

“Loving God, Serving Others, Changing Lives”

HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

REUBEN'S RAMBLINGS

September, 2022, Issue 9

I always look forward to the month of September because it signals the start of college football. Each year brings expectations and excitement of how well your favorite team will do. My team is the Clemson Tigers where I went to college. I try to watch every game and hopefully will be able to attend a home game later this year. Our head coach is Dabo Swinney. He started out as our receiver's coach and has now been the head coach for 14 years, having won two national football championships. He has built his team on family and Christian values and teamwork. As the team leaves the locker room prior to each game, each player is given a chip that they can toss into a bucket if they are willing to be "All-In;" that is, if they are willing to give 100 percent, give their all for the team.

The stadium where the Clemson Tigers play is known as "Death Valley." On a Saturday afternoon, Clemson is the third largest city in South Carolina. The stadium which seats 81,000 has seats on both sides and in one end zone. The other end zone is a grassy hill that the

players run down to enter the playing field as the band plays "Tiger Rag." This has been described as the "most exciting 25 seconds in college football." At the top of the hill is a rock from Death Valley, California, that each player rubs before running down the hill. A former coach, Frank Howard, put the rock there and told his players: "Don't put your filthy hands on my rock unless you are going to give me 110 percent."

Now I don't think Jesus ever used words like that, but in Luke 9:62 Jesus said: "No one who puts his hands to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." In other words, Jesus does not want our half-hearted, parttime commitment, He expects us to be "All-In." The Apostle Paul understood this when he wrote in Colossians 3:23 – "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart." Earlier in Colossians 3:17, Paul wrote: "Let every detail in your lives – words, actions, whatever – be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way." In other words, give the Lord 100 percent all the time. On the modest gravestone of Fanny Crosby are these words, "She hath done what she could."

Are we doing that? Are we

following Jesus' command in Matthew 6:33 – "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Is God and His Son Jesus Christ the priority, focus of our lives? We can do this in three ways. First by giving the Lord our time; setting aside time each day for a daily quiet time of prayer and Bible reading, participating in a weekly Bible study and attending worship. Think how much time you spend with the Lord compared to watching TV, surfing the internet or talking to friends? Second, get involved in a service project. Finally, practice tithing. In Malachi 3:10, God says: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Test Him and see how He will enrich your life!

Are you "All-In" for Jesus? I hope so; let us all be committed to the Lord.

God bless. *Reuben*

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE



August Outing: On Thursday, August 18, 2022, the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) was the destination for this get-together. The eight of us caravanned in two cars, driving off-interstate, taking an interesting route by city streets through the old part of town. The tour, led by volunteer, Annette, began in the visual arts area, which included exhibits by four New Mexico photographers, one from Rio Rancho! Next, we met in the Torreón (tower) for a lecture by docent Iris, on world-wide Hispanic history, dating from early times. We were seated under the painted concave ceiling, (pictured at right) by artist Frederico Vigil (completed in 2010, after ten years of work).

Our adventure ended with a superb lunch at La Fonda del Bosque. We all agreed we would dine there again.

Special thanks to David Rivera, Event Coordinator at the NHCC for arranging this memorable visit.



Front, L to R: Pauline Walker, Cheryl Mason, Bill Mason, Wayne Walker; Back L to R: Nina Brown, Judy Ballard, Rose Meyer, Laura Minoletti at the National Hispanic Cultural Center

September Outing: Isotopes baseball outing, Sunday, September 18 at 1:35 pm. We have reserved seats in the shade; cost is \$15.50 per seat. The Isotopes will be playing the Oklahoma City Dodgers. The first 3,000 fans will receive a free Mariachi Jersey. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The Church Bus is available; please sign up to reserve your seat. Please make your payment to the Church and mark "Baseball Outing" on the memo line of your check.

God Bless, Ken Dewbre, Fellowship Committee Chair

SEPTEMBER SECOND MILE GIVING

READWEST, INC.

One out of every five New Mexico adults reads below a fifth grade level. Simple everyday tasks can present real problems. Following street signs, reading bus schedules, filling out job applications or reading prescription labels can be frustrating and even frightening to an adult who struggles to read.

ReadWest helps adult learners of English with basic vocabulary communication for many life and cultural situations as well as helps them to become literate in reading and writing English.

ReadWest Inc. is a non-profit adult literacy agency providing one-to-one tutoring sessions by trained certified volunteers. It is estimated that it costs \$150 to train and support a volunteer tutor and \$240 to provide instruction to a student. Through dedicated volunteers and donations, ReadWest strives to improve the literacy of the members of our community, thus allowing them to live more productive and enriched lives. You can support this worthwhile ministry during September by writing "ReadWest" on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your continued support of our mission programs.

Blessing of the Animals



Saturday, October 1, 2022, 9:00 AM
In the Church Parking Lot
All pets welcome – except snakes!

Church Conference

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22

Our annual Church Conference is scheduled for September 22 at 6 pm at Rio Rancho UMC. This will be a combined meeting with six other Methodist Churches (Bernalillo UMC, Grace UMC, Grants First UMC, Mesa View UMC, Paradise Hills UMC, and Rio Rancho UMC). Everybody welcome!

Mark Your Calendar

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7 - CHURCH COOKOUT

Join us on Friday October 7 at 5:30 pm for our fall Church Cookout in the church parking lot. We will provide the hamburgers and hotdogs along with water and lemonade. Bring a side dish to share. Invite a friend or neighbor to join in a great time of fellowship. It will be a great chance to get to know each other.



Bible Studies, Anyone?

SUNDAY 10 AM: Meeting September 4th to distribute study books. Will be studying a LifeGuide Topical Bible Studies on *Forgiveness*. Led by Tony Smith, will start on Sunday September 25.

MONDAY 10 AM: Begins on September 12 at 10 am with Francie Larsen leading a study of *God the Creator* by Randy Frazee. In eight sessions, Randy presents “God’s Upper Story and our Lower Story.”

WEDNESDAY 10:30 AM: Starting September 7, our Wednesday morning class led by Judy Ballard will be studying 1 & 2 Peter.

WEDNESDAY 5:30 PM: Currently studying the beliefs of the Methodist Church. On September 7 or 14, we will begin a study entitled *Believe, Living the Story of the Bible to Become Like Jesus*. We will focus on 30 of the Bible’s greatest lessons on living the Christian life.

ONLINE STUDIES: We are currently sending out each week an email from Tony Smith discussing a chapter from the Book of Isaiah. In addition, you can participate in one of Tony’s online studies on Daniel, John and Revelation at coraleno@aol.com.

Words that should end with ‘Amen’:

“Enduring hardships teaches us lessons we would never learn otherwise.”

Feed New Mexico Kids



Sue Duranty, Marion Sanderson, Paul Rexroth, Shirley Rexroth, and Patty Latter fill bags with nutritious food.



Roberta Jockheck and Joanna Jones fill food bags.



Bonnie Chalfant, Helen LeBlanc, Tammy Spring, Lisa Isenberger, and Mike Fawcett hard at work.

Women with Purpose

Thursday, September 1, 2022

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

As you know, some of our community efforts are accomplished without benefit of a representative being present, mostly due to the busyness of the individual or the confidential nature of the entity. Not so this month: we are privileged to have a guest speaker—Leticia Chavez-Paulette, founder of A Peaceful Habitation. This Christian-based organization addresses the needs of recently released female inmates by offering tangible support to re-enter their social communities. This is where WWP comes in. One of our favorite things to do is pack large tote-bags with all kinds of essential toiletries and a few “girly” things. In addition to the ‘personal’ touch, we will be filling 10 sturdy laundry baskets with all kinds of laundry supplies, enough to do 100 loads of laundry!

HDUMC invites all women to attend our WWP meetings and participate in our ‘hands-on’ activities. Come and bring a friend – women who don’t attend High Desert UMC are welcome to come. Will we see you there? Refreshments provided!

September 2022

First Day of Autumn, September 21

HIGH DESERT UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Women With Purpose 10AM	2 11 AM Food Pantry	3
4 9 AM Worship 10 AM SS 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship	5	6	7 Office Hours 9 AM–12 noon 5:30 PM: Methodist Beliefs Study; & Choir	8 Women's Walk to Emmaus (through Sep. 11) 	9 (Walk to Emmaus) 8 AM – 1 PM: Asbury Pie Cafe	10 (Walk to Emmaus)
11 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship (Walk to Emmaus)	12 10 AM Bible Study	13 6 PM Ministry Team Meeting	14 Office Hours 9 AM – 12 Noon 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 PM: Bible Study; & Choir	15 1 PM Food Pantry	16 1 – 6 PM Asbury Pie Cafe	17
18 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship 1:35 PM Baseball game (Isotopes)	19 10 AM Bible Study	20 9 AM Food Pantry	21 Office Hours 9 AM – 12 Noon 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 PM Bible Study; & Choir	22 6 PM Church Conference, at Rio Rancho UMC	23	24
25 9 AM Worship 10 AM SS 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship	26 10 AM Bible Study	27	28 Office Hours 9 AM – 12 Noon 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 PM Bible Study & Choir	29	30	

SS = Sunday School
MS = MorningStar

OBSCURE NAMES IN THE BIBLE



Next month: Who was Dorcas/Tabitha in the New Testament? *Judy Ballard*

ANSWER FOR AUGUST: (Who was Lydia?)

Lydia was a trader of purple cloth who lived in the city of Philippi. She met Paul during his second missionary journey. Most likely of Jewish faith, Lydia converted immediately upon hearing Paul preach about Jesus Christ. She was baptized and welcomed Paul and his fellow missionaries to stay in her home as long as they remained in Philippi.

Operation Christmas Child

It's time again to begin collecting and filling shoeboxes for Operations Christmas Child for Samaritan's Purse.



High Desert has participated in this mission project for several years, where members get a shoebox (any size will work), fill it with toys, hygiene items, school supplies and a donation of \$10 for shipping and bring it to the church. I will take all the shoeboxes to Grace Outreach Church during collection week which is November 14-21, 2022. They will then be distributed to children in need around the world. There is a limited number of shoeboxes available at the church from Samaritan's Purse.

If you would like to pack your own shoebox: There are pamphlets out in the front that include information on how to pack your shoebox. There is also an envelope that will need to be filled out and, along with \$10 for shipping, put inside. Then just select the label for either a boy or girl and what age group and tape to the top. Do not seal the box.

If you would like for me to shop for and pack your shoebox, please submit \$30 to the church and mark "Operation Christmas Child: The cost for each box this year is \$30 which includes \$20 for the contents inside the shoebox and \$10 for shipping which is the amount required this year. Of course, it is also possible for several members to share the cost of a shoebox.

Last year we collected 88 boxes. Our goal this year is 100 boxes. If you have any questions call or text me @ 505-934-4346. Patty Latter, Project Leader

Asbury Pie Café

The Asbury Café is a tradition of the New Mexico State Fair. For over forty years, volunteers have served homemade pies and ice cream to thousands of fair goers. All the proceeds go to organizations in Albuquerque that feed the homeless. High Desert has volunteered to serve on shifts during the Fair; Friday September 9 from 8 am – 2 pm and Friday September 16 from 2-6 pm. Come by and see us and enjoy some delicious pies.



Care Ministry

You're invited to call or send cards to these of our church family, to offer words of 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	C/O Ravenna Assisted Living, 3051 Twin Oaks Dr. NW Albuquerque, NM 87120	
Lorra Garner	Genesis, 9150 McMahon Blvd. NW Albq 87114	408-722-6482
Grover Donahoe	766 Hood Way SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	220-3839
Rod & Louise Warpole	600 First Street NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	332-9706
Mary Lou Schimke	7927 Jamestown Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114-4498	898-5911
Mac Esquibel	4544 Aguila Road SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	891-1469
Sister Barbara Kopecki	3800 W. Peterson Ave., Chicago, IL 60659	
Ella Jerome	813 Banco Court, Bernalillo, NM 87004	206-4894
Wanda Schierling	921 Purple Aster, Bernalillo, NM 87004	970-398-0501



Skip & Emily Sue Chambers	Sept. 4
Earl & Usa Van Doren	Sept. 7
Dan & Robin Foley	Sept. 12
Ken & Wanda Schierling	Sept. 15
Gary & Joyce Cowles	Sept. 18
Joel & April Salisbury	Sept. 18
Bill & Cheryl Mason	Sept. 25



Joey Archuleta	Sept. 2
Mike Bates	Sept. 2
Sheryl Clouse	Sept. 3
Don Roach	Sept. 3
Louise Philson	Sept. 3
Paul Meyer	Sept. 3
Mac McGrew	Sept. 4
Sheri Klopp	Sept. 5
Kevin Fitzgerald	Sept. 7
Francie Larsen	Sept. 7
Sheila Arce	Sept. 8
Glenn Hinchcliffe	Sept. 11
Chuck Coker	Sept. 19
Lynn Hood	Sept. 19
Sheila Smith	Sept. 21
Emily Sue Chambers	Sept. 24
Steve Lamoreux	Sept. 28
Bill Schramko	Sept. 29

High Desert United Methodist Church

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Office Hours: Wednesday
9AM-Noon

Phone: 505-891-4206;

Email: highdesertumc@outlook.com

We're on the Web!
www.highdesertumc.org

September, 2022 Newsletter

HDUMC CHURCH PANTRY

Distribution dates for September are:

Friday, September 2nd at 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, September 15 at 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20 at 9:00 a.m.

September Collection: Cake Mixes, Frosting

Contact Mike Fawcett at (715)456-3044

for more information.
