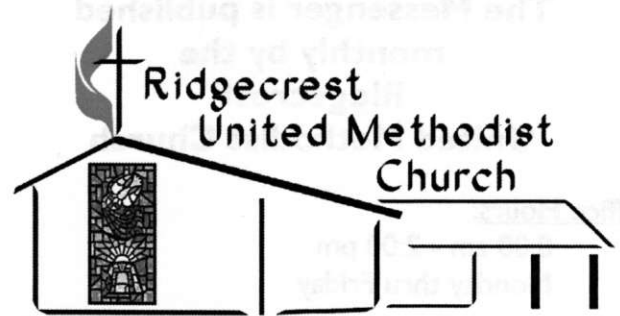


# The Messenger



Newsletter of the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church

May, 2011

## PASTOR'S POINT

Here at RUMC we celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. Our style of serving Communion is to gather in a line of 20 or so persons at the base of the Chancel steps, join hands, and receive the sacrament as a group. Then I dismiss each group with a scripture-based blessing. I don't prepare these blessings in advance, but rather I wait on the Spirit to give me the verses and the words for the moment.

Last Sunday, May 1, about midway through Communion, God powerfully put this verse on my heart: "If God is for us, then who can be against us?" I hadn't previously used that verse as a blessing in my 5+ years of ministry with you. Of course, it comes from Romans 8. The sense of the verse isn't a lack of clarity on who our enemies are—rather it's an attitude of victory, as if to ask, "With God for us, what does it matter who is against us?"

To get the context, the full passage is Romans 8.31-35, 37-39:

"What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?...

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

On Easter we celebrated Christ's victory over

sin and death, a victory which God intends to be our victory too. And this isn't limited to one Sunday a year—God wants us to be an Easter people, a people who have an attitude of victory 365 days a year.

I woke up this morning, May 2, feeling as though the ground had shifted under my feet. A formidable enemy is no more. The death of Osama bin Laden is good news. And before I heard it on the radio, I knew in my heart that Navy Seals had carried out the mission to take bin Laden out. Those Seals are our heroes, along with all enlisted Navy, Army, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard men and women, and all reservists.

This moment has been a very long time in coming. My prayer is that all Americans who lost a loved one on 9-11-2001 can at least feel some sense of justice, if not closure. And while the modern war against terrorist groups is by no means finished, let May 1, 2011 be marked as a day of victory, a day when the good guys won.

Because of what Jesus achieved in dying and rising from the dead, may you always have an attitude of victory—every day, come what may. *Rich*

## SSP SOAP SHOP ON MOTHER'S DAY

It's not too late to support our fine high school youth who will be participating in the Sierra Service Project this summer, and also purchase a last minute gift for Mom. After the Sunday morning worship services on Mother's Day, May 8, come visit the SSP Soap Shop in the Social Hall. There are still over 70 kinds of artisan soaps available, including plenty of lavender bars, unscented soaps, the new-this-year Navy Blue & White soap, exfoliating salt spa bars, Gardener's Scrubby soaps, and Pastor Rich's favorite, Desert Nomad. All are priced at \$5.50 per bar with all receipts going to SSP. Bring a friend to worship and shop.

Thank you to everyone who made a purchase on May 1, our first day of sales. The total, as of May 2, stands at \$2,551.50, which is wonderful! Our goal is to raise \$4,000, so come get soapy this Sunday!

# MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday 1</b> <b>Worship Schedule</b> SSP Soap Sales Begins in the Social Hall 4:00 pm Russian Ensemble	<b>Monday 2</b> 6:30 pm.. Bible Study Fellowship Room BSA 341 6:30 pm Pack Mtg. and 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	<b>Tuesday 3</b> 2:00 pm Home School Social Hall 7:00 pm Fly Fishers Social Hall	<b>Wednesday 4</b> 12 Noon A.S.L. Class - S. H & R3 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm P.F.L.A.G R m 4. 7:00 pm Trustee Fellowship Room	<b>Thursday 5</b> 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>Friday 6</b>	<b>Saturday 7</b> 8:00 am UMM Breakfast 9:00 am-2:00 pm Rally for the Cure at Crossroads Church
<b>Sunday 8</b> <b>Worship Schedule</b> <b>MOTHERS'S DAY</b> 2:00 pm Crop Circle SSP Soap Sales in the Social Hall	<b>Monday 9</b> 6:30 pm.. Bible Study Fellowship Room BSA 341 6:30 pm Pack Mtg. and 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	<b>Tuesday 10</b> 2:00 pm Home School Social Hall	<b>Wednesday 11</b> 12 Noon A.S.L. Class S. H & R3 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm P.F.L.A.G R m 4. 6:00 p.m. Mission Mtg Rm 2	<b>Thursday 12</b> 9:00 am Set up for Rummage Sale 6:00 pm Mission's Mtg Rm 2 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>Friday 13</b> 6:30 am - 11:30 am Guatemala Rummage Sale and 8:00 am UMW Bake Sale for the Mara District Flex	<b>Saturday 14</b>
<b>Sunday 15</b> <b>Worship Schedule</b> 3:30 pm UMW Board Meeting	<b>Monday 16</b> 6:30 pm.. Bible Study Fellowship Room BSA 341 6:30 pm Pack Mtg. and 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	<b>Tuesday 17</b> 2:00 pm Home School Social Hall	<b>Wednesday 18</b> 9:00 am Sister's Act 11:30 am 3M Circle 12 Noon A.S.L. Class Rm 32 & S.H. 5:30 pm Girl Scout 7 6:00 pm Finance 7:00 pm Ad Council 2.	<b>Thursday 19</b> 2:00 pm Home School Social Hall 7:00 pm Music Workshop	<b>Friday 20</b> 7:00 pm Jim and Jean Strathdee Concert Sanctuary	<b>Saturday 21</b> 9:30 am Recitals Sanctuary 2:30 pm Weeks Reception in the Social Hall 4:00 pm Renewal of Vows -Sanctuary
<b>Sunday 22</b> <b>Worship Schedule</b>	<b>Monday 23</b> 6:30 pm Bible Study Fellowship Room 6:30 pm Young Adult Mixer Cub Pack 341 6:00 pm 7:00 pm BSA Troop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	<b>Tuesday 24</b> 2:00 pm Home School Social Hall	<b>Wednesday 25</b> 12 Noon ASL Class Rm32 & SH 1:00 pm Quilters Fellowship Room 6:30 pm Friendship Circle 6:00 p.m. Mission Mtg Rm 2	<b>Thursday 26</b> 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	<b>Friday 27</b> Flex	<b>Saturday 28</b>
<b>Sunday 29</b> <b>Worship Schedule</b> No UMYF this evening	<b>Monday 30</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 6:30 pm Bible Study Fellowship Room Cub Pack 341 6:00 pm 7:00 pm BSATroop 35 Ed. Bldg. & S.H.	<b>Tuesday 31</b> 2:00 pm Home School Social Hall				

## 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

**The Messenger is published  
monthly by the  
Ridgecrest  
United Methodist Church**

**Office Hours:**

8:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Monday thru Friday

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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.

**MAY 8, 2011**

**Native American Ministries**

Join United Methodist everywhere by participating in the special offering that supports the Native American Ministries. This ministry will assist the deputy of the 70,000-member Muscogee (Creek) Nation respond to tribal concerns of troubled families, at-risk-youth, illiteracy, unemployment and substance abuse.

**--MISSION EMPHASIS--**

**HEARTS IN MOTION  
(GUATEMALA)**

Terry Ratcliff will once again be going to Guatemala for 10 days in July to support the Hearts in Motion Mission to local rural people who live in the Zacapa area. Many of them need basic medical support, food and small construction projects completed, as they are extremely poor. The team will be doing well-checks for children and families, providing eyeglasses, food to many people who live at the local dump and surrounding area, a few building repairs, and a Vacation Bible School. They will be visiting orphanages, centers for malnourished children, senior citizen centers, and many villages where people do not have access to health care. The Guatemalan government does not have a Social Security system, or medical care and food program for children and families. They are responsible to find their own food and care.

Terry will be taking eyeglasses, vitamins, over the counter medicines (aspirin, vitamins), like-new children's clothing and small hand toys with her. If you would like to donate any of the items, please place them in the Guatemala box in the narthex. If you would like to donate to Terry's trip to Guatemala this summer, please indicate by writing "GUATEMALA" in the memo line or on your offering envelope. If you would like to donate to Hearts-In-Motion Mission, please write "H.I.M." in the memo line.

"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."

Matthew 25: 40

**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 **May** is:

**REFRIED BEANS**

# In Service In Our Church

## Lock-up for May: Ray Miller

### MAY 1

Flowers: Ralph and Cathy Mattis  
 Liturgist (8:00) Juanita Morton  
 Liturgist (10:30) Melanie Branson  
 Ushers: Wes & Hazel Hensley  
 John & Paige Netzer

#### Creative Expression:

Lead: Michelle Kilikauskas  
 Help: Jill Bradford

Counters: Jim Hoover  
 Nina Lane  
 Lynn Wade

Fellowship Hosts Shirley Kidner  
 Julie Gervais  
 Jill Bradford

### MAY 8 - MOTHER'S DAY

Flowers: Available  
 Liturgist (8:00) Available  
 Liturgist (10:30) Available  
 Ushers: Rocky & Nina Lane  
 Ray & Minnie Miller

#### Creative Expression:

Lead: Michelle Kilikauskas  
 Help: Jill Bradford

Counters: Hazel Hensley  
 Barbara Johnson  
 Cathy Mattis

Fellowship Hosts: Carol Gardiner  
 Diane Leveille  
 Chloe Bryant

### May 15

Flowers: Available  
 Liturgist (8:00) Available  
 Liturgist (10:30) Available  
 Ushers: Stanley Chassagne  
 Ellen Chassagne

### **Liturgist**

If you would be interested in being a liturgist, please feel free to sign up on the bulletin board by the church office. You are not obligated to do both services--just the service of your choice. If you have any questions feel free to call the office - 375-7434.

### **Altar Flowers**

The Flower Chart is located on the bulletin board outside the main office. If you would like to place flowers on the altar for a special occasion please feel free to sign up. It will be your responsibility to arrange for the flowers and to bring them to the church. Any questions feel free to call the church office.

### MAY 15 (CONT)

#### Creative Expression:

Lead: Michelle Kilikauskas  
 Help: Available

Counters: Sheri Boston  
 Nancy Saxton

Fellowship Hosts: Barbara Johnson  
 Nina Lane  
 Melanie Branson

### May 22

Flowers: Jim & Kay Weeks  
 Liturgist (8:00) Available  
 Liturgist (10:30) Available  
 Ushers: Monte & Tina Frisbee  
 Ken & Patty Wetzel

#### Creative Expression:

Lead: Michelle Kilikauskas  
 Help: Jill Bradford

Counters: Kristin Hall  
 Wes Hensley  
 Nancy Hodge

Fellowship Hosts: Betty Clark  
 Paige Netzer  
 Joanna Rindt

### May 29

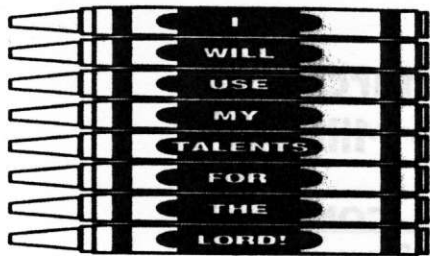
Flowers: Available  
 Liturgist (8:00) Diane Leveille  
 Liturgist (10:30) Diane Leveille  
 Ushers: Youth

#### Creative Expression:

Lead: Michelle Kilikauskas  
 Help: Jill Bradford

Counters: Kristin Hall  
 Wes Hensley  
 Nancy Hodge

Fellowship Hosts: Janice Anderson  
 Lynn Wade



## Stewardship Moment

Stewardship is about giving. Peter says in chapter 4 of his first epistle, verse 10-11, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." I must confess that upon first reading this, I felt compelled to follow this command, as a form of discipline that is required. In other words, I felt this verse pointed me to a "work" that should be accomplished in return for receiving grace. It wasn't until later, I zeroed in on the part that says we've each received a gift. What are these gifts we've received?

We have been given no less than eternal life (John 3:16). We have been given the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). And from the Holy Spirit we have been given spiritual gifts (Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12). In his Easter sermon, Pastor Rich spoke about victory, that is, Christ's ultimate victory, His victory over death. He said that because we have been given a relationship with Christ, "His victory can be your victory." Wow. We've been given a relationship with the Creator, and His victory. John Wesley spoke of "the means of grace," ways in which God works invisibly in us to quicken and strengthen our faith. Indeed one of the gifts we've been given is the transformation that is taking place, through the Holy Spirit. As Paul said, "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness, with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." (2 Cor 3:18)

After taking stock of "the gift each of you has received," Peter's command doesn't seem like a type of "work" at all. Sharing gifts not only is "a means of grace," but a small way to show honor for all we have received. Sharing the gifts we have received is quite simply a rewarding way to honor our Lord for all He has given us. The opportunity to honor someone with whom we have a relationship, someone who we care about, or someone we love is a rewarding and joyful opportunity. We have been given this opportunity, by simply sharing our gifts with one another.

Al Bradford



## Lenten Soup Suppers & Easter Egg Hunts

This year the attendance at the soup suppers continued to grow until the last several were averaging about fifty people. We want to thank all those who brought soup, salad, or bread (and many people brought food multiple times.)

The devotions made our time together more meaningful and we are grateful to Pastor Rich, Pastor Ed, Wes Hensley, Ellis Tiffany, Alan Bradford, and Amy Ochoa for giving us something to ponder each week. Thanks to each one of you.

We especially appreciate Nancy Hodge and the others who stepped in to take charge of the evenings when we were unable to be there. What a blessing to be part of such a loving, supportive church family. Thank you all.

These suppers were free but donations to feed the hungry in our community would be accepted. People were very generous and around \$730.00 will be divided between the Living Bread Ministry and the fund for the holiday baskets which our church provides. We know it will be appreciated.

Several people commented that the Lenten devotion books deepened their appreciation for this holy season. We hope that is true for others of you as well.

The Easter Egg Hunts are the responsibility of our committee but this year the major part of the work was done by Amy and some of the Youth. A big thanks to all of you who brought in the filled plastic eggs. It was fun to watch the youngsters enjoying looking for eggs after each of the Easter morning services. It is a joy to see so many young families at church these days.

Mary Netzer & Linda Archibald  
Co-chairs Family Ministries



## RIM Mission

**Paige Netzer** became interested in the work of Rancho International Ministries and has been encouraging the students in her class and other classes at Gateway School to take an interest too. UMC, Ridgecrest was able to give a check for \$1,856.73 directly to two of the missionaries we support there.

**Peter and Grace Zhangazha** were in the United States for a conference and they came by to do a presentation at Gateway School. They stopped by the church to receive the check and pose for a picture with **Terry Millett** (co-chair of the Missions Committee) and Pastor **Rich LaShure**.



### A Missionary Report from RIM:

#### **Jill Galloway - Zimbabwe & Uganda:**

We so often take for granted the things we have. I used to look at the nice things we have around us and get angry. I wanted all of the money that was wasted on little gadgets to go instead to help starving people. But now God has shown me that some of those gadgets, placed in the right hands, can actually bring a lot of good to people. For reasons we may never understand, we have received many blessings just by being able to live in the United States. I feel like God wants us to take full advantage of that blessing to help bless others.



## Habitat Needs

The God-sized effort of building a habitat house that our congregation took on a few years ago is complete. Thank you all.

Our efforts now are much more modest but still needed and appreciated.

We are on the habitat schedule for feeding the work crew on the second Saturday of each month.

I have heard first hand from one of the foremen that when they acquire lunch for themselves the bill is submitted to habitat, depleting the available building funds.

### **This is how it works.**

Expect a crew of 12.

**Morning Snack** served around 10:00

juice, coffee, muffins, rolls, finger breakfast foods, granola bars, fresh fruit

**Lunch** served around 12:00

sandwiches cut in halves, sides of potato or pasta salad, coleslaw, chips

hearty soups, chili or stews with rolls work during cold months

cookies, brownies, etc.

We're also asked to bring waterless hand cleaner plus anything required for eating such as cups, napkins, forks, etc. *(When I did it they had a supply of these things from previous meals so I was able to take home the items I had brought, but better safe than sorry)*

*I stayed to eat lunch, visit with the crew and tour the house before cleaning up.*

Volunteers are needed. Although I did it by myself having someone to pair with could be fun and make an increased crew easier to handle.

Call Terry Millett, 375-3046 if you can help.

It's not exactly feeding the poor, but it is feeding the folks who are working to house the poor.

# May Young Adult Mixer

Calling all young adults! Come to the last YA Mixer of the spring season on **Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 7:30pm** in the social hall. Childcare provided in the nursery/Room 10. Snacks and drinks will be overflowing!

Also be sure to keep up-to-date on all the YA news by checking out the YA page off the main church website at [www.umcrc.us](http://www.umcrc.us).



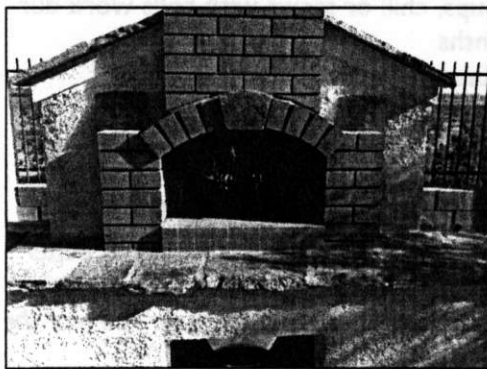
include freshly baked pizzas, hot out of the outdoor pizza oven, along with a variety of garden salads and scrumptious desserts.

There are two seating times available – you choose either the 5:30pm seating or the 6:30pm seating. Dress is casual.

Tickets are available for \$15 each, beginning on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> from Amy or the church office.

Buy your tickets early, as space is limited for this special dinner in mission!

## *SSP Fundraiser Dinner in Mission*



Mark your calendars for **Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>** as Jim and Trish Hoover will be hosting a special dinner fundraiser for our high school mission team and their upcoming service trip to South Los Angeles.

The Hoover's have a special evening planned for 60 of their closest friends. The evening will

### **ATTENTION ALL BAKERS!**



The high school youth group will be hosting a special "month of service" during their regular youth group hours in May and on the **29<sup>th</sup> of May**, over the holiday weekend, the youth will be taking time to honor our local emergency response teams with appreciation cards and baked goods!

Please consider baking a batch of your favorite cookies or making some special candy to be included in these appreciation baskets.

You may drop off your baked good donations to Amy's office (Room #1 of Edu. Building) or to the social hall kitchen with "High school youth" posted on the packaging on or before the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your efforts in helping us recognize our awesome emergency responders!

## SonSurf Beach Bash

### Vacation Bible School



Save-the-date for VBS 2011 coming to RUMC on **Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 11:30am** each day.

Children age three to students entering the 5<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall are invited to come and learn more about our friend and savior Jesus Christ during SonSurf Beach Bash!

There will be a special "preview-day" introducing the theme to all participants on **Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm to 5:30pm** in the social hall and outside courtyard. All are welcomed to attend, especially our boy and girl scout troops.

A volunteer training hour will be held **Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>** from 9am to 10am in the social hall followed by an all-church work day "VBS" style where we will be preparing the campus for the VBS week ahead!

Thank you for helping to spread the word to children in your family and neighborhoods! Online registration forms are available now online at [www.umcrc.us](http://www.umcrc.us).

## Youth Summer Camp

Youth entering the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall to graduated seniors in the spring of 2011 are invited to attend Ponderosa Pines Christian Camp near Big Bear Lake from **Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**. We will be lodging in gender appropriate cabins with our fellow church campers. Each day is jammed packed with activities from chapel in the morning, to team competitions in the afternoon, free time after dinner that includes swimming, zip lining, playing at the skate park, and mountain biking, and worship in the evening. Cost to attend is \$229 per camper. Scholarships available. Parents are needed to help carpool youth to and from camp, please consider helping with this front. Speak to Amy regarding more information and to sign-up, [760shoutout@gmail.com](mailto:760shoutout@gmail.com).

## High School Mission Trip

Youth entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall to graduated seniors in spring of 2011 are invited to attend the Sierra Service Project (SSP) mission trip to south Los Angeles from **Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>**. During the week we will be staying at a United Methodist Church and working in the local neighborhood surrounding the church, repairing homes with such projects as building wheelchair ramps and painting. We will also be learning more about the local homelessness issues in South LA by touring the local shelters and organizations. Speak to Amy regarding pricing and mandatory fundraising. Spots are limited, so sign-up soon!

## Family Resource Library

Now Available!



In an ongoing effort to assist young families with keeping their walk with Christ strong, we have gathered faith-based materials specially geared for them, together in one place, found in Room 11 of the education building. Please help spread the word regarding this new resource. It is our hope that people will borrow what they wish and will share with others.

Anyone interested in borrowing items from this new library is invited! There is an honorary check-out system, and you are welcome to keep the borrowed items for as long as they are useful to you and your family. When finished with any material, please return back to the library in Room 11.

Remember, there still is the large library containing material from a much wider variety in Room 4 of the Christian Education Building for your use as well. Please refer to that room's library if interested in reading Christian material concerning other subjects.

If you have such materials including but not limited to faith-based children's books, dvds, or music cds, or materials for parents, please consider donating them to our family resource library. Please drop off donations to the church office for processing.

## Church Family

### Birth Announcements

*Zoey Izabel Zuniga*



Born on March 12<sup>th</sup> to Stephanie Brown, grandmother Roxann Gibbs. This is Stephanie's first child. Congratulations!

*Kennady Harper Zade*



Born on April 4<sup>th</sup> to Jason and Olivia Zade, grandparents Lewis and Terryll Zade. This is Jason and Olivia's third child. Congratulations!

# Jim and Jean Strathdee

## May 20, 2011

### 7:00 pm



On May 20, Jim and Jean Strathdee will be here in our Sanctuary to present a concert. If you have never been to one of their concerts, you will have a wonderful experience. Jim and Jean were members of this congregation for many years as well as part of our Ridgecrest community. Many of the wonderful songs that we sing were written and arranged by Jim and Jean.

Please mark your calendar's for Friday, May 20.

## **JIM & JEAN STRATHDEE ~ BIO**

Internationally honored hymn and song writers, worship leaders and concert artists, Jim & Jean Strathdee share the power and sensitivity of their music with thousands of people each year. Their songs are a musical offering of hope and encouragement for all people, bringing a message of compassion, justice and healing and caring for the earth.

The Strathdees have a special gift for encouraging people to sing with them. Much of the music they write and perform is designed for congregational song. They also love to work with local singers to create a choir for their events. The Strathdees travel widely doing concerts, leading worship celebrations, workshops and retreats. They also serve as song and choral leaders for many conference events.

Their work expresses a wide range of musical moods ~ joyful, playful, prayerful and always heartfelt. It spans a diversity of sound and style including traditional, folk, rock, jazz, and international flavors ~ animated with guitar, piano, mandolin, harmonica, African drums, and Native American flute.

Seeing music as an agent of personal and social transformation, Jim & Jean are involved in fund- and consciousness-raising projects, events and rallies where ecumenical and inter-faith communities come together to make a stand for positive change. They maintain a relationship with many Christian communities throughout the US and Canada, Central America and India where they've had the privilege to travel and sing.

Over the years Jim and Jean have served several United Methodist congregations. Currently they co-direct a diverse and dynamic music program at the United Methodist Church of Rancho Cordova, CA, near Sacramento. Their music is published in dozens of songbooks, curriculum projects, denominational hymnbooks and supplements and is sung on six continents. They have written hundreds of hymns, songs and anthems and recorded nearly 20 albums. For more information go to [www.strathdeemusic.com](http://www.strathdeemusic.com).



## 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**You're Invited!**  
**50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Celebration**  
**Kay and Jim Weeks**  
**May 20,21,22,2011**

### Schedule:

Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> - Meet the Family Open House  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
737 Mamie Avenue, Ridgecrest, California

Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> - Reception  
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm  
United Methodist Church Social Hall  
639 N. Norma  
Ridgecrest, California

Renewal of Vows  
4:00 pm  
United Methodist Church  
639 N. Norma  
Ridgecrest, California

Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Church Service  
8:00 am  
United Methodist church  
630 N. Norma  
Ridgecrest, California

No Host Brunch  
9:30 am  
The Grape Leaf  
901 N. Heritage Drive #102  
Ridgecrest, California

RSVP; [www.50thteamweeks.ws](http://www.50thteamweeks.ws)  
or (760) 375-9383

PLEASE NO GIFTS  
Your Presence Will Be The Gift  
We Will Cherish  
Dress: California Casual



## Wedding

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Kristen Brown (Nee Mattis)  
and Anthony Brown on their nuptials on April 30,  
2011.



### Angel Choir News

Attention all Angel Choir members (and parents)  
We are finally going to be performing the "Ballad  
of Jonah" on May 15 at the 10:30 service. We  
have been working on this song all year due to  
changing attendance. I would like as many of you  
to attend so we can make a great showing. After  
that we re working on our new song "I'm a  
believer." Thanks so much Kristin Hall



### Crop Circle

If you are interested in scrapbooking, card making  
or other paper crafts, you are invited to join the  
Crop Circle group that meets the second Sunday  
of the Month in the Social Hall. We will be  
meeting this coming Sunday- Mother's Day, at 2:00  
pm. until 5:00 pm. Invite a friend and come see  
what we are all about.

# The Ridgecrest Reporter



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



## Bake Sale

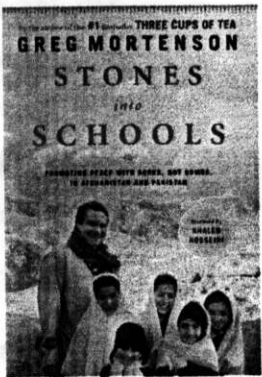
We are having a bake sale during the Rummage Sale that Terry Ratcliff is having to support her mission trip with Hearts in Motion. The Bake Sale is to benefit the Mara District in Tanzania, Africa. We

are raising money to buy SEWING MACHINES. We need bakers and workers. If you can help, please call Laura Lei Miller at 375-1088 or e-mail her at LauraMiller@ridgenet.net Baked goods can be brought to the office on Thursday or brought in on Friday morning. Please have items packaged for sale and the prices marked on them. Also, if nuts are used, please note that too. Thank you so much for helping and supporting our mission work all around the world. Hopefully we will be able to provide a sewing machine or two to help improve the economic condition of the women and children in Tanzania. Thank you.

## Book Discussion

Sister's Act, a UMW circle, is inviting all interested parties to join us for our next meeting which will be on the book Stones Into Schools. We will be meeting in the Fellowship Room on Wednesday, May 18 at 9:00 am. Please come and have read or be reading the book. This is a wonderful story and the book has exceptional insight into the culture in the remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Greg Mortenson, the author of the book has recently been the subject of a 60 Minutes story and has issued a response to this story. We will discuss the ramifications of the various stories and what that means for this project.



This book is the sequel to Three Cups of Tea. If you don't normally come to Sister's Act, please know that you are welcome at this meeting.

## Purpose of the United Methodist Women

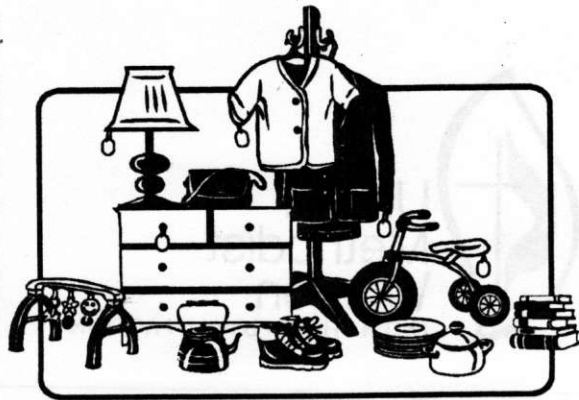
The organized Unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of Women whose  
**PURPOSE** is  
to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ;  
to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and  
to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries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

## Calendar of Events

- |         |                               |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| May 13  | Bake Sale                     |
| May 15  | Board Meeting                 |
| May 18  | Sister's Act<br>3M Circle     |
| May 21  | Week's 50th Anniversary Party |
| May 25  | Friendship Circle             |
| June 15 | Sister's Act<br>3M Circle     |
| June 29 | Friendship Circle             |

## Un-Rummage Sale

United Methodist Women will be having an **Un-Rummage Sale** this year. We aren't soliciting items or volunteers for this event, just donations and excuses on why you don't want to do a rummage sale. Please select your excuse and donation level from the list below.



- \$10 I'm leaving all my stuff for my kids to deal with after I'm gone.
- \$10 I can't even get in to my garage, let alone figure out what to get rid of.
- \$15 I lost the combination to the storage shed.
- \$15 The thought of working another rummage sale makes me weak in the knees.
- \$20 All my stuff is good stuff, I need all my stuff.  
Don't you be looking at my stuff like that!
- \$20 I've got no extra stuff, what are you talking about?
- \$30 My wife/husband/other relative (circle one) won't let me get rid of anything.
- \$30 I'm too tired from fasting in Lent to sort through anything.
- \$40 I'm keeping it all, I'm sure the Seventies will come back in style.
- \$40 I'm saving up all my stuff so I can be on one of those tv shows.
- \$?? Other

In all seriousness there are multiple outlets to give your unwanted usable items to. Terry Ratcliff will be having a rummage sale on May 13 to support Hearts in Motion (Guatemalan mission). Also the Salvation Army, DART thrift shop, Goodwill store and WACOM all accept various used items. The Kern County Landfill accepts glass tube tv's and monitors. The Friends of the Library accepts used books.

All money raised by this **Un-Rummage Sale** goes to support the missions of UMW. Those missions in the last year have included: The High Desert Women's Center, Child Abuse Hotline, Habitat for Humanity, the Adult Day Care, Sierra Service Build, Methodist Hospital Foundation, Missionary Elma Jocson, Missionary Krista Givens, Hearts in Motion, and our Mission Pledge to the district UMW. The Mission pledge goes to support domestic and international mission programs of the United Methodist Church supporting women, children, and youth. A small portion of our budget goes to support member education and nurture and provide program materials.

Checks may be made out to UMW and either left at the church office or given to any UMW board member. Thank you for your donation to Missions!!

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An Excerpt from Doc Elma's Letter—  
see the full letter on [www.umcrc.us](http://www.umcrc.us)

"As for hospital work, the load remains heavy. But God sends lots of help: Friends visiting, medical professionals planning to come, and supplies that are refilled in God's time. There are 2 MDs from Congo whom the hospital will employ. Pray that their arrangements will be quick and their transition smooth. The Ivory Coast crisis continues despite former President Gbagbo's capture. We continue to get refugee patients.

Please pray for the Ivorians, their situation is dire. With so many nations needing help, Ivory Coast seems to be at the bottom of the list. I need an instrument for amputation, the one I bought last October broke- too many limbs severed. Please pray for a reliable channel to get it to here. There are four ward nurses with Malaria; snakes and scorpions are coming out- please pray for protection.

Praise God for Dr Ron and his very productive life. Please pray for his trip home on May 1. I pray that we all have a meaningful Lent and that We will truly experience and live out Christ's Easter victory."

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"Throughout the world today, in various settings, denominations and belief-structures, Christians exchange the Paschal greeting. Instead of greeting one another with "hello" or "Good Morning" one is to greet another person with "Christ is Risen!", and the response is "Truly, He is Risen". I learned in my American Church that when one says "Christ is Risen!" to you, you should respond "He is risen indeed!" What did you learn in your cultures? Is there an equivalent?

In some cultures, such as in Russia and Serbia, it is also customary to exchange a triple kiss on the alternating cheeks after the greeting. But this Easter custom, practiced by such disparate groups as the Eastern Orthodox church, the Eastern Catholic Christians, the Roman Catholic and various Protestant Christians churches, is a way of proclaiming the resurrection and emulating the practice of the earliest Christian cultures.

The Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Washington DC describes why they practice the Paschal greeting: "In so doing, we emulate the earliest of the Lord's disciples and students, who after His Resurrection discussed the Resurrection among themselves, and said: the Lord is Risen indeed (Luke 24: 14-35). Moreover, in pronouncing that greeting, we clearly and concisely express to one another the history of today's Feast."



# Church Phone Book updates

## OLD CHURCH PHONE BOOKS

You may bring your old church phone books to church where they will be recycled. Be sure to get all you little notes etc. out before bringing it in.

## NEXT MESSENGER

The article for the June messenger will be due on May 16th as I will be out of town at the end of May and would like to in sure that the messenger gets out in a timely manner.

## 2011 GRADUATES

We would like to acknowledge our graduates on Sunday, May 22. If you have a family member who is graduating this year from middle school, high school or college, please let the office know. You may share this information on the registration pad or email the church office at [umcrc@verizon.net](mailto:umcrc@verizon.net).



## NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Bill and Janet Tonkin: [tonkin946@gmail.com](mailto:tonkin946@gmail.com)

## ADDITIONS

My deepest apologies for inadvertently leaving the following Anniversary and Birthdays out of the Church Phone Book.

### Anniversary

#### March

17 Ryan and Amanda Carmichael

### Birthdays

#### February

20 Krista Givens

#### March

10 Brent Huey

13 Steven Leveille

16 Kristen(Leveille) Huey

#### April

15 Brenda Houseman

21 Seth Graham

#### May

11 Ryan Carmichael

#### June

13 Alex Carmichael

#### July

20 Karla Ochoa

#### October

4 David Carmichael

#### November

7 Gerry Rambo

11 Ellen Hinman

#### December

22 Nicholas Graham

# 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.

Avery Anderson  
Bob Atkinson  
Ruth Blandon  
Florence Condos  
Carol Corlett  
Tricia Eoff  
Kathleen Hansen  
Elnora Jedlicka  
Dick Lewis  
Mary Netzer  
Kathy Schimpf  
Seymour  
Rex Walraven  
Derek Wadelin

Linda Archibald  
Bonita Becker  
Lynette Boston  
Marty Corzine  
Bonnie Dale  
Taylor & Isabella Frisbee  
Herman Hoffman  
Charline Kvapil  
Tim Loscar  
Crystal Racicot  
Carrol Sewell  
Kira Shearer  
John Walsh  
Trudy Wood

Lorelei Atencio  
Anna Benson  
Chloe Bryant  
Chuck Gordell  
Elise Ellingsworth  
Bill Hall  
Ron Greenwood  
Dale Lane  
Garry Maxwell  
Gaylon Ryno  
Diane and Frank  
Shari Sinsley  
Elizabeth Watson  
John Veazey

### MISSIONARIES

Dr. Elma Jocson, Missionary to Liberia

Krista Givens, Missionary Hamburg, Germany

### U.S. MILITARY

Victor Anquino  
Benjamin Cox  
Brandon Deussenberry  
Michael Leveille  
Tyler Odell  
James Ryan  
Maggie Tidwell  
Steven Whitmore  
David Bird  
Mussahi Cummings  
James Garwalki  
Ben Marvin  
Danny Oestreich  
Andrew Smith  
Andrew Toll  
Randall Zade

Alan Bradford  
Jason Desmarais  
Sheldon Greshem  
Jason McCalf  
Tyson Price  
Gary Sullivan  
Andrew Valadez  
Ryan Carmichael  
David Dunaway  
Todd Holland  
Rob Mettitt  
Karl Randall  
Matthew Taylor  
Katie Weback



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 George Hennings  
Adrian Ochoa
- 4 Mindy Brown
- 5 Michael Leveille  
Destiny Woolard
- 8 Linda Bouse
- 9 Shasta Hennings  
Patrick Rindt
- 10 Diane Leveille
- 11 Ryan Carmichael
- 13 Ann Norris
- 15 Curt Kidner  
Beth Seybold
- 16 Hazel Hensley  
Tyler Woolard
- 1 Joseph Kovar
- 17 Derek Wadelin  
Paul Clair
- 18 Amie Adams
- 22 Jeanne Backman
- 23 Lori Jaworski
- 25 Megan Wade
- 27 Dena Christison
- 28 Dylan Layfield  
Michelle Kilikauskas
- 31 Preston Wade  
Lowell McDaniel  
Calvin Johnson



## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Curt & Shirley Kidner
- 21 Jason & Olivia Zade
- 22 David & Kristin Hall
- 31 James & Sarah Guess

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.

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Worship Service

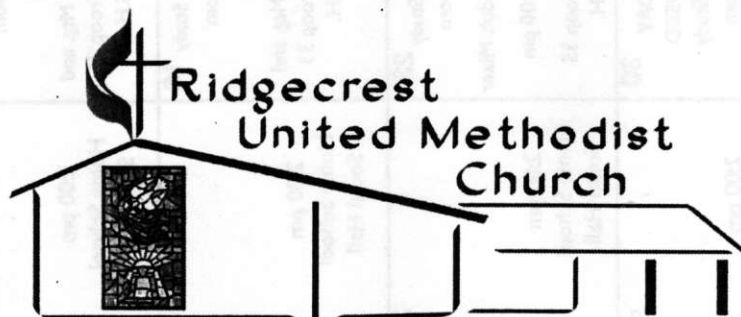
8:00 and 10:30 am

9:00 am Sunday School for all ages

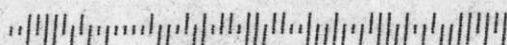
(Child care is provided)

5:00 pm Adult Sunday School

**Bring A Friend To Church**



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Ridgecrest, CA 93555



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