



ROLLING HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Cornerstone

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

September 2017



Rally Sunday

September 10th

We celebrate the start of
the new school year
and an exciting fall season at
Rolling Hills United Methodist Church.

**Pastries and fresh fruit
after both morning services**

**El Pollo Loco
after 3rd Service**

**Water Slide and games for the kids!
Please bring a swimsuit, towel and
sunscreen.**

from the pastors

Jonathan Chute



It's hard to believe that Hurricane Katrina was twelve years ago, almost to the day. Our hearts go out to the millions of people in Houston, coastal Texas, and Louisiana whose lives have been disrupted, or even devastated, by flooding caused by Hurricane Harvey. I am grateful that the loss wasn't worse than we've seen. But I remember how much more there was to come, and how long the recovery took, after that earlier flood. Those with family and friends in the area have felt especially helpless. I don't believe we yet have any idea of what it will take to rebuild homes, businesses, communities, and lives there.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has been on the scene since early on, along with other partners. Church member Nancy Rasmussen is there with the Red Cross. There has been an outpouring of resources, from individual efforts to churches, businesses and others. Our congregation is already part of the response, and we will want to do more.

One of the most effective things we can do is to make a donation to UMCOR. You can make a check out to RHUMC, and mark "Hurricane Harvey" on the memo line. We will pass the funds to UMCOR directly. You can also make a relief bucket with supplies for those helping to clean up. For more details, refer to the article later in the Cornerstone. While we felt powerless as the storm hit, we are actually not powerless. And we are not alone.

For me, that's one of the great gifts of being a *community* of faith, rather than simply a person of faith. We come together to accomplish God's purposes when they are beyond any one of us, individually. The church is a body, with many parts working together. We can see it in the midst of a disaster like Harvey, but it's visible each week when we gather for worship as well.

Lots of us have been up to good things this summer. Some have travelled great distances. Others have stayed close to home. Some have surrounded themselves with family and friends. Others have gotten much needed rest. Labor Day marks the traditional end of summer, though school has already started for many. I hope it's been a good season for you and those you love.

I have to say that I look forward to being back at full strength on Sundays! The choir has one more week off before they return to fill the chancel with warm hearts, beautiful music and smiling faces. Rally Sunday is September 10, and I was just wondering what it would be like if we ALL came to church that day! You are such lovely people, and when you're together I can tell how glad you are to see each other. It encourages us to be part of something bigger. Our prayer is more hopeful, our singing more confident. Psalm 133 reminds us, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

I look forward to being with you, and working together with you, to make a difference.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron



Dear Friends,

When I travel, I find it interesting to worship with other communities of faith. This summer, I had the opportunity to spend time on a Sunday morning with a congregation in a part of the world I visit from time to time. From past experience I know the people to be friendly, enthusiastic, and welcoming. I have generally always appreciated the worship and the pastoral leadership. The sanctuary is well-designed and comfortable, with a beautiful view of a nearby mountain. I anticipated that I would worship happily.

My expectations were mostly met. I especially enjoyed the wide-eyed child who was sitting in front of me. The community was obviously excited about their special guest preacher. The quality of hospitality, liturgy, and music was high. The one thing that made me feel disoriented and confused was the completed absence of Bibles and hymnals among the chairs where the worshippers sit. As I remember it, there used to be Bibles! This time, the passage for the day was printed in the Order of Service. The racks that once held the familiar book form of the scriptures were empty.

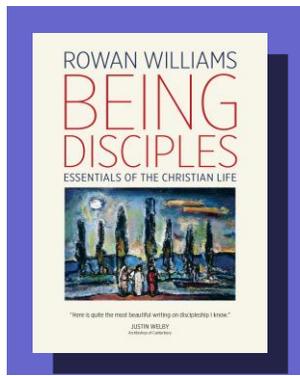
When asked, someone was kind enough to eventually find and offer a Bible for use during the service. I was appreciative of the effort, and I wondered: what is the rationale here? Are they hoping people will bring their own Bibles? Are they trying to keep things simple so that people don't have to keep opening and closing different books? Have they ordered all new copies of the Bible which won't be here until next week? It remains a mystery for me to puzzle, and it highlights one of the familiar aspects of travel: it's great to go off and have an adventure AND it's great to come home again.

Here at home (RHUMC), I'm glad to be among warm and welcoming people who value and support Bible access and availability, as well as Bible study, in clear and visible ways. I like it that you have the option of opening the scriptures to follow along while the liturgist reads the text; that you can see what comes before or after our passage for the day; that you can peruse another part of the Bible if something said by the preacher reminds you of a familiar phrase or favorite quote. I like it that some of you meet each Sunday in the Aldersgate Room after you worship for further exploration and discussion of the Bible. I like it that from time to time you take advantage of the opportunity to participate in a short term Bible study that might happen during the week. The world is full of interesting variety AND it's always good to come home to what we know and love.

I hope you have enjoyed your summer and encountered some interesting puzzles of your own. Now that September has come, I would be glad for you join in the three week study and conversation on "Being Disciples" (Wednesday evenings, Sept. 13, 20, and 27 or Thursday mornings Sept. 14, 21, and 28). We can compare experiences and encourage one another!

Até logo (which is Portuguese for "See you soon!"),

April



A SEPTEMBER STUDY IN FAITH

Wednesday evenings at 7pm
September 13, 20 & 27

OR

Thursday mornings at 10:30am
September 14, 21 & 28

in the Aldersgate Room at
Rolling Hills United Methodist Church

Taught by April Herron and open to all who are interested considering what it means to follow Jesus. Please indicate your plans to attend by emailing churchoffice@rhumc.org or calling [310 377 6771](tel:3103776771).

The study will be based on the book by Rowan Williams, formerly Archbishop of Canterbury and now Master of Magdalene College and the University of Cambridge. You can purchase the book from the church office for \$10 or order it online at cokesbury.com or other merchant. **Read chapter one in preparation for the first session.**

News from Martha Rowlett

It happened! Exactly the way we knew it would. On the nano second that we were expecting this to occur, the black daytime moon moved between the sun and my North Carolina home and with beautiful flashes of light precisely totally covered the sun. At 2:38pm on an August afternoon we were in total darkness for 2 minutes and a few seconds. The temperature dropped and we could see the stars. Through our protective glasses we were able to see things about the sun that are otherwise beyond our visual tolerance. Scientists from NASA and around the world had come to an old satellite tracking station tucked away in the mountains near me to observe through high powered telescopes. Also as expected, I was completely awe-struck. The sun and the moon are visible doing their thing every day. We can take them for granted. But when our two primary sources of light get together like this and leave us in the dark, the wonder of the universe strikes home. We are created parts of this same universe, but nobody can predict where we will be or what we will be doing at any time in the future. We have free will. God has created us to be part of this universe and calls us to serve God's loving will in the ongoing creation. Wonder and awe at what God has done and is doing on this cosmic scale makes me eager to know what God wants me to be doing in my little space. As I read the CORNERSTONE, I think that I am observing one community of people who individually and together are listening to God's loving and creative call and responding in so many ways.

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) – Hurricane Harvey



If you would like to assist those affected by Hurricane Harvey, visit the church website at www.rhumc.org for information on ways to help. Or, you may donate to UMCOR here at the church. Please write your check payable to RHUMC with "Hurricane Harvey" on the memo line. We will pass the funds to UMCOR directly. You may place your check in the offering plate on Sunday, drop it off at the church office during the week or mail it to us.

Missions Committee Fall Kick-off BBQ

The Missions Committee is hosting a Fall Kick-Off Barbeque Lunch on **Saturday, September 9**, at the home of Barbara and Bill Leone. There will be fun, fellowship and perhaps a game or two. Spouses and friends are welcome. If you have an interest in the Committee or would like to participate, please contact the Leones at wcleone@aol.com (310-377-2628) or Debra Shrader at teach2play@gmail.com (424-242-4438).

Backpack Project



Now is the time! All those travel sized toiletries you've been collecting from your travels this summer can be put in the bin labeled "Travel Sized Toiletries" located in the Narthex or Welcome Center. The Missions Committee is putting backpacks together to help those in need in San Pedro. We will be collecting during the month of September. Thanks for joining us in this worthwhile project.



*Breathing Deeply,
Living Freely
RHUMC Women's Retreat
Led by April Herron*

*For every soul that longs for freedom and hope,
a time apart with friends to rest in God's grace
and receive God's mercy.*



When: January 19-21, 2018
(Friday afternoon through Sunday lunch)
Where: La Casa de Maria Retreat Center
800 El Bosque Road, Santa Barbara
Cost: \$350/person (double occupancy only), which
includes 2 nights' lodging and 6 meals
\$100 deposit due at the time of registration



To register,

- Stop by the church office during weekdays between 9-5, or
- Mail in your registration and deposit to church office, or
- Put your registration and check in the offering plate, or
- Stop by the patio after worship on Sunday, September 10.

Registration will close on **Monday, September 18 at 5pm**. If sign-ups exceed the available space, a lottery will be held to fill the spots. Final payment will be due by December 1, 2017.

For more information, contact Patty Koester at (310)530-5185 or pattyk414@att.net.

Women's Retreat Registration
January 19-21, 2018
La Casa de Maria, Santa Barbara

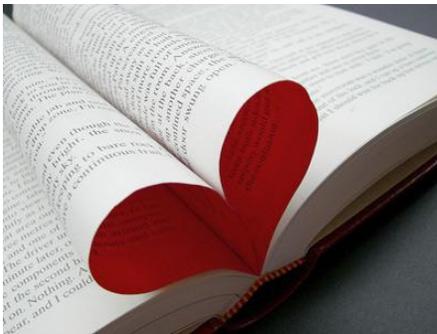
Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Please include a deposit of \$100 with your registration.
Make your check payable to "RHUMC" with
"Women's Retreat" in the memo section.
We will not deposit the check until your space has been
guaranteed. The deposit is **non-refundable** unless another
person can take your place.



4th Grade Bible Presentation

Bibles are being presented to children who have completed third grade and are beginning 4th grade at our church services on **September 10th**. To ensure we include your child, please contact Kimmie at

Health and Wellness opportunity:

Denise Klatte, Physical Therapist, Returns to RHUMC



Your requests for Denise to return to teach a class have been heard! Denise will conduct an exercise class focusing on balance and strength all four, consecutive Thursdays this October, 9:30-10:30am, at the church. There will be no course fee, as Denise's instructional service is provided by Providence Little Company of Home Health, however donations made to the Foundation will be accepted.



Details will follow in the October *Cornerstone*.

RHUMC Concert Committee

Be sure to save the date, **Friday, September 15**, at 7:30 p.m. Jessie Tisdale will perform an eclectic program of classical opera, Broadway and folk music in our sanctuary. This year she was a Recommended Artist of the Beverly Hills Auditions. We all look forward to listening to Jessie, so be sure to spread the news to all of your friends!



Job Opening

There is an opening for the position of Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor here at RHUMC. If you are interested, or know of someone who would be excellent, please contact the church office for a position description.

A Heartfelt Thank You from Rita Guiton and Family

Dear Church Family,

It's difficult to express in words our appreciation for the love, support, and friendship you all showed during Leonard's illness. Leonard loved our church and I know he is looking down on all of us with love and gratitude.

Thank you.
The Guiton Family

Second Sundays at Two *Sunday, September 10, at 2:00 p.m.*

~ presents ~

CATHERINE GREGORY *flute*

~ and ~

DAVID KAPLAN *piano*

*"Magically mysterious"... "Ms. Gregory left a deep impression...
her sound rich and fully present." ~ The New York Times*

New York-based Australian flutist **Catherine Gregory**'s solo engagements have included appearances at the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts in Chicago, the National Gallery of Australia, the Australian-American Fulbright Commission in Washington, D.C., and the 10th International Flute Festival of Chile. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, Alice Tully Hall, and at the Lincoln Center Festival.



New York-based pianist **David Kaplan** is well known to aficionados in Southern California, where he grew up and attended UCLA. *New York Times* chief music critic Anthony Tommasini picked David's performance at Manhattan's *(Le) Poisson Rouge* of Schumann's *Davidsbündlertänze* interspersed with commissioned compositions as one of the **Best Classical Music Performances of 2015**. David was recently awarded the Doctorate of Musical Arts at Yale, where he studied with Claude Frank.

Free-Will Offering

RHUMC Thanksgiving Dinner - *SAVE THE DATE!*



Thanksgiving is coming and our Thanksgiving dinner will be held on **Saturday, November 18**, at 6:30 p.m. You won't want to miss the best turkey dinner you will ever eat! See you there!

Second Sunday Supper

We would be delighted if you would join us on **Rally Sunday, September 10**, after 3rd service. The menu will include chicken, rice, beans and salad from El Pollo Loco. The requested meal donation is \$5 per person, \$15 per family. 3rd service takes place every Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

Parents Night Out – Saturday, September 16

Moms and dads can enjoy some grown-up time while the children have a blast! We will be making crafts, playing games, and watching a movie. Pizza dinner will be provided.

- When: Saturday, September 16, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Who: Infants to 5th graders
Cost: \$20/child, \$5/each additional child per family
Registration: Email churchoffice@rhumc.org with your child's name and age or call 310-377-6771.



Kid Zone and Mid Zone After School Registration For School Year 2017-2018

To register for this school year please stop by the office to pick up registration packets.



For more information call 310-377-7302 or email kidzone.midzone@gmail.com.
Hope to see you this school year!



Vacation Bible Camp Thank You!



We had an **AMAZING** week as we worshiped God with 215 children.

Thank you so much to each and every one of you who helped to make VBS a success. This week would not be possible without our station leaders, crew leaders, set-up team and the congregation's prayers and support. Thank you for making a huge difference!

ESCAPE ROOM

YOUTH KICK-OFF

SEPTEMBER 20TH
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

ALL 6TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO THE ESCAPE ROOM KICK-OFF! ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE? DRESS IN YOUR FAVORITE MISSION IMPOSSIBLE OUTFIT AND BRING A FRIEND! DINNER IS PROVIDED. RSVP TO KIMMIE AT [KIMMIE@RHUMC.ORG](mailto:kimmie@rhumc.org)

Only an hour to solve clues and save the **WORLD!**



Club Maintenance



Club Maintenance tackled a number of cleaning, repairing, pruning and painting jobs in August. Despite it being vacation time, a large group of workers showed up to help keep our church campus clean and functional! Thanks to Bill Bails, Steve Boilard, Bob Chamberlin, Clarence Fung, Dave Larson, Keith Levan, Gene Koester, Yasuko Martin, John Nelson, Eric Rasmussen, Oren Sheldon, Jim Showalter, and Neal Stoltz for your good work! As is customary, work was followed by lunch together.

If you are interested in joining this group for service, fun, food and fellowship, mark your calendar for September 9 at 8:30 a.m. Questions? Call Gene Koester at 310-530-5185.

Senior Pastor	Jonathan Chute	Associate Pastor	April Herron
Senior Pastor Emeritus	Martha Rowlett	Music Director	Chuck Dickerson
Preschool Director	Myra Ghabrial	Organist/Pianist	Althea Waites
Parish Nurse	Annette Matsuda	Music Dir., 3 rd Service	Patti MacLeod
Children/Youth Director	Kimmie Stradling	Church Office Admin.	Peggy Roulette
Kid Zone Director	Megan Pelc	Admin. Assistant	Ana Ysabel Lopez
Treasurer	Robin La Tourette	Custodian	Miguel Portillo
Church Business Mgr.	Nicole Lowery Zakman		
Junior High Youth	Nicole Benson		

Church Office Phone	310-377-6771	Resident Bishop	Grant J. Hagiya
Fax Line	310-544-4123	District Superintendent	Mark Nakagawa
Web Site	www.rhumc.org		

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 September 22
www.rhumc.org