

DECEMBER 2017

Connections



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN HILLS UMC * EL PASO, TEXAS

Christmas Eve Morning

***10:00AM**

One service held at 10am
with coffee time at 9:30am.
No Sunday school.

New Year's Eve

***10:00AM**

One service held at 10:00am
with coffee time at 9:30am.
No Sunday school

Christmas Eve

***5:00PM**

Family Service

6:30PM

The Ridge Service
Prayers, Lessons & Carols

(Held at new location—5500 Doniphan, Suite H)

***11:00PM**

Traditional Service
(Holy Communion)

**Services will be held at
WHUMC in the Sanctuary.*

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



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

Paul Behrendsen & Family, in the loss of his mother, Evelyn Behrendsen
Ida Mae Ellis & Family, in the loss of her sister, Betty Greig
Gwen Keefer, in the loss of her sister, Donna
Don Collins, in the loss of his cousin, Janelle Jackson

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

Harold Alexander, health concerns
Esther Reynolds, health concerns
Gylene Bostick, health concerns
Tom Davis, health concerns
Gayle Kipp, health concerns
***Bill Bostick**, health concerns

THE WORLD

People living in war zones
 People in the city of Juarez

FAMILY & FRIENDS

***Carolyn Walsh**, sister of Don Collins
***Joeline Rossol**, niece of Ruth Salinas
***Stephanie Fisher**, health concerns

Sierra, health concerns
Darla Mawson, health concerns
Tyler & Brittany O'Quinn, health concerns
Bob Phillips, health concerns
Dorothy DeLoach, health concerns
Sandra Pelfrey, stepmother of Robert Pelfrey, health concerns

FAMILY & FRIENDS with cancer

***Linda Daniels**, mother of Christy Gasman
Mike Cook
Billy
Rosemary Graves
Jacob Sotello
Bob Sneed
Ron Richards
Debby Carovella
Linda
Michael Canava
Pat Travers
Gail Hill
Hector Salcedo
Sylvia Villagrana
Fred Haberlein
Robert Askelson
Jill Askelson
Rick

WITH OUR PRESENCE

November 5, 2017

Worship.....188
 Sunday School.....91
 The Ridge.....71
 Sidewalk SS..... n/a

November 12, 2017

Worship.....217
 Sunday School.....91
 The Ridge.....73
 Sidewalk SS.....37

November 19, 2017

Worship.....218
 Sunday School.....55
 The Ridge.....80
 Sidewalk SS.....39

November 26, 2017

Worship.....181
 Sunday School.....47
 The Ridge.....72
 Sidewalk SS..... n/a

December 3, 2017

Worship.....209
 Sunday School.....108
 The Ridge.....71
 Sidewalk SS.....33

December 10, 2017

Worship.....214
 Sunday School.....97
 The Ridge.....82
 Sidewalk SS.....35

WITH OUR GIFTS

Revenue MTD November 2017: \$66,526.42
 Expenses MTD November 2017: \$68,901.26

Revenue YTD November 2017: \$655,107.40
 Expenses YTD November 2017: \$749,200.77

Revenue Budget YTD November 2017: \$600,165.50
 Expense Budget YTD November 2017: \$788,730.25

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

WWW.WESTERNHILLSEP.ORG

The WHUMC
Chancel Choir presents

The Winter Rose

A CHRISTMAS CANTATA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
8:30AM & 11:00AM WORSHIP

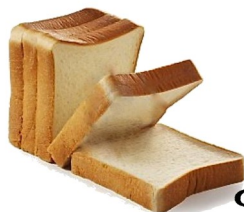


HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be closed on
12/25 and 1/1
in observance of Christmas & New Year's.



Our staff will be operating on adjusted and abbreviated schedules during the holidays. Please call the church office at 915.584.2133 BEFORE you come.



Sandwich Makers

We will NOT be taking sandwiches on Friday, Dec. 22. Sandwiches WILL be taken on Friday, Dec. 29. Just a reminder, please let Carol or Suzette know if you can't take sandwiches on your day. As the weather gets colder they have more people and depend on our help.

Christmas Eve Morning Worship 10:00AM

Coffee Time - 9:30AM
NO Sunday School

New Year's Eve Morning Worship 10:00AM

Coffee Time - 9:30AM
NO Sunday School

Thank you to all those who selected tags and purchased gifts for the children at Centro Santa Catalina in Juarez as well those who selected and filled boxes for the Sidewalk Sunday School Christmas celebration at Westway. Your generosity has been a blessing to so very many children and families in our community. THANK YOU!!

My dear friends of Western Hills,
My heart is full of gratitude for all your many expressions of love on my retirement. Your cards, flowers, words of encouragement and prayers have given me joy. I am still reading and re-reading all the lovely comments on my quilt. What a blessing! It warms my heart as well as my body. I miss you all greatly but know that I made the right decision. Each of you has a very special place in my heart and I hope to see you from time to time. God be with you till we meet again. Much love and gratitude,
Margaret Haddad

THANK
YOU

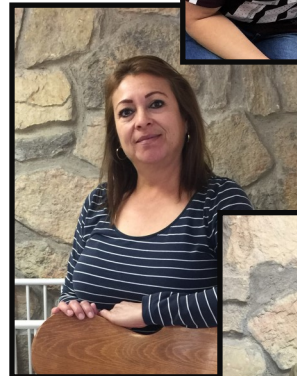
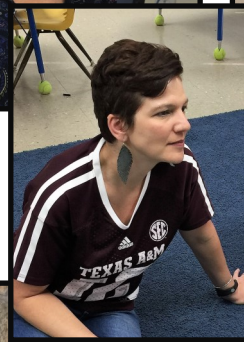
NEWS FROM THE Children's + Ministry

During the holidays, please take a moment to say thank you to our wonderful teachers and nursery staff. We are truly blessed to have such loving and committed women working with our children. Nancy Roberts and DJ Mora have been working together for several years. This year they are teaching our 2nd – 5th grade class. Alison Peevey joined our team of teachers this fall working with our PreK – 1st grade class. She has had several volunteers as helpers the past few months, however, I am happy to say that Taryn Raley has stepped up to work with Alison on a regular basis.

Be sure to follow the purple footprints to the Nursery to say thank you to our Nursery Staff, Jessica Flores, Katie Houx and Aide Terrazas. These ladies spend their Sunday mornings with our very active group of children ages birth to 4yrs.

A big thank you also goes to our Children's Council which includes our Sunday School teachers as well as Sarah Spencer and Elizabeth Hall. The entire team has worked to make our Children's Department a successful program. If you are interested in teaching or helping with Children's Council just let me know. An extra set of helpful hands is always appreciated!

Jenny Abbott
Director of
Children's
Ministry



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 WERE HIS YOUTH

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

Sun., Jan. 7
Dinner Theater Auditions
5:00 to 7:00 p.m., SFLC

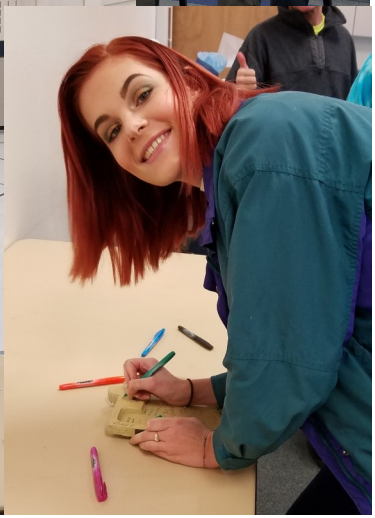
Sun., Jan. 14
No WHY Fellowship

Feb. 9 to 11
CCYM Sr. High Retreat
Registration & Fee Info
TBA

Sun., Feb. 11
No WHY Fellowship

March 2 to 4
ROC Mid High Retreat
Registration & Fee Info
TBA

Sun., March 4
No WHY Fellowship





THANK YOU TO THE NEARLY 90 VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE THIS YEAR'S OPERATION TURKEY SANDWICH A SUCCESS.

300 MEALS WERE COOKED, PACKED, AND DELIVERED AROUND OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU!!

Photo Credit—Amy Mercer

VIEWS FROM THE RIDGE

Christmas Eve at The Ridge

- Join us at 10AM for a special Sunday Morning Christmas Eve service! Carols, special worship, and a Christmas message.
- Candlelight services at Western Hills – 5PM and 11PM.
- Christmas Eve special prayer service at the new building. 6:30PM – 5500 Doniphan, Suite H. All are welcome for a brief service of music and prayer at the new location as we get ready for this new phase in The Ridge's story.

Confirmation at The Ridge—Starts in January

If you are a youth grade 6 or older, and have not yet been confirmed, contact Pastor Josh. Registrations will be available starting January 6 for Confirmation 2018. Confirmation is an impactful and meaningful time to grow in your faith and take it on for yourself. Classes will run January – April with Confirmation Sunday in May. For more info, contact Pastor Josh.

The Ridge @ Doniphan— COMING SOON

It's almost time to get to work on our new building! In the next few weeks, we will begin the process of transforming an old bar and grill into the Ridge's new worship space! If you'd like to help with the work, contact Pastor Josh as soon as possible. We anticipate the first demolition and painting parties will start shortly after Christmas. We are so excited about this process and the potential for our congregation in the year ahead!



Thanks to all who provided Christmas Gifts for Rancho los Amigos Orphanage in Ciudad Juarez. 28 children will receive Christmas gifts this year, thanks to your generosity!

IT'S NOT CHURCH, IT'S HOME



Hanging of the Greens 2017 — Photo Credit: Steve Putnicki

WESTERN HILLS UMC STAFF

Ministers

All Members

Rev. Robert Pelfrey
Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Mercer
Mission & Discipleship

Rev. Josh Kouri
The Ridge

David Pena

Director of Praise
& Worship

Mitzi Underwood
Director of Youth
Ministries

Jenny Abbott
Director of Children's
Ministries

Laurie McBride

Business/Facilities
Manager

Suzy Snow
Administrative
Assistant

Mindy Archey

Publications/
Communications

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Merry Christmas