The Cornerstone

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

September 2019

SEPTEMBER 8TH

Come join us as we celebrate the start of the new school year
and an exciting fall season at Rolling Hills United Methodist Church.

There will be light refreshments after both morning services
and Fanoos Grill after the 3rd Service.

Children will enjoy games and a special treat.
Join us for fun and fellowship where all are welcome!

from the pastors *Jonathan Chute*

One of my favorite places at our cottage in Canada is the screen porch. It is where I am sitting now as I write this note. The screen porch is where people first come into our place when they arrive. It is neither indoors or outdoors exactly. It offers a sense of welcome and openness. It is open to the wind, and sometimes the rain, but not to mosquitoes. It is something like a bridge between the outside world and the comfort and warmth inside. The sounds of the birds and the smells of the surrounding forest are very present. But it also provides a sense of shelter.

Though I've been away, I found that I dreamed more than once about the completion of our church patio. I'm sure that was a product of my usual anxiousness that things go well when I'm not there. When I left the patio was an unholy mess, so I know that was still weighing on my mind.

But the church patio is something like the screened porch at our cottage. It is the place of welcome and community where people meet coming and going on their way in and out of church each Sunday. It is the front door for our congregation. It is the point of entry for our church family.

So I am eager to see its completion! By the time I get back it will be nearly finished, and not a moment too soon. There is a wonderful year ahead of us as we move into our new facilities and make them a home.

On Sunday, September 15, we will officially dedicate these new buildings and give thanks to God for the mission they will make possible. We will gather out on the patio around 11:30 a.m. for a service of blessing and celebration. We will welcome friends and neighbors from the community and hope everyone can join us. The classrooms and playgrounds will be open for all to see. Following the brief service delicious tacos will be served. Stories will be told. Laughter heard. Gratitude shared.

I look forward to being back with you all very soon and to sharing in an extraordinary year to come!

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

Dear Friends

Chaos has turned to order! Somehow, by the grace of God and through the diligent efforts of many people, our new buildings are now occupied by organized preschool classrooms and ready for school to start! I must say, it feels like a bit of a miracle even though I watched it all happen and I know how much planning went into the project.

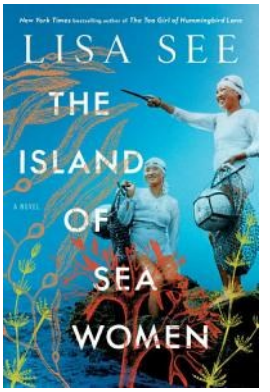
Whether in the midst of expecting a new baby or creating a new patio, it is always wonderful when visions are actualized, unknowns become arrivals, and uncertainties turn to accomplishments. Seeing hopes and dreams realized builds faith. Challenging work, done well, contributes to joy.

Perhaps our experiences at RHUMC can give us hope as we think about the future of our denomination. Lots of people and entities around the country are having conversations about where we might be headed as a global and/or regional church. United Methodism as a whole has entered a time of uncertainty. Yet, in God's time, it too may one day emerge into something more clear and cogent; something which supports and facilitates a ministry that is thriving in new ways.

Later this month it will be my turn to visit the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, to take part in the on-going dialogue about how to be faithful to God's calling in these times. I am glad to be going from and returning to this wonderful community and place of ministry. I am looking forward to this month's Bible Study and the September 16 discussion of "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See, as well as the special events celebrating the beginning of a new school year and the dedication of our completed buildings. I am thankful to be serving God in partnership with all of you.

Happily,

April



Book Discussion
September 16
7:00 p.m.
Aldersgate Room

Message from Martha Rowlett, Senior Pastor Emeritus

We did it! Rolling Hills United Methodist Church has a fresh new start for decades and generations more of blessing the Palos Verdes Peninsula!! The descendants and successors of the multitudes whose lives have been immeasurably enriched by the ministries of this church in those old buildings can look forward to more of the same and perhaps even better. Bright new future possibilities beckon us. I know that the principals in this accomplishment are too tired for such happy thoughts right now. But fatigue can be sweetened with pats on the back. Everything is not yet perfect. But you are IN and ON TIME, and the year of celebration is beginning. United Methodists from all over the west are coming soon to benefit from what you have done and to be inspired by this congregation. In a tough time for our denomination, the bright future offered by these new buildings will speak a word of hope. Thanks be to God for you and what you have accomplished.

New Member Welcome

If you are interested in learning more about Rolling Hills UMC, plan to join us Sunday, September 22, at 11:30 a.m. for the next **New Member Welcome**. It's a relaxed and informal time where you'll meet others who are new to the church, hear about the life and work of the congregation, take a tour of the facility, share a light meal and learn a bit about the United Methodist Church. It's a helpful introduction for people who would like to know more than just what happens on Sunday mornings. Many of the people who attend one of these gatherings decide to join the church, but there is no expectation that anyone do so. Those who choose to join will be received into membership on a Sunday in October.

Please call the church office at 310-377-6771 if you would like to attend. Childcare is available with reservation.

Save the Date

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

BIBLE STUDY

SEPTEMBER:

WEARING GOD, SCENTING SALVATION.
BIBLICAL WORDS AND METAPHORS THAT EXPAND OUR FAITH.

LED BY:
APRIL HERRON

CHOOSE SESSIONS:

WEDNESDAYS / SEPTEMBER 11 & 18
7:00 PM

OR

THURSDAYS / SEPTEMBER 12 & 19
10:30 AM

Meet in the Aldersgate Room adjacent to the church entry area.

Resources include: ***Wearing God*** by Laura Winner and ***70 Hebrew Words Every Christian Should Know*** by Matthew Richard Schlimm. No need to buy the books!

Please indicate your plans to attend by calling or emailing:

(310) 377-6771
churchoffice@rhumc.org

A BIG THANK YOU to all who donated school supplies, time and money to the Toberman Neighborhood Center School Supply Drive. Over 300 backpacks were passed out in mid-August to help children supported by Toberman be successfully prepared to go back to school. RHUMC provided 100 "fully loaded" backpacks thanks to the generosity of our congregation and Vacation Bible Camp participants. Several boxes of supplemental supplies were also donated to Toberman as well as a check for $950 to benefit their afterschool program. Together we made a significant impact on many Harbor area youth students!

Save the Date

We are looking forward to our fall concert sponsored by the Concert Committee on **Friday, October 4,** at 7:30 p.m. featuring the ACE Trio, with flutist Shannon Cancola, clarinetist Ryan Glass & pianist, Jason Stoll. As winners of the 2018 Beverly Hills National Audition Chamber Ensemble, Ace Trio is dedicated to promoting the newest voices of our art. ACE performs their own innovative arrangements and all accessible contemporary music by living composers from around the world. Be sure to add this to your calendar!

Save the Date

FAMILY & BELONGING

AN EVENING WITH LISA SEE

MONDAY
OCTOBER 28, 2019
7 PM - 8:30 PM

ROLLING HILLS UMC
26438 CRENSHAW BOULEVARD
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES
310-377-6771

TICKETS ARE $10
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT RHUMC.ORG

In her many beloved bestsellers, starting with Snow Flower and the Secret Fan, Lisa See illuminates the strong bonds between women, families, communities, and specific regions of the world.

How do cultural, familial, and/or religious traditions support or restrict human development? How are families and traditions a strength or impediment for individual characters? What makes a family? What are the most universal themes and questions a writer can address in the world today? Lisa See will respond to these and other questions in conversation with her Los Angeles area readers. Reflections, readings, and dialogue will be followed by book signing.

Curtis Green's Art Class was a huge success!

Club Maintenance by Jim Showalter

Club Maintenance met in force on Saturday, August 10! Fifteen members helped with the preschool move as well as doing church maintenance tasks which included repainting the door to the fire riser closet, replacing air filters and exterior light fixtures as well as rehanging the clock in Wesley Hall, running the dishwasher and sharpening knives in the kitchen, and cleaning the Meditation Garden fountain. Special thanks go to Dale and Linda Gehr for preparing a very tasty lunch of bratwurst and pulled pork sandwiches for Club Maintenance and all who helped with the preschool move!!

Club Maintenance meets next on **Saturday, September 14** at 8:30 a.m., with Bob Chamberlin in charge. New members are always welcome!

Second Sundays At Two

Sunday, September 8, at 2:30 p.m.

~ presents ~

Pianist **ROBERT THIES**

Called a pianist of "unerring, warm-toned refinement, revealing judicious glimmers of power" by *The Los Angeles Times,* **Robert Thies** first captured worldwide attention in 1995 when he won the Gold Medal at the Second International Prokofiev Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Robert Thies's recitals are highly regarded by aficionados not only for his consummate musicianship and his sensitive artistic interpretations, but also for his illuminating observations about the composers and the selections. In this recital, Robert will play Mozart's Fantasy in D Minor and Schubert's magnificent and final Sonata in B-flat Major, D960.

(note later start time for this recital only)

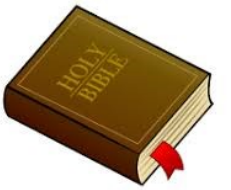
Free-will offering

Second Sunday Supper

We hope you can join us for dinner on **Sunday, September 8,** after 3rd service. This month's Second Sunday Supper is grilled chicken, falafels, salad, rice, hummus and pita from Fanoos Grill. The requested donation is $5 per person, $15 per family. 3rd service takes place every Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

Children's Ministry

4th Grade Bible Presentation



Please join us on Sunday, September 8th, as we celebrate children who have completed 3rd grade and are beginning 4th grade by presenting them with their own Bible during any of the three services. To ensure we include your child, please contact Debra DeLuca at the church office at 310-377-6771 or at debra@rhumc.org.

Thank You Helpers - Many Hands Make Light Work

Youth Ministries

ignite RHUMC

Mid-Week Ministry Fall Kick-off
Wednesday, September 18
6:30-8:00pm

Dinner, "get to know you" games, and information about the fall semester. Parents are welcome to attend. Contact Kristin@rhumc.org with any questions.

Kid Zone

Kid Zone and Mid Zone After School Registration
For School Year 2019-2020

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!

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	Custodian	Miguel Portillo
Treasurer	John Fitzgerald		
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 September 27
www.rhumc.org