

"Loving God, Serving Others, Changing Lives"

HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

REUBEN'S RAMBLINGS

June, 2025, Issue 6

We just celebrated Memorial Day when we remember all those who gave their lives so that we can enjoy the freedom and blessings of living in this great country. Let us never forget their sacrifice and those who have served and are still serving in the Armed Forces. Sometimes we take for granted these blessings and instead complain when things don't go our way. Instead of looking for the good in life, we focus on the negatives. This not only impacts our attitude but also our health. Someone said that if you want to be the picture of health, you'd better have a happy frame of mind.

A hog will eat acorns under a tree day after day, and never look up to see where they came from. Are we like that or are we aware of the love and blessings that God bestows on us every day? The *Webster Dictionary* defines "thanksgiving" as: "an expression of gratitude, especially to God." Psalm 100:4 states: "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise, give thanks to Him and praise His name."

We should look for opportunities to continually thank God for all the blessings of life. Do you remember the chorus of the hymn "Count Your Blessings?" Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your blessings, see what God had done. Think how better our days would be if we looked for the good in every person we meet and every situation we encounter, and thank God for these blessings.

Many of us are dealing with some difficult issues in our lives right now. Let us not forget the words of the Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:6 and 7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." As we have discussed before, during these tough times, let us walk in faith, take on day at a time, and trust in God.

It is so easy to take things for granted. We live in a wonderful free country. We have all the basic necessities of life. Now we might not be as well off as some people, but compared to the rest of the

world we are truly blessed. We are not only blessed materially, but we also are blessed with our family, good friends, and a loving and supportive church family that is always there when we need them. In spite of all this, we are sometimes slow to acknowledge them, we take them for granted.

Occasionally, we need to be reminded of just what we have been taking for granted and what we have to be thankful for.

Let me close with a poem by Helen Steiner Rice: "Give thanks for the blessings that daily are yours – the warmth of the sunshine, the beauty of flowers. For the joy of enjoying and the fullness of living are found in the heart that is filled with thanksgiving." As we begin to enjoy the lazy days of summer, take time to thank God each day for all the blessings of life, especially the small unexpected encounters.

God Bless, Reuben

See you Sunday!

JAM Sessions **(Jesus and Music)**



Join us on Friday afternoons at 4:30 in the Sanctuary for a time of playing instruments and singing some of our favorite Christian songs. Everyone is welcome. For details, see Drew Ammons.

New Video Series Happening Now

A new 6-week video series by Max Lucado is being offered at 10:30 AM each Wednesday in the church classroom.

The series is entitled "What Happens Next." Discussions are led by Francie Larson.

The class will continue through June 25. This promises to be an inspiring series, as many people have enjoyed Max Lucado's books. It's not too late to join!



Military Family Prayer List

Many men and women are faithfully serving our country in the armed service all over the world to protect our country and ensure our freedom. Please pray for the safety of:

Master Sergeant Gary Carter, US Army

Prya Chino, US Navy

Sergeant Major Reginald Daniels, United States Marine Corp, United Arab Emirates

Petty Officer 1st Class Owen Garcia, US Navy

Cadet Master Sergeant Darien Garcia, US Air Force Academy

Staff Sergeant Brock Henning, US Air Force

Major Herbert Jockheck, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC

Major Brian Koa Yee, United States Air Force

Lt. Devin Marshall, Ft. Novosel, AL

Gunnery Sergeant Jesse Perkins, United States Marines, Bangkok

Captain Shelli Schimke, USAF Intelligence

Lieutenant Kristina Scott, US Navy

Lt. Colonel Ryan Stanfill, US Air Force, McConnell AFB, Wichita, Kansas

SPRING BASEBALL OUTING

On Sunday May 18, forty-four faithful baseball fans enjoyed an afternoon watching the Isotopes play the Tacoma Rainiers.

Unfortunately, we lost, but it was still a great time of fellowship. One



of the highlights was

Glenn and Sue

Hinchcliffe being selected as the

Sweethearts of the Game, after appearing on the *Kiss Cam*.



Mark your calendar: our Fall Baseball Outing is scheduled for Sunday September 7 at 1:35 pm. The Isotopes will be playing the Round Rock Express. We have reserved 40 tickets in Section 115 near third base.

June Fellowship Outing

PLEASE JOIN US ON THURSDAY JUNE 5th at 10:00 AM FOR A TOUR OF THE WHEELS MUSEUM ON THE DOWNTOWN ALBUQUERQUE RAIL YARDS!!!!!! SEE OVER 10,000 RARE TRANSPORTATION ITEMS INCLUDING ANTIQUE AUTOS AND TRUCKS, REAL AIRPLANES IN THE CEILING, TRAIN CARS, A FREE TRAIN RIDE INSIDE AROUND THE EXHIBITS, MODEL TRAIN LAYOUTS OF ALL SCALES RUNNING, A MODEL CAR ROOM, 3 LIBRARIES, LOTS OF INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND TONS OF FUN! 27,000 SQ FT OF SENTIMENT AND EXCITEMENT !!

LEBA FREED, PRESIDENT, WILL GIVE A BRIEF INTERACTIVE PRESENTATION WITH PRIZES AND YOU WILL LEARN HOW ALBUQUERQUE BECAME A MODERN CITY WITH THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD ! \$5 DONATION PLEASE. BUS WILL BE AVAILABLE AND WILL LEAVE THE CHURCH AT 9:15 AM.

AFTER THE MUSEUM WE WILL ENJOY LUNCH AT THE ROUTE 66 DINER !!



Bible Studies for Everyone

Do you want to grow closer to the Lord in 2025 and experience His presence in your life? One of the best ways is to participate in a weekly Bible study. Please join one of the following studies:

SUNDAY 10 AM: *Taking a break for the summer.*

MONDAY 10:30 AM: Studying *Pentecost*. Meets in the classroom and is led by Marie Donat. *(Last day before taking a summer break is June 9th.)*

WEDNESDAY 10:30 AM: Francie Larson is leading a 6-week video series by Max Lucado.

WEDNESDAY 5:30 PM: *Taking a break for the summer.*

FAIRWINDS: Tony Smith is also leading a class at Fairwinds on Tuesdays.

ONLINE STUDIES: You can participate in one of Tony Smith's online studies on Isaiah Daniel, John and Revelation at coraleno@aol.com.

JUNE SECOND MILE GIVING

GIFT CARDS FOR TEACHERS

Our Second Mile Giving for June will go towards the purchase of Gift Cards for Teachers. Our teachers do an outstanding job in teaching, nurturing and caring for our children. They go beyond the extra mile to reach out and be there for the children. They definitely deserve our appreciation and thanks. Unfortunately, there is never enough funds, and many teachers have to use their own money to purchase supplies for their classroom. We will present the five teachers associated with High Desert their cards in July so that they can prepare for the start of the school year in August. If you would like to contribute to this ministry supporting our teachers, please mark "Gift Cards for Teachers" on the memo line of your check.



OBSCURE NAMES IN THE BIBLE

What was Siloam in the New Testament?

Find the answer elsewhere in this issue.

JUNE 2025

HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SS = Sunday School MS = MorningStar						
1 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship	2 10:30 AM Bible Study	3	4 Office Hrs: 9-12 10:30 Video Series	5 10 AM Fellowship Outing – Wheels Museum Mission trip to St. Joseph Sch.	6 11:00-2:00 Food Pantry 4:30 PM Jesus & Music	7
8 <i>Pentecost</i> 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship	9 10:30 AM Bible Study	10 6:00 PM Ministry Team Mtg	11 Office Hrs: 9-12 10:30 Video Series	12 .	13 4:30 PM Jesus & Music	14
15 <i>Fathers' Day</i> 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship	16	17 9-12 Food Pantry	18 Office Hrs: 9-12 10:30 Video Series	19 1-4 PM Food Pantry	20 First Day of Summer 4:30 PM Jesus & Music	21
22 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship	23	24	25 Office Hrs: 9-12 10:30 Video Series	26	27 4:30 PM Jesus & Music	28
29 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM MS 11 AM Worship	30					

The Church in Mission

ST. JOSEPH MISSION SCHOOL WORK DAY

DATE: Thursday June 5, 2025

TIME: 9 am – 2 pm

LUNCH PROVIDED

Have you been looking for an opportunity to participate in a short-term, one day mission project? Then join us on June 5th as we help St. Joseph get ready for the next school session. The work will include painting, clean-up, some carpentry, and assembling playground equipment.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those who want to participate. Depending on how many are going, the bus may be available or we will carpool.



Singers needed: Since the choir is taking a break for the summer, we are looking for individuals or groups who are willing to provide special music one Sunday, either at the 9:00 or 11:00 service. Please see Frank Rotolo or Reuben to volunteer.

Special thanks to Lori Kottenbrook. Heartfelt love, prayers, and appreciation go to Lori for her years of dedication as our church pianist. Lori and her family will be moving to Oklahoma soon. We will miss them and wish them many blessings in their new home.



Invite your friends to church. Don't forget to invite your friends and neighbors to church this summer.

Care Ministry

You're invited to call or send cards to these of our church family, to offer words of support and encouragement.

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 Warpole	600 First Street NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	332-9706
Mac Esquibel	4544 Aguila Road SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	891-1469
Lucille Few	920 Riverview Dr. SE, Rio Rancho 87124	
Vi Ortega	Care Free 10916 Juan Tabo Place NE Albq. 87111	288-2160
Pat McElwain	4536 Ambrose Alday SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124	235-7484
Judy Ballard	c/o Faith DeLong, 309 Montclair Dr. NE, Albuquerque 87108	240-0912



John & Patty Latter	June 4
Jim & Joan Bauman	June 5
Earl & Dottie Hester	June 8
David & Karen Canada	June 8
Ron & Jane Komatz	June 9
Dann & Jody Meyer	June 12
Bryce & Sara Hendricks	June 16
Sanjay & Dorcas Rauri	June 20
Harry & Frankie Combs	June 21
Ric Speed & Wanda W.-Jerome	June 23
Mike & Linda Bates	June 26
Bruce & Lana Packard	June 27

*Karen Canada	May 27
Kent Hays	June 1
Del Smart	June 2
Joanne Claybrook	June 5
Sandra Keller	June 6
Sheela Ammons	June 7
Beckie Kim	June 7
Judy Ballard	June 10
Rudy Hoffman	June 10
Tony Smith	June 11
Leslie Barnett	June 12
Deanna Allee	June 15
John Samford	June 15
Steven Hunyady	June 16
Frank Rotolo	June 17
Pat Lein	June 18
Rod Warpole	June 18
David Canada	June 21
Ron Komatz	June 22
Jane Butel	June 23
Dale Miller	June 24
Taylor Clause-DeBlanc	June 28
**Janet Cram	June 29
Vi Ortega	June 29

*Missed listing Karen's birthday last month
 ** No current address

ANSWER TO OBSCURE NAMES

IN THE BIBLE:

SILOAM WAS A HOLY, HEALING POOL OF WATER. JESUS TOLD A MAN, BLIND FROM BIRTH, TO WASH IN IT. WHEN HE DID, HIS SIGHT WAS INSTANTLY RESTORED.

(JOHN 9: 1-11)

HIGH DESERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1201 Golf Course Rd
P.O. Box 45378
Rio Rancho, NM 87174

Phone: 505-891-4206

Office Hours: Wednesday 9 AM - Noon

Email: highdesertumc@outlook.com

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

June, 2025 Newsletter

HDUMC CHURCH PANTRY

Distribution dates for June, 2025 are:

Friday, June 6, at 11:00 AM

Tuesday, June 17, at 9:00 AM

Thursday, June 19, at 1:00 PM

June Collection: Canned Vegetables

Containers are in the Narthex & Fellowship Hall for these donations.

**Contact John Samford at (505) 870-0667
for more information.**
