



# The Messenger

The Newsletter of the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church

November 2015

## Wesley's Words

### The Grace of Salt-Risen Bread

I preached on bread October 4 and specifically mentioned how much I love bread and especially a particular bread of my childhood, salt-risen bread. Little did I know the effect my sermon on World Communion Sunday would have on the congregation. Little did I realize how blessed I would be by fellow bread lovers. First Margaret Anderson & Terry Millet gifted me with a loaf of shepherders bread from the world famous Schats bakery in Bishop. Then I received an anonymous gift of salt risen-bread produced at a bakery in Pennsylvania that does on-line orders and finally I got a salt-risen sample from the church's resident expert baker, Jim Hoover. Wow, I've been in bread heaven this month! Besides the delicious feeling I've had in my mouth and stomach, I've been warmed in my heart. Each of these bread gifts were also gifts of grace. Grace is often defined as unmerited or undeserved favor. I did not solicit, expect or deserve loaves of bread. But they came. And I am grateful. They were great reminders of how God's grace works. It just shows up, often when we least expect it, usually when we have done nothing to deserve it. It's a good day when I experience grace. It's a good day to know that grace is alive and well in the world. This past month grace came to me in the form of bread. What about you? How has grace come to you? Have you recognized it when it came? "Taste and see that the Lord is good." Grateful for a graceful congregation and a graceful God.

Aloha ke Akua, *Wesley*

## Indian Wells Valley Mission Area

On Sunday Dec. 6, 12:30-1:30pm our district Supervisor, Rev. Jim Powell will be visiting our church to have a gathering of persons from our 3 churches in our one (Ridgecrest-Trona-Inyokern). This gathering is open to all and will be held in the RUMC Social Hall. Please join us as we discuss how we can be united in mission and outreach in our area.

Earlier in the day Rev. Powell will be our preacher at the 8:00 am service before going to Trona to preach.

## Annual Charge Conference

This years Annual charge Conference will be Sunday Dec 13 5:00 pm-6:00 pm at Inyokern UMC. This will be a joint mission area Charge Conference of Ridgecrest-Inyokern-Trona UMC's. Our DS, the Rev. James Powell will preside. We will celebrate the ministries of our past year and conduct required church business. No dinner, but you are welcome to bring light refreshments to share.

NOVEMBER

**Birthdays**

- 1 Nel Kovar
- 4 Julie Frisbee
- 7 Carolyn McDaniel  
Gerry Rambo
- 9 Aileen Scott
- 11 Ellen Hinman  
Wendy Wadelin
- 12 Jordan Boston
- 13 Bill Hall
- 14 Alan Layfield
- 16 Joanna Rindt  
Merritt Guggenbuehl
- 18 Jill Bradford
- 19 Patrick Rindt, Jr  
Olivia Zade
- 20 Sandra Anderson  
Corinna Kilikauskas
- 21 Jim Hoover
- 22 Robert Atkinson  
Alan Bradford
- 24 Marc Cope
- 27 Joseph Hansen
- 28 Cathy Mattis  
Mick Van Meter
- 29 Michael Keeter

**Anniversaries**

- 1 Frank & Tara Argain
- 2 John & Melanie Branson
- 11 Erik & Wendy Wadelin
- 21 Les & Nancy Saxton

**NEWSLETTER  
SUBMISSIONS**

If there is a church event that you would like to share in the next month's Messenger, please email the church at [umcrc@verizon.net](mailto:umcrc@verizon.net).

Deadline is the 3rd Friday of each month. If you have any questions, please call 760-375-7434.

**--Mission Emphases--**

**Cystic Fibrosis Great Strides Walk**



Holiday Food Basket Donations

**Holiday Food Basket Ministry**

November kicks off the holiday food basket ministry season. The Church partners with the Salvation Army to sponsor families in the community each year. Each family is provided with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals as well as clothing for children under 18.

**United Methodist Student Day**



Your generous gifts on United Methodist Student Day will support: United Methodist scholarships and the U.M. Student Loan Fund, administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM).

<b>Office Hours:</b>	Monday thru Friday 8:00 am – 2:00 pm Closed for Lunch 12:30-1pm
<b>Address:</b>	639 N. Norma Street Ridgecrest, CA. 93555
<b>Phone:</b>	(760) 375-7434 (760) 375-7096
<b>E-Mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:umcrc@verizon.net">umcrc@verizon.net</a>
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="http://www.umcrc.org">http://www.umcrc.org</a>
<b>Facebook Page:</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/ridgecrestumc">http://www.facebook.com/ridgecrestumc</a>
<b>Pastor:</b>	Rev. Wesley Elmore (808) 482-1913
<b>Office Manager:</b>	Tara Argain
<b>Director of Music:</b>	Doug Hallenbeck
<b>Director of Youth Ministries:</b>	Amy Ochoa (760) 793-7850
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Sarah Guess
<b>Prayer Chain:</b>	Church Office (760) 375-7434

**Living Bread Ministry**



**Food Emphasis for November**

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

The food item for November is:

**Oatmeal**

**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.

# In Service In Our Church

Lock up for November: Monte Frisbee

## November 1

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

Ushers: James & Sarah Guess  
 Jim & Mary Netzer

Acolyte: **Available**

Flowers: **Available**

Counters: Kristin Hall, Olivia Zade, Gretchen Hawes

Fellowship Hosts: Shirley Kidner, Sheri Boston, Patty Wharton

## November 22

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

Ushers: Monte & Tina Frisbee  
 Ken Wetzel & Patty Wharton

Acolyte: **Available**

Flowers: **Available**

Counters: Wes Hensley, James Guess, Nancy Hodge

Fellowship Hosts: Bonny Porter, Scott Millett, Joanna Rindt

## November 8

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

Ushers: Nina Lane & Family  
 John & Paige Netzer

Acolyte: **Available**

Flowers: **Available**

Counters: Hazel Hensley, Nina Lane, Barbara Johnson

Fellowship Hosts: Julie Gervais, Melanie Branson,  
 Eleanor Winnemore

## November 29

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

Ushers: Youth

Acolyte: **Available**

Flowers: **Available**

Counters: Wes Hensley, James Guess, Nancy Hodge

Fellowship Hosts: Mary Atkinson

## November 15

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

Ushers: Stanley & Ellen Chassagne  
 George & Elsa Hennings

Acolyte: **Available**

Flowers: **Available**

Counters: Joanna Rindt, Sheri Boston, Calvin Johnson

Fellowship Hosts: Bonita Becker, Mary Netzer, Barbara Jayne

### 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.

## Trustee's Corner and Great Strides Walk



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

## GREAT STRIDES

CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION



The Frisbee family hopes you will once again join them at Cerro Coso Community College's track on Saturday, December 5th for the 9th Annual Ridgecrest Great Strides Walk. It's lots of fun and a great way to show support to the Ridgecrest families who are affected by cystic fibrosis. As the awareness of CF increases, each year we learn of more families who are coping with this hereditary disease. At last year's Walk we had six CF support teams and over 300 people in attendance.

Registration begins at 9:30 AM, and the Walk starts at 10:00 AM. Hot cocoa, coffee, water, sandwiches, and cookies will be available to all participants.

Be sure to also look forward to the Sunday, November 8th Mission Moment, when Eric and Julie Frisbee's family will tell you about some great strides that are taking place for those people who have cystic fibrosis. These advances in research and new medications for CF are only made possible by the donations of individuals like you. Taylor and Isabella, and the whole Frisbee family, greatly appreciate the loyal support of their Ridgecrest United Methodist Church family.

## Church Mission Opportunities



The youth of the church will be going into the local neighborhoods during their regularly scheduled youth group times, on Sunday, November 8th, and asking for food donations for the holiday food basket ministry, and raising awareness for the church's Upper Room Suppers, free weekly meal ministry. Middle school students are to be at church at 2:30pm on the 8th, and will return to church for pick-up at 4:00pm. And, high school students will depart church at 4:00pm, and return to church for pick-up at 5:30pm. Youth are encouraged to wear comfortable tennis shoes, and dress appropriately for the weather!



It is that time of year again! The church will sponsor 60 families in the community, who could use a little extra help this holiday season, and provide them with the ingredients needed for both Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. One basket of food, for a family of four, costs about \$40 to prepare. Thanksgiving baskets will be prepared and delivered on Sunday, November 22nd. Youth are asked to be in the social hall at 9am that morning to help. If you wish to help deliver a basket or two after worship on the 22nd, please contact Amy in the church office, maps are provided. The holiday food basket ministry is 100% supported by special giving from the congregation. Please make your donations out to the church, and denote "food baskets" on the giving envelope, or check memo line.



The angel tree ministry is where people from the church purchase new clothing, with the store tags still attached, for the children of the 60 families that the church sponsors through the holiday food basket ministry. Angel tree tags provide the gender, age, clothing size, and any specific clothing need. Tags will be available on Sunday, November 29th. However, if you would prefer to shop during the Black Friday sales, please contact Amy in the office for early-bird picks. Gifts should range between \$10 to \$40. Congregants are asked to return the angel tree tags attached to the wrapped Christmas clothing gifts, and place under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary, on or before the Christmas food basket delivery day, of Sunday, December 20th, 2015.



On November 14 at 10:00, the United Methodist Women will gather together in the Fellowship Room for a Celebration of Thankfulness. The World Thank Offering is an opportunity to praise God and come together welcoming the Kingdom of God. All women of the church are invited to this UMW program to praise God and express our thankfulness for having the Kingdom of God be a part of us, both within us and among us. Faith is like a seed: it seems small and weak, but it has life in it; and if it is cultivated it will grow and release power. Come fellowship with other women of faith and express an attitude of gratitude. An offering will be taken for the Mission Giving.

## Church Events

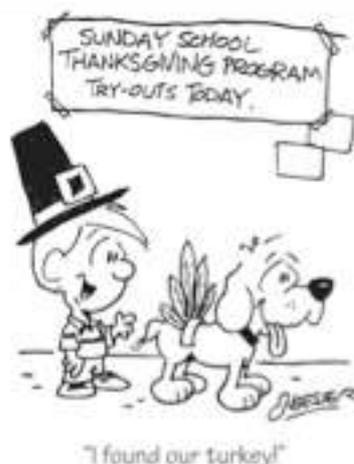


This year's Adult Christmas Party with White Elephant Gift Exchange will be held on Saturday, 12 December in the Social Hall. This is a potluck dinner, and the Family Ministry will provide a roasted turkey and a ham. Childcare will be available, please let us know if you will be needing it when you RSVP for the dinner.

The White Elephant gift exchange is the highlight of the night, but certainly not a requirement to attend the dinner! A true White Elephant gift is anything you have at home that is no longer needed or wanted, but people may opt to buy something inexpensive. The point isn't really about the gifts- the fun is in watching the exchange happen, even for those that do not participate.

Volunteers are needed to cook the ham and help decorate the tables. You may bring your own dishes and tableware from home (as fancy or simple as you like) or use the dishes provided by the church. Please let Patricia or Sheri know as soon as possible if you are able to help.

RSVP for the dinner to Patricia (760-495-2152) or Sheri by December 6th.  
We'll see you there!



The church sponsored IWW Mother of Preschoolers ministry is for moms that are expecting their first child, to moms with small children still in the home. There are three MOPS events in November. Tues. Nov. 3rd, is a mothering seminar with childcare, from 9am to 11am in the social hall. Tues. Nov. 10th is a mommy-and-me playdate in the childcare room # 10 from 10am to 11am, with the theme of gratitude. And, Tues. Nov. 17th is the last mothering seminar of the fall semester, from 9am to 11am, in the social hall. Please contact Amy in the office for more information.



### Camp Christmas

Children currently in Pre-K (age four) through the 5th grade are invited to attend CAMP CHRISTMAS, a special kids-only workshop on Christmas meanings and symbols on Sunday, December 6th, from 5:00pm to 6:30pm, starting and ending in the social hall, with dinner provided. Community invited. Permission slips required, and are due the Friday before the event. Adult volunteers are needed to help with the dinner and program. For more information, please contact Amy in the office.

## Church Events & Mission Report



On November 11 at 5:30 the Friendship Circle will meet in the Fellowship Room for Dinner and a Mystery Murder Party. The Murder at Tall Oaks requires 8 players. You are invited to come join in the festivities. Both men and women are welcome. We have both male and female parts. Contact Laura Miller at 760-375-1088 to receive a part. Bring a dish to share and come join in the fun. It is more fun to play a part, but we welcome those who choose not to play a part as well. We will also be celebrating the future birth of a baby to Sarah and James Guess. Hope you can join us!

### New Member Welcome

On October 25 RUMC welcomed Olivia Zade as a member. Olivia is transferring her membership from Arlington Church of Christ in Knoxville, TN. Olivia has lived in Ridgecrest for nearly 7 years along with her husband Jason and children Brodey, Sophia and Kennady.



Invite your neighbors to attend Messy Church on the FIRST FRIDAY of every month from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in the social hall! November's Messy Church will focus on Thanks & Giving, and will be held Friday, November 6th, 2015, after the Upper Room Suppers free community meal. Laura Miller will be giving the special interactive story, and after the Bible story, stay for some fun stations, including writing thank you cards to church missionaries, and assembling your own tree of thanks! Messy Church is an outreach ministry, and welcomes all ages!

## Mission Giving Report



### October Mission Giving

Thank you for your donations to the following missions in October:

World Communion Sunday	\$1094
Navy- MC Relief Society	\$685
Habitat for Humanity	\$200
Compassion International	\$55
Literacy Council	\$350
Heifer Project	\$20
SSP-Travel	\$50

## Mission Thanks



Ask and you shall receive! Well, I asked for you to support the Literacy Council of IWV and you really responded. Thank you so much! The Literacy Council received GENEROUS donations of children's books both gently used and new. You also donated over \$350 to the Council. Thank you for supporting the work of the Literacy Council in our area. These donations will help out our programs which include:

- Reading and Homework Help for grade school children
- English as a Second Language Classes
- Citizenship Classes
- Christmas Books to children in families receiving Food Baskets at the Salvation Army
- Children's Books to new parents at the Hospital
- Free Book giveaways at community fairs

Thank you so much for supporting the Literacy Council. This church also hosts an ESL class that meets on Tuesday mornings. Starting with the new year, our church will also host a tutor training class. If you are interested in participating in the Literacy Council, either as a tutor or a supporting member, please contact Laura Miller at 760-375-1088. It is truly a blessing to share with others the joys found in reading. Thank you again for supporting this wonderful community organization.

You are invited to come check us out at our General Meeting on November 14, after the World Thank Offering, at 11:30 at My Enchanted Tea Cottage. Where we shall enjoy a no-host lunch and a program on Happiness. Two board members will be presenting book reports on Happiness, Diana Eggleton and Laura Miller. The general meeting is open to the public so feel free to bring a friend.

Affectionately,  
Laura Lei Miller



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!  
Thank you for supporting the missions of the United Methodist Women by buying a ticket and enjoying the great food at the Harvest Dinner or making and contributing something to the Silent Auction. Or, most of all, opening your wallet and expressing your generosity by bidding and buying an item at the Silent Auction.

The UMW has been around for a long time and funds wonderful mission work to help families all over the world including a lot of programs in the United States. The Cal-Pac Conference has 4 National Mission Institutions within its area. All the money raised from this event goes directly to support the missions of the United Methodist Women all over the world. If you would like to learn more about these missions, please check out Response Magazine in the UMW bookshelf in the Fellowship Room or just Google it!

Thank you so much to those who contributed handmade or homemade items to the sale, those who bid and bought those items, those who bought tickets to the Harvest Dinner, those who set up and prepared the room for the event, those who prepared and cooked the meal, and those who cleaned up the room after the event. You all worked together to produce an event that raised over \$2,855 with \$150 to the Youth for serving at the meal and will be used to support SSP. So over \$2,700 will be sent to missions!

Great Job Everyone!

### **Ridgecrest Women's Center**

Ridgecrest UMC,

On behalf of the Women's Center- High Desert, I would like to thank you for the generous donation of \$435 to our organization. This donation along with your support truly means so much to us!

Thank you very much!  
Women's Center Staff