

*"Changing One Life at a Time"*

# HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## *REUBEN'S RAMBLINGS*

June 2020,  
Issue 6

I hope and pray that you are well and safe during this coronavirus. While the restrictions and guidelines continue to change each day, we are planning to resume weekly worship services on Sunday June 7. To ensure your safety a small group of the Ministry Team under the leadership of John Samford has been meeting to establish procedures and guidelines as we gather again for worship. Dr. Bruce Packard is also providing his expertise in infectious diseases to these discussions.

Based on all of our experience over the past two months, you can be certain that worship will not be the same as it has been in the past. Changes have to be made to meet the current health guidelines and to ensure social distancing for the near future. I know that this is going to be difficult for some of us; we want things to go back to the way they were before. Nobody likes change. Remember the only one who likes change is a wet baby!

One of the biggest changes is that we need to balance the

worship attendance between the 9 am and 11 am services in order to meet the social distancing requirements. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to those who have graciously volunteered to switch from the first service to the later service. Under the current guidelines, we will be restricted to a maximum capacity for the sanctuary. To ensure social distancing, 28 chairs have been removed leaving 72 chairs spread out in groups of 2 and 3 chairs. This will allow families to sit together and still maintain the required 6 feet social distance.

Following each service, the chairs will be disinfected. Special thanks to Guy Brister for cleaning and disinfecting the sanctuary and restrooms each week. In order to eliminate the possible transfer of germs by touching common objects the following actions have been taken: 1) hymnbooks and Bibles have been removed; 2) collection plates will not be passed, but will be stationed at the doors and around the

sanctuary; 3) the roster will not be passed around; 4) name tags will not be used. To ensure everybody's safety, there will be changes in serving communion for a while. We have purchased prepackaged juice cups and wafers that will be distributed to you in your seat. Unfortunately, according to State guidelines, there will no singing for a while.

Now one of the most difficult things for many of us is maintaining social distancing. But we must respect each other's space. This means no handshaking or hugging. These are some of the changes and as I noted the guidelines continue to change, thus there may be more guidelines before we meet on June 7. In closing, remember that it doesn't matter where you worship, what procedures you use or how the sanctuary is arranged. I have worshipped in the church yard, under the trees at New Mexico Tech and on a farm. As long as believers are gathered together and the Spirit is there, we are in worship!

God Bless  
*Reuben*

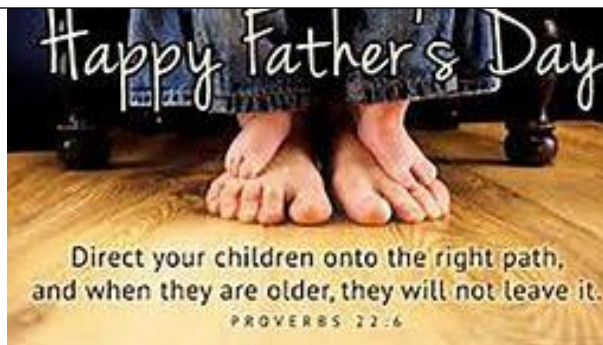
# MY FATHER

My father is a precious gift –  
So loving, kind and true,  
He gave me life upon this earth.  
I love him~ I truly do.  
He cared for all my earthly needs,  
Provided home and school.  
He guided me in paths so good  
Taught me the golden rule.



His love was always there for me.  
He helped when I had need.  
He encouraged instead of criticized.  
He loved in word and deed.  
Because of his example  
As an earthly father good,  
It was an easy task for me  
To love my Heavenly Father as I should  
I'm thankful for my father~  
My parent and my friend.  
I will respect him always  
And love him "till the end.

Arlene Westgaard



## Women With Purpose

### Baby Shower in a Bag



During these challenging times, the Women With Purpose at High Desert United Methodist Church are finding creative ways to continue our mission of being Christ in practical ways to those in need.

For the third year in a row we are assembling several “Baby Shower in a Bag” gifts to be given to young women aging out of the foster system. New Mexico State Senator Candace Gould, the founder of Heart Gallery of New Mexico, will distribute these bags as needed. Each gift contains a homemade quilt, hand knitted cap, age appropriate book, plus other much needed items for a new babe. Our prayer is that this anonymous gesture of kindness will encourage a new mother and she will feel the love of Christ through us.

The words on the bright red bag which holds the items read, “History is not Destiny. Just when the caterpillar thought it was done, it became a butterfly!”



## OBSCURE NAMES IN THE BIBLE



Who was Nebuchadnezzar? What is his connection to a significant dream?

Answer next month.

*Judy Ballard*



**HDUMC Choir is off for the Summer.**

**I know we will miss them, but maybe there will be solos.**

**THANK YOU to all who have been in the choir. You have been such a positive part of our services.**

**We will see you in the fall!**



**A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO DANN MEYER!!** Above you can see the beautiful cabinets and kitchen he made for our church. You have probably seen Dann at church before because he is taller than everyone else! There does not seem to be much Dann cannot do, but his talent in woodworking and carpentry are amazing. Dann works for the Rio Rancho School System and loves riding his motorcycle about. He and his wife Jody came to our church two years ago; and joined our church about a year ago and have since become so involved. Which is a blessing for HDUMC. Thank you so much Dann!



## MY FAVORITE SCRIPTURE SERIES – SHARED BY REY SCHUMAN

### My favorite Bible verse: Psalm 23

**"The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want" is my long-time favorite. When I was growing up, our family would gather each evening for prayer time. My parents would take a few moments to help my brother and me learn and memorize a verse each time- which included Psalm 23 (KJV). Never did we realize that this practice would eventually serve us well in the difficult years of WWII! We recited them often especially when air- raids occurred. Psalm 23 helped to calm our fears and soothe our rattled nerves. I believe God's PRESENCE each day brings meaning to life and that HE accompanies us through all circumstances of life.**

*Rey Valencia Schuman*

### To Mark or Not To Mark by Judy Ballard

Is writing, or marking, in your Bible a matter of defacing God's Holy word? Some might think it a punishable offense, but I have a hard time reconciling with that idea. I have a friend who is saving her daily Bible to pass down to her granddaughter, and she intends that Bible to be in pristine condition. She wouldn't put a checkmark at the top of a page or underline a single word. It's going to be *clean and without blemish*. My question to the granddaughter is 'how can you tell the Bible was ever used?'

My mother read her Bible religiously and gleaned a world of comfort from it every day. I have that Book now, and it warms my heart to know that a particular phrase or concept struck her with the same potency as it does to me. Every once in a while, I find a question mark in the margin, and to my surprise find that I had a confusion at that same juncture (e.g., Luke 2, vs. 35). I wonder if she ever arrived at a satisfactory answer. Oh, how I wish I could have that discussion today!

My mother underlined to indicate a significant message or profound truth. I use different colors to both highlight and underline.\* When I encounter a particularly pithy phrase I mark it so that when I come across it again, I can remember it had an earlier impact on me. I can't imagine NOT sharing that practice with whoever gets my Bible after I'm through with it.

What say you, yea or nay?

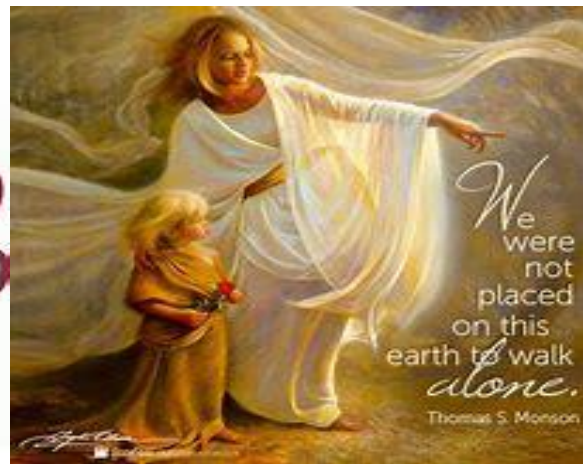
\*Did you know that special highlighters and ink pens are specifically made for marking in your Bible? Check them out at the 'Believer's Book Store.





**Our “Angel Among Us” this month goes out to Jody Meyer!** Our church is communicating every day in and by part of Jody Meyer. Recently she has been the person videotaping the weekly sermons and making sure they are available for all the members of our church. She also has been revamping and designing our Church website. If you have not seen it, log on and you will be so impressed. Even the New Mexico Conference of United Methodist Churches has commented that our website is probably one of the better ones out there. Jody and her husband Dann came to our church about two years ago, joining last summer; and both have become quite involved in many different projects. Truly, if you want something done, just ask Jody. **THANK YOU, Jody!**

**I BELIEVE  
THERE ARE  
angels  
AMONG US**



## UPDATE FROM THE EDITOR:

Well another month has passed by and hopefully when this newsletter goes out, we will be able to see each other again. We are starting a new feature of “Obscure Names In The Bible”. Judy Ballard will be providing the information for that. No puzzle this month but will try to next month. I have put a basic June calendar in, which may or may not be correct depending on where we are in June. Everything should go back to the original Newsletter in July. Please don’t forget to send me articles or suggestions for our “Monthly Angel”. I surely do miss all of you!

[generations4counseling@hotmail.com](mailto:generations4counseling@hotmail.com) or phone 505-331-8894.

Francie Larsen

**Next Deadline: June 23rd**



**Message from Holly Slade to the West Mesa Women's Club and picture of the \$5000 Feed NM Kids Check! A big thanks to everyone for supporting this year's charity!**

Thank you for sending the generous donation to Feed NM Kids!

We are so thrilled to have this donation come at this time. We have continued to serve a small number of Rio Rancho schools during the COVID closure. Several schools did not have an avenue to distribute to kids, other schools created a way; specifically, Lincoln Middle School has been receiving 150-200 snack packs each month. This number is up substantially from the school year. We will be partnering with High Desert United Methodist (Rio Rancho) to pack and distribute the snack packs to Lincoln Middle School and other Rio Rancho schools during the regular term.

Thank you again for all that West Mesa Women's Club has done for the hungry children of Rio Rancho!

**Holly Slade Executive Director, Feed NM Kids**

**C: 505-991-4336**

**O: 505-342-8100**



Holly Slade, Executive Director



Wanda Golsan, Project Coordinator

## **High Desert United Methodist Church ~ Feed NM Kids “Still Doing Our Part”**



### **JUNE SECOND MILE GIVING**

**For June, the Second Mile Giving is Gift Cards for Teachers. Our teachers do an outstanding job in teaching and caring for our children and have gone the extra mile during the coronavirus. These cards can be used for the purchase of supplies for the teacher and their classroom. We don't know what school will look like this fall, but there will be expenses and there is never enough funds and many teachers have to pay for their supplies out of their own pockets. We will present the teachers associated with High Desert their cards in July so they can prepare for the start of school in August. If you would like to participate, please make a check out to the church with Teacher Appreciation on the memo line.**



## Lay Care Ministry

You are invited to call, write or visit our friends in Christ who are homebound or have health issues, and offer your love, support and encouragement.

Ella Jerome	813 Banco Court, Bernalillo, NM 87004	206-4894
Lorra Garner	Skies Health and Rehab, 9450 McMahon NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114	
Norvin Schuman	382 Nicklaus Dr. SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	891-0526
Grover Donahoe	766 Hood Way SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	220-3839
Rod & Louise Warpole	600 First Street NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	994-9339
Mae Washburn	Revenna Assisted Living, 3051 Twin Oaks Dr NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120	
Phil Pittman	1000 Riverview Dr SE, #242, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	301-7704
Glen Nesbitt	Advantage Asst Living, 1729 Wellspring Ave SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	
Sheila Arce	4910 Tramway Redge Dr NE #316, Albuquerque, NM 87111	
Jeanne Buchly	The Retreat, 4100 Jackie Rd SE, Rio Rancho NM 87124	
Barbara Gatzweiler	4102 Malaga Court SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	994-1964
Lois Brister	2867 Cripple Creek Drive SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	892-7987



Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Beckie Kim	6/7
Judy Ballard	6/10
Tony Smith	6/11
Leslie Barnett	6/12
John Samford	6/15
Frank Rotolo	6/17
Ron Warpole	6/18
Ron Komatz	6/22
Jane Butel	6/23

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Gerard & Mildred Kaye	6/2/1951
Earl & Dottie Hester	6/8/1957
Ron & Jane Komatz	6/9/1961
Dann & Jody Meyer	6/12/1992
Bryce & Sara Hendricks	6/16/1957
Phyllis & Bud Thunborg	6/17/2013
Bruce & Lana Packard	6/27/1987



# June 2020



## HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Pantry 11:00 AM to 2 PM	6 D-Day 1944
7 9 & 11 AM Worship	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 9 & 11 AM Worship Flag Day	15	16 Pantry 9:00 AM to Noon	17	18 Pantry 1:00 PM to 4 PM	19	20
21 9 & 11 AM Worship Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9 & 11 AM Worship	29	30				

## *CORONAVIRUS HUMOR*



Church Notice  
Since 500  
People can be  
in Home Depot  
at one time...  
Today's Service  
will be held in  
Plumbing!

Remember December 31st when we were all like  
"2020 will be the best year ever!" Lol.



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# High Desert United Methodist Church

1201 Golf Course Road  
Rio Rancho, NM 87124  
Office Hours: Tues-Thu  
9AM-Noon & 1-4PM  
Phone: 505-891-4206;  
Email:  
highdesertumc@outlook.com

We're on the Web!  
[www.highdesertumc.org](http://www.highdesertumc.org)

"Like" us on Facebook at:

[Facebook.com/HDUMC](https://www.facebook.com/HDUMC)

Or

Follow us on Twitter at:

[Twitter.com/highdesertumc](https://twitter.com/highdesertumc)

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## HDUMC CHURCH PANTRY

**Distribution dates for May are:**

**Friday, June 5th at 11:00 a.m.**

**Tuesday, June 16th at 9:00 a.m.**

**Thursday, June 18th at 1:00 p.m.**

