Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

February 17, 2019,Volume 14, Issue 4

"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

Give some thought to getting involved with one or more of the active groups in the church. Believe it or not, it is rewarding to be more than 'attending a Church service on Sunday.'

Dear Ones,

We, as a community, are affected by the events at Cleveland High School last Thursday in which a gun was fired in the school. I am grateful no one was injured and our school district handled the situation quickly and efficiently. Someone carrying a weapon into an area which we have assumed our children are safe raises the question for us – are we prepared to handle an event involving gun violence? How are we, as a community ascribing to peace, prepared to deal with gun violence?

In the next few weeks, I am asking each committee, each gathering, each member to consider how we, as Christ's disciples, can be peacemakers in the face of events challenging us today. This involves not only the situations presented to us, but who is carrying the weapon, whether in offence or defense. We need to be prepared, with righteous and discreet judgment. I urge you, if you have firearm, to leave it at home until our community of faith determines the best path. I covet your prayers as we prepare to safeguard - with grace - faith, children, and our members.

Hozho,

Pastor Raquel

Wednesday Evening Study
More Than Conquerors
Be challenged beyond being a contemporary Christian to become more than a conqueror.
Wednesdays at 6:15 PM in Agape Room.

Learn and Grow

Sunday Morning Study
Wesley Bible Studies – Acts
What can we learn from the early church and John Wesley's understanding of it?
Sunday Mornings 9:45 AM in the Music

PRAYER CORNER

Sunday, February 17, 2019

Praying When In Fear
By Mary DeMuth, *The Wall Around Your Heart*

When you're close to death, you tend to see your life flash on the movie theater of your mind. Which I did. But I also saw Jesus.

I flew from South Africa to Washington, DC, after Cape Town 2010, a humbling, invigorating conference.

Our plane stopped in Dakar to refuel before its long flight across the Atlantic in the dead of night. The man next to me had also attended the conference, so we talked about our experiences and our lives back home. Then we drifted off to sleep.

In one violent drop, at 2:00 a.m. our plane free-fell probably a thousand feet. Personal items flew about the cabin. People screamed. I felt the sting of my seat belt holding me back in my chair. The next moment, the plane's nose pointed oceanward. We angled toward the earth. For several seconds. I knew I would die. I prayed. I saw my life flash. Then Jesus. Not in a vision. Just a knowing. I breathed deeply and realized that in this last moment of life, I needed Him — Him alone. My heart that had rattled and skipped in the noseward dive instantly felt peace.

The plane jerked its way to blessed horizontal. The pilot said nothing, never did tell us what happened.

I thought on the enormity of God, who watches every airplane flight, who cares about each person aboard. I hushed in that holy moment, settled my heart before Him, and once again gave Him my life.

Grace and Peace

Judy Brunk

Upcoming Events & Happenings

Tuesday, 2/19 Ad Council Meeting - Music Room 6:00

Thursday, 2/21 Missions & Outreach - Agape Room 6:00

Saturday, 2/23 Pinewood Derby- Scouts-begins at 6:30 am

February Anniversaries & Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES

LOEWENSTEIN, Jim & Kelly	**02/22**

BIRTHDAYS

MORYOSEF, Jamie	**02/17**
FUCHS, Connor	**02/19**
CONNELL, Chuck	**02/23**
ALLEE, Deanna	**02/24**
LEWIS, Kandice	**02/24**
BERDIN, Dorothy	**02/27**
CHANDLER, Sue	**02/28**

March Anniversaries & Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES

RHODES, Del	**03/14**
DONAT, Marie	**03/25**

BIRTHDAYS

KOHLRUST Jan	**03/01**
BEGLEY, Ivan	**03/03**
BENSON, James	**03/04**
SCHMITT, Hazel	**03/04**
COLSON, Jeanine	**03/07**
ELLIOTT, Michael	**03/08**
O'SIKEY, Chris	**03/09**
VISEUR, Bryce	**03/10**
KOFCHUR, Anastazia	**03/23**
FLORES, Cortland	**03/26**
MCGREGOR, Roland	**03/26**
SECHREST, Kristine	**03/26**

Activities and Events

Youth Dinner Schedule

2/24 Hockert Family
3/3 Mueller Family
3/10 Special Event
3/17 Holland Family

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper Tuesday, March 5th

The youth will be serving a delicious dinner of pancakes, sausage, applesauce, juice and coffee on Tuesday, March 5th, from 5 to 7:00 PM. This will be a traditional "all you can eat" Fat Tuesday meal. A love offering will be taken. All proceeds help fund youth trips.

****We will not have a Wednesday Night Out meal on Wednesday, March 6th.****

Youth Led Worship Sunday, March 10th 10 AM

Join us as we look at our role as a member of the body of Christ!

Destination Unknown…

After Youth Led Worship on Sunday, March 10th, instead of our regular youth group time, we will have a "Destination Unknown" event. We will leave the Church at approximately 11:30 AM, grab a quick bite of lunch and head to our "Destination". Be sure and dress for the weather, as we will be outside. We will return to the Church at 5:30 PM.
Our Scripture emphasis for this destination is… **Luke 12:6-7** Living Bible.

Attention Adults: Additional adult help would be greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you can help out and what time is good for you.

Spring Break Mission Trip

Landsun Homes Carlsbad, NM March 24th – 28th

We will depart Rio Rancho UMC at 1:00 PM on Sunday, March 24th, and return around 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 28th. We will be staying at the Girl Scout Service Center and working at Landsun Homes and Jonah's House. The cost is $50.00 per person. Seven of the twelve available spots are currently reserved. Youth interested in going need to get their registration forms turned in ASAP. Registration forms are in the youth room on the bulletin board. Contact Kim Peterson if you need additional information.

Famous Quotations

Life is preparation for the future; and the best preparation for the future is to live as if there were none.

Elbert Hubbard

A fellow that does things that count, doesn't usually stop to count them.

Albert Einstein

The very nature of our sped-up world has geared us to instant gratification. We want what we want *immediately*, if not sooner.

J. Ellsworth Kolas

The Money Quote

"One of the dangers of having a lot of money is that you may be quite satisfied with the kinds of happiness money can give and so fail to realize your need for God. If everything seems to come simply by signing checks, you may forget that you are at every moment totally dependent on God."

--- C. S. Lewis

NEW COMMUNION CLOTHS

We have new Communion Cloths that were made by members of our Stitch Group. An embroidered cloth made by Maxine Reese, and cover cloths made by Donna Root. Thank you ladies for the lovely new Communion Cloths.

Council of Bishops
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tuesday, February 12, 2019

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The bishops of The United Methodist Church are preparing to preside over the three-day Special Session of the General Conference set for Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis, Missouri. **In a letter to the United Methodists released today**, Council of Bishops President Bishop Ken Carter noted that the bishops will be bound by a **covenant of presiding**, which was written in collaboration with the Commission on the General Conference.

"The bishops honor the delegations who will gather in St. Louis, and will continue to see our appropriate calling as helping them to do their best work in these three important days." Bishop Carter said in the letter.

"We continue to give thanks for the mission of The United Methodist Church, for the power of the Cross and the Flame, and for the hope that God will guide us in a way forward."

This Special Session has been called by the Council of Bishops to find a way forward beyond the impasse around LGBTQ identity, interpretation of scripture and the unity of the church. The General Conference is the highest legislative body in the church and the only group that can decide church law and speak officially for the global denomination

Congregational Care Committee {CCC}

The CCC is looking for individuals that would be interested in joining the Team. If you would be interested, First Service people see Betty Gallaher, Second Service people see Madonna Smiley, to learn more about what the work would entail.