The Cornerstone

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

May 2022

Mother's Day Muffins
Sunday, May 8

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

Muffins, juice, and coffee on the patio
after the 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. service.

from the pastors *Jonathan Chute*

As we headed toward Holy Week we really didn't know what to expect. Actually, it goes back weeks before that, when Chuck and I spoke about the possibility of a Good Friday concert. Could we do that? It seemed like we could. We weren't positive. But we have lots of practice with making course corrections lately. So we decided to give it a go. Of course the choir stepped up, sang their hearts out, and helped center our hearts and spirits on one of the most important nights of the Christian year.

By then we'd had a great beginning, with the installation of the Palm arch the previous Sunday, and the commemoration of the night of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday. But the tears on so many faces testified to the connection the music had made. Decorating the next morning for Easter, that was all many of us could talk about. But there were dozens of children running around the campus that morning as well, hunting for Easter Eggs. The story of God's undying love for us is accessible in different ways at different times in our lives.

About 50 intrepid souls braved the cool of early morning and celebrated Christ's resurrection as the sun rose. Hummingbirds zoomed in and out of the Meditation Garden, reminding us that it is not only to us, but to all Creation, that this gift of new life is given.

What I felt throughout the rest of the morning, as we all came and went, was that this year, more than any in recent years, felt like a family reunion. People who hadn't seen each other, literally for years, had the chance to be together in community, in joy, in wonder and hope. Seeing one another face to face means more to us now than perhaps it ever did. It seemed as if long lost friends were being reunited.

Of course, as with many of the best family reunions, there were new members of the family! People who were new to the community, or just new to us, came to share in the celebration. That same feeling continued through Sunday evening, when a record for 3rd service Easter worshipers came together. We had wondered about whether we should offer so many services when we are still finding our way out of the pandemic. As I look back over the whole of Easter, I'm *so glad* we did! We couldn't have fit everyone if we hadn't!

As we look with hope to the future, I want to share an advance word about a program we plan to launch later this year. We have been growing steadily, and our needs for ongoing congregational care have been growing even more so. We don't want to miss the opportunity for connecting and caring for one another through the events of everyday, ordinary life. *Caring Congregations* grew out of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, in Leawood, KS. Kristin Sutrave, our excellent Youth Pastor, has been serving with us for the past four years. In addition to her theological education she received a Master's of Social Work from Boston University, and has long been interested in chaplaincy work. We will be increasing her from half to 3/4 time in order to help develop this new program within RHUMC.

There's more to come on that, but then there's *always* more to come when the good news of resurrection is received, and then lived, by God's people in the world. Happy Easter!

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

Dear Friends: I'm going to let Bob's photos do the talking.

What a glorious Holy Week! Grace and peace to all.

April

Dawn Unity Interfaith Bible Lecture

Our fourth panel will be "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" to be presented on Tuesday, May 17, 7:30 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 5845 Crestridge Rd. The panelists will be Chaplain Laura Krauss, St. Joseph Hospital; Fr. Paul Joseph Spellman, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church; Rabbi Cantor Marcia Tilchin, Jewish Collaboration of Orange County; and President Joseph Whitaker, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with Bob Rothman the moderator. What is our responsibility to help those in need? What are the roles of individuals, congregations, non-religious organizations, and government? It will be live streamed at facebook.com/dawnunitygroup/live and available after the event at DawnUnityGroup on YouTube. For further information call (310) 833-7008.

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME CROP HUNGER WALK

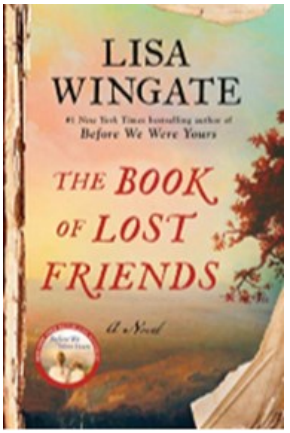
Join Us at the 2022 Peninsula/ Harbor CROP Hunger Walk May 15-22

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. RHUMC will take part in this year's CROP Hunger Walk at the South Coast Botanic Garden. Sign up to join our team at **https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/ team/rolling-hills-umc**. To schedule walking with other members of the RHUMC team, text or call **Debra Shrader (424)242-4438**. Garden members can register and walk any time during the week. If you are not a Garden member, your team leader will arrange a day for you to walk and coordinate with the Garden. You can also walk on the Garden's "Free Tuesday" on May 17 by calling the Garden directly at 424-452-0920 for reservations.

Missions Committee - by Chris Campbell & Debra Shrader

The spring project for the RHUMC Missions Committee is to help support our local organization HungryToHelpca.org by collecting hygiene supplies and monetary donations to help purchase portable showers for those who are homeless. We will be collecting hygiene donations (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine products, etc.) through the end of May. You can drop off supplies to the church office or if you would like to make a monetary donation either online or by check, please include Hungry to Help in the memo. God's love in action!

May/June Reading: “The Book of Lost Friends”



Bestselling author Lisa Wingate brings to life startling stories from actual “Lost Friends” advertisements that appeared in Southern newspapers after the Civil War, as separated families desperately searched for one another. Churches served as a conduit for connection. Set primarily in Louisiana, the action alternates between 1875 and 1987 and brings with it an invitation to grow in awareness of our history.

April Herron will lead a discussion via Zoom on Monday, June 20 at 7:00 p.m. The in-person conversation will happen a week later at 2:00 p.m. on June 27 in the Aldersgate Room. Please email April@rhumc.org so she can plan for your participation and send you relevant information.

Kitchen Updates Coming!

“If you can’t stand the heat, get out of the kitchen.” Harry Truman was right! And the RHUMC kitchen has been one of the warmest rooms in all of God’s creation. With eight gas pilot lights burning constantly, fridge and freezer venting their share of heat to the room, a dishwasher in regular need of repair, and not enough storage for too many important items, it has long been a dream to renew and update one of the busiest rooms on the campus.

Our kitchen is used to prepare snacks five days a week for Kid Zone, our after school program. It is where dinner is made for our mid-week youth group, Ignite. Our Hospitality Committee uses it to support families with memorial receptions and other special events. Each month, meals for persons who are homeless are prepared and delivered by caring and generous hands. The annual (can we call it that again?) Thanksgiving Dinner has been lovingly created for many years, bringing people together and supporting our Mission Fiesta and work with Sierra Service Project.

At our April 20 meeting, the Administrative Board meeting authorized a kitchen remodel task force. The group will bring a number of recommendations on remodeling the kitchen, with work to begin as soon as this late summer. It will include updating or replacing key appliances, improving storage and flexibility for our many users, bringing it up to date with the rest of our campus.

Members of the Kitchen Task Force include: Suellen and Clarence Fung, Dale Gehr, Peggy Roulette, Maureen Banasky, Mary Jane Schwebel, Tammy Scott, Kevin Borg, Robyn Peacock, Jason Cave, Kristin Sutrave and Doug Kemps. We look forward to sharing the results of our research and recommendations, and even more to the good things coming out of the kitchen when we’re done!

Shared Gratitude

We would like to extend a great big "thank you" to the wonderful folks at Rolling Hills UMC for the joyous patio reception and wedding gift. We were so excited to use our new paddle board while on vacation with our family. This congregation has truly showered us with love and well wishes. Thank you!

Kristin and Akshay Sutrave

Dedication of Shirley's Shades

On Sunday, April 24, we had a lovely dedication of Shirley's Shades. The umbrellas have been set up in our preschool playgrounds and provide much needed shade for our preschool children. Thanks to Bill Bails who has donated the shades in memory of his wife Shirley. A dedication plaque has been placed on the wall outside of the preschool office.

Memory Care Support Group

Lauren Mahakian began her work with families facing memory loss and aging a number of years ago. She has been helpful with a number of RHUMC families over the years, working with them at home as well as in local care facilities. In recent years she opened three homes in Torrance, one in Solvang & coming later this year four in Westchester.

Along with this work she has offered free support groups for families and caregivers in a variety of local settings, including at RHUMC. She will again be doing so with us from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, beginning in May. If you or someone you know would benefit from taking part, please call the church office at 310-377-6771 or email at churchoffice@rhumc.org to reserve your spot.

FREE **SUPPORT GROUP for** those caring for a loved one with

Dementia, Alzheimer's or Parkinson's

Wednesdays
May 11 & 25
10:00-11:00 a.m.
in the Aldersgate Room

Lauren Mahakian

Certified Dementia Practitioner, Speaker
Facilitator/Educator
Certified Validation Therapy
HCO#194700543

The discovery of memory loss can be daunting, yet in our experience, professional guidance and learning from others with similar experiences can be very helpful. Join PV News columnist, certified dementia practitioner, and founder/CEO of Family Connect Memory Care Lauren Mahakian at this community-based gathering of people that share support, tips, and authenticity. Our groups are designed for those caring for a loved one with dementia, Alzheimer's or cognitive decline. All groups are led by Lauren Mahakian and are free of charge. Please contact the church office to RSVP at churchoffice@rhumc.org or call at 310-377-6771.

Martha's Circle Invitation - by Barbara Addleman

To All Women at RHUMC:

Do you love watching the antics of cute little penguins? Are you awestruck by magnificent icebergs especially when you realize that 87% of them are under water? If so please join us at Martha Circle on Monday, May 9 at 12:00 noon in the Aldersgate Room. Bring a brown bag lunch and go on a vicarious tour of Antarctica, a place many consider the most beautiful in the world. Shirley Fehrman will present her amazing video about her trip to this very special place. If you saw her video on her trek to the gorillas, you know that this will be a special treat for all. Martha Circle always welcomes all women of our church – you don't have to be a circle member to join us in a particular program that might interest you. Of course, you are always welcome to become a member – membership is open to all any time of the year. Hope to see some new faces for this wonderful program. If you have any questions, please contact Phyllis Goetz at 310-377-5405 or Edith Utterberg at 310-265-2209.

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Lazy W Ranch faith grows here

Family & Friends Camp is just around the corner! We hope you can join us for **Memorial Day Weekend**, **May 27-30**, 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 or call the church office at 310-377-6771.

Mother's Day Flowers

Sierra Service Project Fundraiser

Calling all grateful and loving spouses, parents, and children. Let the mother in your life know how special she is by giving her roses on Mother's Day.

The youth are pre-selling Mother's Day roses April 24 and May 1 on the church patio. You will be able to **pick up the arrangements on Mother's Day, May 8, following the 8:30am, 10:00am, and 5:30 worship services**. Delivery on Saturday, May 7, is also available for an additional $10 fee. Thank you for your support.

Name: _____

Number of flower arrangements: _____

Amount Paid: _____

Check Number: _____Cash: ____ Credit Card: ____

Please make checks payable to RHUMC for $35 per arrangement.
Give this order form and payment to the youth volunteers staffing the table on the patio, place in the offering plate, or send to the church office. Credit card payments can be made on the church website, please designate the transaction as "Mother's Day Flowers." Thank you!

Blood Pressure Sundays Resume

Blood Pressure Sundays resume this month, twice monthly following our morning services and monthly following our evening service. Our parish nurse, Annette Matsuda, wearing a mask and face shield, will offer the screenings and be happy to discuss any other health-related concerns you may have. Screenings after the morning services are on May 1 & 15 and after 3rd service on May 29.

Learning Opportunity from Dawn Unity

Two lectures will be presented on the origins and effects of anti-Semitism by Father Alexei Smith and Dr. Bob Rothman, 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 16 and May 23 at St. John Fisher Catholic Church, 5448 Crest Road, Rancho Palos Verdes. They will be live streamed via the link facebook.com/dawnunitygroup/live and will be archived on the Youtube channel DawnUnityGroup. For further questions call (310) 833-7008.

Donut Sundays - Seeking Volunteers - by Maureen Banasky

We are back serving donut holes, juice and coffee on the last Sunday of each month - hooray, right? Prior Donut Sundays were on the 5th Sunday of the month only. In the long history of Methodists providing food for almost everything we do, having this event every month fits in - it's traditional! We need some folks to help make this happen. Singles, couples, family group, youth looking for service hours, are encouraged to participate in Donut Ministry! It's one of the happiest ways to help the congregation because donut hosts get nothing but smiles! Shopping expenses will be covered and you get the appreciation from our membership. How win-win can you get?

Please respond to Maureen Banasky at chomo2@cox.net, 310-378-4646 or 310-346-8983.

Club Maintenance - by Dave Larson

On April 9 Club Maintenance participants and other church members worked on a variety of tasks. The large task was the addition of wood chips to the four patio tree basins, and spreading 9 yd^3 of mulch in a variety of locations.

We also erected the palm arch, utilizing palm fronds donated by our friends at the South Coast Botanic Garden. And we also completed a variety of smaller tasks.

Also, thanks to a team of CM volunteers who erected the decorated cross on the Saturday prior to Easter and took it down on the Monday after Easter.

Our next opportunity for CM work will be on **Saturday, May 14**, at 8:30 a.m. Don McCurry will be coordinating this effort.

Second Sundays at Two

Sunday, May 8 at 2:00 p.m.

~ presents ~

THE FELICI PIANO TRIO
with **AMBROISE AUBRUN**

Violinist/Violist
REBECCA HANG

Cellist
BRIAN SCHULDT

Pianist
STEVEN VANHAUWAERT

Violinist
AMBROISE AUBRUN

French violinist Ambroise Aubrun joins the Felici Piano Trio for a performance of Antonín Dvořák's great Romantic-era masterpiece, Piano Quartet No.2 in E♭ Major .

Live-Streamed over the Internet ~ No Live Audience

Check the concert announcement at
www.RHUMC.org
for the link to the recital

Kid Zone After-School Program

RHUMC Kid Zone is an after-school program for elementary and middle school students offering a fun and safe environment while supervising the completion of daily homework. Student pickup from many local schools is provided.
For more information call 310-377-7302
or email **kidzone.midzone@rhumc.org**.

KID ZONE Summer Camp 2022

SUMMER CAMP DATES: June 13 - August 12

For more information, contact Gabby Palacios at
kidzone.midzone@rhumc.org
310-377-7302 or 323-610-2253

Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool Fundraiser

Wednesday, May 11 - Available from 10:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

Mod Pizza
3A Peninsula Center
Rolling Hills Estates, CA
310-265-0100

20% of the proceeds will be donated to RHUMPS.

Indicate RUMPS when ordering so credit will be given.

MOD PIZZA

Online Orders:
Modpizza.com or the App
Fundraiser code: GR205621R

Youth Ministries

Ignite Youth Mid-Week Ministry

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at RHUMC

May 4 – Relationships: Family
May 11 – Relationships: Time
May 18 – Relationships: The Church
May 25 – Graduation Celebration (This is the last Ignite of the school year. Ignite will resume in the fall.)

May 15-22 Service Opportunity: Crop Walk
Youth are invited to help fight hunger locally and globally by raising funds for Church World Services. It's as easy as registering online, collecting sponsors, then selecting a date and time to walk in the South Coast Botanic Garden. For more information contact Kristin.

Save the Date: Graduation Celebration

Wednesday, May 25 at 7:00 p.m. we will be celebrating youth who are being promoted into 6th grade and 9th grade, and those who are graduating high school. The whole family is invited to attend! If you would like to be included in the slideshow please send Kristin a photo and the name of the school you will be attending. Dessert and refreshments will be served.

Hungry to Help: Interfaith Service Project

Join with youth from other faith traditions as we gather at RHUMC to help cook a meal for those experiencing food scarcity and assemble hygiene kits from the supplies collected by the missions committee. We will meet Saturday, May 21, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Space is limited; please contact Kristin if you would like to join.

Youth Sunday School

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Kristin Sutrave, Director of Youth Ministries
Cell phone: 562-234-0161 Email: Kristin@rhumc.org
Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/RHyouth **Instagram**: rhumcyouth_

Children's Ministry

Vacation Bible Camp

August 1st – 5th
Ages 3 years old (potty trained) thru 5th Grade

Wonderful Bible stories, Kid Vid, Crafts, Games and tasty snacks!

Priority registration for RHUMC families begins online at rhumc.org on April 27

Open public registration begins May 4

Contact Debra DeLuca at debra@rhumc.org or the church office at (310) 377-6771.

Space is limited / No walk-ins

Looking for adventure? Looking to be a mentor?

Come be a volunteer at our Vacation Bible Camp
Monday, August 1st through Friday, August 5th
9:00 a.m. until noon.

We would love to open camp to as many families as possible, but we are dependent on our volunteers. Not only are volunteers essential to our VBC, but the relationships that are built during the week last a lifetime!

From crew members to craft helpers, snack helpers to game leaders, many volunteers are needed!

Contact Debra at debra@rhumc.org
or (310) 377-6771

There's a place for you here at
Rolling Hills United Methodist Church.

Join us as we learn and build a solid foundation
with Jesus during Sunday School classes each week.
Through our Bible stories, videos, crafts, music, and games,
we will lead your children on a life-long journey of faith.

Our services are at 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

PreK - Kindergarten (potty trained) with Ms. Debra in room #201
1st - 2nd grade with Ms. Natalie in room #205
3rd - 5th grade with Ms. Stevie in room #204
Our nursery is now open for children 3 years of age and younger in room 110
with our wonderful caregiver Ms. Michelle

We can't wait to see you in person! If you have any questions or would
like more information, please contact me at debra@rhumc.org.

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	Catherine Dingman
Youth Ministry Pastor	Kristin Sutrave	Church Office Admin.	Peggy Roulette
Kid Zone Director	Gabby Palacios	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 May 27
www.rhumc.org