The Cornerstone

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

August 2025

Piano Recital

Praised by LA Opus as a pianist with "impressive aplomb and virtuosity," California native Cameron Akioka performs and competes frequently as both a solo and collaborative artist around the country. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at Northwestern University under the tutelage of James Giles. Cameron graduated with her Master's degree from USC as a student of Jeffrey Kahane, and received her Bachelor's degree in Piano and English from Rice University, studying with Jon Kimura.

Cameron has been featured as a soloist with the Downey Symphony and Peninsula Symphony Orchestra. In February, she was named a winner of the Musicians Club of Women Competition, and received the Silver Medal at the Seattle International Piano Competition. Other notable achievements include participating in the Piano Texas International Festival and performing on NPR's "From the Top" series.

In her free time, Cameron enjoys playing soccer and baking Japanese desserts. We are so proud to claim Cameron as one of our RHUMC members, as she grew up in our church!

The Sierra Service Project is fifty years old this summer! Jonathan and the team of youth and adults from RHUMC are glad to be part of such a long and wonderful tradition.

April Herron

Dear Friends,

It's an exhilarating time to be part of Rolling Hills UMC. Watching the "All Together Now" campaign reach and exceed its goal is inspiring. Seeing the relaxed happiness on the faces of the children in our preschool summer session and Kid Zone day camp is uplifting. Noticing all the Vacation Bible Camp supplies and decorations being prepared, staged, and organized brings a sense of delightful anticipation. We are looking forward to hosting 125 preschool through fifth-grade students as they enjoy a fun and faith-building experience of the love of God. Meanwhile, our facilities continue to reach their full potential as the renovation of the Mission Room nears completion and some maintenance needs will be addressed this month. We are fortunate to be able to share so much with one another and with the wider community.

Away from the church campus, some of us are engaged in sharing God's grace through mission and service. Youth and adults have been helping to serve food to homeless neighbors and assembling hygiene kits. The Sierra Service Project team of teens, counselors, and Senior Pastor has arrived at the Smith River community to carry out helpful work and learn from new friends. With her visit in July, our missionary in Japan, Rev. Claudia, has reminded us that we are connected to people of faith around the globe. And some of us are on vacation this month, being renewed and restored by the beauty of God's creation and the nurture of friends or family.

Of course, in the midst of all this activity, we are aware that the world contains much suffering, hardship, and difficulty. We do our best to be informed, sensitive, and kind to one another even as we may have many unanswered questions and frustrations. We look to God, made known in Christ Jesus, for guidance and hope. We do what we can to share comfort with those who are grieving, companionship with those who are lonely, and courage with those who are afraid. As the Biblical letter to the Colossians puts it, we have "received Christ Jesus the Lord" and "continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith...abounding in thanksgiving." (Col.2:6-7)

Peace be with you,

April

RHUMC

Missions Committee

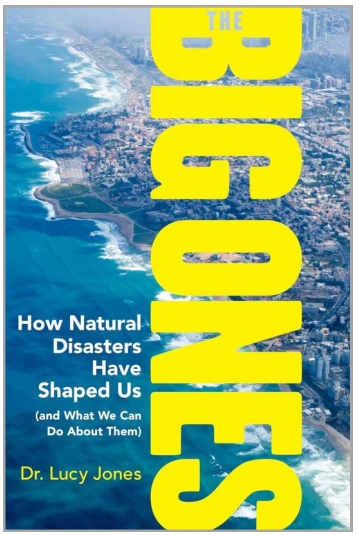
Thanks to all who welcomed Rev. Claudia Genung-Yamamoto.

Rev. Claudia Genung-Yamamoto joined our congregation on July 13 to share about her current ministry in Yokohama, Japan. Rev. Claudia is one of three United Methodist missionaries RHUMC supports with our Mission Fiesta Sunday. Thank you to all who stopped to say hello and hear about her important work.

The Missions Committee joined with members of our Youth Ministry to assemble 130 hygiene kits for unhoused members of our local community. These kits will be distributed to Hungry to Help clients in the coming months. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations of hygiene items in May.

If you would like to participate in any of our worthwhile (and fun!) activities, contact Dan and Felicia McClain, mcclaindf@gmail.com.

August 25 Book Discussion



As one of the world's most recognizable seismologists, Dr. Lucy Jones has a unique talent for making even the most complicated of scientific concepts accessible to all audiences. In her 33 years as a seismologist for the U.S. Geological Survey, she developed the methodology used for earthquake advisories in the State of California, created the Great ShakeOut drill, encompassing over 60 million participants globally in 2019, served as Science Advisor for Seismic Safety for the Mayor of Los Angeles and wrote over 100 published papers on statistical seismology and integrated disaster scenarios. She was often deployed after earthquakes to comfort, counsel, and inform a rattled public.

In 2018, Dr. Jones published "The Big Ones," a book about significant natural disasters throughout the course of history and what we can learn from them about strengthening our ability to prepare and respond to future volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis, and related floods and fires. The book is unique in bringing theological frameworks into the discussion. Dr. Jones is able to trace the ways that our ideas about disasters are significantly influenced by the nature of our spiritual and religious beliefs.

Our discussion, led by April, will take place on **Monday, August 25**, at 2:00 pm in person at the church, and 7:00 pm on Zoom for those who prefer to participate from home. Please email churchoffice@rhumc.org to indicate your plans to participate. The book is widely available in libraries and from booksellers. Participants will obtain their own copies in the format they prefer.

In Memoriam

Charles John	July 9, 2025
John Dempsay	July 24, 2025

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places."

- John 14

SAVE THE DATE - Women's Luncheon - by Barbara Addleman

The annual **Women's Potluck Luncheon** on **Saturday, September 27**, at 11:30 am will be here before you know it so make sure to put it on your calendar. It is always a great way to get to know other women in our church and enjoy a wonderful lunch. It will be very special this year as we are going to be in the newly renovated Mission Room which I know you are all looking forward to seeing. Looking forward to joining all of you on September 27!

The FESTIVAL of ARTS - Brought to you by the CRAFTY FIVE

On **Sunday, September 28**, after each service, our team is planning to bring painters, crafters and hobbyists from throughout our congregation to share their arts and skills with the rest of our Church Family!

Please join us in our mission to acquaint everyone with the wealth of talent in our midst and possibly develop new or deeper friendships through common interests.

If you have an "Art" to share, please let us know so we can include you in The Festival of Arts! Call or text Jean Kinney at 310/961-0723 with questions or for more information.

The Crafty Five: Jean Kinney, Jan Johnson, Stevie Lorentzen, Debra DeLuca & Natalie DeLuca

BIBLE STUDY

3 GATHERINGS:
TUESDAYS
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 & 16, 2025

CHOOSE:
10:30 AM - IN PERSON
or
7:00 PM - ON ZOOM

The class will focus on ways of reading scripture, praying about our lives, and expanding our imagination so as to deepen our relationship with God. Each session lasts one hour. April Herron will lead both the daytime and evening groups. Adults of any age or stage are invited to participate. No book purchase is required. Please convey your intention to take part by sending a message to April@rhumc.org.

ROLLING HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

Dementia, Alzheimer's or Parkinson's

Wednesday
August 13 & 27
10:00-11:00 a.m.
in the Aldersgate Room

Lauren Mahakian

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

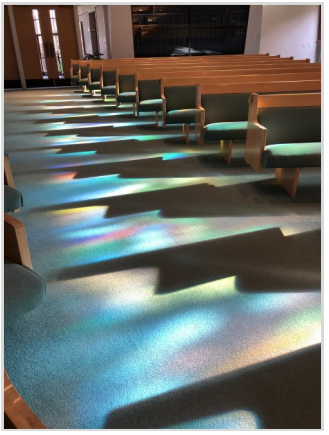
The discovery of memory loss can be daunting, yet in our experience, professional guidance and learning from others with similar experiences can be very helpful. Join PV News columnist, certified dementia practitioner, and founder/CEO of Family Connect Memory Care Lauren Mahakian at this community-based 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 - by Dave Larson

The next opportunity to participate in the Club Maintenance event will be on **Saturday, August 23,** at 8:30 am. We have scheduled the day later than usual this month as we will be moving all furniture back onto the Chancel following refinishing of the floor. Please mark this date on your calendar and share in the ongoing work to keep our facilities in good repair. And please remember that a tasty lunch will be provided. Questions? Contact Don McCurry at don_mccurry@yahoo.com.

Volunteer Opportunity -

Become an Usher at our 10:00 am Worship Services



We have a volunteer opportunity that we are confident you will find rewarding. Volunteering as an usher can help you feel connected with our congregation and provide a sense of well-being. Ushers are part of our team of volunteers who help bring about a well-run worship service. We need regularly assigned as well as substitute ushers at our 10:00 am Sunday worship services. Ushers are assigned one Sunday each month and substitute ushers fill in as needed. Time commitment includes arriving 15 minutes before the start of the service and you can expect to stay 15-20 minutes after the service. For further information or to sign up, contact Mike McCoy at mjmccoy8@aol.com or 310-617-1413.

Blood Pressure Sunday

Blood pressure screenings will next be offered on **Sunday, August 31**, 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

In keeping with our "Last Sunday of the Month" pattern, Taco Night will take place after 3rd service on **Sunday, August 31**, and we hope you can join us**.** You'll have a choice of chicken, beef, pork or potato 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.

Youth Ministries

Youth Events this Month

Youth Cooking Class
Saturday, August 9 at 4:00 - 6:30pm
Join us in the RHUMC kitchen as Mrs. O'Neal guides the youth in cooking a delicious dinner. Please email youth@rhumc.org to RSVP.

SSP Sunday
Sunday, August 10 (8:30am, 10:00am, & 5:30pm)
Join us in worship as the youth participants tell us about their trip to Sierra Service Project in Crescent City, CA this summer! All past SSP participants and adult counselors are invited to wear their SSP shirts to worship.

Rev. Kristin Sutrave, Youth Ministries Pastor
Cell phone: 562-234-0161 Email: Kristin@rhumc.org

Summer Contact: youth@rhumc.org.

Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/RHyouth **Instagram**: rhumcyouth_

Children's Ministry

Join us here at Rolling Hills United Methodist Church for our Sunday school classes. Through Bible stories, crafts, music, snack and games we will lead your children on a life-long journey of faith.

Children 3 years of age (potty trained) to 12th grade are invited to join us in Wesley Hall following the Word for Children during each worship service.

Our nursery is available for children 3 years of age and younger during the morning worship services (8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.) Bring your child to room #110 and meet our wonderful caregivers Ms. Michelle and Ms. Clara.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Debra DeLuca at debra@rhumc.org.

Kid Zone

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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
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 August 29
www.rhumc.org