

# *High Desert United Methodist Church*

*Monthly Newsletter May 2019*

## *Reuben's Ramblings*



I love baseball. Since I grew up in the South, my favorite team is the Atlanta Braves. I have had the opportunity to watch Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, and many major league players play this great national pastime. I really enjoy watching the game in person and I've had the privilege to attend games in both the old and new stadiums in Atlanta and San Francisco, the old stadium in San Diego, Coors Field in Denver, Wrigley Field in Chicago and Fenway Park in Boston. In March, Judy and I saw two games at spring training in Arizona. I am also coaching my two grandsons Trevor and Logan's Little League Team the Pirates with my son Ben. And I am looking forward to our baseball outing on May 19.

Now attending ballgames is not only fun for me, but it also gives me the opportunity to make some observations about life. So let me share some observations from the ballpark. First, I have noticed that a lot of fans will arrive late in the game, either the second or third inning or even leave early around the seventh inning stretch. What makes this interesting is that they have paid a high price for the tickets (\$30-\$50 per seat in a major league stadium), and they don't get to enjoy the entire game or take full advantage of the event. So this got me to thinking – how many people are there who don't enjoy life and take full advantage of the price that Jesus Christ paid for all of us on the cross at Calvary – the forgiveness of our sins, the freedom from guilt and fear of death, mercy, grace, salvation and the promise of eternal life?

Now I'm a true fan, I don't want to miss one pitch; I even chart the game on a score card. But there are the casual fans that come to the game to just socialize and eat the hotdogs. And there's nothing wrong with that. But they miss so much – the home run, the double play, and the over the shoulder basket catch Willie Mays' style. In John 10:10, Jesus says "I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly." The *Message* puts it this way: "I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better than they ever dreamed of." In other words living life to the fullest in a personal relationship with the Lord as God originally intended: finding the meaning of life; having a joyful heart and the assurance of God's love; and finding that peace that passes all understanding. A little boy was memorizing John 3:16. He quoted what you would normally read in the fourth Gospel until he made a slight change. He said: "... whoever believes in Him should not perish, but shall live happily ever after." Not a bad paraphrase! How many of us as Christians fail to live the life that Christ has promised us because we fail to put Him first and get involved in the game?

I have a T-shirt that says "Life Begins with Baseball." Many die-hard baseball fans would agree with that statement, but to me life begins with Jesus Christ. Until you fully accept Him into your heart, and walk with Him each and every day, you are not truly living.

Put Jesus first, and let life begin! Play ball! Reuben

## *The Beatitudes*

### *Matthew 5:3-12*

When was the last time you read the Beatitudes for their succinct and simple poetry? The last one is a zinger. How does it make you feel?

Remember, these words are from Jesus' own mouth as he



delivered the profound Sermon on the Mount.

"Blessed be the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed be those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek for they

shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Judy sez . . .**

**Items for next**

**Newsletter is**

**May 27th**

**Editor's note: I will be gone the last week of April so the newsletter must be finished early!**



**Weekly Bible Study:**

Presently three groups meet during the week: Adult Bible Study (aka Adult Sunday School) at 9:00 a.m. before Worship; the Tuesday afternoon Bible Study meets at 1:30 p.m. studying the minor prophets of the Old Testament; Wednesday evening Bible Study meets at 6:30 p.m. with an Overview of the Bible..



**MEADOWLARK METHODIST CHURCH PANTRY**

We take an offering on the first Sunday of every month to benefit the Food Pantry. On Sunday, May 5th, a basket will be on the back table to receive your offering. Featured collection for May: **Dry Cereal (small) & Oatmeal**

**Distribution dates for are:**

**Friday, May 3rd at 11:00 a.m.**

**Thursday, May 16th at 1:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, May 21st at 9:00 a.m.**

**FOOD PANTRY QUARTERLY REPORT—Comparing 1st quarter 2018**

**with 1st quarter 2019**

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>change</u>
<b>Total Seniors served</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>+8%</b>
<b>Total Adults served</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>+36%</b>
<b>Total Children served</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>+ 21%</b>
<b>Total Families served</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>+21%</b>

**HDUMC has seen a steady increase in the needs of our clients in Sandoval County. The introduction of the "bonus day" has been a great addition to our mission and has been very well received by the clients in our community.**



*Women  
with  
Purpose*



Women With Purpose has a new generous friend who made 20 beautiful quilts to add to the bags going to The Heart Gallery of New Mexico in May. Thank you, Paula Bradley, for sharing your talent and big heart!! Along with the quilt each bag will contain a book, a sippy cup, and a toy. State Representative Candace Gould will see that our bags land in the right hands. We may never know what these gifts will mean to a young pregnant woman, aging out of the foster system and needing a warm touch of kindness.

# May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <i>WWP at 10am</i> <i>Golsan's</i> <b>1:00 Mission</b> <b>Team Meet</b> <b>6:30 Bible St.</b> <b>6:30 choir</b>	2	<b>3</b> <i>Food</i> <i>Pantry</i> <i>11 am to 2</i> <i>pm</i>	4
<b>5</b> <b>9 &amp; 11 a.m.</b> <b>worship</b> <i>10: a.m. SS</i>	6	<b>7 Bible Study</b> <b>1:30 p.m.</b>  <b>WWP 6: p.m.</b> <b>Ministry</b> <b>Team 6: p.m.</b>	<b>8</b> <b>6:30 Choir</b> <b>6:30 Bible</b>	9	10	11
<b>12 9 &amp; 11</b> <b>Worship</b> 	13	<b>14</b>  <b>Bible Study</b> <b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>6:30 choir</b> <b>6:30 Bible</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Food Pantry</b> <b>1 pm</b>	17	18
<b>19</b> <b>9 &amp; 11 am</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 a.m. SS</b> <b>1:35 pm Base-</b> <b>ball Game</b>	20	<b>21</b> <b>Food Pantry</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>  <i>Bible Study</i> <b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>22</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Choir</b> <b>6:30 pm Bible</b>	23	24	25
<b>26</b> <b>9 &amp; 11 a.m.</b> <b>Worship</b> <i>10 a.m. SS</i>	27	<b>28</b> <i>Bible Study</i> <b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>29</b>	30	31	
<p>Note: This image in the Clip Art program is identified as: Hello God, May I speak to my son.</p>						

# 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.

<b>Lorra Garner</b>	Skies Health and Rehab, 9450 McMahon NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114	
<b>Nelson &amp; Joey Archuleta</b>	1740 Hudson River Rd. NE, Rio Rancho 87144	235-0774
<b>Norvin Schuman</b>	382 Nicklaus Dr. SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	891-0526
<b>Grover Donahoe</b>	766 Hood Way SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	891-0165
<b>Rod &amp; Louise Warpole</b>	600 First Street NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	994-9339
<b>Leonard Ortega</b>	3400 Oasis Springs Rd NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144	296-7330
<b>Mae Washburn</b>	Revenna Assisted Living, 3051 Twin Oaks Dr NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120	
<b>Diane &amp; Renee Youells</b>	1018 26th St SW, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	891-3059
<b>Phil Pittman</b>	1000 Riverview Dr SE, #242, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	301-7704
<b>Fay Elrod</b>	1355 Meadowlark Ln SE #266, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	994-2675
<b>Frances O'Neal</b>	1355 Meadowlark Ln SE #150, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	
<b>Samuel Skinner</b>	920 Riverview Dr #248, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	
<b>Glen Nesbitt</b>	Advantage Assisted Living, 1729 Wellspring Ave SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	
<b>Sharon Kirkpatrick</b>	Laurel Hgts Healthcare, 102 Hospital Loop NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109	348-8300



## Anniversaries

Trixie & Wilson Maclay	5/1/87
Karen & Bill Malinka	5/9/94
Randy & Eileen Sever	5/16/70
Richard & Jennie Brubaker	5/27/83



Please note the occasional change in this announcement: Steelbridge Resource Center (aka Albuquerque Rescue Mission) occasionally changes the focus of its collections/donations to meet their current needs. April. 2019 donations: **NEW or gently used seasonal clothing, NEW socks & underwear; toiletries, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, combs.** There will be a container in the hall for your donations. For more info call Sheila Smith at 898-4644.

**Scripture Sharing Series** This month **Jeff Pratt** shares one of his favorite Bible verses: Mark 12:17. 'And answering, Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God, the things that are God's." And they marveled at him.'

On the surface, the Pharisees were trying to trap Jesus and He easily saw their trap and with this response He escaped it. The deeper meaning here is that Jesus is teaching us that although God is our Master, we must still obey the laws of our material world—and that our physical world and spiritual world do in fact go hand and hand. There is a definite appeal here to heed the words.



**Wesley Change for Charity** is on the back table during worship service, waiting to be fed with your change or dollars. This allows High Desert to assist individuals, groups, and organizations with emergency financial needs.



**May 2019 collection for Meadowlark Methodist Food Pantry:** Items are targeted for you to purchase to help replenish the shelves. Featured this month is: **Dry cereal (small) & oatmeal.** Please place these items in the green barrel found by the back tables. Contact Mike Fawcett at 715-456-3044 for info. No bulk commodities.



**Recycling** Sunday Bulletins—leave in recycling box by the back table; Plastic bags—leave in container marked for plastic bags; Aluminum cans—place in container marked Homeless Ministry. **NEW to HDUMC Recycling: Glass items normally disposed of in your trash. Bring to church and leave in the class/storage room on the counter.**



**Condiments & Small Toiletries** If you save the soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, etc. from staying in motels or hotels, please bring them to church along with the ketchup, taco sauce, mustard and any "take-out" condiments. The Rainbow Girls who are collecting for the Rio Rancho chapter of Blue Star Mothers to include in the packages they send our troops. For more information, contact Storehouse West at 892-2077.



**The Upper Room** This Daily Devotional Guide is available in regular and large print. Copies may be found Sunday mornings on the back table. Be sure to get your copy! Or read online: <http://devotional.upperroom.org/>



**Printer Cartridges** is a fund raiser to support Mission projects. Please place your empty inkjet & laser cartridges in the recycling box found on the back table.



**UPC Labels** for 2 schools in Rio Rancho. There is a large jar for your labels are provided on the back table on Sunday mornings.



**Pull Tabs** Save the pull tabs from your aluminum cans, soup cans, etc. You can put them in a ziplock bag and leave them on the table in the back of the church. For more info call Janet Greger at 867-4832 Presently they will go to the Ronald McDonald House charity.

<b>9 AM Service</b>					
<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>
May 5	Bryce & Sara Hendricks	Mike & Sandy Fawcett	Chuck Schimke	Sandy Dewbre	
May 12	Mike & Linda Bates	Bill & Kay Boss	Judy Ballard	Rey & Norvin Schuman	Jan Herrington
May 19	Emily Sue Chambers Sue Hill	Paul Lewis Dave Zapf	Skip Chambers	Judy Thomas	
May 26	Judy Ballard Glenda Barber	Ken & Sandy Dewbre	Randy Severs		
		<b>11 AM Service</b>			
May 5	Nancy Perry-Sebrell	Bonnie Korngiebel Rose Meyer	Ron Komatz		
May 12	Holly Benson	Karen Malinka Jenny Kottenbrook	Bonnie Korngiebel		
May 19	Gloria Graham	Lisa Isenberger Jenny Kottenbrook	Janet Greger		
May 26	Rose Meyer	Gloria Graham Nancy Perry-Sebrell	Lisa Isenberger		

**With Heartfelt Thanks** Thank you to the following who provided for the HDUMC Ministries last month.

**9:00 a.m. Service**

Greeters: Chuck & Mary Lou Schimke, Judy Ballard, Glenda Barber, Mike & Sandie Fawcett, Mike & Linda Bates

Ushers: Sue Hill, Lael Wellington, Linnette Carlson, Mike Fawcett, Ken & Sandy Dewbre, Bill & Kay Boss

Liturgists: Glenda Barber, Jana Siverts, Jane Butel, Barry Birch

**11:00 a.m. Service**

Greeters: Holly Benson, Gloria Graham, Nancy Perry-Sebrell, Janet Greger

Ushers: Bonnie Korngiebel, Jenny Kottenbrook, Rose Meyer, Lisa Isenberger, Karen Malinka, Gloria Graham, Nancy Perry-Sebrell

Liturgists: Ron Komatz, Bonnie Korngiebel, Janet Greger, Lisa Isenberger

Altar Flowers: Sue Hill, Trixie Maclay, Charles & Jenny Kottenbrook, Bonnie Korngiebel

Refreshments: Bonnie Korngiebel, Jenny Kottenbrook, Judy Thomas

*Those named and those not named above, thank you all so much for your continued support.*

# HDUMC BULLETIN BOARD



Thanks to all those who helped assemble 50 lunch sacks for the homeless to be distributed at the International Zone Bible Institute. HDUMC will be participating once a quarter, so if you haven't joined this effort yet, be sure to get in line (volunteer) the next time!



**Baseball Outing**—Our social outing to the Isotopes baseball game is scheduled for Sunday May 19 at 1:35 pm. We have reserved box seats in the top four rows of Section 106 behind home plate in the shade. The cost is \$12.50 per seat; we need your payment by the end of April to reserve the seats; please make your check out to the church. There is a sign-up sheet on the back table for those interested. There will be a sign-up sheet for the bus; because there is limited space on the bus, carpooling is encouraged.



Additional report on **Meadowlark Methodist Food Pantry**. We continue to enjoy the additional TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) items thru Road Runner Food Bank as well as donations of money and food from members of this church. Plus some 'anonymous' donors have generously assisted in providing food to those in need. This mission outreach would not be possible without dedicated and committed volunteers from within HDUMC. They consistently give time and talents to provide the open, caring, and welcoming atmosphere that is Meadowlark Methodist Food Pantry.



Yes, we have a new **Bible Study** between worship services on Sunday morning. HDUMC is especially fortunate to have **Tony Smith** present his personal take on the Messianic Psalms. Those of you who have previously experienced Tony's in-depth studies know what to expect; those who haven't need to attend this class to find out why Tony's biblical research is so respected. Everyone is welcome!



**Wesley the Pig**. Do you know who he is? He lives at HDUMC and he has been charged with a holy mission (notice the angel wings). Well, really, Wesley is a piggy bank and he is responsible for collecting spare change, even a few leftover dollar bills, and of course the occasional, **generous** free-will offering. Why? One of our missions here is to feed the hungry in our community by handing out \$5 vouchers (gift cards) for Smith's. Seems Wesley is losing weight these days. and needs an infusion of cash. Won't you help Wesley out?



**Solemn Reminder: I'm just (insert your first name here) \_\_\_\_\_,  
but GOD is GOD.**

Easter is over, of course, but the impact of the event should still be fresh enough on our hearts that this message can't be ignored or set aside until next year!

### Back To The Cross

1 Peter 1:18-19, "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot..."

The old farmer and his family were fast asleep when the old grandfather clock struck thirteen times. This woke him, and he jumped up out of bed and shouted, "Everyone get up, it's later than it's ever been." We are in the last hours of our days on this earth. The hand of the clock is approaching the midnight hour, The Church is rapidly drifting into a state of apostasy, further and further away from God. Dark forces have been turned loose which are producing an evil effect upon the Church as upon the world. The Cross of Christ is the light that will illuminate the present darkness.

We need a fresh revelation of sin, for it is through sin that we have lost our way, and it is through Christ's death on the Cross that we are won back and restored to God. I Peter 3:18 says, "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened (made alive) by the Spirit:" The reason why many lose the sense of the sinfulness of sin is that they get away from the reality of Christ's atoning death, for it is only at the Cross that we get a vision of the depths and misery of sin.

Calvary is a revelation of man's hatred to God's authority—a hatred which manifested itself in the blackest, darkest deed ever committed. The Cross is the criterion of the human heart. It reveals man in his true character. The Church has lost sight of the Cross, and has therefore lost sight of the awfulness of sin. She has wandered from the place where sin is seen in God's light, and where the soul is led to cry out, "I have crucified my Lord." What astonishes one in these days is the sin in the Church. In the Book of Revelation, John was amazed when he saw the end time church, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. (He said), "and when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement." John couldn't believe what he was seeing. Sometimes I feel just like John when I see what's going on in the church today.

How awful it is that Christians can sin and be unmoved by it! God's people are sinning—sinning in the heart, sinning in the mind, sinning in the pulpit, sinning in the pew,—sinning in spite of Calvary and all that the Bible reveals of the horror and degradation of sin. Let us go back to Calvary and let the Cross melt our hardness and cause the tears to flow!

Glory!!!!

Charles Kottenbrook



## HIGH DESERT UMC

4200 Meadowlark Lane SE Ste 6  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124  
Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9a.m.-Noon & 1-3 p.m.  
Phone: 505-891-4206; Fax: 505-891-4460  
Email: [highdesertumc@cableone.net](mailto:highdesertumc@cableone.net)

### Church E-Mail Addresses:

<i>Church:</i>	<a href="mailto:highdesertumc@cableone.net">highdesertumc@cableone.net</a>
<i>Pastor Reuben:</i>	<a href="mailto:rnjthomas@msn.com">rnjthomas@msn.com</a>
<i>Jenny Kottenbrook:</i>	<a href="mailto:highdesertumc@cableone.net">highdesertumc@cableone.net</a>
<i>Frank Rotolo</i>	<a href="mailto:frnkrtl@hotmail.com">frnkrtl@hotmail.com</a>
<i>Arlene Westgaard:</i>	<a href="mailto:arleneruth@hotmail.com">arleneruth@hotmail.com</a>
<i>Jeff Pratt, Bus driver:</i>	<a href="mailto:Jeffrey.a.pratt@intel.com">Jeffrey.a.pratt@intel.com</a>
<i>Judy Ballard, Newsletter:</i>	<a href="mailto:highdesertumc@cableone.net">highdesertumc@cableone.net</a> or <a href="mailto:writingwroom@msn.com">writingwroom@msn.com</a> (Judy)



"Like" us on Facebook at:

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

Or

Follow us on Twitter at:

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

**We're on the Web**

**[www.highdesertumc.org](http://www.highdesertumc.org)**