

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 convalescent care:* Faith Ruddell, Natta Lea McCormack, Betty Byrnes, Eleanor Rayner, Howard Nolan & Doc Snedden. *At home:* Claude & Micheline Scoggins, Ruby Gregory, Winston Kajasingham, Myra Williams, Doris Wright, Jean Mooney, Sarah Six & daughter Susan Shuckett, Steven Chandler, Deborah Halpenny and Lyne Halpenny. Our sympathy and prayers are with Larry Rutherford, Bonnie Shown and Mary Jane Green on the death of Victoria Rutherford. Services were held Saturday, February 14 at the church.



Donations support the Youth Campership Fund.

Enjoy a delicious brunch after worship  
**Sunday, March 1**  
 Pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage,  
 hash browns

**Pancake Breakfast**



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

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# The Messenger



First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

Volume 48 No. 3 March 1, 2009

## FAITH WORKS

### A Lenten Fast

The purpose of fasting is to set aside the parts of life that keep you from fully hearing and responding to God. Why not try a fast?

A fast may be from certain foods, or all foods for a limited time. Be easy on your body, though. A fast can also be removing yourself from TV or political radio shows that are really just shock-jocks.

You may need to step away from all alcohol for Lent, or from drugs (but don't try giving up a prescription drug without a doctor's permission, of course). You may need to stop internet pornography, over-shopping, consumer lust, caffeine, yelling, sulking, or running away from responsibility.

Pray to God. Ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as you write down things that you do that hold you back from following Jesus, loving people, and transforming the world. Write them down honestly, and then circle one and ask God to help you fast from that sin or habit or worthless activity. Give it a try now.

I will fast from that which entangles or weighs down my life, so that I may:

### Follow Jesus

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### Love People

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### Transform the World

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*Pastor Brian*

### Lenten Soup Supper Servers

March 4	Agape
March 11	OFF Group
March 18	UMW
March 25	Builders Fellowship
April 1	UMM



**Handcrafters Workshop**, Asbury, 9:30 AM: March 4, 11, 18, 25.  
**Church Women United (CWU)**, World Day of Prayer, Salvation Army Chapel, Riverside, 10:30 AM: March 6. Light lunch following. Donation of canned goods accepted. Contact Lynn Ashworth for further information.  
**Almond/Wesleyan Branch Potluck**, Mary's Kitchen, 12:00 PM: March 9, all women are invited to join us for lunch.  
**Executive Committee**, Mary's Kitchen, 9:30 AM: March 11.  
**Unit Meeting**, No Unit Meeting in March.  
**Lenten Soup Supper**, Fellowship Hall, 6:00 PM: March 18. UMW will serve.  
**Citrus Branch**, Adult Lounge, 7:00 PM: all women are invited to participate.  
**Riverside District Spring Meeting**, March 28.

### Mission Moments from UMW

In the high mountain valley in the town of Lemoa, between Santa Cruz de Quiche and Chichicastenango, women gathered for an all-day Bible study. The oldest of the women is 44, the youngest 16. Most of these women walked miles, some carrying their babies on their backs, in order to be present. Few of these women ever went to school. They are more comfortable in their native Ki' che' language, but speak Spanish in deference to Eunice. They come to learn more of what the Bible has to say to them. *Eunice Arias and Luis Aramayo, missionaries, Guatemala. Submitted by Peggy Ramsay, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation.*

# ★ 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.

## 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. 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.

## Builders Fellowship

March 13 at 6:30 pm  
 Topic: Sheep Dog Herding  
 Guest Speaker: Marie Maines

Many of us have these furry animals that are our companions, but they do bring commitment. Your doggie may not need to herd sheep, but come to this interesting presentation anyway.

Bring yourself and a friend. For reservations call Allean Blose, 686-9981, or Lorene Haines, 684-3059.

## Heifer report

Our congregation was especially generous during the Alternative Christmas Fair in December, raising nearly \$6,000 for Heifer Project—an astonishing amount! Church & Society / Missions are thankful for the kind faces and many purchases. We are also grateful for the donations left in the narthex for Frazee. Frazee also benefited from UMYF's great Souper Bowl Sunday!



In speaking with the managers of Frazee, we learned that donations have dropped off significantly after the holidays. In these economic hard times three specific items are desperately needed: baby formula (canned or powdered), diapers, and jarred baby food. We would like to make a delivery of these in March, if we can collect the items in the narthex. Thanks again for your continuing generosity.

Susan Straight/C&S-Missions



in April

Kay Otto	1
Bonnie Shown	1
Shara Andrade	2
Randy Murray	2
Sean Rosas	3
James Sizer	3
Lisa Laird	5
Dana Traver	6
Vir Jean Halbrooks	9
Robert Carrington	0
Tina Wymer	12
Kim Oster	16
Lisa Thomas	16
Helen Dennington	20
Jami Plumley	20
Marj Wolter	20
Ruby Gregory	21
William Waite	21
Doris Wright	21
Kyle Grimes	24
Gail Murray	24
Sean Clark	25
Marjorie Weeks	29
Richard Whitmark	29
Barbara Jo Wilson	29
Richard Rajaratnam	30

Articles for the next *Messenger*  
 (issue date April 5, 2009)  
 must be in the church office no later  
 than  
**Wednesday, March 25. 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.

## Not In My Backyard!

What is modern-day slavery? How can people still be bought and sold, especially in our own backyard? What can we do to respond?

Become a modern-day abolitionist. Join us at this special event sponsored by the California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to learn more:

**When:** March 14, 3:00 PM-9:00 PM

**Where:** Glendale First UMC, 134 N. Kenwood Street

**Cost:** \$15 for dinner

For more information, contact Jennifer Kent at [worth.the.fight@gmail.com](mailto:worth.the.fight@gmail.com) or 800-748-5855.

## Riverside CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, March 29

Temple Beth El, 2675 Central Avenue

Registration at 12:30 PM

Walk begins at 1:00 PM

Our church will again be taking part in the Riverside CROP Hunger Walk. CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised during this event go to local hunger relief agencies such as Second Harvest Food Bank, Project Food, Casa Blanca Home of Neighborly Service, and Arlington Temporary Assistance. The remaining funds are used nationally and internationally by organizations such as Church World Service, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, World Relief and others.

Last year walkers and sponsors from FUMCOR contributed more than \$1,100 out of the \$12,000 raised locally. If you can help as either a walker or sponsor, please visit the table on the patio each Sunday, or look for those wearing the red CROP "stop signs". You may also donate online at <http://www.churchworldservice.org/goto/FUMCOR>.

Thank you for your continued support!



## 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.

## Michael Noble in concert

The Redlands Chamber Music Society will present Michael Noble in concert at 4:00 PM Sunday, March 15. The performance is part of the Society's Emerging Artist Series.

On the program are Claude Debussy - Images, Book 1, Frederick Chopin - Barcarolle, Op. 60, Frederick Chopin - Nocturne in B Major, Op. 62, No. 1, Alexander Scriabin - Sonata No. 3 in F sharp minor, Op. 23.

Tickets are \$20; students may attend free. For more information call (909) 798-9253 or (909) 748-7528.

**Frederick Loewe Performance Hall  
1200 Colton Avenue in Redlands**

## Calling all 4th-6th graders!

There's a new group for you! You are invited on the fourth Sunday of the month (that's today!) to join UMYF (Youth Group). We will meet on the same Sunday as Family Worship. Join us in the Youth Center for a time of sharing and singing with Risa and the Middle/High School Youth Group. Then we have time for activities such as crafts, service projects, bible study, cooking and games. When we meet today we'll decide our name and the activities we want to do first. We will begin at 6:00 PM; pick up time is 7:30. See Val Weise if you have any questions. See you all this evening!

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.

## Here We Go Again...

Monday, March 2, at 8:30 AM, First United Methodist Church Preschool will begin registering for our 60th year. Established in 1949 with 24 children and two classrooms, we have grown into a state licensed facility serving 78 children per day between the ages of 2 years 9 months through 5 years of age. We have six classrooms and 15 staff members with over 164 years of experience working with young children at First Methodist!

Our focus is on nurturing the social, emotional, spiritual and developmental growth of the whole child through a hands-on, play-oriented approach to early childhood education.

The preschool hours are from 9:00 AM to 12 noon Monday-Friday. An early morning drop-off is available at 8:00 AM Monday-Friday, as well as a Lunch Bunch program from 12:00 noon to 2:00 PM Tuesday-Friday. If you have a preschool age child and are interested in enrolling, please give us a call at 683-4500 or stop by for a tour.

We love the new sign on the front lawn!  
Thanks FUMCOR!

*Lee Ann Salmon*

## 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**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>8:45 am</b> <i>First Sunday in Lent</i> Sunday School <b>10:00 am</b> Worship & Communion—S <b>11:15 am</b> Pancake Brunch—FH <b>11:15 am</b> Confirmation Class—CR <b>5:00 pm</b> Covenant Discipleship Group—Adult Lounge <b>6:00 pm</b> UMYF—YC	<b>2</b> 7:00 pm Worship Committee—Adult Lounge 7:00 pm Trustees—Mary's Kitchen	<b>3</b> 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm SPRC—CR	<b>4</b> 9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury 6:00 pm Sit n Sew Quilters—Adult Lounge 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers—Fellowship Hall Servers: Agape	<b>5</b> 6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> <b>7:00 am</b> UMM—FH <b>8:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 am</b> Worship—S <b>11:15 am</b> Evangelism/Discipleship—AL <b>11:15 am</b> Youth Council <b>11:15 am</b> Confirmation Class—CR <b>5:00 pm</b> Covenant Discipleship Group—AL <b>6:00 pm</b> UMYF—YC	<b>9</b> 12:00 pm Almond/Wesleyan Potluck—Mary's Kitchen 6:00 pm Faith & Fellowship—Pastor Sheila's	<b>10</b> 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	<b>11</b> 9:30 am UMW Executive Committee—Mary's Kitchen 9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers—Fellowship Hall Servers: OFF Group	<b>12</b> 6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	<b>13</b> 6:30 pm Builders—Fellowship Hall	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> <b>8:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 am</b> Worship—S <b>11:15 am</b> Potato Bar—FH <b>11:15 am</b> Church&Soc/Missions—AL <b>11:15 am</b> Confirmation Class—CR <b>5:00 pm</b> Covenant Discipleship Group—AL <b>6:00 pm</b> UMYF—YC	<b>16</b> 7:00 pm Christian Education—AL	<b>17</b> 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 	<b>18</b> 9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers—Fellowship Hall Servers: UMW	<b>19</b> 6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> <b>8:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 am</b> Worship—S <b>11:15 am</b> Magazine Swap—Patio <b>11:15 am</b> Confirmation Class—CR <b>5:00 pm</b> Covenant Discipleship Group—AL <b>6:00 pm</b> UMYF—YC	<b>23</b> 7:00 pm Church Council—AL	<b>24</b> 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 UMW Citrus Branch—Adult Lounge	<b>25</b> 9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers—Fellowship Hall Servers: Builders  <i>Messenger Articles Due Today</i>	<b>26</b> 6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Hunger Ministry
<b>29</b> <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> <b>8:45 am</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 am</b> Family Worship—S <b>11:15 am</b> Confirmation Class—CR <b>1:00 pm</b> CROP Walk <b>5:00 pm</b> Covenant Discipleship Group—AL <b>6:00 pm</b> UMYF—YC	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 8:30 am <i>Messenger</i> Volunteers—Mary's Kitchen 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen	<b>1</b> 9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop—Asbury 6:00 pm Sit n Sew Quilters—AL 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Suppers—Fellowship Hall Servers: UMM  APRIL	<b>2</b> 6:30 am Men's Prayer Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	