

June 2015



CONNECTIONS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC

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

EVEREST

**Conquering Challenges with
God's Mighty Power**

JUNE 22-26

8:30am—11:50am

Ages 4yrs* - 6th Grade (completed)

****In order to participate in VBS 2015,
children must have turned 4yrs on
or before Sept. 1, 2014.***

Cost: \$10

**Cost includes CD (one per family)
& T-shirt (fee is non-refundable)**



**WAY TO
BASE CAMP**



REGISTER NOW

www.westernhillsep.org

Registration closes June 13.



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.

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.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

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



Reaching... Nurturing... Transforming

OUR FAITHFULNESS IN MINISTRY

WITH OUR PRAYERS

SYMPATHY

*Family & Friends of Stevie Dubson
Stacy Leeper, in the loss of her mother, Colleen Whitaker
John Hamilton, in the loss of his mother, Marjorie Hamilton

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

*Roberta Harrison, healing from hip surgery
*Marge Sturdy, healing from eye surgery
*Susie Perez, health concerns
Arturo Cerda, health concerns
Sue Williams, health concerns
Gylene Bostick, health concerns
Joyce Cunningham

THE WORLD

Nepal earthquake victims & their families
Ethiopian martyrs
People in the city of Juarez

FAMILY & FRIENDS

*Jeanette Rogers, health concerns
*Michael Lubrano, health concerns
*Luz Bernal, pray for strength
*Juanita Loyd, health concerns
Gale Herbold, health concerns

FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer

Craig Shepard
Juan Morgades, brother-in-law of Shannon Jernigan
Barry Davenport
Jimmy Smith
Peretha Louis, friend of Barbara Kusserow
Susan York, friend of Kathy Hernandez
Scott Heflinger, godfather of Charles Spencer
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 2 months, unless otherwise specified.*

WITH OUR PRESENCE

May 3, 2015
Worship..... 247
Sunday School 107
The Ridge..... 105

May 10, 2015
Worship..... 232
Sunday School n/a
The Ridge..... 115

May 17, 2015
Worship..... 234
Sunday School 116
The Ridge..... CTW Weekend

May 24, 2015
Worship..... 277
Sunday School 96
The Ridge..... 85

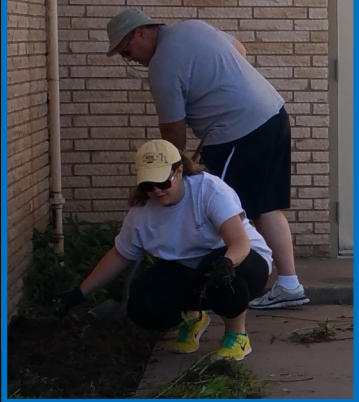
WITH OUR GIFTS

April 2015 Revenue: \$60,344.46
April 2015 Expenses: \$64,071.19

YTD Revenue: \$244,942.53
YTD Expenses: \$239,081.40

2015 Revenue Budget YTD: \$240,698.92
2015 Expense Budget YTD: \$263,661.50

If you would like further detail, please call Laurie in the church office. (584.2133)



We Can We Did & We Will
CHANGE
THE WORLD





2015 Women's Retreat

October 17-18, 2015

Holy Cross Retreat, Las Cruces, NM

Planning for the fall retreat is underway! The phenomenal speakers from Mended Women's Ministry in Dallas, Texas, Allison Cornell and Holly Stallcup, will be leading worship and guiding us to find "Common Ground" in the Word.

All of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

(1 Peter 3:8)

You can learn more about their ministry at MendedMinistry.com. Here's a testimonial on their incredible impact:
I celebrate Mended because.

- *They empower me to trust in the Lord during my days of despair*
 - *They are my sisters in Christ Village to simply be my strength in prayer or standing physically next to me praying*
 - *They NEVER judged me for my sins and instead showed me that true Christian women do for each other*
- Signed, a single Mom*

As women we are desperate to belong. We are constantly looking for any common ground with other women on which to build a relationship. But biblical, God-Honoring unity doesn't come naturally. Our struggle with divinity is directly related to our spiritual maturity. Unity is a calling but it only happens through Jesus and for His glory. As our foundation becomes Christ, unity will be the result.

Join us for both serious and light-hearted fun as we seek common ground and provide each other support—just as friends do when they meet for coffee.

For more information, contact Jackie Gaines at 915-217-9282.



eph 4:12

mended
women's ministry

CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS

Do you play an instrument? I would like to put together an ensemble of instrumentalists for the 8am & 11am services on June 21. Rehearsal will be on Saturday, June 20 around 10:00 a.m. or whatever time is most convenient for the majority of the players.

I have music for any combination of instruments: saxophones and violins, bassoons and trumpets, clarinets and tubas. Anyone from middle-school and up is welcome to join us. You don't have to be an expert; I have music that is very accessible for all levels. We will play a prelude, postlude, doxology and an offertory.

Call me at 479-0798 (cell) or 584-2133 (office) to let me know what instrument you play and I will get the music to you.

Joyfully,
Margaret



NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry

Starting Wednesday, May 27th join us each week at Cinemark for a kid friendly movie.

CINEMARK SUMMER MOVIE CLUBHOUSE

ten fun films for kids!

\$5 for ten movies
when purchased in advance
at the box office or at cinemark.com

\$1 per show
when purchased
at the box office

Invite your friends & join together with our WHUMC families this summer!

Wednesday Mornings 10:00

Cinemark on Remcon

Children can NOT be dropped off. This is a family event. Children must come with a parent/guardian. Questions? Call the WHUMC office at 584.2133.



5/26-27



6/2-3



6/9-10



6/16-17



6/23-24



6/30-7/1



7/7-8



7/14-15



7/21-22



7/28-29

We are still seeking individuals/couples who would be interested in growing a Children's Church ministry. Contact Colleen if you'd like to be a part of this exciting opportunity. You can call 584-2133 or email colleen@westernhillsep.org



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.

SEWING CAMP

Learn basic machine sewing skills. All project materials and equipment is provided. No sewing machine or previous skills necessary. Take home projects include: a pillowcase, a potholder and a handy tool roll.

July 20-24, 2015

9am - Noon

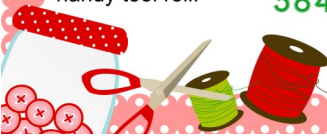
Open to ages 9 and up

Cost: \$10

Cost will cover the cost of all materials & snacks.

Class size limited to 12 participants.

register
now
584.2133



Sundays
Starts 7/5

9:45am
Library

Summer Conversations

Led by Pastor Amy

If you are visiting this summer – or are new to the church and looking for a place to converse and ask questions, check out our “Summer Conversations”. This is a great opportunity to get connected and meet new people. Bring your refreshments in from the coffee time in the narthex and join us in the church library.

Gardening Angels

Have a
spare
Saturday
morning
to do
yardwork
for a
friend?



Call Pastor Amy to be
matched up with a
project or a need.

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

SATURDAY, JULY 4TH

There are several ways to take
part in this year's parade.

DONATE CANDY

WALK IN PARADE

WELCOME TEAM

Please bring
your donations
of individually
wrapped
candy
(no chocolate)
to the
Narthex.

Oh, the places we'll go...



and the
people
we'll feed!

food truck ministry

servants needed

We currently need help with:
media team: all services
& greeters: 8am service

See Pastor Amy if you are interested in serving.

Each fall, our United Methodist Women host a Fall Bazaar complete with vendors, a book sale, “Grandma’s Attic”, and a silent auction. The silent auction is comprised of fabulous donated items from our church family. If you find yourself traveling this summer, consider doing a little shopping and pick up something from your travels to donate to the silent auction.

Thank you!

United Methodist Women's SILENT AUCTION



NOISY OFFERING

May 31



Annual Conference Offerings

Grace Meal @
First UMC, ABQ

McCurdy

Congo Ministries



Faith, Fiction, & Fellowship

Page Turners

July 9
All The Light We Cannot See

August 13
Rainwater

September 10
Caleb's Crossing

October 15
The Forgotten Garden

November 12
Orphan Train

7pm - 8:30pm
Stewart Family Life Center
Lobby

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

VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

I love May because I know that it will include Change the World weekend. The Ridge had a wonderful weekend encountering Jesus in others as we served them in His name. We helped a friend of one of our congregation members paint some of her house. We enjoyed playing bingo with the residents of Franklin Heights Nursing Home. We did some yard work and maintenance at both Hutt Brown Middle School and the Animal Rescue League of El Paso. Our children spent time making get well cards for other children who find themselves at Children's Hospital. Finally, we joined with Western Hills in helping a sister Congregation, Emmanuel UMC downtown. What a blessed time it was and what a wonderful way to share and meet Jesus as we give of our time and talent! I love Change the World Weekend! — Pastor Bill Case



CHANGE THE WORLD

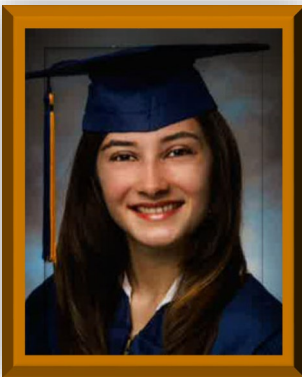


IT'S NOT CHURCH. IT'S HOME.

Congratulations High School Grads

2015

We are proud to recognize these fine graduates of the class of 2015:



*Audrey
Michelle Aguilar*

The daughter of Tony and Michelle Aguilar is graduating from Coronado High School where she has been involved in Student Council and the Environmental Club.

In the fall Audrey will attend El Paso Community College for her basic courses, after which she plans to transfer to the University of Texas at San Antonio where she

will major in Psychology. Her favorite scripture is Philippians 4:6 & 13, and "I Can Only Imagine" is her favorite praise song. Her hobbies include: Hanging out with friends, traveling and working out.

Audrey would like to thank her parents for the support and everything they have done for her, and also for bringing her to church. The memory that she will treasure most from her time at WHUMC is Youth Camp at Sacramento.



*Samantha
Sue Carter*

The daughter of Jeffery and Kimberly Carter is graduating from Franklin High School where she has been involved in National Honor Society, President of the Girl's Club and Band. Her awards and honors include: All Region Band. Samantha has been involved at Western Hills UMC with the Youth Group.

She has volunteered at VBS every year, helped with Sidewalk Sunday School and our annual Mystery Dinner Theaters.

In the fall Samantha will attend West Texas A&M University where she will major in Music. Her favorite scripture is 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, and "10,000 Reasons" is her favorite praise song. Her hobbies include: Playing the clarinet, playing with her pugs and spending time with friends.

Samantha would like to thank her mom for paying for all of her music lessons and always supporting her with band. She would also like to apologize to her mom for all the times she made a mess. Samantha would like to thank Mitzi for just being amazing. "You are truly such a positive person, and I probably wouldn't have stuck around in the youth group if it weren't for you. If there's ever a problem in the group, you try your best to fix it and make everyone feel included, and I think that's why this group is so strong."

The memories that Samantha will treasure most from her time at WHUMC are from the 2013 Mystery Mission trip to Florida. "It being a mystery where we were going and what we would be doing really allowed me to trust Mitzi and trust God. I had so much fun on that trip, and I will always remember going to Disney World with some of my favorite people."



Ian Clark

The son of Bill and Jeni Clark is graduating from Coronado High School where he has been involved in Theater. His awards and honors include National Merit Scholar Semifinalist and Eagle Scout. Ian has been involved at Western Hills UMC with the Youth Group, many mission and outreach projects, and our annual mystery dinner theaters.

In the fall Ian will attend Texas A&M University where he will major in Computer

Programming. His favorite scripture is Ecclesiastes 3:1-22, and "How He Loves" is his favorite praise song. His hobbies include: Drawing, video games, writing and biking.

Ian would like to apologize to his parents, "I'm sorry that I haven't spent much time with you since about halfway through my junior year. As a result, you have only seen what I have come to acknowledge as my bad side, and not what I have shown to my friends and everyone else I meet." Ian would like to thank his youth group, "When I first arrived at Western Hills Youth, I was in a bad place in my life. The friendliness of the other kids and especially Mitzi opened me up so that I was able to change. I have them to thank for causing me to mature and improve myself."

The memories that Ian will treasure most from his time at WHUMC are all his six years of dinner theater experiences.



*Tyler
Stephen Rettig*

The son of Mike and Bobbi Rettig is graduating from Coronado High School where he has been involved in Band. Tyler has been involved at Western Hills UMC with the Youth Group and Sounds of Truth Youth Choir. He has volunteered at VBS every year, kids soccer, participated in all mission and

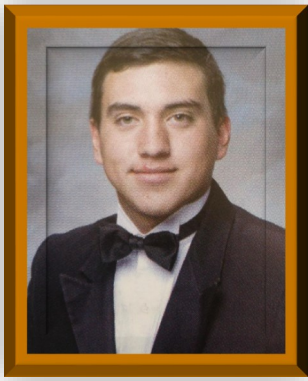
outreach projects, helped with Sidewalk

Sunday School and our annual Mystery Dinner Theaters.

In the fall Tyler will attend El Paso Community College with plans to transfer to the University of Texas at El Paso where he will major in Engineering. His favorite scripture is John 3:16. His hobbies include: Drawing.

Tyler would like to thank his parents for bringing him to Western Hills. "I know that I never say this enough, but Thank You". Tyler would like to thank his church family for all the memories they have carved into his heart, which he says he won't forget anytime soon.

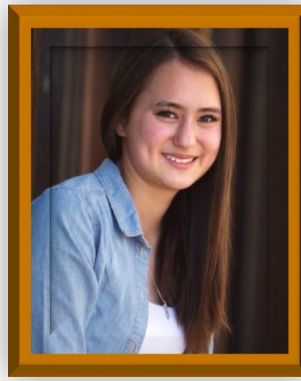
The memories that Tyler will treasure most from his time at WHUMC are his years in Youth Group. "Asking me to pick one memory would be impossible and would not do it justice".



Adrien Reyes

The son of Virginia Cabero is graduating from Coronado High School where he has been involved in FFA. His awards and honors include: Faith Has a Face in 2013 and 2015. Adrien has been involved at Western Hills UMC with the Youth Group, Mystery Dinner Theaters, Leader of the Pistol Shrimp Youth Praise Band, VBS, Sidewalk Sunday School, all missions and outreach projects and leadership.

In the fall Adrien plans to enlist with the Army with plans for twenty years' service. His favorite scripture is 1 John 4:8, and "Beautiful One" is his praise song. His hobbies include: Guitar, building crafts, and working on his truck. Adrien would like to thank his mother for guiding him on the right path and putting up with his shenanigans. He would like to thank his church family for all the support so that he could go to Nicaragua. The memory that Adrien will treasure most from his time at WHUMC is the 2015 Nicaragua Mission Trip.



Sarah Shioji

The daughter of Alan and Sheryl Shioji is graduating from Franklin High School where she has been involved in National Honor Society and Band. Sarah has been involved at Western Hills UMC with Youth Group, Conference Council for Youth Ministries (CCYM), Sounds of Truth Youth Choir, Prayer Committee, mission and outreach projects, VBS and 2015 Nicaragua Mission Team. In the fall Sarah will attend Texas Tech

University where she will major in Nursing. Her favorite scripture is Hebrews 11:1, and "God's Not Dead" is her favorite praise song. Her hobbies include: Eating and Netflix.

Sarah would like to thank her parents for supporting all of her decisions and stuff. She would like to thank her church family for helping her grow in her faith and encouraging her to be herself. The memories that Sarah will treasure most from her time at WHUMC are all the trips she has taken with the youth group.



Agustin Rios

The son of Oscar and Gloria Rios is graduating from Coronado High School where he has been involved in Theater, Drama Club and Film Club. His honors and awards include: All Star Cast Award 2014 – UIL, Advancing Play Award 2014. Gus has been involved at Western Hills UMC with the Youth Group, Mystery Dinner Theaters, VBS, CCYM, mission and outreach projects and Sidewalk Sunday School.

In the fall Gus will attend the University of Texas at El Paso where he plans to major in their writing program, which he is very excited about. His favorite scripture is Deuteronomy 31:6, and "God is God" is his favorite praise song. His hobbies include: Acting, reading and writing.

Gus would like to express to his mom, "Wow... eighteen years already, huh? Where did the time go? We've been through good times and rough times, but in the end, we made it through. I'm sorry for not always trying as hard as I could have. Thanks for giving me more freedom than I often deserved. Finally, thanks Mom for always being there for me when I needed you, even after the divorce." Gus would like to express to his church family, "Although I haven't been going to Western Hills for as long as many of the other seniors, it has still been a blast! To my church family, thanks for making my experience here so great. Thanks to you, I was able to experience things I otherwise wouldn't have experienced. More importantly, you helped me establish a connection with God, and for that, I will be eternally grateful." The memory that Gus will treasure most from his time at WHUMC, "the thing that brought me here: The Hunger Games Event that we had during Youth Week almost three years ago."



Madeline Jane Sowards

The daughter of Jon and Melissa Sowards is graduating from Austin High School where she has been involved in Guitar, Piano, Basketball and Softball. Her Honors and Awards include: Scholar Athlete Award. She has been involved at Western Hills UMC with Youth Group and Mystery Dinner Theater. In the fall Maddy will attend Western Kentucky

University where she will major in agribusiness. Her favorite scripture is Philippians 4:13, and "10,000 Reasons" is her favorite praise song. Her hobbies include: Guitar and piano.

Maddy would like to express to her parents, "Thank you for everything you do for me every day. Thank you for finding us a good church every time we move. I love you guys". Maddy would like to express to her church family, "Thank you guys for accepting Joe and I right when we moved here. Thank you for being our friends and helping us out with everything whenever we needed it." The memory that Maddy will treasure most from her time at WHUMC is helping with the dinner theater.

2015



Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12



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

Joe Estala

Director of Praise & Worship

Mitzi Underwood

Director of Youth Ministries

Laurie McBride

Business/Facilities Manager

Colleen McGuire

Director of Children's Ministries

Suzu Snow

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Mindy Archey

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Congratulations!

Class of 2015

Lanette "Laney" Maria Abbott
McMurry University



Summer Star Green
University of Texas—El Paso



Melissa Hernandez
University of Texas—San Antonio



Stephanie McGuire
New Mexico State University



Sonja Michelsen
Oregon State University



Matthew Petty
Texas A&M University



BLUE BIN COLLECTIONS

JUNE & JULY

SUMMERTIME FOOD FOR KIDS FOR THOMAS KELLY FOOD PANTRY

FRUIT CUPS

CANNED PASTA (SPAGHETTIOS/RAVIOLI)

MACARONI AND CHEESE CEREAL

WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG