

# THE TIE THAT BINDS

Rocky Mount United Methodist Church  
35 North Main Street, Rocky Mount, VA 24151  
Phone: 540-483-5338 Fax: 540-484-1698

E-mail: [admin@rm-umc.org](mailto:admin@rm-umc.org)

Website: [www.rm-umc.org](http://www.rm-umc.org)

Our Mission: "To Know Jesus and Share His Love"



Will Waller, Pastor

April 2018



Easter Sunday, April 1

6:45 a.m., Sunrise service at High Street Cemetery

10:55 a.m., Worship service in sanctuary



Prayer is our communication from God and to God. We're invited to pray constantly. For many, a nudge will help us communicate with the Lord and learn to listen, too. On Thursday mornings, at 7:00 a.m., join a small group that prays for the church, one another, and for the world. Using different prayer methods from around the world, this group will introduce you to ways fellow believers pray. No doubt, this will enhance or jumpstart your prayer life. See you then!

"The resurrection ... was only the beginning of a great, grand and vast outreach that has never ended and will not end until our Lord Jesus Christ comes back again."

—A.W. Tozer

## Fourth Annual Golf tournament at Willow Creek Country Club April 14, 2018



To benefit:

### Little Lambs Christian Preschool A Ministry of Rocky Mount United Methodist Church

What do we need YOU to do:

Plan to play!

\$50/person; \$200/per team  
starting with lunch at 12:30 p.m.,  
shot-gun start at 1:30 p.m.

Sponsor a hole

(with your own sign or a sign  
made by the Little Lambs) for \$50

Sponsor a hole AND a team  
for \$230

Donate food or prizes

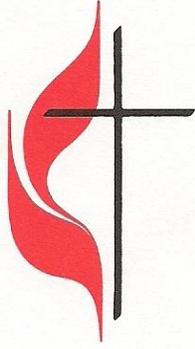
(for goodie bags or contests)

*Donations are tax-deductible;  
please make checks out to  
"Little Lambs Christian Preschool"*

Able to help/plan to play?

Contact:

Jeff Worley 420-0019  
Christina Gibson 915-4311



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*To Know Jesus And To Share His Love*

Dear RMUMC,

"Dance like no one is watching." That's one of the common phrases on slips given to brides-to-be at wedding showers. Or it's pronounced from lecterns at high school graduations. But what if you've not got a lot to dance about?

You've lost pension funds in a stock market downturn. The results aren't promising when you visit with your oncologist. Your memory is decreasing day-by-day. The boss wants to see you in her office and you don't think it's to chat. How do you dance then?

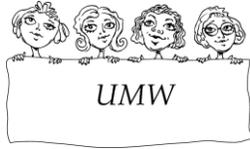
One of the distinctive aspects of Christianity should be that we are known to be dancers. Not people well versed in doing the Charleston or the Waltz, but that we're free, alive, and festive. That we dance. That we celebrate. Even when the days are dark.

By the time you read this, the date on the calendar listed "Easter" may have already passed. It is *The Celebration* for Christians. Dancing over the defeat of death. Even if the date has passed, the Easter celebration goes on and on and on. It persists because our Savior has saved; it continues because our Lord has loved; it endures because the Victor has been victorious. In other words, our dance isn't confined to April 1 but ripples out to 364 other days on the calendar.

With this perpetual dance in mind, I'm inviting you to celebrate this year. How do you do that? Sing, dance, and shout. Are you victorious because Jesus won? Sing, dance and shout. Your heart will break forth in the singing of psalms, the dancing of hymns, and the uttering of spiritual songs. Consider letting go of the burden of always needing to sound profound. Furrowed brows and serious looks do not a Christian make. Believing in the salvific name of Christ and living into the hope of His resurrection doesn't mean you're dour. And relish the creativity of others. God has given to us minds to create fabulous expressions of our gratitude for life. Being with other people with minds that have been enabled to think and create should encourage you to do the same, in a joyful way.

Happy Easter! Wanna dance? Nobody's watching...

In Christ,  
Pastor Will



**United Methodist Women**

(Linda Walters, President)

Do you like parties? Well, the UMW is inviting you to a birthday party for the residents of The Hermitage in Roanoke. We will meet on Monday, April 2 at 1:00 p.m. in the church parking lot to carpool to The Hermitage for the party. Please join us for the fun!

The Franklin County Family Resource Center as advised us that they do not need more purses at this time as they have limited storage. We will resume this ministry at a future date.

We are organizing a collection of coloring books and crayons for the Sheriff's Department. These will be used as a diversion for children waiting while parents are being interviewed in domestic violence cases. You can give your donations to any of the UMW members.

The UMW continues to collect Labels for Education, soda can tabs and canceled stamps. The boxes for these collections are in the hall to the left of the Narthex on the windowsill near the mailboxes.

Two members attended the Danville District Prayer Breakfast held on March 17 at Redwood UMC.

The Spiritual Life Retreat will be held at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg. If you are interested in attending any of the sessions, contact Linda Walters for a registration form and more information. Deadline for registration is April 13.

Please join us on May 7 for a church wide mission workday in the fellowship hall. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. and cut, measure, sew, trim, and press until about 2:00 p.m. Come for all or some of the time. We will be working on several international mission projects and school bags and baby

blankets for UMCOR kits. We will find a job for YOU. Bring your sewing machine, scissors, pins, and measuring tapes if you have these items. Lunch and all other materials will be provided.

UMW Day at Ferrum College is Saturday, June 2 from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. This is a great day of worship, fellowship, and food! A wonderful musical program is planned with a delicious lunch following. Cost is \$15 for the day. See Linda Walters or Judy Anderson for a registration form. Cash or checks made out to RMUMW may be given to Charlotte Hill by May 10.

The UMW will again be getting the congregation involved in putting together UMCOR kits for the June conference. Look for details in the May newsletter and Sunday bulletins.

Our #1 goal for 2018 is to continue increasing membership. We welcome all women of the church to join us the first Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room. If you cannot attend daytime meetings, but would like to be a member, Linda will be happy to communicate all meeting and project information to you by e-mail. We are willing to explore the possibility of meeting at a different time or on a different day as well. Please contact Linda Walters (540-346-2004, lindaw@shentel.net) or any other United Methodist woman if you are interested or have questions.

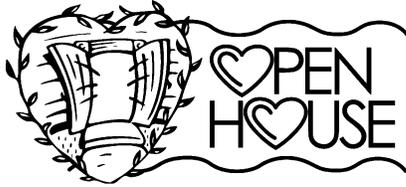


UMM

**United Methodist Men**

(Mark Newbill, President)

The United Methodist Men will have their breakfast meeting on April 15 at 8:45 a.m. We encourage all men in the church to attend.



The Stepping Stone Mission invites you to their Open House Benefit Party on April 7, 10:00-11:30 a.m., to celebrate moving to their new location at 1105 North Main Street. Come and see their new soup kitchen. They are asking for monetary gifts to help offset some of the expenses the Mission incurred in the renovation. Refreshments will be served!



**SERVING LUNCH AT  
STEPPING STONE SOUP KITCHEN**

On Tuesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 26, our church is in charge of serving lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen. Please sign-up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board located at the steps going down to the preschool. Thanks!

**The United Methodist  
Women Need YOU,  
Rocky Mount UMC!**

Please join the UMW ladies on May 7 for a church wide mission workday in the fellowship hall. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. and cut, measure, sew, trim, and press until about 2:00 p.m. Come for all or some of the time. We will be working on several projects for international mission and school bags and baby blankets for UMCOR kits. We will find a job for YOU. Bring your sewing machine, scissors, pins, and measuring tapes if you have these items. Lunch will be provided.



*Women's  
Missions*

**Graduate Sunday-June 3**

Attention:  
Parents of High School and  
College Graduates!



If you have an upcoming high school or college graduate, please let the church office know so we may recognize them.

In the May newsletter, we will name our graduates; therefore, please share with us their after-graduation plans—college, work, etc. by April 16.

Please plan to attend the worship service on June 3 as our church celebrates with you this special time in your life.

**New Members!**

On March 11, we welcomed Janice Thurman and Jennifer Call by transfer of letter from Germantown Brick Church of the Brethren.



**Easter is eternal**



If Easter means anything to modern man, it means that eternal truth is eternal. You may nail it to the tree, wrap it up in grave clothes and seal it in a tomb. But truth crushed to earth shall rise again.

Truth does not perish. It cannot be destroyed. It may be distorted. It has been silenced temporarily. It has been compelled to carry its cross to Calvary's brow ... but with an inevitable certainty, after every Black Friday dawns truth's Easter morn.

—Donald H. Tippet



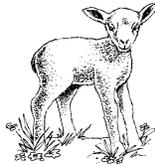
## Vital Congregation Statistics for February

### I. Finances—Church Operating Budget

Amount Brought Forward From 2017	\$39,986	
Budgeted Offerings Expected to Receive through 2/28/18		\$48,386
Actual Offerings Received through 2/28/18	\$45,833	
Budgeted Expenses Expected to Spend through 2/28/18		\$48,446
Actual Expenses Paid through 2/28/18	<\$37,378>	
Ending Balance, 2/28/18	\$48,441	

### II. Average Worship Attendance = 165

Average Sunday School Attendance = 49



### Little Lambs in the News

(Jan Mohler, Director)

It's not too late to sign up for the Annual Little Lambs Golf Tournament to be held April 14, at Willow Creek Country Club. Shot-gun start is at 1:30 p.m., lunch is provided to all players prior to the start. Field a whole team for \$200 dollars or just sign up yourself for \$50 and make some new friends. Don't golf? You can help the preschool by sponsoring a hole for \$50 as well. Get a group of friends together to just pitch in a little and it will add up to \$50 in no time. We will be happy to place company names, logos, or the names of family and friends that contributed by placing their names on signs located along the golf course. Every little bit helps to keep our Little Lambs ministry up and running. Thank you to all of you that help support us every day with your prayers and kind words.

Our 4-year-old class is already half full for next year but that means there is still plenty of room for more children. The three-year-old class is still small so those children would like some more friends as well. Please continue to spread the word. Ms. Rebecca and I have been busy meeting with families during school and in the evenings to help encourage enrollment. Also, if you are looking for a new spring t-shirt, Josh Gibson designed a t-shirt for Little Lambs. You can find it on Amazon in a variety of beautiful colors. They are fashionable and great advertising at the same time!

Can you believe it? The Easter Bunny made his way to Little Lambs again as well as the Leprechauns. The Cat in the Hat did not make an appearance due to high winds. Thing One and Thing Two floated away on their kites and he had to catch them! Anyway, as always we are having all sorts of great fun that is funny here at preschool. Ms. Lynn has begun practicing with the children for graduation. Pastor Will continues to share the great news of Jesus with the children. Before break, he took time to share the story of the Last Supper with the four-year-old class and even enact it with them. What a beautiful experience it was.

Blessings,

Jan



### Youth News

The youth group continues blending missions, nights out, and standard nights in.

Recently, there was a shift to a servant-based ministry model with teams of two leading the youth group. This has allowed more adults to participate in the ministry. This has shown to be positive in encouraging people to use their gifts with the youth.

Upcoming events include tubing at Liberty University's Snowflex Center, discussing how to share your faith, relationships and how to be a Christian in them, and having a movie night with popcorn and the fixings.

The youth group is a place where you can belong, finding lasting relationships, and hear about how good Christ is to us all. Join us Sunday nights at 5:30 p.m. or check the bulletin for changes for some special events!



### Music Notes

(Lynn Meeks, Director of Music Ministries)

Christ's journey to the cross is filled with images of His sacrificial love for us; the Palms, the Cup and the Bread, the Nails, the Crown of Thorns, and more. On April 1, we celebrate the Empty Tomb as a reminder of the magnitude of God's love; a love so great that it continues through all time and eternity. In a day when the powers of evil threaten to destroy our optimism for a brighter tomorrow, it stands as a reminder that love is stronger than hate, and that hope prevails in times of despair. Our sanctuary will be filled with victorious music by the **Chancel Choir** and great Easter hymns accompanied by piano, organ, bells, and

trumpet. Invite friends and family to join us as we celebrate the Risen Lord!

The **Jubilant Ringers Handbell Choir** will be playing along with the magnificent hymns for worship on Easter Sunday. We are also planning an old favorite hymn surprise for worship on a Sunday later in the month!

I plan for **the children choirs** to sing a "snappy" contemporary song on April 22. Also, look for more details on our upcoming Children's Sabbath planned for Mother's Day. We'll learn how no matter if you're "big or small" God can use you to make a miracle!

Spring is a time of renewal and celebrating new life in Christ! Make worship each week your way of thanking God for all your many blessings. See you in church!

Love and Peace,  
Lynn

### **Raise your voice!**



With happy voices ringing,  
thy children, Lord, appear,  
their joyous praises bringing  
in anthems sweet and clear.  
For skies of golden splendor,  
for azure rolling sea,  
for blossoms sweet and tender,  
O Lord, we worship thee.

—William Tarrant



### **Prayer Concerns:**

Our country, those serving in our armed forces, and our church; Ben & Chris Angle; Kim Easter; John Cooper; Johnny Guilliams; Marion Higgins; Jeanette Boles; Essie Wilson; DJ Snider; Ann Davis; John & Sharon Hillison; Sharon Young; Joanne Patterson; Shirley Funk; Dennis Holland; Jennifer Tatum; Tiffanee Anderson; Martha Williams; Lorrie Williams; Mark Singleton; Jennifer Cooper; Kathy Cunningham; Don Applegarth; Johnny and Patsy Smith; Patricia Perdue; and Jesse Roach.

### **Forget-Me-Nots:**

Mildred Dillon; Margaret Linkous; and Ann Robinson.



**Family of Dot Wimmer** who died on March 4.

**Family of Richard Greer** who died on March 12.

**Linda Lox and Family** in the death of her sister, JoAnne Talent.



Thank you all so much for the cards and visits, thoughts and prayers following our mother's passing. We also thank you for the reception following the funeral. All were comforting and very much appreciated.

Jeanne Banks & Family  
Sandra Funk & Family  
Cyndee Holland & Family  
Ralph Wimmer, Jr. & Family

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35 North Main Street  
Rocky Mount, Virginia 24151

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**Open Hearts...**

**Open Minds...**

**Open Doors...**

**ROCKY  
MOUNT**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*The People of the United Methodist Church*

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Reverend Will Waller, Pastor**  
**Lynn M. Meeks, Director of Music Ministries**  
**Jeanne Banks, Music Accompanist**  
**Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant**  
**Jennifer Ardis, Nursery Attendant**

**(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.)**



**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

**10:00 a.m. Sunday School**  
**10:55 a.m. Worship**