



Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

January 20, 2019, Volume 14, Issue 2

“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

Please send me your suggestions for things to include in the Newsletter .

waltbetmax@aol.com

Greetings brothers and sisters!

I have been here for 6 ½ months and am still learning so much about Rio Rancho UMC and the family here. I am always excited when I learn how different couples met, where and how they ended up in Rio Rancho! We have families who have lived in Washington, D.C., California, Florida, Washington state and everywhere in between – what a great collection of people whom I am proud to call brothers and sisters.

As we begin 2019, it is a good time to reassess how things are going and how we are doing in certain areas. With pledges up, we seem to be progressing and the Finance Committee is working diligently on policies and procedures. Rio Rancho has seen quite a few visitors, which is encouraging and another improvement; I think it means we are growing in our hospitality. Missions and outreach continue to explore new ways to reach our community in the name of Christ. Trustees have made the necessary changes for better spaces to do ministry and new paint is in a couple of rooms – check out the Pre-school office and the Upper Room! The worship committee is experiencing with ways to improve our services, especially the second service.

We have so many talented, experienced persons whose knowledge and expertise could be used. If you have a gift, or some extra time, we have quite a few projects which could use help. Some are tasks which office staff do not have time for and others are helping with existing committees. This month is a good time to set aside some time for listening to the Lord to determine if you have a love or desire to help our church.

I keep you in my prayers daily,

Pastor Raquel Mull

Communion Service

We will be serving Communion on the first Sunday of each month in both the 8:30 am and the 11 am Worship Services. For those who would like, Communion will be offered after the 11 am Worship Service on the 3rd Sunday of each month.



PRAYER CORNER

JANUARY 20, 2019

Jesus taught his disciples to pray unceasingly. Paul taught his converts to pray without ceasing. We must be persistent in our prayers. Remember that God answers all prayers in God's time and in God's way. The following devotion was written by Gina Bridgeman, a frequent contributor to *Guideposts*.

You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples.

PSALM 77:14 (NIV)

For two years medication had been successful in helping our daughter Maria manage her Crohn's disease, minimizing the flare-ups of colon pain and allowing her to lead an almost-normal life. Then, when she began eighth grade, the medications stopped working and she experienced intense pain that was debilitating and unpredictable. She missed a lot of school, and by Christmas break she was in the hospital.

I'd been praying for her all through her illness, but now I decided I hadn't been bold enough. I would pray for a miracle. Her doctor was talking about a stronger medication, but we were scared about its possible side effects. So every day I told God, "I'm praying for a miracle for Maria." I fully believed I would get it.

Maria left the hospital feeling better, but nothing prevented the continuing flare-ups. I kept praying. Then one day I spoke to the mother of a teenage girl who had been taking the stronger medication for several months. The family had determined that the risks of the disease out-weighed the risks of the medication. And the girl was flourishing. "It's been a miracle treatment for us," the mother said.

I've been praying for a miracle healing for Maria, I thought, but can't God also heal through the gift of medicine? Maybe this is our miracle.

It was. The new medication helped Maria regain control of her life. And I learned a valuable lesson: Faith isn't about God giving me answers I've already decided on; it's about believing that God has answers of His own.

So, let God work miracles in God's way and in God's time.

This column needs your input. If you have a story about answered prayer and want to let people know how God has answered prayers in your life, send me an e-mail (grampa26@earthlink.net) or drop a note in the Prayer Circle mail box in the church office. All will be kept in strictest confidence unless you choose otherwise.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUIDE THE DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS ABOUT CHANGES TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNITED METHODIST DURING THE SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 23-26.

May God bless us all.

Lowell

Meaningful Quotations

If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.

Dalai Lama

We should give as we would receive: cheerfully, quickly, and without hesitation, for there is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers.

Seneca

Goals are dreams with deadlines.

Diana Scharf Hunt

Activities and Events



Youth Dinner Schedule



- 1/20 Selover Family
- 1/27 Chili Cook-Off & Movie Night
- 2/3 No Youth Group Meeting
- 2/10 Roberts Family



The Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: *“Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat.”*

Since 1990, young people have been leading the charge and inspiring others to collect dollars and food around the time of the Big Game. These groups then give 100% of their donations to local charities. Every non-perishable food item and dollar donated here at RRUMC goes to Storehouse West, Rio Rancho UMC Youth Group’s 2019 Souper Bowl of Caring charity of choice.

This year we challenge you to “Fill the Field” at the front of the sanctuary. You have until February 3rd. Be sure and pick up extra non-perishable food when you go grocery shopping to help the hungry in our community.

WNO Meal Schedule

- 1/16 Taco/Burrito Bar, Refried Beans, Applesauce, Butterfinger Cake
- 1/23 Teriyaki Chicken, Stir Fry Veggies, Rice, Salad, Rolls, Cherry Dream Pie
- 1/30 Meatball Subs, French Fries, Snicker Apple Salad, Cookies
- 2/6 Red Beans & Rice Casserole, Salad, Rolls, Mock Eclair



Chili Cook-Off & Dessert Auction

Sunday, January 27th

Calling all Chili Chefs: Who is a chili chef you ask? Anyone who would like to make a batch of chili and bring it to the event! If you are interested in making a batch of chili, please let Kim Peterson know by calling 450-9795 or 892-0404x3. You will need to have your batch of chili to the church by 11 AM on Sunday, January 27th. You will need to “Name” your dish and indicate a heat index. Then you can encourage the tasters/judges to vote for your chili!

Calling all Tasters/Judges: Who is a taster/judge you ask? If you are reading this, you are! Our entire church family is invited to attend the Chili Cook-Off & Auction. Everyone will have the opportunity to taste each batch of chili, and then you will vote for your favorites by putting money into the jar next to the chili of your choice. The Chili with the most money collected will be the winner and will have bragging rights for the coming year!

Dessert Auction: Youth families will provide desserts for the auction. Everyone in attendance will be able to bid on the desserts! All money collected will be used to fund youth trips.

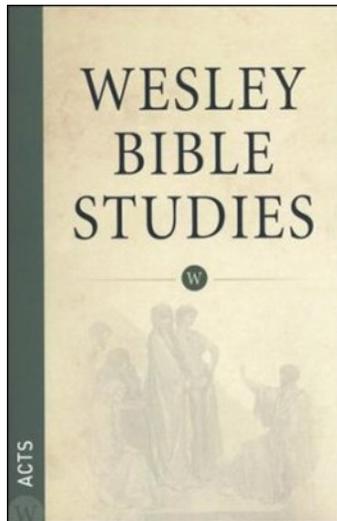


We will continue to collect used cards to send to St. Jude Children’s Ranch in Nevada. There is a container on the welcome table for you to place your cards in. Thank You!

New Sunday Morning Study

Wesley Bible Studies – Acts

Join us in studying the Acts of the Apostles with guidance from John Wesley and contemporary teachers to see what we can learn from the history of the early Christian church. The study, led by John Hockert, begins this Sunday, January 20, in the Music Room at 9:45 A.M. See John if you have questions or to get a copy of the study book.



January Anniversaries & Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES

BEGLEY, Ivan & Gisela 01/06

BRUNK, Judy & John 01/29

BIRTHDAYS

PONTSLER, Gary 01/02

PARRISH, Michael 01/03

CASKEY, Larry 01/04

ROOT, Donna 01/06

PETERSON, Robert 01/08

SHARKEY, Jeri 01/09

BAYLESS, Rachel 01/14

BALTZ, Danielle 01/15

MORYOSEF, Albert 01/16

GALLAHER, Betty 01/20

MORITOMO, Reagan 01/22

SHARKEY, John 01/24

CUPRYK, Timothy 01/25

BENSON, Maria 01/26

JOHNSON-CONNELL, Charlotte 01/27

WISEUR, Emma 01/31

Upcoming in 2019

January 27— Combined Service at 10:00

February 10—Boy Scout Sunday

Boy Scouts 8:30 , Cub Scouts 11:00

Scout Pancake Breakfast

March 10— Combined Service at 10:00 am

Youth-Led Service

April 14—Combined Service at 10:00am

Living Last Supper Presentation

April 16—Christian Seder Meal

April 19—Service of Darkness

May 25—Combined Service at 10:00 am

July 28—Combined Service at 10:00 am

September 22—Combined Service at 10:00 am

December 1—Combined Service at 10:00 am

Details and additional information will be provided later.

