

*"Loving God, Serving Others, Changing Lives"*

# HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

***REUBEN'S RAMBLINGS***

November 2021, Issue 11

It's hard to believe, but it's already November. This time of year, reminds me about what the Apostle Paul told us in Ephesians 5:20 – "Always give thanks to God the Father for everything." This is a season of thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is the harvest of the heart after the fruit and grain are stored away. It is the quiet season of remembering when we should pause and thank God for all the blessings of life.

James 1:2 tells us to "count it all joy." Count your blessings instead of your crosses; count your gains instead of your losses; count your joys instead of your woes; count your friends instead of your foes. Count your smiles instead of your tears; count your courage instead of your fears. Count your full years instead of your lean; count your kind deeds instead of your mean. Count your health instead of your wealth; count on God instead of yourself.

As I reflect over the past year, I have many things to be thankful for. One of these is what I highlighted at the Church Cookout on October 6, and that is all the volunteers who keep this church going and serving God. I know that there's always the danger that I may miss someone, but I want to thank the following volunteers for all their dedication, hard work and time:

- Linn Carlson, Emily Sue Chambers, Joanne Claybrook and Judy Thomas for covering the office.
- Gloria Lamoureux for mailing copies of the sermons out each Monday.
- Sandy Dewbre for coordinating the Prayer Chain.
- Jody Meyer for managing the church's website.
- Francie Larsen who publishes the church's monthly newsletter.
- Guy Brister who cleans the church every week.
- Jeff Pratt who drives the church bus, and Linn Carlson and Randy Sever who substitute for Jeff.
- Judy Ballard, Francie Larsen, Earlene Price and Tony Smith who teach our classes.
- For all who participate in weekly Bible studies.
- Warren Herrington, Bruce Packard and Keith Witt for running sound/video system.
- Lori Kottenbrook for music at the 11 am worship service and Eileen Sever for music at 9 am.
- Soloists who have led singing during the pandemic.
- Gary and Joyce Cowles who serve as communion stewards.

- Lisa Isenberger, Ron Komatz and Bruce Packard for preaching.
- For all those who lead worship services at MorningStar.
- Bryce and Sara Hendricks, Bonnie Korngiebel, Earlene Price for sending cards of encouragement.
- Trustees for recent improvements to the church and for maintaining the building.
- John Samford for striping the dirt parking lot and maintaining the church sign.
- All who serve as greeters and ushers at both the 9 and 11 am worship services.
- Support of our mission projects – Feed NM Kids, Interfaith Bible Center, and Basket Ministry.
- Support for Community of Hope and the leadership Dave and Sue Duranty.
- Your continued generosity for our Second Mile Giving.
- Women with Purpose and Wanda Golsan's leadership.
- Patty Latter for coordinating Operation Christmas Child; Arlene Westgaard for past leadership.
- Mike Fawcett, John Samford and all the great Pantry workers.
- All who have served on the Helping Hands Work Teams.
- Guidance of Ministry Team, especially during the pandemic.
- Your continued attendance at worship services during the pandemic restrictions.
- The continued generosity of the congregation.
- Eileen Sever, Linn Carlson and Gordon Golsan for managing our finances.
- Ken Schierling and Del Larsen for auditing our financial records.
- For our staff – Frank Rotolo, Arlene Westgaard and Rachelle Luna.

I apologize if I missed anyone. I am truly thankful for all of you; this is a wonderful church and you have blessed my life!

Happy Thanksgiving!

*Reuben*

# FEED NEW MEXICO KIDS

Dear Friends at High Desert United Methodist Church,

Pastor Reuben is always saying, "We Methodists LOVE to eat!" While he speaks the truth, it is also true that this Methodist church loves to feed others. Many of our avenues of service and ministry ensure that food will get into the hands-and stomachs-of those who struggle to eat nutritious meals.

Let me remind you of some of our efforts. We operate a food pantry which provides groceries to local households. Mike Fawcett, John Samford and their team welcome clients three times a month. Our Community of Hope dinner, prepared and served by Dave and Sue Duranty, provides a warm Sunday respite to many who live on the streets. Joanne Landry of Interfaith Bible Center tells us that her folks look forward to the large quantities of food that we haul to her center once a month. (She tells us that the most requested meal is chili dogs with cheese! A trip through Costco yields over 300 hotdogs!) Rev Landry serves 100 meals a day for five days a week. We also provide Thanksgiving dinner to struggling families through Haven House, a safe house in Rio Rancho. We have a ministry of snack baskets led by Gloria Lamoreux and Dottie Hester which surprises hospital workers, police officers, fire fighters, and other community heroes with tasty treats. We are busy!

Not only do we reach beyond our walls to feed others, but when members of our congregation face health or life altering challenges, other members regularly step up to deliver a delicious meal to ease the burden. Yes, it's true we love to eat but we love to see to it that others have something to eat as well.

If you know me, you may wonder when I will shine the spotlight on the "food-centered" ministry of this church that is very close to my heart—Feed New Mexico Kids. As an educator, I devoted my life to teaching in public schools. It was hard to see children who struggled with learning in the classroom because they were not well fed. This program strives to address the needs of hungry students right here in our community. We started packing weekend food bags two years ago on a small scale but soon realized that the need was big. And the need was/is growing. Last month, September, we assembled and donated 263 bags of food to students in four different public schools and the local Boys and Girls Club. We will probably face more requests for food and will do our best to step up!

It is such a privilege to attend a church that truly cares about others. My prayer is that our congregation will continue to build a bigger table and invite those around us who are hungry to pull up a chair and eat with us.

Thank you for letting me serve with you.

*Wanda Golsan*

## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Blessed by so many new faces in the congregation, there have been several requests to bring back the name tags. These will be available by the first Sunday in October. Instead of having a name tag board, each person will be given a name tag to take home. You can put it in your purse, glove compartment of your car, etc. for the next Sunday. We decided against using the boards to maintain social distancing and to avoid large groups gathering around them during COVID. If you should lose your name tag, the office will replace it.

## WOMEN WITH PURPOSE

### **Women With Purpose – Nov. 4, 2021, 10:00 a.m. HDUMC sanctuary**

If you canvassed the ladies at a WWP meeting to name one of their favorite activities, you might get this answer: Baby Shower in a Bag! Yes, a baby shower.

New Mexico Heart Gallery, a foundation close to former Senator Candace Gould's heart, addresses the immediate needs of 18-year-old girls aging out of the state foster care system. A number of these girls are pregnant or have recently given birth—and need the outreach we provide. Imagine a colorful, roomy, hand-made tote bag filled with a soft, hand-knit baby blanket, a hand knit newborn cap, diapers, bibs, socks, rattles, and appropriate toys. And anything else that might fit into an over-sized tote bag!

Ladies, come join in and help us to assemble these bags. Make someone's day who might otherwise not be having one.

## MY WALK TO EMMAUS

By Wanda Giovengo

There were many people involved in my going to Walk to Emmaus and also getting there. Thank you to Linnette Carlson for pushing me to go. I have wanted to go for a long time, but just needed that push she provided. A special thank you to Dottie and Earl Hester for the sponsorship and taking me along and with Judy Ballard's assistance. Also, for the wonderful surprise of my dear husband, Benny's driving and Earl's guiding. They came up the mountain for me, I will cherish all the beautiful cards and letters forever that was brought to me, only because of my dear sweet friend Dottie. Thank you to all my wonderful church family.

We, the pilgrims of the Walk experienced the power of a Christian community that put Christ above all other concerns and issues. The clergy, laity, and helpers were wonderful speakers who told us how Christ should always be in the forefront of our lives. It was a profound experience of many tears and lots of warm laughter and I could feel the love of Christ always.

All four days will always be imbedded in my heart as will the five women of the tabling "Ruth" which I shared. God is good all the time.

## 1 Corinthians 3:9 ESV

**For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building**



Workers: Linnette Carlson, Wanda Giovengo, Gordan Golsan, Earl Hester, Bruce Packard, Pastor Reuben, John Samford, Rev. Mac McGrew,



## JUST HAVIN' FUN



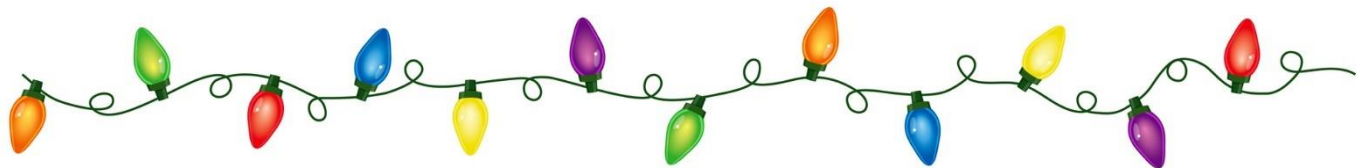
### **BIBLE STUDIES ANYONE??**

Sundays, 10 AM, Studying Revelations, Led by Tony Smith

Mondays, 11 AM, "Heaven", Randy Alcorn (DVDs). Led by Francie Larsen

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM, 12 Part Study Joshua, Led by Judy Ballard

Wednesdays, 5:30 PM, Studying 2 Peter and 1 John, Led by Pastor Reuben



## **ASBURY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

**Saturday, November 6, 2021  
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Asbury United Methodist Church  
10,000 Candelaria Road NE**

**Over 65 crafters, Bake Sale, Homemade Pies  
Breakfast & Lunch Burritos by Hurricane's  
Free Parking Lot Shuttle**

# A Teacher Told Her Students to Draw What They Were Thankful for—This Was One Student's Moving Response

As this teacher learned, some of the most moving lessons are taught by students.

*When Mrs. Klein told her first graders to draw a picture of something for which they were thankful, she thought how little these children, who lived in a deteriorating neighborhood, actually had to be thankful for. She knew that most of the class would draw pictures of turkeys or of bountifully laden Thanksgiving tables. That was what they believed was expected of them.*

*What took Mrs. Klein aback was Douglas's picture. Douglas was so forlorn and likely to be found close in her shadow as they went outside for recess. Douglas's drawing was simply this:*

*A hand, obviously, but whose hand? The class was captivated by his image. "I think it must be the hand of God that brings us food," said one student.*

*"A farmer," said another, "because they grow the turkeys."*

*"It looks more like a policeman, and they protect us." "I think," said Lavinia, who was always so serious, "that it is supposed to be all the hands that help us, but Douglas could only draw one of them."*

*Mrs. Klein had almost forgotten Douglas in her pleasure at finding the class so responsive. When she had the others at work on another project, she bent over his desk and asked whose hand it was.*

*Douglas mumbled, "It's yours, Teacher."*

*Then Mrs. Klein recalled that she had taken Douglas by the hand from time to time; she often did that with the children. But that it should have meant so much to Douglas ...*

*Perhaps, she reflected, this was her Thanksgiving, and everybody's Thanksgiving—not the material things given unto us, but the small ways that we give something to others.*

# OBSCURE NAMES IN THE BIBLE



Next month: Who is Mephibosheth of the OT? *Judy Ballard*

**ANSWER FOR OCTOBER:** Who is Cleopas in the New Testament?

Answer: Cleopas was one of the two men Jesus encountered on the way to Emmaus on the day of His resurrection. The men did not recognize Jesus but invited him to share the evening meal. When He broke bread with them, they saw who he was.



Our “Angel Among Us” this month goes out to **Laverna McGrew!** Our mens’ crew worked so hard to get the flooring removed this past week and I am sure they were hungry. Lo and behold an angel appeared. Laverna McGrew provided all the fixings for a great meal. Laverna is one of our newer members! **THANK YOU, Laverna for taking time out of your busy day. You truly made a difference!**






# November 2021

## HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 11 AM Bible Study	2	3 Bible Study 10:30 AM 5:30 PM	4 <b>Women With Purpose</b> 10 AM	5 Food Pantry 11AM to 2PM	6
7 <b>Day Light Savings</b> <b>All Saint's Sunday</b> 9 & 11 AM Worship 10 AM SS	8 11 AM Bible Study	9	10 Bible Study 10:30 AM 5:30 PM 6pm Confer	11	12	13
14 9 & 11 AM Worship 10 AM SS	15 11 AM Bible Study	16 Food Pantry 9 to Noon	17 Bible Study 10:30 AM 5:30 PM	18 Food Pantry 1 to 4 PM	19	20
21 9 & 11 AM Worship 10 AM SS	22 11 AM Bible Study	23	24 Bible Study 10:30 AM 5:30 PM	25 <b>Thanksgiving</b> 	26	27
28 <b>Christmas Concert</b> <b>(both services)</b> 9 & 11 AM Worship 10 AM SS	29 11 AM Bible Study	30				

## 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.

Lois Brister	2867 Cripple Creek Drive SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	892-7987
Sheila Arce	4910 Tramway Ridge Dr. NE, #318, Albq. NM	87111
Phil Pittman	Ravenna Assisted Living, 3051 Twin Oaks Dr. NW Albq.	87120
Mae Washburn	Ravenna Assisted Living, 3051 Twin Oaks Dr NW, Albq.	87120
Lorra Garner	Genesis, 9150 McMahon Blvd. NW Albq.	87114 408-722-6482
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	10301 Golf Course Rd. NW #119D, Albq.	87114 382-9706
Mary Lou Schimke	7927 Jamestown Road NW, Albq. NM	87114-4498 898-5911
Mac Esquibel	4544 Aguila Road SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	891-1469



Happy birthday!	Dottie Thompson	11/1	Happy birthday!
	Ciera Lucero	11/1	
	Patty Coulter	11/6	
	Georgia Hickman	11/8	
	Louise Warpole	11/10	
	Troi Donnachaidh	11/10	
	Keith Witt Jr.	11/11	
	Jean Welch	11/14	
	Gary Smothermon	11/17	
	Charlotte Bullock	11/17	
	Gary Cowles	11/22	
	Bruce Packard	11/23	
	Mel Lora	11/23	
Sue Hinchcliffe	11/25		
Laurie Smothermon	11/25		
Laura Minoletti	11/28		
Happy birthday!	Happy birthday!		



Shawn & Ian Colbert

11/10

## Getting to Know You

### Thanksgiving – What it Means to Our Family

Bryce and I were married in the Reasnor United Methodist Church, Reasnor, Jasper County, Iowa on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1957. Bryce was out of High School 1 year and in the military even before he graduated. I had graduated High School in May of 1957 and by today's standards, we were very young to be entering a new life together. We had a son Kyle in May of 1958 and a daughter Karrie in October of 1959.

Being a very young family and as some people would say, "Not dry behind the ears," we set out to find a sound faith direction in life. Bryce was stationed at Fort Leonard, MO, Fort Chaffee, AR, and Fort Knox, KY, all Army bases. Bryce was always home when the children were born. I kept living in Iowa with my folks and worked as a secretary for The Maytag Company, along with being a young mother of two and a loving and faithful wife to my Soldier. We worked hard to keep our family solid. We raised our kids in a Christian home in Iowa. The kids always enjoyed holidays as "Dad" came home. Thanksgiving and all holidays meant Family gatherings, BIG, delicious meals, fun and lots of happiness. God made life a blessing with prayer and Thanksgiving a part of everyday living.

*Sara & Bryce Hendricks*

## THANK YOU

From Sister Barbara

Oct. 2, 2021  
Dear Friends at  
High Desert UMC,  
Peace and all God's  
blessings to each of you  
and Thank You for your  
cards, notes & prayers.  
Please know that I  
remember you with love  
and continue to pray  
for you & the wonderful  
ministry you all do!  
God bless you Always!  
Most Gratefully,  
sm Barbara

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# High Desert United Methodist Church

1201 Golf Course Road  
Rio Rancho, NM 87174  
Office Hours: Wednesdays  
9AM-Noon  
Phone: 505-891-4206.  
Email:  
[highdesertumc@outlook.com](mailto:highdesertumc@outlook.com)

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

"Like" us on Facebook at:  
[Facebook.com/HDUM](https://www.facebook.com/HDUM)

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## HDUMC CHURCH PANTRY

**Distribution dates for November are:**

**Friday, November 5th - 11 am to 2 pm**

**Tuesday, November 16th – 9am to Noon**

**Thursday, November 18th – 1pm to 4pm**

**Featured collection for November: Cooking Oil (No Shortening)**

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