The Cornerstone

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

June 2023

Dads & Donuts

Join us Sunday, June 18 as we celebrate Father's Day and recognize all the positive male figures in our lives.

Following the 1st and 2nd service we will have donuts, juice and coffee on the patio.

After the 3rd service we will have cookies in the narthex.

from the pastors *Jonathan Chute*

Summer is coming – or at least I'm holding out the hope that it will finally and actually arrive. Graduations are happening. The kids are out of school. Some of us are planning to get away and enjoy traditional seasonal adventures. When I served a church in Canada, Sunday mornings during the summer resembled a ghost town. There was hardly any traffic to speak of. So many people went up to the lake, or out to the bush, that it made driving around town kind of a breeze. Here in our part of southern California it's not quite that simple. We do lots of things in other parts of the year. Summer still offers a respite, a break, from our routines. We love having light into the evening. But we don't really shut down for summer.

That's especially true here at RHUMC. There's no such thing as the "summer slump." Later this month we'll be welcoming a number of new members into our church family. This will include people who have been with us for a few weeks, a few months, or even a couple of years. What a gift it is to see people find a sense of home, of belonging. We look forward to living and growing together.

Preschool graduation takes place next week, but our Kid Zone Summer Camp and summer preschool programs are ready to roll. Our campus will be just as busy – if not busier – over the next two and a half months than it is through the rest of the year. We are so fortunate to have such capable persons leading our summer children's programs. Not only do we provide a safe and encouraging place for children from two years old through middle school, but we hire a number of high school and college students to help carry out the program. For some of these young people it will be their very first experience with paid work.

April will be leading a summer Bible study. Our high school youth will be taking part in a week of work with Sierra Service Project. They will be located in the community of Smith River, right up near the Oregon border. Working on homes, a community garden, or other worthwhile projects in the area, working with each other, exploring their faith, asking questions and learning about both themselves and the world around them is a mind and heart-opening experience.

So we're not exactly going on break around here. Kristin and Cassie will be giving their all as they lead our youth in that effort. Debra and Natalie and Stevie will be pulling off one of the best Vacation Bible Camps that the world has ever seen.

If you have the fun of being away somewhere far from home, I hope you have a wonderful time. But we want you to be sure that even while you are gone, as the choir sings, "God is still moving." You probably knew that already.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

Dear Friends,

Often while reading the Bible, I have been guilty of skimming over the geographic details in favor of attention to plot development or an effort to discover the message that the writer means to convey. Bob's and my recent travels in Greece, Turkey, and Malta helped me to remember and rejoice in the fact that the events of the Bible happened in actual places. Being in those places can help the stories come alive in new ways.

To be on a ship admiring the beautiful and rugged Taurus mountains, and then to walk amidst the ancient ruins of Perga is to become aware that the apostle Paul, like all of us, had a hometown. It invites imaginative musings that Paul might have been especially happy when his extensive journey on behalf of the gospel brought him near to the place where he started out in the world. It makes real the distances that were involved, the challenges that may have been faced, and the time required to move between places with fewer of the securities and protections we enjoy today.

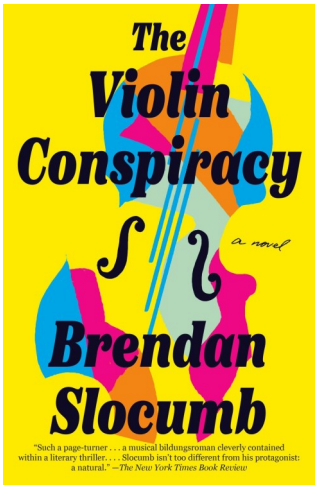
To arrive at the island of Malta, where the boat carrying Paul to Rome was smashed to bits after crashing onto a reef in high seas, is to be amazed by both contrast and continuity. Development of the island is ongoing, and it cannot possibly look anything like it did back then. And yet it was a place where the survivors of the sea voyage were kindly welcomed to the warmth of a fire and given hospitality by the person in the highest position of leadership at the time.

To go from Athens to Corinth to Ephesus to Pergamum and Sardis is to become newly awakened to what we actually have in common with the people in those places, both now and long ago. Just as the golden poppies had been blooming in here, red poppies and other spring flowers were covering the hillsides there. Just as we experienced a long run of overcast skies and temperatures in the 60's during the early spring, so it was in nearly all the places we visited during May. Just as the view from 25th and Gaffey (where Bob and I live) features cranes and container ships, so it was in the ports of the Aegean, the Marmara, the Ionian, and the Mediterranean Seas. We belong to a wide and wondrous world, with aspects both strange and familiar!

May your summer travels, whether to places near or far, be blessed.

April

The Violin Conspiracy for June Book Discussion



"A musical thriller with some unexpected notes," is how the New York Times describes Brendan Slocumb's 2022 book, "The Violin Conspiracy." The author himself is a musician and music teacher, and a lover of Sherlock Holmes mysteries. He began writing during the pandemic lockdown of 2020 and drew upon his own life experiences to craft his stories. So, if you like music, or mysteries, or books that can offer you a glimpse of what someone else's life is like, read the novel and join the conversation! Readers will gather on **Monday, June 26**. Some enjoy being together in person, at 2:00 p.m. in the choir room. Others convene via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. Please email April@rhumc.org to let her know of your plans to participate.

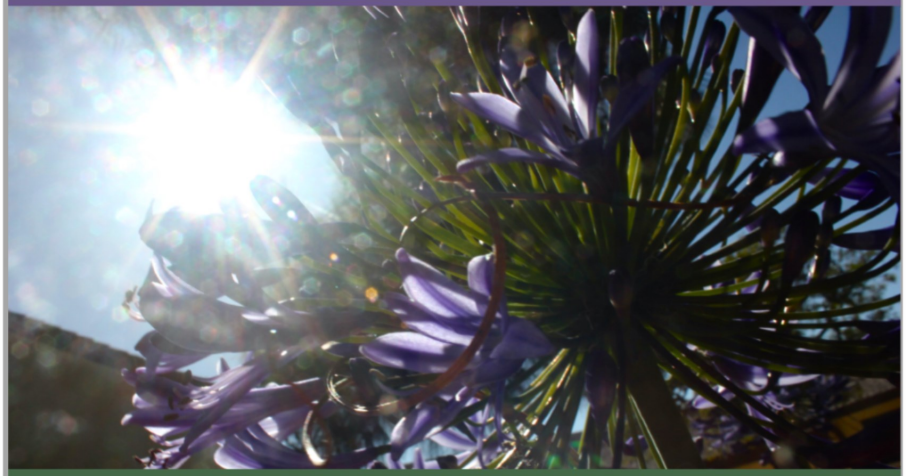
Newcomer Gathering and Opportunity for Membership

RHUMC is eager for you to feel at home! If you would like to learn more about our ministries and meet others who are getting acquainted with our community of faith, please come to a "welcome session" on **Sunday, June 11** at 11:15 a.m. You'll get a chance to visit with one another and the pastors, take a tour, and enjoy lunch. Boxed lunches may be taken home or served on campus. Please make a reservation by calling 310 377 6771 or sending an email to churchoffice@rhumc.org. Those who then wish to become members of the church will have an opportunity to do so on Sunday, June 25, at any of the three worship services - but this is not a requirement for participation. We are glad you are here.

Mission Committee - Debra Shrader and Chris Campbell, co-chairpersons

The Mission Committee is sponsoring an **Interfaith Café for South Coast Interfaith Council, Sunday, June 11, from 3:00-5:00 p.m.** It will be held in the Education Building, Rooms 204 and 205. This event is the first of several monthly meetings in which people from diverse faith communities can engage in dialogue. Using a board game "we believe 2" small group conversation will lead to mutual understanding and respect. When we sit and talk about what is important to us, our world begins to change, we become more alive, and we tap into hope. Please register your plans to participate by emailing churchoffice@rhumc or call 310-377-6771. We hope you'll join us.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY



DISCOVERING THE DELIGHT OF GOD'S WORD

This study is meant to "help people learn *how* to engage with the Bible wisely, humbly, personally, and fruitfully."
- Brian McLaren

Participants will consider and adopt various strategies for understanding meaning within scripture. April Herron will guide the class using material written by Chuck Smith, Jr. Details and optional reading assignments will be provided upon registration. Email churchoffice@RHUMC.org to sign up!

TUESDAYS: One Hour in Length
10:30 am - In Person OR
7:00 pm - Via Zoom

June 6:
Observing the Formal Details

June 13:
Considering the Historical Backdrop

June 20:
Noticing the Cultural Realities

June 27:
Listening to the Inner Voice

ROLLING HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Sister Circle Invitation - Thursday, June 8 at 12:30 p.m. in the Aldersgate

Please join us to hear Joseph Alexander, a Holocaust survivor, as he tells his story. He is much in demand as a speaker, so we're grateful he's available on June 8 to be with us in the Aldersgate room. At 100 years old, it's amazing to think of the energy and enthusiasm he has.

He just returned from Germany, where he spoke at Dachau, at a conference with several high-level officials. His friend Reeva tells me that he appreciates questions from the audience, which will often trigger incredible stories for him to share. He also wants to talk with young people as much as possible.

Here are some articles about Joe.

https://www.latimes.com/socal/daily-pilot/news/story/2023-01-31/holocaust-survivor

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9RA9dSzgl8

Upcoming Celebration of Life at RHUMC

Saturday, June 10 at 11:00 a.m. - John Woodward
All are welcome to attend.

Blood Pressure Sundays

Blood pressure screenings are offered on the last Sunday of every month after each service. The morning screenings will be held in the church office conference room and after 3rd service in the Aldersgate room.

Taco Night

Join us for Taco Night after 3rd service on **Sunday, June 25.** You'll have a choice of chicken, beef or pork tacos served with rice, beans, and chips. 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 will next meet on **Saturday, June 10** at 8:30 a.m. We hope you can join us and share in the ongoing work to keep our facilities in good repair.

Second Sundays at Two

Sunday, June 11 at 2:00 p.m.

~ presents ~

New Hollywood String Quartet

Robert Brophy *viola*
Tereza Stanislav *violin*
Andrew Shulman *cello*
Rafael Rishik *violin*

The **New Hollywood String Quartet** comprises three Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra string players: Assistant Concertmaster **Tereza Stanislav**, violist **Robert Brophy**, and Principal Cellist **Andrew Shulman**; and NHSQ founding violinist **Rafael Rishik**.

Watch the livestream at ***https://vimeo.com/event/3431531***

Advance Reservations Are Required to Attend in Person
Email: ClassicalCrossroads@Earthlink.net by a day ahead and request to be included on the check-in list with the names of your guests. Proof of vaccination + booster required and N95-level masks (provided) are recommended.

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

Dementia, Alzheimer's or Parkinson's

Wednesdays
June 14 & 28
10:00-11:00am
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.

Kid Zone Summer Camp 2023

SUMMER CAMP DATES: June 12 - August 11

Available for children in grades TK - 8th grade

Contact Gabby Palacios for more information at

Kidzone.midzone@rhumc.org

310-377-7302 or 323-610-2253

KID ZONE RHUMC

wherever you go,
NO MATTER THE WEATHER,
ALWAYS BRING YOUR OWN
sunshine

Youth Celebrate and Give Thanks at RHUMC

IGNITE Graduates

Recent Confirmands

Mother's Day SSP Fundraiser

To everyone who purchased Mother's Day flowers, thank you for supporting our Sierra Service Project fundraiser! We hope you enjoyed the arrangements.

Youth Ministries

Youth Beach Day

Join us for a day at the beach, **Wednesday, June 21** from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. We will meet by the parking lot in front of the Torrance Beach Perry's. Please RSVP to Kristin@rhumc.org. Snacks and drinks will be provided, please bring money if you want to buy food at Perry's for lunch.

President's Volunteer Service Award

Applications for **PVSA are due by July 15, 2023.** Community service hours earned between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 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. Please contact Cassie Walke at Cassie@rhumc.org with any questions.

Youth Sunday School

Sunday school is available on Sundays during the 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. worship services. We will be gathering in Wesley Hall for rotation style classes with bible, activities, and cooking in the kitchen!

Ignite: Mid-Week Ministry

Ignite is now on summer break until our fall kick off on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. Keep an eye out for the monthly youth newsletter for summer gatherings!

Rev. 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

· · · SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer is here and it's time to shake things up a bit. Beginning June 4th, don't look upstairs for our Sunday School classes because you will not find us there!

Instead, you will find us across the patio in Wesley Hall. Our Summer School rotations are offered at our 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. church services. Children ages 3 years through 5th grade will exit the church with their Sunday School teachers after the children's sermon. They will walk across the patio to Wesley Hall and spend equal time in the following engaging areas:

Mission Room – Bible story and/or skit related to that week's Bible lesson
Wesley Hall – Craft and/or game related to that week's Bible lesson
Kitchen – Cooking and/or snack related to that week's Bible lesson (If your child has any food allergies, please be sure to let us know so we may plan accordingly)

It's sure to be wonderful times filled with faith and fun for everyone. Don't miss it!

Shepherds Needed!

This summer we look forward to 120 children attending our "Food Truck Party, on a Roll with God," **Vacation Bible Camp**
July 31-August 4 from 9:00-12:00 p.m.

To help our children experience this wonderful week we are **in need of many great youth and adult volunteers like yourself**.

A SHEPHERD, so to speak!
As a shepherd, you and 2 other shepherds will share in guiding a group of children from one station to another. Stations such as Bible, Science, Crafts, and Games where our designated Station Leader will lead the children through the experience while you help them enjoy each of our great daily Bible messages.

If you are interested in shepherding, please contact Debra DeLuca at debra@rhumc.org, (310) 377-6771, ext. 306, or after any of our church services on Sunday.

Thank you in advance for helping Jesus' light shine in our children.

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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
Children's Ministry Dir.	Debra DeLuca	3rd Service Music	Paula Kuno
Youth Ministry Pastor	Kristin Sutrave	Church Office Admin	Peggy Roulette
Kid Zone Director	Gabby Palacios	Admin. Asst.	Lori Brunn
Exec. Asst. to Pastor & Finance Manager	Catherine Dingman	Custodian	Miguel Portillo

Church Office Phone	310-377-6771	Resident Bishop	Dottie Escobedo-Frank
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 June 19
www.rhumc.org