 **First United Methodist Church  
of Riverside**  
4845 Brockton Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92506-0134

48/4

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*Please hold in prayer all our members and friends who are homebound, ill or in need of support, and all our service men and women.*

*In hospital: David & Eli Sturman (family of Duffy & Susan Exon). In convalescent care: Norma Montigel, Faith Ruddell, Natta Lea McCormack, Betty Byrnes, Eleanor Rayner, and Howard Nolan. At home: Dorothy Barnekow, Buck DeFrance, Susan Exon, Barbara Spencer, Claude & Michelle Scoggins, Ruby Gregory, Jean Mooney, Susan Shuckett, Steven Chandler, Deborah Halpenny and Lynne Halpenny.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Merle "Doc" Snedden who died March 20. Services were held at the church on March 26.*

**Camp E.D.G.E.** Experience and Discover God Everywhere is an extreme adventure camp taking kids on exciting Bible treks. The fun begins on July 27 and ends August 2 with our Sunday worship concert and party. Our camp will run from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Monday through Friday. To be a part of all the extreme fun at Camp E.D.G.E. call Cecilia van Os, 340-2131, or Esther Heath, 788-8155.



# The Messenger



First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

Volume 48 No. 4 April 5, 2009

## FAITH WORKS

Hold your line.

That's what you hear during a bicycle ride. Ten thousand riders pedal from Rosarita to Ensenada. They don't go the same speed. So when the fast biker behind you starts to pass, he or she needs to know what you are going to do. Are you going to jerk to the left or the right, or speed up or break? So you hear the words, "Hold your line!" You keep on going in a straight line, same direction, same speed, until there is enough distance all around you again. When you come up on another rider, you say "Hold your line!" and safely pass.

Our national and world economy got torn apart and whipped around by unregulated greed, false hopes, ignorance, and foolish mistakes. We lived too close to the edge, pushing the limits of debt and monthly payments. And now we hear that we need to free up credit. We hear that we are supposed to spend more. The last thing most of us need is more credit so we can live beyond our means (thereby "stimulating" the economy of stores and restaurants) and cripple ourselves with more debt.

No, I think we need to "hold your line." If you still have a job and can pay your bills, stay steady. Don't jerk toward frantic spending or fearful hoarding; but just practice a steady life, living within your means, saving some, giving some, spending some. Hold your line. Keep faith in God and be clear and responsible with whatever is in your control.

For some, this is a time of extreme challenge—the loss of job or home. Upside down loans or bankruptcy. We call out to God for help. We change what we can and then we remember the lesson of Job—that it is not all your fault. Sometimes things are going on in the world around you that are beyond your control. Don't condemn yourself, but take another step today in a faithful direction. Seek help where you can. And hold on for the ride.

God is with us. God loves us and considers us worthy of the life of his Son Jesus Christ. Hold your line!

(PS All you fishermen, change the wording of this article to whatever you thought I was going to say about holding on to your fishing line. Then let me know what I should have said!)

*Pastor Brian*



Sometimes the holiday schedule of activities gets confusing and busy so we have to juggle things around. This is what happened as I was trying to find the best time to make the cinnamon rolls for our "hot cross buns". I changed the date several times and finally settled on March 22 during the new "Tweens" and Youth Fellowship time. We began at 6:00 PM. This was a fun time for our children and youth to work together in the kitchen making these rolls. You can be sure the work table was filled with flour, dough, cinnamon, sugar, butter and the hands of 14 people, including some parents. My thanks to Val Weise, Joan Knight and Barbara Jo Wilson who helped get it all done by 7:30 PM. And YES! we have many cinnamon rolls to frost on April 4 at the children's Lenten Happening.

The caterpillars are working toward becoming Chrysalis soon. They will be placed in the hatching container very soon. Chrysalis will hatch during Holy Week and butterflies will be released on Easter Sunday. These are exciting and fun days ahead.

The Faith & Fellowship Committee will sponsor the Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday for all children after worship.

Come celebrate Easter beginning at 6:00 AM for a Community Sunrise Service on Mt. Rubidoux, then come to Sunday School at 8:45 AM and worship at 10:00 AM. Butterfly release after worship—and the Faith & Fellowship Committee will serve punch and cookies for everyone after worship. **Happy Easter to All!**

Mark your calendars now! Vacation Bible School will be July 27-July 31. The theme is Camp E.D.G.E.—Experience & Discover God Everywhere. Co-directors are Cecilia Van Os and Esther Heath. As usual, the program will be 9:00 AM to noon. Lots more details coming soon!

Pastor Sheila

# ★ EXTRA! EXTRA! ★ Men's News

## Artisans Alert...

The United Methodist Men are planning once again for the Annual Silent Auction to be held during the month of May. This project is our primary source of income for the annual scholarships awarded to our own youth, usually in June. Although we have focused typically on handmade woodcraft items, other items of art, ceramics or unique ventures by any church member are welcome.

Now is the time of year to start working on your contribution to this important event. It is our intent not to compete with the UMW Bazaar or the Faith and Fellowship Rummage Sale, and we prefer items that can fit into our display case in the Education Building hallway. We will have items on display for the entire month of May while the exciting Silent Bidding takes place. Items should be ready by April 30 when they will first be put on display. Our thanks to all who help make this possible.

## Builders Fellowship

Gary Nolpp will present a program on "Being a Falconer"—and he'll bring his trained falcon! Gary is an assistant general manager for the City of Riverside.

Plan to bring a friend for dinner and the program. For reservations, please call Allean Blose at 686-9981, or Lorene Haines at 684-3059.

**Friday, April 17  
6:30 pm — Fellowship Hall**



## Baking the Hot Cross Buns

United Methodist Youth, Tweens, and children helped Pastor Sheila bake the hot cross buns that will be served on Palm Sunday.

## Mission Moments from UMW

UMCOR'S (United Methodist Committee on Reliefs) sustainable agriculture and development program continues to provide hope and healing to people we encounter in mission. Please pray for me also as this mission requires meeting and supporting several malnourished and unhealthy persons seeking information on Moringa, a crop that builds up the immune system. My home has to be opened to several strangers seeking such support. I dwell on Matthew 25:35, 40 for inspiration: *I was a stranger and you welcomed me... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.* Mozart Adevu, missionary, Accra, Ghana. *Submitted by Peggy Ramsay, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation.*



*in May*

Lynn Ashworth	4
Jeff Ferré	4
Jean Taylor	4
David Cudney	5
Sandra Redding	7
Cora Lindeburg	8
Nancy McCormick	8
Emma Speir	8
Clay Kirkwood	9
Lee Ann Salmon	12
Wayne Speir	12
Peter Brabant, Sr.	13
Jennifer Mahl	13
Jessica Weise	13
Frances Jolly	16
Sarah Weise	16
Roger Murray	17
Erika Noble	17
Jonathan Bales	18
Julia Clark	18
Karen Wilson	18
Derrick Austin	19
Gladys Preston	19
Martha Devine	20
Genette Sizer	20
Kasey Cole	23
Griffin Ferré	25
Beth Waddell	25
Joan Knight	26
Hannah Lerstad	26
Ann Huntington	27
Thomas Watts	27
Bessie Ridley	30

The ministers of this church are its members. Assisting them are Bishop Mary Ann Swenson, District Superintendent Bau Dang, Senior Pastor Brian Kent, Associate Pastor Sheila Kane, and the church staff.

Friday, May 1, is **Church Women United May Friendship Day**, and it will be celebrated here at FUMCOR at 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. A potluck lunch will follow the meeting. Everyone is invited.

May Basket donations will be collected during April for four local charities: I Care Shelter, YWCA Born Free, Casa de Paz, and Safe House. A "needs" list follows. Collection boxes will be placed in the narthex and church office. Deadline is Wednesday, April 29. Please contact Lynn Ashworth, 684-4457 for information.



**I CARE SHELTER (families)**

toilet paper  
laundry soap and bleach  
Pine Sol and Comet cleanser  
dish washing liquid  
toothpaste and toothbrushes  
sanitary napkins  
men's and women's deodorants  
shaving cream  
hair brushes and combs  
men's and women's socks  
men's and women's plus-size clothing (2x-5x)

**YWCA BORN FREE (mothers, babies)**

newborn disposable diapers  
baby powder and lotion  
baby shampoo and bubble bath  
antacids and Tylenol for mothers  
small sizes maternity clothing

**CASA DE PAZ (abused women with children)**

toothpaste, toothbrushes  
deodorant, body lotion  
shampoo  
combs, brushes  
sanitary napkins  
disposable diapers (size 4, 5, 6)  
baby wipes  
hair accessories for women and children

**SAFE HOUSE (teens in crisis)**

gray t-shirts (medium to 3xx)  
black or gray nylon shorts (medium to 3xx)  
wash cloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste  
combs and brushes  
white twin sheet sets  
Wal-Mart, K-Mart gift cards (\$10-\$20 for staff to purchase needed items)



2009 Women's Retreat, sponsored by Sisters Bible Study Group: front row, l-r, Cindy Qualtiere, Lisa Thomas, Barbara Jo Wilson, Laurie Williams; second row, l-r, Alice Wymer, Carol Boothby, Sharen Topham, Bev DeFrance, Bessie Ridley, Loretta Cudney, Gretel Noble; third row, l-r, Sheila Kane, Penny Speir, Bertha Harris, Kay Otto, Kris Lovekin; fourth row, l-r, Ann Huntington, Rebecca Slaughter, Shirley Parks, Judy Bello, Sylvia Buckholz, Liz Jennings, Pat Williams; back row, l-r, Lynn Ashworth, Lisa Laird, Pauline Fader, Lee Ann Salmon, Mona Saenz, Marge Skorheim, Karen Gardner.

**God is awake**



A mother and her 4-year-old daughter were preparing for bed one night. The child was afraid of the dark, and on this occasion the mother, alone with the child, felt fearful herself.

When the light was turned off, the child caught a glimpse of the moon outside the window. "Is the moon God's light?" she asked.

"Yes," replied the mother.

"Will God put out his light and go to sleep?" asked the girl.

"No, dear. God never goes to sleep."

Then out of the simplicity of a child's faith, the girl said something that reassured the fearful mother. "Well, as long as God is awake, there's no sense in all of us staying awake."



**April 1, 8, 22, 29:** Handcrafters Workshop, Asbury Room, 9:30 AM. Tea towels are ready for embroidering.

**April 8:** Executive Committee, Mary's Kitchen, 9:30 AM.

**April 13:** Almond/Wesleyan Branch Potluck, Mary's Kitchen, 12:00 PM.

**April 15:** Unit Meeting, Koinonia, 10:00 AM. Continuing study on American Indians. Guest speaker: Charles McFallThompson will

present a program on Sherman Indian Institute, Riverside. The church preschool children will provide music. Plan to attend this informative meeting.

**April 28:** Citrus Branch, Adult Lounge, 7:00 PM.

**Looking Ahead**

**May 1:** Church Women United, Friendship Day, First UMC, Riverside.

**May 16:** Spring Tea, Fellowship Hall, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Tickets available beginning first Sunday in May.

## Hunger Ministry Update

Unintentionally I sometimes make inaccurate statements when thanking those who most recently served. That's because the deadline for getting my article into the *Messenger* is before the teams have served the second time; that is, in the second of their consecutive months.

To the best of my knowledge we want to thank the following for service in February and March:

**Team 2** for lunch bags: the Bales family, Richard Hughes and Jean Taylor.

**Team 5** for the shelter dinners: Richard Austin, Greg & Lisa Laird, and Barbara Spencer. Rebecca Slaughter joined the team to rehearse for upcoming service; very commendable.

Please note who is coming up for service in April and May. May has a fifth Saturday.

**Team 3** lunch bags on April 25 and May 23: the Weakly family and friends.

**Team 6** for shelter dinners on April 25 and May 23: Bill & Shaila Chamberlain, Rebecca Slaughter and Sigmar Hofmann.

**Team 7** lunch bags on May 30: the Cahraman family, Daryl & Lee Ann Salmon.

**Team 8** for shelter dinner on May 30: the Farrell family, Tina Rajaratnam and Sione Tupou.

We are planning to publish an updated membership list in June, team schedules, recipes, etc. Please call me asap with any changes from your end. And thank you.

*Sigmar Hofmann (951) 683-6200*

**Articles for the next *Messenger*  
(issue date May 3, 2009)  
must be in the church office no later  
than  
Wednesday, April 22. Thank you!**

## Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday Service

April 5 — 10:00 AM

Maundy Thursday Service

April 9 — 7:00 pm

Good Friday Service

April 10 — 7:00 pm

Easter Sunrise Service

Mt. Rubidoux —6:00 am

Easter Service

April 12 — 10:00 am

## Mexico Mission Project

### July 19-25

Looking for a summer mission trip this summer? Gain an appreciation for people like you and me and improve the living conditions of our neighbors.

The Mexico Mission Project (MMP) supports churches of the Iglesia Metodista Unida de Mexico, A.R. primarily in the area of the California border with Baja California. In addition to working on churches, the projects include building and improvements to private homes.

First United Methodist Church sent a contingent of our youth to MMP in July 2008 and the experience was extraordinary. We have met with the MMP Coordinator and set the dates for the next group—July 19-25, 2009. This year MMP is open to all ages. Families are welcome.

If you're interested in finding out more information about MMP and the upcoming trip, contact David & Val Weise or Pastor Brian.

*Dedications are being taken now for the lilies to grace our sanctuary this Easter. Please complete this form and return it to the church office by Wednesday, April 8.*

*Cost of a potted lily is \$9.00. Checks should be made out to First United Methodist Church (FUMCOR), and marked "Lilies".*

*Donors may pick up their plants after the Easter worship service.*

*Dedicated by:*

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*In Honor Of:*

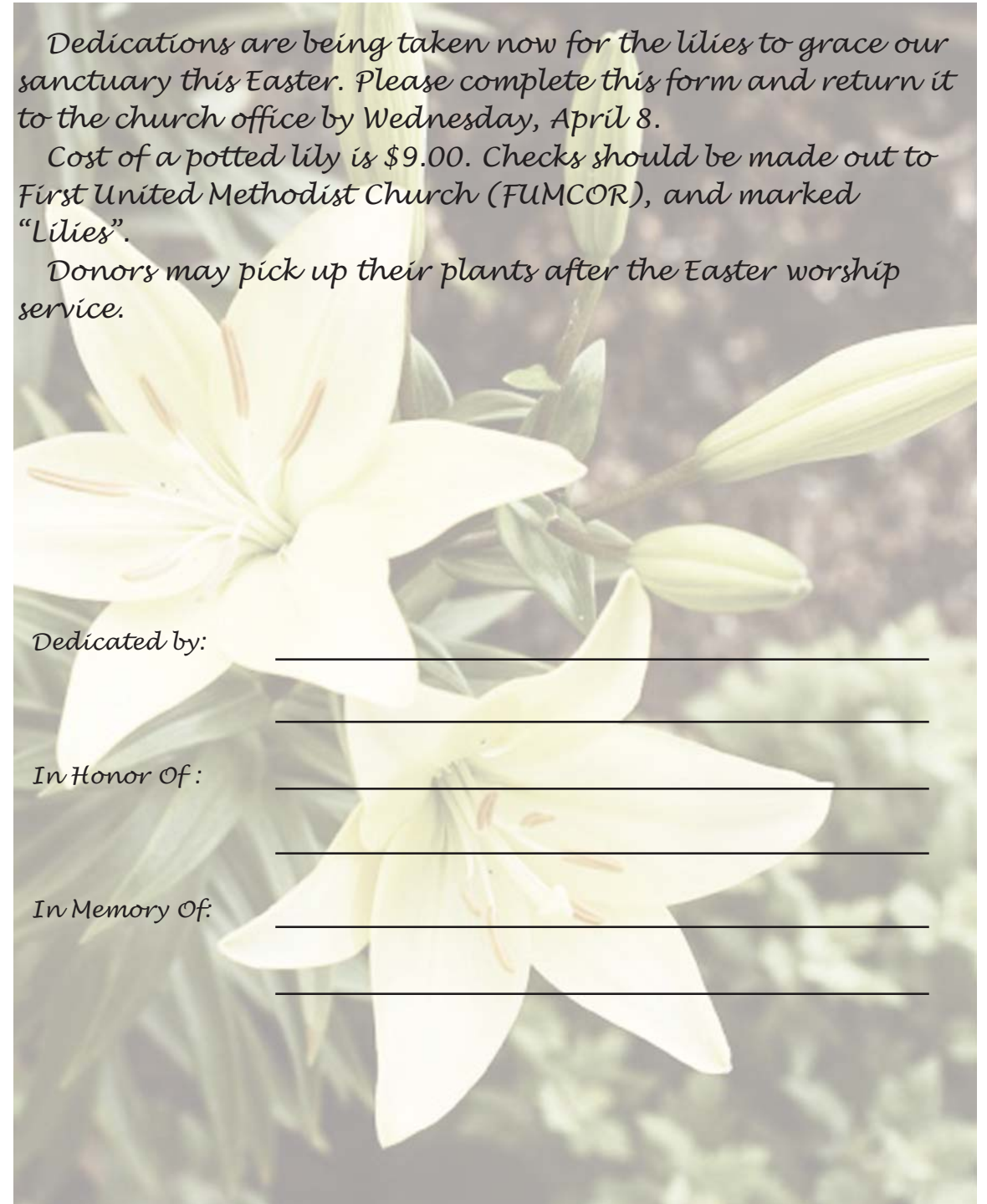
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*In Memory Of:*

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury</p> <p>6:00 pm Sit n Sew Quilters—Adult Lounge</p> <p>6:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers—Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Servers: United Methodist Men</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer</p> <p>Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>11:30 am Preschool Easter Parade</p> <p>7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p>	<p>11:30 am Preschool Easter Parade</p>	<p>9:30 am Lenten Happening—Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><i>Palm Sunday</i></p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 am Worship &amp; Communion—S</p> <p>11:15 am Easter Egg Hunt—Front Lawn</p> <p>11:15 am Confirmation Class—CR</p> <p>5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL</p> <p>6:00 pm UMYF—YC</p> 	<p>7:00 pm Trustees—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm Worship Committee—Adult Lounge</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia</p> <p>11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR</p> <p>4:00 pm Young Adults</p> <p>7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm Sunrise Service Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary</p> <p>7:00 pm SPRC—CR</p>	<p>9:30 am UMW Executive Committee—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer</p> <p>Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service—Sanctuary</p> 	<p>7:00 pm Good Friday Service—Sanctuary</p> 	
<p><i>Easter</i></p> <p>7:00 am UMM—Fellowship Hall</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 am Worship—S</p> <p>11:15 am Easter Fellowship on the Patio</p> 	<p>12:00 pm Almond/Wesleyan Potluck—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm Faith &amp; Fellowship—Pastor Sheila's</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia</p> <p>11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR</p> <p>7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p>	<p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury</p> <p>10:00 am UMW Unit Meeting—Koinonia</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer</p> <p>Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p>	<p>6:30 pm Builders Fellowship—Fellowship Hall</p>	
<p>8:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 am Worship—S</p> <p>11:15 am Confirmation Class—CR</p> <p>11:15 am Church/Society—AL</p> <p>5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL</p> <p>6:00 pm UMYF—YC</p>		<p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia</p> <p>11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR</p> <p>3:00 pm Finance—CR</p> <p>4:00 pm Young Adults</p> <p>7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p>	<p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury</p> <p><i>Messenger Articles Due Today</i></p> 	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer</p> <p>Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p>		<p>Hunger Ministry</p>
<p>8:45 am Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 am Family Worship—S</p> <p>11:15 am Confirmation Class—CR</p> <p>11:15 am Magazine Swap—Patio</p> <p>5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL</p> <p>6:00 pm UMYF—YC</p>	<p>7:00 pm Church Council—Adult Lounge</p>	<p>8:30 am Messenger Volunteers—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia</p> <p>11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR</p> <p>7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm UMW Cirtus Branch—AL</p>	<p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer</p> <p>Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p>		