



Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019, Vol. 14, 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

It seems that church attendance has been falling off in the past several weeks. Please make an effort to attend and invite your neighbor to come too. This is an important time of year, and the holidays are coming up.

Pastor's Message

I spoke about metamorphosis in a previous newsletter, the act of transforming and becoming new creatures. I want to encourage you to continue to examine your life, and the life of this church to determine how we need to change.

It is easy to let our fear limit us. If you fear judgment, you may keep quiet when another needs to hear the words of correction or encouragement. If your old nature has been bitterness, and anger, then you need to take actions of grace, blessing, and forgiveness.. If selfishness is a part of our character, then take actions of generosity, of giving away treasures for the Lord's kingdom, of blessing to move our attention away from one's self.

God is waiting for you, us, to become a butterfly in the spirit, to become a beautiful and heavenly creature. In order for that to happen, we need to break out of that old shell. Start today. Do something so unlike the old you no one would believe it. Break out of the chrysalis to establish God's kingdom in this community!

Hozho,

Pastor Raquel

PRAYER CORNER

Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019

From A Daily Guideposts@ September 18, 2004.

A PILGRIM=S BLESSING

THY STATUTES HAVE BEEN MY SONGS IN THE HOUSE OF MY PILGRIMAGE

Psalms 119:54

On a dreary day last winter, my husband Robert came bustling in the door with the mail, hugged me and said, How would you like to go to Wales, honey?@ After I caught my breath, we looked together at the announcement entitled A Soul-Filled Places: A Pilgrimage Embracing Christ=s Presence in Celtic Wales.

We both love to travel, but because we see these autumn years of our lives as a time for spiritual growth, we've decided that any trip we take must have a spiritual emphasis. So, we were glad to read these words in the flyer: You are invited to let go of the rhythm and control of daily life and experience an inward journey into God's presence, in the company of others. We hope you will join us!

Join them we did, with the greatest joy. We found the Llyn peninsula of North Wales to be a delightful place of greenness and flowers, rolling hills and surging sea, and the traces of ancient Celtic people. The early Christian Celts had prayers for starting the morning fire, for making the bed, for the day's work and for each activity of the day, as well as morning, noon and night prayers. In fact, their lives were bathed in the living water of prayer all day long.

As you and I begin our journey through this day, let us join the Celtic Christians as we pray these words collected in the highlands and islands of Scotland by Alexander Carmichael.

*Bless to us, O God,
Each thing our eyes see.
Bless to us, O God,
Each thing our ears hear.
Bless to us, O God,
Each scent that goes to our nostrils.
Bless to us, O God,
Each taste that goes to our lips,
Each note that goes to our song
Each ray that guides our way,
Each thing that we pursue,
The zeal that seeks our living soul,
The Holy Three that seek our heart*

If you haven't visited the Prayer Room yet, I urge you to do so. Come to rest, to seek quietude, to meditate, to pray. Come to the A place of quiet rest near to the heart of God. The Prayer Room is open to all.

Lowell

September Anniversaries and Birthdays Anniversaries

TICHENOR, Larry & Arlene	09/01
MCKINLEY, Chris & Mylisa	09/03
SEPELAK, Dave & Kira	09/04
HILBORN, Dan & Naomi	09/14
PETERSON, Rob & Kim	09/15
STEUCK, Mike & Mary Ann	09/21
WISE, Tony & Patty Quick	09/29
SECHREST, Shane & Kristine	09/30

Birthdays

O'SICKEY, Amanda	09/01
KOHLRUST, Paul	09/02
GREASER, Kaliyah	09/03
OLMON, Sallye	09/07
MULL, Raquel	09/10
BAYLESS, Liz	09/12
KOHLRUST, Lowell	09/12
CHAVEZ, Jake	09/13
LEWIS, Shelley	09/13
WILKINSON, Linda	09/13
CUPRYK, Pat	09/22
BRECH, Ethan	09/24
BEGLEY, Gisela	09/27
O'SICKEY, Sage	09/27
LEWIS, Staci	09/28
SECHREST, Harley	09/28



"Its from our church... we've been called up for active duty."

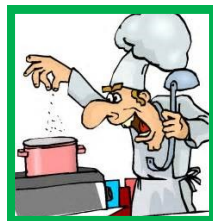
Activities and Events



- 9/15 Fruit Family
- 9/22 Holmes Family
- 9/28 Kim
- 10/6 Weir Family



Wednesday Night Out
September 18th:
Hamburger Steak in Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Corn, Rolls & Butter
Frozen Lemonade Dessert



September 25th:
Red Beans & Rice Casserole with Sausage
Salad, Smore Trifle



Dog Washing Service Project

On Saturday, September 21st, the youth will be washing dogs at Pet Food Gone Wild on Southern Boulevard from 10 AM

to 2 PM. This is a fund-raiser for Viva Animal Rescue. Bring your dog for a wash and help the youth support a good cause!



The youth will hold a Biscuits & Gravy breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, October 6th. We will start serving in the fellowship hall at 9:30 AM.

We will serve until we run out of food! Hope to see you there!

Youth Retreat October 11th - 12th

We will start our retreat at 4PM on Friday, with some awesome games, followed by dinner. Our focus for this event is the "God's Not Dead" movie trilogy. We will be watching all three movies and discussing them. Our retreat will conclude on Saturday at Noon. We will have a mandatory "sleep" time, so bring a pillow and sleeping bag. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the youth room. Please sign-up, so Kim can plan the food for this event.

SAFE SANCTUARIES

Reducing the Risk of Abuse in the Church for Children and Youth



Training & Soup Supper Friday, October 18th 6 to 8:30 PM

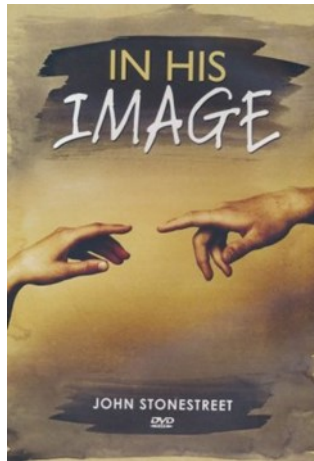
This event takes place once a year. It is very important that everyone who comes in contact with children, youth and vulnerable adults in any way in our church, takes the training. Please RSVP to the Church office at 892-0404, if you will be attending. For additional information, please contact Kim Peterson at :

892-0404x3, or 450-9795.

New Wednesday Night Study Starting September 25

In His Image

What is the image of God? What does it mean that we are made in God's image, and why is that so important to our identity? Join us as we explore the unique significance that Christianity places on the human person. Examine the evidence from the great philosophers and examples of current cultural trends that demonstrates why Christianity is the only religion to fully explain the human condition, human dignity as an inherent attribute, the responsibilities of being made in God's image, and much more. 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.



On Wednesday, September 11, 2019, Americans commemorated the 18th anniversary of one of the most tragic days in modern US history. On September 11, 2001, 19 members of the Islamic extremist organization Al Qaeda conducted a series of brutal, well-orchestrated attacks on American soil. In addition to cutting short the lives of 2,977 innocent people, the tragedy also set in motion events that would change the course of life both in the US and worldwide.

Preparations for the unprovoked and unprecedented act of violence began early on September 11, 2001. The armed terrorists, split into four groups — each with a trained pilot — boarded four commercial airplanes masquerading as passengers. Since airport security, as we know it today was non-existent, the weapons or bombs they were carrying went undetected. The flights — United Flight 93 from New Jersey, American Flight 77 from Washington, DC, and United Flight 175 and American Flight 11 from Boston — were all heading across the country, either to Los Angeles or to San Francisco. They, therefore, had enough fuel to cause a large amount of damage.

Two thousand nine hundred seventy-seven innocent people from 93 nations lost their lives on that tragic Tuesday. The death toll would have been even higher if the brave passengers and crew members of United Flight 93 had not overpowered the hijackers and diverted the flight, which was destined to hit the US Capitol building in Washington, DC. Though none survived the crash, their courage saved the country from an even bigger catastrophe.

Many of us have lasting memories of this!!!

The Money Quote

Theologians talk about a prevenient grace that precedes grace itself and allows us to accept it. I think there must also be a prevenient courage that allows us to be brave - that is, to acknowledge that there is more beauty than our eyes can bear, that precious things have been put into our hands and to do nothing to honor them is to do great harm. And therefore, this courage allows us, as the old men said, to make ourselves useful. It allows us to be generous, which is another way of saying exactly the same thing.” —

Marilynne Robinson, *Gilead*