



Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

Sunday, June 23, 2019, Vol. 14, Issue 13

“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.”



What's Inside?

Prayer Corner	2
Anniversaries & Birthdays	2
Missions Outreach	2
Activities and Events	3&4
Youth Dinner Schedule	3
Summer Movie Dates	3
Game Night	3
Youth Summer Mission Trip	3
Burrito Fundraiser	3
Isotopes Baseball	3
Youth Week 2019	3
Fort Lone Tree	4
VBS Summary & Pictures	4
Highlights of the Annual Conf.	5
Money Quote	5
Family Vacation	6
Thank You messages	6
Words To The Wise	6

Editor's Note

We still need more of you to sign up to receive your copy of the Newsletter by e-mail. Remember, this will save a significant amount of work and expense in publishing "Our Vision".

Dear Ones,

I am going to Las Cruces with the youth!!! This is my first time to go with a mission team - while I was at Shiprock we hosted mission teams but now I am on the other side and I am pretty excited. Please take care of each other while we are out serving those less fortunate than us.

When Yeshua is talking about separating the sheep from the goats, one of the main criteria for the sheep is when someone is hungry, thirsty, unwelcomed, unclothed or sick in prison, help is offered. "I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." Matthew 25:45 While we are in El Paso we will be working with some of the least. I am grateful we have this opportunity to model Yeshua's sheep to our young people. I am indebted to Kim Peterson and John Hockert for their willingness to lead us into the mission field. Please pray for us while we are away from you - pray for the kids and the helpers, pray for the recipients of our time that they may indeed see the love of God through our actions and pray for the parents of our youth - may they enjoy their 'break' and use the time to nurture their own relationship with each other and with God.

I am delighted I have been re-appointed to RRUMC for the next year. I believe the work we have done last year will bring more fruit to our wonderful church.

Hozho

Pastor Raquel

This devotion is from **Daily Guideposts, May 3, 2012**, with permission. I feel this way when I go to the ophthalmologist for shots in my eyes for macular degeneration. Now I know what to do while I wait for the jolt. I can pray for someone.

I CALLED OUT TO MY GOD. . . . MY CRY CAME TO HIS EARS. - II Samuel 22:17

To say that I'm scared of going to the dentist is an understatement. So as I strode down the sidewalk on my way to have a root canal, I felt panicky, almost hysterical. How could I possibly sit tipped backwards in a chair with my mouth open while the dentist poked and drilled and maneuvered?

As the dentist's assistant helped me into the chair and fastened the towel around my neck, I looked up at her. We'd always smiled and said hello, but never anything more. For some reason I touched her arm. "How are you," I asked.

Her eyes filled with tears. "It is my birthday," she said. "I am missing my mother in Poland. We are very close and have not seen each other for a long time."

She continued to talk until the dentist came in and started his work. But by now my focus had changed from the drama inside my mouth to the woman standing beside me, longing for her mother far away. During the procedure I thought about what this mother and daughter must be going through. I prayed for them both, then for mothers and daughters everywhere who were separated by the sea, by events by misunderstandings. When the dentist finished, I was surprised that the time had passed by so quickly.

When I went back for a follow-up visit, a different assistant fastened the bib around my neck. I asked where the other woman was. "She's home in Poland, visiting her mother," I was told. I settled into the dentist's chair and took a deep breath and looked up that this assistant.

"How are you?" I asked.

Dear God, whenever my cares and fears have me turned toward myself, let me turn to You.

Grace and peace,

Lowell

June Anniversaries & Birthdays

Anniversaries

STUART, Scott & Alice	06/03
REAGIN, Randy & Julie	06/06
JONES, Larry & Amy	06/21
KOHLRUST, Lowell and Jan	06/24
STIELOW, Dave & Peggy	06/26

BIRTHDAYS

KACQUEZ_GARCIA, Jennifer	06/01
LOUGHRAN, Dan	06/02
KRISTOFF, Ruth	06/04
REECE, Maxine	06/04
WILLIS, Frank	06/06
SCHNEPPER, Evelyn	06/09
SIMPSON, Beth	06/12
FELDMAN, Linda	06/13
LITTLEWOOD, Margaret	06/13
MILLER, Elizabeth	06/13
SECHREST, Ruby Jo	06/13
ALLEE, Deanna	06/15
MCKINLEY, Mylisa	06/15
PETERSON, Kim	06/17
KRISTOF, Dick	06/18
SCHNEPPER, Kim	06/18
HAUCK, Carole	06/21
SEPELAK, Kira	06/21
DOUGLAS, Gordon	06/23
TICHENOR, Arlene	06/25
BAYLESS, Harper	06/26
LOEWENSTEIN, James	06/30
MCCONNELL, Oso	06/30

FROM THE MISSIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The following are recent church donations:

LANDSUN	\$292
STOREHOUSE	\$257.15
UMCOR	\$1,600
NATIVE AMERICANS	\$265
MCCURDY	\$166

Thanks for your generosity!



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Activities and Events



Youth Dinner Schedule

6/23	Mission Trip – No Youth
6/30	Kim Peterson
7/07	Hilborn Family
7/14	Destination Unknown



Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser Sunday, July 14th

On Sunday, July 14th, the Youth will be selling breakfast burritos from 9am to noon in the Fellowship Hall. Order forms to pre-order are located on the welcome table in the Narthex.

Summer Movie Dates

July 12th and July 22nd

The above dates are summer movie days for the

youth. The movie and time will be determined three to

four days before and an e-

mail or text sent to all youth. Friends are welcome to come too!

Youth/friends will need to bring money for snacks.



Sunday, June 30th during youth group time we will have game night! We will play the games that you want to play – so come prepared!

Youth Summer Mission Trip

Eighteen of us leave today at 12:45. We will be working with Jardin de los Ninos (a preschool/day care facility), Casa de Peregrinos (a food pantry), and El Caldito (a soup kitchen). All are located on the Community of Hope Campus, which is a community that helps homeless and near homeless families and individuals. We return Friday evening.

Please keep our group in your prayers as we travel and work! Attending are Melanie & Samantha Baltz, Michael Elliott, Donovan, Harmony & Symphony Hilborn, John Hockert, Ava & Nicole Holland, Hayden Holmes, Scoty Mueller, Raquel Mull, Kim Peterson, Harley Sechrest, Madison York, Brooks Logan, and Stormi Waller.

Take Me Out To The Ballgame!

The Isotopes are hosting their annual “All Faith's Night” on Sunday, July 28th.

Game time 6:05 PM. This is a great time for our Church family to get together for fellowship and a baseball game. As a church group, we can purchase tickets for \$9.00 per person. If you would like to go to the ball game, please fill out the ticket form, located on the welcome table and place it in the offering plate or give it to Kim Peterson. Ticket requests and money must be turned in by Sunday, July 014th..



July 28th — August 4th



Flyers have been mailed!

Call Kim if you have any questions!



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 "bunkhouses" that hold 6 to 12 people. Registration forms are due by September 1st. Start planning now if you want to go!!!



Vacation Bible School was a great success! We had an average of 40 children and 35 volunteers each night. We collected over \$375.00 to purchase new stuffed animals to give to the Rio Rancho police and fire departments, to give to children in crisis situations. If you missed the slideshow last Sunday, here are a few pictures of the week's adventures!



Highlights of Annual Conference

Pastor Raquel Mull and John Hockert attended the New Mexico Annual Conference meetings on June 13 and 14 as your representatives. They also attended a June 12 workshop on discipleship with Greg Anderson. We hope to glean insights from this workshop to enhance people making. Thursday began with District meetings in which we elected Albuquerque District Officers and discovered that our annual Church Conference is scheduled for Monday, September 30 at 6 p.m. This was followed by opening worship led by Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr., who emphasized that, despite rising secularism and dissent with the church God has not given up on us or His church.

Dr. Randall Partin, conference provost, gave the State of the Conference report, beginning with statistics indicating that Conference-wide worship attendance was stabilizing with one half of our mid-size and large attendance churches growing and one third of all size churches stable or growing. He noted that giving was stable, and the Annual Conference was budgeting to live within its means. This financial prudence made it possible



Dr. Randall Partin

for the us to pass a resolution increasing the funding for grants to churches from the Conference Endowment Fund. Church leaders were encouraged to be creative thinking about new ministries that might qualify for such grants. Dr. Partin recognized that we have ongoing challenges, including the restructuring of our higher education and campus ministry team, the need for funding to remodel McCurdy Ministries facilities, and the fallout from the 2019 General Conference.

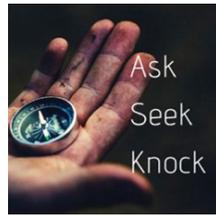
Sid Strebeck, our conference lay leader, gave the laity address, in which he encouraged us to be missional, reaching out to the unchurched and dechurched in our communities.

These reports were followed by an approximately three-hour session in which our delegates to the 2019 General Conference answered previously submitted questions about GC 2019 and their reaction to it. This discussion was too lengthy to include here. If you would like a written summary, please contact John Hockert.

The Thursday session concluded with a coaching session by Val Hastings showing how changing our questions can change our perceptions and how we do ministry. For example, our ministries would dramatically, if we asked how we can have a positive impact on our community instead of asking how we can get community members to come to our church. We received copies of Val Hastings' book, *Change Your Questions, Change Your Church*, in our conference and hope to help apply these concepts in ministry.



Val Hastings



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The Laity Session on Friday included more coaching training by Val Hastings. Business sessions on Friday included considerations of the budget / spending plan and resolutions in the pre-conference journal and the nominations for Conference leadership positions. Pastor Raquel Mull was elected to serve on the Conference Board of Global Ministries, Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and the Committee on Native American Ministries. John Hockert was elected to serve on the Small Membership Church Committee.

The Conference adopted the following resolutions:

- *Closure of Aldersgate UMC in Roswell and Sacramento Mountain UMC, which met for several years in the W. Angie and Bess Smith Chapel at Sacramento Methodist Assembly;
- *Clarification the way that assets from church closures would be used to fund new faith communities, to enhance the leadership and vitality of existing congregations, and pay fund the upkeep of conference property;
- *Establishment of rental / housing allowances to permit favorable federal tax treatment of a portion of the salaries and retirement benefits of active and retired clergy;
- *Siting the 2021 New Mexico Annual Conference session in Las Cruces, New Mexico; and
- *Encouraging use of recycled paper.

The business session ended with the fixing of appointments (i.e., assignment of pastors to churches). After the conference was formally adjourned, a commissioning and closing worship service was held at St. John's UMC.



Prayers for Pastors

The Money Quote

One of the reasons churches in North America have trouble guiding people about money is that the church's economy is built on consumerism. If churches see themselves as suppliers of religious goods and services and their congregants as consumers, then offerings are 'payment.'

Doug Pagitt

The following article was taken from the web site,
Preachingtoday.com

Family Vacation

I went on a vacation with three young children (at least they were my children).

It was just a short vacation, but long enough to discover that driving more than 5 minutes in the car unleashes a chorus of complaints and "Are we there yet?" shouts from the back seat. Long enough to realize we didn't bring even half the equipment we need from home. Then when you actually arrive, the work has just begun. As they say, when you have kids, vacations are just "parenting somewhere else." Then there was the constant fighting between my two oldest. On the second day, I leaned toward my wife and pointed at the kids, "Why did we bring them along?" (Don't worry, I whispered so they wouldn't hear me.)

I already knew the answer of course: memories. Family time. Bonding. Being good parents. You know. All the good, important stuff and none of which has anything to do with the having fun or relaxing. But then I had a little flash of realization. That's kind of how it works with God and me. He doesn't need me. He could accomplish his mission all by himself. It would certainly be less complicated to not bring me along. But he invites me to join him on the trip anyway.

I felt a little guilty. Maybe I should have a little more grace for my young children. Even when they scream "I'm bored" while costing me thousands of dollars.



Drew Dyck
Contributing Editor

Thank You for the Supplies
for **Lincoln Middle School**



They were gratefully accepted and will help both students and teachers when they prepare their classrooms for the new school year.

Project Backpack
will continue
when school starts again
in August.



Thank you for giving healthy snacks for needy children at Maggie Cordova Elementary throughout the school year!

Words To The Wise

Always keep your words soft and sweet, because one day you may have to eat them.

Those who say nothing, show a fine command of language.

Words and water are easy to pour, but impossible to recover

One kind word has more power than a dozen threats.

A second wind is what some speakers get when they say, "and now in conclusion."

To talk without thinking is to shoot without aiming.