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 February 21st
www.rhumc.org

The Cornerstone

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

February 2014

Whale Watching at its Best!

Did you know that this has been a bumper year for whale sightings? Please join us as we witness one of God's wonderful creations. On **Sunday, March 16th,** we have planned a whale watching expedition aboard the Redondo Beach Voyager with our own whale naturalist, Dave Whitman, as our guide. We will meet at the Redondo Beach Marina at 12:45 p.m., which includes "dock talk" with Dave. The boat will depart promptly at 1:30 p.m. and will return between 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. The cost is only $10 per person and sign-ups will begin out on the patio starting February 9th. You can also email Rachel at familyministries@rhumc.org or stop by the church office. Make sure to bring your binoculars and camera!

from the pastor

"To everything there is a season." The verse from Ecclesiastes reminds us of something we already know, and easily forget. I was reminded of this, along with lots of you, by the passing of Pete Seeger. Though he was not the author of those words, he helped lots of people hear them. I grew up listening to him singing children's songs, traditional folk music and anthems of social justice. It has been a gift to be reminded of that season in my life.

Our lives are experienced in and through many different kinds of seasons. There are the traditional four seasons, of course – no matter that our winter this year is warmer and drier than most people's summers. There's football season, about to come to an end on Sunday. (As far as I can tell there actually is no Lakers season this year.) There are the seasons of childhood, youth and early adulthood, of our working years, early and later retirement and beyond. Some of us are lucky to squeeze in a couple of extra seasons along the way. We try out new possibilities with our work. We respond to a call. We begin relationships with new friends we make along the way.

Sometimes the seasons are only visible to us in retrospect. As we look back, we see rhythms and patterns which were not apparent when we were going through them. But now we realize that things have changed. It's a new season for us, even if we don't know what to call it yet. If we're lucky we'll get to see this new one more clearly one day too.

I believe that God's grace is like that. It comes to us in seasons. It isn't the same every day. God's love is steady. But we are not. Our needs and our hopes change. One day we have blinders on, just trying to get through what's right in front of us. Another time we are more open to suggestion, to mystery and wonder. One day we're overwhelmed with gratitude and joy for the gifts all around us. Another time we can't see so clearly and wonder what's gone wrong. Grace is present in all of these experiences. But it looks different because of where we are.

As we move through the coming days, let's be open to what God is up to in this season. It will not be the same as the last. It may not be what we expected. But God is with us, inviting and encouraging us along the way. As another biblical writer reminds us, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." I think someone put that to music, too.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT
REPAIRING HOMES, BUILDING FAITH, SERVING OTHERS.

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(916) 488-6441
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director@sierraserviceproject.org

JESUS INVITES US TO COME & SEE…

The gospel of John shares the story of how some disciples came to follow Jesus. It was simple. Jesus extended an offer for them to come and see for themselves.

The invitation to "Come & See" is extended to all Jr. & Sr. High youth in our church and community. (Yes, invite a friend!)

Sunday, February 9th, at 4:00 p.m., a team of seasoned campers and counselors will share with you about this year's great SSP adventures. We will have paperwork ready for you to fill out, dates of activities, and don't forget your checkbook.

Jr. High Dates & Location
Saturday, July 12 – Friday, July 18
Chiliquin, Oregon
(We will fly for part of the trip –
how cool is that?)

Sr. High Dates & Location
Sunday, August 3 – Sunday, August 10
Stockton, CA
During this week we will be the only group at Stockton. We are excited to reach out to our community and friends. Invite anyone you know to "Come & See."

For questions, call the church office at 310-377-6771 and they will direct your call.

United Methodist Women

Did you know RHUMC has several United Methodist Women fellowships that meet on a monthly basis? New members are always welcome. Learn more about our Fellowships by contacting the leaders indicated below.

Agape Circle: Review books, exchange recipes, share your joys and concerns and study various subjects. Conctact: Stevie Lorentzen 310-375-4899
Martha's Circle: Spiritual growth through learning about yourself, our church and our missions. Share your time and talents to support Mision work in the world and in our community. Contact: Leilani Ueda 310-530-9068
Naomi Circle: Provide fellowship and nurture to single women as well as support the UMW and their endeavors. Contact: Marcia Sollee 310-542-7985
Sister Circle: We are in community through Bible study, crafts, social activities and fundraising efforts. We reach out with financial support and gifts to our church and local charities with an emphasis on helping women. Contact: Chris Larson 310-328-3909
Crafters: Create products for the bazaar and enjoy fellowship by sharing our cares and joys. Contact: Lucy Ford 310-791-0038
Evening Moms Fellowship: Gather for dinner. It is a time of sharing and supporting one another through conversation and much laughter. Contact: Kathy Platnick
Shawl Ministry: Knit shawls with loving care for those in bereavement, ill or in need of some TLC. We will teach knitting to anyone wanting to learn. Contact: Karen Sakura 310-375-1216.

RHUMC's Golden Anniversary Sunday

It has become a tradition at RHUMC to celebrate everyone in our congregation who has been married for 50 or more years. This year, **February 16th**, has been designated Golden Anniversary Sunday. Please contact the church office if you would like to add your name and wedding date to our list – if you were on the list last year, we have that information. Wedding photos and stories of how you met will be on display. Please bring your wedding photo to the church office with your name on it. Those who have not previously submitted courtship stories, may submit them along with your wedding photo. Photos may be retrieved after the evening service or from the church office. Contact the church office with questions at 310-377-6771 or churchoffice@rhumc.org.

Church Ushers

Do you enjoy welcoming people? Can you occasionally be at church a little early? The Worship Committee is looking for warm, welcoming people to help usher at our worship and memorial services. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the church office at 310-377-6771 or Dale Gehr at 310-377-6548.

Flower Sign-Ups

Please consider dedicating Sunday flowers for birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms – for any occasion you are celebrating. Memorial dedications are welcome as well. It is easy to do. Add your name to the flower chart hanging in the narthex or contact the church office at 310-377-6771. The cost is $40 and you may take the arrangement home after the Sunday services. Checks may be made payable to RHUMC with a notation on the memo line indicating church flowers.

RHUMC Presents of Valentine's Day Concert

We are fortunate to present Gravity 180 for our next concert on **Wednesday, February 12th**, at 7:30 p.m. This group of 3 extraordinarily talented performers are: Clydene Jackson, Harold Payne and Oliver C. Brown. They have performed throughout the LA circuit and Japan. Their most recently released self-titled album, "Gravity 180" was released by a premier Japanese label which garnered significant airplay and top 20 chart action. Clydene Jackson is a two-time winner of the NARAS MVP Best Female Vocalist Award. Harold Payne has had over 100 recordings of his songs, ranging from Patti LaBelle and Rod Stewart to long-time collaborator, Bobby Womack. Oliver Brown's driving force brings a unique energy, power and a vivid palette of sounds as he moves from chimes, bells, congas and cymbals. Be sure to put February 12th on your calendar!

Free Admission / Donations Appreciated

Prelude to a Good Friday Requiem

The Chancel Choir will present A German Requiem by Johannes Brahms at 7:30 p.m. on **Good Friday, April 18th**. The work calls for chorus, orchestra and soprano and bass soloists, and we are pleased that our own Kathy Kerstein will serve as our soprano soloist. Roberto Gomez, who recently sang Messiah at our church, will sing the bass solos. Some of our congregation's instrumentalists will join the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles to make up the orchestra for this presentation. The text will be presented in English. We hope you will mark your calendar now and plan to attend. Here is just a little more information!

A requiem is a mass for the dead. The fact that it is a mass reveals that it is a ceremony of the Roman Catholic Church. Accordingly, the liturgy employed in a mass is usually comprised of Latin phrases commonly used in Catholic ceremonies, like Kyrie Eleison (Lord Have Mercy), Dies Irae (Day of Wrath), Offertorium (Referring to the Communion Service), Sanctus (Holy) and Agnus Dei (Lamb of God).

Many composers have set this requiem liturgy to music. Among them are Mozart (who's Requiem was the piece he was writing at the time of his death), Berlioz, Verdi, Dvorak, Faure, Durufle, and John Rutter. The Chancel Choir has previously presented the Mozart, Faure, Durufle and Rutter Requiems.

Brahms broke from this practice, and his Requiem is different. He refused to use the text of the Catholic Funeral for his Requiem, choosing instead a more humanistic text that expresses hope of the future. For example, in the second movement of his Requiem, rather than speaking of the day of wrath (Dies Irae is typically the second movement of a requiem), Brahms instead declares that the Redeemed of the Lord shall come rejoining unto Zion! Because he refused to follow the standard encyclical, Brahms' Requiem is accused of being more secular in nature. This is certainly debatable. Who would think "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place" is less ethereal and majestic than a Latin reference to the day of wrath?!

The Requiem is one of Brahms' finest works. It features warm choral passages and long strains of lush, gentle accompaniment. You won't want to miss this. We hope you will plan now for this evening of music to be part of your upcoming Holy Week celebrations.

Preschool FUNraiser

Escape the ordinary and have lunch or dinner at the Elephant Bar Restaurant on **Tuesday, February 11th**, and 20% of your meal will be donated to the Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool. Be sure to bring this notice with you or stop by and pick up a flyer in the church office. Hope to see you there!

The Elephant Bar Restaurant
21227 Hawthorne Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90503
310-543-5595

We Asked and You Delivered!

From Roxanne Morse…
I would like to send a big "Thank You" to all who rang the bell for the Salvation Army this Christmas season. We raised a total of $1,112.75! You came in the dark and brought spirit and a smile to people as they passed our kettle. You made a big difference! I hope you will answer the call next November as we gear up to do it again. You were brave enough to try something new and the result was dynamic. I thank you on behalf of the Army for your selflessness at this busy time, and please come next year!

Club Maintenance

A number of jobs were completed recently by Club Maintenance. They include power washing the steps in preparation for resealing and replacing the furnace and air conditioning filters. Those participating included Bill Bails, Clarence Fung, Gene Koester, Rick Martin, Don Pedersen, Rich Prihode, Oren Sheldon, Jim Showalter, Peter Williams, and newcomer Bob Chamberlin. Welcome aboard Bob.

The next Club Maintenance activities will start at 8:30 a.m. on **Saturday, February 8th**. Please join in this effort to reduce expenses to the church and to keep things working well around the campus.

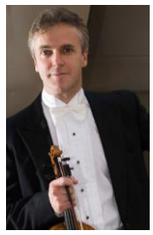
Sunday, February 9, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Sundays At Two

Los Angeles Philharmonic Concertmaster

MARTIN CHALIFOUR

with Pianist **TIMOTHY DURKOVIC**



Martin Chalifour began his tenure as Principal Concertmaster of the Los Angeles Philharmonic in 1995. Is a graduate of the Montreal Conservatory. Martin has concertized extensively, playing hundreds of concerto performances from a repertoire of more than 50 works with the world's leading orchestras and conductors.

Los Angeles-based pianist **Timothy Durkovic** is the Grand Prize Winner of the 1996 Los Angeles Liszt Competition as well as a winner of the Beverly Hills Auditions.

Free Will Offering

Children's Ministries

A Great Place to Grow

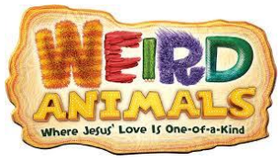
Lisa Williams
Director of Children's Ministries

God's grace can be experienced in many ways…watching a beautiful sunset, smelling the ocean breeze as the waves crash upon the shore **OR** getting wild at **Vacation Bible Camp**.
Spring VBCs are March 24th – 28th and April 7th – 11th.
This year our summer VBC is August 4th – 8th.

Adults, if you are looking for a new way to experience God's grace, then VBC might be the place for you to volunteer. Save the dates, tell your friends and talk to me on the patio to learn more about the gift you start out giving and be amazed by the gifts you receive.

Save the Dates:

Spring Break VBC's – **Workshop Wonders** *Imagine and build with God*
March 24th – 28th
April 7th – 11th



Summer VBC – **Weird Animals** *Where Jesus' Love is One of a Kind*
August 4th – 8th

Valentine Care Packages

Please let us know if you have a special person in your life that might be away at college, a home-bound person, or someone who might really benefit from a lovely package made by the children of the church. Please call the church office at 310-377-6771 with their name and address or e-mail Lisa Williams at kidzone.rhumc@gmail.com.

Gearing up for Summer Camp 2014!

If you or someone you know would like to apply for a summer job at Kid Zone, applications are now available.

Contact Lisa Nagy
Kidzone.midzone@gmail.com
310-377-7302

2014-2015 Fall Registration
Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool
310-377-0742

Registration Dates

Monday, 2/24 – Friday, 2/28
RHUMC Members and Preschool Committee Members

Monday, 3/3 – Friday, 3/7
CURRENTLY ENROLLED and RETURNING FAMILIES
All registration cards MUST BE RETURNED by Friday, 3/7.

Monday, 3/17 – Wednesday, 3/21
Waiting List Families
The waiting list families will be contacted by phone to come and register based on available spaces left after the registration. Boy/girl ratio is also taken into consideration.

Wednesday, 4/2 – New Families/Open Enrollment
After all the above registration, if we have an available space, the child will be enrolled based on boy/girl ratio in class and age. If not, the child will be put on the waiting list and will be contacted as soon as a space becomes available.

Family Ministries

Rachel Stam
Director of Family Ministries

One of the best parts of my job is getting to know the wonderful people who attend our church. On the weekend of January 24th-26th, I, along with 21 women from church, had the privilege of attending the **Second Annual Women's Retreat** at La Casa de Maria Conference Center in Santa Barbara. The theme of the weekend, "Brokenness and Blessings," was a time of prayer, introspection, and discussion…not to mention fun! Many thanks to Patty Koester and her team for putting this amazing event together.

The Hiking Group

The group in front of the chapel after Sunday worship

Hiking News

Fellowship and fitness… what could be better? On Tuesday, January 21, twelve of us met at the hiking trails at Trump National Golf Club for an invigorating hike. Our next hike is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 18th,** at 10:00 a.m., at Malaga Cove. Join us for exercise, fellowship, and spectacular views. Details to follow in the church bulletin. Hope you can join us!

Purposeful Readers will be taking a break for the next few months. Stay tuned for upcoming dates.

Health & Wellness

Annette Matsuda, RN, BSN
Parish Nurse

"Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers."

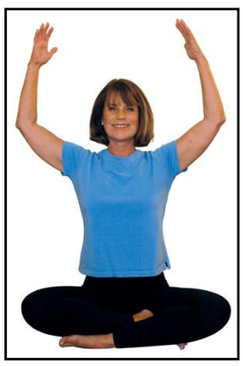
3 John 1:2 (NASB)

Introducing a New Exercise Class: Yogalates For Mature Bodies

This is a complete multidisciplinary workout that blends mat Pilates, resistance training and yoga. You'll increase core body strength, trim your waist, tone and firm arms and legs, and increase flexibility – all in one fun class.

It is simple, safe and easy: designed specifically for mature adults who want to maintain an active lifestyle. All body types and fitness levels are welcome. **Both men and women are invited to participate**.

Our instructor will be Gale Crandell, credentialed college instructor and adult educator, certified senior fitness instructor, registered yoga teacher, and 30-year practitioner. She has been teaching in the South Bay Area for over 12 years. She comes highly endorsed by those in our Core Exercise class who experienced her enthusiasm and capabilities as an instructor when she substituted for our instructors in the recent past.



The class will be held on Wednesdays from 9:00-10:00 a.m. beginning this February 5th in the Aldersgate Room. The fee will be $10 per session.

To register for the class and/or to ask any questions that you may have, contact Gale Crandell at 310-217-9093 or gale@primetimeyoga.com. Please provide your full name, phone number, and email address.

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	3rd 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	Facilities Manager	Rick Mitchell
		Custodian	Miguel Portillo

Church Office Phone	310-377-6771	Resident Bishop	Minerva Carcaño
Fax Line	310-544-4123	District Superintendent	Kathey Wilborn
Web Site	www.rhumc.org		