



Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

April 15, 2018 Volume 13, Issue 8

“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.”



A Season of Joy and Gratitude

The season of Easter is one of hope in its purest form. Our joy is made completely known, and our hearts overflow with gratitude that our redeemer chose us. The story of the resurrection reminds us that nothing can overcome the love of God. I mean absolutely nothing. Life will triumph over death and faith will rise victorious over the darkest of all circumstances.

Spring is here, the season of rebirth. It is time to celebrate that the world changes and life propels forward always reinventing itself. We share with the world the Good News of Christ! No matter the situation in which we find ourselves, the power of God can set our path in a new direction. The resurrection assures it to be so.

Feast your eyes on the new spring. There has never been a season like this one. It is unique. Each flower that blooms, each blade of grass that grows have never quite looked like this year’s petals and meadows. New life contains its unique beauty.

Christ creates in you a new awareness that God loves you. We celebrate such an incredible gift which can never be fully understood. Every season brings about a reminder that God is present and alive within and around us. We must acknowledge His presence and rejoice that the Spirit of God reminds us that we belong to Him.

Praise be to God, who makes us fully aware that we are His children.

Blessings,

Pastor Joe

P.S. This past Sunday, I announced that my family would be leaving RRUMC. While we look forward to ministering in another part of the New Mexico Conference, we will miss our church family here in Rio Rancho. For the past six years, we have grown together, struggled together, celebrated together and worshipped together. I consider all of these times as sacred moments and will cherish them as I move forward in service.

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Editor’s Note

Be sure to stop by Fellowship Hall after the first service to give best wishes to Ismael Renteria as he moves on to new opportunities in music. We will really miss him here at RRUMC.

Prayer Corner

Sunday, April 15, 2018

A TIME CLAIMED FOR GOD

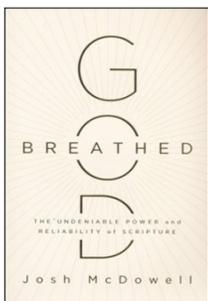
From Max Lucado's Daily Devotion

A friend described to me her daily ninety-minute commute. "Ninety minutes," I commiserated. "Don't feel sorry for me," she smiled, "I use the trip to think about God." She went on to describe how she fills the hour listening to entire books of the Bible. She recites prayers. By the time she reaches her place of employment, she's ready for the day. She says, "I turn my commute into my chapel."

Is there a block of time you can claim for God? Perhaps turning off the network news and opening your Bible. Set the alarm fifteen minutes earlier. Rather than watch TV as you fall asleep, listen to an audio version of the Bible or a Christian book. Jesus says, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32 ESV).

*Grace & Peace,
Judy Brunk*

God-Breathed: New Study



Want to experience God's Word in a powerful new way? Join us as we study *God-Breathed* which presents the experience of a life transformed by the One who spoke everything into existence, including you.

Through the story of a centuries-old Torah and other scriptural artifacts he's acquired, the author, Josh McDowell, highlights the Bible's unique history. Learn how these writings were made, what makes an ancient document reliable, and why the Bible is trustworthy, revealing God's plan for our lives. The study begins today at 9:45 am in the Music Room. See John Hockert for a copy of the study book, *God-Breathed*.

April Anniversaries and Birthdays

Anniversaries

MCCONNELL, Lee & Kathy 04/12
SHARKEY, John & Jeri 04/21

Birthdays

MCKINLEY, Austin 04/05
RABORN, Jim 04/09
EKEROTH, Vangie (Evangeline) 04/11
LOEWENSTEIN, Jim 04/11
RENTERIA, Ismael 04/13
HOLDER, Evonne 04/14
COTTON, Ed 04/16
MORRIS, Shirley 04/18
HOLLAND, Ava 04/19
WEAVER, Ronald 04/19
JOHNSON, Peggy 04/21
HILBORN, Dan 04/22
HAUCK, Michael 04/23
SELOVER, Glen 04/23
SELOVER, Wes 04/23
STEUCK, Mike 04/23
STIELOW, Dave 04/23
GALLAHER, Walt 04/26
SMILEY, Madonna 04/27
ANDERSON, Gregory 04/30



Activities and Events

Youth Dinner Schedule

- 4/15 Mueller Family
- 4/22 MacDonald Family
- 4/29 Miller Family



Women's Event

Craft Night is Back! The choir room is open from 5 to 8 PM. Bring your crafts and snacks to share, and join in the fun! The dates are April 24 and May 8. Questions, call Kim Peterson at 450-9795 or 892-0404x3.



Calling all women... You are invited to join us on Friday, April 20th, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, to get lost in God's presence! Leave behind the realities of this world in this moment and embrace the 3 realities of God...

- ♥ God Sees You
- ♥ God Remembers You
- ♥ God Understands You

Wednesday Night Out...

- 4/18 Chicken Fried Steak or Hamburger Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Rolls & Butter, Ice Cream Sundaes
- 4/25 Taco Salad, Veggies & Dip, Strawberry Shortcake

The evening will start with a light meal, followed by study, fellowship, worship, a fun craft project and a service project. A flyer will be available this week on the welcome table. For questions, contact Kim Peterson in the church office at 892-0404x3 or at 450-9795.

Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser

On Sunday, April 22nd, the youth will be selling breakfast burritos from 9 to noon in the fellowship hall. Order forms are available on the welcome table in the narthex to pre-order. All proceeds will help fund the summer mission trip to Boulder City, Nevada. Thanks in advance for supporting our youth!



Rob & Kim Peterson
1447 Blue Sky Loop NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144
(505) 450-9795 (Kim)

GRADUATION BRUNCH

May 6th 9:45 AM
Fellowship Hall



We will honor our graduates with a brunch on Sunday, May 6th, during our regular fellowship time. Graduating this year are: Mamie Sechrest, Zac Lepori, Carter Brown and Anastazia Kofchur. If you know of anyone else from our church family who is graduating, please notify Kim Peterson.

Famous Quotations

Things turn out the best for those who make the best of the way things turn out.

Daniel Considine

The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time.

Abraham Lincoln

The true measure of success is how many times you can bounce back from failure.

Stephen Richards

HOMILETICS WORKSHOP

The art of sermon preparation & preaching

Objectives:

- Exegetical practices & study techniques to prepare sermons
- Basics of writing 4-page sermon based on research & reflective insight
- Practice of spiritual discipline - prayer, lexio devina, Christian service & how observance helps structure of a sermon
- Receive feedback on short sermon
- Learn effective strategies for communicating with Leadership Teams.

Who: CLM's, Pastors, Local Pastors, Supply Pastors, Lay Servants. Material valuable to anyone.

Details: There is no cost but a love offering will be taken. The evening times are 6-9:00 pm. The day times are 9 am-3:30 pm. Participants need to attend both days. CEU credit for CLM's & Lay Servants

Dates & Locations:

- April 27-28 - Riverstone, Farmington
- June 22-23 - FUMC-ABQ
- May 4-5 - FUMC-Roswell
- May 18-19 - FUMC-Odessa
- June 1-2 - Western Hills UMC- El Paso

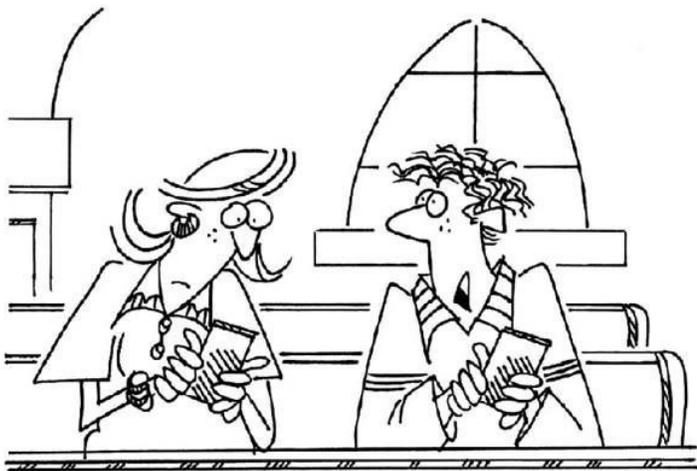


Instructors:

Rev. Joe MacDonald & his wife, CLM, Cazandra MacDonald. They bring a wealth of experience; Joe finishing his D.Min with an emphasis in Homiletics & Cazandra delivering a TED Talk and speaking across the country on behalf of the hemophilia community.

Registration:

Contact Cazandra 575-405-0768 or cozmac9910@gmail.com. If you leave a message or send an e-mail, please indicate that you are interested in registering for the Homiletics Workshop.



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"The Pastor keeps referring to 'this morning's text' ... but which one?"

The Reverend Raquel Mull has been appointed to Rio Rancho United Methodist Church effective July 1, 2018. She was "born for Tobacco People" and born to the Salt Clan of the Diné Nation (Navajo). She is a graduate of UNM earning a B.A. in English and Philosophy. She attended Duke University School of Theology, and earned a Masters in Divinity from the Iliff School of Theology in 2014. She served as pastor at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Socorro, from October 2007 to June 2012. Since then she has served as Director of the Four Corners Native American Ministry of the New Mexico Conference of The United Methodist Church. Rev. Mull is active in the Four Corners Emmaus Community. She attended the 2008 General Conference as part of the team of monitors from the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women and/or the General Commission on Religion and Race. Those interested can read some essays that she has written about faith and Christian living at <http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/author/>

