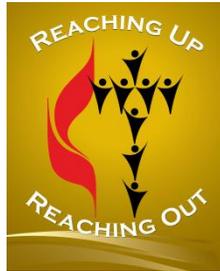


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OUR VISION



Reaching Up

Reaching Out

Central to our vision is to be bearers of the Christian cross which represents Jesus' teachings, sacrifice and eternal life. The simplicity of the words that go with our cross tell that just as we actively reach up to the presence and will of God, so do we lovingly reach out in service to others.

OUR IDENTITY AND MISSION

At Laguna Country UMC, we follow Jesus by

Welcoming everyone

and

Serving in God's love

We affirm in this statement that as the people of Laguna Country United Methodist Church, we are followers of the life and teachings of Jesus. This identity inspires us to actively welcome all whom we meet to join with us in fellowship and loving services to all the world.

OUR VALUES

The Values of Laguna Country United Methodist Church (UMC)

As a Christian community of faith, we value:

Love of God: *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" - Romans 8:38-39.* Laguna Country UMC communicates our love of God through the channels of Worship, Healing, and Labyrinth services, Bible studies and adult and youth Sunday school programs, music ministry with a vocal and bell choir, and our Small Groups.

Love of Others: *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, love one another" - John 13:34.* Laguna Country UMC demonstrates our love of others through our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service to our church members and to both our local and global communities so that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Inclusiveness: *"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male or female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" - Galatians 3:28.* Laguna Country UMC understands that all people are created in the image of God. Regardless of age, economic status, faith, ethnicity, gender, mental or physical disability, marital status, sexual orientation or lifestyle, is a child of God deserving love and grace. We strive to celebrate the gifts of all people.

Stewardship:

1. **Talents:** *"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members of not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If it is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully" - Romans 12:3-8.* Laguna Country UMC seeks to recognize and utilize the strengths and talents of our members so that God may be glorified through their service and so that they may feel a part of the whole.

2. **Facility:** *"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood" - Acts 20:28.* Laguna Country UMC understands that stewardship is not just about money and finances but that it also refers to the caring and oversight of property or something that belongs to someone else. We strive to improve and maintain our facility and grounds in a way pleasing to God and our community. We make careful consideration of the values and precepts of other groups or organizations who wish to use our facility that they are in union with our Christian values.
3. **Financial** - *"Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord has blessed you" - Deuteronomy 16:17.* Laguna Country UMC understands that all that we have and all that we are is because God has blessed us. To live in, and to live our faith, then we must return to God a portion of our blessing through our gifts, offerings, and tithes.

Outreach: *"Let us not love in word or talk (only,) but in deed and in truth" - 1 John 3:18.* Laguna Country UMC understands the power of prayer and in speaking love to one another. We also value the opportunity to do "hands on" work to demonstrate God's love and grace by such projects as serving communion to the home-bound, making and delivering prayer shawls to the sick and grieving, collecting food for South County Outreach, among other projects.

Caring: *"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" - Ephesians 4:32.* Laguna Country UMC is a supportive community that supports a person's joy and victories as well as offers loving support through a person's hardships and sorrows.

Joy: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" - Romans 15:13.* Laguna Country UMC uses the word joy intentionally. Happiness is an emotion based on circumstances and comes and goes as our circumstances change. Joy is an attitude given to us by God through the Holy Spirit and is with us no matter our circumstances.

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