

The Messenger

Corona United Methodist Church
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February 4, 2026



Corona United Methodist Church



Preparing for LENT

Ash Wednesday - February 18

“Visio Divina - The Passion of Christ thru Iconography”

Sermon Series: February 22 thru Palm/Passion Sunday

I love to visit the Getty Center in LA. My favorite is the West Pavillion Gallery with paintings from the 1700 and 1800's, especially the works of Claude Monet. I don't get to The Getty as often as I'd like, but sitting on their padded benches and looking at these paintings renews me.

Do you have experiences like this when you see art that you love?

Though I practice **Lectio Divina** (Divine Reading) by contemplating scripture almost every day, **Visio Divina** (Divine Seeing) is a contemplative practice I'd like to explore more.

I hear people say, “the world is so crazy right now”, but life has been crazy since the beginning of time. We desperately need opportunities like Lectio Divina and Visio Divina to answer our longing to connect with the Divine, with our inner selves and with the world around us in positive ways.

I invite you, this season of Lent, to satisfy the longing in your heart to connect - with the Divine, your inner self and the world around you - by spending some time in worship on Visio Divina.

We'll take time in this sermon series to look at art depicting the passion of Christ in scripture and allow our eyes, heart, mind and soul to catch up with each other and become reunited.

Even more exciting, on three Sundays - March 15, 22 & 29 - Rev. Richard Blackburn, an Art Historian, specializing in Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque art, will give video presentations during worship on Christian iconography pertaining to the passion narrative.

He's even leading a pilgrimage of Faith and Art in Florence, Italy this October (more information at end of newsletter). Please contact Richard directly if you are interested in this opportunity.

What better way to come fresh to the story of Christ's last days and see something new in this revelation of God's self given for our redemption.

Join us!
I'll Meet you There,
Pastor Susan

FEBRUARY COMMUNION OFFERING



The February Communion offerings will benefit Peppermint Ridge here in Corona. PR cares for developmentally disabled adults, many that have no surviving family. They provide a secure, loving environment and a quality of life that their clients may not otherwise receive. Thank you for your generous support.



Make It Cozy Collection Drive

On **February 8, 15, and 22**, we will be collecting personal care items for **Make It Cozy**, a program operated by **Karen Alexander** that helps unhoused individuals transition into stable housing. Through this ministry, essential items are provided to support individuals as they move into temporary housing with dignity and care.

Requested items include:

- Shampoo & conditioner
- Body wash / shower gel
- Personal hygiene products
- Hand lotion
- Sunscreen

Please note: **no deodorants**, please. Items for **men or women** are welcome.

Thank you for helping provide comfort, hope, and practical support to our neighbors in need.

Thank you,
Your Missions and Outreach Team
Diane Thomas & Cheryl Trifiletti

Trustees Dinner & Auction - An Island-Style Evening of Food, Fellowship & Fun

Saturday, March 21, 2026 5:00–9:00 PM

Aloha! Join us for one of our most anticipated events of the year — the **Trustees Dinner & Auction**, island-style! Enjoy a delicious dinner provided by our friends at **Cowboy Surfer Grill**, followed by an exciting **live and silent auction** that's sure to make waves.

Live Auction Donations Needed

We are seeking **high-value items** for the live auction, including:

- Tickets to sporting events, plays, musicals or other fun things to do
- Vacation getaways (timeshares, travel points, or second homes)
- Unique items or experiences (hosting a party, special services, or valuable items)

To donate or for more information, please contact: **Marc Trifiletti** 949-633-9043 marctrif@gmail.com

Silent Auction Donations

We are also accepting **new or like-new items** for the silent auction — a perfect place to donate any misfitting Christmas gifts or items you're ready to replace. Donation drop-off at the church begins **March 15**.

Tickets will go on sale starting Sunday, March 1 (note we are limited to 60 seats so don't wait)

- \$25 per person
- \$10 for children under 12

Be sure to mark your calendar — this is always a must-be-at event!

Peppermint Ridge Rejoicers



2026 Church Leaders



Top row left to right: Cheryl Trifiletti, Sharon Bishop, Lisa Morano, Ryan Park, Steve Dempster, Bill Gagner, Pamela Robinson and Marc Trifiletti

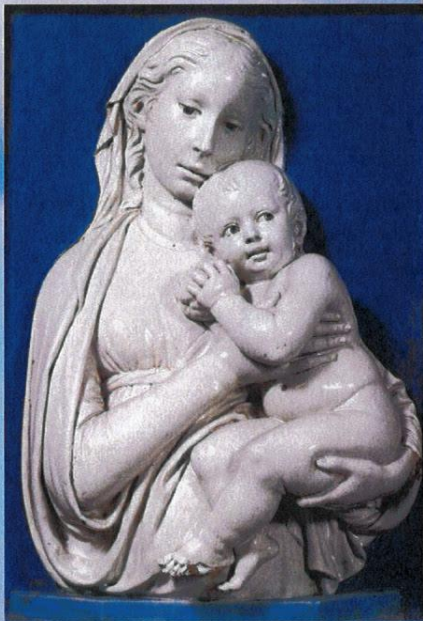
Bottom row left to right: Pastor Susan, Linda Faxon and Diane Thomas

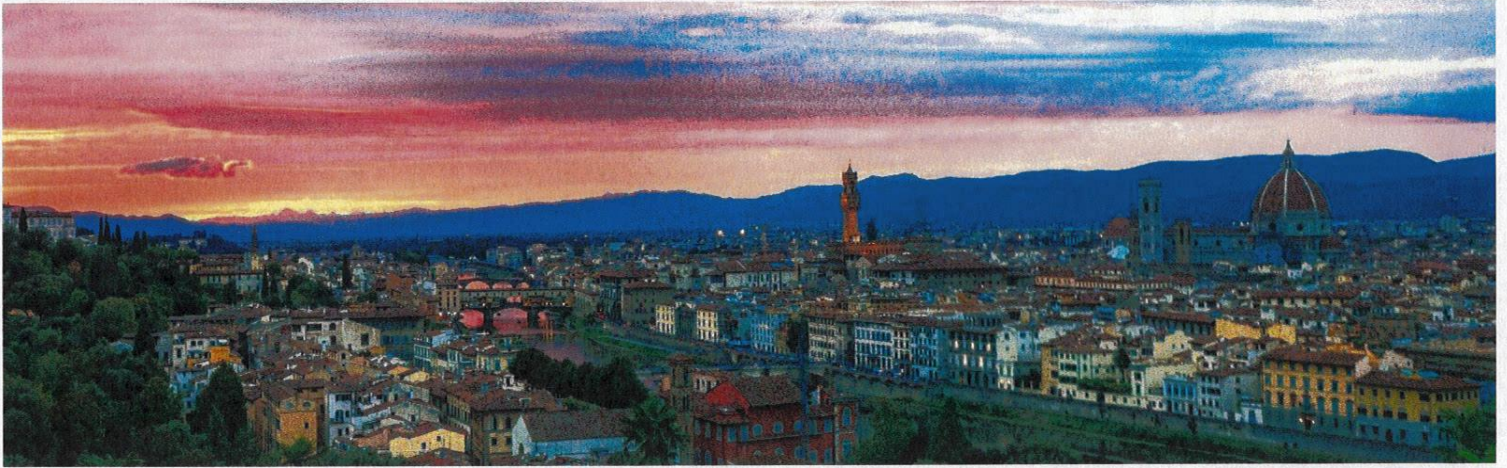
Not pictured – Melissa Solis



A Pilgrimage of Faith and Art in Florence, Italy

October 20-28, 2026 – Led by Rev. Richard Blackburn





Many Christians of the pre-Modern era were unable to travel to the popular pilgrimage sites, like Jerusalem, Rome, or Santiago de Compostela. However, reflecting on the artistic representations of Christ's Passion and Resurrection, as well as the lives of the saints, found in their local churches provided them with the opportunity to undertake a meditative pilgrimage. In a similar way, the October 2026 "Pilgrimage of Faith and Art in Florence, Italy" is intended to invite participants to be more than tourists, but to be on a meditative pilgrimage that enhances one's inward journey of faith.

As the cradle of the Renaissance, Florence is among the richest centers of faith-based art in the world. The historic center of Florence has been a UNESCO heritage site since 1982, with it being recognized as having the highest concentration of world-famous art of any other city.

Florence is an open-air museum full of architectural masterpieces and unique artistic treasures at every turn. Growing from its Roman roots, continuing through the Middle Ages, Florence's splendor grew exponentially each century. From the 13th century to the High and Late Renaissance of the 16th century, Florence has been inextricably linked to key figures in the history of literature and art, as well as those who patronized the arts.

I hope that you will join me for the pilgrimage of faith and art in October 2026, as we delve deeply into the city of Dante Alighieri, Giotto di Bondone, Filippo Brunelleschi, Lorenzo Ghiberti, Donatello, Masaccio, Fra Angelico, Lorenzo de' Medici, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and many others. On-site lectures in the museums and churches of Florence – along with a day trip to Siena – will provide an opportunity to reflect on Christian iconography through the eyes of faith and from a historical perspective, while also learning about the lives of the artists who created those works.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Richard Blackburn

TO SECURE YOUR PLACES ON THIS PILGRIMAGE

COST \$4,290 (SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT \$1,900) if registering by November 30, 2025. Afterward the fee is \$4,500.

*Space on the tour is limited to a very small group of art enthusiasts, so **early booking is strongly advised**. To reserve a place, please complete and send the enclosed booking form, as well as the signed Release and Waiver Agreement, together with a **non-refundable deposit of \$900 per person**. Payment schedule: 1) 50% of balance by **March 31, 2026**; 2) final payment by **July 31, 2026**.*

*Bookings with initial deposit payment must be received no later than **January 31, 2026**. For bookings after November 30, 2025, it would be best to write first to RBlackburn@LMPeaceCenter.org to see if there is still space.*



February 2026						
◀ January						March ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>Bible Study</u> 8:45am-9:45am <u>Worship</u> 10am	2	3 <u>Faith Journey</u> 9am <u>SPRC meeting</u> 7pm	4	5 <u>Bad Girls of the Bible</u> 7pm (Zoom) <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm	6 <u>Cub Scouts</u> 6:30pm-8:30pm	7 <u>All Church clean-up</u> 8am
8 <u>Bible Study</u> 8:45am-9:45am <u>Worship – Scout Sunday</u> 10am	9 <u>Seams of Faith</u> 10am-12pm	10 <u>Faith Journey</u> 9am	11 <u>Trustees meeting</u> 6:30pm	12 <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm	13	14
15 <u>Bible Study</u> 8:45am-9:45am <u>Worship</u> 10am	16 Presidents Day Office Closed	17 <u>Faith Journey</u> 9am <u>Finance Committee meeting</u> 1pm <u>Church Council meeting</u> 7pm	18 Ash Wednesday <u>Ashes to Go</u> <u>Parking lot</u> 3:30pm – 4pm	19 <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm	20 <u>Cub Scouts</u> 6:30pm-8:30pm	21
22 <u>Bible Study</u> 8:45am-9:45am <u>Worship</u> 10am	23 <u>Seams of Faith</u> 10am-12pm	24 <u>Faith Journey</u> 9am	25 <u>UWF Executive Board meeting at Faxon’s Home</u> 10am <u>UWF Book Club meeting at Faxon’s Home</u> 11 am	26 <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm	27 <u>Cub Scouts</u> 6:30pm-8:30pm	28

MISSIONS & OUTREACH



Missions & Outreach **NEEDS YOUR HELP**
CORONA/NORCO
SETTLEMENT HOUSE
100 YEARS
WE WELCOME VOLUNTEERS TOO!

Please bring groceries to church and place in the **SETTLEMENT HOUSE WAGON** that sits outside the church!

ITEMS OF THE MONTH
February
★ Canned meats
★ Spaghetti & Sauce
★ Rice mixes

Finance Committee

January Giving: \$30,661.49
February Month Date to Giving: \$5,134.99
Budget Needed: \$31,500

Attendance: 1/11/26: In person - 83
Online - 45
Attendance: 1/18/26: In person - 88
Online - 53
Attendance: 1/25/26: In person - 95
Online - 53
Attendance: 2/1/26: In person - 105
Online - 26

We wish to THANK you for your Tithes and Offerings.
Your GIFTS support the Mission of this church.

Church Announcements

*A note about the deadline for the next Messenger please turn in information by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 10th for it to be included on the next messenger.

How to Give

Thank you for your tithes and offerings!
Please place them in the offering box located in the back of the sanctuary, send by mail, or use Zelle by going to Zellepay.com or download the App.

Use Coronaumc@aol.com

Sundays Worship
10 A.M.

Church Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9 A.M - 1 P.M.

Pastor: Rev. Susan Juergensen Email:
coronaumc.pastorsusan@gmail.com

Jeanne Cadiente, Accompanist

Caren Encino, Staff & Leadership
Administrative Support

East District Superintendent:
Rev. Moonyoung Lee

California-Pacific Conference Bishop:
Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank



From the Finance Committee:

Good news! Our 2025 income for Planned Giving, Other Giving, Facility Events Income (mostly student parking) and Fundraising were all higher than our 2025 Budget. Our total expenses were about the same as what we expected. Thank you, Everyone, for your generosity!

Respectfully,
Sharon Bishop