  
Birthday Observance—Office closed**

Tues, 01.16.24

- 1:30 pm **Tuesday Art & Music**  
Wesley Lounge
- 5 pm **Messy Church**  
Wesley Lounge

Wed, 01.17.24

- 9 am **Sew n Sew**  
Admin 101
- 7 pm **Finance Committee Meeting**  
Board Room and/or Online

Thurs, 01.18.24

- 2 pm **Staff Meeting**  
Conference Room
- 5 pm **Jubilant Bells Rehearsal**  
Bell Room
- 7:30 pm **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**  
Choir Room

Sat, 01.20.24

- 9 am **Church Council Meeting**  
Board Room

### Office Hours next week:

Mon closed, Tues 9am-2pm, Wed 10-2pm,  
Thurs 8:30am-5pm, Fri Closed

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

### In-Person:

Sunday, January 7, 2024: **48**

### Online:

Sunday, December 31, 2023: **124**

**HOPE CIRCLE** extends an invitation to all women of the church to join us for breakfast and fellowship on the first Saturday of every month from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Our next meeting is February 3<sup>rd</sup> when we will be discussing an easy to read and delightful story called *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate Dicamillo. We have a few copies to share, and it is also available at the Whittier library. We hope that you will join us. It's a great way to start the day. Please send questions to Donna Padgett or Martha Bailey.

**January 14 is Human Relations Sunday**, one of the special offering Sundays of the United Methodist Church. Human Relations Day is a denomination-wide special offering often received the Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, and the offering benefits programs that further Dr. King's legacy and vision. Specific ministries include the Community Developers Program, United Methodist Voluntary Services Program and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program. These initiatives seek to address issues in urban,



low-income and minority communities, such as poverty, homelessness, incarceration, human trafficking, immigration and environmental justice. The fund is administered by the General Board of Global Ministry and the General Board of Church and Society. To donate scan the qr code above or write a check payable to the church noting "Human Relations Sunday."

Donate used eyeglasses to the Lions Club. There are two donation boxes at church—in the office and Narthex. Contact Wes Murray for more information, 562.201.0131.

Leadership Report 2024  
Whittier First United Methodist Church

Chair: Mala Williams  
Secretary: Amy Ray  
Lay Leader: Charles Bennett  
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Charles Bennett, Alternate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Secretary: Joan Meister

Board of Trustees Chairs: (3-9 people) Chair: Barbara Strout

2024	2025	2026
Julie Potts	Sharon Hastings	Roger Reynolds
Barbara Strout	Frank Montenegro (Hands-on)	_____
Jim Hahn	Sean Adams (Hands-on)	
Wes Murray		

SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) Chair: Ginny Ball (5-9 people)

2024	2025	2026
Ginny Ball	Gerhard Schaefer	Joan Meister
Maureen James	Leon Bennett	_____
Ellie Criddle		

Finance Chair: Lori Harris  
Committee: Art Hastings, Amy Ray, Rich Warner, Barry Bailey, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Nominations Committee & Lay Leadership Chair: Pastor Jon

2024	2025	2026
Nancy Libby	C-J Conklin	Diane Britton

Worship Support Team Chair: Pastor Jon  
Committee: Charles Bennett, Judy Flanders, Donna Padgett, Matthew Ray, Wes Murray,  
Mala Williams, CJ Conklin (staff), David Coutant (staff)

Ministry Team Leaders included in Church Council  
UMW (United Methodist Women): Martha Bailey  
Foundation President: Roger Reynolds  
Member at Large: Nancy Libby  
Children's Team Leader: Karen Bennett  
Justice & Compassion Liaison: Rita Murray  
Youth & Young Adults Liaison: C-J Conklin