The Cornerstone

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

July 2019

Benefiting schools in San Pedro serviced by the

TOBERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Our school supply drive continues through July. Donations of actual school supplies can be dropped off in the bin marked for that purpose in the narthex. We are looking for backpacks, pencils, crayons, composition books, pencil cases, 1.5 and 2 inch binders, binder paper, pens, highlighters, subject dividers, pencil sharpeners, folders and erasers. You can also make monetary donations either at our Sunday donation tables or by sending them to the church. Checks should be made payable to RHUMC with a "School Supply" notation in the memo line. Our goal is 100 fully loaded backpacks, which we estimate will cost $35 each.

from the pastors *Jonathan Chute*

Summer is here, though quite a bit later than expected. The Jacarandas are blooming about a month behind schedule. The temperature is barely hitting the mid 70s. June Gloom shows signs of lasting into July. Hardly anything seems to be on time.

But our construction is still on schedule! Windows and doors are in, cabinets, counters and sinks getting installed. The elevator is finished, though not yet inspected by the state. The second set of stairs went in this past week. Next week we expect to see the driveway wall completed which will allow grading and sidewalks to get started. A good portion of the patio has been demolished and two new trees will be planted there next week. Measurable progress is taking place every day.

The meeting of our California-Pacific Annual Conference took place in Redlands just before Father's Day. Over a thousand United Methodists gathered from southern California and Hawaii on the campus of the University of Redlands. We sang and prayed, we talked and listened, we saw colleagues and friends, we worked long and well through the sessions each day. The spirit of the gathering was mostly hopeful, I thought.

We elected our delegates to next year's General Conference meeting, which will be held in Minneapolis. We learned that across the country there was something of a wave of resistance to the Traditionalist Plan approved back in February. Not only here in California, but in North Georgia, North and South Carolina, Texas, North Texas, East Ohio, Kansas-Nebraska, New England and elsewhere, delegates who favor LGBTQ welcome and full inclusion were being elected to represent the church.

Some want to leave the UMC as a result of the last General Conference actions. Some want to create two or three versions of United Methodism, where congregations and clergy can choose to serve where they feel at home. Some want to stay and resist the Traditionalist Plan, as those in the Civil Rights movement resisted what they saw as unjust laws. Between September and December there will be a number of "listening posts" held across our Annual Conference, where people will be invited to share their concerns and hopes for their church. An African proverb suggests, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." I'd like us to go far, and don't want to leave anyone out.

From a personal perspective, the happiest outcome for me this year is that April and I are being reappointed to serve as your pastors. That continues to be a privilege and a blessing, and we look forward to all that is before us in the year to come!

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

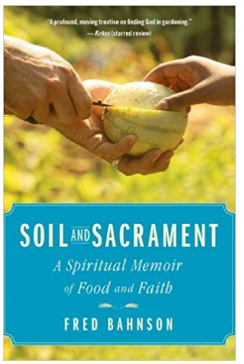
Dear Friends:

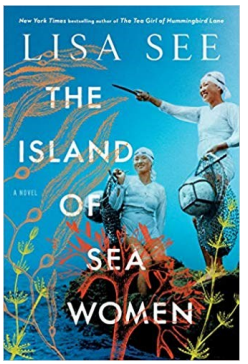
You are a reading congregation! I know this because I can hardly keep up with you. Luckily, I subscribe to various book review magazines and podcasts, and that gives me more of a chance to discover the next thing we might read together.

A year ago at this time, I encountered a review of a nonfiction book by Timothy Snyder. The reviewer, Stephanie Paulsell, who teaches at Harvard Divinity School, helpfully offered a list of the guidance she gleaned from the book. It's a list of ways that could help shape a society that we would want to live in. Some of the suggestions are: be active in voluntary organizations; practice ethical conduct within your profession; make eye contact and small talk with people you encounter in the course of daily life; go to places you have never been before and make new friends; cultivate fresh ways of saying what you mean; **surround yourselves with books!** Why books? Because, "a lively inner life combined with life in community will help keep us connected to our convictions."

As we know, the reading of books can be a connective community activity, not just a solitary one. My experience book-reading here at RHUMC is that it enhances relationships. This summer, the connective aspect of reading will be especially valuable to me. For part of July and part of August I will be in Brazil helping to welcome a new baby into the world. Bob and I have been recruited to be part of the support team for Liz and Luciano during the tender new born days. We are thrilled. And, of course, we will bring books.

Two books that will keep me joined to you are "Soil and Sacrament: A Spiritual Memoir of Food and Faith" by Fred Bahnson and "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See. The memoir discussion, facilitated by Kristin Reksc and me, will take place on Monday, August 26, at 7:00 p.m. We'll talk about Lisa See's book on Monday, September 16, in preparation for hosting Lisa See herself for a dialogue here at RHUMC on Monday, October 28.





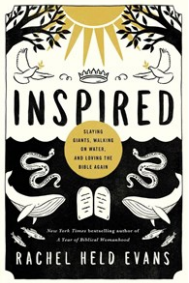
Exciting times are ahead. Whether traveling or enjoying summer at home, we will be readers joined at the heart, serving God with mind, soul, and strength.

April

Message from Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus

I took to heart Bob Mueller's plea to "everybody" to read his long-awaited report. His ten minute speech was simple and focused. His voice came through to me as straight from his heart. The citizens of this nation need to hear the message of the report right now. We need to be responding without wasting time. His sense of urgency was about the first of the two parts of the report – what they had learned about the Russian involvement in our 2016 election. I decided that I am part of "everybody" and that he was speaking to me. So I set aside the not already booked part of the next weekend to do what he had asked. The first problem was where to find a copy to read. Since "everybody" seems to get their information from the internet, I went to Google and bravely typed in "Mueller Report." It popped right up. I could choose from a limited number of sources. But there it was, and it stayed there. I could take breaks and come right back to where I had stopped. So I read the 200 pages of Part I. I agree wholeheartedly with him. EVERYBODY ought to read that report! It is easy to read – not a lot of legal jargon. It is written for Everybody. But it made my hair stand on end. I had not heard a lot of what he reported. My concern is that many people are not reading it. They tell me they are intimidated about the length and don't know where to find a copy. The pages contain a lot of footnotes at the bottom of every page which you don't have to read, so it is less reading than you might expect. And it is right there on Google. Responsible citizens who care about our nation need to take seriously this remarkable urgent plea.

Find Inspiration! by Larry Kittiver



The Seekers/Searchers Bible Study meets on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the Aldersgate Room adjacent to the narthex. As the title of our current study book suggests, we are truly inspired by the Holy Scripture in new, delightful and thoughtful ways. Through the Bible, we are learning, growing and discovering new ways to approach, understand and interpret our own stories. Join us as we continue this fascinating journey, and be as inspired as we are!

Second Sunday Supper

We hope you can join us for dinner on **Sunday, July 14,** after 3rd service. Dinner will include Hawaiian barbecue teriyaki chicken, salad and rice from L&L Hawaiian Barbecue. The requested donation is $5 per person, $15 per family. 3rd service takes place every Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

The Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles

Our "in-house orchestra," The Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles, will present its Season Finale Concert at the Walt Disney Concert Hall at 3 p.m. on **Sunday, July 7**. Chuck especially invites all of our congregation to attend this concert. This is the orchestra's only fundraiser for the year, and tickets are available from $30 - $75. So if you're interested in attending, or if you'd like to sponsor this event by making a contribution that will be applied to tickets for those who cannot afford to purchase tickets, or both, please either call the ICYOLA office at 213-788-4260 and speak with Akilah Morgan, or send Chuck an email at cedickersoniii@sbcglobal.net.

Save the Date

February 21-23, 2020
Women's Retreat
Prince of Peace Abbey
Oceanside
Lead by April Herron

WOMEN'S Retreat

Club Maintenance by Dave Larson

On June 15th a group of 9 fellows took care of many items on our maintenance work list. Completed tasks included replacement of two burned out overhead light bulbs in the Sanctuary, as well as along Wesley Hall. We assembled three chairs for the office staff and painted walls by the restrooms in the Narthex. The heating vent registers in Wesley Hall had been looking sad after years of service with basketballs flying about; the new ones look good. Other tasks included removing electrical hardware from the trees in the patio that will be taken out. Light fixtures and other hardware will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

The next opportunity to participate in the Club Maintenance effort will be at 8:30 a.m. on **Saturday, July 13**. Please mark this date on your calendar and share in the ongoing work to keep our facilities in good repair; all are invited. And note that a lunch is served. Steve Boilard will be the coordinator for this work day.

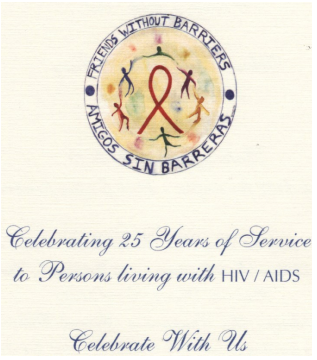
Missionary Supporting Church Award by Kathy Platnick

We are pleased that at the most recent California Pacific Annual Conference, RHUMC again received the award for the "Highest Combined Giving 2018." This award is due almost entirely to the apportionments we pay to the conference, but also recognizes the support we provide to four Methodist sponsored missionaries. For RHUMC, the apportionment total for 2018 was almost $185,000 while our budgeted payment for the missionaries was $12,000. While one might think of apportionments as effectively our "dues" for participating in the conference, they serve a much broader purpose - to support various ministries of the church, including the World Service Fund, the Ministerial Education Fund and other causes. Through apportionments, our connected congregations within the global church can collectively combine our prayers, presence, gifts and service to make a significant difference in the lives of God's people.

What is particularly impressive is that the basis for this award represents only a fraction of our congregation's missional outreach. It does not take into consideration the many other ways our Church serves our community, a sample of which includes:

- Trek to the Tree for Toberman
- Heifer Plus Sunday benefiting Habitat for Humanity and Heifer International, among other causes
- Monthly cooking for Los Amigos and St Paul's RHUMC Project Needs
- Sierra Service Project
- Crop Walk
- Giving Sunday on behalf of the United Methodist Committee on Relief
- Annual summer giving drives - this year for school supplies
- And many other projects undertaken throughout the year by various groups

We are thankful for a congregation that is blessed to have the means to give and the heart and soul to actually give generously.



AMIGOS is celebrating 25 years of service to persons living with HIV/AIDS. You are invited to join the party at the Queen Mary on July 20th, 2019 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Come and dance to the music of Mariachis, enjoy lots of delicious hors d'oeurves, and listen to the fabulous Mari Novara sing. Discounted tickets for the RHUMC family are $100 per person. If you wish to purchase tickets or have questions, please call Alma Martinez at 310-316-7074 or Jackie Showalter at 310-544-8510.

Second Sundays At Two

Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

iPalpiti Festival Ensemble-in-Residence

Zadig Trio

From Paris

Pianist **IAN BARBER** *Violinist* **BORIS BORGOLOTTO** *Cellist* **MARC GIRARD GARCIA**

Awarded 11 international prizes, the **Zadig Trio** captivates audiences with its virtuosity, elegance, and irresistible enthusiasm. Friendship is at the core of the Zadig Trio's strength and authenticity. **Boris Borgolotto** and **Marc Girard Garcia** are childhood friends who studied together at the *Paris Conservatoire National de Musique* and at the University of Music in Vienna. Upon their return to France, they crossed paths with **Ian Barber**, an American pianist from the renowned studio of André Watts at the University of Indiana. The chemistry between them is immediately apparent. All three musicians are drawn by a strong desire to live out their passion as sincerely as possible and therefore decided to combine their talents together and found the Zadig Trio.

Contribute What You Can ~ 100% for the Artists
All are Welcome!

Kid Zone

Kid Zone and Mid Zone Summer Camp

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!

Children's Ministry

Calling all bakers and homemakers!

We are looking for volunteers to donate snacks for our hardworking volunteers during the week of Vacation Bible Camp.

Cookies, crackers, muffins, fruit, granola bars, etc. (homemade or store bought all donations are welcome)

* No nut products please due to allergies

Monday, July 29th – Friday, August 2nd

Please contact Debra DeLuca at
debra@rhumc.org or call (310) 377-6771

Join us for the best week of the summer!
New friends * Creative games * Surprising adventures
Super-fun snacks * Incredible music

Vacation Bible Camp
July 29th – August 2nd
Contact: debra@rhumc.org

Help Us Get Ready For The "Mane Event"

Youth Ministries needs you!

Sunday, July 28, 6:45-8:00 p.m. – Decorating the Sanctuary immediately after the 5:30 p.m. service for our week long VBC.

Friday, August 2nd, 12:15pm - ? – Taking down decorations in the Sanctuary, Narthex and Wesley Hall.

Youth Ministries

Presidential Volunteer Service Awards

It is time to turn in applications for the **PVSA, due by July 15, 2019**. Hours earned between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019 will count towards this year's award. There will be an award ceremony in the fall to present the youth with their certificates and pins.

Applications and additional information can be found on the church website at https://rhumc.org/ministries/youth/service-opportunities-youth/

July Events:

Saturday, July 6
Day at the Park

12:00-2:00pm Spend an afternoon at the park, games, BBQ and new friends. We will meet at Alta Loma Park.

Wednesday, July 17
Paint Night

7:00-8:00pm Come create a masterpiece while enjoying desserts in the Youth Lounge. Youth will learn how to create a picture or create their own work of art.

Wednesday, July 31
Mulligan Fun Center

2:00pm-3:30pm Enjoy a round of mini golf, laser tag, and go-carts! Tickets are $16 per youth. Please RSVP by July 24.

1351 West Sepulveda Torrance CA 90501

Sierra Service Project

Junior High Group
San Diego, CA

July 21-July 26, 2019

Senior High Group
Spokane, WA

July 27- August 3, 2019

SSP Sunday

August 18, 2019

Youth Sunday School

Sunday School is available for youth 6th-12th grade
every Sunday during the 10:00 am worship service.
Youth are also welcome to stay and worship in the service with their families.

Save the Date! Wednesday, Sept.18 @ 6:30-8:00pm: Ignite Fall Kick-off

Contact Kristin Reksc, Director of Youth Ministries
Email: Kristin@rhumc.org Cell phone: 562-234-0161

Sierra Service Project

Learn to use construction tools! Spend a week with friends! Make improvements to the homes of people who are glad for better access, insulation, and functionality! Limited space is still available for this summer's middle school and senior high youth teams. Contact Kristin Reksc immediately at kristin@rhumc.org.

Photo by Bob Chamberlin, SSP 2018

Rolling Hills United Methodist Church
26438 Crenshaw Blvd.
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

Change Service Requested

SAVE OUR PLANET!

Have your Cornerstone sent via email; it's easy, just call the church office at 310-377-6771. You can also view the Cornerstone on the church website at www.rhumc.org

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	3rd Service Music	Paula Kuno
Children's Ministry Dir.	Debra DeLuca	Exec. Asst. to Pastor	Roksolana Vecerek
Youth Ministry Director	Kristin Reksc	Church Office Admin.	Peggy Roulette
Kid Zone Director	Megan Pelc	Admin. Assistant	Ana Ysabel Lopez
Treasurer	John Fitzgerald	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 July 24
www.rhumc.org