



# Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

Sunday, January 5, 2020, Vol. 15, Issue 1

“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

Isn't it nice to get to meet (or meet again) church members that have been going to the other service when we had two services. Be sure to greet them warmly, and tell them how good it is to worship with them again!!!

I praise you because you made me in such a wonderful way.

I know how amazing that was!

You could see my bones grow as my body took shape,

hidden in my mother's womb.

You could see my body grow each passing day.

You listed all my parts, and not one of them was missing.

Your thoughts are beyond my understanding.

They cannot be measured!

Psalm 139:14-17

Happy New Year!!!

Have you ever thought about the difference between you and a rock? Silly, right - but do think about it. We have a heart-beat and the rock is just a rock. Our very existence hangs on a heartbeat; our life is dependent on that heartbeat. When we do nothing - it beats. When we sin, or gossip, or covet or hate or weep - it still beats.

Our life is a miracle, a gift from God. Every moment is sustained by God and every moment is a miracle. This year, may we not take our life, our moments, for granted. May we stop wasting it, mistreating it or treating it as something less than the miracle it is. Treasure the existence with which you were entrusted and stop throwing away your moments. Life a life worthy of every heartbeat granted to you.

This new decade is going to be filled with challenges as we grow in our faith and as a church. All our efforts must be directed by God and undergirded in prayer. Please add your prayers as we face the future together.

Hozho,

*Pastor Raquel*

# PRAYER CORNER

## Sunday, January 5, 2020

Excerpted from "Methodist Daily Reader.

Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12

1 After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, suddenly some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east

2 asking, 'Where is the infant king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.'

3 When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem.

4 He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

5 They told him, 'At Bethlehem in Judaea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

6 And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means the least among the leaders of Judah, for from you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

7 Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared

8 and sent them on to Bethlehem with the words, 'Go and find out all about the child, and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.'

9 Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And suddenly the star they had seen rising went forward and halted over the place where the child was.

10 The sight of the star filled them with delight,

11 and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

12 But they were given a warning in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

## 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



1/5 Baltz Family  
1/12 Mueller Family  
1/19 Movie Night  
1/26 Fruit Family



Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>,  
3:45 PM

It is time to have a parent/youth meeting, to catch up paperwork and look at what we want 2020 to look like for the Rio Rancho Youth Group. We will also be deciding where we want to go on our Spring Break Mission Trip. It is important that an adult from each family is present at our meeting. We will start right at 3:45 PM and conclude by 5 PM so that we can start our regular youth group meeting! See you there!



## Cookie Service Project

Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, the youth will meet at the Church at 9:30 AM, to bake cookies. After a quick lunch, cookies will be delivered to our shut-

ins and teachers

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 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Wednesday Night Out dinners will  
resume on January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## It's Time to UN-

# DECORATE the Church

Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM

We will start at 9 AM on Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. The more hands we have, the faster it goes. Taking it all down is easier than putting it all up! Let Kim know if you will be able to help.



Our next paint night is scheduled for Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8:30 PM. A sample of our picture is posted on the bulletin board. We will serve a light supper, and child care is available (please let Kim Peterson know if you need child care). The cost is \$5.00 which includes all the supplies you will need. Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> to the Church office at 8920404x3 or to Kim Peterson at 450-9795 or [kimpeterson1007@gmail.com](mailto:kimpeterson1007@gmail.com).



**And Dessert  
Auction  
Sunday, January  
19<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM**

**Calling all Chili Chefs:** Who is a chili chef you ask? Anyone who would like to make a batch of chili and bring it to the event! If you are interested in making a batch of chili, please let Kim Peterson know by calling 4509795 or 892-0404x3. You will need to have your batch of chili to the church by 10:30 AM on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. You will need to “Name” your dish and indicate a heat index. Then you can encourage the tasters/judges to vote for your chili!

**Calling all Tasters/Judges:** Who is a taster/judge you ask? If you are reading this, you are! Our entire church y is invited to attend the Chili Cook-Off & Dessert Auction. Everyone will have the opportunity to taste each batch of chili, and then you will vote for your favorites by putting money into the jar next to the chili of your choice. The Chili with the most money collected will be the winner and will have bragging rights for the coming year! All money collected will be used to fund youth trips.

**Dessert Auction:** Youth families will provide the desserts – everyone can bid on them!

**Youth will go to a movie, instead of having our regular youth group meeting. A text and e-mail will be sent to all youth families with the movie info, time and location to meet.**



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.

**The Money Quote**

Patrick Henry wrote into his will that if he had left nothing in terms of worldly riches but had given his heirs a faith in Jesus Christ, then they were of all people most wealthy. Conversely, he added that if he had left them all the wealth in the world but had not left them a faith in Jesus Christ, they would be of all people most destitute.

**Thank You! from St. Felix Pantry**



“I love this job!” a young volunteer at St. Felix Pantry said when he saw the 11 big bags of toys and games for children and teens that our church family had brought to the March to the Manger. The “Christmas Store” at St. Felix was to open that day and parents of families receiving assistance at St. Felix would soon have those beautiful brand-new gifts to choose from for their children.

**Famous Quotations**

Give thanks to sorrow that teaches you pity, for pain that teaches you courage, and give exceeding thanks for a mystery which remains a mystery still— the veil that hides you from the infinite, which makes it possible for you to believe what you cannot see.

**Robert Nathan**