

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

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Sunday School changes

Preschool through 2nd grade will meet in Club Ark.

Elementary (3rd through 6th grade) will meet in Room E upstairs in the Education Building.

Sunday School at 8:45 AM has now split the age groupings. We are pleased to announce David Weise and Judy Bello will be teaching the elementary grades.

Pre-K through 2nd grade will continue to meet in Club Ark with their regular teachers, Nan Mooring and Becky Konegen, and new teachers, Esther Heath, Dorte Grimes and Gigi Handen.

Church School

Continuing teachers are Ruth Walker, Barry and Carole Arnold, Via Tupou, Salote Oha, and Marcia, Jonathan and Samantha Bales. Thank you all!

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: Victoria Rutherford. In convalescent care: Faith Ruddell, Natta Lea McCormack, Betty Byrnes, Eleanor Rayner, Howard Nolan & Doc Snedden. At home: Doris Wright, Jean Mooney, Myra Williams, Sarah Six & daughter Susan Shuckett, Ruby Gregory, Claude & Micheline Scoggins, Winston Rajasingham, Deborah Halpenny and Lyne Halpenny.



The Messenger



First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

Volume 48 No. 2 February 1, 2009

FAITH WORKS

Engage!

Wagons Ho!

Ladies and Gentlemen – Start Your Engines!

Let's put our new Mission Statement to work.

Follow Jesus, Love People, Transform the World

First, check yourself:

Are you following Jesus—trusting him and loving him and staying as close as you can? Are you doing the things that help you follow Jesus: prayer, bible study, worship, and...? Are you loving people with the kind of love you learn from following Jesus? Are you transforming the world, establishing justice, supporting what is right and forsaking false gain?

Second, check out your church:

There are many ways we are already carrying out the mission of Jesus Christ. What is God calling us to do next in each area?

Follow Jesus—in Worship, bible studies, Sunday School, VBS, and much more.

Love people—in fellowship groups, UMYE, OFF, Builders, Sisters, UMW, UMM,

campus, preschool and college scholarships and a whole lot more.

Transform the world—through work teams, missions, Habitat for Humanity, Heifer Project, Meals on Wheels, NothingbutNets, and so much more.

And again, what is God calling us to do next in each part of our mission?

Third, spread the word:

Artists in music, speaking, quilting, theater, woodworking, painting, displays, plan how to communicate our mission—reminding ourselves and telling the world: Follow Jesus, Love People, Transform the World. Make a banner, build a sign, write a song, tell a neighbor, design a brochure, talk to a friend.

Thank you all for your service to Christ, to one another, and to the world!

Pastor Brian

2009 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2009 offering envelopes in the Narthex. They are in alphabetical order by weekly offering and by monthly offering. It's so important to have your name and/or envelope number for accurate recording—please get your envelope this Sunday.



When Barbara Bush reminded me it was time to write an article for the *Messenger*, I said not yet! It seems like we just started January!!!!

So now it is time to encourage all the women of the church to really think about coming to the *Sisters* Retreat. The retreat is open to all women of the church. The theme is "Creating Space for God" with Rev. Karen Gardner as our leader. About 20 women are now signed up and we have room for more. Come join us at Aldersgate Retreat Center at Pacific Palisades, February 20-22. Cost is \$200 and includes five meals and two nights. For more information, contact Pastor Sheila 683-7831.

I am pleased to announce our new Childcare/Nursery Supervisor, Tina Wymer. Tina has been employed in the nursery with Shannon Barranco for several years. Our thanks to Shannon who has moved to Arizona with the company she is employed with. Tina is a member of this church and attends classes at RCC in child development. Assisting Tina in the nursery is Joan Knight, also a member of our church. Thanks to both of you for caring for our infants and toddlers.

A reminder to all! There is a Sunday School class for everyone. At 8:45 AM each Sunday, Children PreK-Grade 2 meet in Club Ark; Grades 3-6 in Room E, Education Building; Youth 7-12 Youth Room; Adults Bible Study, Fireside Room, Fellowship Hall; Coffee, Calories and Conversation in Adult Lounge; and Parenting Class in the Library. Interested persons can contact Pastor Sheila for more information.

Happy Valentines Day February 14!

Pastor Sheila

★ EXTRA! EXTRA! ★ Men's News

United Methodist Men

The history of Rubidoux and Jurupa, including a bit about the Rubidoux UMC, is the topic of the next UMM program on February 8.

Kim Jarrell-Johnson, a local historian and resident of the area, will be our featured speaker highlighting a number of facts about this area you probably didn't know or had completely forgotten.

We urge all to come out and enjoy this program and a great breakfast at 7:00 AM Sunday morning, February 8. Cost is \$6.00 for the breakfast.

Ms Johnson is on the planning staff at the City of Riverside, focusing on historical preservation, and was a former member of the Rubidoux UMC. She has written and spoken extensively on the history of this area, and has numerous photos to help tell the story.

UMM wants to express appreciation to both Adrienne Austin and Melissa Beals, two of our current scholarship winners, who spoke to the group last month describing their college experiences and goals. We are very proud of these young ladies who are both attending California Baptist College in Riverside. Our third scholarship recipient, Kaley Weakly, will speak in March.

Chime choir continues

Good News! The chime choir program will continue in 2009. Rehearsals begin on January 25. If you have a child in grades 2 through 6 interested in joining the group, please contact Gayla Lonsbery.

Builders Fellowship

Builders Fellowship presents another inviting, educational and international program.

Guest speakers are our own members, Buck and Beverly DeFrance, sharing their experiences working and living within the culture and customs of Malaysia. Please join us for this adventure.

For reservations, call Allean Blose, 686-9981 or Lorene Haines, 684-3059. Dinner costs \$9.50.

See you in Fellowship Hall, February 13 at 6:30 PM.

Mission Moments from UMW

How big is your vision for camping via the United Methodist Church? Here, St. Luke's, the North Uruguay congregation, is transforming a former but almost abandoned summer camp into a modern sanctuary for the youth of the region. With help from a group of volunteers—13 from Central Pennsylvania Conference and one from Bath, NY—the semi-wilderness is being transformed step-by-step into a modern facility. *Miguel Arenas, missionary, Biblical and Technical Methodist Mayan School, Paysandu, Uruguay. Submitted by Peggy Ramsay, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation.*

All-American Potluck



Come and join in the fun following worship in Fellowship Hall on **February 15**. Bring your favorite dish to share. You may sign up on the poster on the patio.

Faith & Fellowship will provide beverages and an All-American dessert.

Peanut cans needed

Gretel Noble needs 9.25 oz and larger peanut cans such as Planters brand.



in March

Keith Matrisch	.1
Bill Ashworth	.8
Maxine Corridan	.8
Pat Williams	.8
Erin Wynne	.8
Marjorie Skorheim	.10
Patricia Jeffries	.11
Myra Williams	.11
Lorena Kent	.12
Martin Knight	.15
Sheila Kane	.18
Vika Exon	.19
Andrew Garcia	.19
Alice Wymer	.19
Susan Gill	.20
Cynthia Marr	.20
Claire Gorder	.22
Carmen Lonsbery	.25
Everett McCormick	.25
Emily Shaw	.25
Duffy Exon	.26
Edward Johnson	.26
Dorothy McBride	.28
Connie Smith	.29
Peggy Stepe	.29
Timothy Cardenas	.30
Frank Ferré	.30
Patty Binford	.31
Marc Longlois	.31

Articles for the next *Messenger* (issue date March 1, 2009) must be in the church office no later than Wednesday, February 18. Thank you!

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.

Spring Confirmation Class

Confirmation class is a time for youth (grades 7-12) to explore membership in the United Methodist Church. The class will emphasize how to live as Christians and what it means to be a United Methodist. On Sunday, February 22, there will be a parent and youth orientation meeting at 11:15 in the Adult Lounge. Confirmation class will begin March 1. There will be no class on Easter or Mother's Day. Confirmation Sunday will be May 31. Please call the church office if you will be a part of the 2009 Confirmation Class. If you have any questions contact Pastor Brian, Pastor Sheila or Val.

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 hand-made 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.

Calendar for Monthly Meetings

Second Sunday:

Evangelism & Discipleship

Third Sunday:

Church & Society/Missions

First Monday:

Trustees

First Monday:

Worship Cmte

Second Monday:

Faith & Fellowship

Second Monday:

SPRC

Third Monday:

Christian Education

Fourth Monday:

Church Council

Third Tuesday:

Finance



District Leadership Conference

February 7

The United Methodist Ministries Riverside District presents the 2009 District Leadership Conference *Bloom Where You're Planted!* at the Claremont UMC, Saturday, February 7, 8:30 AM -3:00 PM.

Workshop sessions include Communicating with Integrity and Brevity; Developing a Latino Ministry; Hospitalization 101; Nurturing Ministerial Candidates; Planning For the Future; Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds...Are We?; Who Is My Neighbor & Getting Them to My Church; Children in Church: The Upsides and the Downsides; Make Meetings Great (Tame the Agenda) and more. More information and registration forms are available in the office.

United Methodist Women

Handcrafters Workshop, Asbury, 9:30 AM: February 4, 11, 25.

Valentines Bake Sale, Fellowship Hall, following worship: February 8.

Almond/Wesleyan Branch Potluck, Mary's Kitchen, 12:00 PM: February 9, all women are invited to join us for lunch.

Executive Committee, Mary's Kitchen, 9:30 AM: February 11.

Unit Meeting, Koinonia, 10:00 AM: February 18, subject to be announced in a weekly bulletin.

Citrus Branch, Mary's Kitchen, 7:00 PM: all women are invited to participate.

UMW Mid-Winter Conference, San Diegito UMC, Encinitas: February 28.

Inkjet Cartridge Recycling

UMYF continues to collect inkjet cartridges for recycling. Cartridges can be deposited in our collection bin located on the patio Sunday mornings or in the office during the week.

Hunger Ministry

All who read this please join me in thanks to those who recently served.

Team 1, lunch bags on December 27 and January 24: Bill & Lynn Ashworth, Duffy and Nikolas Exon, Laurie Williams. Team 4, shelter dinners on December 27 and January 24: Scott, Clay and Helen Kirkwood, Bob Nelson, Becky Konegen. Team 7, lunch bags for the Family Shelter on January 31: Christine and Bill Cahraman, Sarah White. Team 8 for shelter dinner on January 31: the Farrells and the Rajaratnams, Sione Tupou.

Thanks, too, to those providing lunch bags that are given out in the church office. Over a year now 48 lunch bags filled with packaged non-perishable food are handed out every month to hungry people showing up at the office. Thanks to all who are contributing time, money or both. Special mention goes to Debbie Hofmann, Laurie Williams, Val Weise, our youth and Cindy Qualtiere.

Thank you to all who worked for The Hunger Ministry Brunch on Sunday, January 25 that helped to raise interest in and support of our outreach service. Wow!

Finally, note the upcoming services on February 28 and March 28. Team 2 (the Bales family, Richard Hughes and Jean Taylor) will be in charge of 40 lunch bags each month. Team 5 (Richard Austin, Greg & Lisa Laird and Barbara Spencer) will be in charge of the shelter dinners.

God bless you all.

Sigmar Hofmann, Coordinator

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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship & Communion—S 11:15 am Souper Bowl of Caring—FH 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL 6:00 pm UMYF—YC</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>7:00 pm Worship Committee—AL 7:00 pm Trustees—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury 6:00 pm Sit n Sew Quilters—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	6	7
<p>7:00 am UMM—FH 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship—S 11:15 am Evangelism/Discipleship—AL 11:15 am UMW Valentines Bake Sale—FH 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL 6:00 pm UMYF—YC</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>12:00 pm Almond/Wesleyan Potluck—Mary's Kitchen 6:00 pm Faith & Fellowship—Pastor Sheila's</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 4:00 pm Young Adults 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm SPRC—CR</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p>9:30 am UMW Executive Committee—Mary's Kitchen 9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>6:30 pm Builders—Fellowship Hall</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> 
<p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship—S 11:15 am All American Potluck—FH 11:15 am Church&Soc/Missions—AL 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL 6:00 pm UMYF—YC</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p>  <p>7:00 pm Christian Education—Al</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 3:00 pm Finance—CR 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p>10:00 am UMW Unit Meeting—Koinonia</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Messenger Articles Due Today</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>Sisters Retreat Aldersgate Retreat Center Pacific Palisades</p> <p style="text-align: right;">21</p>	
<p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Family Worship—S 11:15 am Magazine Swap—Patio 11:15 am Confirmation Class Orientation—AL 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL 6:00 pm UMYF—YC Sisters Retreat Ends</p> <p style="text-align: right;">22</p>	<p>7:00 pm Church Council—AL 7:00 pm UMW Citrus Branch—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">23</p>	<p>8:30 am <i>Messenger</i> Volunteers—Mary's Kitchen 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 4:00 pm Young Adults 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">24</p>	<p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury</p>  <p style="text-align: right;">25</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p style="text-align: right;">26</p>	27	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>Hunger Ministry</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">First Sunday of Lent</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship & Communion—S 11:15 am Confirmation Class—CR 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Group—AL 6:00 pm UMYF—YC</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p>7:00 pm Worship Committee—AL 7:00 pm Trustees—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p>9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury 6:00 pm Sit n Sew Quilters—AL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">First in the Lenten Soup Series Servers: Agape</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>		

MARCH