The Cornerstone

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

November 2019

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 6:30 PM

Soon it will be time to gather together to share God's blessings over a delicious turkey dinner!

We smoke turkeys in our Weber kettles, while the kitchen crew prepare traditional mashed potatoes, corn bread dressing, string beans, cranberry fluff and cranberry sauce. Dessert is a choice of apple, pumpkin or pecan pie and sugar-free pumpkin pie will be available. The junior and senior high youth will be serving you.

Wesley Hall will be all decorated with corn stalks, autumn leaves, squash and pumpkins. A silent auction will be held on the patio before the dinner, so come early and check out the goodies you might want to bid on….a list of items will be found in the Cornerstone. Following the dinner will be a short program featuring one of our favorite sopranos, Debbie Cole, who has sung in several of our worship services over the years.

Donations of $35.00 per adult and $15.00 per child, twelve and under, will get you a seat at a table and we try to seat you with your friends. Proceeds from the dinner will go to help our youth attend Sierra Service Project. The money raised from the silent auction goes toward our Building Fund.

If you would like to help prepare the dinner in the kitchen or help set the tables and decorate Wesley Hall, please contact Doug Kemps or Suellen Fung, or call the church office and leave your name and number and we will call you back.

from the pastors *Jonathan Chute*

As far as I know resilience is never specifically identified as a Christian virtue. But it's on my mind at the moment for a number of reasons. Among those is the remarkable seventh game World Series win by the Washington Nationals. This year's series was the first time in any seven game sports championship in which the visiting team has won every game. That hasn't ever happened in basketball or hockey either.

But (at least to me) the more remarkable part of the Nationals' story is that when they started the year they were in terrible shape. Their best player had signed for another team. Nobody was expecting them to have a great year, and that's exactly how they started. At one point they had won 19 games and lost 31. The team's manager seemed to be on thin ice, at best. Everyone was talking about firing him. A team that's losing more than 60% of their games is never going to make it to the playoffs, let alone win a World Series. You might imagine that some players might show up already expecting to lose. How do you come to work knowing that the season is already over, for all intents and purposes?

But after that awful start they began to turn it around. They played better ball in the second half of the season than just about everyone else. They overachieved what people – and maybe even they, themselves – expected. They got into the playoffs as a Wild Card, having to win one game to stay in the running. After that, they beat the Dodgers, swept the Cardinals, and went the distance before defeating the Astros.

Resilience may not be a specifically Christian virtue, but it's an essential part of our lives and faith. And it is woven into, and all through, the story of salvation. The Bible uses the word "steadfast" to convey a similar dimension. The book of Lamentations reminds us that "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning." The phrase "steadfast love and faithfulness" shows up again and again throughout the scriptures of the Old Testament.

Perhaps surprisingly, the word "steadfast" appears much less frequently in the New Testament, and not even once in the four gospels. But God's steadfast love is still there, working and moving behind the scenes. It's the only reason we have a story to tell at all! So if you want to live in the hope of victory against improbable, unlikely, or even impossible odds, we've got you covered. In the midst of deep darkness, light appears. Out of despair, hope emerges. From death, resurrection breaks forth.

I loved seeing the Nationals pull off their historic win. It reminded me of something I already knew, but often forget. It isn't over till it's over. That is the story of resilience, of God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

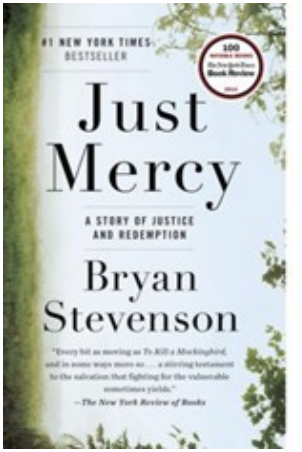
Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

Dear Friends,

It was a great delight to enjoy the evening with Lisa See with you and so many of your friends. Thank you for inviting your book groups and your neighbors and for being such an attentive and appreciative audience. Special recognition to the team of volunteers, and to the talented and helpful staff members, who welcomed, introduced, and made comfortable a happy crowd of 250 people, some of whom were arriving on our campus for the first time. And now, let the reading continue!



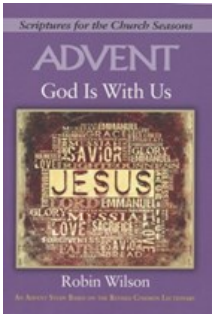
Kristin and I will be leading a discussion this month on the book *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. Bryan Stevenson is a Harvard-educated lawyer whose practice is dedicated to defending the poor, the wrongly condemned, and those trapped in the furthest reaches of the U.S. criminal justice system. His work is intertwined with Christian themes and concepts, echoing hymns, Biblical passages, and influential theologians. The book shares details of specific cases as a way of educating readers on the dynamics at work when an innocent person is convicted and punished for a crime they did not commit. Published five years ago, *Just Mercy* has found its way to church reading groups and high school required reading lists alike. On **Monday, November 18, at 7 p.m.**, RHUMC readers will have an opportunity to talk about the journey of faith and God's call upon our lives as experienced and expressed by Bryan Stevenson. As we read and discuss, we continue to help Kristin prepare for next stages in her process toward ordination in the United Methodist Church.

Happy Thanksgiving to all,

April

We were delighted to worship again with Martha Rowlett, our Senior Pastor Emeritus. Martha shared joy and appreciation in commemorating the 25th anniversary of our sanctuary.

Welcome to Sunday Morning Bible Study



STUDY FOR THIS ADVENT SEASON: This is the time of the year when we as Christians remember that we worship a God who loves us enough to become flesh and blood and walk among us. The season of Advent grants us the space to remember and to anticipate the One who is the Messiah. It is a time to slow down and experience the wonder of the coming of Christ and show the world that Jesus really matters. Our eyes should light up with anticipation of the joy that comes as we await his arrival.

Join us as we engage in this Advent study using the suggested liturgy for this season with the help of Robin Wilson's book “Advent: God Is With Us.” We meet in the Aldersgate room at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday.

Mission Fiesta Sunday - November 10

Ready for a party? Mission Fiesta Sunday *(formerly Heifer Plus Sunday)* is happening after each service on Sunday, November 10. This year we will be hosting a fiesta celebrating Heifer International, Habitat for Humanity, RHUMC's four supported missionaries and St. Paul UMC's Project Needs. Mission Fiesta gives you a chance to donate to the outreach that calls particularly to your giving nature. Grab a treat from our bake sale, enjoy a coffee hour, partake of a food from a country where our supported missionaries are based, and learn more about the important work each of these organizations and people are doing. You can also pick up a jar of Fletcher Larson's famous pickles and shop the crafts of Red Bird Mission. How can you make an impact? Stop by our display tables, donate a treat to our bake sale, and bring your open heart (and wallet) to support these important works. Come join the party!

Veterans' Day Excursion - November 11

A church family field trip to the Battleship USS Iowa Museum has been planned for **Monday, November 11.** We will meet in front of the church office at 9:00 a.m. From there we will carpool to the USS Iowa located at the Port of Los Angeles in San Pedro. General Admission: Adults-$19.95; Seniors-$16.95; and children ages 3-11-$11.95. For more information, contact Craig Lomino at 310-433-1721 or email him at craiglomino@gmail.com. Contact the museum directly for information about mobility concerns. Due to design of ship there will be lots of stairs to navigate.

Women's Retreat: Welcoming God's New Day

2017 Retreat participants enjoy a moment in the sun.

On **February 21-23, 2020**, we want to invite you to come to our women's retreat held at Prince of Peace Abbey Retreat House in Oceanside. You can expect great worship, encouraging messages, delicious food, comfortable lodging, plenty of time to enjoy activities and catch up with old friends or make new ones! April Herron will encourage, inspire and equip us as we Welcome God's New Day and all that it has to offer one another. For more information, pick up a flyer in the narthex. We hope you'll join us!

Second Sundays At Two

Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

~ presents ~

Pianist **STEVEN VANHAUWAERT**

~ with the ~

INNER CITY YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF LOS ANGELES

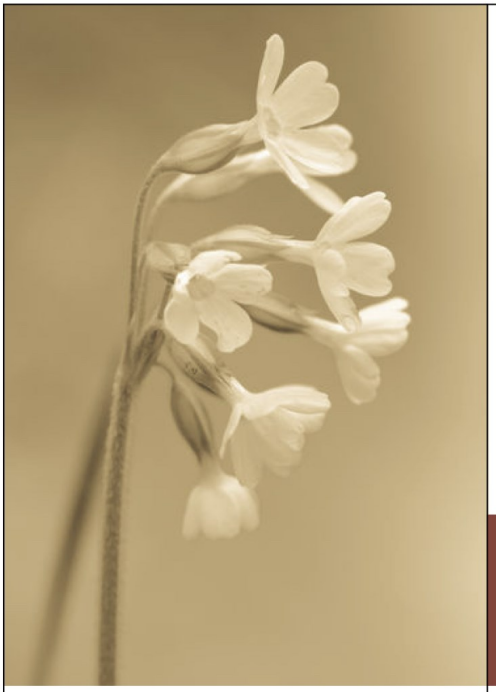
~ under the direction of ~

CHARLES DICKERSON III

A native of Belgium, **Steven Vanhauwaert** was hailed by the Los Angeles Times for his "impressive clarity, sense of structure and monster technique." His accolades include First Prize at the Los Angeles International Liszt Competition. He has appeared as a soloist in some of the world's leading venues, including Walt Disney Concert Hall, Beijing's National Center of the Performing Arts and Forbidden City Theatre, the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, the *Concertgebouw* in Brugge, the Great Hall of the Budapest Liszt Conservatory, Segerstrom Hall, and the National Philharmonic Hall in Kiev. He has appeared as concerto soloist with the Pacific Symphony, the Lviv Philharmonic, the Sofia Sinfonietta, the Flemish Symphony, and the Kyiv Kamerata, to name just some. Steven is a Steinway Artist.

Steven Vanhauwaert is returning for his seventh appearance on the *Second Sundays at Two* series to perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.3 with the **Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles** (ICYOLA) under the direction of Maestro **Charles Dickerson III**.

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



COMFORT & COURAGE

FOR THE HOLIDAYS

A GATHERING FOR BEREAVED FAMILY MEMBERS

CLAIRE TOWLE

A Licensed Clinical Social Worker who specializes in the area of grief and loss, Claire Towle received a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Southern California where her focus was medical social work. She is a Certified Bereavement Facilitator, Certified Trauma Professional and Certified in Thanatology (the study of death and loss). Claire was formerly the Associate Director of Bereavement Services and the Director of The Gathering Place, a community bereavement center, for Providence TrinityCare Hospice. While with The Gathering Place, she provided grief counseling and support group facilitation to the bereaved.

CHOOSE A DATE TO ATTEND:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019
2:00 PM
ALDERSGATE ROOM
or
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2019
7:00 PM
GARDEN VIEW ROOM *(2nd floor, new building)*

Whether you have experienced the death of a child, spouse, longtime partner, parent, sibling, grandchild or other significant person, you are welcome. Claire Towle, experienced grief counselor will facilitate.

Reserve your spot by calling or emailing the church office at:

(310) 377-6771
churchoffice@rhumc.org

Thanksgiving Dinner

SILENT AUCTION 11/23 5:30 - 6:30 PM

This year, Thanksgiving Dinner will include a Silent Auction.
Join in the fun and bid on one of the donated items.
All proceeds benefit the Building Fund!

ITALIAN DINNER FOR 8 GUESTS
Ciao Bella!! Elegant 8-course Italian dinner at the Gehr's home with wine pairings with each course.
Minimum Bid: $600
Value: $800

DODGER TICKETS
(4) behind home plate (parking is included)
Minimum Bid: $350
Value: $450

ME
Massage Envy

MASSAGES
Three (3) one hour massages with a 3-month membership to Massage Envy.
Minimum Bid: $150
Value: $210

GOLF
Lucky 3 golfers will join a RHUMC member for a glorious round of golf @ Virginia Country Club.
Minimum Bid: $350
Value: $450

DISNEYLAND
4 tickets to the happiest place on earth!
Good through 2020.
Minimum Bid: $450
Value: $600

CONCERT CERTIFICATE
Use certificate for LA Phil @ Walt Disney Hall, Hollywood Bowl, or shopping at LA Phil Store or Hollywood Bowl Store. Also good for dining @ selected restaurants in and around Music Center.
Minimum Bid: $200
Value: $250

GOURMET TREATS
Bristol Farms gourmet gift basket.
Minimum Bid: $65
Value: $100

KID ZONE SUMMER CAMP *(Kindergarten ready – 5th grade)*
One week of full day care, including early and late care.
We offer five different classes that your child can choose from: Art, Science, Performing Arts, Cooking and Sports.
Minimum Bid: $250
Value: $365

MID ZONE SUMMER CAMP *(Middle School)*
One week of full day care, including early and late care.
Your child gets the opportunity to explore LA and Orange County with exciting field trips.
Minimum Bid: $250
Value: $385

The bidding window is 5:30 – 6:30 pm on Saturday, November 23.
Come early. Bring your checkbook!
Thanksgiving Dinner is served at 6:30 pm.

Help us Decorate the Sanctuary with Poinsettias for Christmas!

You are invited to purchase one or more poinsettia plants to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. The plants can be dedicated a few different ways.

☐ To the Glory of God

☐ In Honor of: _____

_____

_____

☐ In Memory of: _____

_____

_____

Given by: _____

Number of plants:_____ Amount paid: _____

Cash: _____ Check number: _____

Please make checks payable to RHUMC for $15 per plant, or 2 for $25. Give this order form and payment to the volunteers staffing the table on the patio, place in the offering basket, or send to the office. **The last day to order plants is December 8th.**

Thank you!

Chancel Choir Christmas Concert

The Christmas Concert will be presented on **Saturday, December 21**, at 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. The choir will be joined by members of the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles in a performance of Movements 1-3 of the "Christmas Oratorio," by J.S. Bach; and Selections from "Great Joy," by Joseph Joubert. Tickets may be purchased for $10 on the patio or in the office.

Bells Ring Again for the Salvation Army!

Volunteers from RHUMC have been ringing bells for the Salvation Army for 7 seasons….and we hope you will join us this year. We have raised over $8700, one person at a time, ringing the bell for 1.5 hours during December. It is true: one person can make a difference! We meet at Vons in Redondo Beach after 5:00 p.m., as that is the busiest time. We have families, pals together, young people (must have adult with them), songsters, or simply you and a friendly greeting. Our kettles are returned to the Redondo Beach Army for their work in our community which includes Meals on Wheels, youth summer camps, a food pantry, holiday meals and toy distribution.

I will be on the patio Sunday, November 17, with a kettle and a bell to answer questions and take sign-ups. You will be contacted to choose a date that suits your schedule. We have many volunteers that make bell-ringing a part of their Christmas tradition….we hope you will too.

Roxanne Morse
310-543-2281

Hanging of the Greens

The Worship Committee invites you to get into the holiday spirit by helping us transform the church. We invite you to join us on:

Sat., Nov. 30th, 8:30-10:30 AM – Decorating the huge Narthex tree

Sat., Dec. 7th, 8:30-10:30 AM – Decorating the Sanctuary

Fri., Dec. 13th, 8:30-10:30 AM – Decorating with poinsettias

Come share the spirit!

United Methodist Men's Breakfast

Join us for breakfast on **Saturday, November 16**, in room 208 of the new facility. Bob Chamberlin will be our guest speaker and will talk about his trip to Brazil. Coffee at 7:30 a.m.; Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and Guest Speaker at 8:30 a.m.

Second Sunday Supper

We hope you can join us for dinner on **Sunday, November 10,** after 3rd service. This month's Second Sunday Supper is lasagna (traditional and a gluten-free/vegetarian option), salad and garlic bread from Sorrento's Restaurant in San Pedro. The requested donation is $5 per person, $15 per family. 3rd service takes place every Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

Altar Flowers

The new flower chart for 2020 has arrived! Sign up early to ensure you get your favorite date to honor, celebrate, or remember that someone special!

Club Maintenance

Club Maintenance met on October 12 to whittle away at the task list. Task completed were: replace choir room A/C filters, install door sweep on the fire riser door, assemble a table for the office building, hang the Church Nursery sign, install hooks to hang elevator pads (2/3 complete), move refrigerator from choir room, replace burned out sanctuary light, fill gap under kitchen sink cabinets, and take the kitchen window screens in to get rescreened. Performing these tasks were: Bill Bails, Steve Boilard, Bob Chamberlin, Clarence Fung, Dave Larson, Keith Levan and Jim Showalter. The next meeting will be held on **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 a.m. Please join us to help maintain this wonderful facility we have. All are welcome. Lunch is served.

Follow Rolling Hills UMC on social media for updates, events, photos and more!

www.facebook.com/RHUMC26438/

Rolling_Hills_UMC

Junior High (6th-8th grade)

Christmas Handbell Choir

This year at the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service the Junior High youth will be playing "The Little Drummer Boy" on the handbells. All levels of experience are welcome to participate!

The rehearsals are on:
Sunday, December 1 @ 11:00-11:30 a.m.
Sunday, December 8 @ 11:00-11:30 a.m.
Sunday, December 15 @ 11:00-11:30 a.m.
Saturday, December 21 @ 12:00-12:30 p.m.

Please contact Kristin (Kristin@rhumc.org) with any questions. Let Kristin know before November 20 that you are interested in playing in the choir so that we can assign the bell positions.

Kid Zone

Join Kid Zone at our
Thanksgiving Break Camp

Monday, November 25 to Wednesday, November 27

Open from 7:30am to 6:00pm Monday and Tuesday.
Wednesday we will be open from 7:30am– 4:00pm
For more information contact Kid Zone:
Phone: 310-377-7302
Email: kidzone.midzone@rhumc.org

Children's Ministry

The Great Pumpkin Hunt

A big thank you to all of you who came and joined us for "The Great Pumpkin Hunt," at the South Coast Botanic Garden on Sunday, October 13th.

Starting with a picnic lunch in the lower meadow and ending with a trolley ride to the pumpkin patch, a festive time was had by all!

Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool Fundraiser

We hope you can join us on **Thursday, November 14**, at the California Pizza Kitchen between 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. and 20% of food and beverage sales will be donated back to our preschool. Offer valid for dine-in and/or takeout. Hope to see you there!

California Pizza Kitchen
25304 Crenshaw Blvd
Torrance, CA 90505
Located in Rolling Hills Plaza
310-539-5410

Youth Ministries

Ignite: De-Stress Night Nov. 6 @ 6:30-8:00pm
Relax and enjoy beginner level yoga, creating stress balls, and making a delicious treat. Please bring your own yoga mat if you own one and wear clothes you can move in. Dinner will be provided.

Ignite: Cook Off Nov. 13 @ 6:30-8:00pm
Teams will compete to create the best meal. Youth will consume the creations in the end as an eclectic feast.

Ignite: Movie Night Nov. 20 @ 6:30-8:30pm
Dress warmly and bring a friend to enjoy a movie outside under the stars. (Movie TBA) Dinner will be provided.

Ignite: Poinsettias and Carols Dec. 4 @ 6:30-8:00pm
Youth will meet at RHUMC and we will drive to the dwelling places of various congregation members to deliver poinsettias and sing Christmas carols. Dinner will be provided.

Youth Sunday School is offered every Sunday during the 10:00am worship service & the last Sunday of the month during the 5:30pm worship service followed by dinner at "Taco Night."

Service Opportunity

All Church Thanksgiving Meal
Nov. 23 @ 5:30-9pm
Help serve dinner at RHUMC's annual Thanksgiving event. Proceeds from the feast will support the SSP mission trip.

Please contact the Director of Youth Ministries, Kristin Reksc, with any questions at Kristin@rhumc.org

If you would like text message reminders for youth events please text the keyword "RHUMCyouth" to 33222.

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 November 22
www.rhumc.org