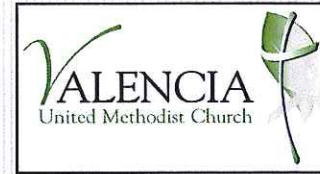
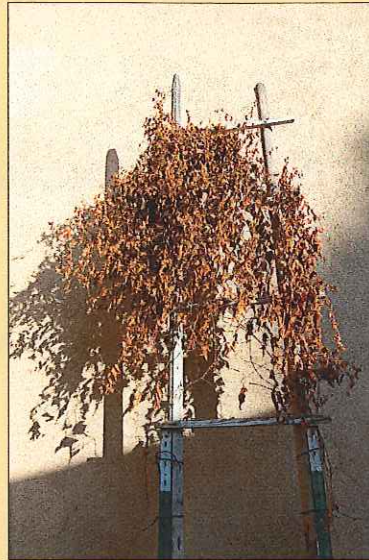


# The Messenger



## Photos For New VUMC Church Directory

Thank you for your participation! We hope to have everyone's photo in the new church directory. No purchase needed and everyone will receive a FREE 8x10. The first photo session 6/2-6/5 is almost full. To set your appointment now, go to [umcv.org](http://umcv.org) and look for the photo directory link. The next session is 8/4-8/6. To help with photo check-in during August, call Lolly Leathers at 661-775-2696. Let's see your smiles!



## Rooted in God?

Years ago, in Orange County, Rahel made me go clean out the jungle that we called our "garden." I cut out all the roots of this vine/weed/plant-thing (I don't know anything about gardening or plants) and left the top part on because 1) it was too high and 2) I didn't feel like it after all the energy exerted in removing all the roots of the plant. The picture that you see was a week (yes, I waited a whole week) after the plant was detached from its roots.

As I was looking at the, now brown, plant-thing, I started wondering what my life is rooted in. Am I really rooted in God's word, love and presence? Or am I rooted into something more self-serving and ego-satisfying? I think it's good to sit down and really dig deep down and ask "What is my life rooted in?" Is it money? My career? Fame? Or is it rooted in the everlasting hope, abundance in strength and never-ending love of God? Because without being rooted in God, our lives eventually will turn brown and wither much like the plant in the picture. The world is going to throw ferocious winds against us,

and if we are not rooted in God, then we have a high chance of not withstanding the storm.

This summer, we are going to embark on a sermon series entitled "Building Your Core" and that leading to "Building Our Core." We are going to touch on some important spiritual disciplines that we can engage in our private time with God, then leading to the things that we can do corporately with one another. All this is to remind us the importance of God in our daily lives (not just here and there). It is to encourage us to engage in spiritual disciplines so that we may draw nearer to God, for as James says, "Come near to God and God will come near to you" (James 4:8). So join us this June/July as we talk about ways we can draw nearer to God and, therefore, be firmly rooted in God's love and presence.



*Love God—Love Others—Serve—Repeat*

Pastor Joe



## Vacation Bible School



We're inviting all kids, ages 3 years – 6<sup>th</sup> grade, to join us for a great week of VBS. Bible stories, music, games, crafts, snacks and lots of fun will be had as we explore "PandaMania: Where God is Wild about you!" Registration begins June 12<sup>th</sup>. We hope that you will invite friends and neighbors to come with you.

During Sunday School on July 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, the kids will be working on some fun decorations for VBS week. If you're crafty or creative and could help either or both of those days, please let us know.

If you are a youth or adult that would like to get in on the fun, we would love to have you join the PandaMania Team. Stop by the VBS registration table for more information, including planning and training dates, or contact Michelle Andrews at [mandrews@umcv.org](mailto:mandrews@umcv.org).

## New Member Class June 2011



Top Row L to R: Burke Greer, Jill Greer, Lori Senft, Barry Senft, Allen Taylor, Belinda Taylor, Sandy Rennels, Jennifer Magon

Bottom Row L to R: Barbara Early, Margie McCormick, Jana Barfield (Not pictured: Anne Stenquist)

## 2011 Children's Musical—May 22, 2011



THE OLD TESTAMENT  
FAST FORWARD ►► I

*The Complete History in 10 Minutes*

## Congratulations Graduates!

### College Graduates

Casey Bouknight from Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor of Science Degree - Computer Science

Jesse Patrick Deering from COC to CSUN to become a history teacher

Amanda McMurray from COC to Cal State Channel Islands

Cassie Wahlfarth from UC Santa Barbara, moving to TX; career plans - Foreign Policy Advisor or a Youth Pastor

Tammy Kawashima from Life Pacific Bible College with a BA in Christian Ministry and Leadership, Summa Cum Laude and elected to the student honor society, Delta Epsilon Chi.

### High School Graduates

Aubrie Alexander from Valencia High School to Sonoma State University

Michael Ayoubkhan from West Ranch High School to College of the Canyons

Jonathon "Ryan" Anderson from Hart High School, with honors, to University of California San Diego - Mechanical Engineering

Sam Bashor from Hart High School to CSUN - Music Therapy and Nursing

Taylor Bouknight from Valencia High School to Azusa Pacific majoring in Psychology with a minor in Global Studies

Abigail G. Evangelista from Golden Valley High School to College of the Canyons

### High School Graduates Continued...

Paul Fregeau from Bridgewater High School to Massasoit Community College, Boston, MA

Kali Jelen from Valencia High School to Pepperdine University, Business Administration with a minor in Film Studies

Geoff Moore from Hart High School to UC Santa Barbara

Paige Piper from Saugus High School to California Lutheran University

Taylor Hampton Reynolds from Valencia High School to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, major in Animal Science - Equine Science

John Schmidt from Valencia High School to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach - Aerospace Engineering

Steven Schmidt from Valencia High School to Azusa Pacific University - Music and Humanities

Andrew J. Somers from Valencia High School to CSUN, Mechanical Engineering

Carina Suarez from Hart High School

Anne Susdorf from Hart High to Fresno State, Athletic Scholarship - Tennis

Michele Todd from Advantage Preparatory H.S. to CSUN, English major with a creative writing emphasis

Just a note to thank you so very much for the use of the church for the annual Make-a-Mothers Day for Single Mothers Outreach. The event was wonderful. Thirty mothers enjoyed good food, music and lots of gifts for Mothers Day. We really appreciate your support.

Jennifer Kennedy



Cheerful Givers is a ministry that works with young ladies at the probation camps by engaging them in craft-making for gifts for women and children in crisis. Recently they provided decorated pillows to be given to women at the Mary Magdalene project. Some of their responses were...

Thank you for God's gifts  
 Thank you for the gifts. I am so thankful and humble.  
 God be with you all—thank you!  
 Thanks for the gifts—I really love the pillow.

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Samuel Ransom Mallary

Born: 5-26-11

8 lbs., 1 oz. - 21" long

Parents: Aaron & Krista Mallary

Grandparents: Pat & Joyce Modugno

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## Join us for a Spiritual Workout in June and July!

Our physical bodies are made up of several core muscles which keep our bodies functioning properly if we keep them exercised and in shape. It's even more important that we build the core of our spiritual life. Through June and July we'll work on getting our soul into shape through the Spiritual Disciplines. Join us as we look at the Spiritual Disciplines in some new and exciting ways and we'll all become stronger as we strive to build our core!

