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## HOW you can HELP

**Make a generous donation through RUMC to support UM Medical Missionary Dr. Elma Jocson—our Mission Emphasis for December**

## GREAT STRIDES CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION



The Annual CF Great Strides 5K Walk will take place on Saturday, December 7 at the Cerro Coso College Track. Signups are at 9:30 am and the Walk begins at 10:00. This year there will also be a 5K Trail Run.

## PASTOR'S POINT by Rich LaShure

While I was eating my breakfast granola today, I scanned the news headlines on the Net. Popups for Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales abounded. I saw that many big online retailers are expecting a huge volume of business on Thanksgiving Day.

The thought of having all those glittering holiday shopping opportunities at my fingertips made me feel a little bit queasy, I have to admit. Now be at peace; I'm not going to pick on holiday shopping. We need a Marshalls here in Ridgecrest!

Right now I'm reading a dense book written by Nicholas Carr, *The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to our Brains*. The main theme of the book is neuroplasticity—the ability of the human brain to change its own circuitry.

New scientific studies show that our brains are much more capable of adapting to new learning conditions than we previously thought. Whole areas of the brain can be fully reprogrammed, and the changes can even be observed physically. This flexibility can continue throughout a person's life.

That's both good news and bad news. Here's a quote from the book that explains the downside:

*"One thing is very clear: if, knowing what we know today about the brain's plasticity, you were to set out to invent a medium that would rewire our mental circuits as quickly and thoroughly as possible, you would probably end up designing something that looks and works a lot like the Internet."*

*It's not just that we tend to use the Net regularly, even obsessively. It's that the Net delivers precisely the kind of sensory and cognitive stimuli—repetitive, intensive, interactive, addictive—that have been shown to result in strong and rapid alterations in brain circuits and functions.*

*With the exception of alphabets and number systems, the Net may well be the single most powerful mind-altering technology that has ever come into general use. At the very least, it's the most powerful that has come along since the book."*

Wow! That blows me away!

To boil this down, we read, we think and we learn differently on the Net than we do when using books, newspapers or other print media. Net processing changes our brains, permanently. When we go online, we enter a world that reinforces superficial scanning, focusing on many topics at once rather than going deeply into a single topic.

Advent is a season of watchful waiting for the coming of the Son of God, surely a time for keeping the main thing the main thing. Net-shaped thinking works against our ability to achieve that.

My prayer is that as we grow together through this season of Advent, we can log off the Net a few more hours each week, and spend the same amount of time reading a good book. Our brains will thank us!

*"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."*

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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--**



**Dr. Elma Jocson**

Dr. Elma Jocson is a general surgeon and a United Methodist Missionary who is originally from the Philippines. She is sponsored in part by Ridgecrest United Methodist Church and the General Board of Global Missions of the United Methodist Church. Dr. Jocson is located in Liberia at Ganta Hospital.

**--Christmas Offering--**



**Senior Center in Gualan, Guatemala**

The Christmas offering for 2013 is going to help Hearts in Motion buy supplies to outfit a newly built senior center in Gualan, Guatemala. The Senior center is a new building where seniors that have no family to support them can go and live free. The facility was built by volunteers and has 30 beds for the senior citizens that live there.

They now need to purchase kitchen supplies, couches, dining furniture, beds and dressers for the people that will be living there.

**Living Bread Ministry**



**Food Emphasis for December**

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

The food item for December is:

**Crackers**

# In Service In Our Church

Lock up for December:

## DECEMBER 1

Flowers: Available

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: Diane Leveille  
1030 am: Diane Leveille

Ushers: Wes & Hazel Hensley  
Jim & Mary Netzer

Acolyte: Eleanor Gervais

Creative Expression:  
Lead: Hazel Hensley  
Helper: Rosemary Gilbert

Counters: Kristin Hall, Cathy Mattis,  
Olivia Zade

Fellowship Hosts: Janice Anderson, Tina Frisbee,  
Lillian Daley

## DECEMBER 8

Flowers: Nancy Saxton

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: Mark Kolstoe  
1030 am: Mark Kolstoe

Ushers: Nina Lane & Family  
John & Paige Netzer

Acolyte: LaNeyha Gleason

Creative Expression:  
Lead: Michelle Kilikaukas  
Helper: Melanie Branson

Counters: Hazel Hensley, Nina Lane,  
Barbara Johnson

Fellowship Hosts: Diane Foucher, Jeanne Backman,  
Nancy Saxton

## DECEMBER 15

Flowers: Amy Ochoa

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: Available  
1030 am: Michael Ketter

Ushers: Stanley & Ellen Chassagne  
George & Elsa Hennings

Acolyte: Paulina Bautista

Creative Expression:  
Lead: Kathy LaShure  
Helper: Tina Frisbee

Counters: Sheri Boston, Patty Bayne,  
Joanna Rindt

Fellowship Hosts: Steven Hall, Sheri Boston,  
Julie Gervais

## DECEMBER 22

Flowers: Poinsettias

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: Available  
1030 am: Available

Ushers: Monte & Tina Frisbee  
Ken & Patty Wetzel

Acolyte: Toma Hansen

Creative Expression:  
Lead: Camie Keeter  
Helper: Michelle Kilikaukas

Counters: Nancy Hodge, Wes Hensley  
James Guess

Fellowship Hosts: Chelsea Webb, Nina Lane, Barb Johnson

## DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

Liturgists:  
6:00 pm: Diann Severson  
9:00 pm: Wes Hensley

## DECEMBER 29

Flowers: Rob & Julie Gervais

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: Available  
1030 am: Available

Ushers: Youth

Acolyte: Callie Corzine

Creative Expression:  
Lead: Camie Keeter  
Helper: Camden Wade

Counters: Nancy Hodge, Wes Hensley  
James Guess

Fellowship Hosts: Ellen Hinman, Ellie Peterson,  
Mary Netzer

### Liturgists

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

### Altar Flowers

The flower chard 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 sign up.

## Church News



Trustee's News

What is the next big project for the Trustees? We will be re-keying the church. But why, as my key still works, you might ask? We have noticed that the need has come to make the access to the facilities easier and more tasking oriented. I will have the new key check out forms in the office starting on Monday November 25, please fill out your request in advance of the re-keying. This will give the Trustees better insight into what access each of you need due to your activities in the church. For some of you, that will mean carrying one key instead of two or three. If you have any questions on the re-keying, please contact me and we can discuss.

Thank you to everyone who came and joined in the All Church Work Day. It is great when we can get together and work on keeping God's home beautiful. This was the last one for this year, so if you missed out don't worry, we will be starting them again in the spring. Please watch for the dates and mark your calendars. We would love to have you join us in this important mission.

As always, if you see anything around the campus that needs fixed, please contact one of the Trustees so that we can take care of the issue.

Your 2013 Board of Trustees is:

Joe Hansen, Elsa Hennings, Ray Miller  
Bill Burns, Cole Johnson, Hazel Hensley  
John Veazey, Monte Frisbee, Bob Dale

Hazel A. Hensley  
Board of Trustees President



Join us for the following Choir Events:

December 8<sup>TH</sup> at 3 p.m. is the annual Christmas choir concert. Invite friends , family and neighbors to join us in celebrating the birth of our savior.

December 15<sup>TH</sup> at 3 p.m. is the annual choral fest including choirs from Grace Lutheran, Ridgecrest Presbyterian and St. Ann's plus our United Methodist Choir. This year we are the host church so we will provide refreshments in the social hall following the concert. Please help the United Methodist women with food and labors.

December 22 at both services, the choir will sing a Cantata by Pepper Choplin, "Heaven's Child". See you there.

December 24<sup>TH</sup> at the 9:00 p.m. service of Scripture, carols, anthems and a message by Pastor Rich.

The choir has worked since September on this music so a full congregation at each of these would be our thanks. This is our goal to provide inspiration for the special seasons of the Christian year as well as Sunday service. We do appreciate you ongoing support.

May the Lord bless you with a spirit of giving to others throughout the year.

Blessings, Janice Anderson, Director of Music



The Fellowship Committee is calling all adult singles and couples that are interested in some fun dining. Starting in December signup sheets will be available for "Dining for Eight". After you sign up groups of 8 will be formed and each group will decide whether they want to do a breakfast, lunch or dinner. Times and dates will be decided by each group. It will be casual dining and can be done in homes, restaurants, Upper Room Suppers, picnics or any other idea your imagination comes up with. After dinner the group can play board games, watch an interesting video, or just visit and get to know each other. Be creative. Our church has been blessed with many new members and what better way to get to know people than over a meal.

The Fellowship Committee would love to have every adult participate. The cut off date for sign ups will be January 12. Come join in for some fun and fellowship.



### Updates to Telephone Directory

Mindy Brown  
2500 Olmo Court  
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Brent & Kristin Huey  
1001 N. Sierra View  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

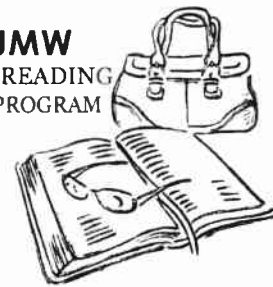
Dennis & Barbara Mason  
Barbara cell 760-977-1128  
denbarmas@hotmail.com

Russ & Sandy Meech  
760-371-2141

Patricia Pthal  
760-495-2152

Lercy & Jenise Williams  
760-463-1004  
439 W. Church  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

UMW  
READING  
PROGRAM



The UMW's reading library is located in the Fellowship room and is available to anyone interested. If you decide to read one of our selections, please sign out the book in the notebook provided.

*A Country for All* by: Jorge Ramos

For decades, fixing the United States' broken immigration system has been a challenge. With anti-immigrant sentiment rising around the country, it is now more important than ever to remember the role immigrants play in enriching our economy and culture.' This timely book makes the case for a practical and politically achievable solution to this emotional issue. (Nurturing for Community)

*Everyday Justice* by: Julie Clawson

Everyday Justice takes readers on a tour of everyday life and reveals how small lifestyle choices have big implications for justice around the world. The book unpacks food and clothing choices and shows the surprising costs of consumer waste, concluding that the more sustainable a lifestyle, the more just the world will be. (Education for Mission)

## Children and Youth Activities



**Sunday School**  
Testament Travelers  
(Pre-K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Heifer question:

**Bees:** A bee needs to take nectar from two million flowers to make one pound of honey. If a bee visits 100 flowers per trip, how many trips does one bee need to make to produce one pound of honey? Answer: 20,000

What a busy month! Our kids in both Sunday school and Creative Expression have been working hard to learn 4 songs and all their parts for the Christmas Pageant! We have even been joined by some of our young adults to help in leading our children in this mission. Come and start your Christmas season through the sights and sounds of our children. Please join us on December 1<sup>st</sup> in the Social Hall at 6:00 pm. They have so much to share with you!

Sunday school will be back in full swing on December 8<sup>th</sup> with our Pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade meeting in room 3 for angel choir and our Tweens: 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade meeting in room 9. Both groups start at 9:00 am. May the Season of Advent warm your hearts.

Blessings to All

Juanita Morton - Heifer Project Coordinator  
Kristin Hall - Angel Choir Director  
Hazel Hensley - Sunday school teacher  
Patty Gomez - Sunday school teacher  
Shirley Kidner - Sunday school teacher  
Al Bradford - Sunday school teacher



Middle school and high school youth are invited to the fall overnight lock-in in the social hall on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:30pm. Bring your game stations, favorite video games, makeover items (for the ladies), board games, music, and any other entertainment to keep you busy all night long, as this is a **NO BEDTIME** overnight! Permission slips required upon arrival. See Amy for additional details.



## United Methodist Women



### UMW Christmas Party!

December 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. will begin the social time of our annual Christmas Salad Potluck Luncheon. Every woman in the congregation is invited to come. Those employed do not need to bring a dish, dessert supplied by a board member. Lunch served at 11:30 a.m. and program to follow including election of 2014 executive officers. We have some new people coming on the board for next year, thanks to the persuasive skills of our Nominations Chair, Amy Ochoa! The slate of officers includes:

President—Shirley Kidner  
Vice-president—vacant  
Secretary—Janice Anderson  
Treasurer—Terry Ratcliff  
Secretary of Program Resources—  
Diane Wadelin  
Mission Coordinators  
Mission Education—Laura Miller  
Social Action—Kristen Barron  
Spiritual Growth—Aileen Scott  
Membership—Donna Weeks

You will notice that the position of vice-president is not filled at the time of this writing. We will be taking nominations from the floor (you must be present to win! Or, at least send a note). Every project UMW does is done as a group. **WE ARE ORGANIZED FOR MISSION!** Please consider a board position.



Visit us on  
**Facebook**

### Facebook Group

Ridgecrest United Methodist Women are on Facebook. You will find pictures posted, events talked about, church family news shared, and inspirational messages. Join us!

### National Mission Institutions

Did you know that the funds UMW raises goes to fund the NMI's? We have four of these institutions in our conference area: David and Margaret Home, Neighborhood House of Calexico, Toberman House, and Suzannah Wesley House in Honolulu. Thank you for helping to support these missions!

## PURPOSE

OF 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.

## Missions



The holiday food basket ministry will be delivering 70 Christmas food baskets, to the 70 sponsored families on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to deliver a basket or two yourself, please come to the social hall immediately following the second worship service and see Amy. Maps are provided.



Angel tree gifts will be delivered with the Christmas food baskets on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for having all gifts returned to church by the time. If you chose an angel tree and are no longer able to purchase clothing for that child, please let Amy know in the church office, so that other arrangements can be made to ensure that child still receives a present for Christmas.







- 29 Carrie Cope  
Eric Frisbee
- 30 Carolyn Magorian  
Erik Wadelin

## DECEMBER

- 1 Rick Ferris
- 4 Janice Anderson
- 7 Hayley Cleveland  
Montee Frisbee
- 9 Peter Brown  
Jamie Clair
- 12 Dave Flanagan
- 13 Jim Weeks, Sr  
Holly Estrada
- 14 Andrew Christison  
Mark Kolstoe
- 15 Achilles Ochoa  
Kim Webb
- 16 Lisa Austin  
Jonah Gilbert
- 19 Paulina Bautista
- 21 Lynn Wade
- 22 Anna Benson  
Leroy Corlett  
Sabrina Estrada
- 23 Darrin Boston  
Jesse Webb
- 24 Carol Corlett
- 25 Jesus  
Dick Wright
- 28 Bill Stratton



## DECEMBER

- 4 Steve & Kim Webb
- 19 Todd & Jennifer Holland
- 21 Wayne & Ingrid Zellmer
- 22 Craig & Carol Porter
- 23 Lowell & Carolyn McDaniel
- 25 Bill & Barbara Hall
- 27 Rex & Terry Ratcliff  
Russell & Phyllis Wise
- 28 Don & Dale Lane  
Ed & Amy Pillers  
John & Beth Seybold  
Bill & Donna Stratton

# December 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>Sunday Worship Schedule</b> 2:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant	2 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Pack 341 and Troop 35 6:30 pm Bible Study	3 9:00 am MOPS 7:00 pm Fly Fishers	4 11:00 am UMW Christmas Luncheon 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	5 6:30 pm Quilt Guild Christmas Party 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	6 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper	7 8:00 am UMM Breakfast 6:00 pm Adult White Elephant Christmas Party
8 <b>Sunday Worship Schedule</b> 3:00 pm Choir Concert	9 4:00 pm Girls Scout 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Pack 341 and Troop 35 6:30 pm Bible Study	10 9:00 am MOPS	11 7:00 pm UMW Board Meeting	12 5:15 pm URSM 6:00 pm Mission 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	13 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper (Flex)	14 2:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
15 <b>Sunday Worship Schedule</b> 3:00 pm Multi-Church Concert	16 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Pack 341 and Troop 34 6:30 pm Bible Study	17 9:00 am MOPS	18 5:00 pm Cadets Training 7:00 pm Ad Council Meeting	19 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	20 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper	21
22 <b>Sunday Worship Schedule</b> 2:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	23 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Pack 341 & Troop 35 6:30 pm Bible Study	24 6:00 pm Worship Service 9:00 pm Candlelight Service	25	26	27 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper (Flex)	28
29 <b>Sunday Worship Schedule</b>	30 6:30 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Pack 341 & Troop 35	31				

## Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00am & 10:30am

Childcare provided