

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

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC
MARCH 2016

Connections



HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID! BLESSINGS
ON THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF
THE LORD! HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!
MATTHEW 21:9

WHUMC Leadership Structure

Western Hills UMC organizes itself and its lay leadership around two broad areas of responsibility:

- 1) **Mission/Ministry**
- 2) **Management/Administration.**

1) The **Mission/Ministry** functions of the church are carried out primarily by the laity and staff, organized around a number of teams, committees, work groups, and others, including but not limited to: United Methodist Women, Prayer Ministries, Discipleship, Hospitality, Care Ministries, Missions, etc.

The leaders of any such ministry area, program staff, and clergy comprise the **Ministry Council**. The primary functions of the Ministry Council are to provide opportunities for sharing, visioning, coordinating, and calendaring the ministries of the church, as well as encouraging the formation of new groups as the mission of the church necessitates. The Ministry Council will meet at least twice/year and the Sr. Pastor will preside.

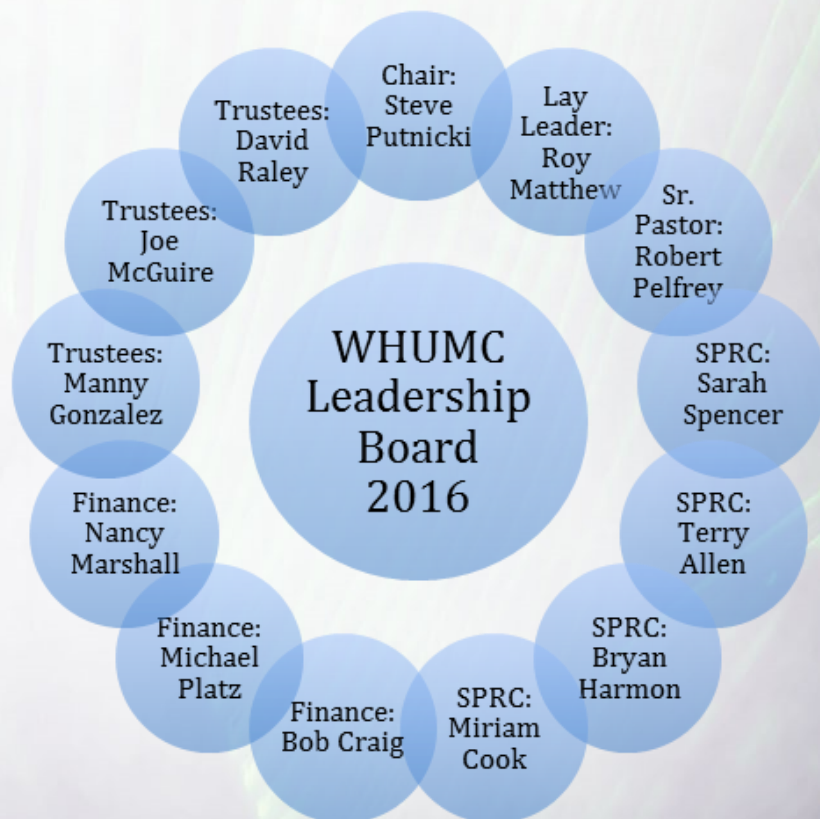
2) The **Management/Administrative** functions of the church (staff management,

finances, facilities, leadership development) are carried out by a sub-set of laity, along with the pastor, according to a "unified board" structure: the **Leadership Board**.

This Leadership Board shall consist of 12-17 members elected annually by the charge conference with the following members: the pastor, the Lay Leader, the delegate/s to Annual Conference, the Chair of the Leadership Board, as well as at least three designees for each of the following areas: Staff-Parish Relations, Finance, and Trustees. Designees will be responsible for each respective area, but the board will typically function as a "committee of the whole." The Leadership Board will follow a three-year "class" rotation of

membership to ensure broad participation. Also, the functions of the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development will be incorporated in the Leadership Board.

The goal of this structure is to fulfill the church's administrative needs more efficiently while freeing more people for ministry. Your prayers for our leadership are greatly appreciated.





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.



OUR FAITHFULNESS IN MINISTRY

WITH OUR PRAYERS

SYMPATHY

*Family & Friends of Toni Mascinio
Jody Garcia & Family in the loss of her brother

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

*Linda Lord, health concerns

THE WORLD

People in the city of Juarez

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Joy Haddad, mother of Steve Haddad, health concerns
Joni Dodgin, sister of Sherry Collins, health concerns
Gwendolyn, 5 week old baby, health concerns
Bob, father of Pam Hooten, health concerns

FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer

Bob Snead, friend of Frank & Roberta Harrison
Peggy Watson

L.E. Shaneyfelt, cousin of David Raley
Sherolyn Brite, aunt of Kelly Cooke
John Lanigan
Meredith Galyean
Roy Thomas, friend of Richard & Barbara Kusserow
Selah Henderson
Barbara Cotton
Virginia Hooten, aunt of Bill Hooten
Irma Valenzuela
Henry Salinas, brother-in-law of Ruth Salinas
Don Cruce, stepfather of Susie Perez
Joseph "Bud" Jay, father of Cindy Jay
Barbara Barnhill
Linda Snow, cousin of Rick Snow
Kim Hamilton, cousin of Rick Snow

** indicates a new prayer request this week.*

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

WITH OUR PRESENCE

February 7, 2016
Worship 238
Sunday School 105
The Ridge 86
Sidewalk SS 37

February 14, 2016
Worship 237
Sunday School 100
The Ridge 116
Sidewalk SS 33

February 21, 2016
Worship 236
Sunday School 115
The Ridge 110
Sidewalk SS 24

February 28, 2016
Worship 250
Sunday School 119
The Ridge 95
Sidewalk SS 47

WITH OUR GIFTS

January 2016 Revenue: \$61,996.43
January 2016 Expenses: \$60,955.56

2016 Revenue Budget YTD: \$71,997.92
2016 Expense Budget YTD: \$68,217.23

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

WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG

Holy Week Events

PALM PROCESSION

Children are invited to gather in the Library at 10:30am to learn a quick song and get their palm branches for the procession.

POTLUCK and EGG HUNT

Bring a dish to share and join us in the SFLC after the 11am service for a church wide potluck and egg hunt.



PALM SUNDAY - March 20

Maundy Thursday **SEDER MEAL**

March 24

6:30pm

SFLC

Bring a side dish or dessert to share.



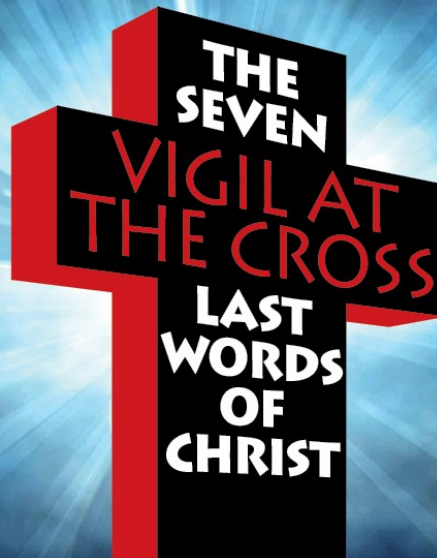
Mt. Cristo Rey Pilgrimage



Friday, March 25

MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 8AM

Join others from WHUMC & The Ridge for the annual pilgrimage to the top of Mt. Cristo Rey.



**GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25
12:00 NOON TO 3:00 P.M.
SANCTUARY**

COME AND STAY AS YOU ARE ABLE

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Join us for a blended worship service, including contemporary worship, a special program by our Chancel Choir, and another special presentation by the WHUMC Youth.



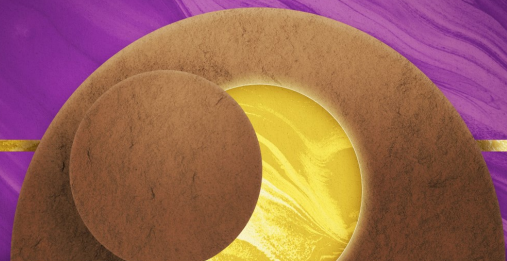
**7PM
SANCTUARY**

GOOD FRIDAY: MARCH 25

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

EASTER

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON EASTER SUNDAY AS WE CELEBRATE OUR RISEN SAVIOR



8:00AM

9:30AM

11:00AM

WESTERN HILLS ACADEMY NEWS

Moved to Candidate Status



As reported last month, The Academy is applying for accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The Report on Readiness visit by a representative from the State Office (Dec. 11, 2015) moved WHA from Applicant to Candidate status. The next milestone is an External Review Team (of about 3 people) to visit the school sometime in 2017.

To prepare for that visit, accreditation activities will include the faculty's taking the Next Steps called for in the Readiness Report. The main focus will be on curriculum development and alignment, problems we are already aware of. The Readiness Report will give us an extra incentive to figure how to strengthen the PK-5 curriculum, making it mesh through the grade levels, making certain that each child can be prepared for the next level.

WESTERN HILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDATION

In December of 1996, the Foundation was established for the purpose of creating a permanent endowment fund to assist the church. It is operated through a separate non-profit corporation, the directors of which are elected by the Charge Conference. The by-laws of the corporation provide that gifts to the Foundation are to be invested and held permanently, with annual distributions of income to the church in amounts determined by the Foundation board of directors. The amount of such distributions is limited so as to preserve the principal value of the endowment fund.

The Foundation began raising funds for this permanent endowment in 1997. These gifts have come in the form of cash, memorials, honorariums, bequests and the cash value of an insurance policy. All such funds have been deposited with the New Mexico Conference Methodist Foundation in Albuquerque, which Foundation has been merged into the Texas Methodist Foundation (the TMF). Funds held by the TMF are deposited into Wespath Investment Management, a division of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Wespath is the largest faith based investor in the U. S., with over \$21 billion in assets. This account is styled as the Western Hills UMC – General Endowment Fund. As of December 31, 2015, the market value of this fund was \$336,665. Beginning in 2010 and continuing through 2015, a total of \$58,325 of income from this fund has been distributed to the church. Income from this fund in the amount of \$10,368 was distributed to the church in 2015.

In August of 2002, the Foundation received a gift from the estate of Grover Stewart in the amount of \$984,205. This gift came in the form of an IRA account then managed by Merrill Lynch in Austin, TX. The document which designated the Foundation as beneficiary provides that the funds are to be held as a permanent endowment, with the income to be distributed to the church. The donor also specified the purposes for which this income may be used by the church. The funds in this account are now being managed by UBS Financial Services in Austin, Texas. As of December 31, 2015, the total value of this portfolio was \$1,188,119. Beginning in 2003 and continuing through 2015, a total of \$530,729 of income from these funds has been distributed to the church. Income from these accounts in the amount of \$14,615 was distributed to the church in 2015.

In August of 2004, by virtue of two charitable remainder trusts, two permanent endowment funds in the original principal amount of \$495,000 each were established with the NMCM Foundations, now TMF. These endowment funds are known as the Grover C. Stewart, Jr. and Carolyn Ann Stewart Endowment Funds for the benefit of Western Hills United Methodist Church. The Foundation has been designated as the receiving and managing agent for income distributed to the church, which income is to be used in accordance with directions contained in the trust instruments that created the funds. As of December 31, 2015, the market value of these funds was \$1,028,572. Beginning in 2005 and continuing through 2015, a total of \$377,057 of income from these funds has been distributed to the church. Income from these funds in the amount of \$37,223 was distributed to the church in 2015.

The sum of \$62,205 distributed by the Foundation to the church during 2015, from income earned in 2014, was used for the following purposes:

Provide and replace 260 lamps and 130 ballasts in sanctuary	\$ 5,000
Install 30 gallon expansion tank for boiler	2,375
Mechanical service-air handler #3, SFLC A/C and air handler, Bldg C	1,244
Exit/egress lighting for buildings B and C	6,145
Gravel for playground	2,000
Youth scholarships	2,000
HVAC replacements for building C	17,985
Fire alarm system for buildings B and C	16,610
Circuits and cables for fire alarm system	4,401
Carpet for Indian Bluff parsonage	2,319
Expenses for Christmas music program	<u>2,125</u>
	\$62,204

The Board of Directors of the Foundation for 2016 is composed of Allen Bloch, Martha Jo Cavanna, Debbie Hand, Bill Hooten, Ray Marshall, Victor Moore, Charlotte Nobles, Nate Peevey, David Rogers and Randolph Young.

Respectfully submitted by Ray Marshall, President—WHUMC Foundation

NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry

EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Palm Sunday

PALM PROCESSION

The children will be singing with the chancel choir and process with palm branches on Palm Sunday, March 20th for the 11am worship service. Children wanting to participate need to be in the Library at 10:30am so we can practice once with the choir and set them up with the palms before the 11am service.

POTLUCK & EGG HUNT

After the 11am worship service there will be an all church potluck held in the SFLC gym. Please bring a dish to share. Directly following there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for all the children!

**No Children's Church on
Easter Sunday.**



Candy Needed

We are accepting donations of candy for the egg hunt (no chocolate please as it melts!). You can drop them off in the office or in the basket next to the children's table in the Narthex. Thank you for your help.



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

Sunday Evenings
5:00pm to 7:00pm
Stewart Family
Life Center

March 4 - 6
ROC Mid-High Retreat at SMA

Sunday, March 6
No WHY Fellowship

Good Friday, March 25
Mt. Cristo Rey Pilgrimage
8:00 a.m. - Noon
Good Friday Svc
7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 27
Confirmation 11:00 a.m. Svc
Confirmation Luncheon 12:30
No WHY Fellowship

Annual Mystery Dinner Theater



REUNIONS CAN BE DEADLY
by Samantha Parker & Claire Petty

SAVE THE DATE

April 22 & 23

Tickets go on
sale soon!

STARBUCKS!



2016 CONFIRMATION CLASS



CCYM AT SACRAMENTO



VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

As we journey through Lent together, The Ridge is focusing on the last words of Christ from the cross. We have been encouraged on our journey through the artistic talents of our congregation. Pictured here are a few of the charcoal sketches created by Don Peabody depicting the scenes surrounding the last words of Christ. They draw us into the events of Christ's passion and allow us glimpses into those who surrounded Jesus on the Cross. We hope to provide all the different sketches created by Don during our joint Good Friday Service at Western Hills. We have also enjoyed the creativity and teaching of Dr. Jack Philips who has written dramatic readings and staging for each week along with Liturgy that has encouraged and challenged us each week. I am truly grateful for the gifts God has provided us in the church!

Along with our joint Good Friday Service, we will have a joint Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner hosted by The Ridge at WHUMC in the Stewart Family Life Center. We will be providing the main course for the evening and invite you to bring your favorite side dish for a good old fashioned pot luck. As we dine together we will celebrate the Seder meal along with the activities of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. This will include a hand washing and communion. We look forward to a night of celebration and reflection with our church family!

Pastor Bill Case



IT'S NOT CHURCH. IT'S HOME.

PRIMETIMERS

senior adult fellowship

March 7th
2pm * John Wesley Room

PrimeTimers is a ministry for those age 65 and better who do not wish to put their wisdom & experience upon a shelf of inactivity. There will be opportunities to fellowship, converse and serve in the coming months.

ANNUAL YOUTH DINNER THEATER



mark your calendars
APRIL 22 & 23
TICKETS GO ON SALE SOON

In Lieu of Lilies

Monies from this year's *in lieu of lilies* will support our Change the World 2016 projects.

\$10

United Methodist Women
General Meeting
Tuesday, April 5
9:30am - Narthex
Guest Speaker: Pastor Bill Case
Meeting Hosts:
Esther Circle

Order forms for **In Lieu of Lilies** can be found in your Sunday bulletin and in the church office.



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 El Paso, TX 79912

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 (915) 584-2133

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 (915) 833-2965

WH Academy:
 (915) 584-6642

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

GARAGE

SALE

MARCH 11-12, 2016

Declutter & Donate

We are still collecting donations for the garage sale. Help us fill the 6,615 sq. ft in the SFLC. Items can be brought to the SFLC starting this Sunday afternoon.

Proceeds will go to support missions.

WE NEED YOU

Besides donating items for the sale, there are many other ways to help make the upcoming sale a great event!

Volunteers Needed

PRE-SALE PREP WORK

Morning & Afternoon Shifts:

Monday - Thursday (March 7-10)

DURING THE SALE

Friday & Saturday (March 11 & 12)

BILINGUAL TRANSLATORS

Friday & Saturday (March 11 & 12)

We need two for each day.

SIGN UP

Nancy Bloch will be available in the Narthex after each worship service to answer any questions and sign you up.

GARAGE

SALE

MARCH 11-12, 2016

9AM - 4PM

Time to Shop

Plan to stop by the SFLC this weekend and do some shopping. Over 6000 sq. ft of treasures to be had.

Proceeds will go to support missions.

FURNITURE

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

GENTLY USED CLOTHING

CDS & DVDS

ELECTRONICS

SEASONAL DECOR

& MORE!!!!!!

Please contact Pat Phillips at 915-833-0024 for more information.