



Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

“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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Worship Service – 10 AM Sunday Morning

IN THIS ISSUE – SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

Greeters: Who, What, Why?	Pg. 2
Mission Emphasis	Pg. 2
Is a Small Group for Me?	Pg. 3
Women’s Book Club	Pg. 3
Welcome Bags	Pg. 3
Trunk-or-Treat	Pg. 4
Youth News	Pg. 4
What to expect...	Pg. 5

RIO RANCHO UMC STAFF

Rev. Raquel Mull, Pastor
 Rachel Balliett, Administrative Assistant
 Kim Peterson, Director of Christian Education and Youth
 Joseph Ulibarri, Music Director
 Hailey Vandewiele, Accompanist
 Monica Alliman, Nursery Director
 Jamie Moryosef, Nursery Attendant
 Kristine Sechrest, Preschool Director
 Jessica Holguin, Preschool Teacher

A Message from Pastor Raquel

Dear Ones,

I am so excited – I have waited 6 months to say – we’re going live!!!! Hooray!

We will re-gather on Sunday, October 4, 2020 in the sanctuary. Of course, we are establishing a “new” normal for this season so please read this newsletter carefully so you can know what to expect from us and what we expect from you. Our main goal is to be the body of Christ in a place where all people feel welcome and safe. Of course, if one does not feel comfortable coming to a gathering of many people, please know we will understand. We will be here when you do feel comfortable. In the meantime, we will continue to record the service and post it on YouTube.

Please know the Staff and the many people who contribute to our worship services are diligently working to make this worth the wait! We are so grateful for your continued support of our church and its ministries.

As we move forward, it is already time to think about our Church Conference. The meeting will be virtual but we do need reports very soon.

I continue to keep our church, our country, and our leaders in my prayers every day, and I cant wait to see you again face to face.

Hozho,

Raquel



Who, What, Why?

*Every church member is a host: not a guest. Making visitors feel welcome is the responsibility of members.

*The most important person for a visitor to talk to in order to feel at home in a new church is you. One of the most impressive gestures we can extend to first time visitors is to take the initiative and welcome them.

*Treat first time visitors as guests of God, not strangers.

*Look people in the eye and smile.

*Learn people's names and remember them.

*Ask questions and learn about our guests. It is better to express interest in them than it is to try to sell our church.

*Listening is an amazingly effective way to show love.

*Let children be children. Families love children's church and childcare. They also love it when you allow them to decide if their children should remain with them in worship. And even more, when you love their kids as kids (crying, playing, singing!) and don't expect them to be grown-ups.

*Help first time visitors by being their tour guide and helping them find suitable seating and worship resources. Visiting a new church is like a cross-cultural experience, even for those who have visited dozens of other churches.

*Invite people to fill out our church's visitor registration card or information.

*Tell people you are glad they are here.

*Pray for them throughout your week.

*Be yourself! You are loving! You have a good thing going! You have the capacity to love more people, and to love more deeply. Practice making people feel special and what you give to others will be returned to you.

September Missions Emphasis – Rio Rancho Police

This is the final week to bring in snacks and \$5 dollar gift cards to put in the bags for the Rio Rancho Police. Please drop off your items on or before Monday, September 28th. Bags will be filled on Wednesday, September 30th. If you would like to help fill and deliver the bags, please contact the Church office at 892-0404.

October Missions Emphasis - UMCOR

The [United Methodist Committee on Relief \(UMCOR\)](#) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by war, conflict, natural and man-made disasters, by providing emergency food, shelter and medicine. UMCOR provides humanitarian relief and disaster response to refugees and displaced persons in more than 80 countries, including the United States, and works to overcome world hunger and poverty.

One hundred percent of your tax-deductible gifts go to the emergency response or Advance project that you designate. Please make checks out to RRUMC with a notation for UMCOR.

Is a Small Group for ME?

Small groups function to help us meet instrumental, interpersonal and identity needs. They are instrumental by providing information, interpersonal by helping us feel included and supported; and meet identity needs by allowing us to associate with others with the same attitudes, beliefs and values. Small groups are relational oriented as they promote interpersonal connections with a focus on contributing to the well being of group members.

John Wesley believed that small groups were necessary for our well-being, and asked all members of small groups to answer a few basic questions.

We would like for members of our small groups to discuss "how they have seen God at work in their lives in the past week?"

We already have a few small groups here at Rio Rancho UMC, including: Women's Book Club, Quilters, and Youth Group. We would like to see a few more. Is there something that interests you, that you would like to see as a small group here at our church?

If so, please talk to Kim Peterson or Raquel Mull.

Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club is currently reading "The Things We Cannot Say" by Karen Rimmer. We will have a Zoom discussion on Monday, October 5th, at 2 PM. Please let Kim Peterson know if you would like the link to join in the discussion. Our November book selection is "What the Wind Knows" by Amy Harmon. There is a copy available at the Church. If you would like it, please contact Kim Peterson. She can be reached at kimpeterson1007@gmail.com, or by phone or text at 450-9795.



The Church office has "Welcome" bags to hand out to new neighbors! If someone new has moved into your neighborhood, please consider taking them a "Welcome" bag. Inside we have a couple of small gifts, and some great information about Rio Rancho, and our Church. This is a great outreach opportunity!



Saturday, October 31st from 1 to 3 PM, we will offer Trunk-or-Treat in our parking lot. We are coordinating this event with our scouts and will be advertising to the community. We would love to see between 30 and 40 cars participating this year! If you would like to offer a carnival game (guidelines available from Kim) in addition to or instead of handing out candy, that would be great too, as we will not be holding the carnival games inside due to Covid. This is a fun, safe event for children to participate in, as everything is outside, and we will be able to social distance and still have a good time. If you do not feel comfortable handing out candy, you can still help by donating individually wrapped candy, that we will have extra youth

and adults hand out. In the past we have had approximately 100 children come through trunk-or-treat. We anticipate that we will have a lot more children in attendance this year, as there will probably be a number of people not comfortable with handing out candy at their homes, so families will be looking for alternatives to regular trick or treating. If you are interested in participating or donating candy, please let Kim Peterson know.



Rio Rancho Youth Purpose

*Youth group is an inclusive fellowship with a focus on spiritual formation and growth.

*This is obtained by creating a safe, non-competitive, non-threatening environment where all youth feel welcome and accepted for who they are. Youth are encouraged to invite friends to all activities.

*Fellowship occurs where two or more are gathered for engaging discussion, games, and meals. While some activities may be entertaining, the primary focus of all activities is building relationships and creating equality.

*Spiritual growth will occur when strong relationships are developed with peers and mentors that allow us to speak openly about our beliefs, and to share our fears, joys, and concerns.

Youth group meets on Sunday evenings from 5 to 7 PM. We start the evening with a meal, followed by games and Bible study/discussion groups. In addition to Sunday evenings, we hold fund raising events; participate in service projects, and fun activities. Youth group is open to all youth who are 6th grade and older.

We are currently viewing and discussing "The Bible", a 10-part mini-series. "The Bible" brings Biblical accounts to life through a combination of live action and computer-generated animation, revealing new insights into many key Biblical characters.

October Dinner Schedule

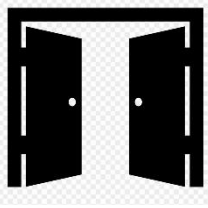
10/4 - Plotner Family

10/11 - Fruit Family

10/18 - Baltz Family

10/25 - Hilborn Family

What to expect when we come back together in person!



You may enter at any of the three entrances, but will be routed to the main entrance of the sanctuary with theatre ropes.

Weather permitting, entrance doors will be blocked open!



Everyone entering the Church will be required to wear a mask or face shield. (Masks will be available for anyone their own.)

without one of



There are 6 sanitation stations set up throughout the Church. One at each entrance, one directly inside the sanctuary and one between each set of restrooms.



Ushers will assist in seating. You may specify an area, but ushers will need to seat according to distancing rules.



Families may sit together.

Seating will be in alternate rows and we will require attendees to fill out a small form, registering your attendance and your seat location. This will be used for contact tracing and registering attendance should someone later test positive. Please drop your form in the offering plate as you leave the service.



form



Bulletins will be e-mailed on Friday. If you wish to have one to follow along during the service, please print it out and bring it with you.



We will not have congregational singing. Please sit back and enjoy the music provided!

On the 1st Sunday of each month, we will offer communion. Pre-packaged elements will be available as you enter the sanctuary. Please hold on to them until it is time to receive the elements. Complete instructions will be given during worship. Gluten free crackers

will also be available to those needing them, as the pre-packaged wafer is not gluten free.

Offering plates will not be passed during the worship service. You may drop your offering in the plates by the doors as you exit.

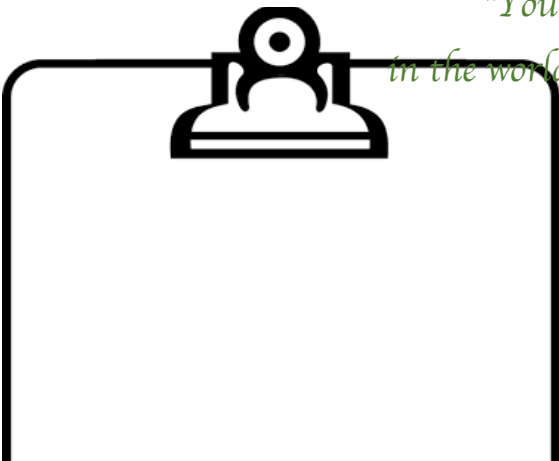
Even though things will look and feel a little different, we are so glad to be able to worship together as a family again! We cannot wait to see you and wave at you! Praying blessings on each of you!

Page 5

Rio Rancho UMC
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*"You must be the change you wish to see
in the world." Gandhi*



If you wish to be removed from the newsletter mailing list or would prefer an e-mail copy only, please contact the Church office at: 892-0404 to update your information.

Thank You!

We continue to pray daily at 4:52 PM, for our church, our country, and our leaders. We invite you to join us (where you are), so we can cover all concerns in prayer!

We also invite you to view our worship services online. Go to www.rumc.net and click on the YouTube link. You can also view a copy of the current bulletin which includes a prayer list.