



Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

Sunday, January 19, 2020, Vol. 15, Issue 2

“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

As we work our way into “One Service Sundays,” please don’t make snap judgements, because the format is still undergoing adjustment. Keep up your attendance and active participation in our activities.

Dear Ones,

Do you know what the word Hebrew means in Hebrew? We know it originally referred to the people who left Egypt with Moses after 400 years of enslavement. In Hebrew the word for Hebrew is ivri and the root word of ivri comes from avar. Avar means to cross over.

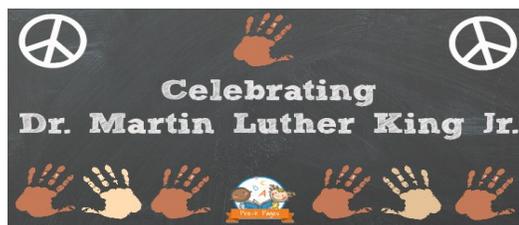
The Hebrews, the Ivri were those one who, in order to leave the land of Egypt, had to cross over the Red Sea. Then, to enter the Promised Land, they had to cross over the Jordan River. They are the cross over people, going from one land to another; ending one life and beginning another.

Just like Christians, who are Hebrews of spirit; to be saved, we must cross over; pass through a barrier. Leave one land and enter another. We need to pass from darkness into the light; move from sin to perfection through Messiah. Messiah is the One who broke the ultimate barrier and crossed from death to life. He is the One in whom is the power to cross over any barrier, to leave any darkness and to enter every promised land.

My question is simple – what barriers are hindering you and the will of God in your life? Identify them. Then, by the power of Messiah, begin crossing your Jordan – you are an Ivri. You were born again to cross over. Cross over to become the disciple God wants you to be. May God impart to you the barriers you need to cross over.

Hozho,

Pastor Raquel



PRAYER CORNER

Sunday, January 19, 2020

A Prayer in Honor of Martin Luther King
Day

By Lilly Kaufman

Dr/ King would have faced hard facts today. He would know the number of children going hungry in America this very minute. He would know the number of our war dead, and those wounded in new ways. He would know the astounding costs of financial corruption. He would have seen beyond the numbers, to the faces of our people, and he would still have faith in them, and in what is right.

He would have been preaching now a determined, measured, poetic, prophetic outrage. He would be teaching by example our civic duty of compassion, and decrying the grave civic danger of cynicism. He would challenge the strange new ideas that money equals speech and corporations are people in a democracy.

When he gave his life for peoples' rights of speech, and assembly and the vote, it was for people who had no money to pay for speech. They knew speech as an unalienable right, and their wealth of spirit sufficed. Dr. King had faith in a few great things: one was our essential

American dream. But the defining American dream which lifts up those bowed down. The abiding American dream of liberty and justice for all.

Dr. King asked of God in 1964:

...grant that we will always reach out for that which is high, realizing that we are made for the stars, created for the everlasting, born of eternity.

May we learn again to reach out for that which is high. Amen.

January Anniversaries & Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES

BEGLEY, Ivan & Gisela	01/06
BRUNK, Judy & John	01/29

BIRTHDAYS

PONTSLER, Gary	01/02
PARRISH, Michael	01/03
CASKEY, Larry	01/04
ROOT, Donna	01/06
PETERSON, Robert 01/08	
SHARKEY, Jeri	01/09
BAYLESS, Rachel	01/14
BALTZ, Danielle	01/15
MORYOSEF, Albert	01/16
GALLAHER, Betty	01/20
MORITOMO, Reagan	01/22
SHARKEY, John	01/24
CUPRYK, Timothy	01/25
BENSON, Maria	01/26
JOHNSON-CONNELL, Charlotte	01/27
WISEUR, Emma	01/31

Activities and Events



- 1/19 Movie Night
- 1/26 Fruit Family
- 2/2 No Youth Group Meeting
- 2/9 Weir Family



January is Souper Bowl of Caring collection month. We will be collecting non-perishable food to be given to Storehouse West. The final collection day will be Sunday, February 2nd. You can drop off your donations in the Narthex at the table in the corner with the soup pots.



AND Dessert Auction

TODAY, January 19th, 11:00 AM

Join us in the fellowship hall, to taste all the different chili's and to vote for your favorite. Plus hang around to bid on yummy desserts! All the proceeds will help to fund the youth Spring and Summer Mission Trips.



Our annual Fat Tuesday, All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, February 25th from 5 to 7 PM in the fellowship hall. Pancakes, sausage, applesauce, coffee and juice will be served. Proceeds benefit the youth group.



With the change of service times, we are also changing the time for Children's Sunday School. Children in grades K through 5 will follow this schedule:

The first Sunday of each month, which is communion Sunday, the children will stay in worship service. All other Sunday's, the children will start in the worship service and then be dismissed to go to Sunday School immediately following the Children's Message.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kim Peterson at 450-9795.

Attention Women... Save the Date!

Friday, February 7th

Our next women's event is scheduled! Join us Friday, February 7th, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. We will have a guest speaker and do a service project. Dinner will be served, and childcare will be available. Watch the bulletin board and newsletter for more details!

Paint Night at RRUMC 1/17.2020



Wednesday Night Out Dinners

We always welcome volunteers to help clean up following our Wednesday Night Out Dinners. Last Wednesday, we had some willing YOUNG volunteers, pictured below:



Empty Promises Wednesday Night

Study Resumes

Now that the Wednesday Night Out meals have resumed, we are continuing our Empty Promises video study. In this study we will learn how to relinquish and replace the empty promises of the “good life---the addiction to achievement, approval, wealth, power, beauty, and more---by turning our focus and worship toward God. On January 22 nd , we will be considering what it means to make an idol of religion. 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 intime for choir practice.

Where our 2019 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Went

Samaritan’s Purse shoebox tracking information shows that the Operation ‘Christmas ‘child shoeboxes from Rio Rancho United Methodist Church were sent to children in Haiti and Mexico. Please pray for the children that received shoeboxes, especially the ones that you packed and sent.



The Money Quote

The compassionate life is a grateful life, and actions born out of gratefulness are not compulsive but free, not somber, but joyful, not fanatical but liberating. When gratitude is the source of our actions, our giving becomes receiving and those to whom we minister become our ministers. – *Unknown*

Our Financial Fresh Start

If you would like to make a commitment to God’s work here at Rio Rancho UMC, as a part of your 2020 financial fresh start, you can pick up a commitment card in the Narthex. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate, turned into the Church Office or placed in the locked mailbox outside the Finance Office.

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” Malachi 3:10

So far, for 2020, 38 church families have generously made commitments for a total of \$161,748. We deeply appreciate all those church families have made a commitment. Fifteen of those 38 families have increased their commitment from 2019 and another 16 have maintained the same level of commitment as in 2019. However, we do have 8 fewer families making commitments for 2020 than we had in 2019. If you have not yet made a commitment for 2020, we appreciate your prayerful consideration of doing so as part of your financial fresh start.