

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

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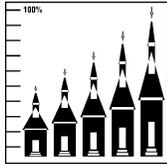
Website: www.rm-umc.org

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



Will Waller, Pastor

November 2016



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

"Faith to Finish" Capital Campaign

The "Faith to Finish" Capital Campaign will begin on October 30. This is the start of a sermon series

entitled "Nehemiah: The Faith to Finish."

We begin this capital campaign with a goal to be debt-free by 2019, the end of the three-year campaign. We believe that being debt-free allows us to do more for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our debt remaining on our addition as of September 30 was \$318,000. With a rehabilitation of our kitchen and a needed leak repair in the sanctuary, we are setting the capital campaign goal at \$360,000. We believe that this is an attainable goal because God was able to provide for over \$400,000 in pledged giving from 2013-2016. Consider what you are able to give and we will have Consecration Sunday on November 13, where your pledges will be made during worship. On Celebration Sunday, November 20, we will announce the pledged amount in a spectacular celebration of God's goodness and grace. I hope you will be in prayer for his campaign as we attempt to make needed improvements in our kitchen and sanctuary, and exhibit the "Faith to Finish" the debt on our addition. Will you join this effort?

"Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action."

—W.J. Cameron

Stewardship Campaign

On November 13 we will also complete our pledge card that states what we believe God wants us to give to the church for 2017. This establishes the base of our annual unified budget at the church. The Finance Committee will then be able to create next year's church budget of anticipated income and expenses.



Thanksgiving

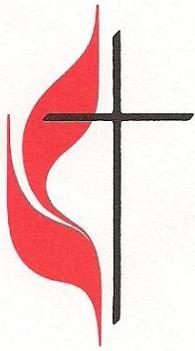


Dinner

Our annual Thanksgiving dinner will be held Sunday, November 20, immediately following the worship service. The Family Ministries Committee will provide turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, rolls and drinks. The congregation is asked to bring salads, vegetables and desserts. This is a wonderful time of fellowship for our church family. We hope to see you there.



The annual Community Thanksgiving Service is being planned for Sunday, November 20. Details have not yet been finalized. Look for all the information in upcoming bulletins.



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To Know Jesus And To Share His Love

Dear Rocky Mount United Methodist Church,

I study maps. Is it nerdy? Yes. Does it help me when the GPS goes out? You betcha. Sometimes, I'll take the maps out and spread them across the carpet at home. Lines of various colors like a spider's web woven across the pages, each line denoting different aspects on the ground. I'll gaze at the squiggly black lines, wondering if driving that line will cause me to get sick on the mountain curves. Looking at the blue lines coming off the Blue Ridge Mountains, I wonder if there will be brook trout darting amongst the rocks. The green lines show me where the national forest ends, and where the city limits begin. The lines on the map matter.

A map shows the known territory at that time, the mountains, valleys, rivers, along with the highways and roads making up a land. For instance, as I look at the map to Floyd and points westward, I don't see an easy way to get there. Each route up the mountain is riddled with curves and weaves. As I look at a map of western Franklin, I know if I travel that route I'm going to have go slow and be careful. There are pitfalls galore along Shooting Creek and near Endicott. The lines reveal what I have to do by their shape.

Nehemiah, the guy we're going to hear a ton about in the month of November, was a man who wouldn't have enjoyed gazing upon the map of Jerusalem if he'd been given one. The map would have shown broken lines symbolizing where the wall encircling Jerusalem used to be. He heard the news of Jerusalem's broken down walls and he wept. He wept for what had been. He wept for loved ones that were in danger because of the broken down wall. He wept for the city that he loved.

He believed God had bigger plans in store for his beloved Jerusalem. He listened to God's call on his life, and sprung to action to ensure that the future map of Jerusalem had clear, unending lines symbolizing a strong, secure wall surrounding it. Protecting it. Supporting it. A strong city was able to do more for people. It enabled them to live the life God intended for them. It allowed them to be strong for the weakest among them.

We have a wonderful church. It is full of people who love Jesus Christ and want to share His love. We will continue to be that church. Our dream as we talk about the future is to become a conduit for mission, and a carrier of the Gospel down all avenues and roads. One of the ways we are going to be able to do this is with our capital campaign, Faith to Finish. We believe that being debt-free from our recent addition will allow us to be unencumbered, enabling us to give generously. I hope that you will pray fervently for what God can do through you in this capital campaign. We've already changed the topography by building the addition. We have announced to the town of Rocky Mount that we trust God completely to take a plan crafted decades ago and bring it to fruition. It revealed that we believe God! Now, let's believe that we can serve more – more hungry, more depressed, more down-and-out, more people – by being in debt less.

With that, remember that our Consecration Sunday when we will make a faithful pledge for this three-year campaign will be held on November 13. The following Sunday, our total pledged amount will be revealed during Celebration Sunday, November 20.

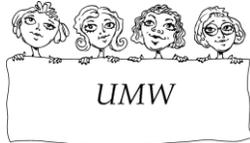
In Christ,
Pastor Will



Charge Conference

Please mark your calendars for our annual Charge Conference, to be held November 6 at 2:00 p.m.

in the Atrium. All members of the Church Council should attend.



United Methodist Women

(Linda Walters, President)

At the UMW meeting on Monday, October 3, Charlotte Brooks, District Resources Secretary, gave a program on the UMW 2017 Reading Program. The UMW does have a library of some of these books available for check out at any time. The library is located on the bottom bookshelf in the Assembly Room. Simply choose a book, sign it out in the yellow folder, and return it and sign it in when you are finished with it. Please take a 2017 brochure from the yellow folder to keep track of your reading.

Thank you to all those in the congregation who purchased soup and baked goods from the UMW during its recent soup/bake sale. Thank you too, to all the UMW ladies who baked, made soup or donated items to the cause. All money raised will be used for UMW mission projects in 2017.

Our annual December luncheon has been set for Monday, December 5 at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$15 per person. Guests are welcome. Our speaker will be Susan Hughes. She will speak about her pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Please give payment (cash or check) to Charlotte Hill by November 28 to make a reservation.

The UMW will continue to collect Labels for Education, soda can tabs, and stamps. The boxes for these collections are

in the hall to the left of the narthex on the windowsill near the mailboxes. We can still accept Campbell's labels as long as they have the small collection sticker on the bottom.

Our next meeting will be Monday, November 7. Our speaker will be Carolyn Barr, missionary, as part of our annual Thank Bank program. **DON'T FORGET** to bring a roll of paper towels for Henry Fork Service Center to the meeting!

Our #1 goal for 2017 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 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.



United Methodist Men

UMM

The United Methodist Men will have their breakfast meeting on November 13 at 9:00 a.m. We encourage all men in the church to attend.

We will mow the grass at Henry Fork Service Center on November 5 at 8:00 a.m.

"Anyone who truly loves God travels securely."
—St. Teresa of Avila



**SERVING LUNCH AT
STEPPING STONE SOUP KITCHEN**

On Tuesday, November 22, 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!

Student Day Offering

On Sunday, November 27, we will be receiving a special offering sponsored by the Virginia Annual Conference. Your generous gifts on United Methodist Student Day support United Methodist scholarships and the United Methodist Student Loan Fund, administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.



students for the present through confirmation.

Confirmation will begin on December 11 with a parent and youth meeting. This will go over the timeline and expectations for Confirmation. It will be held at 4:00 p.m., directly before youth group. We intend to build towards Easter Sunday, the traditional celebration for those being confirmed in the faith. Contact Will Waller for more details.

Flower Chart

The flower chart for 2017 is here.

Reserve your "special Sunday" now to provide altar



flowers during the worship service. Also, remember that the piano is available for an arrangement should there be two individuals interested in the same date. You will be responsible for ordering the flowers. Call the church office or stop by the chart on the bulletin board that is located at the steps (that go down to the preschool) to reserve your special date.



**Confirmation
CLASSES**

Parents of teens: has your child begun to ask you questions about faith? Would you like to see your student know more about our United Methodist tradition? Do they know Jesus as their Savior?

Confirmation is an ancient rite that the early church utilized to prepare brand-new believers in Jesus Christ for baptism. Leaders would teach the lessons of faith to their initiates in a way that was real and relevant. It was a preparation for baptism, new life begun for the new believers. We continue confirmation today in recognition of our early church history and our present-day realities. We honor the past and prepare

New Members!

On October 23, we welcomed Stephanie Cook by transfer of letter from Edgewater UMC and Elaine Dawson by transfer of letter from South Roanoke UMC.



Heavenly Manna

Congratulations! We collected 25 pounds of canned food in October for Heavenly Manna! In November, we are collecting canned soup.



Poinsettias

It is time to order poinsettias to be used in the sanctuary December 11-25. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend, please complete the enclosed form below and return it to the church office by **Monday, November 7**. The cost is \$13.00. Checks should be made payable to Rocky Mount United Methodist Church. After December 25, you may take your poinsettia(s) home to enjoy.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Return to church office by Monday, November 7, or you may put form in the offering plate. A payment of \$13.00 for each poinsettia should accompany your order.

Your Name:

Number of poinsettias Ordered:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Getting Ready for Advent

Many hands are needed as we get ready to decorate our sanctuary for the Advent season. Monday, November 21 at 10:00 a.m. we will be decorating the Chrismon tree and sanctuary. We need your help! Please put this date on your calendar!



Again this year during the season of Advent, you will be given the opportunity to select an **Advent Friend**. Envelopes will be available on Sunday, November 27, containing the name of a church family member, "*an Advent Friend*," who is either shut-in or in need of some special care during the Advent season. You will be asked to pray for this person and extend other kindnesses such as a personal call, a greeting card, or other special treats. If you know of someone who would appreciate the special-care of this ministry, please notify the church office by Sunday, November 13.

Fueled by thankfulness

Thankfulness is not a minor virtue. It is not one of the elementary virtues [that] may be left behind as we become more mature. I believe that thankfulness is essential to the strength of every virtue, and that without it every other branch is starved and lean.

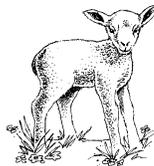
Life without thankfulness is devoid of love and passion. Hope without thankfulness is lacking in fine perception. Faith without thankfulness lacks strength and fortitude. Every virtue divorced from thankfulness is maimed and limps along the spiritual road.

—John Henry Jowett



Vital Congregation Statistics for September

- I. Finances—Church Operating Budget
- | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|
| Amount Brought Forward From 2015 | \$21,377 | |
| Budgeted Offerings <u>Expected</u> to Receive through 9/30/16 | | \$201,789 |
| <u>Actual</u> Offerings Received through 9/30/16 | \$187,073 | |
| Budgeted Expenses Expected to Spend through 9/30/16 | | \$201,483 |
| Actual Expenses Paid through 9/30/16 | < <u>\$198,080</u> > | |
| Ending Balance, 9/30/16 | \$10,370 | |
- II. Average Worship Attendance = 130
Average Sunday School Attendance = 49
- III. Average Number of Small Groups Meeting each Week = 12
- IV. Total Number of people engaged in missions, to date = 172
-



Little Lambs in the News

(Jan Mohler, Director)

“What’s important to you?” Pastor Will asked the class. “Jesus!” answered one of the children. And there it is. The light of the world, the hope of the future right there in our little classroom. As this time of year as we reflect upon reasons to be thankful, Ms. Rebecca and I want to express our sincere gratitude to RMUMC for letting us be a part of your Little Lambs mission.

As a school family, we like to share our blessings by teaching the children to help others. Our sweet students rode their little hearts out for the children of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and collected over \$1,400. The children and their families and friends gave generously and cheerfully and we are very proud of them.

This month we will be learning about Thanksgiving and sharing a feast with our families. All of our church family is welcome to attend. The threes will eat on November 22 and the fours will eat on November 18. Both feasts will be at 11:00 a.m.

Our school will be participating in the “Come Home to a Franklin County Christmas” event this year. The event will be Friday, December 2 from 5:30-9:00 p.m. We will be selling baked goods alongside the famous UM Men’s chili. Please consider making some treats or volunteering to man the table for a little while that evening.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our school.

Blessings,
Jan



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

RMUMC friends,

Happy Fall, Y'all! As I write this, we are only one day away from our annual Harvest Party and Trunk-or-Treat. I am so looking forward to this and know it is just going to be a wonderful time. I am so excited to see everyone there for a time of fellowship, fun, and food! The Harvest Party isn't the only thing the youth and children have been up to this past month. On October 15, we took a fun trip to Scaremare in Lynchburg, and had a lock-in following the event. It was so much fun!

In the month of November, we are looking forward to beginning to prepare for all of our Christmas festivities. We will be setting up the Angel Tree and going shopping for the Special Needs Christmas Party. We will go shopping on November 20 following the lunch after church. The youth always enjoy shopping for this event so we are really looking forward to it! Be sure to check out the Angel Tree and consider donating to this wonderful cause as the donations go towards buying gifts for our special needs friends from Piedmont Community Services. Below is the form to make a donation for the Angel Tree. We will present the gifts to them at our Christmas Party after church on December 11. All members of the congregation are invited to this lunch and we encourage you to join us.

We have also been enjoying our weekly youth meetings and Sunday School! If you or someone you know is interested in participating, or volunteering for any of this,

please contact me or Josh Banks. We would love to have you! And, as always, we ask that you continue to be in prayer for us!

Blessings,
 Lindsey and Josh

Light Up a Special Needs Adult's Christmas

Each Angel on the tree will represent at least \$15.00 donated to buy special needs adults in our community gifts for Christmas. Please return this form to the church office.

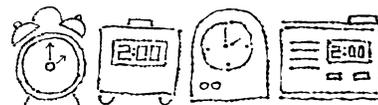
THE DEADLINE IS 11/13/2016

Given by:

In Honor of:

In Memory Of:

Amount given:



DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS

Don't forget to "fall back!" Daylight Saving Time Ends November 6.

"Greed says the more you get, the more you have. Christ says the more you give away in love, the more you are."

—Frederick Buechner



Music Notes

(Lynn Meeks, Director of Music Ministries)

November is a busy time for our musicians. The

Jubilant Ringers will play a dynamic piece, *Grandeur* which includes some “fancy” ringing and the Chancel Choir will sing *Proclaim the Mighty Power of God and Give Thanks and Glorify the Lord* for our 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Worship Service, November 20. This entire month is a time to remember all the wonderful gifts God has given us.

CALLING ALL TRUMPETS, CLARINETS, FLUTES, SAXOPHONES, VIOLINS, GUITARS AND PERCUSSION! If you are interested in playing with the “Joyful Noise”, our instrumental ensemble, please see me (or Charlotte Hill) or leave your contact information with the church office **as soon as possible** to get the music and schedule of practice times (early November!). We hope to accompany the worship hymns on November 20 and play during Advent!

Along with Thanksgiving preparations, we are working on our Advent/Christmas music. The children are polishing their Christmas play, “A Christmas Shoe Tree” to be presented December 4 at 6:30 p.m. (We will also sing a “preview” song from the musical at 11:00 a.m. worship on December 4.) See the separate article for a special mission opportunity for you and your family.

The Chancel Choir along with dancers, special instruments, beautiful piano accompaniment, and special guests “Haw Patch” will present the musical *Go Sing it on the Mountain* during worship on December 11. This musical gives a unique perspective to the Christmas story through folk tunes, old hymn tunes, and mountain music. May the message of Christmas touch your heart as you experience this beautiful musical.

Thanksgiving and Advent/Christmas are very special times for our music ministries. We hope to see you every Sunday between now and the end of the year! Don’t miss any of our wonderful music as well as the inspired messages. You are going to be blessed!!

Love and Peace,
Lynn

A Christmas Shoe Tree A musical for children



...For several years, a Christmas Tree Farm run by Yule, Todd, and Christmas Carol Loggins, has collected new shoes for school kids. On this day, not only has Douglas Fir Elementary School sent a group for a field trip but the local “Action News 12” team comes for a remote broadcast to interview the Loggins. They even have the famous wRap group; “Scis-sor, Pay-per and Tape” come to entertain! Experience how these compassionate and fun-loving folks demonstrate the love of Christ as they celebrate the birth of our Savior. Come join the excitement and experience the power of what it means to revel in God’s love, grow in our faith, and share His everlasting truth “and shoes” with others. This musical will truly put you and your family in the Christmas spirit. Mark your calendars and invite family and friends to join us for this beautiful expression of love.

As a service project in connection with the *Christmas Shoe Tree*, the children will be collecting new athletic shoes for elementary school age kids (kindergarten through fifth grades). **Bring your new athletic shoe donations anytime during November.** There will be a display container in the narthex to collect these. After the play, we will be distributing the shoes to several organizations who serve children in need in Franklin County. Thank you for your help.



Thanks to the Rocky Mount United Methodist Church family for your prayers, cards and concerns during the time of my brother's death, Guy Lynch, on September 29.

Love and Peace,
Eleanor Woody



**Prayer
Requests**

Prayer Concerns:

Our country, those serving in our armed forces, and our church; Johnny Guilliams; Charlie & Eleanor Easter; Marsha Robertson; Gary and Betty Hatfield; Martha Ann Naff; Beryl King; Mark Singleton; Teresa Atkins; Jennifer Cooper; Kathy Cunningham; Don Applegarth; Mary Elizabeth Cloud; Nathan Lin; Johnny and Patsy Smith; Gabe Valentine; Danielle McPherson; Patricia Perdue; Jennifer Braxton; Lyda Goforth; Ethel Dent; Linda Barnhart; and Jesse Roach.

Forget-Me-Nots:

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



Eleanor Woody and Family in the death of her brother, Guy Lynch, on September 29.

"In death there is the resurrection."

ROCKY MOUNT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
35 North Main Street
Rocky Mount, Virginia 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.; Friday, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.)



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:55 a.m. Worship