



Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019, Vol. 14, Issue 18

“Rio Rancho UMC is a body of Christ led and empowered by the Holy Spirit, meeting the needs of God’s people through open hearts, open minds, and open arms.”



For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 2 Cor. 4:17

Dear Ones,

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I read an article which was trying to explain why there are so many mass shootings. Of course the author mentioned several political issues like gun control, blame on political parties but two sentences got my attention:

“Everyone used to matter. No one matters anymore, not at least in the postmodern dystopia of *invented identity*.” (Goldman, No-One’s Life Matters, accessed 8/8/2019)

Invented identity - this ties directly into the sermon series this month, Identity Protection. We do have an identity - God’s children. We are God’s creation. We don’t have to shop for an identity, we just need to be reminded of ours and then learn how to protect it from those who would take it away or try and change it.

I was also reminded of Paul’s writings in 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5 when he says we are just temporary inhabitants on earth. We are journeying to our home, the Promised Land...to heaven and exchange the temporary for eternity. As children of God, every problem will pass and every temptation will fade and we will arrive home.

Today, remember whose you are and where you are going.

Pastor Raquel



PRAYER CORNER

Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019

From "Daily Guideposts" September 18, 2004.

A PILGRIM'S BLESSING

THY STATUTES HAVE BEEN MY SONGS IN THE HOUSE OF MY PILGRIMAGE

Psalm 119:54

On a dreary day last winter, my husband Robert came bustling in the door with the mail, hugged me and said, "How would you like to go to Wales, honey?" After I caught my breath, we looked together at the announcement entitled "Soul-Filled Places: A Pilgrimage Embracing Christ's Presence in Celtic Wales."

We both love to travel, but because we see these autumn years of our lives as a time for spiritual growth, we've decided that any trip we take must have a spiritual emphasis. So, we were glad to read these words in the flyer: "you are invited to let go of the rhythm and control of daily life and experience an inward journey into God's presence, in the company of others. We hope you will join us!"

Join them we did, with the greatest joy. We found the Llwyn peninsula of North Wales to be a delightful place of greenness and flowers, rolling hills and surging sea, and the traces of ancient Celtic people. The early Christian Celts had prayers for starting the morning fire, for making the bed, for the day's work and for each activity of the day, as well as morning, noon and night prayers. In fact, their lives were bathed in the living water of prayer all day long.

As you and I begin our journey through this day, let us join the Celtic Christians as we pray these words collected in the highlands and islands of Scotland by Alexander Carmichael.

*Bless to us, O God,
Each thing our eyes see.
Bless to us, O God,
Each thing our ears hear.
Bless to us, O God,
Each scent that goes to our nostrils.
Bless to us, O God,
Each taste that goes to our lips,
Each note that goes to our song
Each ray that guides our way,
Each thing that we pursue,
The zeal that seeks our living soul,
The Holy Three that seek our heart.*

MARILYN MORGAN KING

If you haven't visited the Prayer Room yet, I urge you to do so. Come to rest, to seek quietude, to meditate, to pray. Come to the "place of quiet rest near to the heart of God." The Prayer Room is open to all.

Grace, peace and love, *Lowell*

September Anniversaries and Birthdays

Anniversaries

TICHENOR, Larry & Arlene	09/01
MCKINLEY, Chris & Mylisa	09/03
SEPELAK, Dave & Kira	09/04
HILBORN, Dan & Naomi	09/14
PETERSON, Rob & Kim	09/15
STEUCK, Mike & Mary Ann	09/21
WISE, Tony & Patty Quick	09/29
SECHREST, Shane & Kristine	09/30

Birthdays

O'SICKEY, Amanda	09/01
KOHLRUST, Paul	09/02
GREASER, Kaliyah	09/03
OLMON, Sallye	09/07
MULL, Raquel	09/10
BAYLESS, Liz	09/12
KOHLRUST, Lowell	09/12
CHAVEZ, Jake	09/13
LEWIS, Shelley	09/13
WILKINSON, Linda	09/13
CUPRYK, Pat	09/22
BRECH, Ethan	09/24
BEGLEY, Gisela	09/27
O'SICKEY, Sage	09/27
LEWIS, Staci	09/28
SECHREST, Harley	09/28

The Money Quote

*All you have shall someday be given:
Therefore give now, that the season of
giving may be yours and not your
inheritors. Kahlil Gibran (1883–1931),*

Activities and Events

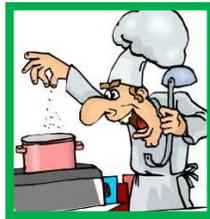


- 9/1 No Youth Group Meeting
- 9/8 Kiln-It
- 9/15 Fruit Family
- 9/22 Holmes Family

Wednesday Night Out

September 4th:

- Chicken Fried Steak
- Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Mixed Vegetables
- French Bread
- Brownies



September 11th:

- Taco/Burrito Bar, Refried Beans, Chips & Salsa, Pineapple Cake

September 18th:

- Hamburger Steak in Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Rolls & Butter, Frozen Lemonade Dessert

September 25th;

- Red Beans & Rice Casserole with Sausage, Salad, Rolls & Butter, 'Smore Trifle



Fort Lone Tree Family Retreat: Cancelled due to not enough registrations!

Attention Youth: We will have a regular youth group meeting from 5 to 7 PM, on Sunday, September 29th. Hope to see you there!



Youth Led Worship

Sunday, September 8th, at 8:30 and 11 AM, join us as we discover "The Cost of Discipleship" and "What We Are Worth".

YOUTH: Worship practice will be on Saturday, September 7th at 6:30 PM.

After youth led worship, instead of our regular youth group meeting, we will be going to Kiln-It to create beautiful works of art! We will meet at Kiln-It at 1:30 PM. When you are finished with your piece of art, you can call your parents to pick you up!



Blessing the Backpacks





Labor Day: What it Means

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

The First Labor Day

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.

By 1894, 23 more states had adopted the holiday, and on June 28, 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed a law making the first Monday in September of each year a national holiday.

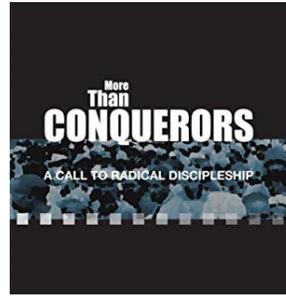
A Nationwide Holiday

The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday — a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.

The character of the Labor Day celebration has changed in recent years, especially in large industrial centers where mass displays and huge parades have proved a problem. This change, however, is more a shift in emphasis and medium of expression. Labor Day addresses by leading union officials, industrialists, educators, clerics, and government officials are given wide coverage in newspapers, radio, and television.

The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pays tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership — the American worker.

Wednesday Night Study Resumes



This coming Wednesday, August 21, we will resume our video study entitled "More than Conquerors: A Call to Radical Discipleship." We will follow the author, Simon Guillebaud, as he travels

through some of the most dangerous conflict zones on earth to take faith out of the hypothetical and exercise it in the context of the complex, the everyday, the impossible. Over the next five weeks, we will discuss what radical discipleship looks like and what it is worth, completing the challenge to move beyond contemporary Christianity and become "more than a conqueror." There is no study book or homework required. The study and the discussion will start at 6:10 p.m. after the Wednesday Night Out meal and finish in time for choir practice.

INTRODUCING



Did You Know That You Can Give to Rio Rancho UMC Electronically?

You can sign up for electronic giving through a VANCO electronic payment account anytime by contacting the church office (phone 892-0404 or e-mail rioranchoumc@gmail.com). After you complete the simple enrollment process, your weekly or monthly gift will be automatically transferred from your checking or savings account, as you specify. This eliminates the need to write checks to the church and ends such questions as, "Did I give last month?" or "Should I give next week's check now or wait till I get back from vacation?" Electronic giving is an easy, and secure, method for regular giving, not for just a few weeks or months, but throughout the year.