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MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 2, 7:00 pm

Choral Cantata

"THE DARKEST HOUR"

by James Mansfield

With Holy Communion

and Tenebrae

Child Care provided

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5

Resurrection Celebrations
at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Rich's Easter Message will be
"RESURRECTION REALITY"

Easter Egg Hunts for Kids

At 9:00 and 11:30 am

HOW you can
HELP

Make a generous donation
through RUMC to support
Heifer International or
Habitat for Humanity

MEET DOUG HALLENBECK



Doug Hallenbeck, Director of Music

Doug Hallenbeck is a New York trained vocal coach and music director, with 15 years working in the cruise line industry as a vocal arranger for productions shows for both Holland America and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Having received his early training in church music, Doug is a church organist and piano accompanist as well as an experienced choral director.

Currently he is the Choral Director for Barry Manilow's "One Last Time" tour where he is responsible for rehearsing and managing the various local choirs that are used in each city of the tour. Doug is grateful for the opportunity to work for a musician, songwriter and singer of Mr. Manilow's caliber.

Several cruise line shows that Doug provided original vocal arrangements for have won Magellan Awards, which are the international awards honoring various aspects of the cruise line industry.

"CANTARE" a show that he contributed arrangements for won the Best New Show on the High Seas for 2011. Recently the shows "CLASSIQUE" and "DROOM" won Best In Class for 2013, both of which he contributed music arrangements for.

Doug is very happy to be working with the music ministry at UMC Ridgecrest. Having the opportunity to once again be directing an adult choir and participating in the music ministry is a blessing for him. He wants to thank the congregation, the choir and staff for their warm welcome and willingness to accommodate his schedule. It is his desire to place his talents in the service of God through music.

From Rich: Doug is a multi-talented musician with a real heart for people. He can even sing! He has already shared some visions about how RUMC's music ministry can be expanded to include musically inclined servants of God of all ages. He is highly focused and fun to be around. Come to Choir rehearsal some Thursday evening and check out our great new director.

Rich

"To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

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Our Purpose and Mission

We are a richly blessed, loving and spiritual family of Christ who Shares God's love through our personal and congregational ministries. Our mission is to share Christ's love with all, through our tradition of scripture, sermons, music, and fellowship. We believe strongly in sharing our blessing with those in need.

Our church family welcomes you to join us in our bible based worship, prayer, and discipleship.

--Mission Emphasis--



We are proud to be the first congregation in the Indian Wells Valley to raise enough money to construct a complete Habitat home. We also contribute many person hours and lunches for work crews. We expect Habitat for Humanity to continue to prosper and build homes for the needy. While the pace of building homes is slow, it meets a need for the estimated 1,500 families living in poverty housing in our valley. Remember that Habitat for Humanity is Christian-based and non-profit. All money invested in Habitat will continue to build new homes as the partner families pay off their mortgages. Habitat for humanity deserves our continued mission support.

--Also--

**Native American Ministries Sunday
April 19th**

This special offering that benefits Native American outreach within annual conferences and across the United States and provides seminary scholarships for Native Americans. Native American Ministries Sunday reminds United Methodists of the contributions made by Native Americans to our society.

Living Bread Ministry



Food Emphasis for April

The Missions Committee has elected to designate a specific food each month to be provided to the Salvation Army.

The food item for April is:

Cereal

In Service In Our Church

Lock up for April: Joe Hansen

APRIL 5 EASTER

Flowers: Available
Liturgists:
8:00 am: Hazel Hensley
1030 am: Wes Hensley
Ushers: James & Sarah Guess
Jim & Mary Netzer
Acolyte: Available
Counters: Kristin Hall, Cathy Mattis,
Gretchen Hawes
Fellowship Hosts: Available

APRIL 19

Flowers: Available
Liturgists:
8:00 am: Diane Leveille
1030 am: Diane Leveille
Ushers: Stanley & Ellen Chassagne
George & Elsa Hennings
Acolyte: Available
Counters: Sheri Boston, Calvin Johnson,
Joanna Rindt
Fellowship Hosts: Available

APRIL 12

Flowers: Available
Liturgists:
8:00 am: Available
1030 am: Melanie Branson
Ushers: Nina Lane & Family
John & Paige Netzer
Acolyte: Emilio Bautista
Counters: Hazel Hensley, Nina Lane,
Barbara Johnson
Fellowship Hosts: Available

APRIL 26

Flowers: Available
Liturgists:
8:00 am: Available
1030 am: Available
Ushers: Monte & Tina Frisbee
Ken & Patty Wetzel
Acolyte: Available
Counters: Nancy Hodge, Wes Hensley
James Guess
Fellowship Hosts: Available

Liturgists

If you are interested in being a liturgists, please feel free to sign up on the bulletin board by the church office. Do not feel obligated to do both services, just the service of your choice. If you have any questions please feel free to call the office at 375-7434

Altar Flowers

The flower chart is located on the bulletin board outside the main office. If you would like to place flowers on the altar for a special occasion please sign up.

Lost but Found

If you think you have lost something at the church, you may stop by the church office to see if it has been found.

Choir Notes & Men's Ensemble



Happy Easter and Happy Spring!

I am so happy to have the privilege of working with the Choir and music ministry at Ridgecrest UMC! As I drive up from California City and watch the desert as it blossoms with color this Springtime, I am reminded of God's goodness that even as the world seems to be filled with chaos, His faithfulness is reflected in the changing of the seasons!

The Choir will be singing at both the 8am and 10:30am services on Palm Sunday, March 29 and Easter Sunday, April 5 and we hope to see all of you at one or more of those services! "The Darkest Hour" by James Mansfield is a powerfully moving choral cantata that will be presented on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd at 7pm. It will be presented by the Senior Choir directed by Doug Hallenbeck, accompanied by Patrick Rindt and featuring several youth from the church, in the final moments of the Cantata. "The Darkest Hour" depicts the hours Christ spent with his disciples at the Last Supper, in the Garden of Gethsemane and his journey to the Crucifixion. Our featured soloists will be Carol Sakai and Ted Fiske. We hope you will set aside one hour to join us in honoring our Savior's sacrifice, with this musical presentation.

Throughout April and beyond it is my hope and prayer to include the youth, including the Angel Choir as well as those who play instruments in more of our worship services. I know there are some who are not in the Choir who should be, but due to family or work obligations are unable to make the commitment. Please know that we would welcome you to join us as you are able and if not, perhaps you would consider participating

in a smaller musical group for special music. I will be providing or arranging for special music for the 8am services now that Amber is on maternity leave and I look forward to meeting many of you who attend the early service! I have a previous work commitment that will take me out of town at times, and I will miss some Sundays, but Janice Anderson has graciously offered to direct the Choir during my absences.

I want to thank the church family for the warm and inviting welcome you have given me and a special thanks to the choir who have been receptive and accommodating of all the changes with a new music director.

May God bless you all during this Easter season!

Doug Hallenbeck, Music Director



A great privilege of the United Methodist Church to again host the marvelous quartet of men from St. Petersburg, Russia. This will be more than 10 years that we have been included in their 10 week tour of the west coast.

The first half of the program will be mostly classical religious numbers and the second half will be traditional Folk Songs. Please join us on Sunday, May 3rd at 4:00 p.m. for these charming and talented gentlemen;

A donation of \$10 is suggested given in cash only. Icons and CD are also available with cash only. Perhaps you can find them on the internet under St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble. Thank You for helping to support this wonderful classical music event.

Children & Youth Activities & Fun Run



Sunday School

Testament Travelers

(Pre-K – 5th Grade)

3rd Grade Bibles:

Each year we recognize our children who are advancing to the 3rd grade with a bible. This year will be on April 26th. If you have a member of your family entering the 3rd grade please have them contact Hazel Hensley on her cell: [760-977-9131](tel:760-977-9131) with their child's name, or the church office.

Blessings to All

Juanita Morton...Heifer Project Coordinator

Current Sunday school teachers:

Hazel Hensley, Dena Christison, Laura Miller and other Angels who share their time and talents with your children.



Youth Summer Trips

It is time to start planning for summer, and the church is offering two exciting trips for youth to participate in!

Youth entering 6th grade in the fall 2014, to graduated seniors in the spring 2014, are invited to attend Camp Pondo, near Big Bear Lake, from Monday, June 9th to Friday, June 13th. Parent carpool is being established to get campers to and from camp. Cost per camper is \$300, and is due to Amy, in the church office, by June 1st.

Youth entering the 9th grade in the fall 2014, to graduated seniors in the spring 2014, are also invited to attend a week of mission,

with the Sierra Service Project. This summer, SSP will be at Chiloquin, Oregon, assisting the Klamath Native American tribes. The team will leave Ridgecrest on Saturday, July 19th, and return late Saturday, July 26th. Cost per participant is \$400, plus each participant must actively help with the SSP soap shop, beginning in late April. Sign-up to attend SSP with Amy, in the church office, on or before June 1st.

Youth trips are offered to any youth of age. Youth do not need to be affiliated with Sunday afternoon youth groups to sign-up. Full or half scholarships are available for youth, along with deferred payment options. Cost is NEVER the reason why a youth does not attend a youth trip. Please see Amy, in the church office, for more information.



The mission committee is hosting a 5K Fun Run/Walk on Sunday, April 6th. Registration begins at 3:45pm in the social hall. Race begins at 4:00pm from the social hall parking lot.

The race route is mostly on sidewalks, with a small amount of dirt trail, beginning from the church, then west on Las Flores, north on Mahan, and east up Drummond, back to church. A two mile route is available by cutting across Downs Street.

Everyone is invited to participate, including children in strollers, on skates and bikes, and friendly dogs on leashes. A \$5 donation is asked of all two-legged participants over 18 years old. All under that age, are free.

Prizes will be offered to the first ten people to complete the race.

Mission Updates



Dear Pastor Richard, mission committee and the church family,

We just wanted to express gratitude once again for your generosity in giving to our ministry. It came at a critical time as this past week I was at a nearby village repairing the well. This village is a Fulani people group that those on our team have been ministering to recently. There are 2 new Christians in the village now. This village is in dire need of fresh water since there only source is a contaminated river.

I had some major problems with the well that is going to require a tremendous effort to repair. I have made some contacts that are necessary to resolve this problem. So your gift came in at exactly the right time. Please continue to pray for this difficult situation. The name of the village is Tchanwiekou. It is about 15 miles from our home.

Thank you once again for your interest and support for the people of Togo. We appreciate you and look forward to our time in Ridgecrest this year. We hope to come and share what your support has contributed here.

Blessings,
Garon and Susan Harris



Operation: Easter Child

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Operation: Easter Child ministry this year, by either donating to the international shipping cost, or packing a goodie box, or two, for a child to in Tanzania, Africa to open on Easter morning. Thanks to your support, 75 goodie bags were filled, and were packed into 12 large mailing boxes. All 12 mailing boxes are now in route to Africa!

Newsletter Articles

If you would like to add any news articles to the newsletter, please have articles in by the 3rd Friday of every month. This will allow time to assemble it before the end of the month. They can be submitted to Sarah Guess or to RUMC.



"No, Peter Cottontail was not an apostle!"

Missions

Elma's e-musings
March, 2015
Elma T. Jocson, M.D.

Greetings praying friends! Are you already enjoying Spring, or does it feel like Summer? Here in the Philippines, March is graduation season. Our educational system mandates 10 full academic months beginning June. And so for this month, I would like for you to rejoice with us as we have two patients who graduate.



Ian is 9-yr old boy with Hirschsprung's disease. He has had a diverting colostomy since he was 2-yrs old. The 2nd stage of the operation, removal of the diseased colon segment without normal nerves, was deferred until September 2014 because there was no Pediatric surgeon in the province. The last stage of the operation, closing of the colostomy, was performed March 3.

Another Hirschsprung patient is Gaupo, a 11-mo-old boy. He had a diverting colostomy on his 8th day of life, bowel pull through at 9 mo. and

closure of the colostomy at 11 mo. Their graduation meant no colostomy and that they will move their bowels the conventional way. Notice the ages at graduation. Rejoice with us and thank God that these two children will have a better chance to a normal life.

But just like in school, we have patients who graduate and those that have just been enrolled. Baby boy Q was transferred to us on his 20th hour of life, from another government hospital 23 km (14.3 miles) away. They have no Pediatric surgeon. He was born with high type of imperforate anus. He too will have three stages of operations. We begin by doing emergency colostomy to divert the flow of feces. This we have done on his 2nd day of life. We can do the 2nd stage after 2 mos. Why 2 mos? We need him to gain weight while we perform tests to diagnose other congenital anomalies that may complicate the more complicated 2nd stage and/or affect later. Imperforate anus is usually associated with other birth defects having more morbid, sometimes life threatening, consequences.

Another transferred patient is Arjay, a 9-y/o boy, who was also born with imperforate anus. His colostomy was done in the northern province. They had tried a government hospital in Manila but was never cleared for surgery due to a persistent urinary infection. It was expected because his kind of defect is associated with an abnormal connection between the rectum and the urinary bladder (recto-vesicular fistula). For Arjay, I felt very challenged because his was a complicated, more meticulous operation. On the day of his surgery, two more babies needed to have emergency operation. Because of this, I felt inadequate and needing urgent prayer support. Praise God for Facebook Messenger that we can use as an emergency prayer circle. Praise Him for giving us victory. Arjay is still recovering but has started eating a regular diet. His 3rd stage surgery will be when we have made sure the new anus is adequate for its intended purpose.



Vanessa, 12-y/o, was in school playing with a friend during a break. At some unexpected turn she was pushed and during her fall she hit her back side on a hard table. She started peeing blood. She was brought to us and on an abdominal CT scan we saw her right kidney to be affected. The left kidney was normal. We took her to the theater and saw that the right kidney was actually shattered beyond salvageable. With a normal functioning left kidney, we removed the right kidney. Very unfortunate, but still compatible to life! This is her on follow up, requesting for a picture with my very personable resident Dr. Ian Letargo.

I haven't told you, I think, that I train younger doctors here to operate on pediatric surgical patients. Of the 5 yrs of Surgical Residency training, each 2nd year resident rotates to my section for 6 months. Dr Ian is my current trainee.

Whew! I am tired. I believe I deserve to put my feet up and enjoy a can of Cherry Coke. Please pray for me that I will not be slack in being a competent and safe surgeon. Pray that I will not only transfer technical skills but also the better side of being a servant-doctor. Pray for my patients, that

they will cooperate with post-operative management and that these children will grow up to be the pride of their parents and our country.

I cannot close without news about my mother. She has recovered from several small illnesses one after another. Somehow she hasn't regained her usual self. What does a daughter do? I took her to Atimonan United Methodist Church, 177 km (110 miles) away from where we live. It was a weekend when I said, "Come on let's catch a bus to Atimonan so you can visit with your friends". She was a deaconess serving in that church from 1958-1959. What do you know? Her heart was glad and she regained her strength. I should have taken their picture but I was trying to have some rest as well and completely forgot. Bottom line: mother is back teaching Bible studies.

Thank you for your loving support to the missions and for praying for me and my concerns. God bless us.



- 24 Kathleen Hansen
- 25 Lex Saxton
- 26 Scott Millett
- 27 Dale Lane
- 27 Jeff Green
- 28 James Guess
- 29 Jo Morton
- 30 Joe Cloonan

APRIL

- 1 Jeff Hargrove
Andrew Toll
- 2 Jessica Boston
- 4 Phil Souza
Kennedy Zade
Marianne Branson
- 9 Tim Johnson
Nina Lane
Mallory McDaniel
- 11 Marcia Baile
- 12 Terry Ratcliff
Shannon VanMeter
- 16 Nate Clair
Skylar Smith
- 17 Harold Stanford
- 18 Ellie Peterson
- 19 Dick Noland
- 20 Ginny Friz
Emma Heflin
Mary Netzer
- 21 Seth Graham
- 22 Melanie Branson
- 23 Barbara Johnson



APRIL

- 3 Joe & Gaylinn Cloonan
- 8 Rick & Tammy Ferris
Tom & Carol Sakai
- 9 Marvin & Jeanne Backman
- 15 Stanley & Ellen Chassagne
- 18 Arnett & Judy Campbell
- 26 Alan & Leslie Layfield
- 30 Preston & Lynn Wade
Anthony & Kristen Brown

APRIL 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:00 pm Daises 6:00 pm Lenten Suppers 6:15 pm Juniors 7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting	2 7:00 pm Maundy Services Choir Practice to Follow	3 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper	4 8:00 am UMM Breakfast
5 Easter Services 9:00 am Choir Practice 2:30 pm Youth Group 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	6 6:30 pm Bible Study	7 6:30 am Men's Devotional 9:00 am MOPS 5:30 pm HDQG Meeting 7:00 pm Aquabonita Fly Fisher	8 5:00 pm Daises 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 6:15 pm Juniors	9 5:15 pm Mission Meeting 6:15 pm URS Meeting 7:00 pm Choir Practice	10 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper (Flex)	11
12 Regular Worship Schedule 9:45 am Choir Practice 2:00 pm 5K Fun Run 2:00 pm HDQG 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	13 6:30 pm Bible Study	14 6:30 am Men's Devotional 9:00 am MOPS 6:00 pm Altrusa Meeting 7:00 pm SH Renovovation Committee Meeting	15 9:00 am Sister's Act 12:00 pm 3M Circle 5:00 pm Daises 6:15 pm Juniors 7:00 pm Administrative Council Meeting	16 6:00 pm Choir Practice	17 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper 7:00 pm Youth Lock In	18 7:30 am Youth Lock In
19 Regular Worship Schedule 9:45 am Choir Practice 2:30 pm Youth Group 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	20 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Pack 341 & Troop 35 6:30 pm Bible Study	21 6:30 am Men's Devotional 9:00 am MOPS	22 5:00 pm Daises 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 6:15 pm Juniors	23 7:00 pm Choir Practice 6:00 pm Delta Kappa Gamma	24 5:00 pm Upper Room Supper (Flex)	25 10:00 am SSP Soap Sale Set Up
26 Regular Worship Schedule 9:00 am SSP Soap Sale 9:45 am Choir Practice 11:30 am SSP Soap Sale 2:30 pm Youth Group 4:00 pm Youth Group 5:00 pm Adult Sunday School	27 6:30 pm Bible Study	28 6:30 am Men's Devotional 6:00 pm Altrusa Meeting	29 1:00 pm Quilt Group 5:00 pm Daises 6:15 pm Juniors	30		