



CHIMES

Whittier First UMC

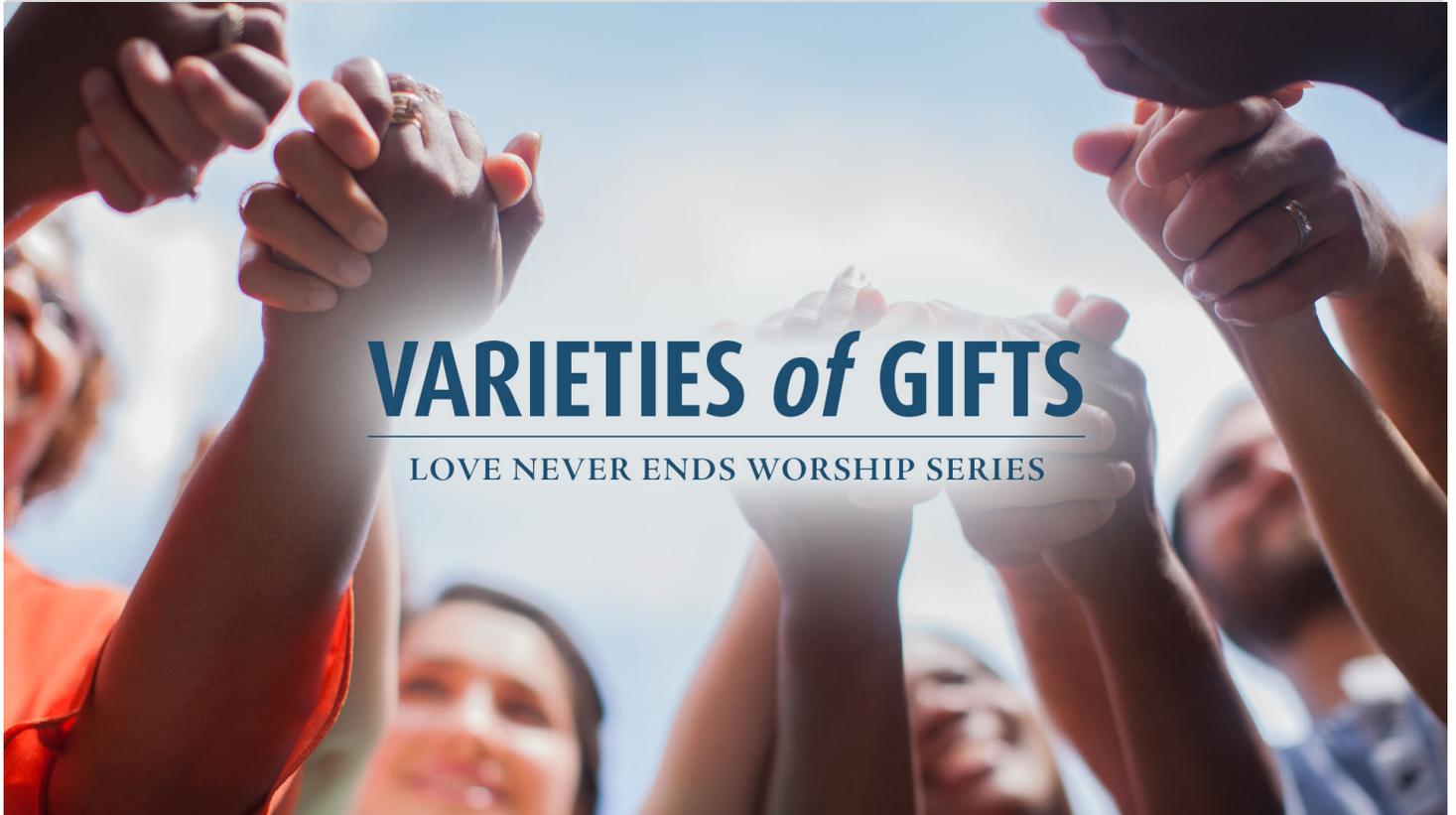
Good News for All...through learning, action, and love

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 | 01.13.22



VARIETIES *of* GIFTS

LOVE NEVER ENDS WORSHIP SERIES

“We are interconnected and dependent on each other. Each person is unique and beautiful in a way that is distinct from any other person on earth. As Christians, we are stronger together when we lean on each other. In times when someone is weak or going through a difficult time, this person can find strength in the community of believers. May we grow in faith together, trusting in God's love for all of us!”

–Pastor Angela

01.16.22 Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ, Part I - Gifts / *Corinthians 12:1-11*

01.23.22 Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ, Part II -You are the body / *Corinthians 12:12-31a*

01.30.22 Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ, Part III -The Greatest of These / *Corinthians 13:1-13*

02.06.22 Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ, Part IV - Hold Firmly / *Corinthians 15:1-11*

02.13.22 Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ, Part V- The First Fruits / *Corinthians 15:12-20*

02.20.22 Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ, Part VI - Raised in Glory / *Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50*

Our loving prayers for peace and comfort go to Martha Winans and family, as Randy has entered Everlasting Life on January 7th.

Opportunities for involvement

01.16.22–01.23.21

Sun, 01.16.22

8:45 am **M & M Challengers** Kraft Friendship Room

10 am **Traditional Worship** Sanctuary & Online

10:15 am **Children's Sunday School** Library

Mon, 01.17.22

The church office is closed in observance of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

Tues, 01.18.22

1:30 pm **Tuesdays with Art & Music** Wesley Building

5 pm **Messy Church** Wesley Building

Wed, 01.19.22

7 pm **Finance Committee Meeting** Online

Thurs, 01.20.22

5 pm **Jubilant Bells Rehearsal** Bell Room

7:30 pm **Chancel Choir Rehearsal** Choir Room

Sat, 01.22.22

9 am **Church Council Meeting**

Sun, 01.23.22

8:45 am **M & M Challengers** Kraft Friendship Room

10 am **Traditional Worship** Sanctuary & Online

10:15 am **Children's Sunday School** Library

Several AA & NA classes are held on campus during the week, contact the church office for days & times.

Pastor Angela's office hours:

Tues & Thurs, 10am-3pm

Church office hours:

Mon-Thurs, 8:30am-4pm, closed on Fridays



3rd Tuesday
of each month
5 PM

in-person
(Wesley bldg)
&
online

JANUARY 18th

"Starstruck
Skies"

Song, Snacks, Story, Crafts & Games

Crafts are delivered to you on request.

URGENT CALL FOR BLOOD DONORS!

The United States is experiencing the worst blood shortage in the last 10 years. Please schedule your blood donation today.

Venture Crew 546 is hosting a blood drive on
Saturday, January 22, 2022
10am-4pm
Wesley Lounge

You can schedule an appointment online by visiting: RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: **CREW546** or call 1.800.RED.CROSS.

If you would like help scheduling your appointment, please call the church office at 562.698.0022.

**Remember to bring a picture ID
or your donor card**

Face masks are required while indoors.

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL DATES:

Jan 22 | April 30 | July 30 | Oct 29

SATURDAYS @ 9 AM–12 PM in-person & online

Bishop Hagiya

Briefing on COVID-19 (1/8/2022)

On behalf of the Appointed Cabinet and Senior Leadership of the annual conference, I am writing to express our deep concern about the surge of COVID-19 and Omicron cases that we are witnessing. The National Geographic has put this in stark terms:

Year three of the pandemic began with COVID-19 cases soaring to an average of 610,000 per day for the past week.

That's more than twice the daily average for the 2021 winter surge. Compared to two weeks ago, hospitalizations are up 65 percent, while deaths, which typically lag hospitalizations by about two weeks, are up 2 percent. The number of people who have died from COVID-19 in the U.S. now exceeds 832,000. (*National Geographic*, Science Edition, January 7, 2022)

As an annual conference, we have always followed the latest recommendations from the State, County, and City. So far, they have not called for a significant shutdown of more extensive gatherings of people. We have worked hard with our local churches to reopen with major safety guidelines, and we continue to stress how important it is to follow these guidelines. We are not making a blanket ruling that all local churches need to stop their in-person worships and gatherings but allow the appointed clergy and Administrative Council to make that decision. We trust in your leadership explicitly, and you know your context far better than we do. We also stand by your leadership, and if you have to make a hard decision, we will support that decision unconditionally. If there are changes that our State, County, and City decide upon shortly, we will follow them accordingly. As always, your District Superintendent is available for counsel and direction.

The COVID-19 virus mutates to survive, and the Omicron variant is an excellent example of this survival strategy. It is not as life-threatening as the Delta variant; it is more transmissible and spreads to more people while allowing them to survive. It is anyone's guess on how and when it will morph in the future, but as the experts are now saying, living with COVID-19 might be a long-term reality.

As your annual conference leadership, we care deeply for every one of you. For this reason, we ask that you get vaccinated to ensure your safety. The vast majority of deaths from COVID-19 are happening to the unvaccinated. The science behind this vaccine is proven. Personally, I have been triple vaccinated (two original Moderna vaccines and the booster), and it hasn't negatively affected my health at all. What it has done is protect me from life-threatening repercussions if I become infected. This is not about political correctness – this is about saving lives. There is absolutely no rationale for a religious exemption in our United Methodist theology. Pragmatically, we want you to live through this health crisis, and the best way to do that is to get vaccinated as quickly as you can.

I continue to pray each day for our clergy and laity, as well as for the general public as we deal with our COVID-19 crisis. With faith in God, we will see our way through this. In the words of Joshua:

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. — *Joshua 1:9*

Be the Hope,

Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

Los Angeles Area Resident Bishop