The Cornerstone

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

November 2023

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

By the time you are reading this, you have probably received a letter in the mail from the Missions Committee about Mission Fiesta Sunday. In that mailing, there is information about the missions and missionaries (Heifer International, Habitat for Humanity, Red Bird Mission, Hannah Reasoner, Rev. Claudia Genung-Yamamoto, and Katherine Parker) that RHUMC supports on an ongoing basis. Enclosed in the mailing is a shopping list and a return envelope if you would like to send in a donation by mail.

You can also donate in person on Mission Fiesta Sunday on November 12 after any of the church services. We hope that you will stop by our Mission Fiesta tables outside after each morning service and in the Narthex after evening service. We will be serving Mexican pastries (pan dulces). The youth will also be selling the infamous pickles made by Fletcher Larson. So come help us celebrate Mission Fiesta Sunday and lend support to our very worthy causes!

We hope you will take a moment to read about what these wonderful people and organizations are doing to help people in need. We had a wonderful opportunity on October 23 at the church with Katherine Parker to learn about her missionary work in Nepal for the past 10 years. Her efforts include working with the communities to improve 1) water, sanitation, and hygiene; 2) dignity for migrant workers; and 3) reproductive health. What an inspiring evening!

from the pastor *Jonathan Chute*

November brings with it the changing of the clocks (yay!), the earlier arrival of the evening dark (boo!), the celebration of Thanksgiving, and opportunities to engage in God's mission.

Our Mission Fiesta Sunday, about a week from now, invites us to share generously with a range of outreach efforts. Our congregation supports four United Methodist missionaries or projects, reaching people in Appalachia, Central America, Nepal and Japan with an array of educational and spiritual resources. Your contribution to any or all of these will add to our annual support. In addition, we are glad to partner with Heifer International and Habitat for Humanity, two projects which help people around the globe to live more safely and securely in their communities.

During their Thanksgiving break, our youth will be taking part in two days of service, working with Toberman Neighborhood Center, the Garden Church and San Pedro UMC to serve unhoused and vulnerable persons in our area. They will be sharing in hands-on, tangible ways what it means for us to love our neighbors.

November is also when we remember with thanks the examples of those who have gone before us in faith. The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews describes the "great cloud of witnesses," who lived with courage and hope in their day and left a legacy of love that blesses us still. The Sunday of All Saints will honor the memories and celebrate the lives of members and friends of our church family who have died in the past year and been gathered into God's eternal care.

Honoring the memories of family and friends no longer with us is an expression of gratitude for the gift of their lives. This November we have been invited to be helpful with a number of families in times of loss. Some of these have been part of our congregation for many years, active and vital till recently. Others had moved away, but still counted RHUMC as their church home and family. Some came to us because they had nowhere else to go.

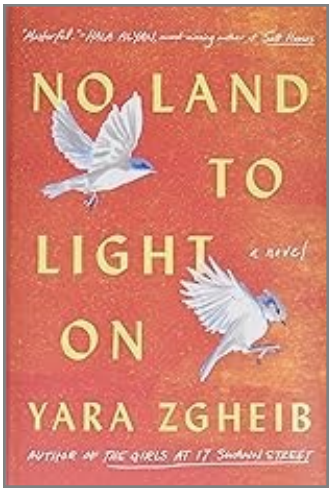
This, too, is God's mission. When we honor the grace of lives well lived, we also honor the dignity of others around us. Giving thanks for those who have gone on before is a reminder to cherish the lives of those with us now.

Thank you for helping us to live out our faith with generosity, compassion and hope in this season of grace and gratitude.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

November Book Discussion: "No Land to Light On"



Published reviews say this about how the book begins: "Sama and Hadi are a young Syrian couple in love, dreaming of their future in the country that brought them together." And this about how it ends: "A fascinatingly open-ended conclusion is fueled by decisions Hadi and Sama make that will stir lively debate among readers."

An unpublished review by a speedy RHUMC reader offers: "As usual, loved the book…kept me on the edge of my seat. Well written, so very satisfying …at least for me!! A good ending makes a great book."

All readers are welcome to join the discussion on Monday, November 27. We will gather in person at 2:00 p.m. in the choir room. The Zoom gathering will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please email April@rhumc.org to communicate your plans to participate.

RHUMC'S 2024 Winter Supper Club Sign-Ups

- by Co-Chairs Anna Randall & Debbie Taylor

Last year's Winter Supper Club was enjoyed by all who participated and we hope that each of you will start the New Year beginning in January with four months of participation and a new sense of friendship and fellowship by joining us. Consider signing up after the services on December 3 or December 10.

The Winter Supper Club members are adults who enjoy getting to know one another and find that food makes the cordiality even greater.

Meeting once a month starting this January on a four-month rotational basis, the members come together in one another's homes to share a meal with usually 6-7 others from the list. The host (couple or single) selects a date, time and main course. The meal might be a brunch, picnic, BBQ or dinner. The other three participants each provide another portion of the meal (usually salad, vegetable, or dessert.) Each member will be hosting one month and the three additional months will simply bring the assigned dish, a good appetite, and a smile.

We sincerely hope that this announcement is making you hungry to join!

We will be taking sign-ups following Sunday services on December 3 and 10. If you are unable to be at church then please email Anna Randall at annamrandall@gmail.com or call her at 310-541-9681. Your email/call will need to include:

Name (Couple or Single) Address Email Address Phone Number

We are confident that it will be fun and rewarding for all.

Chancel Choir's Christmas Concert - Saturday, December 16

This year's RHUMC Chancel Choir Christmas Concert will be the first in a series of three concerts that will feature the entirety of Handel's best known masterwork - Messiah. This much beloved baroque work is divided into three sections. Part I features the prophecy of Christ's coming, the birth of Christ, and the announcement of His birth to the shepherds. Part II focuses on Christ's Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension, shares about the first spreading of the gospel throughout the world, and ends with the definitive musical statement of God's glory with the *Hallelujah Chorus.* Part III opens with the promise of redemption, followed by a prediction of the day of judgment, and ends with the final victory over sin and death and the acclamation of Christ.

The Chancel Choir's Christmas Concert will feature Part I and will be presented at 7:00 p.m. on **Saturday, December 16**. Part II, commonly referred to as the Easter Section, will be presented on Good Friday, March 29. Part III will be presented on Sunday, April 7.

The choir will be joined by members of the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles for these performances, by soloists from the choir and elsewhere, and by singers from our community and our sister churches. Tickets for the Part I performance are available now, and may be purchased for $10 on the patio or in the church office.

The Caring Congregation (TCC)

We are pleased to announce that our church has now trained our second class of "Congregation Care Ministers" or "CCMs." Our CCMs have a clear passion for walking along side folks as they go through the mountains and valleys of life, and they are excited to meet with you all. These folks will serve as an extension of the pastoral team at RHUMC. Prayer and visitation requests can be made by filling out a Google form on the church website, emailing Kristin@rhumc.org or calling the church office.

RHUMC will commission Claire McCurry and Tony Moretti as Congregational Care Ministers on Sunday, November 12, 2023 during the 5:30 p.m. worship service.

Upcoming Celebrations of Life

Carolyn Oberparleiter - Saturday, November 4 at 11:00 a.m.
Connie Davenport - Sunday, November 5 at 1:00 p.m.
Jim Moore - Saturday, November 11 at 11:00 a.m.
Donovan Black - Saturday, November 25 at 1:00 p.m.

Bible Study for Adults

Christ in The Sights and Sounds of Advent

WEDNESDAYS:

2 pm – In Person

OR

7 pm – Via Zoom

NOVEMBER 29:
Do You See What I See?

DECEMBER 6:
Do You Hear What I Hear?

DECEMBER 13:
Do You Taste What I Taste?

DECEMBER 20:
Do You Feel What I Feel?

Our senses help create our experience of Christmas. We can read scripture with attention to what is being seen, heard, tasted, and felt - by us, and by God as God becomes human and dwells among us! This intriguing and insightful study will deepen our understanding and appreciation of God's presence.

Classes are led by April Herron. Please email churchoffice@rhumc.org to indicate your plans to participate. The book by Matt Rawle is available in the church office for $15. Alternatively, you may purchase an ebook version directly from your bookseller.

TOBERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER PARADE OF TREES

Join us for an afternoon of holiday cheer to support
Toberman Neighborhood Center!

Thursday, November 9, 2023 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Dalmation Club
1639 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Tickets are $85 per person. The event will include a three-course luncheon,
a silent auction and an opportunity to bid on festive trees
decorated by our youth, community members and partners.
For more information, click here to purchase tickets or go to Toberman.org.

Trek to the Tree

It is that wondrous time of the year! Trek to the Tree collections will begin on **Sunday, December 3 and run through Sunday, December 10.** These donations bring holiday joy for those at the Toberman Neighborhood Center.

Here are the options for participating this year:

- Pick an ornament from our big beautiful Christmas tree in the Narthex after church services to buy a gift for a child aged 1-9. Bring your unwrapped gift (no stuffed animals or weapons please) back to the tree or drop it off at the church office.
- Order directly from Toberman's Amazon Wish List accessible at Toberman Amazon Wish List.
- Donate cash for the purchase of $25 Target gift cards for youth 10 and older. You can write a check payable to RHUMC with Trek to the Tree in the memo line and either stop by the Trek to the Tree table after church services, mail your check to the church, or drop it off at the church office.
- You can also donate online at rhumc.org. Please include Trek to the Tree in the designated giving line.

Whichever way you choose to participate, please note that we need all toys and monetary donations no later than **Tuesday, December 12**. Thank you all in advance for your continuous generosity. And thank you to Noucha Jasanis for her 21st year of coordinating Trek to the Tree!

COMFORT & COURAGE
FOR THE HOLIDAYS

A GATHERING FOR BEREAVED FAMILY MEMBERS

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 7, 2023
CHOOSE:
2 PM or 7 PM
ALDERSGATE ROOM

ROLLING HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

(310) 377-6771
churchoffice@rhumc.org

Psalms 95:1,2,6
O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.
O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

Attention Martha Circle Members and Guests

Join us on **Monday, November 13** as our member Eileen Smith presents our program on Thanksgiving Hymns. We will hear about them and we will sing them. We will gather in the Aldersgate Room at 12:00 p.m. with our brown bag lunch and social time followed by a short business session and then the program. We encourage any ladies who are interested to come.

Hope to see you there!!

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, November 26**. You'll have a choice of chicken, been 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.

Second Sundays at Two

Sunday, November 12, at 2:00 p.m.

~ presents ~

Pianist Einav Yarden

"...imagination and exceptionally vivid playing ... Sense of immense majesty, tempered by gentleness and quiet grace,"
~ Washington Post

"glistening rapture ... ingenious humor,"
~ Tagesspiegel, Germany

Award-winning pianist **Einav Yarden** performs internationally as concerto soloist with leading orchestras such as the Israel Philharmonic, Jerusalem Symphony, Minnesota Symphony, Beethoven Orchester Bonn, Bucharest Philharmonic, and Calgary Philharmonic, to name some. Noteworthy stages she performs on as a recitalist include the *Berlin Philharmonie,* the *Beethoven-Haus Bonn,* Berlin Konzerthaus, Rose Theater at Lincoln Center, The Phillips Collection Concerts in Washington, DC, *Schumannsaal* in Düsseldorf, and Paris's *Salle Cortot* and the Auditorium of the *Musée d'Orsay* in France. She was the 3rd Prize Winner at the 2009 International Beethoven Piano Competition in Bonn, a Finalist at the 2003 Honens International Piano Competition in Calgary, and First Prize Winner at the 2001 Aviv Competitions, the most distinguished national competition in Israel. In 2005, Einav completed four years of study with renowned pianist Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University.

Watch the livestream at

https://Vimeo.com/event/3801619

Advance Reservations Requested 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*.

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

Dementia, Alzheimer's or Parkinson's

Wednesdays
November 8 & 29
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.

What is Club Maintenance? - by Dave Larson

Club Maintenance is a group of men and women and sometimes youth, who gather once a month on the 2nd Saturday for some interesting maintenance activities. People come when it is convenient for them; CM is not a monthly commitment.

What are these activities? We attend to needs that Staff has identified. We also have a list of periodic things that need to be done yearly, such as changing out furnace filters, cleaning out gutters, annual exit light testing, and so on.

What are the benefits of participating in Club Maintenance? First off, friendship; making new friends and connecting with long-term friends. Newer participants learn tricks of the tool trade from more experienced folks. Another key is gaining an understanding of the church infrastructure – what do we have here at RHUMC and what is required to keep the facility in good shape. Finally, we save the church money by doing these tasks instead of having to contract out work.

We will next meet on **Saturday, November 11**, at 8:30 a.m. and we would love to see you. We will enjoy a provided lunch and good conversation at the end of the morning. Questions? Call Dave Larson at 310.408.2883.

Arts & Crafts,
Games/Cooking
and Science

For more information:
kidzone.midzone@rhumc.org
310-377-7302

Gabby Palacios
323-610-2253

Kid Zone presents…

Fall Camp!
Monday & Tuesday
November 20 & 21

Tk-Kindergarten – 8th Grade

Daily Rate 8:30am - 4:30pm - $100
Early Care 7:30am - 8:30am - $12/day

KID ZONE MEMBER
Daily Rate 7:30am - 4:30pm - $90

#FallVibes

Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool

The preschool is off running with Thanksgiving and Christmas rehearsals after wrapping up our three days of Halloween parading. The children surprise us every year with the cutest costumes and some parents really get crafty with cardboard, crafts and a splash of paint! We love every single little bear, race car or princess that strides by! Now we look forward to our Thanksgiving Songs, School Picture Days and the grand finale of our Christmas Programs on December 11, 12 and 13.

NEXT FAMILY NIGHT OUT: November 8 at Panda Express from 10:00am – 9:00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Youth are invited to participate in the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service.

Please contact Kristin Sutrave, Youth Ministries Pastor, if you are interested in participating in any of these special activities by emailing her at kristin@rhumc.org or by calling 310-377-6771 ext. 305.

ROLLING HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023 @ 4:00 PM
ARRIVE BY 3:00 PM

YOUTH 6TH – 12TH GRADE
Participate in the advent wreath lighting ceremony, play a hand bell piece, read scripture, or play a musical instrument during the prelude (audition required).

HAND BELL PRACTICE SCHEDULE
Friday, 12/1 @ 3:45 - 4:30 PM
Friday, 12/8 @ 3:45 - 4:30 PM

REQUIRED REHEARSAL FOR EVERYONE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16
ARRIVE AT 10:30 OR 11:00 AM
(START TIME DEPENDS ON ROLE.)

CHRISTMAS EVE

CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION

Children are invited to participate in the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service.

To sign up or get more information please contact Debra DeLuca, Director of Children's Ministries at debra@rhumc.org or call the church office at (310) 377-6771, ext. 306.

Assistance from parents or relatives is helpful.

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 4:00 PM
ARRIVE BY 3:30 PM
CHILDREN AGES 3 – 5th GRADE

Calling all children to participate in our 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service on December 24, 2023. Please arrive no later than 3:30 pm. Children are invited to portray the holy family, animals, shepherds, angels, and the royal wise ones bringing gifts.

REQUIRED REHEARSAL

SATURDAY, DEC 16TH
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

At the rehearsal, children will be fitted for their costumes and practice their part. December 16 is the ONE REQUIRED REHEARSAL that will secure your child or grandchild a role.

Please bring your children to the Sanctuary to check them in.

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Youth Ministries

Ignite youth Ministry

***Ignite* will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm.**

11/1 Movie Night
11/8 Top Chef
11/15 Small Group Conversations
11/22 No Ignite (Happy Thanksgiving)
11/29 Advent 101

Youth Opportunity to Serve

Christmas Tree Decoration

Friday, November 3 from 4:30-6:00pm youth will make ornaments and other decoration for a tree that will be used in Toberman Neighborhood Center's "Parade of Trees" Fundraiser.

Pickles!

Sunday, November 12, following all three worship services youth are needed to help sell pickles during our annual Mission Fiesta Sunday. Proceeds for the pickles will go towards youth service projects with folks experiencing housing or food insecurity. Please contact Kristin if you would like to help.

Loving Thy Neighbor: Thanksgiving Service Camp

Youth are invited to attend a service camp the week of Thanksgiving (Monday, 11/20 & Tuesday, 11/21; 9:00am-4:00pm). We will learn about different faith traditions and serve in our local community. Please contact Kristin for more information.

Youth Sunday School

We offer a youth Sunday school class on Sundays during the 10:00am and 5:30pm worship services.

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

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
Youth Ministry Pastor	Kristin Sutrave	Senior Pastor Emeritus	Martha Rowlett
Music Director	Chuck Dickerson	Organist/Pianist	Althea Waites
3rd Service Music	Paula Kuno	Children's Ministry Dir.	Debra DeLuca
Preschool Director	Myra Ghabrial	Kid Zone Director	Gabby Palacios
Church Office Admin.	Peggy Roulette	Executive Assistant	Catherine Dingman
Treasurer	Wade Welch	& Finance Manager	
		Custodian	Miguel Portillo

Church Office Phone	310-377-6771	Resident Bishop	Dottie Escobedo-Frank
Fax Line	310-544-4123	District Superintendent	Rev. Dr. Siosaia Tu'itahi
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 24
www.rhumc.org