

**Camp E.D.G.E.**  
 Experience and Discover God Everywhere is an extreme adventure camp taking kids on exciting Bible treks. The fun begins on July 27 and ends August 2 with our Sunday worship concert and party. Our camp will run from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Monday through Friday. To be a part of all the extreme fun at Camp E.D.G.E. call Cecilia van Os, 340-2131, or Esther Heath, 788-8155.



*Please hold in prayer all our members and friends who are homebound, ill or in need of support, and all our service men and women.*  
*In hospital: Eli Sturman (nephew of Duffy & Susan Exon). In convalescent care: Norma Montigel, Natta Lea McCormack, Betty Byrnes, Eleanor Rayner, and Howard Nolan. At home: Dorothy Barnekow, Buck DeFrance, Susan Exon, Debbie Hofmann, Martin Knight, Barbara Spencer, Claude & Michelle Scoggins, Ruby Gregory, Jean Mooney, Susan Shuckett, Myra Williams, David Sturman, Martha Devine, Lisa Thomas, Steven Chandler, Lynn Roberts, Jan Kollitz, Deborah Halpeny and Lynne Halpeny*



# The Messenger



First United Methodist Church of Riverside

4845 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506

Volume 48 No. 5 May 3, 2009

## FAITH WORKS—Practical Faith

Practical Faith is hard, but beautiful. Practical faith is when we do the right thing, knowing that God is trustworthy.

I know a guy in the construction industry. He has been making his bills with everything squeezed to the limit and with no leeway. He was so excited that two jobs had come along outside of his regular customers so he could finally buy a couple of extras things he has wanted for a long time. He was ready for the work.

Then both jobs fell through. On one, the supplier of some fence parts can't deliver until next month. On the other, the family wanting a new roof decided to wait out the next hurricane season (on the Gulf side of Florida) and then replace the roof in late fall. By the time he gets the extra income, his opportunity may be past.

He is deeply discouraged. He still has a job. He still makes his house payments. But the chance to get a little luxury passed him by. He is frustrated at himself for being frustrated and not taking it in stride.

For this friend, the challenge to his faith is not on the eternal things, but on the practical, moment-by-moment flow of energy and attitude, emotions and money. Even though he knows his big needs are met, he is trying to exercise his faith and put his mind on God's sufficiency. He wants to remember who he is, and is praying to discover how to be satisfied with the glory of God in an otherwise mundane time of life.

God is with us. God is beautiful and can reflect beautifully on us. It just takes a practical faith—sometimes relaxing, sometimes just grinding through and watching for God's next work.

**A practical way to show our faith:** CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate). Watch your bulletin for an upcoming event on May 17. After church that day we will have a lunch and a special presentation about our work with CASA. They help kids who have aged out of group homes to transition into adulthood. They offer direction and a boost along the way. You can contact Tom Cahraman for more information.

Keep the faith!

*Pastor Brian*



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

48/5

Non-profit Org.  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Riverside CA  
 Permit No. 242

Address Service Requested



Well, the butterflies are now out into the universe and we are reminded of the new life we have in Christ. Easter Sunday was filled with joy and celebration. Now we move forward to share our love with the world. That is our calling as Christians!

As we look to May, I will begin another *Sisters* Bible Study on Wednesday, May 6. The book we will study is written by Dr. Carolyn Bohler, lead pastor at First UMC, Redlands. Dr. Bohler was for twenty-one years the Emma Sanborn Toussaint Professor of Pastoral Theology and Counseling at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. She was also senior pastor at Aldersgate UMC, Tustin, CA.

Dr. Bohler states "We do not have to let go of one sense of God to take up another. Neither do we need to go about challenging old metaphors. What is crucial is to find a metaphor—or two, or six—that creatively point toward what we believe." I think this will be a revealing study that will enable us to think of God in many ways, and will be an encouraging personal growth experience.

I am limiting the class to 15, because it encourages everyone to talk and share their thoughts. The cost of the book is \$15 and will be available in the church office after April 27.

We have a busy May coming, too, with Fiesta Lunch on May 3, sponsored by the youth, Mother's Day and the Memorial weekend. Also at the end of the month, May 31, the youth will be confirmed on Pentecost, plus the Talent Show and Lunch following the worship service. How exciting it is to be in ministry here with so many activities.

I will be preaching on Sunday, May 17, when Pastor Brian goes to Atlanta, GA for a preaching conference.

# ★ EXTRA! EXTRA! ★ Men's News

## Artisans Alert...

The United Methodist Men's Annual Silent Auction is now underway. This project is our primary source of income for the annual scholarships awarded to our own youth, usually in June. Although we have focused typically on handmade woodcraft items, other items of art, ceramics or unique ventures by church members are included.

Visit the display case in the Education Building hallway. Items are on display for the entire month of May while the exciting Silent Bidding takes place. Our thanks to all who help make this possible.

The ministers of this church are its members. Assisting them are Bishop Mary Ann Swenson, District Superintendent Bau Dang, Senior Pastor Brian Kent, Associate Pastor Sheila Kane, and the church staff.

On May 3 at 6:00 PM, the *Sisters* Retreat Reunion will take place at my home. This will be a pot luck supper and all women who attended the retreat in February are welcome. This is a time to begin thinking and planning for the 2010 retreat in late January.

I am also pleased to share with all the graduation of my granddaughter Emily from Chapman University, Saturday, May 23. I am very proud of her and filled with excitement and joy as she fulfills this landmark in her life. At this time the future plans are not set; more later.

*Pastor Sheila*

## Builders Fellowship

Superintendent Mal Grossinger of the Riverside California School for Deaf, and his interpreter, will be with us on May 8 to share the latest information and resources available to people with impaired hearing.

Come & bring a friend! Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM. Dinner is \$9.50. To make reservations, call Allean Blose at 686-9981 or Lorene Haines at 684-3059.

## Memorial Day

Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend. It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect—especially to those who fell in battle while helping preserve America's liberties.

## Mission Moments from UMW

This has been an unusually rainy season for us this year. We are still in the process of helping with the disaster response recovery at Manos Juntas. We received UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) health kits and bedding many weeks ago, which we were able to deliver to those in need. UMCOR sent financial assistance, and Manos Juntas, working in cooperation with State of Tamaulipas government, purchased refrigerators for some of those in Rio Bravo who have access to electricity. This is one of the immediate needs. Please continue to pray for the people of Rio Bravo. *Marsha Alexander, missionary, Oklahoma Volunteers in Mission/Manos Juntas, Mexico. Submitted by Peggy Ramsay, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation.*



*in June*

Harold Jeffries	1
Gaila Sims	1
Bobby Binford	3
Robert Hice	3
Riley Disenhouse	4
Christina Waite	6
Eleanor Rayner	7
Virginia Brawner	10
Ardyth Stolzy	11
Steven Beals	12
Dale Grout	12
Timothy Traver	12
Geraldine Marr	14
Glafira Tinoco	15
Anthony Carrington	17
LJ Arguelles	18
Donald Blose	20
Phyllis Chandler	21
Greg Laird	21
Kris Lovekin	21
Claude Scoggins	22
Trena Holmes	23
David Mooring	23
Robert Wilson	24
Noah Lerstad	25
Kelly Weakly	25
Nancy Whitmark	28
Cassie Lonsbery	29
Leslie Tomlinson	29
Sandi Yamagata	29

## SPRC Committee

The SPRC acts as liaison with each staff member of the church. If you have any comments or suggestions, you may speak to any member of the committee: Bessie Ridley, Chandra Roberts, John Burch, Ann Huntington, Michael Traphagen, Judy Bello, Linda Hice.

## Methodist Men

The Mother's Day program will be held May 10 in Fellowship Hall beginning at 7:00 AM. The special focus and title is "I Remember When." Bill McInroe will lead the discussion of a distinguished panel and the group. Mark your calendars now. Wives and visitors are welcome!

Thanks to Mrs. Vivian Stancil, Senior Olympic swimmer, minister and community worker deluxe, for presenting an outstanding program in April. The response was terrific.

## Mexico Mission Project July 19-25

Looking for a summer mission trip this summer? Gain an appreciation for people like you and me and improve the living conditions of our neighbors.

The Mexico Mission Project (MMP) supports churches of the Iglesia Metodista Unida de Mexico, A.R. primarily in the area of the California border with Baja California. In addition to working on churches, the projects include building and improvements to private homes.

First United Methodist Church sent a contingent of our youth to MMP in July 2008 and the experience was extraordinary. We have met with the MMP Coordinator and set the dates for the next group—July 19-25, 2009. This year MMP is open to all ages. Families are welcome.

If you're interested in finding out more information about MMP and the upcoming trip, contact David & Val Weise or Pastor Brian.

## Methodist Women

No Unit Meeting in May!  
Handcrafters meet in Asbury Room 9:30 AM  
May 6, 13, 20, and 27.  
**May 1:** Church Women United (CWU), Friendship Day met at First UMC, Riverside. Thank you to all who contributed items for the charities and food donations. They are all very much appreciated.  
**May 10:** Blessings to all Moms for your caring and nurturing. Enjoy your special day!  
**May 11:** The Almond/Wesleyan Branch Potluck, Mary's Kitchen, 12:00 PM.  
**May 13:** Executive Committee, Mary's Kitchen, 9:30 AM  
**May 16:** Spring Tea, *Earth Mother, Three Sisters, and Grandmother Moon*; Fellowship Hall, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Tickets available May 3 and May 10 after the service. Cost \$6 each for all attendees. Finger sandwiches, fruit and tea will be served.  
**May 26:** Citrus Branch, Adult Lounge, 7:00 PM (correction to the 2009 UMW Directory).

## Riverside District Summer Camp Dates

Elementary Camp: July 19-25, Camp Wrightwood; Jr. High Camp: July 19-25, Camp Wrightwood; Sr. High Camp: August 2-6, Camp Colby Ranch.

More information available on the Kiosk. Camperships are available, see Val Weise.

**Articles for the next *Messenger*  
(issue date June 7, 2009)  
must be in the church office no later  
than Wednesday, May 27. Thank you!**

## FIESTA TODAY

Great food and fellowship!

Tacos  
Rice  
Beans

Sound yummy? Join the youth for a Fiesta Lunch right after worship.  
Donations support youth camperships.



## Rummage Sale— June 27

Faith and Fellowship needs your help on Saturday to work with us at the rummage sale. Hours will be from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. If you can offer your assistance during that time, please contact Barbara Wilson as soon as possible.

We will post a sign-up sheet the first of June for the week of preparation and the day of the sale. You may bring your items to the church, except for large items, on Sundays. We will store items in Room A in the Education Building, so you may leave the items at the bottom of the stairs. If you need assistance with your items, please contact Ruth Walker, Lisa Laird, Rebecca Slaughter, Kelly Weakly, Scott Kirkwood, Ceceila Van Os or Barbara Wilson.

## Inkjet Cartridge Recycling

UMYF continues to collect inkjet cartridges for recycling. Cartridges can be deposited in our collection bin located on the patio Sunday mornings or in the office during the week.

## Faith and Fellowship Activities

**Mother's Day, May 10**—Muffins and punch on the patio following worship. Join us for the Celebration and Appreciation of the women in our church.

**Father's Day, June 21**—Cake Walk on the patio following worship. Join us as we celebrate the men in our church.

## Calendar for Monthly Meetings

Second Sunday: Evangelism & Discipleship  
Third Sunday: Church & Society/Missions  
First Monday: Trustees  
First Monday: Worship Cmte  
Second Monday: Faith & Fellowship  
Second Monday: SPRC  
Third Monday: Christian Education  
Fourth Monday: Church Council  
Third Tuesday: Finance



**SUNDAY**

	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
					Church Women United Fellowship Hall <b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
8:45 am Sunday School/ All Ages <b>3</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship &amp; Communion</b> 11:15 am <b>Fiesta Lunch</b> —Fellowship Hall 11:15 am Confirmation Class—CR 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Grp—AL 6:00 pm UMY—YC 6:00 pm Sisters Reunion Dinner —Pastor Sheila's	7:00 pm Trustees—Mary's Kitchen <b>4</b> 7:00 pm Worship Committee—AL	10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia <b>5</b> 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm SPRC—CR	9:30 am Handcrafters—Asbury <b>6</b> 6:00 pm Sit N Sew Quilters—Mary's Kitchen 6:00 pm Sisters Bible Study—AL	6:30 am Men's Prayer <b>7</b> Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	6:30 pm Builders—Fellowship Hall <b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
7:00 am UMM—Fellowship Hall <b>10</b> 8:45 am Sunday School/ All Ages 10:00 am <b>Worship</b> <b>11:00 am Mother's Day Fellowship</b> on the Patio 11:15 am Evangelism/ Discipleship —Adult Lounge 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Grp—AL	12:00 pm Almond/ Wesleyan Branch <b>11</b> Potluck—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Faith & Fellowship —Pastor Sheila's	10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia <b>12</b> 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen	9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop <b>13</b> —Asbury 9:30 am UMW Executive Meeting —Mary's Kitchen 6:00 pm Sisters Bible Study—AL	6:30 am Men's Prayer <b>14</b> Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	<b>15</b>	2:00 pm UMW Spring Tea <b>16</b> —Fellowship Hall <i>Mother Earth, Three Sisters &amp; Grandmother Moon</i>
8:45 am Sunday School/ All Ages <b>17</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship</b> 11:15 am Lunch & CASA Program—FH 11:15 am Confirmation Class—CR 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Grp—AL 6:00 pm UMYF—YC	7:00 pm Christian Education <b>18</b> Mary's Kitchen	10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia <b>19</b> 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 3:00 pm Finance Committee—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen	10:00 am UMW Unit Meeting <b>20</b> —Koinonia 6:00 pm Sisters Bible Study—AL	6:30 am Men's Prayer <b>21</b> Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	<b>22</b>	Hunger Ministry <b>23</b>
8:45 am Sunday School/ All Ages <b>24</b> 10:00 am <b>Worship</b> —S 11:15 am Confirmation Class—CR 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Grp—AL 6:00 pm UMYF	 <b>25</b>	10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia <b>26</b> 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Citrus Branch UMW—AL	9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop <b>27</b> —Asbury 6:00 pm Sisters Bible Study—AL  Deadline for <i>Messenger</i> Articles	6:30 am Men's Prayer <b>28</b> Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR	<b>29</b>	8:00 pm Setup for Talent Show <b>30</b> —Fellowship Hall
<i>Confirmation Sunday</i> <b>31</b> 8:45 am Sunday School/ All Ages 10:00 am <b>Family Worship/ Pentecost</b> —S 11:30 am <b>Talent Show</b> —Fellowship Hall 5:00 pm Covenant Discipleship Grp—AL	7:00 pm Trustees—Mary's Kitchen <b>1</b> 7:00 pm Worship Committee—AL  June	8:30 am <i>Messenger</i> Volunteers <b>2</b> 10:00 am Bible Study—Koinonia 11:00 am Office Staff Meeting—CR 4:00 pm Young Adults 7:00 pm Allegro Ringers —Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm SPRC—CR	9:30 am Handcrafters Workshop <b>3</b> —Asbury 6:00 pm Sit n Sew Quilters —Mary's Kitchen 6:00 pm Sisters Bible Study—AL	6:30 am Men's Prayer <b>4</b> Bkfast—Mary's Kitchen 7:00 pm Aldersgate Choir—MR		