The Cornerstone

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

April 2018

Navigating Role Transitions

A Seminar With Dr. Michelle Dexter
Monday, April 16, 2018, 7:00 pm
Aldersgate Room

Change is the constant we experience throughout our lives. We undergo change in our physical bodies, preferences, and locations. In addition, we often experience change in what we do with our time.

We often identify what we do, *our roles*, with who we are. We can have various responses to changes in our roles. If the change is something we wanted or pursued, we may experience positive reactions. However, it can be more challenging if the transition is unexpected, unwanted, or coupled with a loss.

This presentation will focus on how to effectively navigate role transitions with acceptance and open arms. We will discuss common role transitions, responses to these changes, and strategies to navigate these transitions with both flexibility and purpose. Please join with others in our exceptional community as we support each other and learn together.

Please indicate your plans to attend by calling or emailing:
(310) 377-6771
churchoffice@rhumc.org

*from the pastor*s *Jonathan Chute*

By the time you read this we'll likely be right in the middle of Easter. It is a busy time for us, but more than that it is a rich and full time. The events of Holy Week, from the parade of palm branches, to the bread broken and cup shared at the Last Supper, to the pain and grief of Good Friday, are moments of grace, each with its own part to play in the story of salvation. My favorite New Testament professor, Krister Stendahl, observed that no one *should* be a Christian who could not be one on Good Friday, but that no one *could* be a Christian without the hope of Easter.

So we give thanks and celebrate the love of God, with us through our deepest struggles, with us through utter defeat and loss, leading us still into the light of joy and peace. As we move through these coming days, may we learn to trust, as the disciples did, the renewing power of the resurrection. May God's grace lead us into new relationships of hope, new mission, new opportunities to love and serve as Christ did.

There is much to be grateful for already this year. A capable team of eager volunteers took part in our Habitat for Humanity "build day" in Long Beach on the last weekend of March. There were painters, caulkers, fitters and finishers. There were lunch makers and ladder climbers. It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood. The weather was lovely, and the spirit of encouragement all around. That followed one of the most hopeful Youth Sundays of recent years. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be part of the growth of these younger members of our family, and we were blessed by their words and their spirits.

Speaking of encouragement, our first two months of the year were strong ones financially as well. Giving in churches goes up and down over the year. We know this, and plan for it. Spring is typically a generous time, as we head to Easter. Summer is a little lighter, as people travel to see family and friends. Fall is stronger, and Christmas is glorious. But at the end of February we were ahead of our expectations by almost $40,000! Some of that is thanks to families who made their 2018 contributions last year. But all of it is a result of the generous spirit of our congregation. As we move through the year before us, your gifts strengthen our witness and enable our mission in the world. Well done, and thank you!

It's true. None of us could be a Christian without the hope of Easter. But none of us could be a Christian without each other, either. Together, as the body of Christ, we get to continue the ministry he began some 2,000 years ago. Christ is alive. Christ is risen!

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

Dear Friends,

Easter is a season of surprises, the most notable of which is the amazing power of Christ's life to move beyond death! The disciples were shocked by the crucifixion of Jesus, flummoxed by the disappearance of his body from the tomb, and stunned by his resurrection appearances among them. Jesus had tried to prepare them. Even so, they were surprised by his real-but-different-than-before presence in the garden, in the locked room, by the lakeshore, on the road to Emmaus, on the mountaintop. Easter, as those first disciples discovered, is more than one Sunday. Easter invites us to expect surprises during the course of making our way through the world as followers of Jesus. Easter teaches us to draw upon God's grace, peace, and hope as we face the various circumstances of our lives.

An element of surprise characterizes several of our current opportunities for learning, serving, and growing:

What are the links between faith and architecture? Come find out at a seminar offered by Wayne Kalayjian on Tuesday, April 10, at 7 pm. The connections may or may not be what you expected!

How can we faithfully navigate our changing roles when we anticipate or are surprised by a death, a birth, a retirement, an illness, the shrinking or expansion of our family, the start or loss of a relationship, a child growing up, a change in position or job description? If you have recently asked yourself, or can imagine asking yourself, "Who am I now and what should I be doing?" you will find good guidance and support by taking part in the Role Transitions workshop offered by Dr. Michelle Dexter on Monday, April 16 at 7 pm.

Do the actions and behaviors of authors and artists influence or change our perception and understanding of their work? Those who have read Sherman Alexie's book, "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" will gather on Monday, April 30, at 7 pm, to continue a discussion of the theme "Doors Between Worlds" as expressed in works of fiction. I will moderate the conversation.

I'm pretty sure nobody's life goes exactly as expected! The community of faith exists so that we can accompany one another and encourage one another through both hard awakenings and happy surprises. The experience and perspective each individual brings is part of what makes us all stronger, so I look forward to spending time with you.

Happy Easter!

April

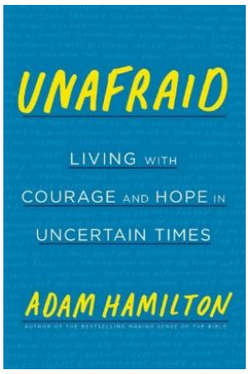
Easter Message from Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus

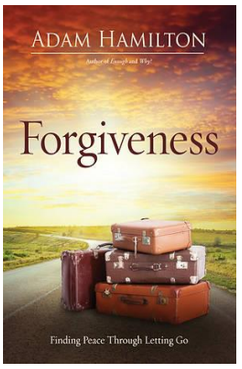
RHUMC April Fool's Day

Nobody sponsors April Fool's Day and sees that it gets on calendars every year. Now the day passes almost unnoticed. When I was a child, people would pull pranks and tell people things that were not true and then with delight yell "April Fool!" Some newspapers at one time printed a single alarming fake article on the front page as a prank to observe the day. But that ran its course. Somebody probably sued. Nobody knows for sure where it all started. One theory is that it came from something Chaucer wrote centuries ago. But there in my datebook is April Fool's Day in the same size print and right under the words "Easter Sunday," claiming equal status with a day celebrated by billions of people all around the world as the high point in their faith pilgrimage for the year. In a sense, every day offers us this choice. Is it going to be a day of faith or uncertainty, of truth telling or misrepresentation, of helping people find their way or of misleading them, of hope sharing or anxiety producing? In 2018, we gather on April 1 to celebrate again the hopeful message of Easter and in our worship, to affirm the side we join in this eternal choice.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Our emphasis recently is in how we can live better lives through studying the Bible. Two areas in particular have stimulated much discussion: forgiveness and fear, both of which the Bible addresses through stories, parables and examples. For the rest of this year we will be guided by two beautifully written books by Adam Hamilton with much to teach us about how to live with courage, hope, grace, joy and freedom. With the Bible's help and conversation among our fellow seekers, we will experience what it means to embrace forgiveness and to live with courage and hope even in uncertain times. All are welcome to come and experience the Bible with a small interactive group that can enrich and strengthen our lives.





CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

THROUGH THE AGES

Presented by Wayne Kalayjian, PE, SE
Tuesday, April 10, 2018, 7 pm
Aldersgate Room

Churches are the bedrock of our Christian faith. They are rich in symbolism, and their silhouettes shape the fabric of every city and town. But have you ever asked why they look the way they do? This presentation will reveal the church as an architectural form: when it began, where it took shape, and how it evolved. To solve this puzzle we will touch on 2,000 years of history, including the Early Church, Byzantium, the Cathedrals of Medieval Europe, Saint Peter's in Rome, the Reformation, New England meetinghouses, and the Spanish Mission network. Along the way, we will discover how faith, community, artistic expression, theology, politics, society, technology, and colorful personalities have continually changed church architecture. These tales and traditions will strengthen our faith and add meaning to the way we worship.

Please indicate your plans to attend by calling or emailing:
(310) 377-6771
churchoffice@rhumc.org

Shawl Ministry Group Needs You!

You don't know how to knit? We'll show you how. Knit 3, purl 3. That's it! Easy stitches for the comforting shawls we make for those in need of comfort. Both those who knit, as well as those who receive the shawls, are loved and blessed.

The shawls we make give solace to those who are ill, and bring hope to those who are in despair. After we make a shawl we bless it, and a blessing is included for the receiver. We need your loving hands to knit for a good cause: to date we've donated over 255 shawls.

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 10:30 a.m. in Martha's Room. Our next meeting is April 11th. For more information contact Karen Sakura at 310-375-1216.

"Shawls… made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles…" *- Janet Bristol*

Mission News

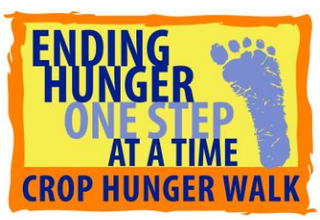
Habitat for Humanity

Thanks to all who volunteered to help with the Habitat build on March 24. The day was a great success. It turned out that we had more volunteers from RHUMC than the Habitat site could safely handle, so several people rescheduled to work on an individual basis later this spring. Thank you, thank you! Painting, caulking, and laying flooring were just a few of the items accomplished by our crew. We especially appreciated Jackie Showalter and Patty Koester and their team who brought a wonderful lunch for everyone.

While at the build we learned about a special build day for women (over age 16), sponsored by Thrivent Financial, on Saturday, May 5 at the same site at 1950 Henderson Ave., Long Beach. If you're interested, please call Kirstin Wilson at 310 372-3520 or email kirstin.wilson@thrivent.com by May 1, 2018. Lunch and a pink tee shirt will be provided.

If anyone else would like to individually volunteer (over age 16) please contact Chris Untiet, Director of Faith Relations for Habitat at chrisu@habitatla.org.

CROP Walk – Sunday, May 20th, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.,
South Coast Botanical Garden.



The Annual Peninsula-Harbor Crop Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, May 20, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the South Coast Botanic Garden. It is a stroller friendly course. This fundraiser which supports local, national, and international programs is designed to help alleviate hunger – 25% of the funds raised from the walk support local programs and 75% go to national and international programs sponsored by Church World Service. More information is available at https://www.crophungerwalk.org/peninsulaharborca and at cwsglobal.org. An excellent opportunity for a healthy and fun day, while helping feed hungry people at the same time! Lunch will be available for purchase. Registration begins at 10 a.m. with the walk starting at 11:00 a.m. A sign-up and information table will be on the patio following services on April 22, 29, and May 6.

Easter Flowers

The flowers in the church are so beautiful and will look beautiful in your home as well. After the 10:00 a.m. service on April 8, please help us take the Easter flowers out the side doors and clean up. Even 15 or 20 minutes of help can make a HUGE difference! Thank you!

Health and Wellness

Many thanks to you who donated blood during our recent Torrance Memorial record-breaking blood drive!

Special thanks to Ann Peitzman and Patty Kurlak for coordinating this year's drive and to our wonderful Health and Wellness Team who hosted!

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."
John 15:13 (NRSV)

Mark Pope ~ Hazel Lord
Oren Sheldon ~ Debra DeLuca
Jonathan Chute ~ Roxanne Morse
Kim Hall ~ Joyce Crump ~ Diane Salter
Pat Van Putten ~ Karen Lamoreaux
Michelle Cross ~ Emily Gutierrez
Kathy Platnick ~ Harriet Servis
Hal Williams ~ Carol Williams
Sue Walters ~ Patty Kurlak
Nicole Lowery Zakman
Ann Peitzman
Jamie Shaw
Bill Bails

Second Sundays at Two Concert

Second Sundays At Two
Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
Berlin-based, Israeli Pianist Einav Yarden

"...imagination and exceptionally vivid playing ... Sense of immense majesty, tempered by gentleness and quiet grace," *~ Washington Post*
"glistening rapture ... ingenious humor," *~ Tagesspiegel, Germany*

Award-winning pianist **Einav Yarden** performs internationally as concerto soloist with leading orchestras such as the Israel Philharmonic, Minnesota Symphony, Beethoven Orchester Bonn, Bucharest Philharmonic, and Calgary Philharmonic, to name just some. Noteworthy stages she performs on as a recitalist include the *Berlin Philharmonie*, the *Beethoven-Haus Bonn*, Berlin Konzerthaus, Rose Theater at Lincoln Center, The Phillips Collection Concerts in Washington, DC, *Schumannsaal* in Düsseldorf, and Paris's *Salle Cortot* and the Auditorium of the *Musée d'Orsay* in France. She was the 3rd Prize Winner at the 2009 International Beethoven Piano Competition in Bonn, a Finalist at the 2003 Honens International Piano Competition in Calgary, and First Prize Winner at the 2001 Aviv Competitions, the most distinguished national competition in Israel. In 2005, Einav completed four years of study with renowned pianist **Leon Fleisher** at the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, earning with high honors a Masters of Music and a Graduate Performance Diploma. Her prior studies were at the Rubin Academy in Tel Aviv, where she earned her Bachelor's degree.

Free-Will Offering

Second Sunday Supper

We hope you can join us for dinner on **Sunday, April 8,** 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.

Club Maintenance

A light drizzle curtailed some of the Club Maintenance activity on Saturday, March 10. We did manage to set out new rose bushes, straighten a leaning sign post and prune the lower branches of a couple of our new trees. Indoor projects included replacing lamps in various light fixtures, servicing two HVAC systems, repairing cabinet and door latches, and painting patched drywall after a plumbing repair. Volunteering were Bill Bails, Clarence Fung, Dave Larson, Keith Levan, Don Pedersen, Eric Rasmussen, Oren Sheldon, Jim Showalter and Gene Koester, coordinator. We also had two Boy Scouts from Troop 783 along with their dads helping out. Finishing our tasks early we decided to forgo our lunch entree, ate our dessert of grapes and cookies and departed. Our Club Maintenance coordinator for **Saturday, April 14**, at 8:30 a.m. will be Bill Bails.

Coming Soon
Memorial Day Weekend
May 26-28
Family & Friends Camp
at Lazy W Ranch in San Juan Capistrano

Family & Friends Camp is just around the corner! We hope you can join us for **Memorial Day Weekend**, **May 26-28**, at the Lazy W Ranch in San Juan Capistrano. It is the perfect place for fun, relaxation and fellowship with family and friends in a beautiful picturesque setting. Choose to be active or sit back and enjoy the tranquil surroundings. Traditional camp activities offered include hiking, swimming, volleyball, archery, horseshoes, crafts, ping pong and campfires. Accommodations include heated cabins, bathrooms with hot showers, and delicious meals. Join us for the whole weekend or when you are available.

For more information, contact Cathy Stark at cathy@bblsurflaw.com, stop by the patio after morning services on April 22, 29 or May 6, or call the church office at 310-377-6771.

Youth Ministries Announcements

Relay for Life
Rolling Hills United Methodist Church is officially a registered team for the Relay for Life at South High School. The youth will be hosting the event with the hopes that this will be an intergenerational endeavor. Families or individuals can sign up to walk on the track for 15 minute intervals, participate in one of the many service oriented activities that will happen throughout the 24 hours, or folks can make a donation of snacks or water to fuel our team as they walk. The event starts April 21 at 9:00 a.m. with an opening ceremony; at 9:00 p.m. there is a Luminaria Ceremony, and the event ends April 22 at 9:00 a.m. Contact Kristin at Kristin@rhumc.org to sign up or for more information.

Youth Wednesday Night Program 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

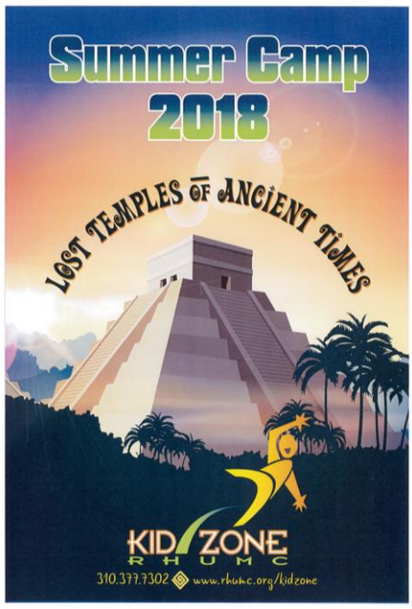
April 4: Outdoor Movie Night and pizza dinner
April 11: "Why Worry?" Small group discussion and dinner
April 18: 5 Course Meal hosted by Mr. Fitzgerald
(Please try to RSVP by April 11)
April 25: Dinner at In-N-Out

Mother's Day Flowers
Would you like to give a gift and have the proceeds go towards a great cause? Here's your chance! The youth will be selling flowers for Mother's Day as one of their SSP Fundraisers. Flowers will be pre-sold April 29 and May 6 and on Mother's Day, May 13, the flowers will be ready for pick up after every worship service.

Sierra Service Project 2018
Are you interested in attending Sierra Service Project this year? It is not to late to register! We have one opening for Junior High (July 21-July 28) and one opening for Senior High (July 28-August 5). Both groups will be going to Smith River, CA. Please contact Kristin for more information at kristin@rhumc.org.

Kid Zone

Kid Zone presents
Under the Sea *Spring Break Camp*
Kindergarten to 5th!
April 2-6
For more information
Call: 310-377-7302
Email: kidzone.midzone@gmail.com



Kid Zone and Mid Zone Summer Camp Registration is now open!

Register and pay in full by **MAY 9th** to receive a **10% discount**.

To register, you can either stop by the office to pick up a brochure or go online at rhumc.org

For more information call 310-377-7302 or email kidzone.midzone@gmail.com.

Hope to see you this summer!

Need Help registering for camp?

Join us on *April 29th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.* or *April 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.*

Receive $25 off if you register on this day.

Children's Ministry

Save the Date

July 30 – August 3

Vacation Bible Camp

Parent's Night Out

Saturday, April 21st

4:30-8:30 p.m.

Take an evening off while we take care of your kids! Drop off your kids for a fun night of crafts, games, dinner, and a movie. Space is limited, so be sure to sign-up early!

Who:	Infants to Fifth Graders
Costs:	$25 per child/$10 for each additional sibling
Registration:	Email Debra@rhumc.org or call the church office at 310-377-6771, ext. 106 with your child's name and age.

Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool Fundraiser

We hope you can join us on **Tuesday, April 10,**
at California Pizza Kitchen Torrance from 11:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
and 20% of your purchases from dine-in or take-out
will be donated back to our preschool.

California Pizza Kitchen Torrance
25304 Crenshaw Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90505
310 539-5410

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., 3rd Service	Patti MacLeod
Kid Zone Director	Megan Pelc	Exec. Asst. to Pastor	Roksolana Vecerek
Children's Ministry Dir.	Debra DeLuca	Church Office Admin.	Peggy Roulette
Youth Ministry Dir.	Kristin Reksc	Admin. Assistant	Ana Ysabel Lopez
Treasurer	Robin La Tourette	Custodian	Miguel Portillo
Church Business Mgr.	Nicole Lowery Zakman		

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 April 27
www.rhumc.org