

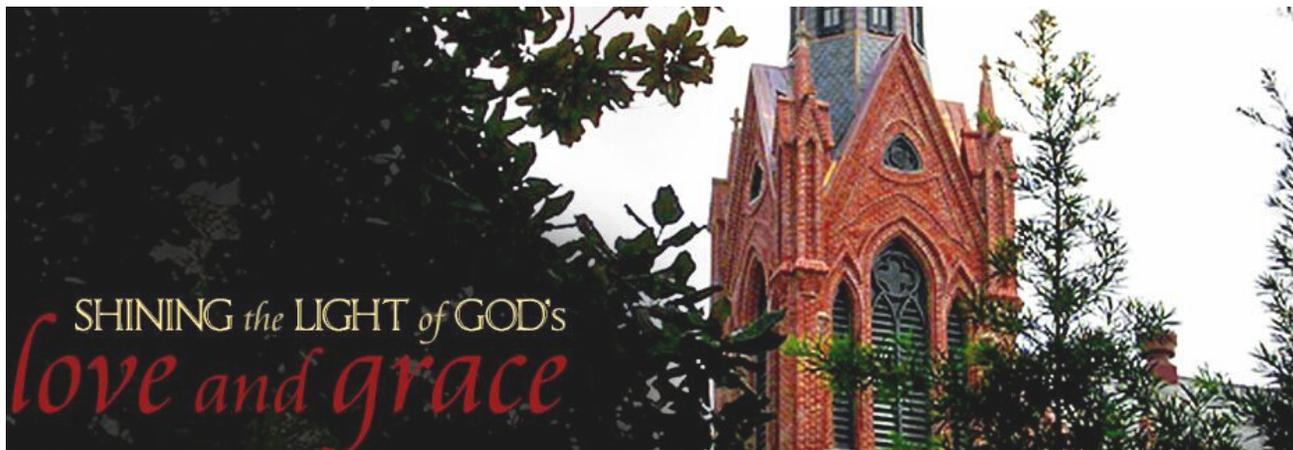
# THE FORECAST

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter

**AUGUST 13, 2020**

## Rayne Memorial United Methodist Church

3900 Saint Charles Ave New Orleans LA 70115 // 504.899.3431 // [www.raynenola.org](http://www.raynenola.org)



### PLEASE NOTE

The Rayne Community is available online!

**WORSHIP IS LIVE ON FACEBOOK AT 10A ON SUNDAYS.**

[www.facebook.com/raynenola.org/live](http://www.facebook.com/raynenola.org/live)

All on-site activities and worship are postponed until further notice.

**Please note:** our office staff is working remotely.

**Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith... Hebrews 12:1-2**

A football game. That's where I remember it happening - learning *The Lord's Prayer*. Sounds funny even as I write that...

For some odd reason, probably because I did not grow up in a tradition, like Methodism, where loving adults "confirmed" me in our Christian faith, I actually learned the prayer Jesus taught the ancient disciples while I was in 7th grade in a locker room, as 40 sweaty 13 year olds were *getting-their-gameface-on*. Coach Roberts, best I recall, served as my guide. I find that ironic, cruelly ironic. I mean, Coach Roberts was the same man who cussed us and belittled us when we dropped a pass, missed a tackle or messed up a blocking assignment. Back then, I remember that bullying and coaching bordered on synonymous actions, authorized by the man with the whistle around his neck.

O.G. Gresham Junior High School football games might not be exactly what Jesus had in mind for the legacy of discipleship. But, miracle of miracles, God's light shines through some crackpot characters. And I believe the Lord's sense of humor uses all manner of people, present company included, to bear the beauty of Christ's presence through prayer. I feel like that's what one of Jesus's disciples was seeking, when that disciple tugged on Jesus's tunic and said, "*Hey, please teach us to pray...*" Sure enough, Jesus did just that. "**When you pray, say...**" And the rest is history, whoever else teaches that prayer, wherever else we learn that prayer.

All of which reminds me of a third lesson about prayer: it is a team sport. Ever and always, when we pray in the way of Jesus's teaching, we pray surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses. Some we adore, a few maybe not. Even when we pray in the silence of our hearts, a team joins in. A team of which we are all a part. No whistle needed.

Surrounded,  
*Jay*

# GLASS RECYCLING

Glass Recycling is back!

Collection of glass will be resuming on Monday, June 8th at the corner of Joliet and Leake.

## Instructions for the new collection method:

1. Before coming, please remove caps, corks and other plastic or non-glass pieces. Rinse out food and remaining liquid. Paper labels are ok!
2. Park safely. The collection site is on a busy street so please be careful when pulling over and getting out to recycle your glass!
3. Place your glass inside the blue barrels. If it does not fit inside the hole for the barrel then we cannot recycle it! Please take it back with you.
4. Consider donating to our organization so we can continue to save that glass. We are funded by many small-dollar donations and every bit counts!  
([www.glasshalffullNOLA.org/donate](http://www.glasshalffullNOLA.org/donate))

# FOOD PANTRY

Thank you, Rayne Family, for your continued support. Your generosity is beautiful!

We are so grateful that with Second Harvest, we are able to help more families than ever before.

Due to the increase of need and restrictions of buying in bulk, we still need your help!

## **Things we always need:**

- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruits
- Pasta
- Peanut Butter (1lb jars)

Please leave your donations in the vestibule of **the Epiphany House, 3924 St. Charles Avenue**, then call or text **Jacob Nichols 225-588-0560** after you have left your donation.

If you want to have groceries delivered - send them to the Epiphany House and text Jacob! Rouses, Walmart, Winn-Dixie and more all deliver groceries!

If you are unable to bring a physical donation, please consider contributing monetarily to the Food Pantry by mail or online.

# LECTIONARY

*A weekly set of Scripture readings.*

## **August 16**

Genesis 45:1-15 • Psalm 133  
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 • Matthew 15:10-28

## **August 23**

Exodus 1:8-2:10 • Psalm 124  
Romans 12:1-8 • Matthew 16:13-20

# BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY

The beginning of this school year is looking very different than in years past.

On **August 16th**, we will mark the time in worship with prayer for our students, teachers, and families.

Participate with us in Worship on Facebook Live **Sundays at 10a-**  
[www.facebook.com/raynenola.org/live](http://www.facebook.com/raynenola.org/live).

# REMINDER ABOUT ONSITE WORSHIP

Rayne's Task Force determined that a date will be selected after after New Orleans enters into PHASE 3.

As much as we desire to regather in Rayne's beautiful sanctuary to engage one another and to worship together, our priority remains focused on public health.

With the wisdom and guidance of so many physicians and health care professionals in our congregation and our Task Force, we believe our most faithful and fruitful course of action is to continue offering worship online - Facebook Live @ 10a.

Our church's offerings for spiritual formation (digital gatherings via Zoom) remain a wonderful way to connect in these days of pandemic. Pastor Marissa and Pastor Jay also welcome your questions or suggestions.

# PRAYER LIST

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We pray for healing of —

**Mary Brown, Brenda Frey, Chuck Pate, Debbie Strickland,  
Melba Maleta and her sons Henry and Edward,  
Dan & Jane Sikes, Rick Hammontree,  
Robert Wilson, Jim Jeter, Andrew McLetchie,  
Cida Lancaster, Ronald Sepanik, Marjorie Lentini,  
Emily Chancellor, Robin O'Bannon,  
Barbara Everett & Judy Mastainich.**



## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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James 4:8 reminds us, *“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.”*

In this time of social distancing, comfort is found sensing the nearness of the Creator.

If you would like to share prayer requests,  
email them to Pastor Marissa [marissa@raynenola.org](mailto:marissa@raynenola.org).  
Or mail a note to the church addressed with "Attention: Marissa."

Please indicate if the request is public (shared in the newsletter)  
or private (supplied to the Intercessory Prayer Group).