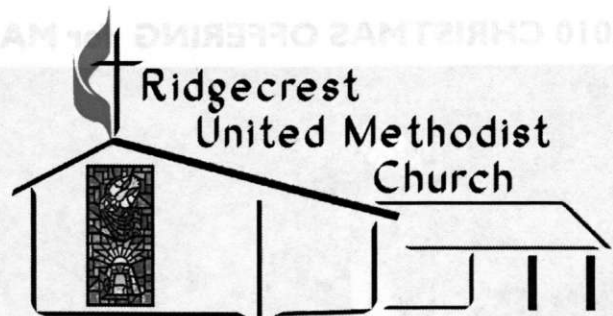


The Messenger



Newsletter of the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church

February, 2011

PASTOR'S POINT

Last October 2, a Saturday, Kathy and I were driving home from dinner at China Garden and I turned on the car radio. It happened to be around 6 pm, the hour for Garrison Keillor's "Prairie Home Companion" on Public Radio. We used to listen to the show when we lived down in the big city, mostly for the news from Lake Wobegon, Keillor's mythical home town in Minnesota. You know, where the women are strong, the men are good-looking, and the children are above average. Then, when Keillor's humor got a little too morbid for our taste, we quit listening.

Well very unfortunately, we tuned back in on the night he had decided to unload on the Methodists. You may already know that Keillor regularly makes fun of Lutherans, Catholics or Unitarians, but fairly gently. Not this time. He explained that a listener had written him a letter accusing him of romanticizing churches too much. He said he resolved to stop doing that beginning with the next song, an amusing little ditty titled "Methodist Blues."

I'm only going to quote a few of the stanzas from the song; several of them are really too offensive to repeat in a church newsletter. If you wish, you can get the full dosage on the Prairie Home Companion website.

I go to church every Sunday morn
I've been going since I was born
starting to think there's something I missed
by being a Methodist.
I got the Methodist blues.

Our theology gets thinner and thinner
we don't talk about saving the sinner
sometimes I wonder if God exists
but I can't because I'm a Methodist
I got the Methodist blues

The minister is way to the left
the organist is almost deaf
the choir is getting long in the tooth
got no youth director cause there ain't no youth
I got the Methodist blues.

—And I've saved the worst for last—
Got no purpose, got no mission
just layers and layers of tradition
just another retail business
everything picks up around Christmas

I got the Methodist blues

That really ticked me off. I know I should have done something before this, but I sort of got absorbed doing actual ministry in the busiest quarter of the year. So last Wednesday, I wrote and sent the following letter to Garrison Keillor:

"Dear Mr. Keillor: As a United Methodist and pastor to a highly effective United Methodist congregation in Ridgecrest, CA, I am deeply offended by your supposedly satirical song 'Methodist Blues.' Your decision to include this stereotyping song in your October 2, 2010 program reflects an extreme bias against one of the great branches of the Christian church, and not only that, you seem obtuse in your misapprehension of who we are. Have you visited a United Methodist congregation for worship lately? I doubt it. If you did, you might learn something.

I serve a Methodist congregation of roughly 300 members who share a powerful purpose and a mighty mission. We have a vibrant music ministry with a large and excellent choir, including singers and instrumentalists of all ages. We have many youth in our congregation, and yes, we have a full-time youth director on our staff. Our membership is growing. We value tradition, yet we do not dwell on it. The topic of God saving sinners occurs regularly in my Sunday messages. Our hearts, our minds and our doors are always open to all.

What is more, this is the most mission-minded church I have ever had the privilege to serve. Last year, we finished a 3-year fundraising campaign that covered the full cost of a new Habitat for Humanity home, as well as doing a significant portion of the construction work ourselves. I would like you to witness the amazing list of mission projects we supported in just the last 12 months.

Mr. Keillor, I know that you are just a humorist, but you picked the wrong church to de-romanticize, and you went too far. The United Methodist Church is alive and well in North America, with over 30,000 congregations, and our churches in Africa are experiencing explosive growth. Our mission, for your information, is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. You might wish to write that down. It's the real deal.

Come and visit us sometime in sunny Eastern California. Winter is almost over here. You would be welcome; everybody is.

Yours Very Truly, Pastor Rich LaShure."

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Rich'.

2010 CHRISTMAS OFFERING for MARA



Photo by Dan Leveille, Right to Left:
Wes Hensley, Rev. Ilse Peetz, Superintendent DePano, Rich

Wes Hensley's Mission Moment on January 30:

"My inspiration for our Christmas offering to Mara District started at Annual Conference in 2004 when the Regent from Africa University spoke there. He talked about the awesome rate that the Methodist Church was growing in Africa. This was primarily due to the Pastors that were being born out of the Theology program at Africa University. The campus as of 2004 had thousands of students that grew from the mustard seed Cal-Pac had planted there. A choir of 11 had accompanied him on the trip to our Annual Conference and when they sang it filled the Chapel at University of Redlands. Their singing struck me as if a choir of Angels was singing from Heaven.

One of the songs they shared was the "African Alleluia" that our choir sang for the anthem today. I always wanted to do something to contribute to that awesome scripture based ministry that John Wesley would be radiant with pride over. When Skip Keating, our District Lay Leader shared the message of our District partnership with Mara, I saw our chance to join with them.

Our giving to Mara has been an example of grace like I have never witnessed before. Last year's offering was \$6402.52, and this year's was \$7108.00. That is \$13,510.52 from our congregation.

I would like to renew our challenge to the Pasadena District and hope to have this challenge presented at the upcoming How-To Workshop that the District is hosting at Covina. Using the member count from the 2009 Conference Journal for the District based on the 2008 District report, if each member of our District gave \$20 from our challenge last year, we could provide \$216,520 to Mara.

Wes Hensley's Mission Moment Continued...

If the District was willing to challenge each member to last year's challenge of \$20 and this year's challenge of \$20, that would mean \$433,040 to Mara.

If the District is willing to meet the challenge of \$46 per member over RUMC's two years of giving, we'd deliver \$497,996 to Mara. A \$20 challenge is no more than asking each member to buy 4 fewer extra value meals at McDonald's or 4 fewer Starbucks trips for a month. The Spirit is alive and well in Mara. This is our God-sized goal for Mara."

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Did you know that our Mission Giving for 2010 equaled 24% of the size of our annual budget? That means we gave one-fifth of our total income to those in need. I personally view that as a huge success, indeed a victory for the Kingdom of God.

The United Methodist *Guidelines* book on Stewardship says that a local church should have a goal of giving 20% of their annual income. We are right on. Reviewing the list of mission projects accomplished through our giving reaffirms how God has blessed us as stewards: Habitat for Humanity, Mara District Tanzania Mission Assistance, UMCOR (Haiti and Chile relief), Relay for Life, Great Strides, Heifer Project, Sierra Service Project, support for our missionaries, Living Bread, Jim Lewis Scholarships, Rancho International Ministries, Holiday Food Baskets and many more.

Now some of you may be wondering how the other 80% of our income is used. Quite simply, it is used to execute the mission!

The mission of RUMC – "To share Christ's love with all, through our tradition of scripture, sermons, music and fellowship..." Also the mission of the whole United Methodist Church – "To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Local churches provide the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs," (*The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*).

Yes, the other 80% goes to our pastor, our staff, our facilities and our programs. These allow us to share Christ's love and enable disciple-making with worship, prayer, service and outreach to the local and global community. All of this is made possible by our generous giving.

As our Lord said, "Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal." (Mt 6:20 NIV) I invite you all to continue this trend during 2011. Next month I'll attempt to discuss some of the non-financial aspects of stewardship.

—Al Bradford

Continued...

In Service In Our Church

Lock-up for February: ~~Bill Burns~~

JOHN VEAZEY

FEBRUARY 6

Flowers Available
 Liturgist (8:00) Laura Lei Miller
 Liturgist (10:30) Melanie Branson
 Acolyte Unknown
 Ushers Wes and Hazel Hensley
 John and Paige Netzer

Creative Expressions

Lead: Michelle Kilikauskas

Help: Jill Bradford

Counters: Jim Hoover,
 Cathy Mattis,
 Lynn Wade

Fellowship Hosts: Sheri Boston,
 Janice Anderson,
 Nancy Hodge

FEBRUARY 13

Flowers Available
 Liturgist (8:00) Scout Sunday
 Liturgist (10:30) Scout Sunday
 Acolyte Unknown
 Ushers Rocky and Nina Lane
 Tim and Barbara
 Johnson

Creative Expressions

Lead Michelle Kilikauskas

Help Available

Counters Hazel Hensley
 Barbara Johnson
 Nina Lane

Fellowship Hosts Diane Leveille,
 Carol Gardiner

FEBRUARY 20

Flowers Available
 Liturgist (8:00) Available
 Liturgist (10:30) Kristin Hall
 Acolyte Unknown
 Ushers Dwight and Mary
 Atkinson, Stanley and
 Ellen Chassagne

Creative Expressions

Lead: Michelle Kilikauskas

Help: Jill Bradford

Counters Mary Atkinson,
 Sheri Boston
 Nancy Saxton

Fellowship Hosts: Aileen Scott,
 Diane Wadelin,
 Phyllis Wise

FEBRUARY 27

Flowers Available
 Liturgist (8:00) Diane Leveille
 Liturgist (10:30) Diane Leveille
 Acolyte Unknown
 Ushers Monte and Tina Frisbee
 Scott and Terry Millett

Creative Expressions:

Lead Michelle Kilikauskas

Help Available

Counters Kristin Hall
 Wes Hensley
 Nancy Hodge

Fellowship Hosts Kathleen Hanson,
 Vivian Wright,
 Chloe Bryant

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Director of Youth ministries:

Amy Ochoa

(760) 793-7850

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Margaret Anderson

(760) 375-9860

Lillian Daley

(760) 375-3989

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**OUR PURPOSE
AND MISSION**

We are a richly blessed, loving and spiritual family of Christ who shares god's love through our personal and congregational ministries. Our mission is to share Christ's love with all, through our tradition of scripture, sermons, music, and fellowship. We believe strongly in sharing our blessing with those in need.

Our church family welcomes you to join us in our bible based worship, prayer, and discipleship.

MISSION EMPHASIS

Each month, our church has an emphasis for giving that is given as the Buck-A-Month. You will find the bucket displayed in the Narthex (as you walk into the church on the credenza). We also will take offering for the mission emphasis in the offering plate but it needs to be clearly designated (in the memo line on a check or in an envelope).

The Missions Committee has the pleasure of assigning the month mission programs to support. These are then voted on at the Ad Council. For the month of **February**, we are supporting:

**Living Bread Ministries
And
Rancho International Ministries (RIM)**

**FOOD EMPHASIS
FOR THE MONTH**

This year the Missions Committee has elected to designate a specific food each month to be provided to the Salvation Army.

The food item for **February** is:

BEEF STEW

Of course other items are welcome as well. Please place your items in the blue bucket in the Narthex.

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S SWEETHEART BANQUET

On February 12, 2011 the United Methodist Men
will once again host their
Sweetheart Banquet.

Tickets are \$15.00 ea

Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm
in the Social Hall

Jim Hoover, Jay and Nancy Hodge are the Chef's
for the evening and
our youth will be helping to serve

The evening promises to be very entertaining



It is that time of the year again
Time to order your valentine cookies
for family and friends

The cookie boxes are only \$5.00 each
With an assortment of cookies the price
can't be beat.

The boxes are decorated with stickers and bows
and on February 13th they'll be ready to go.

On February 12th packing will be done
If you want to help pack--9:30 am is the time to
come.

If you want to help bake cookies too
See Terry Ratcliff or call 446-9652.
And she'll give you instructions on just what to do.

UMW Missions local and district wide
Will benefit when you open your mouth up wide
and eat one of the many delicious cookies inside

So get your orders in and don't delay
Because the boxes will be ready on February 13th
in time for Valentines Day.

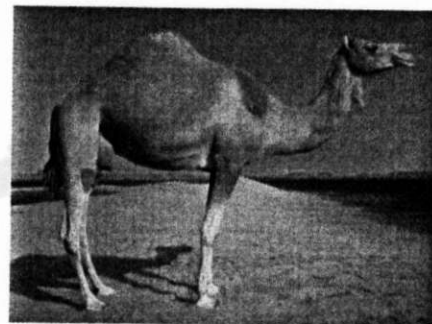
Diane Wadelin
January 2011

ALBERTSON'S REWARD STICKERS



Ridgecrest United Methodist Church has
pooled their Albertson's reward stickers and
redeemed them for 42 Thomas Cookware pans.
Shown are members of the youth group with
Director of Youth, Amy Ochoa. One set will be
given to the recipients of the next Habitat House
with the remainder being accepted by Teresa,
representing the Women's Shelter of Ridgecrest.

HEIFER PROJECT



Through the generosity of the congregation and
the Sunday School, we were able to send in
\$960.00 in December. That was enough to buy
two Knitter's Gift Baskets. Each Knitter's Gift
Basket includes one llama, one alpaca, one sheep
and one angora rabbit. These animals contribute
well bring of the families and the community when
the gift is passed on.

Our new project is three camels by Epiphany
2012 (January 6, 2010). Each camel is \$850.00. for
a total goal of \$2,550.00

Thank you for your support
Juanita Morton-Heifer Project Coordinator

February Young Adult Mixer

Maundy Tuesday has come early this year!

All young adults college-aged to 35ish are invited to a super secret play! Come ready for the party on Friday, February 25th from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the fellowship room (in the sanctuary).

Free childcare will be offered in the nursery/Room 10 during the event.

We are in need of eight interested young adults to play character roles - all others will be observers to the play. All roles include scripted parts with hints and clues to use. It is best to come dressed as your character! If you are willing to play a part, contact Amy prior to the event.

Youth Love-A-Palozza Event

All youth group members are invited to spend Valentine's Day with the people they love the most - their fellow youth group friends! Come on out Monday night, the 14th from 5pm to 8pm for a mini lock-in, Valentine's style! Bring your game stations and cards. Non-youth group friends are welcome to join us. Dinner provided by Cupid Catering. See you there!

2nd Annual March of Dimes CROP-O-THON

Calling all scrapbookers, card makers, and quilters! Olivia Zade is once again hosting a crop-o-thon benefitting the Victorville March of Dimes Walk. \$20 gets you in for an all-night crop in the social hall on Friday, February 11th from 4pm to 12midnight. Dinner will be included along with hourly door prizes and snacks and drinks throughout the night. To reserve your space contact Olivia at ozade8@yahoo.com or at 865/386-2129.

Spend a Night At the Museum!

Fifth graders to twelfth graders are invited to travel down to the Los Angeles Natural History Museum on Friday, April 1st (no fool's!) for a night that will be of-so-cool! Participants will be involved in a special after dark museum-wide scavenger hunt, go on an exclusive flashlight tour of the La Brea tar pits, sleep under the T-Rex skeleton, have breakfast Saturday morning inside the museum, and so much more! Only 13 more youth spots are available as of the end of January. Cost to attend is \$50, with whole or half scholarships available for those who could use it. Transportation provided by adult chaperones. *You don't want to miss this trip!* See Amy for more details or to sign up!

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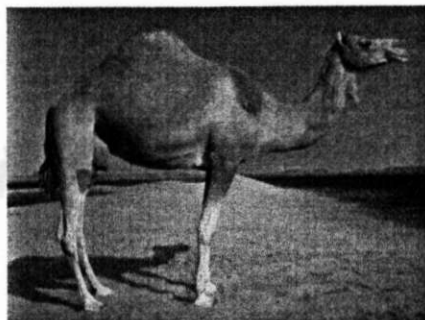
Diane Wadelin
January 2011

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Thank you for your support
Juanita Morton-Heifer Project Coordinator



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

The Ridgecrest Reporter

From the President:

It is a new year for United Methodist Women. This year our theme is Peace and we will have several programs around that theme. Look for our Call to Prayer program at the beginning of the Lenten Season, our Seder Meal at Passover (during Holy Week this year), and our Thanksgiving Program celebrating all we have to be thankful for around, what else, Thanksgiving! We have the same leadership team this year but it has been stirred up with people taking some different positions:

Officers

Laura Lei Miller----- President
Janice Anderson----- Secretary
Shirley Kidner ----- Treasurer
Lorelei Atencio
----- Secretary of Program Resources

Mission Coordinators

Juanita Morton
----- Membership, Nurture, and Outreach
Diane Wadelin----- Spiritual Growth
Terry Ratcliff ---- Education and Interpretation

Circle Chairs

Barbara Mason----- 3M Circle
Aileen Scott ----- Sister's Act
Kathleen Hanson and Laura Miller
----- Friendship Circle

We are always looking for a few good women!
We have several offices that are not filled:

Vice President

Chair of the Committee on Nominations

Mission Coordinator for Social Action

If you have an interest in leading or even just learning about United Methodist Women, please feel free to attend our board meetings, we would love your input.

Joining Us:

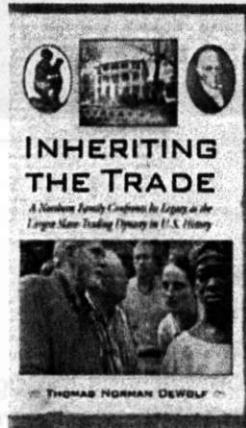
Our purpose is:

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

The only requirement for membership in United Methodist Women is a desire to accomplish this purpose. There is no requirement to pledge any money. There is no requirement to pledge any time. There is no requirement to attend a circle, to do a bible or mission study, or work for a global mission of the church. Primarily, the requirement is to know God. All of our activities are tied to the desire to get to know God better. We offer programs to encourage a relationship with God and we do missions like our Valentine Cookie Sales to raise money to support loving and caring for others in places all over the world. We do these things with joy in our hearts because we know that we are serving God. These things are done for God's glory. All together, our units of United Methodist Women combine to form a group of 800,000 women in a strong relationship with God. We are one of the largest women's groups in the world! We have members everywhere. But, we are busy women too. We care for our families, we work, we pursue hobbies and other activities. But, all you need to do to be a member is to believe in the purpose. Join us at any time. We would love to be with you.

My name is Laura Lei Miller
And I am currently reading:

INHERITING THE TRADE:



A Northern Family Confronts Its Legacy as the Largest Slave- Trading Dynasty in U.S. History

Thomas Norman DeWolf
Beacon Press, 2008
262 pages /R8012/ \$16.00
In 2001, Thomas DeWolf
discovered that he was
related to the most
successful slave-trading

family in U.S. history, responsible for transporting at least 10,000 Africans. This is his memoir of the journey in which 10 family members retraced their ancestors' steps through the notorious triangle trade route—from New England to West Africa to Cuba—and uncovered the hidden slave trade history

Wow—this book is fabulous and I am having a hard time putting it down to share with you what it is about (I am on page 169). I recently have become very interested in family history (my own) and this book is a **fascinating** story about Thomas DeWolf's experience in exploring his family and a really little understood part of world wide history. I love reading about history in this way. I think the subject matter is important and the insights in this book have touched me greatly. I am particularly horrified by the church's support of the slave trade. How could that happen? This is how I feel about lots of history (holocaust, crusades, inquisitions, etc.) when I learn it. I have also recently read the biography of William Wilberforce who was the architect of the abolition of slavery in Britain. That is on the list too. This helped me to understand why it took so long for abolition to pass in Britain. Some of the same politics were true in America too. Read this. You won't be disappointed.—Laura Lei Miller

The Reading Program:

Did you know that the reading program of the United Methodist Women is open to all people in our congregation? Men, children, youth and women are all encouraged to participate in the Reading Program. Our reading program library is in the Fellowship Room. This is a collection of books and magazines that are divided into five mission emphases to encourage us to read a diverse selection. The areas are: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth.

The Purpose

The purpose of the Reading Program is to encourage United Methodist Women members:

- to expand understanding of and participation in God's mission;
- to increase sensitivity to all human beings — their needs, interests and concerns;
- to encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today;
- to grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life;
- to enhance self-knowledge and to act from that knowledge; and
- to strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

United Methodist Women recommends a diverse range of books with the intention of broadening exposure to a variety of concepts. The Reading Program does not intend that readers accept each word or idea contained within each volume. Some books you may agree with. Some you may not. Either is all right. United Methodist Women cares and wants you to be a knowledgeable and caring Christian about current issues.

Check out the program. To learn more about what books are included (we don't own all of the books!) please contact Lorelei Atencio who is our officer in charge of the program.



NURTURE COMMITTEE

Enjoy the sunshine is what I am thinking today, but by the time you get this we should be back into a cold February or soon after. This reprise from the cold has been a real gift from God. Praise Him.

This is my opportunity to say Thank You to Kathy Cummings, our 8:00 a.m. service music coordinator for the planning and finding special music for the 8:00 a.m. services. In January we owe our thanks to Mike Petersen, Jeff Green, Mick Rindt; Debra Heflin, Mark Kolstoe, Janice and John Anderson; Kathy Cummings, Carol Sakai, Kristin Hall; Paula Herr; Joe Hansen, Curt Kidner. Kathy leads the hymns with others every Sunday and she says she loves being there with you. Blessings for this ministry, Kathy. If you or your Youth are willing to assist in this service please contact Ms. Cummings.

The adult choir has remained strong after the Christmas season with an average attendance for the first 4 Sundays of the month at nearly 32 and a rehearsal average of three rehearsals, all over 30 attending. These dedicated musicians and singers need to be congratulated for their loyalty, so blessings and thanks to each of them.

If you enjoyed the Cantata presented on December 12th by Pepper Choplin than save the date for Maundy Thursday service with communion and a Pepper Choplin Cantata, "Come Walk With Me" with narration and soloists on April 21 at 7 p.m.

See you there. Love and Blessings,
Janice Anderson, Director of Music

Thank you for your support in the outreach of caring for our congregation. We have had a real rash of surgery, illness, etc. in the past few weeks and we know of several surgeries on schedule for February. Please consider cooking an extra portion and delivering to our beloved congregants who are in need of some assistance (tomorrow it could be you). It does not have to be a five-course meal, even one dish is very helpful for the caregiver and lets them have a little rest.

If you have illness in your home please call me or the church office and we will get in contact with those who have made an offer to help. Let us serve you as a part of our ministry of caring.

If you are willing to cook, bake, transport, etc. please call me or the church office and we will keep you posted to our needs. Thank You for serving your Lord in this fashion. Five persons were served in January so we are blessed with givers and receivers.

Mary Netzer will be the recipient of the most recent "Prayer Quilt". Tie a knot and say a prayer for healing when you see a quilt in the narthex.

Thank You Methodist Quilt Group for your beautiful, generous donation and ministry. The group meets on the last Wednesday afternoon in the Fellowship Room if you would like to learn to quilt a square with these lovely ladies. Check with Janet Tonkin or Carol Sakai for details.

Prayers for healing for all who have had serious medical conditions and we pray we have helped make your improvement a little easier.

Blessings and love, Janice Anderson
Nurture Committee Chair

New year, new beginning! A lot of people, especially us Asians, believe that decisions and actions set the direction for the rest of the year. I like January because it's my period of assessment and planning. No, you did not hear from me last month because I wasn't able to compose my prayer bulletin. I was home for 2.5 weeks and returned to Liberia Dec 16, with my mother! Yes, she is here. She enjoyed the long travel though confessed feeling as though we won't ever get to Ganta. What with 27 Hours of flying through 5 countries then 5 Hours on rough roads. She always thanks God and me for the opportunity of being with people she prays for using the UMW Prayer Calendar. She keeps busy looking for small work she can help at the mission, like scrub-cleaning all signboards. She has begun her ministry with the people she encounters by praying with and laying hands on them. But her main task is keeping me clean and fed.

As for me, it is good to have my mother here. I have somebody to talk with at the close of day. It has been extra difficult since returning. There are just 2 of us MDs managing this 150 bed capacity hospital because the 3rd doctor went AWOL. Later we came to know he has been employed in a big hospital in Monrovia. These last 2 weeks were particularly trying. Each of us does a straight week of night calls aside from our usual Monday-to-Saturday work schedule. It's common to be called to do at least 2 Caesarean Sections in the middle of the night. After successive nights of C Sections, I was called for a tiny 18 year old premature birth who had been in labor for 3 days. It took them 3 days to finally decide to get her to a hospital. But her uterus was so fatigued that it just won't contract despite a maximum dose of available medicines. The choice was between bleeding to death or living without the uterus. The choice was easy, but to live with the consequence of that choice is a different matter. Thankfully her baby was born strong and she has at least a child. This patient was followed by a 19 year old whose baby died in the womb, because they delayed coming to the hospital. I thought I would be doing another hysterectomy. In my moment of despair I cried out, "I hate the uterus! I don't want to see another one!" God is good. I didn't see any others for 3 days. But this week I had daily hysterectomies for older women with tumor growth in their uteri. My Pediatric Surgeon-Boss was offended when I told him I was doing hysterectomies here. Maybe he believes we Pediatric surgeons are trained for a higher calling. My mother, on the other hand, told me how wonderful that God has called me and put me in a place where people are in dire need of surgeons. Mothers are God's special blessing!

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At the close of 2010, we here were praying for the country of Guinea because of danger of post election violence developing into civil war. Ganta hospital is just 15 minutes from the Guinea border and war or not we get Guinean patients. Praise God the situation was resolved and peace restored.

Now it's another neighbor on the verge of civil war. Ivory Coast is 2.5 hours away and the Liberia border towns have had refugees crossing over since the start of 2011. Of last report there are 5000 Ivorian refugees registered. I was a member of the reconnaissance group from Ganta that went to the border to assess the health facility from the border to us. This is in preparation for an escalation. There were at least 4 small health clinics manned by nurses along the main road and Ganta hospital is the only and nearest hospital with the capability of receiving spill-over casualties. We have put together an emergency plan. Although the media reports have not been encouraging, we continue to pray for peaceful resolution. Understandably, Liberians are wary of rumors of wars because their own country has been ravaged by several civil wars.

January is definitely eventful. If beginnings do set the tempo for how the year is going to be, it sure is gonna be challenging. But even surer is God's very present help in every situation. Please pray for strength and stamina for me. Patience too, because it seems to be in short supply after several busy nights. Pray for peace in West Africa region, specifically Ivory Coast. Pray also for the Liberia Annual Conference happening in Ganta on Feb 7-13. Thank you for blessing me with your love, prayers and graces. Till next time, Elma

PRAYERS

Family and Friends in Need of Our Prayers

Thank You for Your Prayers

If you have a family member or a friend that you would like us to pray for through our prayer chain ministry, and include on our prayer list, please contact Margaret Anderson at 375-9860 or Diane Wadelin in the church office at 375-7434. It is our policy for names to appear on the prayer list for two months. For ongoing concerns please notify the office or Margaret Anderson.

Bill Alltop	Avery Anderson	Natalie Andri	Linda Archibald
Jayson Arnold	Lorelei Atencio	Bob Atkinson	Stephanie Backman
Claire Belicer	Anna Benson	Don and Kay Blachly	Chloe Bryant
Derek Brown	Judy Burns	Dave Carleton	Chuck Campbell
Gina Chase	Paul Clair	Claire Goodell	Betty Clark
Elizabeth Conaway	Cabi Conti	Carol Corlett	Florence Condos
Pamela Coward	Bonnie Dale	Lillian Daley	Wilma Davis
Tricia Eoff	Tammy Ferris	Helen Fowler	Pat Frangias
Taylor & Isabella Frisbee	Ginny Friz	Bill Hall	Kathleen Hansen
Lori Helm	Virginia Hendricks	Steve Hesselink	Herman Hoffman
Barbara Garber	Elnora Jedlicka	Lou Jordan	Charline Kvapil
Kiberiti Family in Tanzania	Dale Lane	Dick Lewis	Phil Lilly
Karla Ling	Tim Loscar	Lela Mason	Peyton McCormick
Rich McCormick	The Moreau Family	Marie Neff	Mary Netzer
Doug Plumhoff	Crystal Racicot	Heidi Rauh	Daniel Reymore
Betty Rhodes	Judy Robert	Margaret Rodger	Cass Roquemore
Jeff Rose	Linda Roush	Gaylon Ryno	Sais Family
Kathy Schimpf	Carrol Sewell	Diane and Frank Seymour	Kira Shearer
Keely Smith	Patti Suttle	Mark Swett	Carol Taylor
Rex Walraven	Alex Ward	Elizabeth Watson	Julie Watters
Cherry Whitmore			

MISSIONARIES

Dr. Elma Jocson, Missionary to Liberia

Krista Givens, Missionary Hamburg, Germany

U.S. MILITARY

David Bird	Alan Bradford	Ryan Carmichael	Benjamin Cox
Mussahi Cummings	Jason Desmarais	Brandon Deusenberry	David Dunaway
James Garwalki	Sheldon Greshem	Michael Leveille	Ben Marvin
Jason McCalk	Rob Mettitt	Tyler Odell	Danny Oestreich
Tyson Price	Karl Randall	James Ryan	Andrew Smith
Gary Sullivan	Matthew Taylor	Maggie Tidwell	Andrew Toll
Andrew Valadez	Katie Weback	Steven Whitmore	Randall Zade



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Alexis Austin
- 3 Stenson Smith
- 5 Roger Becker
- Victoria Pillers
- 6 Bill Campbell
- Jeanne Greene
- 8 Meghan Branson
- 10 Emily Johnson
- 11 Amy Ochoa
- Aaron Wadelin
- 12 Devin Estrada
- 13 Isabella Frisbee
- LaNeyha Gleason
- 14 Ted Fiske
- 15 Nancy Hodge
- Roxann Gibbs
- Vivian Ryno
- Debra Heflin
- 16 Kyle Hall
- 17 Brady Gardiner
- Geoff Lindsay
- 19 Wilna Nelson
- Donna Weeks
- Pat Noland
- Diana Kay
- Jessica Anderson
- 26 Taylor Frisbee
- Judy Campbell
- Roberta Skinner
- 28 Gregory Mattis
- 29 Joshua Boston



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 16 Ray & Carol Magorian
- 17 Bill & Irene Regnier
- 20 Art & Lorelei Atencio
- 29 George & Elsa Hennings

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed in our Church Directory, please contact the office know so we can honor you on your special day.

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:00 am VBS planning Mtg. in Room 2	2 GROUND HOG DAY 6:30 pm Power of a Whisper Class 7:00 pm Trustee Fellowship Room	3 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	4 Flex	5 8:00 am UMM Breakfast in Social Hall
6 Sunday Worship Schedule 4:00 pm UMW Board Mtg. Room 4	7 6:30 pm Power of a Whisper Class BSA 341 6:30 pm Pack Mtg. and 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	8 3:00 pm Home School Social Hall 7:00 pm Fly Fishers Social Hall	9 12 Noon A.S.L. Class S. H. & Rm. 2 6:00 pm P.F.L.A.G Rm. 4. 6:30 pm Power of a Whisper Class	10 5:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 161 Rm. 5 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	11 March of Dimes Crop-o-Thon 3:00 pm - 12:00 am Social Hall	12 9:30 am UMW Packing of Valentine Cookie boxes 6:00 pm UMM Sweetheart Dinner
13 Sunday Worship Schedule Valentine Cookies ready for Pickup after Worship Service 2:00-5:00 pm Crop Circle Social Hall	14	15 5:00 pm Youth Event 6:30 pm Bible Study Fellowship Room Cub Pack 341 6:00-8:00 pm and 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	16 9:00 am Sister's Ad Fellowship Room 11:30 am 3M Circle 12 Noon A.S.L. Class Rm. 2 & S.H. 5:30 pm Girl Scouts #2263 Rm. 7 7:00 pm Ad Council	17 5:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 161 Rm. 5 6:00 pm Mission's Mtg Rm 2 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	18 Young Adult Mixer 740 S. Sunset 6:30-7:30 pm Flex	19
20 Sunday Worship Schedule	21 6:30 pm Bible Study Fellowship Room 6:30 Young Adult Mixer Cub Pack 341 6:00-8:00 pm and 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	22 Deadline for articles for March Messenger 3:00 pm Home School class Social Hall	23 12 Noon ASL Class Rm. 2 & SH 1:00 pm Quilters Fellowship Room Friendship Circle	24 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	25	26
27 Sunday Worship Schedule	28 6:30 pm Bible Study Fellowship Room Cub Pack 341 6:00-8:00 pm and 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.					

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 am and 10:30 am Worship Service
 9:00 am Sunday School all ages
 Middle School Youth Group 2:30 - 4:00 pm Room 2
 High School Youth Group 4:00 - 5:30 pm Room 2
 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School Room 4

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Worship Service

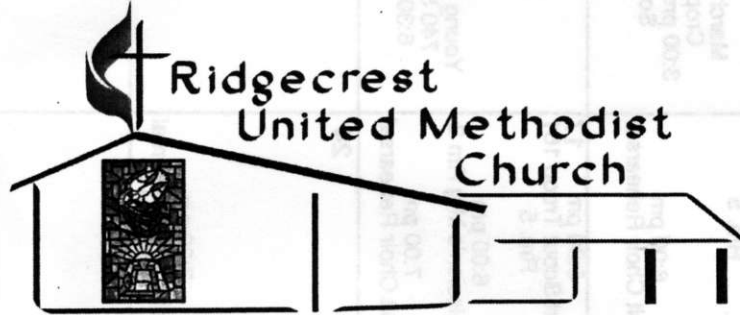
8:00 and 10:30 am

9:00 am Sunday School for all ages

(Child care is provided)

5:00 pm Adult Sunday School

Bring A Friend To Church



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FEBRUARY

Current Resident or