

THE FORECAST

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter

December 4, 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

Carol Thiele

Secretary

Marcus Thompson

Building Maintenance

Susie VanderKuy

Secretary

ADVENT'S MESSAGE

Alert. Vigilant. Industrious. Three words brought to you by John Bertram Phillips, the New Testament translator who was the Eugene Peterson (author of *The Message*) of his day. About a half century ago, Rev. Phillips, an Anglican priest in Cambridge, committed his head and heart to translate a more contemporary English version of the Greek NT. Part of JB's allure is the way he used what he called "picture language" to depict the storyline of the Gospel of Jesus. For example, he describes the 2nd coming of Christ as something *sudden, catastrophic and decisive*. Not that we should fear the return of Jesus, which is what we anticipate through Advent; rather that when we are *alert, vigilant, and industrious* in our faith in Christ then his coming again will not be a terror but an overwhelming joy.

This season I am trying to unlearn much of what I used to think Advent marked – that stretch before Christmas I just needed to "get through" and finally arrive at infant holy, infant lowly, the one and only Baby Jesus, who is born to comfort me. Maybe that's not what this timeframe is really about. Maybe Advent invites us to an entirely different posture. Say, for example, if you know the ocean and love walking in the surf, you also know this truth: love the sea, but never lose your respect for it. Might that be said of how we know and love Jesus?

All in all this is a gloriously dangerous moment: Christmas on the horizon means not that we hold contempt for the sacred season, but that our familiarity with it threatens to hum us to the snooze of indifference. Thus the wonder and mystery, indeed the danger of it all, might leave me, you, us unchanged while we pitter patter on the shoreline. For as much as Jesus does comfort me, he also commits his life to confront me... Help me, Rayne, please, to live into this Advent by being alert, vigilant and industrious. For the greater glory of Jesus Christ.

Love,
Jay



LECTIONARY

A weekly set of Scripture readings.

December 8

Isaiah 11:1-10 • Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13 • Matthew 3:1-12

December 15

Isaiah 35:1-10 • Luke 1:47-55
James 5:7-10 • Matthew 11:2-11

POINSETTIAS



A poinsettia may be placed on the altar during the season of Advent in memory or honor of a loved one. Each poinsettia is **\$10**.

(Please note that \$2 from each flower will go towards shelter vouchers for those experiencing life without a home.)

The order forms can be found on last page of your Newsletter or in your bulletin on Sunday.

Forms can be placed in the offering plate with payment or brought to the church office by **4p on Monday, December 9**.

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, December 22
10a-1p
Circle Drive

During this sacred time in the church, please help us in sharing the gift of life!

Sign up online:
www.signup.com/go/ZioQTdA

For questions or assistance signing up, call the office (899-3431) or email Susie (susie.vanderkuy@raynenola.org).

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS



Sunday, December 15
9:30a-1p
Fellowship Hall



Come and eat a delicious pancake breakfast and if you'd like, take a picture with St. Nicholas. There will be activities for all ages!

St. Nicholas will be available for photos from 9:45-10:45a and 12-12:45p.

Tickets Prices

12 & up: \$6
Ages 3-11: \$3
2 & under: Free

Tickets go on sale starting December 8th. Tickets will be for sale in the Fellowship Hall. Purchase early and avoid a long line! Proceeds to benefit Rayne Ministries.

THE SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 8
Chapel
5-6p

The Children of Rayne present *The Sounds of Christmas*. Our Children will share the good news of Christmas with us. All are invited to come and hear Christmas in a new way!

DECORATING PARTY

Wednesday, December 6
5:30p (Pizza) - 6p
Fellowship Hall

Many hands make light and quick work! There is a job for everyone as we prepare our space for Advent and Christmas!

MISSION MARKET

The Mission Committee's Mission Market is coming soon!

Sunday, December 8th
Fellowship Hall

*Baked goods and treats and
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.

PRIMETIMER'S

December 18th
Noon
Fellowship Hall

It's time for the PrimeTimer's annual Christmas Luncheon! Join us for fun, food, and Christmas fellowship!

Please RSVP: 899-3431
\$6 Members
\$7 Guests
(\$1 goes to Luke's House)

COMMUNION SERVICE

As we worship under the leading of Rayne's Chancel Choir at both 8:45a and 11a worship - there will be no Communion during the 8:45a worship service.

All are welcome to come and participate in the Sacrament of Communion this **Sunday (December 8th) at 9:45a in the Chapel.**

ARTIST'S WAY

This class will be facilitated by John Bukaty and based on Julia Cameron's, *The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity*. Participants are invited to pursue creative activities, not necessarily as a profession but as an avenue to a deeper spirit and emotional healing. Join in for a time of conversation, as well as encouragement for our creative life together.

January 15th - April 1st
Wednesdays 6-7p,
in the Friendship Room

RSVP - jay@raynenola.org
or 225/772-3550 (Jay's cell)

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JANE STENNETT

December 14th
11a
Sanctuary
Visitation to Follow

Jane, a church and staff member of Rayne, died on November 19th. Jane faithfully served the PrimeTimer's and offered countless hours of pastoral care and love to our congregation. All are invited as we remember Jane and celebrate her life.



CELEBRATE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WITH US AT RAYNE

DECEMBER 4

◆ Decorating Party ◆ 6p (Pizza at 5:30p) Fellowship Hall

As we approach Christmas, it is time to prepare our church! Many hands make light work as we decorate our beautiful space!

DECEMBER 15

◆ Breakfast with Saint Nicholas ◆ 9:30a-1p Fellowship Hall

Enjoy a Pancake Breakfast and get your picture taken with St. Nick! Tickets for sale beginning December 8. Activities for all ages!

DECEMBER 22

◆ Blood Drive ◆ 10a-1p Circle Drive

Tis' the Season to give!
Give the gift of life by signing up today!

DECEMBER 8

◆ Nativity Carols ◆ 8:45a & 11a Historic Sanctuary

A unique offering, the otherworldly combination of harp and oboe will accompany the Rayne Chancel Choir in four carols by the celebrated composer, Stephen Paulus.

◆ Mission Market ◆ 9:45a-12:30p Fellowship Hall

An opportunity to buy some yummy baked goods and treats. Craft gifts and Alternate Giving Cards for sale.

◆ The Sounds of Christmas ◆ 5-6p Chapel

The Children of Rayne present a program that explores the sounds of Christmas. All are welcome to enjoy this presentation and hear Christmas in a new way.

DECEMBER 24

◆ CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP ◆

5p & 7p

A candlelight service with communion and music led by the Chancel Choir in the Historic Sanctuary.

11p

A service with communion and contemplation as we celebrate the incarnation with Word and Sacrament in the Historic Sanctuary.



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

4 DECORATING PARTY

December 4
6p @ Fellowship Hall (5:30p for Pizza)

8 NATIVITY CAROLS

Sunday, December 8
8:45a & 11a @ Sanctuary

8 MISSION MARKET

Sunday, December 8
9:45a-12:30p @ Fellowship Hall

8 THE SOUND OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 8
5p @ Chapel

15 BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS

Sunday, December 15
9:30-1p @ Fellowship Hall

15 YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 15
5-7p @ Youth Room

22 BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, December 22
10a-1p @ Circle Drive

24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Tuesday, December 24
5p, 7p, & 11p @ Sanctuary

24 OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, December 24 @ 1p - December 27.
Tuesday December 31 @ 1p - January 1.

PRAYER LIST



WE PRAY FOR HEALING OF

Beth Sims, Cida Lancaster,
Brett Buck, Ronald Sepanik,
Marjorie Lentini, Fletcher Cochran,
Linda Levesque, Emily Chancellor,
Robin O'Bannon, Barbara Everett
& Judy Mastainich.

Christmas Poinsettias

A poinsettia may be placed on the altar during this sacred season in memory or in honor of a loved one. Programs will be printed with the names of those in whose memory and honor the poinsettias have been given. Please enter all information as you would like it printed in the program. Each poinsettia is \$10.00 (Please note that \$2 from each flower will go towards shelter vouchers for those experiencing life without a home.)



Your Name _____ Phone _____

Circle one In Honor or In Memory

Name of Loved One _____ Quantity _____

Circle one In Honor or In Memory

Name of Loved One _____ Quantity _____

Please enter additional orders on the back side of this sheet.

Please place your order with payment in the offering today
or bring to the church office by 4 pm on Monday, December 9. Thank you!