

April 2015

 CONNECTIONS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC

Reaching... Nurturing... Transforming...

HOLY WEEK
At Western Hills UMC

Thursday, April 2nd

HOLY THURSDAY SERVICE

7:00pm

Friday, April 3rd

MT. CRISTO REY HIKE

8:00am—Meet at the SFLC

PRAYER VIGIL

12:00pm—6:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY EXPERIENCE

7:00pm

Sunday, April 5th

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00am—Traditional

9:30am—Contemporary

11:00am—Traditional

*He was pierced
because of our
rebellions
and crushed
because
of our crimes.*

*He bore the
punishment that
made us whole;
by his wounds
we are healed.*

Isaiah 53:5



Reaching... Nurturing... Transforming

OUR FAITHFULNESS IN MINISTRY

Our mission is to reach out with the love of God to those beyond our church, to nurture our church body in the Christian faith and life, helping all to be transformed participants in the mission of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

NEED PRAYER?

If you have a prayer request or would like to be a part of our Prayer Chain, email ZDMFHM@aol.com or call 915.581.3051.

WITH OUR PRAYERS

SYMPATHY

Taryn Raley and Family, in the loss of her aunt

Family & Friends of Sharley Randal

*Family & Friends of Gene Smith

*Family & Friends of Leroy Small

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

*Gylene Bostick, health concerns

Joyce Cunningham

Nancy Rewis, healing

THE WORLD

People in the city of Juarez

FAMILY & FRIENDS

*Connie Lilley, aunt of Charles Spencer, surgery and healing

*Barbara, mother of Pam Hooten, health concerns

Gale Herbold, serious health concerns

Betty Lopes, health concerns

Ken Locke, health concerns

Sandy Myers, friend of Swanya Pitts, health concerns

Armando Reno, friend of Richard & Barbara Kusserow, health concerns

Barry Davenport

Jimmy Smith

Peretha Louis, friend of Barbara Kusserow

Susan York, friend of Kathy Hernandez

Scott Heflinger, godfather of Charles Spencer

Craig Shepard

Shaun Ritchie, aunt of Brianne Freeman

Karen Rudinger

Libby Baldwin, friend of Roberta Harrison

James Denson

Grace Gan

Fernando Beltran

Barbara Barnhill

Bill Bostick

Bill Kipp

* indicates a new prayer request this week.

*prayers are listed for 3 weeks, cancer concerns for 4 months, unless otherwise specified.

FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer

WITH OUR PRESENCE

March 1, 2015

Worship 307

Sunday School 126

The Ridge 105

Sidewalk Sunday School n/a

March 8, 2015

Worship 236

Sunday School 85

The Ridge 75

Sidewalk Sunday School 29

March 15, 2015

Worship 247

Sunday School 114

The Ridge n/a

Sidewalk Sunday School n/a

March 22, 2015

Worship 238

Sunday School 102

The Ridge 97

Sidewalk Sunday School n/a

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Scan the QR code to be taken to our electronic giving website.



WITH OUR GIFTS

February 2015 Revenue: \$59,381.65

February 2015 Expenses: \$59,851.80

YTD Revenue: \$119,346.22

YTD Expenses: \$119,732.14

2015 Revenue Budget YTD: \$117,989.68

2015 Expense Budget YTD: \$129,245.84

FAITH HAS A FACE

2015 NICARAGUA MISSION TEAM
March 2015



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO

Vacation Bible School

June 22-26

EVEREST

Conquering Challenges with
God's Mighty Power

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW
www.westernhillsep.org



Faith, Fiction, & Fellowship

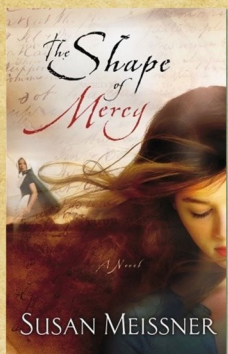
Page Turners

April 9

7pm - 8:30pm
John Wesley Rm

The Shape of Mercy
Susan Meissner

Even if you don't finish the book, join us
for lively discussion & bring a friend.
Refreshments Provided

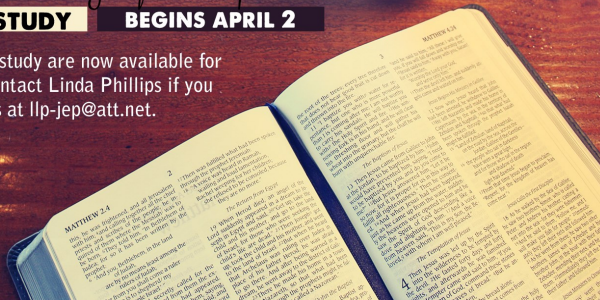


Women's Bible Study
THURSDAYS AT 9:30AM
WESTERN HILLS UMC

The Story of Scripture
NEW STUDY BEGINS APRIL 2

Books for the study are now available for
\$9. Please contact Linda Phillips if you
have questions at llp-jep@att.net.

Childcare
available
upon
advanced
request.



United Methodist Women

General Meeting

Tuesday, May 5

9:30am

Hosted by: Esther Circle

Speaker: Rev. Mercer

Bake Sale

Sunday, May 3

Check your bulletin
for more details.



Tickets 298-0353 or at the Door

Empty Bowls

\$25 Entry & Bowl
\$15 Students, Military, Seniors 65+

APRIL 18, 2015

www.elpasoansfightinghunger.org/empty-bowls



EPCC Administrative Service Center
Building "A"
9050 Viscount Blvd. El Paso, TX 79925



Want to **CHANGE**
to **THE WORLD?**

SAVE THE DATE
May 13 – 17, 2015
Sign ups to begin April 19th
in the Narthex.

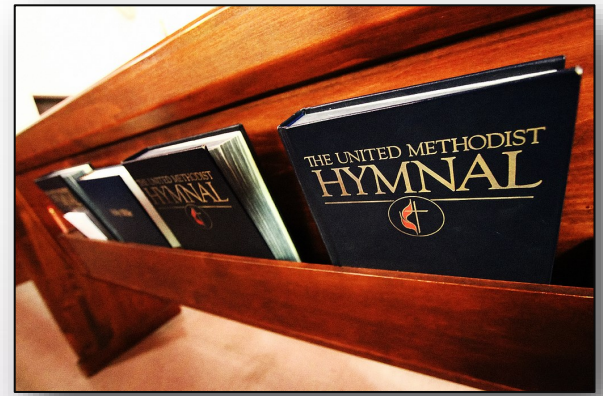
I'VE NEVER HEARD THAT HYMN BEFORE!

WHO CHOSE THAT HYMN?

Have you found yourself asking these questions? Over the next few months I will answer some common questions about our “standard” hymns and those we may not know as well, or not at all. As a general rule I choose the hymns for each Sunday taking into careful consideration the text of the hymn. But, on occasion, Pastor Robert or Pastor Amy may make a suggestion of a hymn they think will fit the service very well.

We meet regularly to plan each service in order to create the most worshipful atmosphere possible, trying to coordinate the hymns as well as the Scriptures, the Call to Worship, and the Affirmation of Faith with the sermon. Sometimes the hymns fit the Scripture, sometimes they fit the sermon topic and sometimes they are just seasonal in nature. Next Sunday, while you are singing the hymns, pay close attention to all the words of the hymns and let them be another small Bible lesson or sermon to you. Stay tuned for more intriguing information about our hymns and hymnal.

Joyfully,
Margaret



*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!*

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today
EASTER HYMN—UMC HYMNAL #302
Words: Charles Wesley, Music: Lyra Davidca

SCHOOL HAS CHANGED ITS NAME TO WESTERN HILLS ACADEMY

Last month, the School Board voted to change the name of Western Hills Methodist Day School and Mother's Day Out. There were several reasons:

- The name is nine words long, a lot for answering the telephone or writing a check. It has been commonly called just “Day School,” with no mention of MDO.
- The original name is almost 50 years old and now is outdated.
- The name Mother's Day Out implies only baby sitting or day care. The school wants to move toward integrating MDO into an all-inclusive curriculum, age 1 through Grade 5. In other words, it wants to prepare every age and grade for the next level.

So, we have been cleared with the County and the State for “doing business as” **Western Hills Academy**. It will take a while for people to get accustomed to the new name. But we think it will become a better way to communicate our intent for all of our children to be learners.

Robert LaGrone

President, Western Hills Academy School Board

NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry

The Children's Department has always been blessed with wonderful Sunday School teachers. Whenever there has been an opening God has always provided. Depending on whether you have small children you may or may not be familiar with our Preschool Sunday School class. Debbie Heath was our lead PreK teacher and did a fantastic job. She and her family recently moved back to Tennessee and we miss her and her precious kiddos. However, her helper Taryn Raley has stepped up to teach this class and all I can say is, What a Blessing! Thank you Taryn for all you do. If you are interested in becoming Taryn's helper call the church office and ask for Colleen. You can start right away!

I would also ask that you prayerfully consider being a summer Sunday School teacher. Training and curriculum will be provided!

God Bless,
Colleen

CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30am

Nursery (Infant - 3 years) -- C7

PreK/Kinder -- C8

1st - 2nd Grade -- B7

3rd - 4th Grade -- B6

5th - 6th Grade -- B1

Youth (7th-12 Grade) -- C11



LOVE



GROW



SERVE

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES MISSION STATEMENT
**TO LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD WITH ALL
OUR HEART, WITH ALL OUR SOUL, WITH ALL
OUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL OUR MIND.**

WHY

WERE HIS YOUTH

WHY Fellowship
Sunday Evenings
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Stewart Family
Life Center

Sun., April 5
Easter Sunday
No WHY Fellowship

Sun., April 12
Server Training
Dinner Theater Prep

April 17 & 18
Show Time

Sun., April 19
No WHY Fellowship



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VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE



As you may recall from a couple of months ago, one of our Missional Motives is **Community**. Because our faith family loves the community in which we live, and God calls us into this community, we reach out and invest in the lives and activities of our surrounding neighbors. With this in mind, we had a wonderful time praising the faculty, staff, and administration of Hut Brown. We gathered funds and then purchased goodies for each person employed at Hut Brown to enjoy during parent teacher conferences. We delivered them in person with a smile and a big thank you for all they do for the students of our community. It was a blessing for all! One teacher even inquired about our services! Hopefully we will see him soon.



COMMUNITY

Early in January, a meeting was held regarding the chartering of The Ridge. The participants included Bishop Earl Bledsoe, District Superintendent Rev. Steve McElroy, Chair of New Church Development Rev. Randall Partin, Rev. Robert Pelfrey, Rev. Bill Case, and members of The Ridge- Mrs. Wendy Case, Ms. Monica Marcum, Mr. Troy Hughes, and Mr. Ben Kennedy. The benchmarks for chartering The Ridge were agreed upon. Now The Ridge will work to be fully self-sustaining, have 125 adults attending worship at least twice a month, and ordering the administration of the church with the One Board model. Please be in prayer for us as we strive to meet these benchmarks over the next few years! Thank you.

IT'S NOT CHURCH. IT'S HOME.

Western Hills Staff

Ministers

All Members

Rev. Robert Pelfrey

Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Mercer

Mission & Discipleship

Rev. Bill Case

The Ridge

Margaret Haddad

Director of Music Ministries

Mitzi Underwood

Director of Youth Ministries

Laurie McBride

Business/Facilities Manager

Colleen McGuire

Director of Children's Ministries

Suzy Snow

Administrative Assistant

Mindy Archey

Publications

Patricia Aguirre

Day School, MDO



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(915) 584-6642

Are you a Friend of the Foundation?

The Western Hills Foundation will kick off the 2015-16 *Friends of the Foundation* - "**Making Ministries Possible**" - Campaign in April. The purpose of the campaign is to grow the permanent endowment funds through a **yearly membership**.



The Foundation is vital for the present and future growth of our church. Over the past 12 years the Foundation has distributed approximately \$903,905 to a wide variety of ministries, programs, capital improvements, land purchases, furniture/equipment purchases, and many other church needs that are not covered in the operating budget. In 2014 alone, \$142,199 was distributed, including \$72,207 for a new 70 ton chiller for our HVAC system.

We are asking you to **RENEW** your membership to *Friends of the Foundation* with a donation of \$100 for a family and \$50 for an individual. If you have never committed the resources to become a *Friend of the Foundation*, now is your opportunity and we invite you to join.

Prayerfully consider becoming an **ANNUAL** member of *Friends of the Foundation* and keep "**Moving Western Hills Visions Forward**"!

WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG

Sunday Mornings at WHUMC

Traditional Worship

8:00a & 11:00a

Contemporary Worship

9:30a

Sunday School

9:30a — All Ages

11:00a — Adult





8th Annual

Youth Mystery Dinner Theater

THE HAWAIIAN HEIST



By Nancy Bond

Guests are celebrating a scrumptious, oceanfront luau in picturesque Kona, Hawaii! All week they've explored the amazing island while attending relationship building workshops. But the evening unravels when secret identities, shocking lies, and regretful pasts lead to kidnapping, threats and thievery. Will you be the one to discover the villain and bring resolution? Or will catastrophe and chaos rule the night?

contests & prizes
solve the crime
great food & more

Friday, April 17

Saturday, April 18

6:30pm

Doors Open at 5:45pm

Tickets on Sale

\$25/person
or \$200/table

VIP

\$300/table
(VIP includes front row seating & lots of extra perks)

Complimentary Childcare

10 yrs & under
pizza dinner provided

On The Menu

Appetizers
Teriyaki Kabobs
Hawaiian BBQ Chicken w/Rice
Dessert

Meal catered by
Fernando Gonzalez.



Western Hills UMC Youth
524 Thunderbird Dr.
Contact Mitzi @ 915.449.4476 for tickets

