



# Our Vision

Rio Rancho United Methodist Church

March 17, 2019, Volume 14, Issue 6

“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

Consider making a donation today to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). All your donations to this cause goes for relief aid, and not to administration of the organization. All the recent storm damage in Alabama is receiving UMCOR relief now. Make checks payable to UMCOR.

Dear Ones

Above all, show sincere love to each other, because love brings about the forgiveness of many sins. 1 Peter 4:8

Genesis 27 tells of the story of Isaac blessing his sons, Jacob and Esau. If you remember, Isaac was planning to give the blessing to the eldest, but Jacob comes to him in disguise. Isaac, because of his poor eyesight, blesses Jacob, fulfilling a prophecy, but denying Jacob.

Have you ever had a hard time blessing, loving or forgiving a person in your life? When you look at them, do you see all their faults and the things they have done wrong, failing to recognize or discounting any good they have done. The problem might not be them, it might be your eyesight. It’s hard to bless when your eyesight is good. In order to bless them you have to have faith, not to see their sin, but to see the blood of Messiah. That’s how God sees us – not for our faults, but through the Savior’s redeeming blood. It is with grace we are viewed. We need poor eyesight, sometimes, to see the face of Christ on another’s face, to overlook their faults and their past. As you go through these next few days, may you have poor eyesight when seeing others.

Please let others know of our Lenten schedule, the journey through the spirituals, the Living Last Supper presentation, the Seder meal and the service of darkness. I am excited to be in your midst during this special time.

Hozho,

*Pastor Raquel*

Today is St. Patrick Day

Feast day of Saint Patrick, commemoration of the arrival of Christianity in Ireland



## Prayer Corner

March 17, 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](mailto:grampa26@earthlink.net)) or drop a note in the Prayer Circle mail box Inside the church office. All will be kept in strictest confidence unless you choose otherwise.

Grace, peace and love, *Lowell*

## 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

COLSON, Jeanine 03/07

ELLIOTT, Michael 03/08

O'SIKEY, Chris 03/09

WISEUR, Bryce 03/10

KOFCHUR, Anastazia 03/23

FLORES, Cortland 03/26

MCGREGOR, Roland 03/26

SECHREST, Kristine 03/26

### The Money Quote

*God's work done in God's way will never lack for funds. Generosity is contagious. God never promised to meet our budget, only our needs.*

*J. Hudson Taylor*

*Jesus establishes clearly that the greedy accumulation of things is an attempt by persons to evade dependency on God. The one who greedily hoards possessions in order to establish security for the future lacks the faith that Jesus expects of those who follow Him. Our security, according to Jesus, is in our relationship to God in whose hands lies our future.*

*Tony Campolo*

# Activities and Events



## Youth Dinner Schedule



- 3/17 Holland Family
- 3/24 Mission Trip
- 3/31 Baltz Family
- 4/7 Roberts Family



Bring your supplies and a snack to share and join in the fun. We meet in the choir room from 5 to 8 PM on the following Tuesdays:

## Spring Break Mission Trip



Landsun Homes  
Carlsbad, NM  
March 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

Seven youth and two adults will depart Rio Rancho UMC at 1:00 PM on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, for our Spring Break Mission Trip. We will be staying at the Girl Scout Service Center and working at Landsun Homes and Jonah's House. Please keep the following youth and adults in prayer: Michael Elliott, Harmony Hilborn, Symphany Hilborn, Ava Holland, Scoty Mueller, Sierra Roberts, Harley Sechrest, John Hockert and Kim Peterson.



Rio Rancho UMC  
Women's Event  
Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 to 8:30 PM

Are you a tea cup or a tea pot?

5:30 PM – Dinner

6:00 PM – Program

Devotional

Table Discussion

Craft Project: Tea Pot Key Chain

Service Project: Agape for Emmaus

Door Prizes

8:30 PM – Dismissal with a Blessing

\*For our service project we will be making Agape gifts for our men's and women's Emmaus walks. For one project, we need fabric and ribbon. For another, we need old keys. If you have fabric, ribbon or keys you would like to donate please bring them with you. We also need to borrow pinking shears.

Child care will be available. Please contact Kim Peterson at 892-0404x3 or 450-9795, if you need child care.

## Easter Lilies and Spring Flowers



It's time to order Easter lilies and spring flowers to decorate our Church for Easter week. Order forms are on the welcome table in the Narthex.



## Service of Darkness Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

If Easter makes you want to sing and jump for joy, then Good Friday should make you want to crawl into a corner and weep. We can't truly celebrate the resurrection of our Savior if we don't fully remember his death. The Service of Darkness is a powerful reminder of Good Friday. We hope you will join us for this very moving worship experience.

## Resurrection Egg Hunt Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 2 to 4 PM



Children young and old are invited to join us for an afternoon of Easter fun! We will start with some singing, and finish with an Easter egg hunt! There will be a lot of other fun activities in between. Parents are encouraged to stay and help their children with the activities.

Donations of individually wrapped candy are needed to fill Easter eggs for our Resurrection Egg Hunt. You can drop candy in the main office or in the education office. Donations needed on or before April 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank You!



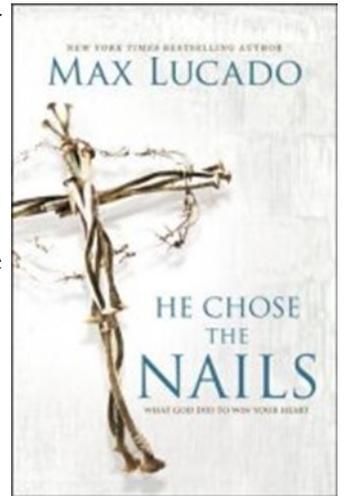
### Famous Quotation

The worst loneliness is not being comfortable with yourself.

*Mark Twain*

## Wednesday Night Lenten Study Begins March 20

Our Lenten video study begins at 6:10 pm on Wednesday, March 20, after the Wednesday Night Out Meal. We will examine what God did to win our hearts, in the Max Lucado study, *He Chose the Nails*. In three episodes we will discuss how God chose to forgive us, chose to love us forever, and chose to give us victory. There is no study book and no homework, and we will finish in time for choir. John Hockert will facilitate the study.



## Walk to Emmaus Community Gathering

**WHERE: RIO RANCHO UNITED METHOD-  
IST CHURCH**

**DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2019**

**TIME: Doors open at 6pm (Fellowship  
Hall)**

**6:30 Potluck (Bring a Dish)  
Meeting to follow**

**If you would like more information about these gatherings, please feel free to call or talk with Priscilla Brigham at church or call (505) 771-1642.**

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*A Memorial Service was held yesterday here at RRUMC for the life of Jermaine (Jerri) Sharkey.*