



# CONNECTIONS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC

February 2015

REACHING... NUTURING... TRANSFORMING...

## DEEP LIKE RIVERS

Most people, regardless of religious or philosophical differences, agree that there is some deeper part of a human than what might be suggested by our superficial, everyday interactions with the world. Many even call it “soul.” But what is the soul? What does it mean for a soul to be saved or lost? Can you control your soul, even love with your soul? The God who made your soul has plans for your soul. During Lent we will follow Jesus on a journey of the soul, a journey that takes us deep like rivers.



**SERIES BEGINS FEBRUARY 22**

## IN THIS ISSUE

- News from The Foundation
- Love & Logic Parenting Class
- Have you picked up your directory?
- Faith Has A Face—January 2015
- Ash Wednesday Service
- & MORE!

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.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

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



**WITH OUR PRAYERS**

**SYMPATHY**

\*Pam Rowell & Family, in the loss of her father, Elmo Bass

**FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer**  
\*Libby Baldwin, friend of Robert Harrison

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS**

Lee Nichols, health concerns  
Marie Rocheleau, healing  
Sharley Randall, health concerns  
Joyce Cunningham, health concerns  
Ann Rothman, health concerns  
Gylene Bostick, health concerns

\*James Denson  
Grace Gan  
Annette Ophang, sister-in-law of Ginny Moe  
Marilyn Shreibel, friend of Janis Hillis  
Sherry Stiles, friend of Ruth Salinas  
Robert Arrieta, friend of Ruth Salinas

**THE WORLD**

People in the city of Juarez

**FAMILY & FRIENDS**

Larry Dean, health concerns  
Oliver Kusserow, father of Richard Kusserow, health concerns  
Olga Nova, health concerns  
Barbara, mother of Pam Hooten, surgery & healing  
Bob Farmer, brother of Barbara Kusserow, health concerns  
Peratha Lewis, health concerns

Fernando Beltran  
Barbara Barnhill  
Bill Shaffer, cousin of LaVonne McMillan  
Juan Carlos Morgades  
Bill Bostick  
Bill Kipp

*\* indicates a new prayer request this week.  
\*prayers are listed for 4 weeks, cancer concerns for 6 months, unless otherwise specified.*

**WITH OUR PRESENCE**

January 4, 2015	January 18, 2015
Worship .....256	Worship .....225
Sunday School .....110	Sunday School.....109
The Ridge .....93	The Ridge .....99
Sidewalk Sunday School .....110	Sidewalk Sunday School .....21
January 11, 2015	January 25, 2015
Worship .....237	Worship .....269
Sunday School .....123	Sunday School.....133
The Ridge .....120	The Ridge .....102
Sidewalk Sunday School .....n/a	Sidewalk Sunday School .....24

**WITH OUR GIFTS**

December 2014 Revenue: \$75,131.54      YTD Revenue: \$799,306.56  
December 2014 Expenses: \$74,360.91      YTD Expenses: \$728,325.23

2014 Revenue Budget YTD: \$740,878.00  
2014 Expense Budget YTD: \$740,877.41

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

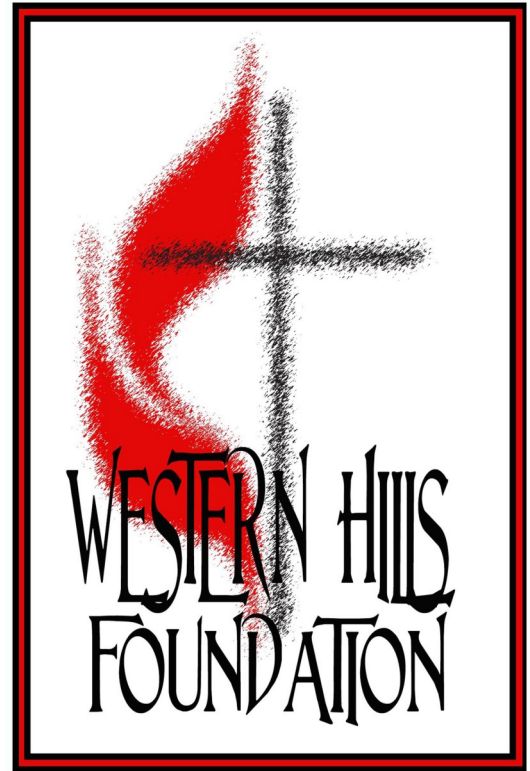
# Foundation News

## Stanley Music Endowment Fund Makes Its Initial Distribution

In 2009, Charles and Marilyn Stanley established a new account within the Western Hills UMC Foundation to create a permanent endowment to aid in the needs of the church music program. The principle of the Fund is to be held permanently, with distributions from earnings to be made in accordance with criteria prescribed by the Stanleys. A cash donation from the Stanleys started the fund, and a large gift from the estate of Charles Stanley, plus numerous memorials in the memory of Charles Stanley provided the bulk of the Fund. The Fund was invested with the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation and is administered by the Western Hills UMC Foundation. As of September 30, 2014, the market value of the fund was \$48,739.98.

In the fall of 2014, the music department requested funds for the purchase of new choir robes. On December 16, 2014 a distribution in the amount of \$4,837.00 was made to pay for the new choir robes. This was the first such distribution made from the Stanley Music Endowment.

Interested persons may designate gifts to the Fund, in order that it might grow and provide resources to further worship through music.



## DIRECTORIES HAVE ARRIVED

If you/your family were photographed (last fall) for the directory, you will receive a complimentary copy. You can pick yours up during the week in the church office.



## MISSED A SERMON?



Sermons from each Sunday are posted on our website the following week.

[www.westernhillsep.org/sermon-podcasts/](http://www.westernhillsep.org/sermon-podcasts/)

E.D.E. presents  
**Fostering Vital Congregations**  
**Fomentando Congregaciones Vigorosas**



Trinity-First UMC  
 801 N. Meza  
 El Paso, TX 79901  
 January 31, 2015

## Equipping Disciples for Excellence

22 Workshops  
 1/2 Day & Full Day

Events for Youth & Children

SIGN UP IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY 1/29 AND WE WILL PAY YOUR REG FEE



*Cancer*  
**CARE**  
*Group*

*Friends  
 loved ones  
 community*

**TUESDAY NIGHTS**  
 Beginning Feb. 3  
 6:30pm - 8pm  
 John Wesley Room  
 Led by Joe Evenstad

## FAITH HAS A FACE

PADDY LITTLEFIELD January 2015



Paddy is an active member of WHUMC. She serves as an usher/greeter and has also served on our Connections Team. Over the past year, Paddy knit more than 175 hats for Sidewalk Sunday School children at Westway and El Paso Center for Children.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO**

## Ash Wednesday Service

February 18  
 6:30pm  
 Sanctuary

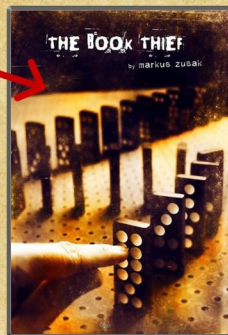


## Faith, Fiction, & Fellowship

# Page Turners

*March Book*  
 Abide With Me  
 Elizabeth Strout  
 March 12

February 12  
 7pm - 8:30pm  
 John Wesley Rm  
 The Book Thief  
 Markus Zusak



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

## USHER & GREETER LUNCH & TRAINING

Sunday, Feb. 1  
 12:15pm - 2pm  
 SFLC Meeting Room

**LUNCH & CHILDCARE PROVIDED**

Please RSVP to the church office by Thursday, January 29.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

# NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry

## FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY!

The Children's Dept. is looking for a Third and Fourth grade Sunday School helper. They will be working with Margaret Sanger in B6 during the 9:30 hour. If you would be interested in being part of a great team please contact Colleen McGuire at 584-2133. Our children are important. Please help us as we continue to strive to uphold Safe Sanctuary guidelines. You can start immediately!

## REMINDER

Please remember to keep on using your Albertson's Community cards! Proceeds help fund our yearly Missions Tea which benefits women and children in our community. This year's tea will be held Saturday, March 28th from 3-5 in the SFLC Gym. If you have lost your card or never got one they will be available at the Children's Kiosk in the Narthex. Thank you for participating. It makes a difference!

## 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



## MISSION PROJECT

Children in Preschool through Club 56 will be making cards to send to deployed troops for their February Mission Project. The children would like to invite you to join them in sending a word of encouragement and thanks. The cards will be mailed the week of February 15th. Note cards will be provided beginning the first week in February. They will be available at the Children's Kiosk in the Narthex. Please join us in showing our soldiers a tremendous outpouring of love and support from our Western Hills family.



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 WE'RE HIS YOUTH

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

Sun., Feb. 1  
*No WHY Fellowship*

Feb. 13 - 15  
CCYM Sr. High  
Retreat at SMA

Sun., Feb. 15  
*No WHY Fellowship*

March 6 - 8  
ROC Mid High  
Retreat at SMA

March 7 - 13  
Nicaragua Mission  
Trip

# CCYM Winter Event

February 13 to 15, 2015  
9th—12th Graders  
Many Parts - One Body  
*Colossians 1:17*



Cost: \$120

Registration paperwork and \$30 nonrefundable deposit

Due to Mitzi By : Feb. 1

\$90 balance + \$25/family transportation  
fee due when we leave for camp

OR Register on-line at: [sacramentoassembly.org](http://sacramentoassembly.org)

ROC 2015

FACE YOUR GIANTS

"This is the Lord's Battle..."

*1 Samuel 17:47*

March 6 to 8, 2015

Mid-High Retreat

Cost: \$115

Registration paperwork and

\$30 nonrefundable deposit

Due to Mitzi By: Feb. 8

\$85 balance + \$25/family transportation  
fee due when we leave for camp.



We are so proud of our Eagle Scout, Simon Abbott!



Prayers for Grace



Falling for Jesus!

# VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

The Ridge is pleased to announce that we have added Samuel Rodriguez to the Ridge staff. We are blessed to have him as our new Minister of Discipleship and Missions, and the best blessing is that the General Board of Discipleship through Path 1 is paying for this position. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

## **Meet Samuel Rodriguez**

Samuel Rodriguez has been serving in the United Methodist Church as a layperson since 1998. He presently serves as the Director of Hispanic/ Latino and Multiethnic New Church Starts, in the Path1 Division of the General Board of Discipleship. He holds an MA in Christian Service from Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University. Samuel lives in El Paso, TX with his wife Demetria. They have two adult children, Samuel Joseph and Vanessa Rae.



**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



524 Thunderbird Drive  
El Paso, TX 79912

**Office:**

(915) 584-2133

**Fax:**

(915) 833-2965

**Day School/MDO:**

(915) 584-6642

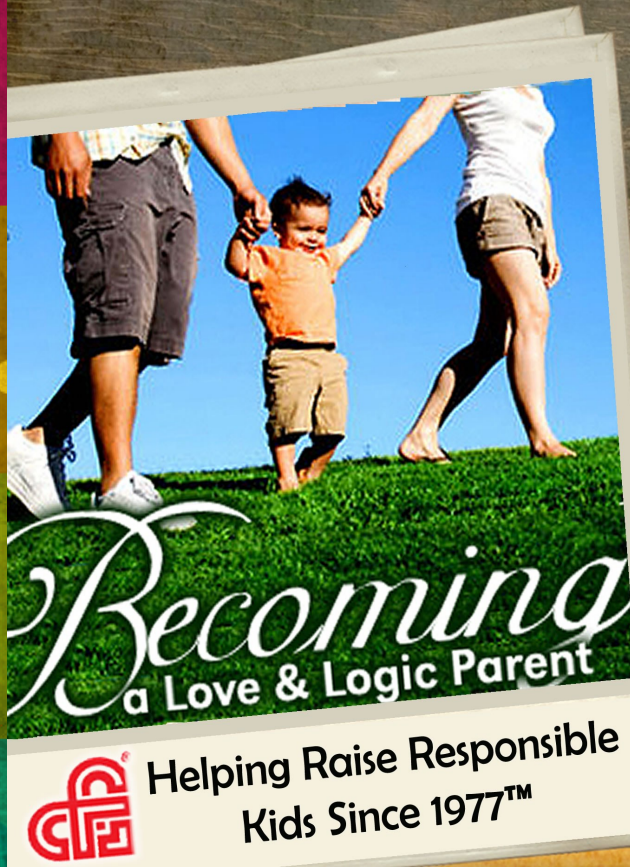
 **Love and Logic® PARENTING CLASS**

Love and Logic® provides simple and practical techniques to help parents with kids of all ages:

Raise responsible kids

Have more fun in their role

Easily and immediately (first use) change their children's behavior



**MONDAY NIGHTS**

**6:30-7:30**

**2/9 - 3/30**

NURSERY PROVIDED

**Call the WHUMC office to register. 584-2133**



[WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG](http://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