

Holiday Brunch

On December 6, following worship, Faith & Fellowship will host our Holiday Brunch. We will serve our special menu from last year, with a couple of new items. It will be a time for sharing holiday plans, memories, and fellowship with one another. Our youth will help us serve.

Faith & Fellowship will collect cash donations for store cards to help families in need at Christmas.

And don't miss the UMW Mini Bazaar also in the Fellowship Hall.



Prayer List

Please hold in prayer: in hospital: Eli Sturman (nephew of Duffy & Susan Exon), Adrianna Paine. *In convalescent care:* Marion Holsteen, Norma Montigel, Betty Byrnes, Natta Lea McCormack, Eleanor Rayner, Howard Nolan, Judy Ziegler. *In need of prayer for health and support:* Jean Taylor, Nancy McCormick, Lisa Thomas, Martha Devine, Micheline Scoggins, Myra Williams, Ruby Gregory, Jean Mooney, Dorothy Barnekow, Andrew Beals, Warren Garnett, Larry McCormick, Joy Schuh Sr., Forrest Duarte, Joleen Roman, Susan Shuckett, Christopher Nauss (Susan Exon's nephew), Barbara Spencer, Nina Freeman (Cathy Mooney's mother), Becky Konegen's father.

The Messenger



First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

Volume 48 No. 12 December 6, 2009

FAITH WORKS

Lord, Bring Us To The Manger!

This is a season of waiting. We remember the painful longing of Israel and the whole world—needing a Messiah, a Redeemer, a Savior. We re-create that longing and hopeful expectation at Advent.

We long for healing, for relationships to be repaired, for ourselves to live more simply in a slow economic time.

As a church we long to discover a clear path, to be led by Jesus, to find the kind of fruitfulness that allows us to transform many more lives.

I feel a longing for the church to discover the path of rich and fertile ministry with young adults. Our FUMCOR'S FUTURE task force has set this ministry as our number one calling. Many people are already responding to this call, even though we do not have a clear vision of how to do this ministry.

We need Jesus to be born in a new way in our church ministries. Come, Lord Jesus!

We call on one another to pray intensively and regularly, and for a long, long time, for our Young Adult ministries.

How long?

Until our Young Adult program is rich and full and is meeting the needs of our many Young Adults already here.

Until many students at UCR and RCC and Cal Baptist and any other nearby college and university are experiencing 2 to 5 years of discipleship, disciple-making, and service.

Until the United Methodist Church as a whole practices Young Adult ministries beautifully and fruitfully.

You are invited today to become a friend on Facebook with FUMCOR Riverside (for everyone) and for Young Adults First United Methodist Church of Riverside Young Adults.

Pastor Brian



First United Methodist Church
of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue
Riverside, CA 92506-0134

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Advent is Here!
Advent means "a coming".
And preparations are in full swing. Sunday, November 22, the Hanging of the Greens was lots of work

and fun with many people decorating the Sanctuary, and children, youth and adults making the crafts to decorate the Fellowship Hall tree. The trees for the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall will be delivered on Sunday, November 29. We are very thankful to the Parkview Nursery for their donation of our trees.

Sunday, November 29, we begin the lighting of the Advent Wreath with the help of many of our church members. The children will receive their Advent Calendars, so we are counting down the days to Christmas. These are exciting days.

The Faith & Fellowship Committee will prepare our Christmas Brunch on December 6. Plan now to be here for the wonderful feast. The Fellowship Hall will be decorated and this will be a festive occasion.

The United Methodist Women will have their Mini Bazaar, too, so you can shop for your last minute gifts.

The ministers of this church are its members. Assisting them are Bishop Mary Ann Swenson, District Superintendent Bau Dang, and the church staff: Sr Pastor, Brian C. Kent; Assoc. Pastor, Sheila M. Kane; Youth Director, Val Weise; Aldersgate Director, Alice Wymer; Organist, Marc Longlois; Bell Choir Director, Gayla Lonsbery; Office Manager, Barbara Lee Bush; Secretary/ Receptionist, Laurie Williams; Sunday School Superintendent, Barbara Jo Wilson; Preschool Director, Lee Ann Salmon.

You are invited to my Christmas Open House on December 13, 3:00 - 6:00 PM. This will be my last Open House with all of you, so I hope you will join in the celebration! My deep thanks to the Faith & Fellowship committee who made last year's a special event and will do so again this year.

On December 20, Nan Mooring will direct our Children's Christmas Program during our worship time. Following worship, we will celebrate Jesus' Birthday (early) with cake and beverages. There will be ornaments and gifts available for the children.

The Live Nativity will be presented by our Youth at 6:30 and 7:00 PM. Refreshments will be served. Come and share in this very meaningful presentation and sing carols with some of the choir members.

And, of course, join us for our Christmas Eve Services at 7:00 PM and 11:00 PM. A special closing to these services is joining with everyone on the patio for candlelighting and carols.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year!

I will be on vacation the last week of December.

Pastor Sheila



Brandon Alexander	.....1
Nicholas Lovekin	.....1
Michael Traphagen	.....1
Margaret Speir	.....2
Norma Montigel	.....4
Joel Handen	.....5
James Taylor	.....5
Nikolas Exon	.....6
Leslie Mooring	.....6
Robert Binford	.....8
Dylan Grimes	.....8
Sophie Van Os	.....9
Ben Weise	.....9
John Burch	.....11
Berkley Kaufhold	.....11
Deirdre Kirkwood	.....11
Bradley Tomlinson	.....11
Catherine Rupp	.....12
Teresa Clark	.....16
Mary Green	.....17
Madison Powell	.....17
Sheryl Plumley	.....18
Helen Nonnette	.....19
Connie Younger	.....20
Kathryn Lovekin	.....21
Frances Bilderback	.....23
Betty Kiech	.....24

Shyanne Knight	.....24
Beulah Leake	.....25
Stewart Thompson	.....27
Susan Exon	.....28
Cathy Mooney	.....29
Bob Kraft	.....30
Kyle Weakly	.....31

International Cookbook a Faith & Fellowship Project

Faith & Fellowship would like to begin collecting recipes to put together in a cookbook for a future fundraiser. If you have a special recipe that you would like to share, please write it down!

As you are preparing your upcoming holiday plans, you may have a favorite dish, cookie or dessert that would be a good addition to our cookbook.

There is a "Recipe Box" located in the narthex for collecting the recipes.

Helpful Hints: Please write clearly, or type the recipe. Include your name and phone number (for questions). Feel free to contact any member of the Faith & Fellowship Committee if you have any questions.

DECEMBER

		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SUNDAY	MONDAY	1 8:30 am Messenger Volunteers—Mary's Kitchen 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Staff Meeting—CR The church office is closed during staff meeting. 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm SPRC—CR	2 6:00 pm Sit-n-Sew Quilters—Mary's Kitchen	3 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Choir—MR	4 4:00 pm Riverside District Christmas Party—FH	5
6 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> 8:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00 am Worship & Communion —S 11:15 am Brunch & Mini Bazaar—FH 11:15 am Children's Christmas Play Rehearsal—S 5:00 pm Covenant Group—Adult Lounge 5:00 pm Study Hall—YC 6:00 pm UMYF—YC	7 6:30 pm Discipleship Class—KE 7:00 pm Trustees—Mary's Kitchen	8 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Staff Meeting—CR The church office is closed during staff meeting. 6:00 pm Faith & Fellowship—Pastor Sheila's home 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen	9 9:30 am UMW Executive Committee—Mary's Kitchen	10 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—MR	11 6:30 pm Builders—Fellowship Hall	12 UMW Christmas Tea 2:00 - 4:00 pm <i>Goeske Strings</i> Adult Lounge
13 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 7:00 am UM Men—Fellowship Hall 8:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00 am Worship Lessons & Carols —Sanctuary 11:15 am Children's Christmas Play Rehearsal—S 11:15 am Evangelism/Discipleship—Adult Lounge 3:00 pm Christmas Open House—Pastor Sheila's 5:00 pm Covenant Group—Adult Lounge 6:00 pm UMYF—YC	14 11:30 am Office Staff Christmas Party—off campus 12:00 pm Almond/Wesleyan Potluck—Chandler home 6:30 pm Discipleship Class—KE	15 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Staff Meeting—CR The church office is closed during staff meeting. 5:00 pm Finance—CR 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen	16	17 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—MR	18	19 10:00 am Children's Christmas Play Rehearsal—FH
20 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> 8:00 am Children's Rehearsal—FH 8:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00 am Worship/Christmas Play —Sanctuary 11:15 am Happy Birthday Jesus—FH 11:15 am Church&Soc/Missions—Adult Lounge 6:30 pm Live Nativity—Front Lawn 7:00 pm Live Nativity—Front Lawn	21 6:30 pm Discipleship Class—KE 7:00 pm Christian Education—Mary's Kitchen <i>Articles Due for Messenger</i>	22 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Staff Meeting—CR The church office is closed during staff meeting. 7:00 pm Bells—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm UMW Citrus Branch—TBD	23	24 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast—Mary's Kitchen <i>Christmas Eve Worship Services</i> <i>Family Worship — 7:00 pm</i> <i>Communion & Candlelight — 11:00 pm</i>	25 	26 Hunger Ministry
27 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Family Worship & Church Council —S 11:15 am Magazine Swap—Patio 5:00 pm Covenant Group—AL 6:00 pm UMYF—YC	28 6:30 pm Discipleship Class—KE	29 9:00 am <i>Messenger</i> Volunteers—Mary's Kitchen 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Staff Meeting—CR The church office is closed during staff meeting.	30	31 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal—MR Office Closes at 12:00 pm	1 2010 HAPPY★NEW★YEAR	2

Youth News

December 6 UMYF Christmas Bible Study, music, games and snacks. Youth grades 6-12, join us in the Youth Center, 6:00-7:30.

December 11 Riverside District Youth Christmas Party Join us for Christmas fun with youth from the district. We'll be car-pooling—watch for details. 6:00-10:00 PM, Moreno Valley UMC.

December 13 UMYF After Pastor Sheila's Christmas Party, join us in the Youth Center for more holiday fun.

December 20 Live Nativity and Christmas Overnight Youth overnight after the Live Nativity. Pick up time Monday noon.

December 27 UMYF Special activity—watch for details!

Young Adults

Young Adult Bible Study

A new bible study has been formed by young adults in the Riverside District. They meet Thursdays at 7:00 PM.

For more information on young adult activities contact Risa Vargas (risayv@yahoo.com) or Val Weise (vweise@fumcor.com).

Parking Lot Restriping

The handicap and emergency parking spots will be restriped on Saturday, December 5.

United Methodist Women

Friday, December 4: Church Women United Christmas Program; Salvation Army Silvercrest Senior Residence, 3003 First St. Bring a potluck dish to pass and a \$10 wrapped gift marked for a man or a woman resident.

Sunday, December 6: UMW Mini-Bazaar following worship, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 8: Citrus Branch Christmas dinner meeting, 6:00 PM at Marie Calenders, Riverside Plaza. Bring a \$5 wrapped Christmas ornament. RSVP to Lynn Ashworth if you can attend (684-4457).

Wednesday, December 9: UMW Executive Committee Meeting, 9:30 AM Mary's Kitchen

Saturday, December 12: Christmas Tea, 2:00-4:00 PM, Adult Lounge; installation of 2010 officers; program provided by Goeske Strings.

Monday, December 14: Almond/Wesleyan Christmas potluck, 12:00 noon at the home of Phyllis Chandler.

**Articles for the next Messenger
(issue date January 3, 2010)
must be in the church office no later
than Monday, December 21. Thank you!**

Sanctuary Care Volunteers Needed
January or February or March
Contact Manette Tomlinson, 683-2177

Mission Moments from UMW

Note from Peggy Ramsay. Occasionally I am able to submit an article that ties in with one I had submitted previously, as is the case here. Previously printed in the August 9 *Messenger*: "In the Faith Engine Ministry, we offer the very first mechanics training for young women. We believe this is not just new for the Methodist Mission in Cambodia, but in the Kingdom of Cambodia. This is one opportunity of empowering our women to gain skills and find jobs formerly offered to the men only. We also included basic English conversation and computer skills. Foremost we continue to share God's love." *Emmanuel and Beverly Barte, missionaries, Cambodia.*

The following picture and article tell "the rest of the story" (quote from Andy Rooney!).

From the new 2010 UMW Prayer Calendar. "Pov Sotheary, 21, Him Sopheak, 25, and Ros Srey Leak, 20, (*l to r*), pose with an engine they are rebuilding in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. They are the first women graduates of the auto-mechanics training provided by Faith Engine Ministry, a program run by United Methodist Women Mission Giving-supported Methodist Mission in Cambodia." (Photo by Nile Sprague.) *Submitted by Peggy Ramsay, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation.*



See Santa

If your Christmas shopping takes you to the Galleria at Tyler this year, be sure to stop by and say "Merry Christmas" to Santa Claus.

Jim Johnson, a professional Santa Claus, and a member of our church, is sitting in Santa's chair in the mall everyday through Christmas Eve. He's there Monday through Saturday from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM, and Sundays from noon to 6:00 PM. Or you can visit him anytime at www.Santa4You.com.



*You're Invited
to a
Christmas Open House
December 13
3:00 - 6:00 pm
at
Pastor Sheila's*

Look forward to seeing you there!

Alternative Christmas Fair - December 6

Church & Society/Missions would like to encourage everyone to stop by our Heifer Project booth at the Alternative Christmas Fair on December 6, from 12:00 - 3:00 PM at its usual location, First Christian Church at the corner of Jurupa and Brockton Avenues. We have new and different merchandise from Heifer this year, but, as always, we have the opportunity to purchase animals and hope for families in struggling communities here in America and across the world. Heifer aids families by giving them initial gifts of animals—a flock of chickens or ducks, a cow, a sheep, a goat—and then teaching the families in need. Heifer helps Americans in Arizona, Louisiana and Appalachia, as well as families in various parts of Africa, Europe, Asia and India.

The fair also features special handmade gifts from other parts of the world, such as soaps, jewelry and pottery, and free-trade coffee. We hope to see you there!

Pocket Calendars

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift or stocking stuffer? These pocket calendars are leather bound and have a scratch pad for important notes. Great for purses or briefcases! They even come in a gold gift box. The youth will offer these calendars on the patio after worship. Same low price as last year....\$5!

United Methodist Men

Our breakfast on Sunday, December 13 will feature Pastor Brian on his marimba with a sing-along of familiar Christmas carols. This is a great way to get in the Spirit. Come and join us for an excellent breakfast at 7:00 AM and time of fellowship. The pastor loves a large audience (and so do we), so come on out and join us. We'll see you there.

Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal Schedule

Sundays, Nov. 15, 29, Dec. 6, 13 after worship in the sanctuary

Saturday, Dec. 19, 10:00 AM dress rehearsal in the sanctuary

Sunday, Dec. 20, 9:00 AM pre-performance rehearsal in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, Dec. 20 Performance during worship

If you cannot come to a rehearsal, please let me know. My phone number is 780-2351. You can also email me nanmooring@yahoo.com

Builders Fellowship

Our next Builders Fellowship gathering will be on December 11. Our program will be Christmas Music. The time is 6:30 PM. The cost is \$9.50.

Hope you will plan to attend, and enjoy our meal, fellowship and musical program.

Dedications are being taken now for the poinsettias to grace our sanctuary this Christmas season. Please complete this form and return it to the church office before Wednesday, December 16.

Cost of a poinsettia plant is \$8.50. Checks should be made out to First United Methodist Church (or FUM-COR) and marked "Poinsettia".

Donors may pick up their plants after the Christmas Eve worship service.



Dedicated by: _____

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

I would like to reserve _____ poinsettia plant(s) at \$8.50 each. I enclose my check, or cash, for \$_____.