

Connections

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC — EL PASO, TEXAS

In the August floods, more than 110,000 homes in the Baton Rouge area were flooded. Many of these families are still displaced and living in tents on their property, or staying with families and friends. This March, WHUMC will be sending a mission team that will be working in the vicinity of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, under the direction of Louisiana UMC Disaster Response ministry. The team members have been working to raise funds to cover the cost of the trip. You have an opportunity to help the mission team members by participating in the following fundraisers:



DISCOUNT CARD \$20 EACH

Cards can be purchased on Sunday mornings (beginning 2/19), in the church office during the week, or from any of the Bayou Blessings team members. Team members are listed on page 8.

Cards good thru 04/1/18.

DISCOUNTS OFFERED AT:



and many more!



LET'S MEAT at MOOYAH

BURGERS · FRIES · SHAKES

Please join us for a Fundraiser

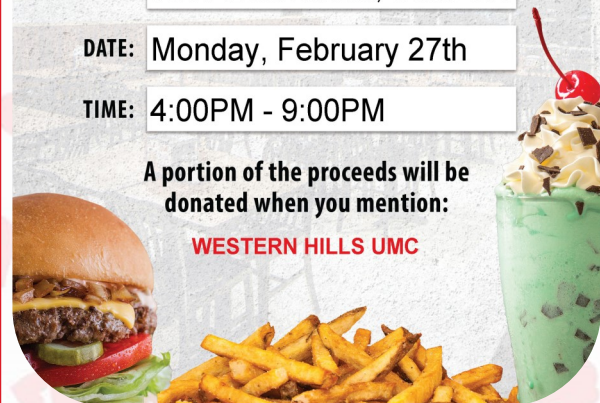
LOCATION: 7500 North Mesa, Suite 105

DATE: Monday, February 27th

TIME: 4:00PM - 9:00PM

A portion of the proceeds will be donated when you mention:

WESTERN HILLS UMC



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

OUR FAITHFULNESS IN MINISTRY

WITH OUR PRAYERS

SYMPATHIES

***Susan Magruder & Family,**
in the loss of her husband,
John

***Margaret Haddad & Family,**
in the loss of her sister,
Dena Hathaway

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

Ann Rothman, health concerns
Bill & Gylene Bostick, health concerns

THE WORLD

Syrian refugees
People living in war zones
People in the city of Juarez

FAMILY & FRIENDS

***Anita Farr,** health concerns
***Marie Conn,** health concerns
***Sarah Oseles,** health concerns
***Ginny Siebert,** health concerns
Joyce Hooten, health concerns
Glen Hugo, health concerns
Bea Phillips, health concerns
Sam Jenkins, health concerns
Ronnie Phillips, health concerns

Mariah Baldwin, health concerns
Royal McMullen & family

FAMILY & FRIENDS

with cancer

***Joy B.**
Debra Towe
Judy Burnett
Kim Hamilton
Marianna Derr
Anne
Susana
Sandy
Bob Snead
Gavin Moon
Sylvia Villagrana
Fred Haberlein
Thomas Haddad
Denese Gentry
Robert Askelson
Jill Askelson
Rick
Meredith Galyean
Barbara Barnhill

**Indicates a new prayer request this week.*

WITH OUR PRESENCE

January 8, 2017

Worship 225
Sunday School 99
The Ridge 87
Sidewalk SS n/a

January 15, 2017

Worship 233
Sunday School 90
The Ridge 88
Sidewalk SS n/a

January 22, 2017

Worship 262
Sunday School 97
The Ridge 97
Sidewalk SS n/a

January 29, 2017

Worship 223
Sunday School 79
The Ridge 86
Sidewalk SS 32

WITH OUR GIFTS

Revenue MTD December 2016: 86,670.47
Expenses MTD December 2016: \$29,359.64

Revenue YTD December 2016: \$724,622.14
Expenses YTD December 2016: \$736,238.76

Revenue Budget YTD December 2016: \$854,375.00
Expense Budget YTD December 2016: \$818,606.70

WWW.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 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.



MARCH 1

ASH WEDNESDAY

**ASHES AND PRAYER
7AM - 9AM * SANCTUARY**

STOP BY THE CHURCH ON THE WAY TO WORK OR SCHOOL FOR A TIME OF PRAYER AND TO RECEIVE ASHES. THERE WILL BE COFFEE, BREAKFAST TACOS, AND JUICE AVAILABLE FOR YOU AS YOU HEAD OUT FOR YOUR DAILY ROUTINE.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
6:30PM * SANCTUARY**

JOIN US FOR A TRADITIONAL ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

**BLUE BIN
COLLECTIONS**



**2017
WINTER**

RICE, BEANS & OATMEAL

Emmanuel UMC Food Pantry

altar flowers

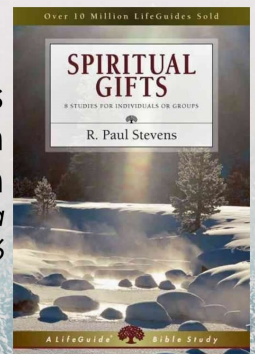


Purchase altar flowers in honor or in memory of loved ones or to celebrate a special day. Sign up on the chart in the Narthex.

most 2017 dates are open

BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN

Thursday Mornings
9:30am - 11:00am
John Wesley Room
Led by Henny Valenzuela
575-997-7496



New Study
SPIRITUAL GIFTS
a LifeGuide Bible Study by R. Paul Stevens

FAITH, FICTION, & FELLOWSHIP



Page Turners

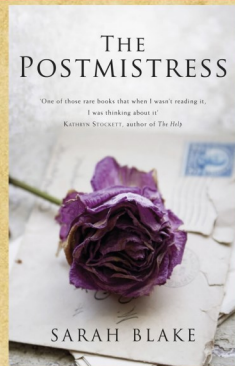
**NO MARCH
MEETING**

April 6
7pm - 8:30pm
SFLC Lobby

The Postmistress

Sarah Blake

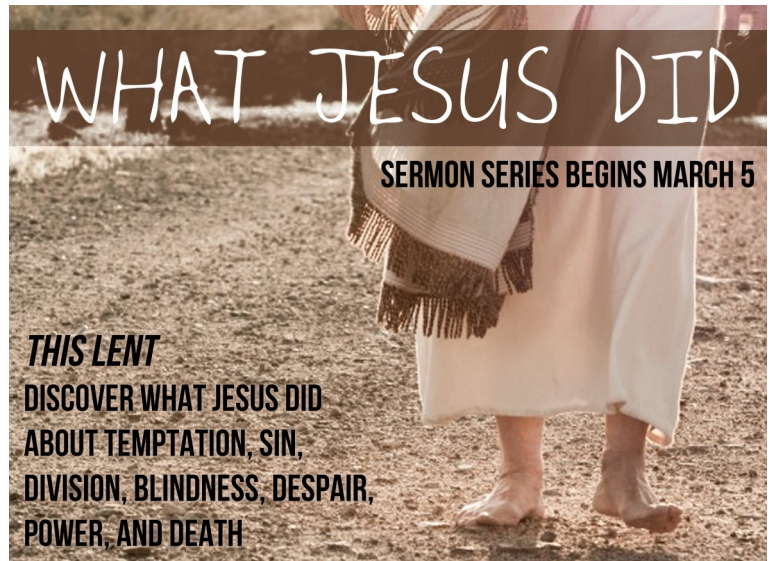
Even if you don't finish the book, join us for lively discussion & bring a friend. Refreshments Provided



WHAT JESUS DID

SERMON SERIES BEGINS MARCH 5

**THIS LENT
DISCOVER WHAT JESUS DID
ABOUT TEMPTATION, SIN,
DIVISION, BLINDNESS, DESPAIR,
POWER, AND DEATH**



**UMW
Circle Meetings**

Lydia
February 20
7:15pm—SFLC Meeting Room
Hostess: Susan Behrendson
Devotion: Susan Behrendson
Program: Susan Behrendson

Esther
February 21
9:30am—John Wesley Room
Refreshments: Margaret Horn
Devotions: Judi Ellzey
Program: Judi Ellzey

Mary Martha
February 21—11:30am
Hostess: Suzette Zaboroski
Co-hostesses: Peggy Craig and Ann Hallmark
Devotional: Peggy Craig
Program: Advocacy Center for Children of EP
Love Gift: Monetary Gift/Advocacy Center

NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, AND
OF COURSE -- FOOD!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9th

6:30PM

RIPE EATERY

910 E. Redd Rd

NO NEED TO RSVP
JUST COME!
QUESTIONS? SEE
COLLEEN MCGUIRE



The children enjoyed learning the sign for Peace from Ms. PollyAnna during Children's Moments.

Also, a big thank you to our wonderful Sunday School teachers who make Sunday School so much fun!



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.

Two Exciting Events—One Weekend!

Please be sure to note the difference in camp fees, as well as the deadlines

CCYM NM Spring Retreat - March 3-5

+
B L
I N D
N E S S
*** J O H N ***
*** 2 0 : 2 9 ***
C C Y M * 2 0 1 7

9th thru 12th Graders

Cost: Campers \$130

Adult Volunteers \$80

Registration and \$30 nonrefundable deposit due to Mitzi by **Feb. 19**, additional \$15 after that.

OR Register online at sacramentocamp.org



7th & 8th Graders

Cost: \$135 for Campers and Adult Volunteers
 Registration and \$50 nonrefundable deposit due

To Mitzi by **Feb. 12**, additional \$40 after that.
 Online registration is not available for this camp.

Please turn in payment and forms to Mitzi.



Make sure and save the date now...

**you won't want to miss this year's
 ANNUAL MYSTERY DINNER THEATER — April 28 & 29**

A Tale of Techy Terror

VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

Pastor Josh has been preaching on the Gospel of John. His sermon series will wrap up at the end of February. Join us for a movie night featuring the film, *The Gospel of John*.

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN MOVIE NIGHT

FEBRUARY 19

6:00PM

LOCATION TBD

BRING A MOVIE SNACK TO SHARE
DRINKS PROVIDED

RSVP BY EMAILING JOSH@THERIDGEEP.COM

IT'S NOT CHURCH, IT'S HOME



The following was shared during an offering moment in worship last month. We appreciate Torey Moye's willingness to share this and believe it is worth hearing again. We hope it will encourage and inspire you.

When I was a kid, I was going to grow up and cure cancer, after becoming a princess of course. My classmates had big dreams for the future too. There were future police officers, astronauts, firemen, doctors, lawyers, singers, actors, and even the occasional President. No matter what the aspiration though, I think they all boiled down to one major factor: We wanted to fix the world, or at least make it better. And though each of us may have had a different way of getting it there, none of us saw any reason why we couldn't be a part of that.

As we get older, we tend to become more cynical, thinking that only a special few, or only the rich or the powerful can change the world. No one knew exactly what Jesus would be when He came, but everyone who was waiting for Him knew He was coming to fix the world. I think John the Baptizer, Peter, Andrew, and others were like all of us as children—they were looking for a way to heal the world around them, and they knew the one who could do that was the Messiah.

Andrew brought his brother Simon to meet Jesus, saying, "We have found the Messiah," which makes me think they had been actively looking for Him, not just waiting for Him to get there. And the fact that they followed Him makes me think they didn't just want Him to fix things; they wanted to be a part of it. And when Jesus saw them following He didn't ask to see their resumes and qualifications, or look at their past wrongs or reputations. He invited them to come along.

Likewise, I think that invitation is extended to all of us. If we are actively looking we see Him in the brokenness, in the hungry and thirsty, in the stranger, the sick, and the prisoner. He may have given us each different gifts and different work to do here, but in all of it He can work through us to fix what's broken. I think the only question left is how we choose to answer the invitation. Do we still want to be a part of what God is doing here, and like children do we still believe we can?

"If we are actively looking we see Him in the brokenness, in the hungry and thirsty, in the stranger, the sick, and the prisoner..."

BAYOU BLESSINGS

Spring 2017 Mission Trip

March 11—18, 2017

WHEN YOU PASS

THROUGH THE WATERS,

I WILL BE WITH YOU;

AND WHEN YOU

PASS THROUGH THE RIVERS,

THEY WILL NOT

SWEEP OVER YOU.

ISAIAH 43:2A

Please be in prayer for our mission team as they prepare to travel to Louisiana this March and serve in mission in the Baton Rouge area.

Bonnie Abbott

Paul Behrendsen

Susan Behrendsen

Isaac Clark

Jeni Clark

Mary Bell Haney

Don Haney

Janis Hillis

Amy Mercer

Linnae Nahrgang

Jared Rettig

Mitzi Underwood

Dawn Wheeler

Grant Wheeler

Love bears all things,
believes all things,
hopes all things,
endures all things.
Love never fails.
1Cor 13:7-8



**524 Thunderbird Dr.
El Paso, TX 79912**

Office: (915) 584-2133
Fax: (915) 833-2965
WH Academy: (915) 584-6642

WESTERN HILLS UMC STAFF

Ministers

All Members

Rev. Robert Pelfrey
Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Mercer
Mission & Discipleship

Rev. Josh Kouri
The Ridge

Margaret Haddad

Director of Music
Ministries

David Pena

Director of Praise
& Worship

Mitzi Underwood

Director of Youth
Ministries

Colleen McGuire

Director of Children's
Ministries

Laurie McBride

Business/Facilities
Manager

Suzy Snow

Administrative
Assistant

Mindy Archey

Publications/
Communications

Patricia Aguirre

WH Academy