

THE FORECAST

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter

November 6, 2019

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

Jane Stennett

Senior Ministries

Carol Thiele

Secretary

Marcus Thompson

Building Maintenance

Susie VanderKuy

Secretary

EASTER IN NOVEMBER

Umbrellas slid out, and the drizzle steadied to rain like so many tears from the skies only matching those in our eyes. A few Fridays back we gathered to commit a friend's body into Rayne's ossuary. The gleaming granite marks a seam not only on Rayne's property, but something less visible, more promising – a seam between what we know of this sphere and what we hope for in the mystery of another.

And there we lifted these words, the most hopeful of all words we Christians can intone: ***Eternal God, you have shared with us the life of Robert. Before he was ours, he was yours. For all that Robert has given us to make us what we are, for that of him which lives and grows in each of us, and for his life that in your love will never end, we give you thanks.***

Jesus enters a conversation with the Sadducees about resurrection, says Luke 20. Quickly, though, it appears the Sadducees are less interested in honest dialogue and more interested in debate, where winners are divided from supposed losers. In this scene, they are paying less respect to Jesus than a desire to make him pay prices for slip ups of "bad doctrine."

Jesus sniffs out that they are less upright than they are uptight. While Jesus refrains from mocking them, he does pop their balloons of self-righteousness. In so doing, he promises that even now we **are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.** *Children of the resurrection:* nowhere else in scripture is this phrase uttered. How unique: that in the mystery of God's mercy every one of us is a child of God, children of the resurrection.

I don't know what to make of this really. Maybe just to lean into that hope. Trust more that we do not need to fear death for ourselves or for our loved ones; rather we might know ourselves as children of God – every single one of us. And that even this day we live into our epitaph before dying. That when I die, death won't sting, and somehow, someone might say: ***As we now offer Jay back into your arms, comfort us, strengthen us, and give us courage. Draw us closer to one another, make us faithful to serve each other, and help us to know that peace and joy which is eternal life.***

Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord,

Jay

LECTIONARY

A weekly set of Scripture readings.

November 10

Haggai 1:15b-2:9 • Psalm 145
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 • Luke 20:27-40

November 17

Isaiah 65:17-25 • Isaiah 12
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 • Luke 21:5-19

RELEASED TO NOWHERE PERFORMANCE

Released to Nowhere is a short and powerful performance that gives a detailed account of the seemingly impossible challenges women face when released from prison and their obstacles to a successful re-entry into society.

The actors are actual formerly incarcerated women who know the struggles first-hand and the performance is followed by a Q&A with the performers.

Wednesday, October 6

**6p
Fellowship Hall**

Presented in collaboration with First Street Peck Wesley and Mount Zion UMC. Performed by Women

Determined - which is a non profit organization dedicated to empowering women recently released from prison to become independent and thriving members of the community.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Save the Date for the Annual Uptown Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service!

Tuesday, November 26th

**6p
Location To Be Determined**

JOY UNSPEAKABLE:

**November 8-9
First Grace UMC
(3401 Canal St.)**

The School for Contemplative Living's 10th Annual Conference is *Joy Unspeakable: Contemplative Spirituality for the Active Life.*

Speakers are Barbara A. Holmes and Phileena Heuret.

To register: Send a check to SCL 3900 St. Charles Ave. NOLA 70115 with memo: "SCL CONFERENCE" and written to Rayne UMC.

Cost: \$75

Questions:

william.thiele56@gmail.com

SAINTS GAME WATCH PARTY

Our **United Methodist Men** are sponsoring a Saints Watch Party.

Sunday, November 17

Fellowship Hall

11a: Pre-Game Broadcast

12p: Kick Off!

Tailgate Foods served until the end of the game (with a Saint's Victory)!

Free to all adults and children.
Childcare is available for 5 & under.

6 Prizes will be awarded
for *Best Saint's Outfit*
(Contestants from newborn to 115)

Donations will be accepted for Luke's House and United Methodist Men

Go Saint's!

PRIMETIMERS

No Meeting in November!

The PrimeTimers will not be gathering during the month of November!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! We will see you for a Christmas party in December!

MISSION MARKET

The Mission Committee's Mission Market is coming soon!

Sunday, December 8th
Fellowship Hall

Baked goods and treats.
Alternate Giving Cards for sale.

The Market supports Rayne's ministries and is a great opportunity to buy Christmas gifts (or something for yourself).

Alternative giving cards are Christmas Cards that you can gift and inside the card is a message explaining how a donation has been made in the recipient's honor to one of the ministries of Rayne. Alternative Giving Cards are available for Rayne's Food Pantry, Crescent City Cafe', Luke's House, NOLA Wesley Foundation, Good Samaritan Cook Team, Shelter Vouchers, Rayne Early Childhood Program, and The School for Contemplative Living.

Do you have baked goods to donate?
Donations of baked goods are needed. Before dropping your items off, please price them. Items can be dropped off at the church office during office hours between December 4th - 6th.

If you have questions please contact Nancy, Nancy.Hopkins@raynenola.org.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Sunday, December 1
12:15p
Epiphany House

If you're a part of our Prayer Shawl Ministry (or would like to be...) you're invited to spend some time together!

Bring a project and an item to share in a light lunch potluck - the church will provide dessert. We will eat, spend some time together, and bless our newest shawls.

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

November 24th
8:45a & 11a Worship
Sanctuary

The holidays are a time where we not only give and get gifts, but also a time when we reflect on the things in our life for which we are thankful. As we practice gratitude and celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday, we invite you to consider making a donation to Rayne's Food Pantry.

Place your gift at the altar and it will be given to Rayne's Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is now a partner with Second Harvest and we still need to donate items to be given out in addition or in lieu of Second Harvest items (when a neighbor is not eligible to receive Second Harvest food).

Items needed:

Canned Fruits/Vegetables
Peanut Butter
Rice/Pasta
Canned Meat
Canned Meals: Such as Ravioli
Beans

"This most generous God who gives seed to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God."
2 Corinthians 9:11 (The Message).

OFFICE CLOSURES

Thanksgiving is approaching!

The Church office will close starting November 27th at Noon and will reopen on December 2nd at 9a.

If any needs arise, please contact Pastor Jay or Pastor Marissa by an email or phone call.

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

6 "RELEASED TO NOWHERE" PERFORMANCE

November 6
6p @ Fellowship Hall

8 JOY UNSPEAKABLE CONFERENCE

Friday-Saturday, November 8-9
www.thescl.net

11 MISSION & WORSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

Monday, November 11
6p @ Epiphany House & Pastor's Office

17 SAINTS WATCH PARTY

Sunday, November 17
12p @ Fellowship Hall

18 TRUSTEES MEETING

Monday, November 18
6p @ Pastor's Office

24 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

Sunday, November 24
8:45a & 11a @ Sanctuary

26 INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Tuesday, November 26
6p @ Location TBD

27 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSURE

Wednesday, November 27 @ Noon
Thursday November 28
Friday, November 29

1 PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Sunday, December 1
12:15p @ Epiphany House

8 MISSION MARKET

Sunday, December 8
@ Fellowship Hall