



Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

Sunday, August 18, 2019, Vol. 14, Issue 17

“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.”



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Editor's Note

Be extra careful driving—the kids are all back in school.



Dear Ones:

The temperatures say it is summer – hot. The calendar, with school beginning this week, indicates autumn is just around the corner. The stores are having their summer clearance and introducing the fall lines. So what are we to listen to – the temperature or the calendar?

The Bible has many references to time – the end is near, “now is the time for judgment on this world (John 12:31), no one knows when their hour will come (Ecclesiastes 9:12), and “But about that day or hour [when heaven and earth pass away] no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father” (Matt.24:36).

I believe our job, as disciples of Christ, is to make Christ known and to use every minute we have been granted on earth to live according to God’s principles and commands. While the calendar and the temperature affects our lives, we are not dependent on them to tell us how to behave. Today, and tomorrow, make a conscious decision to live a life reflecting Christ’s love to God’ creation.

Celebration Sunday is September 28 and a joint worship service. We will recognize our students and our school employees. We will also bless backpacks and finish our sermon series on the movies looking at the X-Men. Following the service will be a potluck and a Visitor Lunch. Visitors from the past 3 months will be invited to join us and given a brief overview of our church, ministries and opportunities for service. We are fortunate to have visitors and need to welcome them warmly and genuinely.

Thanking you for your prayers,

Pastor Raquel

PRAYER CORNER

Sunday, August 18, 2019

What if God had Voice Mail?

I have learned to live with voice mail and answering machines as a necessary part of modernization. But I have often wondered What if God decided to install an automated answering machine?

Imagine praying and hearing this, "Thank you for calling My Father's House. Please select from one of the following options: Press 1 for requests, Press 2 for a thanksgiving, press 3 for complaints. For all other inquiries press 4."

What if God used the familiar excuse: "All the angels are helping other customers right now. Please stay on the line. Your call will be answered in the order it was received."

Can you imagine getting these kinds of responses as you call on God in prayer?

"If you'd like to speak with Gabriel, press 1. For Michael, press 2. For any other angel, press 3."

"If you'd like King David to sing a song for you, press 6."

"To find out if your relatives are here, enter his or her date of death and listen for the list that follows."

"For reservations at My Father's House, simply press J-O-H-N, followed by the numbers 3-1-6."

"For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, and where Noah's ark is, wait till you get here."

"Our computers show that you have called once today already. Please hang up immediately."

"The office is closed for the weekend. Please call Monday."

Thank God, you can't call him too often! You only to ring once, and God hears you. Because of Jesus, you never get a busy signal. God takes each call and knows each caller personally.

Then you will call and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and He will say, "Here am I. (Isaiah 58:9 NIV). Author Unknown

August Anniversaries and Birthdays

Anniversaries

BALTZ, Brian & Danielle	08/02
CUPRYK, Tim & Pat	08/05
LEWIS, Ryan & Kandice	08/06
DOUGLAS, Gordon & Cindy	08/08
REECE, Gary & Maxine	08/19

Birthdays

REAGIN, Randy	08/04
WILLIS, Janice	08/05
HILBORN, Harmony	08/06
KERCHER, Margaret	08/06
BERDIN, Sam	08/10
O'SICKEY, Iris	08/12
FELDMAN, Wally	08/14
SHAUGHNESSY, Linda	08/15
LAROWE, Ann	08/17
ANNEAR, Graham	08/21
LONG, Faryn	08/21
JONES, Larry	08/22
HUSE, Arthur	08/23
MOORE, Gordon	08/25
BALLINGER, Paula	08/26
MOORE, Sally	08/27
TICHENOR, Larry	08/27
BALTZ, Melanie	08/28
KOFCHUR, Max	08/28
ALLIMAN, Monica	08/29
HOLTZ, Laurel	08/31

The Money Quote

My take on tithing in America is that it's a middle-class way of robbing God. Tithing to the church and spending the rest on your family is not a Christian goal. It's a diversion. The real issue is: How shall we use God's trust fund—namely, all we have—for His glory? In a world with so much misery, what lifestyle should we call our people to live? What example are we setting? John Piper

Activities and Events

Celebration Sunday & Pot-Luck Lunch

August 25th,
10 AM Worship

Celebration Sunday

August 25th, 10 AM Worship



We will be presenting Bibles to our new 3rd graders; recognizing our teachers; praying for our graduating Seniors; and blessing backpacks. (Remember we will be presenting Bibles to our new 3rd graders; recognizing our teachers; praying for our graduating Seniors; and blessing backpacks. (Remember to bring your backpack with you to service.) After service we will have a potluck lunch, bring a dish to share and join in the fun! bring your backpack with you to service.) After service we will have a potluck lunch.



- 8/18 Brech Family
- 8/25 Youth Movie Night
- 9/1 No Youth Group Meeting
- 9/8 Kiln-It

Wednesday Night Out meals will
resume on August 21st.

Menu for August 21st: Ham Steak, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls & Butter and Butterfinger Cake

Menu for August 28th: Chicken Alfredo with Pasta, Salad, French Bread and Ice Cream Sundaes

Youth Service Project Good Shepherd Center Soup Kitchen



Saturday, August 24th

We will leave the Church at 10 AM and return at 3 PM. Please wear close toed shoes, and shirts with sleeves. *Girls: you can wear capri pants, or shorts just above the knee, nothing shorter.* We will be serving lunch, helping in the dining room and cleaning up after everyone is served.



Fort Lone Tree Family Retreat September 27th – 29th

Fort Lone Tree is an 1840's style outdoor adventure camp. They offer a variety of outdoor activities including hiking, riflery, a 300-foot zip line, a giant swing and high ropes course, horseback riding (additional \$5.00 per person) and lots more!

The cost is \$110.00 per person. This fee includes lodging, activities and five meals. Lodging is in "bunk houses" that hold 6 to 12 people. Registration forms and more info is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Registration forms are due by September 1st.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

As you probably know, we host a fellowship hour between church Services each week. We are currently running low on volunteers to bring food to this fellowship time. Please consider signing up - either on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall, or by replying to this email.

Thank you for your help making our church a wonderful place to be.

Wednesday Night Study Resumes

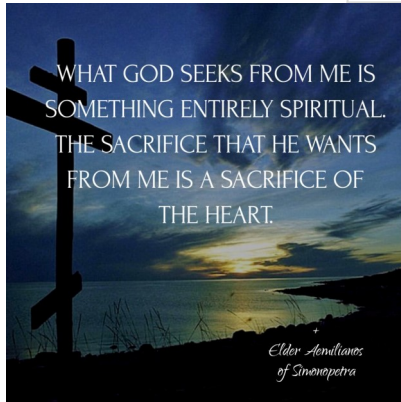
How to Cultivate a Heart of Generosity

You will be enriched in every way **so that you can always be generous**. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:11
(emphasis added)

Give — to offer to something higher, to make a present of, to place in the possession of another for their use.

What's your most prized possession? It might be the most valuable thing you own, like the house you've worked your whole life to afford. But it could also be a photo from a special time you spent with someone you loved. Or it could be a meaningful gift from a friend.



The value we assign to our “things” is tangled up with our emotions. How we choose to use the things we cherish most reveals our true priorities.

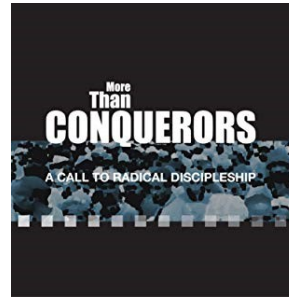
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

MATTHEW 6:21

There's nothing wrong with having things, or with enjoying them. The problem comes when our things *have us*. God modeled what generosity looks like when He sacrificed his greatest treasure **for us**. When we give like He does, and we honor Him with that giving, it draws us closer to Him.

This is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16 (emphasis added)



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.

