



A New Years List

Do you ever make a list of things to do? A grocery list of ingredients you need for a special holiday dish or basic food items. Or a list of tasks to get accomplished today: bank, dry cleaning, haircut, call the electric company, email the scout parents about the upcoming den activities, etc. Many of us make resolutions for the New Year. A New Year's resolution is merely an item on our list, albeit an annual list instead of a daily one. The fact it is an annual list is both bane and blessing. I have all year to get it done. Because I have all year to get it done, it never does. Spiritual New Year resolutions can end up into the trash pile of forgotten, failed or neglected resolutions as well as any other type of resolution. Let me suggest that if you list a spiritual resolution (regarding reading the Bible, or prayer, or a spiritual disciple) make it attainable. Make it short term and not yearlong. Instead of "I will read the entire bible through this year", try reading one complete book of the Bible you haven't read before. Numbers or 2nd Kings anyone? Instead of "I will arise at 5 am and spend 30 minutes in prayer everyday", try praying for 30 minutes once. Pick an activity that you can add to your daily task list that is doable. And it doesn't have to be every day. Just as you may decide to try out a new restaurant to eat or go see a new movie, make plans to try out a new spiritual activity. The good news is there are plenty of things to try and plenty of days to do them in. Do what you can, not what you can't. And once you actually partake and accomplish some of them, you can move on to try something new; such as a several week long Bible Study or serving at Upper Room suppers or volunteering to teach at Kids church, or becoming a prayer partner for someone. Provide opportunities for yourself to grow spiritually. Use the resolution list as your friend and not foe.

PS: I'll gladly chat with you about potential spiritual resolutions to add to your list.

Aloha ke Akua

Wesley

Pastor Wesley is on vacation until January 10. For pastoral emergencies contact the church office or Lay Leader-Kristin Hall; Ad Council Chair-Rob Gervais or Youth Director Amy Ochoa. They will contact a local pastor to assist you in your need.

Church Photo Directory

Its time to update our church directory. The church directory lists our members and friends. We will be updating names, addresses, email address and phone numbers; plus adding photos. We are fortunate to have Olivia Zade and Brienna Blades as our talented photographers. They will be taking photos beginning in January. The exact schedule for the photo shoots will be published later. The plan is to have periods between and after Sunday worship services and on select weekday nights as photo shoot times. The photos will be used for both our new printed directory and an online password protected directory.



- 1 Stanley Chassagne
- 5 Jay Hodges
- 11 John Anderson Wayne Zellmer
- 12 Camie Keeter
- 22 Ruth Trout
- 25 Tamara Hansen
- 26 John Branson



- 4 Patrick & Cherish Rindt
- 12 Anthony & Dora Barnes
- 18 Keith & Debra Heflin
- 23 Simon & Lisa Austin
- Jeff & Dianne Hargrove

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

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

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

Pastor: Rev. Wesley Elmore
(808) 482-1913

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--

Harris Missionary Potluck

Sunday Jan. 17, 2016 from 5-7 pm there is a potluck dinner with a presentation by the Harris family about their Africa Mission.

Free the Girls

Free the Girls is a non-profit organization which provides job opportunities to women rescued from sex trafficking. With Free the Girls, we provide an opportunity for women who have been rescued from sex trafficking to earn a living selling second hand clothing - Bras! Bras are a sought after item in second-hand markets and give these girls the chance to earn 3-5 times the minimum wage. Bras can be dropped off in a box in the Narthex.



January 17, 2016

Your generous gifts on Human Relations Day will help support: Community Developers and United Methodist Voluntary Services programs related to the General Board of Global Ministries; and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program, General Board of Church and Society.

Living Bread Ministry



Food Emphasis for January

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

The food item for January is:

Macaroni and Cheese

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 January:

January 3	January 24
<p>Liturgists: 8:00 am: Sandy Meech 10:30 am: Available</p> <p>Ushers: James & Sarah Guess Jim & Mary Netzer</p> <p>Flowers: Available</p> <p>Counters: Kristin Hall, Olivia Zade, Gretchen Hawes</p> <p>Fellowship Hosts: Available</p>	<p>Liturgists: 8:00 am: Available 10:30 am: Available</p> <p>Ushers: Monte & Tina Frisbee Ken Wetzal & Patty Wharton</p> <p>Flowers: Available</p> <p>Counters: Wes Hensley, James Guess, Nancy Hodge</p> <p>Fellowship Hosts: Available</p>
January 10	January 31
<p>Liturgists: 8:00 am: Available 10:30 am: Available</p> <p>Ushers: Nina Lane & Family John & Paige Netzer</p> <p>Flowers: Available</p> <p>Counters: Hazel Hensley, Nina Lane, Barbara Johnson</p> <p>Fellowship Hosts: Available</p>	<p>Liturgists: 8:00 am: Sandy Meech 10:30 am: Available</p> <p>Ushers: Youth</p> <p>Flowers: Available</p> <p>Counters: Kristin Hall, Olivia Zade, Gretchen Hawes</p> <p>Fellowship Hosts: Available</p>
January 17	<p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Liturgists: 8:00 am: Available 10:30 am: Available</p> <p>Ushers: Stanley & Ellen Chassagne George & Elsa Hennings</p> <p>Flowers: Available</p> <p>Counters: Joanna Rindt, Sheri Boston, Calvin Johnson</p> <p>Fellowship Hosts: Available</p>	

Choir Notes, Bible Study & Messy Church



Happy New Year!

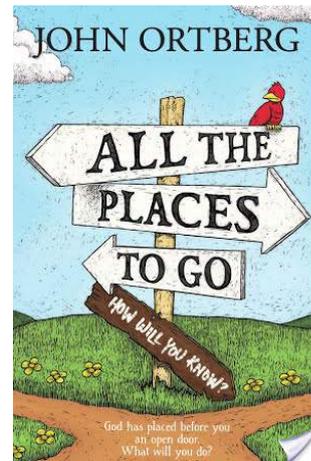
2016 is certain to be a year of continued growth for the music ministry here at RUMC! We will continue to provide weekly music from the Adult Choir and music staff for both services as well as the Praise Band, Ukelele Ensemble and the other wonderful musicians who lend their talents to the service of Christ! I am humbled and blessed to have the opportunity to serve and the opportunity to work with the wonderful church and music staff here at RUMC!

The choir has grown this year and we currently have 35 active members. The level of enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by our choir members truly inspires me! I am very thankful to the numerous instrumentalists who are participating in our music ministry and want to give a mention to them: Rob Gervais, flute & ukelele; Ted Fiske, guitar; John Anderson, ukulele & guitar; Joe Hansen, bass & ukulele; Curt Kidner, guitar; Andrew Christison, French horn; Sam Johnson & Simon Austin, trumpet; Mike Petersen, synth; Mike Keeter, saxophone; Ian Rawson, Nate Clair, Ginny Charlton & Roxanne Gibbs, strings; Natalie & Jonah Gilbert, piano. Also a shout out to the youth for their music on SPS Sunday, our Angel Choir and soloists Elly Gervais and Nitya Lorber.

Our early services are blessed with the wonderful musical talent of our music minister, Amber Petersen, mezzo-soprano who performs solos and provides special music with the assistance of her husband Mike Petersen and Paula Herr.

We are planning to share our music periodically with the Trona and Inyokern congregations. I look forward to continued growth and outreach for our music ministry program here at RUMC and ask for your continued prayers and support. Many thanks!

Doug Hallenbeck



New Year Weeknight Study

Starting Wednesday, January 27th, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, in the social hall, with free childcare in Room #10, Amy Ochoa will be hosting a New Year study by John Ortberg entitled, All the Places to Go, How Will You Know? This study is open to all young adults and adults of the church who wish to kick-off the New Year in the right direction. Register to participate in this study by contacting Amy in the office. Meets every Wed. beginning January 27th on, for four weeks. Book received at first session.



January's Messy Church

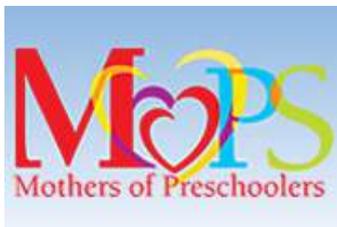
On the FIRST FRIDAY, January 1st, 2016, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, in the social hall, Messy Church will be diving into the creation story, focusing on "In the beginning!" Wes Hensley will be giving the Bible story this month, and there will be a host of activities to do around the theme of God makes everything new! Invite your non-church attending friends and family to come with you to this interactive style of worship.

Youth Events, MOPS and VBS Meetings



Youth Epiphany Home Blessings Event

On Sunday, January 3rd, the youth of the church, will be going to homes of congregation members, and performing Epiphany home blessings, and chalking the doorframes. If your family would like to sign-up to have the youth come and bless your home for the New Year, please sign-up with Amy in the church office. Youth will be going out and performing blessings between 2:45pm and 4:00pm on Sunday the 3rd. Residents of the homes (or apartments) are asked to be present when the youth arrive.



IWV MOPS Spring Semester

The IWV MOPS Spring semester kicks-off in the social hall on Tuesday, January 19th from 9:00am to 11:00am, with optional childcare in Room # 10. Meeting most Tuesdays until May, the spring semester will focus on nurturing a Christian household with your children, and strengthening your relationship with God. Join the IWV MOPS Facebook group for updated events and news. Thanks to the People of the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church, membership into IWV MOPS is free!



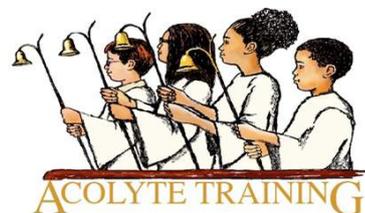
High School Mammoth Trip

High School youth group members are invited to a weekend in Mammoth on the weekend of January 29th. A church member has graciously donated a condo for the youth to lodge in while they go play in the snow. If your high school youth wishes to join in on the trip, please contact Amy in the church office, on or before Sunday, January 24th.



Vacation Bible School 2016 Meeting

Calling all VBS volunteers! Sunday, January 10th after the 10:30am worship service in the social hall is the first planning meeting for Vacation Bible School 2016. Come with your calendars as we look to schedule a week for VBS this coming summer. If you are unable to attend this meeting, but still interested in participating, please contact Amy in the church office.



Acolyte Training on Sun. Jan. 24th

Children and youth of the church are invited to attend the acolyte training session on Sunday, January 24th at 12 noon in the sanctuary with Pastor Wesley and Amy. Even if your children have been an acolyte before, they are encouraged to attend!



Dear Church Family,

On behalf of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Frisbee family would like to thank our United Methodist Church family for its wonderful support. Thank you especially for your prayers for Taylor and Isabella throughout the last nine years. Also, thank you to those of you who came out to our December 5th Walk at CCCC. We had a beautiful day, and once again it was uplifting to have Simon Austin's BHS Pep Band lead off the Walk, followed by about 300 walkers. Each year the awareness of the cystic fibrosis disease increases in our community. At this year's Walk we had 6 teams, representing 7 people whose families are affected by cystic fibrosis.

As of December 16th, the 2015 Ridgecrest CF Great Strides Walk raised almost \$43,000. Of that total, members of our church family donated at least \$6,000, both through the church, at the Walk, and online.

The Frisbee family greatly appreciates your support of CF research that is helping those with cystic fibrosis to have a better quality of life and to live longer. The hope is one day a cure will be found. Once again, thank you very much!

With love and appreciation,
From the entire Frisbee family,
Including Eric and Julie, Trevor,
Taylor, Isabella and Monte and Tina



December Adult Christmas party Dec 12



December Messy Church Dec 4



Ukulele duo presents "What Child is This?" along with choir cantata at Trona Community Church Dec 20