

# THE MESSENGER

## Wesley's Words

### Identity

A few years ago I watched the baseball movie "42". I found it a wonderful film including a great scene in which Brooklyn Dodger owner Branch Rickey is trying to determine if Jackie Robinson is best suited to become the first African American athlete to play in Major League Baseball. In a meeting Rickey exclaims, "Robinson's a Methodist, I'm a Methodist, God's a Methodist. We can't go wrong!" I laughed along with the rest of the audience and felt a surge of pride at being a (United) Methodist.

Of course the greater praise is that of being a Christian. That scene made me reflect on how our identity can be shaped by our faith. Jackie Robinson is usually identified by the term, "first African American Major League Baseball player." But Robinson was more than that. Neither Robinson nor Rickey got to that point in history by being occasional or partial or nominal Christians. The notion that being a Methodist helped defined one's character and provided the foundation to stand up for positive values and stand down to negative ones is comforting and challenging. Comforting because it shows that our particular brand of Christianity is on the right track to living and being followers of Jesus. Challenging because, as the movie "42" ably demonstrates, living this way can bring persecution and discrimination.

Which makes me ponder, does your identity as a Christian cause others to notice? And is your identity as a Christian strong enough to enable you to endure hardship and also stand as a shining example of ethical behavior that others will want to emulate? If it is, then you can't go wrong. Something to think about.

Aloha ke Akua.

*Wesley*

### **New Members**

We will be receiving new members on Sunday, Oct. 25. If you are interested in becoming a member of Ridgcrest UMC, please contact Pastor Wesley, and attend **one** of the following membership classes:

Sunday Oct. 11 1:00-3:30 pm  
Fellowship Room

Thursday Oct. 15 9:00-11:30 am  
Fellowship Room

Monday Oct. 19 7:00-9:30 pm  
Classroom #4



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

### **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.

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



- in OCTOBER**
- 2 Ed Jayne
  - 3 Carol Sakai
  - 11 Aiden Heflin
  - 12 Cherish Rindt
  - 14 Audrey Campbell
  - 15 Dora Barnes
  - 17 Mary Atkinson
  - 18 Camden Wade
  - 21 Ray Miller
  - 22 Ellen Chassagne
  - Carol Porter
  - 23 Hannah Johnson
  - 24 Art Atencio
  - 25 Callie Corzine
  - 30 Trudy Wood
  - 31 Wendy Cleveland



- in OCTOBER**
- 1 Rob & Julie Gervais
  - 2 Gary & Cindy Allred
  - 3 Ken & Patty Wetzl
  - 5 Dick & Vivian Wright
  - 6 Kurt & Saundra Anderson
  - Greg & Teri Morrow
  - 15 Don & Dena Christison
  - 17 Lee & Trudy Wood
  - 18 Scott & Terry Millett
  - 27 Mick & Shannon Van Meter
  - 30 Wes & Hazel Hensley

**Office Hours:** Monday thru Friday  
8:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Closed for Lunch 12:30-1pm

**Address:** 639 N. Norma Street  
Ridgecrest, CA. 93555

**Phone:** (760) 375-7434  
(760) 375-7096

**E-Mail:** [umcrc@verizon.net](mailto:umcrc@verizon.net)

**Web:** <http://www.umcrc.org>

**Facebook Page:** <http://www.facebook.com/ridgecrestumc>

**Pastor:** Rev. Wesley Elmore

**Office Manager:** Tara Argain

**Director of Music:** Doug Hallenbeck

**Director of Youth Ministries:** Amy Ochoa  
(760) 793-7850

**Newsletter Editor:** Sarah Guess

**Prayer Chain:** Church Office  
(760) 375-7434

**Mission Emphases--Compassion International**



Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> is World Communion Sunday. This is a Churchwide special Sunday of the UMC. Your generous gifts will support the world communion scholarship, the Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-service training programs.



**China Lake Navy- Marine  
Corps Relief Society**

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has provided financial, educational, and other assistance to active duty and retired military personnel, their families, and survivors, when in need. NMCRS provides no-interest loans and grants for basic living expenses, emergencies, and disasters. Visiting nurses provide compassionate care for wounded warriors and their families, as well as home visits to mothers, new babies, elderly retirees, widows and widowers. NMCRS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization staffed by 250 paid employees and 3500+ volunteers world-wide.

**Living Bread Ministry**



**Food Emphasis for October**  
The Missions Committee has elected to designate a specific food each month to be provided to the Salvation Army.  
The food item for October is:  
**Canned Stew**

# In Service In Our Church

Lock up for October: Bill Burns

## OCTOBER 4

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: Hazel Hensley  
10:30 am: Hazel Hensley

Flowers: The Gervais Family

Ushers: James & Sarah Guess  
Jim & Mary Netzer

Acolyte: **Available**

Counters: Kristin Hall, Olivia Zade,  
Gretchen Hawes

Fellowship Hosts: Jeanine Corzine

## OCTOBER 18

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: **Available**  
10:30 am: Melanie Branson

Flowers: The Millett Family

Ushers: Stanley & Ellen Chassagne  
George & Elsa Hennings

Acolyte: **Available**

Counters: Sheri Boston, Calvin Johnson,  
Joanna Rindt

Fellowship Hosts: Gail Bunch, Diann Severson

## OCTOBER 11

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: **Available**  
10:30 am: **Available**

Flowers: Jim Weeks Sr.

Ushers: Nina Lane & Family  
John & Paige Netzer

Acolyte: **Available**

Counters: Hazel Hensley, Nina Lane,  
Barbara Johnson

Fellowship Hosts: Kristen Barron

## OCTOBER 25

Liturgists:  
8:00 am: Leif Liberg  
10:30 am: **Available**

Flowers: **Available**

Ushers: Monte & Tina Frisbee  
Ken Wetzel & Patty Wharton

Acolyte: **Available**

Counters: Nancy Hodge, Wes Hensley  
James Guess

Fellowship Hosts: **Available**

### 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 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 sign up.

### Lost but Found

If you think you have lost something at the church, you may stop by the church office to see if it has been found.

## Trustees & Messy Church



What a month!

New carpet has been put down in Room 7 of the Education Building and the room seems new again.

Joe Hansen has turned the September workday into a playground “Fence Mending” party. The Trustees and others have replaced about ten of the rotted off fence poles and re-laced the fence fabric to make that a safe area for the children to play. This was a big job but very rewarding as the folks worked side-by-side to complete the job. Thanks to all that helped.

Gerry Rambo has helped the Trustees get started on a project to lower the arched bridge that would allow it to be far less difficult for our members to navigate. Gerry has contacted the Weeks family, the original donors for the bridge, and gotten their blessing for the replacement project. In addition, he has located most of the added funding that we estimate will be required to complete this job. We don't want to lose the bridge theme but do want to make it easier for folks to get over and participate in the social hall activities. Several “artist's concepts” will be evaluated at the next Trustee meeting so that one can be selected so that we can proceed to the contractor bid stage of the project.

Ray Miller is evaluating grinding methods by which we can knock down the existing tripping hazards present on the south parking lot. We should have completion on that task during this next month or two.

John Veazey is working on video recording concepts that will allow high quality built-in service, or wedding, recordings to be more easily done. This was attempted, with mixed success, during the recent Hennings and Vierra wedding and we see that this would be a good addition to our present capabilities.

It has been a good month!

In God's Service,

Monte Frisbee  
Trustee President  
760-375-8353



Messy Church is an intergenerational, non-traditional, hand-on style of worship that brings together, music, crafts, activities, games, and a Bible story. Messy Church was created in the UK, and made its way to the United States in 2004.

The church is excited to begin its Messy Church on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, beginning at 6:00pm, in the social hall, after the Upper Room Suppers, Free Friday Night dinner meal service ends. Participants are encouraged to come and eat dinner together at Upper Room, before the worship service begins at 6:00pm. October's theme is friendship. Volunteers are requested to help with the hands-on activities and storytelling for each month. If you called to serve in this way, please contact Amy Ochoa in the church office.



Cub Scouts #341 will be selling popcorn after both services Sunday October 11 & October 18. Lots of great flavors to choose from! So, please come and support our local pack.

## Choir Notes, Crazy Busy & MOPS



“He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.” Psalms 40:3

Yesterday we lifted our voices, instruments and hearts in songs of praise to our God and it was good! The UMC Ridgecrest Praise Band played both services yesterday and along with soloists and the choir we gave praise through music. The response was excellent and it's good to know that the coming together of so many talented musicians working collectively to raise songs of praise to God is touching many hearts and especially the hearts of the music makers!

I want to give thanks to Patrick Rindt for his superb leadership in assembling and directing the Praise Band. We are truly blessed to have his talents and ministry working with us! I also want to thank the members of the Praise Band for the extra hours of rehearsal and preparation that goes into these services and making the time to give of your talents. A special thank you to Amber Petersen for her wonderful music leadership in the early services each week and for joining us on our “Praise Sundays”. Thank you Amber! My gratitude to the Adult Choir is bubbling over, as they work faithfully to bring the beautiful melodies, harmonies and lyrics to life each and every Sunday.

We have some wonderful music planned over the next few weeks. Those of you who attend the early Service will enjoy the talents of Andrew Christison and his horn as well as Amber's beautiful vocal solos. For the later service the Adult Choir is working on inspiring music for October including our “Praise Band Sunday” on the 18<sup>th</sup>. I know that several instrumentalists will be joining us including the Keeters on the 4<sup>th</sup>, so I encourage you to come out to one of the services each week and join in our new songs of praise to our God!

Doug Hallenbeck, Director of Music



### Adult/Young Adult Weeknight Study

The Crazy Busy study began the last Wednesday in September, but there is still time to join this 4-week Wednesday class, if you are interested! The meeting Wednesdays are Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, and Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, in the fellowship/choir room. (Note that the last class on Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> may meet half an hour earlier.) To join in on this class, please contact Amy Ochoa in the church office.



### Mothers of Preschoolers

MOPS continues its fall semester in October by holding two mothering seminars on Tues. Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> and Tues. Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, both from 9:00am to 11:00am, in the social hall, and also a mommy-and-me playdate on Tues. Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 11:00am, location to be determined. MOPS is open to expectant mamas through mamas with small children 6 and under still in the home, and may join at any time. For more information contact Amy Ochoa in the church office.

## Upper Room Suppers



### From Gerry Rambo:

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”

Hebrews 13:16

The month of September marked 4 years of Upper Room Suppers Ministry serving those less fortunate in our community. We currently serve on average 77 guests each Friday night.

URS and our guests would like to thank all of you who have contributed to this worthy ministry, either through your donations or volunteering these past 4 years to make this ministry possible. Your continued support is needed to keep this ministry going.

I would especially like to thank the People In Charge who have been so creative in meal preparation for our guests and at times stretching those meals so that no one left without being fed.

What better way to show your faith than to volunteer to serve those who are less fortunate in our community. Would you prayerfully consider volunteering for this valuable Ministry? If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office at 760.375.7434, Laura Miller at 909.522.1637, e-mail [aglbgl@yahoo.com](mailto:aglbgl@yahoo.com) or Gerry Rambo at 757.812.0034, e-mail [grambok@hotmail.com](mailto:grambok@hotmail.com). If you are interested in becoming a person in charge, local training is available and can be arranged to meet your schedule.

Thank you again for your outstanding support these past 4 years and may God continue to bless this congregation.

Happy 4th Birthday Upper Room Suppers!



### From Laura Miller:

“People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.” –Luke 13:29

I have been blessed to serve as the volunteer coordinator for these four years and it has been a wonderful experience! I have seen that this is truly God’s ministry. I am merely serving in the ministry.

For example, I have had the opportunity to see God send me several volunteers for a Friday night when God knows that some of those volunteers will not be able to come at the last minute. It truly always seems to work out! God is Good!

Lately, I see that I am becoming too complacent about this task so I turned in a resignation letter. I have recently been reading about King Asa in Sunday school and this really prompted me although I have been thinking about it for a while. I thought I would write out what I do so that you might pray about having another volunteer coordinator come to take my place.

I always scheduled on a three month cycle. I send out an e-mail to those volunteers with an e-mail address (only about half of our volunteers respond to this or even have e-mail addresses). Then, I call or message those who don’t respond or have e-mails. People need a reminder e-mail or call a few days before the Friday they are scheduled to work too. I keep a spreadsheet updated with changes and this is posted on the web.

This job needs someone who likes to talk to people and who is able to listen to what they want to work and do. Several of our volunteers have a regular schedule but the joy of this ministry is that some people will just volunteer once in awhile. How great God is to move peoples’ hearts to contribute in this way!

So, I ask you to pray for this ministry and to pray for a new volunteer coordinator. Maybe that person is you!

To volunteer to work on a Friday night, please contact [UpperRoomSuppers@hotmail.com](mailto:UpperRoomSuppers@hotmail.com) Or call me at home at 760-375-1088. I would love to introduce you to this wonderful ministry.

Sincerely, Laura Lei Miller

# Harvest Dinner & Silent Auction, Children's Ministries, & Fall Youth Trip



## United Methodist Women Harvest Dinner & Silent Auction

The United Methodist Women's signature event is upon us! On October 17 you will have the opportunity to participate in a fundraising effort to support our missionaries. This fundraiser is both a wonderful dinner and an auction. Your \$15 ticket will enable you to enjoy a meal of pork roast, potatoes, green beans, a salad and wonderful bread pudding for dessert. You will have a chance to bid on amazing home-made auction items too! The items will range in price from a few dollars to quite a bit more. Please come and participate to help fund our missionaries and programs. The UMW uses these funds to support programs for women and children all over the world and for our missionaries that serve in America and overseas. The dinner is good, the auction is fun, and the fellowship is amazing! Tickets will be on sale after services in October. Please come!

The Silent Auction is in need of your talents. Do you bake, sew, craft? We want your talents to be showcased at the auction! Please donate home-made items to the auction by bringing them to the office the week of October 12 and fill out a slip so we know who made the items and how much our minimum bid should be for them. You can bring the items on October 17 itself to the Social Hall and help put out the items for display too. We want a variety of crafts on display and no craft is too small! Every item donated is appreciated! So please get out your knitting needles and make a scarf, dust off your tools and build a bird house, or create a wonderful recipe to enjoy. Please share your talents with the church in this way to help our missionaries. Thank you so much!



## Children's Ministries Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in children's ministry month in September! And, special thanks to Laura Miller and Roxann Gibbs for cooking the hot dog lunch after service on September 13<sup>th</sup>, and to Melanie Branson with the 4-H club, and Laura Miller with Just for Fun Dog Agility, for bringing animals for the animal fair that was held on September 20<sup>th</sup>!

A monthly handout concerning Kid's Church is sent via email to parents of elementary students at the beginning of each month. These handouts include the theme of the month, lesson topics for each Sunday, and other announcements. If you are not currently receiving these emails, please register your email address to [760shoutout@gmail.com](mailto:760shoutout@gmail.com). Hardcopy handouts are also available all month long, on the bulletin board in Room # 2.



## Fall Youth Trip

Middle school and high school students are invited to the fall youth trip to Castaic Lake at Warped Paintball Park on Saturday, Oct. 31. Parent chaperones are needed to help drive the youth to and from the event, but will not participate in the paintball games. Youth will partake in four rounds of paintball, on four different obstacle courses. The paintball park will provide the markers, paintballs, helmets, goggles, and protective chest pieces. Meet at the small north parking lot at 6:15am for departure. Cost is \$45 per youth, plus lunch money, and the permission slips and fee is due to Amy Ochoa in the church office, no later than Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Scholarships are available.

## *Ridgecrest UMC Praises*

Here at Ridgecrest United Methodist we are richly blessed with so many talented people. We'd like to recognize our members' efforts and celebrate these achievements. Here's a peek at some celebrations and achievements. When you hear of celebrations and achievements, please call or email the church to let us know. We especially like photos!

✝ On Sunday, August 30 we celebrated the baptism of Clara Jean Blades. Clara is the daughter of Brienna and Kyle Blades.

✝ Congratulations to Sierra Hennings and Nicholas Vierra upon their marriage September 5 at Ridgecrest UMC.

✝ Mahalo to Amy Ochoa for coordinating great children and family activities during September. Bounce houses, animals and movies! A thank you goes out to Melanie Branson, Meghan Branson, Laurie Miller, and Sarah Guess for bringing their animals.

✝ Mahalo to all those who helped repair the playground fence during last month's workday. A big round of gratitude to Joe Hansen for coordinating all the worker bees.

✝ Congratulations to Elsa Hennings and Jay Hodge on their induction into the NAVAIR Fellows Program on August 27<sup>th</sup>





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 pm 4-H Meeting in SH 6:30 pm Encouragement Workshop Planning Meeting	2 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper	3 8:00 am UMM Breakfast 8:30 am UMW Meeting
4 8:00 am Worship with Holy Communion 9:45 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 2:30 pm Youth Group 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	5 6:00 pm Pack 341 6:30 pm Bible Study in FR 7:00 pm Troop 35	6 6:30 am Men's Devotional 5:30 pm HDQG Meeting 5:30 pm GS Jrs in Rm 4 6:30 pm Sweet Adelines 6:30 pm AA Meeting in Rm 3 7:00 pm Aquabonita	7 5:30 pm Girl Scout Rm 4 5:30 pm Girl Scout Rm 5 6:00 pm Girl Scout Rm 2 6:30 pm Crazy Busy Bible Study in Social Hall 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting	8 5:00 pm Brownies Rm 5 5:15 pm Mission Mtg Rm 4 6:15 pm URS Meeting Rm 4 6:30 pm Encouragement Workshop Planning Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Practice	9 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper  (Flex)	10
11 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Scout Popcorn Sale 9:45 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Scout Popcorn Sale 1:00 pm New Member Class 2:30 pm Youth Group 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	12 6:00 pm Pack 341 6:30 pm Bible Study in FR 7:00 pm Troop 35	13 6:30 am Men's Devotional 2:00 pm AV Mission Mtg 5:30 pm GS Jrs Court of Awards in Social Hall 6:00 pm Altrusa Mtg in FR 6:30 pm Sweet Adelines 6:30 pm AA Meeting in Rm 3 7:00 pm SH Renovation Committee Meeting in Rm 7	14 6:30 pm Crazy Busy Bible Study in Social Hall 6:30 pm Friendship Circle in FR	15 9:00 am New Member Class 5:00 pm Brownies Rm 5 6:30 pm Encouragement Workshop Planning Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Practice	16 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper 8:00 pm GS Overnight	17 8:00 am CPR Training 6:00 pm UMW Harvest Dinner in Social Hall
18 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Scout Popcorn Sale 9:45 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Scout Popcorn Sale 2:30 pm Youth Group 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	19 6:00 pm Pack 341 6:30 pm Bible Study in FR 7:00 pm Troop 35 7:00 pm New Member Class	20 6:30 am Men's Devotional 5:30 pm GS Jrs in Rm 5 6:30 pm Sweet Adelines 6:30 pm AA Meeting in Rm 3	21 9:00 am Sister's Act Noon 3M Circle 5:30 pm Girl Scout Rm 4 5:30 pm Girl Scout Rm 5 6:00 pm Girl Scout Rm 2 6:30 pm Crazy Busy Bible Study in Social Hall 7:00 pm Ad Council Mtg	22 5:00 pm Brownies Rm 5 6:30 pm Encouragement Workshop Planning Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Practice	23 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper  (Flex)	24 7:30 am Lee Nolan Piano Concert in Sanctuary
25 8:00 am Worship 9:45 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Worship 2:30 pm Youth Group 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	26 6:00 pm Pack 341 6:30 pm Bible Study in FR 7:00 pm Troop 35	27 6:30 am Men's Devotional 5:30 pm GS Jrs in Rm 5 6:00 pm Altrusa Mtg 6:30 pm Sweet Adelines 6:30 pm AA Meeting in Rm 3	28 1:00 pm Quilt Group 6:30 pm Crazy Busy Christian Study in Social Hall	29 5:00 pm Brownies Rm 5 6:30 pm Encouragement Workshop Planning Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Practice	30 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper	31