

In Our Prayers:

In convalescent care

Natta Lea McCormack
Nancy Lasater
Faith Ruddell

Howard Nolan
Ruby Gregory
Michael Scholl

Dellaurs Hocking
Leonard Shaw

For health and support

Martha Devine
Manette Tomlinson
Alleean Blose
Lisa Thomas
Shayne Guy
Pam Carrasco
Jim Thomas
Jason Handen
Brandy Gould

Josephine Duncan
Pam Garnett
Emily Shaw
Sarah Six
Judi Jack
Sue Byers
Bill Wolter
Chandra Roberts's sister Taj
Nathanial Pritchard

Bob Schiffer
Ed Johnson
Myra Williams
Vijay Roberts
Eli Sturman
Debbie Boone
Casey Graves



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

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The Messenger



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From Pastor John

Now Christmas and its festivities are over, we move into the New Year. And I hope that you will carry the spirit of Christmas into the new year and find a way to maintain that spirit all year long.

One of the ways we can do that is by leaving our comfort zone to do something different and new—in the community, at church, and in our relationships. This past year, we welcomed 16 new members to our FUMCOR family, including the seven who joined during this past Advent season (see photos). My



Fred & Lisa Bowe



Alice Musarra with Michael, Matthew & Christopher (Rose not in picture)



Elisabeth & Alina Girke



Wayne & Bethany Purvis

hope is that all of us at FUMCOR will open our doors and hearts to embrace new members and visitors with the love of Christ, and to build relationships with them. I know we

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From Pastor John

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will be blessed in doing so. As we begin a new year, I want to invite you to reflect on the wonderful words of Paul in Philippians on a daily basis, *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again; Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

Philippians 4:4-9

Happy New Year and may your new year of 2012 be filled with many blessings!

Pastor John



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United Methodist Women

You will want to know that UMW donations to missions, mostly from the sales at the Bazaar, are supporting people in need, near and far:

Alternative to Domestic Violence: \$300; 2nd Harvest Food Bank: \$500; Habitat for Humanity: \$300; Born Free: \$300; FUMCOR Campership Fund \$1100; FUMCOR Scholarship Fund: \$500; Pledge to Cal-Pac Conference Missions: \$1000.

Help Needed

The UMW Bazaar supply and storage rooms are in dire need of clean-up and put-away after the recent final flurry of activity. There will be a work day Wednesday, January 4, at 9:30, to get organized for the new year. Even if you never come to the Handcrafters, this is an opportunity to see the inner workings of this very creative group. Plan to come!

UMW District Training

Unit officers are invited to a training meeting sponsored by the District. It will be held Saturday, January 16, at St. Paul's UMC in San Bernardino. For more information contact Lynn Ashworth, 684-4457.

Unit Meeting

The first Unit Meeting of 2012 will be our annual Service of Remembrance and Pledge Service, Wednesday, January 18, 10:00 AM in the Koinonia Room. Plan to be a part of this meaningful program.

Idea Day

The big "kick-off" day for the Handcrafters Workshop is our IDEA DAY, Wednesday, January 25, at 9:30. Perhaps you received a cute Christmas gift that looks easily reproduced, or you saw a nifty idea in a magazine; or perhaps you are devoid of ideas and hope to be inspired by ideas others have brought. This meeting is always lots of fun—mark your calendar!

United Methodist Men

The next UMM meeting will be Sunday morning, January 8. Our featured speaker will be Matt Gorder who will be speaking on "Electronic Connections". We all know Matt from his duties as our Head Usher, but few know about his interesting career in the electronics industry. Matt will bring some hardware along with his presentation to help us understand what makes this fine FUMCOR member "tick".

We meet for a delicious 7:00 AM breakfast in Fellowship Hall prepared by Tim & Gretel Noble, followed by the meeting. Ladies are always welcome.

Words from Barbara Jo

I am so grateful and full of joy for 2011. My first year as your Director of Children/Women Ministry was full of activities, but most importantly, was building new relationships and bringing new families into our church community.

Our women's bible studies have been rewarding and we are looking forward to our 7th Annual Women's Retreat later this month.

Faith and Fellowship

Christmas Brunch Our Christmas Brunch was a blessed success again this year. The room was filled with conversation and laughter. Thank you to all who shared in this time together. A very special thank you to: the Faith & Fellowship committee (Marcia Bales, Jonathan Bales, Pat Beals, Scott Kirkwood, Marilyn & Randy Peebles, Kelly Weakly, Kelsey Weakly, and Ruth Walker) for all their time and work behind the scene. There were some special angels who helped as well: Lisa Bowe, Lisa Laird and Sue Tomlinson.

Live Nativity Our Live Nativity was so full of joy. We had children, youth, and young adults. We had a live Baby Jesus and live animals. We had two good crowds to share in this FUMCOR Christmas tradition. Thanks to all who contributed to make it so successful.

As I look forward to 2012, I know that the Lord will lead me to share His love and words with all those in our church, but especially with the women and children.

Children's Ministry

Evening with Santa

On December 10, twenty-five children had a wonderful evening together. They had a snack, made a craft, watched a movie with popcorn, heard a story, and had a special time with Santa. A big applause for making an additional craft for each child to take home to: Carrie Renteria, Bailey & Kelsey Chamberlain, and Jennifer Walker. Thanks to: Marcia Bales, Elaine Carter, Robin & Ruben Renteria, Cindy Qualiteri, and Mina Yoon for all their work and support.

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 18, was our annual Children's Christmas Program. The *Not-So-Silent Night* was the Nativity Story told from the view of the animals in the stable. All the participants performed their parts extremely well. This program was dedicated to Laurel McDonald, who is on the mend with recent health issues, who could not be with us as our co-director. Special thanks to Loretta Cudney and Esther Heath Morgan for their leadership.

Mission Moments

from UMW

Around the world, Christmas celebrations are a result of the culture and its people. Here in China, loud and flashy is joyful. Perhaps this is why overseas Christians from quieter backgrounds have difficulty truly enjoying and being wrapped up in the spirit of Christ's birth when attending a Chinese Christmas Eve service. Our services in Luzhou are what Americans would consider chaotic, with people coming and going constantly; noisy talking, flashing light strands, lively dance performances in glittery, sequined costumes; off-key choirs, humorous skits. For most Americans or European Christians, this takes some getting used to, but for those open to acceptance, this service can be an awe-inspiring immersion into yet another Christian spiritual experience. *Connie Wieck, Missionary, Luzhou, China. Submitted by Peggy Ramsay, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation.*

January Events:

Jan. 20: Children's Family Night

Jan. 14-16: Winter Camp
for Children/Youth

Jan. 27-29: Women's Retreat

January 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship/Communion</p> <p>1</p>	<p>New Year's Holiday (the church office will be closed)</p> <p>2</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study —Mary's Kitchen 11:05 am Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>3</p>	<p>9:30 am UMW Executive Mtg —Mary's Kitchen 9:30 am UMW Work Day—Asbury 6:00 pm Sit n Sew Quilters —Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>4</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Brkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>7:00 am UMM Brkfast & Program—Fellowship Hall 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Evangelism—Adult Lounge 5:00 pm CDG—Adult Lounge 6:00 pm UMYF</p> <p>8</p>	<p>7:00 pm Trustees —Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Worship Committee —Adult Lounge</p> <p>9</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study —Mary's Kitchen 11:05 am Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm SPRC—CR 7:00 pm Faith & Fellowship —Adult Lounge 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Brkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>Winter Camp January 14 - 16</p> <p>14</p>
<p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Church Society /Missions —Adult Lounge 5:00 pm CDG—Adult Lounge 6:00 pm UMYF</p> <p>15</p>	<p>Martin Luther King Holiday (the church office will be closed)</p> <p>7:00 pm Christian Education Mtg —Mary' Kitchen</p> <p>16</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study —Mary's Kitchen 11:05 am Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>17</p>	<p>10:00 am UMW Unit Mtg —Koinonia</p> <p>18</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Brkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p>19</p>	<p>6:30 pm Family Night —Fellowship Hall</p> <p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am F&F Shelter Luncheon —Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm CDG—Adult Lounge 6:00 pm UMYF</p> <p>22</p>	<p>7:00 pm Church Council —Adult Lounge</p> <p>23</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study —Mary's Kitchen 11:05 am Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm UMW Citrus Branch —Adult Lounge</p> <p>24</p>	<p>9:30 am UMW Handcrafters Idea Day—Asbury</p> <p>25</p>	<p>6:30 am Men's Prayer Brkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR</p> <p>26</p>	<p>Women's Retreat January 27 - 29</p> <p>27</p>	<p>Hunger Ministry</p> <p>28</p>
<p>8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 5:00 pm CDG—Adult Lounge 6:00 pm UMYF</p> <p>29</p>	<p>5:30 pm Finance Committee —CR</p> <p>30</p>	<p>10:00 am Bible Study —Mary's Kitchen 11:05 am Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen</p> <p>31</p>				