

---

---

# The Cornerstone

Rolling Hills United Methodist Church  
26438 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274  
310-377-6771

**November 2013**

---

---

***"GOD'S BLESSINGS GROW WHEN THEY ARE SHARED"***

## Thanksgiving Dinner

**Saturday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m.**

Bring your family and friends to celebrate the many blessings God has bestowed upon us and help our kids to participate in next summer's Sierra Service Project. Turkeys roasted in Weber kettles, home-made mashed potatoes, corn bread dressing, cranberry "fluff" and cranberry relish, corn pudding, and pecan, apple and pumpkin pies for dessert!

Hot apple cider will be served in the Narthex as you come to check in and get your table assignments starting at 6:00 p.m.; doors to Wesley Hall will open at 6:30 p.m. Paid reservations may be made on the patio between services--the donation is \$30.00 per adult, \$15.00 per child twelve and under. Let us know if you have a group you wish to have at your table. Anyone wishing to help with setting up Wesley Hall or cooking in the kitchen may call Doug Kemps at 1-310-544-3240 or Suellen Fung at 1-310-541-8191.



Following the dinner, we will gather in the Sanctuary to hear our summer substitute organist, Mr. James Calhoun, play the organ. The organ will be moved to the center of the Chancel area, so you will be able to watch Mr. Calhoun do his fancy footwork with the pedals along with hearing him perform various musical scores. This will be an evening you won't want to miss!

## *from the pastor*



In the church, Thanksgiving is not just a day – or even a season. In fact, it is one of the most vital parts of our faith. It is a way of life. Scripture is full of examples of thanksgiving as a regular, ongoing activity. Psalm 136 says, “Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. God’s steadfast love endures forever.” We give thanks for the grace of God, which remains with us throughout the year, and through all our years. Gratitude is never out of season.

We think of our current Thanksgiving celebration as a gift of the Pilgrims, giving thanks for their survival through the first year in Massachusetts Bay. While that’s true, their own observance had its roots even further back, in the harvest festivals of ancient Israel. I’m sure that human beings have marked their gratitude for the gifts of the earth as long as we’ve been around. Whether you are eating something from a wild berry bush or a row of corn you planted yourself, it’s hard not to wonder at the mystery of it all. We know we didn’t pull off this miracle by ourselves. So we give thanks.

And I want you to know how glad and grateful I am for all of you – and for so many reasons. Your generosity and helpfulness to others in times of need are remarkable. Your love for one another is an example to me of the grace of God at work. Your willingness to do what needs to be done, and to do it without a lot of notice or attention amazes me still. So thank you for all of that.

But I want to add something else that makes me grateful throughout the year. It doesn’t happen *every* week, but often in the week following a particular Sunday I will find a note in my box, or a message in my email, with a reflection from one of you about the sermon. Sometimes it’s an article from a newspaper or magazine which addresses the same topic I touched on. Other times it’s a personal story or remembrance from your own experience that was stirred by something I said. I am always glad to receive feedback or input when something has made a genuine connection with you.

On the way out from worship each week there are people who will say something about the service. It might be a compliment, which is fine. But what really gets my attention are comments that make it clear how

much you were listening, and how much you care. I can't tell you how encouraging it is to prepare a sermon each week for a congregation with such diverse and interesting experiences, insights and understandings, all of whom are paying attention (at least most of the time!). It's a little bit daunting, too – because I know that you DO care. I can't just say things without asking myself how they will help or hinder our growth in God.

There are many things to be grateful for this year, and every year. But what lies behind all of our expressions of thanksgiving is our awareness of God's goodness, God's loving-kindness, God's grace. Other things come and go. But as the psalmist says, "God's steadfast love endures forever." Happy Thanksgiving, this month and always.

Grace and peace,

*Jonathan*



## Heifer Plus

Be sure to visit **Heifer Plus** and the **Mission Market** on **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**, after all three services and help support RHUMC's mission work. You will have the opportunity to:

- choose a meaningful gift to give a loved one and help children and families around the world by donating to **Heifer International**
- contribute to **Habitat for Humanity**, who will be starting work on their 500<sup>th</sup> home in the Greater LA area this December
- support the spiritual, educational, health and community outreach work of the missionaries sponsored by RHUMC

## Missions Committee

Mark your calendars! Don't miss an opportunity to learn more about the mission work supported by RHUMC.

On **Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**, Rev. Paul Jeffrey will join us at 7:00 p.m. to share photos and stories of his travels documenting the work of the church around the world. Rev. Jeffrey is a United Methodist missionary photojournalist who has filed stories from more than 75 countries covering everything from hurricanes to health care, from massacres to indigenous rights, from refugees to ecumenism.



**Volunteer Opportunity** — Did you know that donations raised through **Salvation Army** kettles help over 30 million people worldwide? In the South Bay area, the local chapter of the Salvation Army serves 130 hot meals daily through the Meals on Wheels program and provides summer overnight camp experience for 40 children every summer.



During this holiday season, why not volunteer as a bell ringer? You can ring the bell as a family, with your friends or individually. The Youth can even earn service hours for participating! Our own Roxanne Morse has been a bell ringer for 10 years. She says, "I've seen Salvation Army at work and know personally what a difference they make in serving the underserved. Their work is local, their commitment is great, and that is why I am trying to get more volunteers to help their Christmas kettle campaign."

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about this wonderful cause, Roxanne will be out on the patio on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> with more information. You can also contact her at 310-543-2281. Your help will go a long way for people in need!



The Chancel Choir will present Bach's Cantata No. 192, "Now Thank We All Our God", during the morning church services on **Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>**. They will be accompanied by members of the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles. It will be a special celebration of the Thanksgiving Season. You won't want to miss this morning in church!

## Concert Featuring Althea Waites

On **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**, at 4:00 p.m., you'll have an opportunity to attend a concert titled *Mostly Franck* featuring the music of Cesar Franck and Frederic Chopin including Franck's "Symphonic Variations." The concert will feature pianist **Althea Waites** as soloist and Peter Bates transcribing the orchestral accompaniment on the organ. The concert is sponsored by the Covenant Presbyterian Church and the Long Beach Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. It will be held at the Covenant Presbyterian Church Sanctuary, 607 E. Third Street (at Atlantic Avenue), Long Beach 90802. For further information, call 562-437-0958. Free Will Offering.



## DOUG MacLEOD HUGE SUCCESS!

What a fabulous evening of entertainment Doug MacLeod provided on October 23<sup>rd</sup>! Our crowd of 150 gave him a standing ovation! It was most enjoyable to listen to him and the stories he wove in the lyrics of his songs. We all thank Doug and his bass player, Denny Croy, for sharing their exceptional talent with us. Thanks, too, to the Concert Committee for their time planning the concert and to Gordon Goldberg for creating and donating that super poster of Doug! Our first time scheduling a concert on a Wednesday night proved successful. We appreciate feedback from everyone regarding their thoughts on Wednesday vs. Friday evenings. Stay tuned for our spring concert announcement.

**Sunday, November 10, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.**

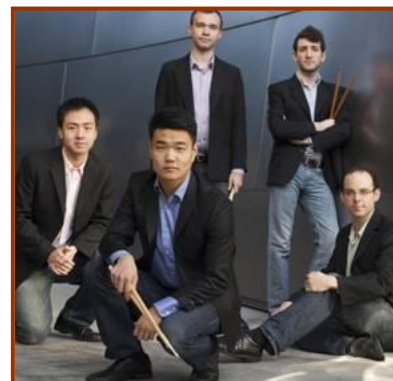
*Sundays At Two*

~ presents ~

**SMOKE & MIRRORS**

*Percussion Ensemble Formed at the Colburn School  
and Winners of the Beverly Hills Auditions*

While the **Smoke & Mirrors Ensemble** has championed the work of percussion masters, they also work with young composers who are just beginning their careers. Their debut album on the Yarlung label includes selections by Steve Reich, Eric Whitacre, Happenstance, Toru Takemitsu, and Ravel, and a world premiere recording by ensemble member Derek Tywoniuk. Together the five musicians weave into filaments of sound and rhythm as if they were one person.



*Free Will Offering*

## Save the Date...

The Chancel Choir will present Parts I & II of Handel's *Messiah* at 7:00 p.m. on **Saturday, December 14**. They will be accompanied by members of the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles. Our own Jessie Tisdale will be the Soprano soloist, and DeForest Kirkwood will be the Tenor soloist. Tickets for this event are \$10 and will go on sale Thanksgiving weekend. It will be a special celebration of the Christmas Season. Call the church office for further information.



## Preschool FUNdraiser



Come help support the Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool by dining at the California Pizza Kitchen on **Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**, (all day) located at 25036 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance 90505. Pick up a flyer in the Narthex and present it at mealtime. The preschool will receive 20% of the cost of your meal. Purchases include dine in, take out, catering and all beverages.



## Basketball Update

*"I hate turkeys. If you stand in the meat section at the grocery store long enough, you start to get mad at turkeys. There's turkey ham, turkey bologna, turkey pastrami. Someone needs to tell the turkey, 'Man, just be yourself.' "*  
~ Mitch Hedberg

Our dates and times for November are:

Mon., Nov 4 <sup>th</sup> , 6-8 pm	Thurs., Nov 7 <sup>th</sup> , 6-8 pm	<b>Sat., Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3-5 pm</b>
Mon., Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> , 6-8 pm	<b>Thurs., Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, Cancelled</b>	Sat., Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2-4 pm
Mon., Nov 18 <sup>th</sup> , 6-8 pm	Thurs., Nov 21 <sup>st</sup> , 6-8 pm	<b>Sun., Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, 1-3 pm</b>
Mon., Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> , 6-8 pm	<b>Thurs., Nov 28<sup>th</sup>, 9-11 am</b>	Sat., Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2-4 pm
		Sat., Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2-4 pm

If you would like to be sent reminders/updates regarding our schedule via email, please forward your email address to John Kwan at [john@rhumc.org](mailto:john@rhumc.org). We look forward to seeing you there!

## Rocktober 2013- Rockin' Fun Time!



On Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 100 junior and senior high youth attended our annual Rocktober event! Bungee Runs. Velcro Wall. Remote Control Car Races. Mechanical Surf Board Ride. That's just the beginning! Our very own Dane Dawson was our grand prize raffle winner for the night! He won a full SCUBA certification program courtesy of Dive N Surf in Redondo Beach! Congrats! It was a fabulous evening and we are already looking forward to next year's Rocktober!

## Logos

On Wednesday, October 16th, a culinary battle of epic proportions was waged in RHUMC's own Kitchen Stadium during LOGOS! Forty youth from around the peninsula gathered together to test their culinary fortitude in this annual showdown! The secret ingredient . . . cake mix. The creation . . . cupcakes.



It was a tight contest all the way around. Some gained extensive points in taste while others gained their points in creativity and presentation. In the end, Team Sweet Genius led by Caela Roach and Taylor Routh came out victorious by the narrowest of margins. Congratulations Team Sweet Genius!



In October the **Club Maintenance** workers completed the following tasks: replaced a broken post that supports banners, tightened loose pew anchors, cleaned light fixtures along the preschool walkway for better vision at night, filled in between uneven sidewalk sections, power washed and resealed the Meditation Garden furniture, corrected a raised up backer board that was a tripping hazard, mounted posters in the Kid Zone office, tightened loose legs on Sacristy tables, cleaned preschool roofs and rain gutters, opened up a plugged pencil holder and cleaned the patio benches. Those helping out in these many tasks included Clarence Fung, Dave Larson, Yasuko Martin, Don Pedersen, Rich Prihode, Oren Sheldon and Jim Showalter.

The next such activities will begin at 8:30 am on **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Please join in this effort so that our facilities will be in good working order for all of the upcoming Holiday activities.



### Health & Wellness Annette Matsuda, RN, BSN Parish Nurse

**"...In Him we live and move and have our being..." Acts 17:28a (NRSV)**

**Emergency information cards for congregation:** On **Sundays, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>**, wallet-sized emergency information cards will be distributed following the worship services by Health and Wellness Committee members. You are encouraged to carry this card with you at all times, so that, should a medical emergency occur while you are at church or elsewhere outside your home, those who come to aid you can do so effectively.

**November Speaker on “Optimal Aging”:** Your Health and Wellness Committee invites you to a presentation by Patti Logan and Roneale Branning from Providence Little Company of Mary, San Pedro, on **November 14<sup>th</sup>** from 12:30-1:30pm, in the sanctuary. There will be a bag lunch from 11:45-12:20 in the Aldersgate Room, prior to the presentation.



**NEW Walking/Hiking Exercise Group:** Your Health and Wellness Committee and Family Ministries Committee are sponsoring a walking/hiking opportunity for our church family. Join us for our first excursion through the South Coast Botanic Garden on **Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**. Meet at the Garden entrance at 10:00 a.m., and we will walk in together. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month are free to the public. Our own Jim Showalter, a docent at the garden, will be walking with us. Mothers, you can bring your young babies and toddlers in strollers, if you like. If you have questions, please contact me at [310-618-8122](tel:310-618-8122) or Rachel Stam, Family Ministries Director, at the church office.



## Family Ministries

**Rachel Stam**  
**Director of Family Ministries**

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and I am thinking about family traditions. Growing up in a Korean-American family, we had the best of both worlds in terms of food. My mother and aunts would prepare a feast with various types of Korean barbecue and side dishes. However, they also made sure to include turkey, stuffing, cranberry jelly, and green bean casserole...all the “usual” Thanksgiving staples. To this day, I prefer the canned green beans/cream of mushroom version of green bean casserole over any other!

A tradition my husband and I started with our kids is to run the Turkey Trot as a family. It is a really fun way to start the day – and it makes us feel a little better about stuffing ourselves silly later on in the day! What is your family’s Thanksgiving or Christmas tradition? I’d love to hear about them; special rituals or activities that help your family bond and connect during the holiday season. Send me an email at [familyministries@rhumc.org](mailto:familyministries@rhumc.org). I’ll be sharing them in the December issue of Cornerstone. Looking forward to hearing from you!



**Lattes on Location** Come by Wesley Hall on **Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** for a complimentary cup (or two) of your favorite coffee drink! Family Ministries Committee is pleased to present Lattes on Location, a professional espresso/cappuccino catering service. A barista will be on hand after morning services to craft a variety of drinks, including lattes, cappuccinos, and mochas. There will also be hot cocoa and steamers available for the kids. After you pick up your beverage of choice, come on in to Wesley Hall for Mission Market and Heifer Plus. There will be a food booth with sweets and desserts. Baked goods and coffee...what could be better? Hope to see you there!

## Purposeful Readers

The Purposeful Readers will next meet on **Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room to discuss Don Miguel Ruiz’s *The Four Agreements*. Amazon.com wrote, “...shamanic teacher and healer Don Miguel Ruiz exposes self-limiting beliefs and presents a simple yet effective code of personal conduct learned from his Toltec ancestors. Full of grace and simple truth,...the four agreements are these: Be impeccable with your word, don’t take anything personally, don’t make assumptions and always do your best. It’s the how and why one should do these things that make this book worth reading and remembering.”



## Children's Ministries

### A Great Place to Grow

**Lisa Williams**  
**Director of Children's Ministries**

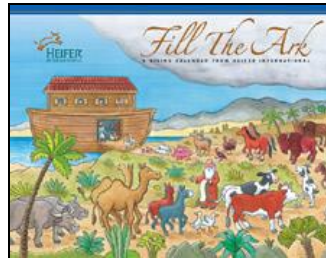
**Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Family Picnic!**



## Children's Ministries

### Mission Month Heifer International

Life-changing gifts... That is what Heifer International provides for families across the globe. A flock of chicks is a precious gift for a hungry child, since a good hen can lay more than 200 eggs a year. This November, Sunday School and KidZone kids will be bringing home “Ark Banks” to fill with coins and donations. All the proceeds will go directly to Heifer International. Please consider donating to this great cause!



Sunday School  
Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>  
Join the Sunday School classes  
in creating our annual  
Chrismon ornaments



Mark your calendars  
**All Church Christmas  
Carnival**  
Sponsored by Kid Zone  
Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>



Senior Pastor	Jonathan Chute	Music Director	Chuck Dickerson
Assoc. Pastor	John Kwan	Organist/Pianist	Althea Waites
Children's Min. & Kid/Mid Zone Dir.	Lisa Williams	3 <sup>rd</sup> Service Ensemble	Patti MacLeod
Preschool Director	Myra Ghabrial	Admin Asst. to Pastor	Michele Nelson
Family Ministries Dir.	Rachel Stam	Church Office Admin	Peggy Roulette
Jr. High Youth	John Kwan	Treasurer	Robin La Tourette
Senior High Youth	Evan Griffiths	Bookkeeper	Nicole Lowery Zakman
Parish Nurse	Annette Matsuda	Custodian	Miguel Portillo
Church Office Phone	310-377-6771	Resident Bishop	Minerva Carcaño
Fax Line	310-544-4123	District Superintendent	Kathy Wilborn
Web Site	<a href="http://www.rhumc.org">www.rhumc.org</a>		

SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS  
8:30 & 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS  
Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
**Next Cornerstone deadline is November 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
[www.rhumc.org](http://www.rhumc.org)