

REACHING...

NURTURING...

TRANSFORMING...



January 2015

CONNECTIONS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC

IN THE ISSUE

New Sermon Series

Classes Starting Soon

*Equipping Disciples
For Excellence*

The Ridge Turns 5!

STRONGER

God made us with bodies; God has a plan for our bodies; and God wants our bodies to be in shape. But what this all looks like might be very different from what we've come to think. This series looks at following Jesus's command to "love the Lord your God with all your strength."

SERIES BEGINS SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

May 2015 find each of us getting

STRONGER

Our Faithfulness in Ministry

WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG



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

Arturo Cerda & Family, in the loss of his sister, Maria Elena

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

Sharley Randall, health concerns
Joyce Cunningham, health concerns
Susie Perez, healing
Shannon Jernigan
Ann Rothman, health concerns
Gylene Bostick, health concerns

THE WORLD

Slain students & teachers in Pakistan
People in the city of Juarez

FAMILY & FRIENDS

***Barbara Noble**, niece of Gary Noble, health concerns
***LeeAnna Douglas**, 5 year old burn victim, serious health concerns
Jeffrey, friend of Susie Perez
Linda Daniels, mother of Christy Gasman

FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer

***Marilyn Shreibel**, friend of Janis Hillis
***Sherry Stiles**, friend of Ruth Salinas
Robert Arrieta, friend of Ruth Salinas
Rick, friend of Manny & Sharon Gonzalez
Fernando Beltran
Barbara Barnhill
Bill Shaffer, cousin of LaVonne McMillan
Juan Carlos Morgades
Margaret Long, friend of Pat Crawford
Scott Heflinger, godfather of Charles Spencer
Craig Anne Heflinger, godmother of Charles Spencer
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

November 30, 2014
 Worship.....255
 Sunday School.....82
 The Ridge.....85
 Sidewalk Sunday School.....n/a

December 7, 2014
 Worship.....273
 Sunday School.....117
 The Ridge.....107
 Sidewalk Sunday School.....n/a

December 14, 2014
 Worship.....364
 Sunday School.....120
 The Ridge.....105
 Sidewalk Sunday School.....63

December 21, 2014
 Worship.....260
 Sunday School.....97
 The Ridge.....108
 Sidewalk Sunday School.....218

WITH OUR GIFTS - NOVEMBER 2014

November Revenue: \$76,029.32
 November Expenses: \$57,897.36

YTD Revenue: \$686,175.02
 YTD Expenses: \$653,964.32

2014 Revenue Budget YTD: \$630,502.29
 2014 Expense Budget YTD: \$679,132.52

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

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



Equipping Disciples For Excellence

Fostering Vital Congregations

Saturday, January 31, 2015
Trinity-First UMC, 801 N. Mesa St., El Paso, Texas

EDE is an annual event that is sponsored by the El Paso District and is held here in El Paso each year. More than 20 different workshops, events for children and youth, worship, and guest speaker, Bishop Dorff, will make up this year's EDE. The day will be a great day full of fellowship, worship, learning, and sharing. Pastor Robert, Pastor Amy, and Pastor Bill are all leading workshops at this year's event. For full descriptions of workshops, you make pick up a flyer in the church office or go to www.ede-umc.org.

To register, call Laurie in the church office by January 29 and the church will cover your registration fee and help you get registered.

ALL DAY WORKSHOP

10:15am—3:15pm (lunch break at 12:15pm)

Christians at the Border:

The Crossroads of Immigration, the World & the Word

Rev. Janice Kahl, Rev. Amy Mercer, Sandra Reinhardt

MORNING WORKSHOPS

10:15am—12:15pm

How Long O Lord

Rev. Nancy Bowen

An Upside Down World

Rev. Todd Salzwedel

More Than Pews & Paint

Rev. Jeb Archey

Living A Christian Life and Vital Ministry

Rev. Maribel Vazques

A Spiritual Kingdom Approach to Finance

Rev. Robert Pelfrey

Creating a Children's Ed Program

Rev. Kelly Brooks

Creating an Empowered Women's Ministry

Cazandra MacDonald

Vital Now—Developing A Strong Core

Rev. Cheri Lyon

The Way of Discernment

Rev. Pam Rowley

The Staff Parish Relations Committee at Work

Dr. Steve McElroy

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

1:15pm—3:15pm

How Long O Lord

Rev. Nancy Bowen

WORTHwhile Worship

Rev. Bill Case

Admin Board Revisit This All Important Ministry

Rev. Randall Partin

Un Concilio Efectivo, Vital y Fugoso

Rev. Anna Soltero

A Mission Journey

Ms. Mary White

Transforming Congregations Through Prayer

Rev. Chris Schafer

Children and Spirituality

Rev. Kelly Brooks

Finding His Cross in Our Cross-Cultural Efforts

Dr. Eduardo Rivera

Ring A Joyful Noise

Rev. Barbara Cotton

Family Generosity for Generations to Come

Rev. John Rivas

Get Sticky! How to Make and Keep Strong Connections

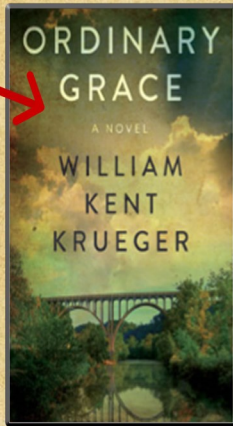
Rev. Cheri Lyon

The purpose of EDE is to provide training and enrichment opportunities to encourage and empower individuals and local churches to foster vital congregations.

Faith, Fiction, & Fellowship
Page Turners

February Book
The Book Thief
 Markus Zusak
 Feb. 12

January 15
 7pm - 8:30pm
 John Wesley Rm
Ordinary Grace
 William Kent Krueger



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

Developing Your Team
Setting Them on Fire
Sunday, January 11
2:00-5:00 p.m.
SFLC Meeting Room

Helping leaders to learn coaching skills to maximize the potential of the participants on their team to be effective at getting the results they want. Coaching is about reaching future goals, the steps to get there, and the commitment and accountability to actually take those steps.

Covenant Bible Study
Living the Covenant

This 8 week in depth study of the whole Bible emphasizes the unique relationship God chooses to have with us as God's people. This relationship is grounded in the faithfulness of God's love and in our ongoing commitments to stay in love with God while we share signs of that love with others.

Sundays - Starts 1/18
 5pm - 7pm * Library

Contact Jenny Abbott baja6@att.net for info.

C O V E N A N T

Over 10 Million LifeGuides Sold

PSALMS
Prayers of the Heart
 12 STUDIES FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS
 Eugene H. Peterson

Friends in Christ Women's Bible Study
 New study beginning January 15th
Psalms Prayers of the Heart
 A study based on the book by Eugene H. Peterson
Thursdays 6:30 p.m.
Room C-2
 Contact Zoe Dean
 Middleton, 581-3015,
 zdmfham@aol.com

Thank you to all who support the United Methodist Women's missions. In addition to our quarterly donations throughout the year, we were able to disburse these extra funds, totaling \$2,867.00 before the end of 2014.

Lydia Patterson, \$610
 Four Corners
 Native Am. Ministry, \$482
 Sacramento Methodist
 Assembly, \$500

KLOV Radio 89.5 FM, \$25
 Rescue Mission, \$250
 Kelly Food Pantry, \$200
 Houchen Center, \$300
 Opportunity Center, \$300

Thank you!

NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry

On December 14th all the children came together and held a birthday party for Jesus. They sang a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday and everyone enjoyed ice cream and cupcakes that were made by Ms. D.J. Ms. Debbie brought clay and cookie cutters and they made and decorated their own ornaments. These were put into the oven to dry by Mr. Clint and after choir they were able to take them home. Besides that Ms. Nancy had a goody bag full of Christmas candy and a Nativity ornament for each child. Mr. Charles read the Christmas story. Ms. Jenny led the games and Mr. David, Ms. Taryn, and Ms. Margaret helped with it all! Thank you SO much to all our wonderful teachers and helpers who made this Birthday party special. I would also like to thank Rick Snow and Alex Melendez for leading our J.C. Crew in 'Go Tell It On The Mountain' during the 11:00 worship service. The children did a great job!



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



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.
SFLC

January 4
NO WHY
Fellowship

January 16-19
Chrysalis
Journey

January 31
EYE
Equipping
Youth for
Excellence
8:30am—4pm

Questions about
our Youth Ministry?

Contact
Mitzi
Underwood
Mitzi@westernhillsep.org
584.2133

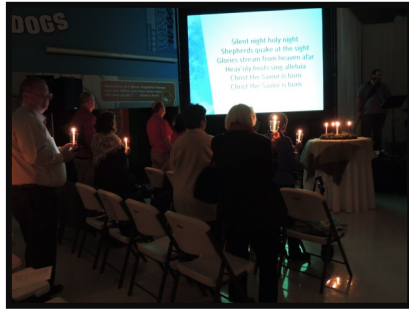


CHRISTMAS FUN



VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

COMMON LIFE
EPIC GRACE



Welcome!



Annette, Kayla, & Austin Gardner

Peter & Charity Delach



The Ridge is Turning

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL
WORSHIP SERVICE ON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

5

CELEBRATION POTLUCK - JAN. 11 AT 6PM



Thank You

Giving Tree

75 tags were taken and gifts purchased for the children of Centro Santa Catalina.

Sidewalk Sunday School

Over 200 boxes were filled and handed out at the S3 Christmas Celebration in Westway.

In Place of Poinsettias

\$3800 was raised for Nicaragua Missions.

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

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(915) 584-6642

Sunday Mornings at WHUMC

Traditional Worship

8:00a & 11:00a

Contemporary Worship

9:30a

Sunday School

9:30a — All Ages

11:00a — Adult

www.westernhillsep.org