
THE CORNERSTONE

Rolling Hills United Methodist Church

26438 Crenshaw Blvd.

Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

February 4, 2010

Ash Wednesday February 17th

Remember, O man, that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return.

—Genesis 3:19

A little history refresher about Ash Wednesday because I don't know about you, but this writer can never be reminded too many times: In the Western Christian calendar Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs forty-six days (forty days not counting Sundays) before Easter. It is a moveable feast, falling on a different date each year because it is dependent on the date of Easter. It can occur as early as February 4th or as late as March 10th.

Ash Wednesday gets its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful as a sign of repentance. The day provides us an opportunity to prepare for the Lenten season. We will start with a Prayer Vigil beginning at 7 a.m. in the sanctuary, which will continue throughout the day until 7 p.m. Prayer guides will be provided as well as a journal in which everyone is welcome to record prayer requests. All are invited to participate in the vigil, but we like to ensure that there is a least one person in the sanctuary at all times so we ask you to be present for 30 minutes (or longer if you like!). Sign-ups for specific times will be taken on the patio between services beginning Sunday, February 7, or please call the office at 310-377-6771 and request a time.

Our Ash Wednesday service will begin at 7:30 – a beautiful service of imposition of ashes, solemn music and an invitation to light a votive candle to place on the altar for special prayer concerns.



from the pastor

It doesn't happen very often. In fact, before Thyra's sister, Marina's book, *Good to a Fault*, came out, it had never happened even once. But in the back, she put my name (along with many others) in the list of acknowledgments. I'll tell you, that kind of thing will go to your head. You find yourself leaving copies of the book around, open to the right page, on the off chance that someone might see it. And now it's happened again!

A little over 20 years ago I had my first encounter with Kennon Callahan, whose book *12 Keys to an Effective Church* became one of the most helpful resources for ministry I have known. I drew from its wisdom as an associate pastor in Pacific Palisades, as pastor with a small, strong congregation in London, Ontario, Canada, as a consultant with other congregations, both big and small, north and south of the border, and found it much more than helpful. Ken went on to write a number of other books, also very helpful, and consulted with our own congregation long before I ever showed up. Martha Rowlett brought him here as our Family Ministries program was developed, and as we planned for the building of the sanctuary back in 1994. It's been a long and fruitful relationship, both for our church family and my own family.



Ken has been a mentor, and truly a friend. A few years back, along with some other good friends, I began to encourage him to revise and update the original *12 Keys* book. It was still the best thing out there to help congregations discover their gifts for mission, and advance their life together. But we knew that Ken's work had advanced well beyond where he'd first begun. It took some time, as he had lots of projects on the go. But just last month the new, revised edition was released for our use and enjoyment. The new title, *Twelve Keys to an Effective Church – Strong, Healthy*

Congregations Living in the Grace of God, suggests where it's headed. And it comes with an excellent Bible Study and Leaders' Guide to help congregations get the most out of it.

I look forward to using it the next time we do long range planning, but we can put it to good use well before then. There's a wonderful chapter on Shepherding Visitation that we could use with those in our congregation who already do such a good job of reaching out to others. There are chapters on Worship, on Groupings, on Space and Facilities, which I know we will enjoy. We'll be doing something in May, when Ken leads an annual seminar in San Diego, to celebrate the book's release. And you don't have to wait till then, if you'd like to have one. They're available through Amazon.com, and all the usual spots. I think I still have my old discount through the publisher, which would be about 40% off of list. But if you get a copy from me, you might find it open to that page near the back, where Ken says "thank you." I can't help it.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

Children's Ministries

Valentine Cookie Bake: Names & Addresses Needed!



Each year as a mission project, the Sunday School children gather to decorate Valentine cookies and make Valentine cards for our college student, homebound and recently bereaved church family members. If you have a family member or friend who fits into one of these categories, please write their name and mailing address on a piece of paper and place it in the Children's Ministries box, or email the information to Lisa Lehman at lisa@rhumc.org by February 7th. This year's cookie bake will take place on Sunday, February 7th during Sunday School.

Preschool Registration 2010-2011

It is time for registration for the 2010-2011 school year. It is highly encouraged that you enroll at your soonest eligible opportunity, as many of the classes will fill up before open enrollment. Refer to the following dates to register your child:

February 22 nd to March 5 th	Church members and Preschool Committee Members
March 8 th to March 12 ^h	Currently enrolled and returning families
March 22 nd , 23 rd , 24 th	Waiting List since March 2008
March 25 th	Open Enrollment

Kid Zone Spring & Summer Offerings for Children in 2010!

Mark your calendars now for Spring Break and Summer camps offered by Kid Zone this year. Registrations for the Spring Break Camp are being accepted now. Summer Camp registrations will be available soon, along with a colorful information brochure. Contact Kid Zone at 377-7302 for more info.

Lisa Lehman, Director of Children's Ministries
lisa@rhumc.org



Basketball Update

If you would like to be sent reminders/updates regarding our schedule via email, please forward your email address to John Kwan at john@rhumc.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mon., Feb. 1, 6-8 pm
Mon., Feb. 8, 6-8 pm
Mon., Feb. 15, 6-8 pm
Mon., Feb 21, 6-8 pm

Thurs., Feb. 4, 6-8 pm
Thurs., Feb. 11, 6-8 pm
Thurs., Feb. 18, 6-8 pm
Thurs., Feb. 18, 6-8 pm

Sat., Feb. 6, 2-4 pm
Sat., Feb. 13, 2-4 pm
Sat., Feb. 20, 2-4 pm
Sat., Feb. 27, 2-4 pm

Please call the church office, 310-377-6771, for information/reservations.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Thank you for showing your support of the community by sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive. The need for blood is constant and your efforts help ensure a safe and stable blood supply is available for people in need.

What a GREAT blood drive; can you believe 39 units? **Our heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful donors at United Methodist Church – Rolling Hills.** Thank you so much to the entire Health and Wellness Committee for dedication to helping save lives. These 39 units will save approximately 117 lives. Your continued partnership is greatly appreciated.

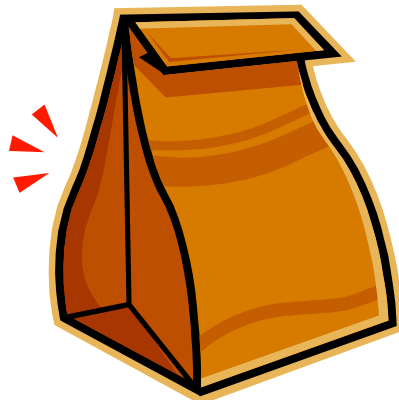
Volunteers Florine Lambert, Shirley Bails, Nina Bradbury, Joyce Crump, Patty Kurlak, RoseMarie Pauley and Sylvia Warner were most helpful and appreciated.

Kim Davis, American Red Cross

SAVE THE DATE – FRIDAY, MARCH 19 @ 1:00 P.M.

The Health & Wellness committee has invited church member Derek Gable to present a talk on “Creating Memories That Last”. Derek is an inventor and worked in the toy business most of his career. He is an engaging speaker that you are sure to enjoy.

HEALTH & WELLNESS



BROWN BAG LUNCH PROGRAM

Friday, February 19

Paige Hamilton, R.N. with Trinity Care Hospice
Will share her knowledge on Hospice programs.

Bring your lunch, beverages will be provided
We will gather at 11:30 in the Aldersgate Room
The program will begin at 12 noon.
Friends and neighbors are welcome.

You Really Want to Save This Date!

Rolling Hills United Methodist Church
Auction for Children
Saturday, April 24 – 5:00 p.m.
At the Vierra-Lambert Home, Rolling Hills

100% of the proceeds will directly benefit the children in our church and community. If you have an item you would like to donate, please call Amy Haizlip at 310-377-6771, ext. 107. Invitations to be mailed next month.

Directory Updates

Please add the following new entries to your church directory. If you have a change in your personal information, please email Amy Haizlip at amy@rhmc.org.

Thomas Olson
1 Park Place
Rancho Palos Verdes, 90275
310.377.4189
pvpprof@gmail.com



Greg & Mary Reinhardt
30829 Via Rivera
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
310.704.3826
Greinha222@aol.com

Club Maintenance



aboard, Richard.

A highly industrious Club Maintenance crew painted the walls in the Mission Room, vacuumed condenser coils in the kitchen, installed a railing in the Aldersgate Room to protect the wall where tables are stored, replaced damaged strings of lights in the patio trees, installed fire extinguishers in the pre-school, patched a hole in the roof of Building C, tightened up the hinges in the pull-down ladder for the kitchen overhead storage area, and made a storage bag for the Wesley Hall Christmas tree lighting. Those helping out were Richard Yasuda, Jim Watkins, Jim Showalter, Oren Sheldon, Gene Koester, Clarence Fung and Bill Bails. This was Richard's first session with the group; welcome

The next Club Maintenance work party will start at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 13, where the main task will be to paint the Aldersgate Room. Please bring your favorite brush and help us in this work. There will also be jobs for non-painters.



Spring Break Vacation Bible Camp

(Preschool – 5th Grade)

Kids ages preschool (3 yrs old) – 5th Grade will voyage into outer space praising God! Through daily missions, songs, crafts and games kids will see space like never before, they will gain a new perspective on our planet Earth, and they will learn easy "green" earth tips they can practice at home. This cosmic combination of faith and fun will have your cadets developing a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

April 5 – 9, 2010

Vacation Bible Camp is from 9:00 – Noon; Cost: \$60

Full Day Camp 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Cost \$170

Lunch & Games Noon – 1:30; Cost \$50 (please bring a sack lunch)

Early & Late Care 7:30 AM – 9 AM \$30/wk 4:00 PM – 6 PM \$40/wk

To Register Call (310) 377-7302

Adventure Trek...Middle School Spring Break Camp

(6th – 8th Grade)



Camps will explore the galaxy through field trips and activities. Field trips will include hiking from the Griffith Park to the Observatory, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium & tide pools, beach cleanup and “wheels on the beach” and much, much more...

April 5 – 9, 2010

Full Day 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM; \$295

Extended Camp Hours:

7:30 AM – 9 AM \$30 and 4:30 PM – 6 PM \$30

To Register Call (310) 377-7302

We Give Thanks

“We Give Thanks” is an occasional series celebrating those who selflessly give of themselves. This month we give thanks for the ministry of Christian education. Elaine Klessig began teaching the Disciple Bible Study series in 1993 and has taught two to four sessions a year ever since. Each Disciple class lasts about nine months. The initial series covers approximately 80% of the Bible, while the follow-on series focus on specific portions of the Bible. This letter was the first published in 1997, but remains equally true to this day.

An Open Letter to Elaine Klessig

Dear Elaine,

As we complete this incredible year of Disciple study, I thought I would follow the suggestion in one of our latest lessons and write to thank you for teaching this class. You have given me a gift which I will spend a lifetime trying to pass on. Besides giving me the satisfaction of knowing that I have read most of the Bible, (a wonderful life goal that I have now achieved), Disciple has given me the key to unlock the Bible. Instead of merely musing about why the Bible should be the fundamental basis for my faith, I now understand how the various passages came into being, what was happening in history at the time of their authorship, and what was happening in the lives of many of the authors that may have influenced their ideas. This insight and information has dramatically affected me. It is so exciting to hear or participate in a discussion of the Bible and to really understand the context. As an added benefit, I now have great ammunition to counter fundamentalist arguments with which I disagree. In addition to reaching a new plateau in my Biblical learning, I have also gained a new appreciation for my own place in Christ’s church. I hope to follow the teachings of Paul by using my own unique gifts and talents to read the good news about Christ.

Elaine, I hope you realize that you deserve enormous credit for the zeal with which I will now read the Bible. Your enthusiasm for the subject matter, your historical knowledge (some of which I realize you gleaned from your college years when you were a history major), your teaching abilities that allow students to grasp for knowledge in a way that expands their understanding, and your commitment all combined to create a unique experience that I could never hope to replicate. When I think of the time you have devoted to teaching this class four times, I am astounded – especially when I consider that you taught all or part of those classes while you were working full-time. Our church is truly blessed to have you as a member.

Thanks again, Elaine, for all that you have done for me. I will treasure my Disciple experience for the rest of my life.

Yours in Christ,
One of your devoted Disciples

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Back by Popular Demand – The 2010 Hobby Show!

On March 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., you will see amazing things! If you attended the last Hobby Show, you know what Jim Showalter collects, and you'll remember the incredible things Ken Ueda can do with a tree trunk or a block of wood. You saw what Larry Kittiver has in common with Rosie Grier. Can you guess what the common element is that Joe Sherwood puts in his paintings, or what Lucy Ford does to relax?

If you have a collection you'd like to display, or a skill you'd like to demonstrate, bring your hobbies and/or hidden talents and participate in this year's event. We hope to bring back as many of the original cast as possible but there is plenty of room for YOU!

Contact Dave Satchwell at 310-378-1036, or email Jean Kinney at jean.e.kiknney@earthlink.net, or leave a note in the church office, attention Family Ministries.

Judson Studios

On February 26, the Family Ministries Committee is sponsoring a tour of the Judson Studios. The studios have been in existence for over 100 years, and are one of the best known for work in the production of stained glass. Of special interest to us is the fact that at the time of our tour, the studios will be working on the stained glass windows to be installed later in the year in our own sanctuary. The tour begins at 10:00 a.m., so we will leave the church parking lot at about 8:45. We will carpool, so when you sign up, let us know if you need a ride or can offer one. There will be an optional lunch at a restaurant in Pasadena after the tour. More details will be in the next Cornerstone. The tour itself costs \$5. It is important to note that, since the building is quite old, there is no handicap access, and the tour requires the ability to go up and down stairs, so wear comfortable shoes. Sign up on the church patio, or email familyministries@rhumc.org.

Update on Yosemite/Central Valley Trip

The response has been tremendous with over 40 people have expressed interest in going. An email list has been established to communicate all the plans and materials. You can still sign up on the patio on Sundays at the Family Ministries table where you may also pick up the itinerary, the email list of participants, and detailed trip information. Join this exciting group and share in all the adventures to the hidden wonders of California's Central Valley. Contact larrykittiver@yahoo.com.

Junior & Senior High Flag Football & Super Bowl Party

Love you some football? Ever wished you had the opportunity to get a bunch of friends together to play a friendly game of football? Well, here's your chance! On Sunday, February 7th, at 1 pm we are organizing a game of flag football. We'll gather together at the Youth Lounge and then head next door to the Rolling Hills Country Day soccer field to play on their Field Turf! After our game, we'll head back to the Youth Lounge to watch the Super Bowl. And if flag football is not your cup of tea (or can of Rock Star), feel free to just come to the Super Bowl party and hang out! Food will be provided!



Feel free to invite friends! If you have any questions, contact John or Phil. juniorhigh.rhumc@gmail.com or philipgerlach@gmail.com

Sunday, February 7th
Meet at the Youth Lounge

Flag Football 1 – 2:30 pm
Super Bowl Party 2:30 pm to the end of the game



Junior & Senior High Ski Trip

On Saturday, February 27th, we will be heading to Mountain High Winter Resort for a ski/snowboarding trip. If you love to ski/snowboard or always wanted to learn, you definitely have to come! We have arrangements for every skill level and ability – ski and snowboard lessons for beginners and plain old lift tickets for the intermediate and advanced people. We will be traveling up in style with a charter bus . . . heated, soft reclining seats, a fully functioning bathroom, tinted windows, the works!

Saturday, February 27th
7 am to 7 pm

- \$50 Lift Ticket Only
- \$65 Beginner Package
(Includes 1 hr. 45 minute lesson, ski/snowboard rental,
and lower mountain lift ticket)
- \$75 Lift ticket & Ski/Snowboard Rental
(Skis, boots, poles / boots & board)

Space is limited! Please RSVP by February 17th with John or Phil at juniorhigh.rhumc@gmail.com or philipgerlach@gmail.com.



SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS

8:30 & 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday -Thursday 9 – 4:30

Friday 9 – 3

Next Cornerstone deadline is Monday February 22

www.rhumc.org