

THE FORECAST

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter

OCTOBER 14, 2021

Rayne Memorial United Methodist Church

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



PLEASE NOTE

**HYBRID WORSHIP
(ON-SITE & ONLINE)
IN THE
SANCTUARY
AT 8:45A & 11A**

*Please note, due to hurricane damage, for the foreseeable time please email or call and leave a message to make an appointment. Office hours may vary and currently our offices are located in the Educational Wing. We cannot hear or respond to the bell at the Pitt Street door, please call instead.

COMPASSION

Hard sledding lately. You know what I mean, I'm quite sure. When very little feels normal or easy or smooth, we enter those valleys of dry bones. And they are not unique to Ezekiel. I'm noticing this spot in my own life. How about you? Whether we linger in the damage caused by Ida or the fits-and-starts with quarantine for our little ones that keeps them from school or we just keep bumping into the dis-ease of a season that simply won't cool down, we could all use a breather. I'd call it permission to vent or grieve or cry, "Mercy."

I hope this serves as one - where I can say to you, "You are doing enough. You are worthy of rest, the Lord promises it. Your apprehensions are real and completely understandable given the situation." While I'm not exactly certain of what might help, I pray we show ourselves some grace, a heaping helping of compassion. I hope with all my heart the Holy Spirit greets you, guides you and engulfs you.

The following words are not mine (James Finley, Christian Meditation: Experiencing the Presence of God - thank you!), and I dearly hope they help: "God's compassion transforms our brokenness: As we yield to compassion, we are caught in the updraft of grace that carries us aloft. Then, in one single continuous movement of love, compassion draws us downward into the preciousness of all that is lost and broken within ourselves. The deeper the brokenness, the greater the momentum of the descent. The greater the momentum of the descent, the more deeply compassionate love descends into the innermost recesses of our doubts and fears. Suddenly encountering such love, our doubts and fears melt in the love that sets us free.

Freed up,

Jay



MINI FALL FEST

Sunday, October 31st

Bringing back our Annual Fall Fest - with a COVID conscious twist. No matter your age, we have something for everyone!

Reverse Trick-or-Treat

In this version of Trick-or-Treat, you bring something to Rayne! Bring a donation to the Food Pantry: canned goods (veggie, fruit, or meat) or Peanut butter (1lb jars). In return, kids may pick a small treat and receive some harvest activities to take home.

Special Seasonal Children's Activities

Extra fun is on the agenda during Children's Sunday School at 10a - activities will be outdoors (weather pending) and includes pumpkin painting and more!

Costumes are encouraged for children!

YOUTH PUMPKIN CARVING



Sunday, October 24th
Epiphany House Backyard
5p-6:30p

Students 6th through 12th grade are invited to bring their enthusiasm and creativity for a night of pumpkin carving!



PRIMETIMERS

The next event is
Wednesday, October 27th,
12p at the **Parsonage,**
1421 Constantinople Street.

The guest speaker, Lyle Colombo, will share about Creative Writing and lead the group in an exercise.

LECTIONARY

A weekly set of Scripture readings.

October 17

Job 38:1-7, 34-41 - Psalm 104
Hebrews 5:1-10 - Mark 10:35-45

October 24

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 - Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22
Hebrews 7:23-28 - Mark 10:46-52

THE SCHOOL FOR CONTEMPLATIVE LIVING

- **12th Annual Conference** with Parker Palmer, founder of the Center for Courage and Renewal and author of ten books.

Standing on the Brink
Saturday, November 13
10a-12:30p

A Live Stream Interactive Interview.

For more information and to register visit www.theschoolforcontemplativeliving.com

- **Compassion Cultivation** facilitated by William Thiele and Caroline Campion - **8 consecutive Sundays beginning October 17th, 1-3p via Zoom.**

Topics include settling the mind and intention setting, embracing our common humanity, compassion for a loved one, and compassion for oneself. The cost is \$350 (partial scholarships available).

For more information and to register email William.thiele56@gmail.com

THANK YOU!

To those who cooked, served, and donated baked goods!

The meal served at St. Charles UMC was a big success! The food was delicious and the 275 recipients were grateful!

PRAYER LIST

We pray for healing of –

Dan Sikes, Jan Bugg, Richard Moore, Ray Cook, Judy Mastainich
Stephanie Stennett, Chuck Pate, Andrew McLetchie,
Barbara Everett and her daughter - Renee.

We share in the grief of –

The Schneidau family in the loss of Betty.

The Biggers family in the loss of Dale.

Dale's Celebration of Life will take place at Rayne on Saturday, October 16th at 11a.
A visitation will proceed the service from 9 to 11a.



PRAYER REQUESTS

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

If you would like to share prayer requests,
email them to Pastor Marissa - 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).

**If you would like to join the Intercessory Prayer Group,
we meet online and onsite, Mondays at 11a. For more information, contact Marissa.**