

THE FORECAST

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter

January 15, 2020

Rayne Memorial United Methodist Church

3900 Saint Charles Ave New Orleans LA 70115 // 504.899.3431 // www.raynenola.org



WORSHIP

Sundays at 8:45a and 11:00a
in the **Historic Sanctuary**

OUR STAFF

Rev. Dr. Jay Hogewood

Senior Pastor
jay@raynenola.org

Rev. Marissa Teauseau

Associate Pastor
marissa@raynenola.org

Allison Bunnell

Director of Children's Music

Elizabeth Cheezem

Director of Children's Ministries

Shaun Darnall

Administrative Assistant

Nancy Hopkins

Lay Servant & Financial Secretary

Ernest Lumpkins

Business Manager

Teresa Magee

Rayne Early Childhood Program

C. Leonard Raybon

Director of Music

Marcus St. Julien

Organist

Carol Thiele

Secretary

Marcus Thompson

Building Maintenance

Susie VanderKuy

Secretary

EVEN IF WE GLIMPSE GOD...

Even if we glimpse God, cuts and splinters and burns happen along the way.
~ Mark Nepo

"Take some time, Jay." Just last night after our monthly SPRC meeting I think I remember Courtney said that to me. While her words struck my heart's chord, even more I feel it was her tone. Grace is the way I'd describe it. Grace.

Over the next few days I'm going to hold that word, especially the feel of it, rather tightly. Two weddings and a funeral are on the near horizon. The couples I'll celebrate with on Friday and Saturday are delightful and gifted and graced and precious to our community. The family I'll mourn with sometime between these weddings has lost a father who is one of my closest friends. Admittedly, these kinds of risings and fallings are why I love this work; and why this work brings me, literally, to my knees.

Rayne, you allow me (and Pastor Marissa, indeed all who minister with you as "pastor") such radical and enormous privilege - openings to be near you, access to step alongside you in some of the most painful and the most beautiful moments of our lives. Because even while we believe we have glimpsed God, we endure all manner of cuts and splinters and burns along the way.

I think I'm bringing this to your attention as words on a page simply to say I see you. I see you, because you allow me to do so; and as a church, the real miracle is this - we allow one another access to see and sense grief and loss, hurt and pain, misery and tragedy. We also allow each other to see and sense warmth and growth, hope and promise, joy and celebration.

I see this in the way Lois helps Barbara through the Sanctuary. The way Barbara makes all feel so welcome. The way Cheryl and Jay help Stephanie in the kitchen. The way John guides a class of disciples. The way Todd and Mindy or Frank and Faye help John to his car. The way Joyce and Lisa guide Bee along the hallway. The way Beth and Cindy and Elizabeth share Christ's love with children in classrooms. And so many others, like you here, reading this.

I used to think there was a danger in calling it out, naming names. Now, I think there's a danger in not.

Glimpsing,

Jay



LECTIONARY

A weekly set of Scripture readings.

January 19

Isaiah 49:1-7 • Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9 • John 1:29-42

January 26

Isaiah 9:1-4 • Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18 • Matthew 4:12-23

POINT IN TIME COUNT

The Point in Time Count, conducted by UNITY of Greater New Orleans and its partner agencies, is the annual comprehensive survey of all homeless persons in New Orleans and Jefferson Parish. It is conducted each January in order to provide as comprehensive and accurate a tally as possible of how many persons are homeless during one 24-hour period in emergency shelter, in homeless transitional housing, and in places not meant for human habitation on any given night. The intent is to provide information with which to better understand the nature and extent of homelessness in the New Orleans area, and to provide information with which to gauge the need for resources to end and prevent homelessness and the type of resources needed.

Volunteers are needed January 27th and 28th. Volunteers must sign up by January 17th and will receive training prior to their volunteer time. This is an important way to help many of our vulnerable neighbors get access to much needed resources.

To sign up contact Robie Keen
(rkeen@unitygno.org
or 821-4496 ext. 115)

or go to:

<https://forms.gle/J44LfaTTmGFBzuQ9>

OFFICE CLOSURES

In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the church office will close on **Monday, January 20th** and reopen on **Tuesday, January 21st**.

If you have an urgent need please contact Pastor Jay,
jay@raynenola.org or (225)772-3550.

PRIMETIMER'S LUNCHEON

Wednesday, January 22nd
Noon
in the Fellowship Hall

RSVP: 899-3431
\$6

\$1 for Luke's House

Chasing the Butterfly Man: The Search for a Lost New Orleans Cabinet Maker

Cybele Gontar will discuss Louisiana furniture and her quest to identify the elusive 19th Century craftsman who transformed the essential armoire into beautiful furniture, currently on display in its own exhibition at the Cabildo.

Ms. Gontar is an art historian and author owns the Degas Gallery on Julia Street. She contributed to "Furnishing Louisiana: Creole and Acadian Furniture, 1735-1835", as well as writing multiple magazine pieces. She has lectured on Louisiana furniture not only here in New Orleans, but at Museo Franz Mayer, Mexico City, and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

VBS REGISTRATION



Vacation Bible School
will be

June 8th-12th, 2020.

Registration is open.

Kids - come and join us for this awesome week of learning and fun!

Register at:

<https://2020.cokesburyvbs.com/rayne>

YOUTH LUNCH

Sunday, January 26th

12p

Meet in Fellowship Hall

*Eating at New Orleans Seafood and
Hamburger*

Students 6th-12th grade are invited to a super fun lunch with Pastor Jay.

Meet in the Fellowship Hall just after the 11a Worship Service. Everyone will walk together to New Orleans Seafood and Hamburger. Pick up is at NOSH at 1:30p.

No need to bring cash - lunch is on us!

"THE NEXT BEST STEP"

The next best step... Often this is the surest way to determine the path forward. Such is the case with the United Methodist Church. What 16 leaders of our denomination have offered Methodist Christians is their prayerful effort to chart a course of progress for our denomination. Their work, now known as the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation, lays out the blueprint for the global UMC to step away from discord and into a season of gracious discernment.

While ultimate resolution and final decisions are months away from being gathered, we feel that we may be on the cusp of something beautiful, redeeming, and restoring for so many of us. Our sense is that the Spirit is moving, and we are invited to take a deep breath, to release our anxiety and to grasp the real hope that the adage of "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" will most accurately describe our church's aspirations for mission. We welcome one another to deeper conversation and shared prayer.

Please join us on **Sunday, February 9th**, immediately following the 11a worship service in the **Fellowship Hall**.

CHURCH CONFERENCE



Making Room is Making Progress!

Thanks to your generosity our capital campaign reaches our first milestone of growth! We are ready to start improvements to Rayne's buildings and grounds. Our Church Council has approved approximately \$350,000 to begin refurbishments around our church and a new accessibility ramp to our Sanctuary. We invite our church family to a very important meeting:

Church Conference
Sunday, January 26th,
4p in the Sanctuary

A Church Conference is a convening of the participating body of Rayne to discuss and for those members present to vote and approve our first five priorities for Rayne's renovation and growth!



MARDI GRAS PASSES FOR SALE

IT'S CARNIVAL TIME!

On Sundays, **February 2 & 9**, after both services, Mardi Gras passes will be for sale! Make plans for the parades and support the Youth Mission Trip by purchasing passes for Parking, Circle Drive and Building Entrance on available days, February 19-25.

Many hands are needed to make this fundraiser a success. Consider volunteering with the youth and parents at our Mardi Gras events. Each hour worked by a volunteer directly reduces the cost of the mission trip. If parades are not your thing, think about providing a meal for the very tired and hungry volunteers. Look for more details in the near future.

A WEEK AT RAYNE

SUNDAY

- 8:45a Worship
10a Sunday School
11a Worship
3:30p Jr. High Youth
5p Sr. High Youth
5p Women's Covenant Group*

MONDAY

- 9a-5p Church Office Hours (M-Th)
1p Staff Meeting
6p Ministry Meetings
6:30p AA Meeting

TUESDAY

- 10a-12p Food Pantry
12p Women's Covenant Group
1p Intercessory Prayer Group
3p Good Samaritan (at Mt. Zion UMC)
5:30p Luke's House Medical Clinic
6:30p Covenant Group (off-site)

WEDNESDAY

- 5:30p Centering Prayer*
6p Children's Choir (seasonal)
6p Wednesday Classes (seasonal)
7p Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7p Overeaters Anonymous Meeting

THURSDAY

- 6a Men's Bible Study (at La Boulangerie)
9:30a Sacred Yoga*
12p Gamblers Anonymous Meeting
3-5p Food Pantry
5:30p Luke's House Medical Clinic
6p West Bank Bible Study (@ Acme Truck)
7p Al-Anon/AA Meetings

FRIDAY

- 9a-12p Church Office Hours

*Notes activities at the Epiphany House

UPCOMING EVENTS

15

ARTIST'S WAY CLASS BEGINS

Wednesday, January 15
6p @ Friendship Room (Room 108)

15

CHILDREN'S CHOIR RETURNS

Wednesday, January 15
5:30p (Family Cafe') @ Fellowship Hall
6p @ Choir Room

20

OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, January 20

21

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, January 21
6p @ Pastor's Office

22

PRIMETIMER'S LUNCHEON

Wednesday, January 22
12p @ The Fellowship Hall

26

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

Sunday, January 26
After Both Worship Services @ Fellowship Hall

26

YOUTH LUNCH WITH PASTOR JAY

Sunday, January 26 - 12p
Meet in Fellowship Hall

27

FINANCE MEETING

Monday, January 27
6p @ Pastor's Office

2

MARDI GRAS PASS SALES

Sunday, February 2
After Both Worship Services @ Fellowship Hall

3

SPR MEETING

Monday, February 3
6p @ Pastor's Office

PRAYER LIST



WE PRAY FOR HEALING OF

Robert Wilson, Andrew McLetchie,
Jim Jeter, Roy Watts, Betty Wells,
Richard Moore, Wells Beaty, Chuck Pate,
Ann Dalton, Beth Sims, Cida Lancaster,
Mary Herbert, Brett Buck, Ronald Sepanik,
Marjorie Lentini, Fletcher Cochran,
Emily Chancellor, Robin O'Bannon,
Barbara Everett & Judy Mastainich.

WE SHARE IN THE GRIEF OF

Bert Holland in the loss of his grandfather, Harry Hickman.
Elaine Center in the loss of her husband, Mike.
Chuck Schibler in the loss of his mother, Barbara.

