The Cornerstone

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

May 2018

Mother's Day Brunch
Sunday, May 13th

Join us as we celebrate all the influential women in our life.

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Wesley Hall

Enjoy a breakfast of quiche, bagels, muffins,
fruit, juice and coffee.

*from the pastor*s *Jonathan Chute*

I want to thank everyone for being part of such a positive gathering and conversation last Sunday. The Building Committee has been working on the project for years, but it has been almost entirely behind the scenes. Soil studies, traffic studies, engineering reports, and the like aren't all that exciting to prepare and review.

Perhaps my favorite task in just the last year was the "Fuel Modification Covenant." That is a requirement of the County Fire Department, essentially stating that we will not plant large trees next to the classroom buildings, in order to prevent the spread of fire. It cost a couple of thousand dollars to have the fire department look at those plans, but that wasn't the most exciting part. I had to sign off on the Covenant, a term loaded with religious meaning in the Bible. I also had to get my signature notarized, as though someone else would ever want to sign such a document. Even that wasn't all. I had to take the document to the County Recorder's office by LAX to have them scan and record it there as well. Only then would the county take our money.

But soon the actual, visible work will begin. We have ordered the three portables, double classroom trailers which will be placed, for the time of construction, in the "new" parking lot, between the sanctuary and the exit driveway. We currently have a June installation date, but are working to move it up as soon as we can. Once the trailers arrive it will take about a month before they are ready for inspection and occupancy.

Only after they have been inspected and approved, and licensed by the state for use as preschool classrooms, will the demolition of the existing buildings begin. We will be putting together an email update blast with information about what will be happening every week or so.

So that is exciting and encouraging on its own. But what made me feel best was the spirit in the room as we brought you all up to date. It was clear that you are eager to get going, and that support for the new facilities was high. It will serve children and their families. It will serve youth and their families. It will also make possible expanded space for use by middle and older adults, including classes, meals, seminars, gatherings of many kinds. It will help our campus to serve the community around us even more generously than we already do.

So thank you! Thank you for the support you have shown over these past several years. Thank you for the generosity you have demonstrated already. And thank you for making it clear that the kind of congregation you want to be part of is one that gives itself away for others. In Jesus Christ, we have an example of what it looks like to live for others. I am grateful that you have chosen to let him lead us in this effort.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

Dear Friends,

I have been at RHUMC long enough now (nearly three years!) to declare that one of the annual highlights for me is partnering with youth on their journey toward confirmation. I enjoy getting to know the young people and their families, matching each youth with a mentor, and celebrating their history in the church and their aspirations for the future. Each year I lead a session for the confirmation group which asks, "What is a Christian?" and then explores some responses to that question.

One of my efforts to answer the query for myself turned out like this: **A Christian affirms the One God** as Creator, Preserver of Life, Liberator, and Illuminator of the path to right living. **A Christian walks with Jesus** from fear to love, from exclusion to inclusion, from brokenness to wholeness, from death to life. By the power of God's Spirit**, a Christian cultivates compassion and faith** by praying, welcoming, noticing, helping, caring, giving, listening to scripture, learning, growing, serving, extending forgiveness, and making peace. **A Christian keeps company with other disciples** for mutual encouragement, guidance and support, and for the strengthening of our shared mission, which is to share God's grace with the world.

I probably have too many words in my description of a Christian, but I find it helpful to periodically go through the exercise of writing out what I think I mean by using the term. Being in conversation with the youth of our church pushes me to reflect and try to improve the way I communicate about faith. That's one of many reasons I appreciate the opportunity to spend time with those who are choosing to take their understanding to the next level and broaden their experience of the life of the church.

I am looking forward to Sunday, May 13, not only because it is Mother's Day but also because it is the day we will say to a group of young men, "The Lord surround you with grace and peace, and by the Spirit confirm you in the faith and fellowship of Jesus Christ."

May the peace of Christ be also with you!

April

Message from Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus

Nov 11, 2018 is the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I on Armistice Day in 1918. That day, my father was in a six-day march with a pack on his back in France after having been through the longest and bloodiest battle in American history. Our family has a box of 100 year old yellowed and fragile letters that he wrote to family while a soldier in the war. I read them last year to get a firsthand view of the war, and was amazed at the picture the letters give. My brother Pete had the discharge document that recounted where he had been in the war. I took that itinerary and the letters and wrote a story to be shared during this centennial year. Last summer I decided to create with professional film makers, a video of the story. The film team got emotionally involved and outdid our expectations. We now have a 30-minute documentary on You Tube and several public presentations scheduled with people sharing artifacts from their families and a sing-along of World War I songs. The name of the film is “Daddy, What Did You Do in the War?” You can find it on You Tube with my name. Or, you can try the link https://youtu.be/6eSnOnu0k5g. My great-nephew and great-niece are narrators. My favorite part of the film is the end when the camera scans the huge military cemetery near that last battle and quotes the battle cry for the war: “to make the world safe for democracy.” The last word is to express gratitude for all who do whatever is necessary in their time to “make the world safe for democracy.” Please let me know if you watch it and your reactions.

Giving Update

The generosity of our congregation continues to be strong through the first months of the year. As of the end of March, you have given over $263,000 to support our mission, an increase of almost $40,000 over the same time last year! Your gifts in April were also generous, so we have begun the year ahead of where we expected to be. Thank you!

Our worship during Holy Week and Easter reached over 2,000 people with the hope and peace of Christ's resurrection. Through our partnership with Habitat for Humanity we helped build a home for four families in Long Beach. We have fed persons who are hungry, and encouraged others who have lost hope. More people than we can count are being helped as a result of your generosity and giving this year. Thank you for keeping the joy of Easter alive in our world!

Mission News

Got Shoes?

During May, the Missions Committee is looking for your gently worn used and new shoes to benefit the Toberman Neighborhood Center. Collection bins will be placed in the Narthex and the Church Office to gather the footwear that just doesn't quite get worn any more (or perhaps never did). Anything with soles attached and without holes is welcome. The shoes will be used to support micro-enterprise vendors in developing nations - and Toberman will receive a cash donation for each pound collected. More information is available through the www.funds2orgs.com; web site. Take advantage of this opportunity to both clear out your closet and benefit Toberman at the same time!

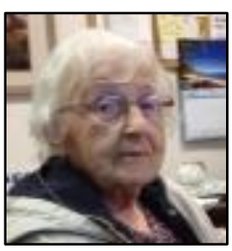
CROP Walk

The annual Peninsula-Harbor CROP Walk will be held on **Sunday, May 20,** at the South Coast Botanic Garden. Join us for this time of fellowship and exercise as walkers raise money for a variety of both local and international organizations fighting hunger. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. with the actual walk scheduled for an 11:00 a.m. start. A table with sign-up information will be on the Church Patio after each service for the two Sundays (May 6 and 13) preceding the Walk. Signing up for the Walk online is also easy at www.crophungerwalk.org/peninsulaharborca - be sure to note that you are participating as part of the RHUMC team!

Dawn Unity

The Dawn Unity Interfaith Discovery Series will next meet on **Tuesday, May 8**, 7:30 p.m. at St. John Fisher Catholic Church, 5448 Crest Road, Rancho Palos Verdes. The topic of discussion is "Abraham and the Sacrifice of Isaac." Panelists will include Professor Amir Hussain, Loyola Marymount University; Reverend Reinhard Krauss, UCLA; Rabbi Ron Shulman, Congregation Beth El, La Jolla; and Monsignor David Sork, St. John Fisher Catholic Church. Bob Rothman will be the moderator for this free, ninety-minute program. For more information, call 310-833-7008.

Remembrance of Carol Berthelet



We give thanks to Carol Berthelet, a much loved RHUMC office staff member from 1988-2012. Carol passed away on March 18 at the age of 97. She was born in 1920 in Ludlow, Illinois, the daughter of a country doctor who was often paid through the barter system thus Carol receiving piano lessons. She also played the trombone in high school, graduated valedictorian of her class and then became an X-ray and Lab technician. She continued in this field after moving to Santa Monica, California in 1943. Shortly thereafter she married John Berthelet and that marriage was blessed with three children, David, Barbara and Michael. In 1954, they bought a home in Hollywood Riviera, and became a charter member of the Riviera United Methodist Church. She served her church well through her participation in the choir, the bell choir, the finance committee, a ton of rummage sales and as president of its UMW and beyond, as president of Church Women United. Carol was part of the Riviera Quilters and it is estimated her personal needle contributed no less than 4,470,210 quilting stiches in the 31 years she was a member. In 1988 Carol chose a new path, coming to work at Rolling Hills United Methodist Church where she remained until her retirement in 2012 at age 92. Carol was much loved and will be missed by her family, her friends and her churches.

Article contributed by Rosemary Zettler, Riviera United Methodist Church

Memory Impairment Caregiver Support

Lauren Spiglanin, Care Manager & Elder Care Specialist as well as Founder of Family Connect Care, LLC, has moved her Wednesday morning caregiver support group classes for the month of May to the Family Connect Memory Care Center located at 1747 Greenwood Avenue, Torrance from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Lauren is also offering complimentary consultations here at RHUMC in the Health & Wellness Office on the first and third Fridays of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Lauren has been helping South Bay families negotiate the many dimensions of dementia for more than ten years and is happy to offer coaching on how to survive and thrive through the stress. If you would like to schedule a time to consult with Lauren, please call 310-383-1877.

Second Sunday Supper

We hope you can join us for dinner on **Sunday, May 13,** 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

Club Maintenance met Saturday, April 14 to perform needed maintenance and repairs on the facilities and grounds. Tasks completed include lubricating sticky door latches, painting posts and stops at the handicap parking and fire hydrant, cleaning and touchup of patio benches, changing preschool furnace filters and cleaning A/C condensers, and various other cleanup and maintenance around the area. Those attending were Bill Bails, Steve Boilard, Clarence Fung, Bruce Harkins, Gene Koester, Dave Larson, Keith Levan, Oren Sheldon, and Jim Showalter. Join us for our next get-together **Saturday, May 12**, when Jim Showalter will direct the activities.

The RHUMC Health and Wellness Team announces its Spring Bag Lunch and Lecture

2018
NUTRITION UPDATE

Wednesday, May 30, 2018
Aldersgate Room

12:30 – 1:00 pm
Bring your own bag lunch

1:00 – 2:00 pm
Speaker,
Mandy Hillstrom, EdD, MPH, RDN

Topics to be covered include: supplements, gut biome, hot weather treats, gluten-free foods, and probiotics. There will also be time for questions.

Mandy Hillstrom, EdD, MPH, RDN
Mandy is an active member of our church and is excited to share an update about current nutrition topics with us. She currently works at Cal State Los Angeles as an associate professor of nutrition, and her research focuses on community health issues. She earned her degrees in Nutrition and Public Health at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and her doctorate in education at USC. She looks forward to your questions and participation. We welcome Mandy back to share her knowledge of nutrition with us again!

Second Sundays at Two Concert

Second Sundays At Two

Sunday, May 13, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Trio Céleste

Cellist	*Pianist*	*Violinist*
Ross Gasworth	***Kevin Kwan Loucks***	***Iryna Krechkovsky***

"A first-class ensemble. These players mesh well and easily as a group, thinking, breathing and moving as one. The performance was patient, perfectly paced and seamless." *~ Timothy Mangan, Orange County Register*

Winners of the prestigious Beverly Hills National Auditions, **Trio Céleste** is currently Ensemble-in-Residence at the Claire Trevor School of the Arts at the University of California, Irvine, where they presented the complete piano trios of Ludwig van Beethoven and his Triple Concerto with the UC Irvine Symphony Orchestra. In 2014, the ensemble was selected from over 500 applicants to be Artists-in-Residence at the Grand Canyon National Park.

Free-Will Offering

Lazy W Ranch
faith grows here

Memorial Day Weekend
May 25-28
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 25-28**, 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 May 6, or call the church office at 310-377-6771.

Easter Gatherings

We rejoice in Christ's resurrection and remember our 2018 Easter Celebration with gratitude.

Photos by Bob Chamberlin

Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool Fundraiser

EAT GOOD. DO GOOD. LIVE GOOD®

Join us at **Good Stuff** on **Monday, May 7**,
between 7:00 a.m. & 9:00 p.m. and
20% of your dine-in purchases
will be donated back to our preschool.

Good Stuff Palos Verdes
550 Deep Valley Drive, Suite 151
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

Children's Ministry

Love Kids and God?

We have the job for you! Rolling Hills United Methodist Church is seeking to hire a Sunday School teacher for our 2nd/3rd grade children. The class is every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Duties would include: Prepare and teach Bible lessons (scripture text and lesson plan possibilities are provided); greet children by name and assist with welcome cart; help establish a caring, safe and loving environment for our children. If interested please contact Debra DeLuca at debra@rhumc.org.

RHUMC is also seeking to hire a Nursery Room Teacher for every Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Duties would include: greeting parents and children as they sign in, caring for the children to the highest degree, ensuring their safety and being mindful of their developmental and special needs, story time, coloring, crafts and communicating with the Director of Children's Ministries any issues that may arise. First Aid and CPR certification required. If interested please contact Debra DeLuca at debra@rhumc.org.

Youth Ministry Updates

ignite RHUMC

Wednesday Nights
6:00-6:30 p.m. Dinner
6:30-8:00 p.m. Activity/Small groups
Current 5th graders are welcome to attend!

Confirmation Sunday is May 13, 2018

Confirmation
One step in a lifelong adventure of faith

Graduation Celebration: For our last night of **Ignite** this semester, **May 23**, we will be celebrating youth who are being promoted into 6th grade and 9th grade, and those who are graduating high school. Dress your best and bring your family to this special dinner. Please RSVP to Kristin at kristin@rhumc.org by May 16.

Mother's Day Flowers
The youth will be selling flowers for Mother's Day as one of their SSP Fundraisers. Flowers will be pre-sold on May 6 and on Mother's Day, May 13, the flowers will be ready for pick up after every worship service.

Kid Zone

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!

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 May 25
www.rhumc.org