

# CONNECTIONS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
OF WESTERN HILLS UMC

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

*November 2015*



**WEDNESDAY NOV. 25**

**8 AM -12 NOON**

**COOK TEAM**

**THURSDAY NOV. 26**

**THANKSGIVING DAY**

**8 AM-12 NOON**

**ASSEMBLY AND  
DELIVERY TEAMS**

## **OPERATION TURKEY SANDWICH**

Gather to cook, assemble and deliver fancy sack lunches to those in the community who have to work on Thanksgiving Day. Cooks, assemblers, and delivery drivers needed.

You will still have time to enjoy your own Thanksgiving family dinner that day. All deliveries will be completed by 1pm.

*If you know of a friend, neighbor or relative in El Paso who will be working that day – and you would like to deliver a lunch to them - you may “reserve” a lunch for them and their co-workers and pick it up on Thanksgiving morning.*

**Contact Pastor Amy to volunteer for  
Operation Turkey Sandwich at 915-584-2133  
or [amy@westernhillsep.org](mailto:amy@westernhillsep.org).**



**NEED PRAYER?**

If you have a prayer request or would like to be a part of our Prayer Chain, email [ZDMFHM@aol.com](mailto: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

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS**

Dennis Margheim, surgery & healing  
Esther Reynolds  
Louise Wikstrom  
Tootie Fields, health concerns  
Mona Lindly, healing

Don Cruce, stepfather of Susie Perez  
Joseph "Bud" Jay, father of Cindy Jay  
Derek Allen, nephew of Nancy Haegele  
Joann Davis, sister-in-law of Tom & Pollyanna Davis

**THE WORLD**

Syrian refugees  
People in the city of Juarez  
People in Bastrop TX

Duane Coleman  
Barbara Barnhill  
Linda Snow, cousin of Rick Snow  
Juan Morgades  
Kim Hamilton, cousin of Rick Snow  
George Norris  
Barbara, mother of Pam Hooten  
Jan Johnson, aunt of Bobbi Rettig  
Grace Gan  
Bill Bostick  
Bill Kipp

**FAMILY & FRIENDS**

Tim Farmer, healing  
Gabriela Farber, health concerns  
Shannon Oxborrow, cousin of Jamie Pelfrey, health concerns  
Gayle Petersen, mother of Laura Ferrell, health concerns  
Emaculada Munie

**FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer**

Yvette Casillas, friend of Susie Perez

*\* indicates a new prayer request this week.*

*\*prayers are listed for 3 weeks, cancer concerns for 2 months, unless otherwise specified.*

WITH OUR PRESENCE

October 4, 2015  
Worship..... 223  
Sunday School ..... 97  
The Ridge..... 93

October 18, 2015  
Worship..... 267  
Sunday School ..... 113  
The Ridge..... 84

October 11, 2015  
Worship..... 237  
Sunday School ..... 120  
The Ridge..... 88

October 25, 2015  
Worship..... 234  
Sunday School ..... 135  
The Ridge..... 100

WITH OUR GIFTS

September 2015 Revenue: \$60,069.08  
September 2015 Expenses: \$60,441.78

YTD Revenue: \$516,342.37  
YTD Expenses: \$560,728.75

2015 Revenue Budget YTD: \$530,953.56  
2015 Expense Budget YTD: \$581,606.28

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





## Common Ground—2015 Women's Retreat Western Hills & The Ridge

Last weekend women from The Ridge and Western Hills gathered at the Holy Cross retreat center for their annual retreat. Several of the women have shared a few words about the retreat.

Anonymous testimonies:

*"To be with all the ladies who received me with open arms. They all made me feel that they were waiting just for me to arrive. I was made to feel what the Bible speaks of, the 99 sheep that were left to go find the one. I know I'm sounding like it's all about me, but it's about letting go and letting me fill my well so I can have strength to carry on. I didn't have to think of doing for someone else this weekend."*

*"I so much enjoyed getting to know more women. I grew closer to the person I roomed with. Such a great way to get to know and bond with women from both churches."*

*"Great fellowship and a wonderful leader who listened and made us feel comfortable."*

*"Loved the service project; what a great way to bring us together."*

*"The time spent in small groups, sharing each other's experiences."*

*"The overwhelming gifts of love from the team. Every time I went back to my room, I found more treats left just for me."*

*"I loved everything about the retreat. It was my first time, and I can't wait until next year. I was in awe of the leaders from Mended Ministries. Beautiful words, hearts and songs. The wonderful thing that happened is all the new friends I made and that I found some peace that I so needed."*

**SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S WOMEN'S RETREAT, OCT. 15 & 16, 2016, AT HOLY CROSS RETREAT CENTER.**



### **A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR 2015 WOMEN'S RETREAT PLANNING TEAM!**

*From left to right:*

Allyson Lewis, DJ Mora, Dawn Wheeler, Alexis Young and Holly Stallcup from Mended Ministries, Mitzi Underwood, Jeni Clark, Charity Delach, and Jackie Gaines.





# Trunk or Treat & WH Academy Fall Festival

Photographs by Steve Putnicki



Thank you to everyone who donated socks for SOCKTOBER. Our November collection will be canned goods and non-perishable items for the Thanksgiving Blessings Baskets that The Ridge is putting together. Items need to be brought no later than Sunday, November 15. Thank you!

2015

CHURCH  
CONFERENCE

MONDAY, NOV. 30  
6:30PM  
SANCTUARY



# NEWS FROM THE Children's Ministry

## Hey Kids!

Do you remember this guy?! It's our buddy Tom and he's hungry! Beginning the first Sunday in November will you start bringing stuffing to help fill him up? You can bring some every Sunday until November 18th. Tom is going to share the stuffing to help make Thanksgiving Blessing Baskets. They will be shared with families that are in need. You'll be partnering with kids from The Ridge. Remember, the more you bring the more Tom can share! Thanks!!



This time of year we are reminded of all our blessings and it's a great time to give back to the community. Have you ever wondered what you could do? Here are some ideas!

- Go through the clothes and toys you don't use anymore and donate them to Goodwill or to a family you know that might need them.
- Ask your parents if you could all go volunteer at an animal shelter one day. If you're too young to help in the shelter your family can donate food, blankets, or money to help out.
- Go with your mom and dad to a Senior Center or Veterans Home and chat or play games. Many people are all alone during the holidays.
- Ask your mom to help make a shopping list and help prepare a meal for a family in need.
- Visit sick children in the hospital and give out stuffed toys.

There is SO much you can do! Remember to stop and thank God for all His blessings!



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

**Tues., Nov. 17**  
Serving Thanksgiving  
Dinner at Houchen  
5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

**Nov. 20 - 22**  
CCYM Fall Event  
Sr. High Weekend  
Retreat at Sacramento

**Sun., Nov. 22**  
*No WHY Fellowship*

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**WHO**  
**WHAT**  
**WHY**  
**#CCYM**

# CCYM NM Fall Retreat

Conference Council on Youth Ministry  
New Mexico

**9th-12th Graders**  
**November 20-22**  
**Cost: \$120**

Registration & \$30 Deposit (non-refundable)  
Due to Mitzi by Nov. 8  
(\$45 Deposit after 11/8)  
or  
Register Online  
[sacramentoassembly.org](http://sacramentoassembly.org)



**CONFIRMATION CLASS**



**CORN MAZE FUN**



# VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE



Take a peek into our Trunk or Treat outreach!



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

### Joe Estala

Director of Praise & Worship

### 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

WH Academy



524 Thunderbird Drive  
El Paso, TX 79912

#### Office:

(915) 584-2133

#### Fax:

(915) 833-2965

#### WH Academy:

(915) 584-6642

# Kairos Ministry

We have a unique opportunity to assist in KAIROS weekend #2 (Dec. 3-7, 2015) at the Otero County Prison.

These are just a few of the ways you can help God's love transform lives:

- **MAKE PLACEMATS** – Our Children's Ministry will be coloring placemats in Sunday School/Children's Church so that the team members and residents know they are loved. Children will draw/color a picture and write their first name (only) and age on the placemat.
- **PRAY** that God's love works in the lives of the team and residents.
- **DONATIONS** towards the cost of meals gratefully accepted.
- **BE A PART OF THE OUTSIDE PREP TEAM** (Dec. 3 or 4)
- **BAKE COOKIES:** There will be boxes labelled KAIROS in the narthex and office for the drop off between November 22 and November 29. Each resident in the prison will receive at least one dozen cookies.

*Cookie Guidelines: (no powdered sugar, nuts, or dried fruits)  
Chocolate Chip, Sugar, Creamy Peanut Butter cookies are favorites.  
2 ½-3" cookies so that 12 cookies (4 stacks of 3 cookies each) fit in a quart size freezer Ziploc bag.*

**For more information:  
Contact Taylene Boardman  
at 575-914-0074 or  
[hvagodday@gmail.com](mailto:hvagodday@gmail.com)**



The Sobremesa Café at the UMW Fall Bazaar October 10<sup>th</sup> was a success. We raised more than \$1200 towards our Food Truck

Ministry at WHUMC. We assembled, baked and served more than 50 dozen empanadas. Thank you to all who helped serve and who dined at the Café. *We will be doing another baking project after the first of the year.*