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CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER
IN NOVEMBER

GOOD NEWS

Veterans Day Tribute to Trans Members of the Military with a Civil War History Lesson of Their Service
 Nov. 11th
 2pm & 7pm
 \$10
 at RBMCC

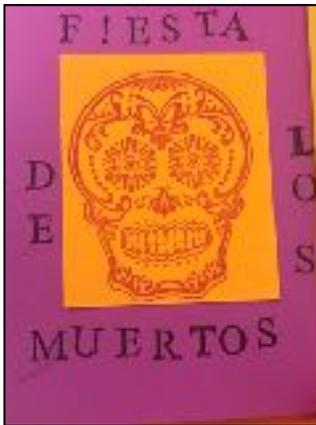
Sarah Rosetta Wakeman

Prof. Scott Angus

Prof. Scott Angus returns to RBMCC to share his ground-breaking research into

Trans Veterans of the Civil War

In 2011 RBMCC bid farewell to Scott Angus as he moved to St. Louis to pursue an amazing opportunity to build a college photography program. As a part of his work there, Prof. Angus has been researching the images and stories of Trans soldiers in the Civil War. On Veterans Day, November 11th, at 2 PM and 7 PM, Prof. Scott Angus will be returning to RBMCC to speak to the public about his journey through history and the incredible stories of FTM soldiers who served in wartime, many of whom had to continue fighting to receive the same dignity as their biologically male counterparts received to simply be buried with honors. The National Archives suggests as many as 400 biologically female soldiers served as men in the Civil War. Come and hear some of their stories as we honor all who have served our country. Tickets are \$10. Veterans are Free. Proceeds to benefit Trans services in OC & The QCC. RSVP by 10/15 to secure your seat.



Day of the Dead Fundraiser Oct 14th

The 3rd annual fundraiser to buy Christmas presents for families that have suffered abuse will be held in Andy's backyard on Saturday, October 14th, 6pm.

Come dressed in costume to receive a free playing card. Additional playing cards are \$10 or 3 for \$20. This year we will be playing a version of Loteria featuring our Dead LGBTQ / Allies.

Harvest Dinner on Nov 18th

We continue our annual traditions with a return to the home of Freda and Louise in Corona for food, fun and plenty fellowship. We will be providing the turkey and ham while everyone is encouraged to sign up to bring a side or dessert.

Miss a Sermon?

Did you know that you can watch most sermons on the RBMCC Facebook page? All you need to do is visit the RBMCC Facebook page and scroll through the Wall of posts and you will be able to find most sermons. Not all sermons can be recorded due to technical issues and the privacy requests of some folks who speak at our church. When possible, we will be streaming sermons live and in the near future will be streaming our worship music. Stay tuned for more info on our multi-media ministry at RBMCC.

Congregational Meeting

It's time for our annual Congregational Meeting where we vote for officers on the Board of Directors and Approve our annual budget. It's important to note that we need a majority of members present for this meeting which will take place after a short church service on November 19th. RBMCC faces important budget decisions due to our high rent and current giving levels not always covering that rent. Come and be a part of the discussion and help shape the future of our church.

Speakers & Events Schedule

October

- 10/1 - Rev. Paul E. Capetz
- 10/8 - Andy Verostek
- 10/14 - Fiesta De Los Muertos
- 10/15 - Faith Fortuno
- 10/22 - Rev. Barbara
- 10/29 - Worship Night

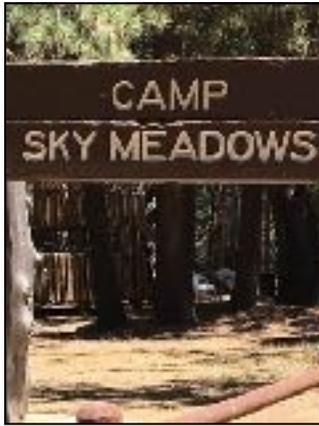
November

- 11/5 - Michael Southerland
- 11/11 - Trans Vets of the Civil War
- 11/12 - Eric Buter
- 11/18 - Harvest Dinner
- 11/19 - Congregational Meeting
- 11/26 - Rev. Barbara

December

- 12/1 - World AIDS Day Service
- 12/9 - Movie Night
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Service with Christ Chapel MCC at RBMCC
- 12/31 - Special New Year's Eve Service

More to come on December preaching and events

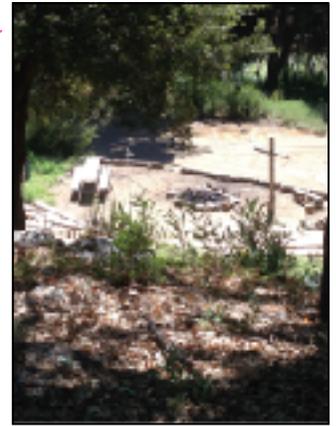


Strength For the Journey

This year, the campers and staff at Sky Meadows reported the best year ever as a wonderful spirit of togetherness and healing descended upon the mountain.

Meg made her SFTJ debut as music leader and brought the spirit of song with her up the mountain.

Dodi had an inspirational time amongst the trees and came down the mountain refreshed and rejuvenated.



Chef Jason brought his love of food to the camp and used his creativity to keep people fueled as healthy as can be while Louise had fun helping the craft tent.

Strength For The Journey is a ministry of the United Methodist Church to provide a week of summer camp to people living with HIV / AIDS. RBMCC has been supporting this ministry for over 7 years and continues to send both campers and staff to this wonderful program.



The Nicavangelists Wow Us Again

In August, the Nicavangelists returned to RBMCC and performed their show on the Prodigal Son. Their acrobatic moves wowed the crowd but their friendly smiles won our hearts. The group stayed at Andy Verostek's house off-and-on throughout the summer for nearly 3 weeks, camping out in his backyard and living room. RBMCC supported the group with a love offering and \$300 towards food during their stay. A number of church members also contributed to this and Jude was able to secure 50% off tickets to Knott's Berry Farm where the group had a blast enjoying a Southern California landmark.



Oct. & Dec. to Feature Worship Nights

Due to the way the calendar crumbles this year, both October and December have 5 Sundays. As a result the 5th Sundays of both months will feature a night of worship. The worship team is planning something especially fun for New Year's Eve and we will get you out in time to pop your champagne and ring in 2018.

Retreat and Renew

For several months, the Council of Ministries had been brainstorming ideas on how we could give our congregation opportunities to deepen our relationships with one another while also deepening our relationships with God. Out of that came the idea to hold a series of spiritual retreats and workshops with our first one being held in July.

The focus of this retreat was to assess the life of the church and have honest, open and safe dialogue about what is working and what isn't working.

Twenty-three people attended the day-long session that included a morning and an evening worship set, a Bible study, two break-out sessions, and yes, plenty of great food.

What came out of the workshops was some great direction for church leadership.

People were positive and constructive in their feedback. One area of great strength is our fellowship. People were nearly unanimous that our church knows how to bring people together, especially when food is involved. One area that was called out as a need for improvement is our church prayer life. While we have a regular text line and a Facebook prayer group, some felt that we need to deepen our spiritual connections to God through prayer.

As a result, our next retreat day will be in late January or early February and will focus on creating a more healthy prayer life at home and in our worship. Additional workshops will follow in late Spring and early Fall.

