

May 2015



CONNECTIONS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC

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

What if... ON ONE WEEKEND ALL AROUND THE WORLD, 11 MILLION UNITED METHODISTS CAME TOGETHER TO WORK IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES?

SERVING LOCALLY

REACHING GLOBALLY

**CHANGE
THE WORLD**

MAY 2015 PROJECTS

Wednesday May 13th 5:00–7:30pm

“A Knit-in” in the Narthex

The Prayer Shawl ministry is hosting a mini - knit- a- thon to make 8” squares for HIV AIDS blankets assembled by a women’s team in South Africa. Bring a sack dinner and a drink. Direction sheets available with instructions for the knitted or crocheted blanket squares. We will continue making squares thru the summer.

Team Leader: Becky Martin

Friday May 15th 7:00pm

Candlelight Vigil

Attend a community memorial event (211 W. Yandell) to celebrate the lives of people who have died of AIDS and recognize those affected and living with HIV/AIDS. Meet at WHUMC to carpool.

Team Leader: Colleen McGuire

Friday May 15th or Saturday May 16th 9:00 am–3:00pm

Emmanuel United Methodist Church Work Project

Sign up for a Friday prep team—or a Saturday work team as we partner with the Ridge and Emmanuel United Methodist Church (a former Rio Grande congregation who is now part of our El Paso District.) Team leader will call with details.

Team Leader: The Ridge

**Some projects are limited in team size
so you MUST register and sign up.**

Sign up in the narthex.

Your team leader will contact you.

Saturday May 16th 7:30am—12 noon

Christ Community Church Work Project

Yard and grounds cleanup—to include trimming, weeding, gathering branches and more. Bring work gloves and yard tools, wear sun-screen and sturdy shoes. Water, snacks and lunch provided.

Team Leader: Terry Allen

Saturday May 16th 10: 00am—Noon

Empty Bowls Project

Meet in the Stewart Family Life Building and “Make a Bowl” - and feed the hungry. The bowls we make will be glazed and fired and available for purchase next spring at the Empty Bowls event. This project is limited to the first 25 people who sign up. Please bring a \$5 donation to cover the cost of all materials.

Team Leader: Linda McKnight

Sunday May 17th

Youth Group Project at the Farm

There is weeding to be done so that the crops grow strong and healthy this year. Details will be shared at youth group.

Team Leader: Mitzi Underwood



MAY 2015

HYGIENE ITEMS FOR PRIDE CENTER

*(full size: shampoo, deodorant,
feminine hygiene items, diapers)*

Reaching... Nurturing... Transforming

OUR FAITHFULNESS IN MINISTRY



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.



WITH OUR PRAYERS

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

*Sue Williams, health concerns
*Susan Noble, health concerns
*Sherry Peters, health concerns
Gylene Bostick, health concerns
Joyce Cunningham

THE WORLD

*Ethiopian martyrs
148 killed in Kenya
People in the city of Juarez

FAMILY & FRIENDS

*Colleen Whitaker, mother of Stacy Leeper, health concerns
Martha Morgades, health concerns
Terry Prentice, praise
Connie Lilley, aunt of Charles Spencer, surgery and healing
Barbara, mother of Pam Hooten, health concerns
Gale Herbold, serious health concerns
Ken Locke, health concerns
Sandy Myers, friend of Swanya Pitts, health concerns
Armando Reno, friend of Richard & Barbara Kusserow, health concerns

FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer

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
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.

WITH OUR PRESENCE

April 5, 2015
Worship..... 493
Sunday School 114
The Ridge..... 150
Sidewalk Sunday School..... 87

April 12, 2015
Worship..... 251
Sunday School 100
The Ridge..... 106
Sidewalk Sunday School..... 29

April 19, 2015
Worship..... 268
Sunday School 119
The Ridge..... 91
Sidewalk Sunday School..... 46

April 26, 2015
Worship..... 245
Sunday School 104
The Ridge..... 112
Sidewalk Sunday School..... 49

WITH OUR GIFTS

March 2015 Revenue: \$65,024.48
March 2015 Expenses: \$55,050.70

YTD Revenue: \$184,598.07
YTD Expenses: \$175,010.21

2015 Revenue Budget YTD: \$176,984.52
2015 Expense Budget YTD: \$193,868.76

FAMILY GAME NIGHT Potluck & Ice Cream Social

MAY 9
6:00PM
SFLC

BRING THE FAMILY
YOUR FAVORITE GAME
FOOD TO SHARE
& ICE CREAM TOPPING



Interested in joining Western Hills?

Sunday, May 10

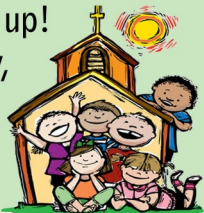
Questions about
membership?

9am

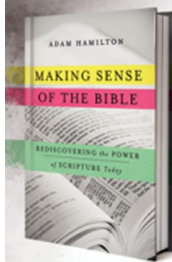
SFLC Mtg Rm

We are seeking individuals or couples that God is leading toward a ministry with our children. We want to give our children a worship experience of their own during the 11:00 hour. They will have opportunities to serve as praise and worship leaders, ushers, helpers, and scripture readers and to share with each other their prayer concerns and needs. This is a ministry that is ready to be grown from the ground up!

Our expected launch date is Sunday, June 7th. Please contact Colleen at 584-2133 if this is where you feel God is leading you to serve.



NEW STUDY STARTING SOON



Making Sense of the Bible
Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today

Making Sense of the Bible helps readers make sense of the Bible and leads them to a deeper appreciation for it, and a desire to read it and live by its precepts.

John Wesley Sunday School Class
9:30am
John Wesley Rm
Study Begins May 3rd

United Methodist Women

General Meeting

Tuesday, May 5

9:30am

Hosted by: Esther Circle

Speaker: Rev. Mercer

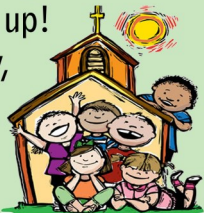
Bake Sale

Sunday, May 3



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SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

We are in need of summer Sunday school teachers for the following classes:

PREK/K **1ST/2ND**
3RD/4TH **5TH/6TH**

The curriculum and any supplies needed will be provided. We need two people per room to fulfill Safe Sanctuary requirements. It would begin June 7th and end on August 16th.

Please contact Colleen at 584-2133.



Please do not leave any items in these bins except when they are in the narthex and we are collecting specific items for one of our ministries. Upcoming Blue Bin Collections will be advertised in your bulletin and the newsletter, but we are not prepared to accept and distribute unsolicited donations. The Houchen Thrift Store, Goodwill, Savers and other area agencies welcome your donations at all times.

ANOTHER NEW HYMNAL? WHERE ARE MY FAVORITE HYMNS?

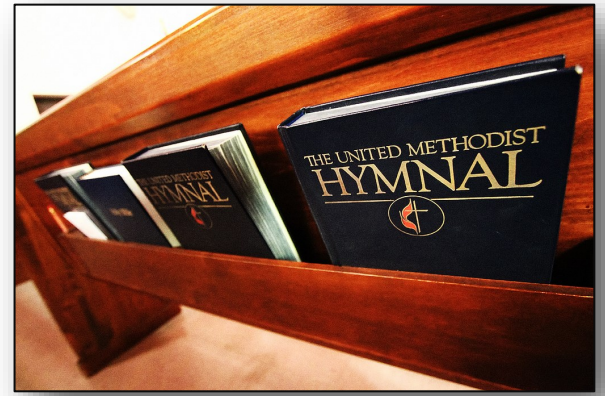
From time to time, the Hymn Revision Committee meets and determines that a new hymnal is warranted and they set about putting one together. All the hymns are on the table and some of the old standards that are favorites to many are eliminated and newer ones are included. Quoting from pages v and vi of The United Methodist Hymnal we are currently using: "Our hymnals serve as instruments by which the spiritual heritage received from the past is celebrated in the present and transmitted to future generations. Next to the Bible, our hymnals have been our most formative resource."

The committee strove to find middle ground of evangelical hymnody in common with the various traditions, recognizing and retaining the "traditional core" of hymns that have the strongest potential and usefulness to local congregations. This was a difficult tasking when you realize that some churches worship in a "high church" manner and others have more of a contemporary "praise" type worship and there are all degrees of formality or casualness in between.

There are approximately 550 hymns in our current hymnal. About 23 are in a foreign language such as Spanish, Native American and Hebrew. Another 55 or so are canticles, responses or single verse choruses not including the Psalter found on pages 736 – 862. Many of our hymns are "season or topic specific" meaning they would not be appropriate on just any given Sunday, for example, one would not sing "Silent Night, Holy Night" during Lent or Easter.

Stay tuned for more intriguing information about our hymns and hymnal.

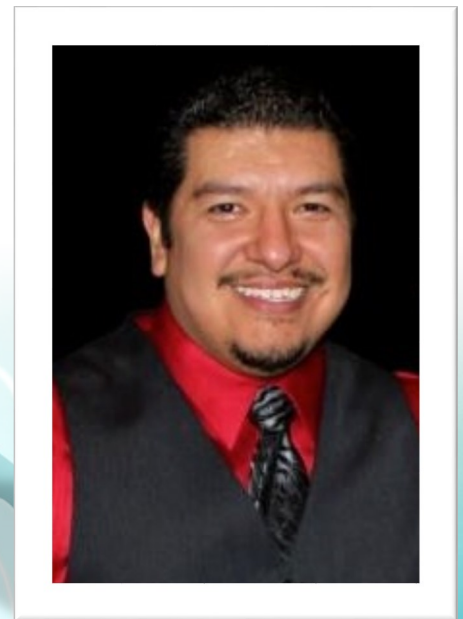
Joyfully,
Margaret



WELCOME

I am pleased to introduce our new Director of Praise and Worship, Joe Estala. We are blessed to have Joe leading our 9:30 Contemporary Worship Service. He's been with us a few weeks and is doing a wonderful job! A longtime fixture in the area music community, Joe is also the Chorus Master for the El Paso Opera and the Choir Director at Montwood High School. Needless to say, I was thrilled with the opportunity to hire him. Joe and his wife and daughters live here in El Paso. I hope you'll take the time to welcome him and get to know him. Welcome to Western Hills, Joe!

-Pastor Robert



NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry



A BIG thank you to Pat Phillips and Ian Clark for a special Easter presentation to our Children's Sunday School classes. The Easter story was retold using a felt board and Resurrection eggs. Inside each egg was a symbol that represented a part of the story. Of course, the best egg was the empty one!

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

Sun., May 3

Youth Svc Rehearsal
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Sanctuary

Thur., May 7

Youth Svc Rehearsal
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Sanctuary

Sun., May 10

Youth Service 10:00 a.m.
Arrive at 9:00 a.m.
No WHY Fellowship

May 15

Early Bird Deadline for
Ritmo Summer Camp
Registration

Sun., May 17

Change The World
Service Work at the Farm
Time TBA

Sun., May 24

Memorial Day Weekend
No WHY Fellowship

RITMO CAMP

June 15 to 19

Early Bird Registration
(Before May 15) \$275
After May 15 \$290

Register with Mitzi or online at
ww.sacramentoassembly.org

SENIOR RECOGNITION

Sun., June 7 at 11:00 a.m. Svc.

Attention graduating seniors,
please contact Mitzi if you would
like to be recognized and
participate in our special morning,
including the Rose Breakfast.

Also, see Mitzi regarding
scholarship applications.

VBS

June 22 to 26

Mornings (8:30 to Noon)

Sign up with Mitzi to volunteer.

You can use this for
community service hours.

WHY WORK CAMP

July 26 to Aug. 2

Four days of service work at
Sacramento with our youth
group followed by a Mystery
Weekend!. Cost: \$225

Commitment and \$50 Deposit
due to Mitzi by June 7.



VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

As you may know, The Ridge has recently taken on a new Vision and Mission. Our "Catch Phrase" is now The Ridge: It's Not Church, It's Home! Along with this phrase is our Mission: As a family in Jesus Christ we are loving God, serving others, and changing lives. A part of our vision states that The Ridge is a place where no one is an orphan, and everyone is welcome at the table. As a part of this vision, we are striving to reach a weekly average worship attendance of 100 adults by January 2016. We have currently invited our congregation to choose five people they are willing to pray for and invite into their lives and to the Table at The Ridge. We ask that Western Hills join us in prayer as we focus on reaching friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors with the love and grace of Jesus Christ. God bless you all and we hope you enjoy some of these photos showing what has been happening at The Ridge this past month.



**WHO
ARE
YOUR
FIVE?**



*A special
thank you to
the Quilt
Ministry of
Western Hills
UMC for
providing the
Prayer Quilt.*



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

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Conquering Challenges with
God's Mighty Power

The Coolest Week of the Summer!

▲ New friends ▲ Amazing experiments ▲ Glacier games
▲ Lip-smacking snacks ▲ Surprising adventures ▲ Incredible music

JUNE 22-26, 2015

8:30am – 11:50am

Ages 4yrs* – 6th Grade (completed)

**In order to participate in VBS 2014,*

your child must have turned 4 yrs. on/or before Sept. 1, 2014.

Cost: \$10 – includes CD (one per family) & T-shirt (fee is non-refundable)

REGISTER NOW

WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG



**WESTERN HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
524 THUNDERBIRD DR, EL PASO, TEXAS**

WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG

Mother's Day Worship

SUNDAY, MAY 10

10:00AM

*We will be having one worship service
and no Sunday school on May 10.*