The Cornerstone

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

October 2024

Celebration Sunday – October 27

Celebration Sunday for our annual giving campaign is October 27. Two events will take place that day which we hope all of you will attend. The first is worship, which will help us to focus on the values of compassion and community that we share as God's family.

The second will be the special Celebration meal which will follow in Wesley Hall after each of our Sunday services (brunch in the morning and dinner after 3rd Service).

As we give thanks for the blessing of life which God gives us, please plan to gather and celebrate with other members of our church family. Thank you!

All Saints' Day – November 3

Each year, on the first Sunday of November, we celebrate All Saints' Day with a special prayer of thanksgiving for members and friends of our church family who have died in the past year. If you would like to include someone in the service who has died since November 1, 2023, please call the church office with their name and the date of their death. All of us have been blessed by people who have gone before us, and we remember their contributions to our lives.

from the pastors *Jonathan Chute*

Just over a week ago a disaster struck a significant portion of the southeastern U.S. Hurricane Helene made landfall in the Big Bend region of Florida and continued marching north, creating chaos through parts of Georgia, the Carolinas and Tennessee especially. As of the end of this week it is still not clear what the toll in human lives will be, let alone the effect on communities throughout southern Appalachia.

My younger sister Jessica and family live in Boone, NC. They were extremely fortunate that their home escaped significant damage. They were without power for several days but were able to let us know they were safe. RHUMC has many friends in western North Carolina, including both the Rehfield family and our Senior Pastor Emeritus, Martha Rowlett, all in Asheville. That part of the state experienced some of the worst devastation and is still digging its way out. We are hoping to hear soon from Martha, but we have confirmed with staff at Givens Estates where she lives, that all are present, accounted for, safe and well, with food and water needs being taken care of. We are hoping that power will be restored for her and the other residents shortly.

A disaster of this size reminds us of how much we depend on one another. Neighbors risked life and limb to rescue others from roaring waters and collapsing homes. First responders were overwhelmed but stayed on duty even as they worried about their own homes and families. Resources are being mobilized by FEMA, the Red Cross, Salvation Army and others. Our own disaster response agency, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), is also actively involved in relief efforts there.

We will be taking a special offering to help with the response to Hurricane Helene. If you would like to contribute you may do so by writing a check to RHUMC and marking "Helene" on the memo portion of the check. You can also give on line through the church web site, www.rhumc.org. Click on the "Giving" button, which will take you to our secure on line giving partner, Vanco. Choose whether you want to give by credit card or bank withdrawal, and choose "Other Designated Giving." Decide how much you would like to give and indicate that the gift is to go to "Helene."

On the last Sunday of October we will enjoy our annual Celebration Brunch after each of the morning services, and a special Taco Night after 3rd service. In worship we will be indicating our intention to support the life and work of our church family in the coming year. Those who choose to fill out a Giving Card will be invited to place them in an offering basket at the front of the church before heading over to Wesley Hall. There is no requirement to fill out a card. But we hope that everyone can make plans to be with us that day. There is so much for us to celebrate as we look to the year ahead of us.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

April Herron

Dear Friends,

"There's been a change of plan." Some people may find this phrase exciting, but not me. I invest a lot of time and thought in my plans. I'm usually pretty happy with my plan. I'm not that eager for my plan to be disrupted, whether by unforeseen circumstances or totally predictable ones. I have learned, however, to be grateful when my plans work out. Because there will definitely be other times when the plan has to change.

Jonathan experienced such a moment when he had his surgery date set and then had to postpone due to a small blood clot. Kristin, too, recently had to adjust her plans for the fall semester's first youth group gathering when she got sick and needed to stay home in bed. In each case, it was fortunate to have a strong original plan, so that adaptations and adjustments could be made.

I'm currently in the midst of making revisions to my plan for visiting my daughter in order to share in celebrating her 35th birthday. She lives in Colorado, so that's where Bob and I are planning to go. Sadly, the uncle of my daughter's life partner has just died. His family will be gathering in Nebraska for the funeral. We await information about the date and time for that important event before a new plan for the birthday visit can be put in place.

As a group of us are just now completing a Bible study on the book of Proverbs, I checked there for some consolation. I found this in chapter 16, verse 9: "The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps." I am taking this to mean it's fine to have a direction we intend to go, but moment-by-moment we need to be guided by God's grace and wisdom. God is with us not just at the beginning and the end, but also all along the way of whatever journey we are on or goal we are pursuing. When we welcome God's direction, we are able to improvise in the moment and find satisfaction in the outcome, even if it's not what we originally planned. It's good to remember that God is with us when we have to face a big change, or even a small change, of plans.

Sharing with you in the peace of Christ,

April

Missionaries and Organizations We Support at RHUMC (Part 2)

RHUMC
Missions Committee

Each November the RHUMC congregation comes together to financially support missionaries and organizations through Mission Fiesta Sunday collections. This year, Mission Fiesta Sunday will be held on November 10. We featured two of our missionaries in the September Cornerstone. Below are the remaining missionaries and organizations.

Katherine T. Parker, Nepal

Katherine Parker is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, working in community development in Nepal. She serves as a Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning Advisor with the United Mission to Nepal (UMN). The ecumenical ministry of UMN has a vision of "fullness of life for all in a transformed Nepali society." United Methodists have been part of UMN since it was founded in 1954.

Red Bird Mission, Rural Kentucky

Poverty, isolation, and lack of economic opportunity are the overarching circumstances of the community that create a variety of needs that are basic to human life and existence. Poverty rate among all people in this area averages 30%. Hunger is widespread among all age groups. Access to quality education is limited in the public schools that are more distant from these remote communities. The availability of jobs is shrinking as the coal industry in Kentucky has been hard hit by environmental regulations. Housing is inadequate and unsafe for many. The well-being of the elderly population is fragile due to their isolation and lack transportation.

Heifer International

Local Solutions, Global Impact! Heifer International partners with smallholder farmers – especially women farmers – to improve their families' food security and increase their incomes. Tools, training and resources help farmers work together to build profitable, sustainable businesses with strong market linkages. Heifer has assisted 2.67 million households since 2012, in 19 countries.

Habitat for Humanity, Greater Los Angeles

Since 1990, Habitat has built, rehabilitated and repaired more than 1,500 houses in neighborhoods across greater Los Angeles and the world. Habitat LA believes shelter is a basic human need and strives to achieve its goal of eliminating substandard housing by making decent, sustainable and affordable housing a reality for all. Together with volunteers and future homeowners, Habitat LA has improved the housing stock throughout our service area, by investing millions into our local communities to revitalize neighborhoods across Los Angeles and creating more access to affordable housing.

Upcoming Missions Committee Activities

Laundry Love on October 23. Donations of laundry detergent, granola bars and dryer sheets are always needed and welcome. To get involved in Laundry Love, contact Carla Smith - carla4health@gmail.com.

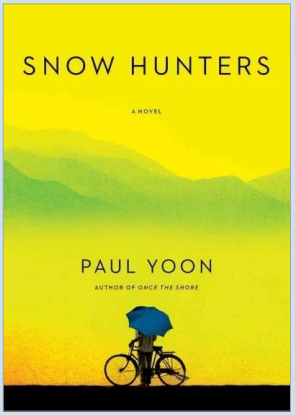
Tour of the Toberman Neighborhood Center, Saturday, November 2, 11:00 am. For more information, contact Felicia McClain - fleemcclain@gmail.com.

Mission Fiesta Sunday, Sunday, November 10. For more information, contact Chris Campbell - campbellchris123@msn.com.

No Missions Committee meeting in November

For information about the Missions Committee, contact Dan McClain – mcclaindf@gmail.com

October Book Discussion



From Kirkus Reviews: "A North Korean soldier finds unexpected solace following his self-exile to Brazil in this slender, ethereal novel. The book opens just after the end of the Korean War, as a former captive named Yohan is offered safe passage to a country as strange and vibrant as his own was violent and distant. The story chronicles the slow transformation of Yohan from a refugee to a treasured and essential part of village life."

Our conversation will take place on **Monday, October 28**, at 2:00 pm in the choir room and 7:00 pm on Zoom. April will facilitate. All readers are welcome. Please email april@rhumc.org regarding your plans to participate.

All Women's Church Luncheon - Barbara Addleman, Shirley Fehrman, Edith Utterberg & Marian Komori

It's hard to believe, but summer is gone and our long awaited All Women's Church Luncheon is just around the corner on **Saturday, October 5** at 11:30 am in Wesley Hall. It will be a salad potluck so you know there will be plenty of delicious food and lots of fun for all. Kristin will lead us by offering a prayer of gratitude and saying a few words about the importance of the Congregational Care Ministry. Many of the established women's groups in the church will give a brief presentation of what they do with an invitation to join them if it seems like something you would enjoy. There will also be an opportunity to meet with others who might want to start a new group that would better suit their needs. In general, we hope the luncheon will:

- provide a time of fellowship for the women of our church to get to know each other better
- allow all women of our church to learn about the various groups and see if they would be interested in joining one
- facilitate the gathering of women together that might want to form a new group that would better fit their needs

So please put the date on your calendar! There will be no obligation to join any group (although we hope you do)! We promise great food, great fellowship, and a great time! See you there!

Please RSVP to Marian Komori and let her know what you plan to bring or just come.
marian.komori9@gmail.com, 310-541-8243 or 310-897-9985

Dawn Unity

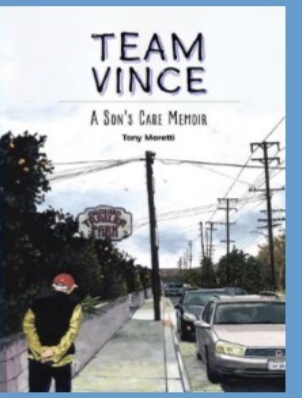
"Prophets" will be discussed at St. John Fisher Catholic Church, 5448 Crest Road, RPV on **Tuesday, October 22**, at 7:30 p.m. The panelists will be Bishop Brent Anderson, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Rabbi Tzvi Graetz, Congregation Ner Tamid; Prof. Amir Hussain, Loyola Marymount University; and Fr. Alexei Smith, Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Bob Rothman will be the moderator. Moses, Jesus, Muhammad, and Joseph Smith played foundational roles in establishing each of the four faiths of our panelists. In addition, the words of the prophets in the Hebrew Bible are important to all four faiths though for different reasons which will be interesting to consider.

In Memoriam

Mary Harris 9/20/24

"Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up with wings like eagles.
They shall run and not be weary.
They shall walk and not faint."
- Isaiah 40:31

BOOK LAUNCH & AUTHOR INTERVIEW



AN EVENING WITH TONY MORETTI

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23, 2024 7:00 PM

Team Vince may be ordered on Amazon.com. Copies will also be available at the event or in the church office. Friends and neighbors are welcome.

When Tony Moretti began caring for his Parkinson's-stricken father, Vince, he thought, "How hard could this be?" But as the years mounted and Vince's symptoms progressed, Tony found himself foundering on a monumental journey. In this raw, satisfying, and often humorous memoir, Tony validates the myriad feelings caregivers may experience and demonstrates how togetherness can prevail over woe.

Tony is a longtime resident of Lomita, where he and his wife, Margaret, raised their four kids. A Fellow in the American Institute of Architects, Tony is now retired. He enjoys painting, golfing, walking with his grandsons, volunteering at church, rooting for the LA Dodgers, and, like his father before him, listening to jazz on the radio.

ROLLING HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

26438 Crenshaw Blvd.
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rhumc.org 310-377-6771

RHUMC Thanksgiving Dinner

Our Thanksgiving Dinner is back and we hope you can join us on **Saturday, November 23**, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are $45 per person and includes dinner and entertainment. Tickets go on sale starting November 3 after each worship service.

It takes many hands to prep for the event. If you would like to volunteer with cooking or decorating Wesley Hall, contact Doug Kemps at dhkemps@gmail.com or the church office at churchoffice@rhumc.org. It will be a night filled with good food, camaraderie and entertainment you will not want to miss!

RHUMC Christmas Concert

The Chancel Choir will present *Uns ist ein Kind geboren* by Georg Philipp Telemann, and Christmas Dreams by Joseph Martin and Heather Sorenson on **Saturday, December 14**, at 7:00 pm in the Church Sanctuary. Tickets for this highly coveted holiday concert will be available in the church office beginning on November 1. But plan now to attend. It promises to be a highlight of our church Christmas Season Celebrations.

TOBERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER PARADE OF TREES

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

Friday, November 8, 2024 from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm
Dalmation American Club
1639 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

For more information, call 310-832-1145 X162 or
Email development@toberman.org

Women's Retreat

JANUARY 24 - 26, 2025

LED BY APRIL HERRON & NANCY WALLIS

LIVING INTO NEW LIFE

The women who gathered at the empty tomb will serve as an example of moving from shock or loss, through emptiness and fear, and then courageously into new life. Through this journey, we are invited to dwell within God's deep joy and infinite grace. Retreat time will include worship, rest, group activities and personal reflection.

REGISTRATION:
Begins Sunday, October 6 and closes on January 12, 2025.

LOCATION:
Prince of Peace Retreat House
650 Benetton Hill Road, Oceanside

COST:
$275 Double Occupancy
$375 Single Occupancy
Includes 2 nights lodge & 6 meals, Friday evening through Sunday Lunch.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

A limited number of single rooms are available. Please indicate your preference:

☐ Single ☐ Double ☐ No Preference

* Roommate: _____

Please include a payment of $100 with your registration. Checks may be made payable to "RHUMC" with "Women's Retreat" on the memo line and either mailed or dropped off to the church office. Payment may also be made on our church website at www.rhumc.org.

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

Dementia, Alzheimer's or Parkinson's

Wednesdays
October 9 & 23
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.

Club Maintenance

The next opportunity to participate in the Club Maintenance effort will be on **Saturday, October 12**, at 8:30 am. Dave Larson will be the coordinator for Club Maintenance activity in October. Please mark this date on your calendar and share in the ongoing work to keep our facilities in good repair.

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, October 27**. You'll have a choice of chicken 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 pm.

COME TOUR THE TOBERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

FOR ALL INTERESTED RHUMC MEMBERS

You are invited to join the Toberman staff and volunteers to get a first-hand look at all the great programs they offer the underserved in our community.

Saturday, November 2nd
11:00 a.m.

Toberman Neighborhood Center
131 N. Grand Avenue
San Pedro, 90731

RHUMC
Missions Committee

RSVP

for more information and to reserve your spot:

Felicia McClain
RHUMC Missions Committee
mcclaindf@gmail.com

Second Sundays at Two

Sunday, October 13, at 2:00 p.m.

~ presents pianist~

ROBERT THIES

Hailed by the Los Angeles Times for his
"unerring, warm-toned refinement, revealing judicious glimmers of power"

***R*obert Thies's** recitals are highly regarded by aficionados not only for his consummate musicianship and sensitive artistic interpretations but also for his illuminating observations about the composers and the selections. Robert has an avid Southern California following. He is returning to the Palos Verdes Peninsula, where he grew up, for his sixteenth appearance on the *Second Sundays at Two* series.

In this recital, Robert will play selections by Johannes Brahms, Robert Schumann, and Sergei Rachmaninoff.

If this is your first time attending a *Second Sundays at Two* concert, please email ClassicalCrossroads@Earthlink.net to request a reservation for yourself and your guests. The concert will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person. Watch at concert time at **https://vimeo.com/event/4030680**.

Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool Fundraiser

Wednesday, October 9 - Available from 4:00 pm-9:00 pm

The Habit Burger Grill
4-B Peninsula Center
Rolling Hills Estates, CA
310-377-2044

20% of the proceeds will be donated to RHUMPS.

Indicate RHUMPS when ordering so credit will be given.

the Habit BURGER GRILL

Online Orders:
habitburger.com
Promo Code: GIVEBACK

The preschool is starting to settle down after a very busy beginning starting up on the September 5. The weather is cooling down and fall is trying to blow in. This October will be our busiest ever with three events instead of our usual two! We start off racing with our Fun Run fundraiser on October 2 and 3. Behind the scenes, the classes are hard at work creating adorable projects for a welcoming Open House on October 22, with staggering groups between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Lastly, we all look forward to some spooktacular Halloween Parades on the mornings of October 28, 29 and 30.

Happy Fall

KID ZONE NEWS

Kid Zone is an after-school program for grades TK-8th grade that offers a safe and healthy place for children to grow and play, allowing us to be part of your village and assist with any of the following:

- Pick-Up from most Palos Verdes and Torrance schools, public and private
- Assistance with homework
- Provide a snack
- Social and emotional growth
- Safe, comfortable environment to make friends and build confidence
- Organized games and sports
- Art, crafts and cooking

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

IMPORTANT DATES

October 3rd PV STUDENT FREE DAY
Kid Zone 9am - 6pm Free to members

October 11th & 14th Torrance STUDENT FREE DAY
Kid Zone 9am - 6pm Free to members

Youth Ministries

Ignite youth Ministry

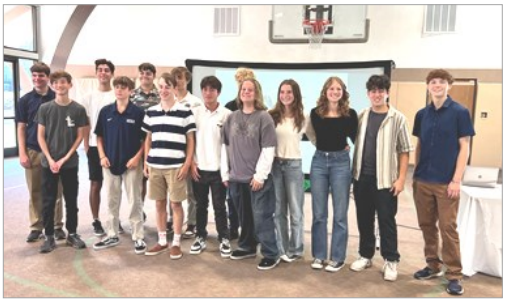
***Ignite* meets on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm**
10/2 Hot Topic Night
10/9 Movie Night @ **6:30-8:30pm**
10/16 Rock On: Rock Painting
10/23 Grounded: Connecting with God
10/30 Ignite Halloween Party, don't forget your costume!

Youth Opportunity to Serve

RHUMC's Trunk or Treat
Friday, 10/25 from 3:00-5:30pm. Help decorate the youth trunk display and hand out candy to kids. Please contact Kristin@rhumc.org if you would like to help.

2024 President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA)

Congratulations to our seventeen youth who received the PVSA this year. Combined, these youth provided 1,799 hours of community service this past year.



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

Trunk or Treat Donations

The Children's Ministries Department is looking for donations of individually wrapped candy (no nuts/peanuts) for our "Trunk or Treat" event on **Friday, October 25,** 5:00-6:00 pm in the upper parking lot. A donation box is in the church office for collections and we thank you in advance for your kind donations.

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 October 25
www.rhumc.org