

# 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

August 2016



## Meet and Greet

(Sharon Angle,  
Family Ministries Chair)

All are invited to a meet and greet with our new pastor and his wife. Come say welcome and hello to Pastor Will and Emily immediately after the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, July 31. This will be a brief informal gathering in the Atrium with light refreshments being served.



## Church Picnic

Our annual **church picnic** at the Furnace Creek Swim Club will be Sunday, August 28 at 5:00 p.m. Hot

dogs, chicken and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share and be prepared to swim if you would like. It will be cancelled if it is raining. Changes will be announced that Sunday during the service or you can call Sharon Angle (540-354-4589).

## Church Photo **Directory**



Have you seen all the new faces in our congregation? It is wonderful to meet new people and have them become friends and partners on our spiritual journey. Our

church is planning a new photo directory through Lifetouch. Everyone who attends our church is welcomed to participate.

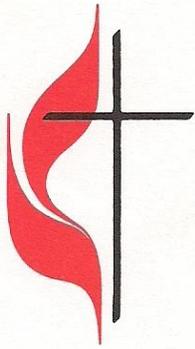
Each family who participates will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a free directory. The more families and individuals we get to participate the more pages our directory will contain. All members are encouraged to furnish addresses of their out of town members so our member roster will be complete and up to date.

Appointments can be made at our website at [www.rm-umc.org](http://www.rm-umc.org) or in person at our sign-up table after church. Dates of photography will be August 25, 26 and 27.

Special thanks to all committee members: Linda Walters, Pat Cundiff, Debra Caulder, Linda S. Handy, Jane Roseberry, Jack Watts, Martha Collins, Betty Dillon, Sharon Angle, Karla Pagans, Phyllis Lavinder and everyone else who helps! Lots of hands make for quick and easy accomplishments!

"Pray, and let God worry."

—Martin Luther



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*To Know Jesus And To Share His Love*

Dear RMUMC Members and Friends,

Every morning, I walk down the street from the parsonage to the church. It is a short walk, but on the walk, I view the birds flitting and hear the wind rustle through the leafy oaks along the sidewalk. There are often people entering the Maple Avenue Clinic, and I greet early morning walkers huffing and puffing up Tanyard. As I pass by the salon, I hastily walk by, ensuring that I do not get drawn in for an unwanted facial or pedicure. Then, I walk up the steps of the church to turn the key that brings me inside.

This daily commute of mine was not in the plans Emily and I charted out months ago. We never expected that we would be traveling Maple Avenue to go to work; we never thought we'd see mountains when we drank our morning OJ. We never imagined that we'd be drawing in the rich smell of soil just turned over by farmers; we never conceived that we'd be serving a place of such pedigree and promise.

But God did. And we are so glad that He did.

God has something special in store, Rocky Mount UMC. I believe it deep in my bones, because I have seen God do amazing things in my own life, in the lives of my family, in the lives of people I've worked alongside. We may not see it through the fog and we might not expect it after trudging through the valley. We might not, but God does. So as we journey together, fellow travelers along the road with the Lord, what will we discover? I don't know, but the Lord does.

As we together walk forward, down Maple Avenue, down Claiborne, down 220, down our respective streets, let us look. Listen. Ask God daily, what is thy will and what can I do to ensure that it is done. May your journey be as unexpectedly blessed as the one Emily and I have taken to 35 North Main Street, Rocky Mount.

In Christ's Service,  
Pastor Will



## Sunday School Promotion Sunday

(Jane Roseberry,  
Sunday School Superintendent)

**COME JOIN US!!!**  
**AUGUST 28**  
**10:00 a.m.**

Our Sunday School program is offered for all ages and grades. Sunday School provides Christian education as well as forms deep and lasting Christian relationships. Our teachers are very caring, committed, and prepared. We will be celebrating our Promotion Sunday on August 28 at 10:00 a.m. Greeters will be available to assist you and your children to the correct location for your class. Whether you have considered attending Sunday School or not, **PLEASE GIVE US A TRY!!!** Promotion Sunday is the day when our children are promoted to the classroom of their 2016-2017 grade in school. In addition, **Promotion Sunday is for new folks to attend and enrich your Christian life.**

### Sunday School Classes for Children:

- birth to age 3

This class is located in our nursery on the third floor.

- pre-kindergarten and kindergarten class
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class
- 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade class

These are located in our education wing on the fourth floor.

### Sunday School for Youth

There is a combined middle school class and high school class. They meet on the second floor.

### Sunday School for Adults

- The "Branches Class" is for our younger adults, married or single. They meet in our education wing on the fourth floor. This class features current topics with Biblical emphasis. They view videos which stimulate active discussions.
- The "Breakfast Club" Class caters to parents of tweens and teens. They meet on the second floor.
- The "Redeemer's Class" is for any age adults and they meet on the third floor. Bible related videos and/or written material are used in conjunction with discussions that follow.
- The "Vintage Class" as its name implies is for our seasoned adults, but any age is more than welcome to attend. Various portions of the Bible are presented and discussed.

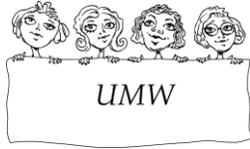
AS IN THE STORY OF MARTHA AND MARY WITH JESUS - LET US BE THE "MARYS" AND MAKE TIME/TAKE TIME FOR ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITIES IN OUR LIFE WHICH IS TO KNOW JESUS AND SHARE HIS LOVE!!

Now, with all these Sunday School classes to choose from - COME JOIN US!!!



### **SERVING LUNCH AT STEPPING STONE SOUP KITCHEN**

On Tuesday, August 23 and Thursday, August 25, 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!



## **United Methodist Women**

(Linda Walters,  
President)

Thank you to all who took and filled the UMCOR school kit bags in April. A special thank you to Rodney Cundiff who took 75 school kits and 22 sewing kits to the June 2016 Annual Conference from RMUMC.

The UMW continues to collect Labels for Education, soda can tabs, and stamps. The box for these collections is in the hall to the left of the narthex on the windowsill near the mailboxes. Campbell's Soup Labels program no longer exists.

Ladies, keep reading! 2016 Reading Reports are due August 29. Remember all reading counts. You do not have to complete a plan.

Five attended UMW Day at Ferrum College on June 4.

We had a great turnout for the UMW annual picnic on June 13. Wonderful food and fellowship were enjoyed by all!

There will be a called UMW meeting on Monday, August 29 at 10:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room. This meeting will replace the September 12 UMW meeting. We need to prepare for The Hermitage Guild continental breakfast and luncheon to be held on Tuesday, September 13 at our church. We have a few other items on the agenda as well. JoAn Bassett will be doing the 2017 Pledge Service program at this meeting.

Do you feel called to be more involved in UMW? We are in need of a secretary. Please see Linda Walters or Hazel Henderson if you are interested.

Is there someone in our unit that you would like to nominate to be honored with a special mission recognitions pin this year? Please give their name to Linda Walters or Hazel Henderson by August 29.

Welcome to our new members Ruth Cook and Erika Brickey. We are very excited to have you with us.

Our #1 goal for 2016 is to increase membership! We welcome all women 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 an evening (maybe while your children are at Wonderful Wednesday?) or Sunday afternoon meeting for those who work during the week, 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.

### **A month of Sundays**

"August is like the Sunday of summer," an online meme proclaims. But that means different things to different people.

If you see Sunday as the end of a week – a chance to sleep in, do "nothing," relax and play – then August might be your downtime at the end of a busy summer. If Sunday feels heavy because the onslaught of the workweek is approaching, then August may carry the dread of falling leaves and falling temperatures.

But if you view Sunday as a fresh start to the week, then August, with a new school year and new church programming around the corner, can be exciting. And if you honor Sunday as the Sabbath, indeed "August is like the Sunday of summer." God invites us to enjoy these holy days and give thanks to him, the Creator of all seasons.

–Heidi Mann



# BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!

Youth, Children, and Families are encouraged to join us as Rocky Mount UMC and Rocky Mount Christian Church kick off the new school year with an evening of fun, food, and fellowship!

**Pizza!**

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**Prize giveaway!**

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**Face Painting!**

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**T-shirt Decorating!**  
(Bring your own  
T-shirt!)

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**Water Balloon  
Toss!**

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**Corn Hole!**

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**Beach-ball  
Volleyball!**

**Sunday August 14**

**4:30 pm – 6:30  
pm**



Remember our 13 undergraduates in your prayers as they return to, or begin college life.



Our Higher Education and Campus Ministry Chairperson is Betty Dillon. Please keep Betty informed of any news concerning our

college kids. She can be reached at 483-5573 (or call the church office at 483-5338). Please make sure we have your college student's new or changed address at school. Throughout the year, Betty will send your student cards. We also want to be sure to include them on the newsletter mailing list and send them a copy of the Upper Room. Good luck and have a great year!

**Coastal Carolina University—**

Tyler Peterson

**Ferrum College—**

Joshua Banks

Mariah Banks

**James Madison University—**

Carrie Holland

**Radford University—**

Katie Meeks

**University of Virginia—**

Anna Cooper

McKenzie Prillaman

**Virginia Tech—**

Jacques Delport

Daniel Lorens

Emily Meeks

**Virginia Western Community**

**College—**

Breanna Bowles

Ashley Dillon

Rachel Hall



Between June 3-September 2, the church office will be closed on Fridays.

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."  
—Mother Teresa



**Vital Congregation Statistics for June**

I. Finances—Church Operating Budget

Amount Brought Forward From 2015	\$21,377	
Budgeted Offerings <u>Expected</u> to Receive through 6/30/16		\$134,526
<u>Actual</u> Offerings Received through 6/30/16	<b>\$126,898</b>	
Budgeted Expenses Expected to Spend through 6/30/16		\$134,322
Actual Expenses Paid through 6/30/16	<del>&lt;\$131,872&gt;</del>	
Ending Balance, 6/30/16	<b>\$16,403</b>	

II. Average Worship Attendance = 134

Average Sunday School Attendance = 47

III. Average Number of Small Groups Meeting each Week = 12

IV. Total Number of people engaged in missions, to date = 108



## Youth News

(Lindsey Lumley,  
Coordinator of  
Youth and Children's  
Ministries and Joshua  
Banks, Asst. Coordinator)

This summer has been busy and AWESOME! We have been all over the place and doing all sorts of fun things. We took a trip to Splash Valley Water Park, did a scavenger hunt at Valley View Mall, went to Richmond and enjoyed a few days at Kingsfest, and enjoyed an afternoon at Retreat Pool. We have also been to the movies, bowling and out to eat a few times. So much fun has been had!

Though we have been busy, the fun is not over yet. We will be having a lock-in on July 30, looking forward to an afternoon at the lake on August 7, and a "Back to School Bash" on August 14! The back to school bash is open to children, youth and families and we are super excited to be partnering with Rocky Mount Christian Church for this! There will be face painting, corn hole, as well as an opportunity to decorate your own t-shirt, and much more! There will also be pizza which I am really looking forward to! We are looking for someone to let us borrow their corn hole boards, so if you have some you would be willing to let us use, let me know. Also, let me know if you would like to volunteer for this event.

Towards the end of August, we will resume our weekly youth group meetings on Sunday nights from 5:30-7:00 p.m., which is going to be great! Our first official day back to that schedule will be Sunday August 21. I cannot wait!! It is going to be awesome!! Please continue to be in prayer for us as we wrap up this awesome summer and enter back into the school year.

Blessings,  
Lindsey and Josh

## Music Notes

(Lynn Meeks, Director of Music  
Ministries)



It's hard to believe school will be starting soon and it's time to get those fall schedules made. During the month of August, I'll be making final plans and ordering things for all the choirs. Registration forms for children who will be participating in Wonderful Wednesday this year will be available on the table near the Assembly Room. As always, it will be for mature four-year-olds through fifth graders. Like last year, the older group, 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> graders will alternate singing and playing chimes during their music time. I would like to have forms filled out for **all children who have attended in the past as well as new children.** This will help me in having enough food and craft projects ready for the first meeting. Registration will continue through Sunday, September 4. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 7 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

**HELP! VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** The continued success of our Wonderful Wednesday program for children depends on volunteers. Two volunteers are needed each week to provide a simple meal for the children and to help with a craft project. I can prepare the craft and teach music but I can't do everything by myself. Most of the parents take turns volunteering but that still leaves quite a few Wednesday nights open. **We need church members to help too! We need you!** These are precious children. They are part of your church family. As Christians and as members of Christ's holy church, we are called to minister to "the least of these." This is such an easy way to serve God. Single adults, "empty nesters," and grandparents; (We need you men, too!) please consider signing-up to **volunteer once in the fall and once in the spring.**

(continued on page 8)

You will surely receive much more than you will be providing. Get to know the children of our church!! Please sign-up by August 28. Volunteer sign-up forms (blue) are located on the table next to the Assembly Room.

**The Praise Choir?** In the last couple of years, I have very few folks interested in being part of this group. If you would like to join this wonderful music ministry, sign-up on the sheet near the Assembly Room. I'll contact you with more info. Otherwise, at this time, I have no plan to continue this choir.

**The Jubilant Ringers** will resume practices on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Do you like to sing? The **Chancel Choir** needs you!!! Weekly rehearsals will resume Wednesday, September 7, at 7:00 p.m. with a Welcome Back/New Members Night. This group is multigenerational; middle school students, high school students, and adults. I hope to see **YOU** on September 7.

There are many of you who play instruments; (or haven't played in quite a while) guitar, violin, wind instruments, piano, percussion, etc. If you are interested in getting together to make a "joyful noise" I hope you will sign-up on the sheet near the Assembly Room. Whether you're a beginning student (I'd love to have those middle school band members!) or a seasoned player, come give it a try! We have a great time! I'll be contacting those who sign-up to set up a "jam session"!

I am always available if you have questions or need more information on any of our music ministries. Other worship ministries you may be interested in are the **Drama Team** and **The Moving Word**, our liturgical dance group. These are both multigenerational (Older Children through Senior Adult).

Feel free to call me at church (483-5338), or email me (music@rm-umc.org). I'm happy to talk about how you can use your gift of music and other arts for God.

Love and Peace,  
Lynn



## **Little Lambs in the News**

(Jan Mohler, Director)

We still have another month left of summer for our Little Lambs but it is time to start preparing for another blessed school year. Tuesday, August 16 is our Parent's Open House for this year's families. The three-year-old class is almost full and the four-year-old class is half-full. So as always, please help spread the word of our school so we can reach as many families as possible. The school year begins Tuesday, September 6.

Blessings,  
Jan

## **Raise your praise**

Let praise – not merely thanksgiving, but praise – always form an ingredient of thy prayers. We thank God for what he is to us, for the benefits which he confers and the blessings with which he visits us. But we praise him for what he is in himself, for his glorious excellences and perfections, independently of their bearing on the welfare of the creature. ... When thou singest praise, all creation (in a manner) sings in thee and with thee.

—Edward Goulburn



### **Prayer Requests**

#### **Prayer Concerns:**

Our country, those serving in our armed forces, and our church; Marion Higgins; Pat Robertson; Gary and Betty Hatfield; Martha Ann Naff; Beryl King; Charlie & Eleanor Easter; Mark Singleton; Teresa Atkins; Jennifer Cooper; Ken Jones (Taylor Jones' father); Kathy Cunningham; Don Applegarth; Mary Elizabeth Cloud; Nancy Hodges; Nathan Lin; Johnny and Patsy Smith; Gabe Valentine; Danielle McPherson; Patricia Perdue; Jennifer Braxton; Lyda Goforth; Joe Stogner; Jane Stogner; Ethel Dent; Linda Barnhart; and Jesse Roach.

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

Helen Cottle; Mildred Dillon; Nancy Hamlin; Margaret Linkous; Hilda Morris; Eva Prillaman; Ann Robinson; and Dot Wimmer.



Lisa Angle and Family in the death of her mother on June 2.

Lindsay Smawley and Family in the death of her mother, Neva Farris, on June 15.

*"In death, there is the resurrection".*

ROCKY MOUNT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
35 North Main Street  
Rocky Mount, Virginia 24151

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VA 24151

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**Open Hearts...**

**Open Minds...**

**Open Doors...**

*The People of the United Methodist Church*

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Reverend Will Waller, Pastor**

**Lynn M. Meeks, Director of Music Ministries**

**Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant**

**Jeanne Banks, Music Accompanist**

**Rebecca Goransson, Nursery Attendant**

**Lindsey Lumley, Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministries**

**Joshua Banks, Assistant Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministries**

**(Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.)**



**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

**9:45-10:45 a.m. Sunday School**

**10:55 a.m. Worship**