

# 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

September 2016



## Run for God

(Tracy Jenkins, Coordinator)

September is a time when kids are back to school, after school activities are in full swing and our routines are beginning. We are starting a new program at RMUMC that I pray you will include in your routine: Run for God on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:30 p.m. (to coincide with Wonderful Wednesdays, ATTENTION Parents!).

Our goal is to bring people together in His name to promote health/wellness by following the Run for God running/training program where members of our church and the community can meet, have devotion and run together (or walk depending on the person/people) creating an active community for Christ.

This is a couch to 5K program; however, this is open to anyone and everyone who wishes to participate regardless of your fitness level/experience. Whether you are a seasoned runner, beginner or walker, we invite you to come!

We will have speakers various weeks to come and discuss good habits/training/shoes, etc. throughout the weeks to help us along the way.

Our goal is to run the Drumstick Dash on Thanksgiving morning!

We invite all to come! Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 7 at 5:00 p.m. We hope to see you all there!

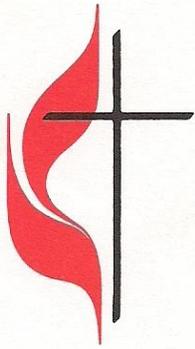


## Child Protection Seminar

Protecting children remains a key aspect of all ministries supported by Rocky Mount United Methodist Church. We believe it is biblical to protect children from predators because they are a blessing from God (Psalm 127:3). We assert that children are invited into the mission of Christ (Matthew 19:14), and that children should worship Christ, and not be barred from speaking (Matthew 21:15-16). Furthermore, we want to remain aligned with state and federal expectations for all non-profits regarding child protection. Finally, all children matter to us, so their protection is paramount.

With that said, RMUMC will hold two mandatory child protection seminars on Wednesday, September 14 and Sunday, September 18 at 5:30 p.m., and 12:15 p.m. respectively. You may attend either seminar depending on your availability. In these hour-long seminars, you'll be introduced to the value of child protection, what we do at RMUMC to protect children in our programs, and the United Methodist Church's expectations regarding "Safe Sanctuaries." All persons wishing to volunteer with our children must attend one of the seminars. Even if you have volunteered in the past, please attend one of the dates. Sign-ups are not necessary to attend. They will be held in the Assembly Room, on the same level as the sanctuary.

If neither date works for you, please consult Pastor Will ([will@rm-umc.org](mailto:will@rm-umc.org)).



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*To Know Jesus And To Share His Love*

Dear RMUMC Members and Friends,

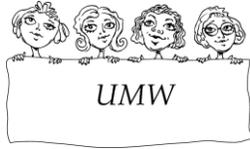
"You will not want to miss this." "Sale of the century." "World's largest fireworks store." We are hit with a barrage of adjectives like biggest, baddest, and best any time we step into a store, drive along the interstate, or flip on our daytime soaps. Advertisers want us to know that they have something we've never seen before and they're going to convince us to get it.

In the church, we too believe we have something great to offer. We do not hide the fact that we believe Jesus is God's son, that God will make all things new, that we can find hope in him who died, was buried, and on Easter morning, defeated death. This is the best news I know and no TV infomercial is going to convince me that a blender has taken Christ's place on the best news ever podium.

So we live confidently. Confidence is an attribute we have in the church - not pretentious, know it all-ism. It allows us to try new ministries like Run For God, a new outreach ministry that seeks to marry weekly devotionals with a couch to 5k program. If you'd like to get in shape both spiritually and physically, come out on Wednesdays in the fall. We are confident as we renew ministries like Wonderful Wednesday for our children held at the same time as Run For God. And we are confident as we continue our vital Sunday school ministry, a weekly small group time to stretch your theological muscles. Confidence stems from our trust in the grace of God.

So next time you see an interstate billboard proclaiming the gas station ahead to be the greatest experience you'll ever have, keep moseying on down the highway. Eventually, you'll get to the corner of Main and Tanyard where there's a church that speaks of a God that offers something better than a place that sells kerosene, Doritos, and Pepsi.

In Christ,  
Pastor Will



**United Methodist Women**  
(Linda Walters, President)

There will be **no UMW meeting in September** since we had a called meeting on August 29. Our next meeting is Monday, October 3 at 10:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room. The program will be given by Charlotte Brooks, District UMW Resources Chair.

All reports, including the reading program, are due to the district by September 15.

We are preparing a continental breakfast and lunch for The Hermitage Guild on Tuesday, September 13 at our church. We are also hosting the District Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 23 at 3:00 p.m. Please join us if you would like to help with either of these programs.

Ladies, it's time to begin the UMW 2017 Reading Program. All books are on the bottom two shelves in the Assembly Room. Books from 2012-2017 are eligible for reading. Remember all reading counts. You do not have to complete a plan. If you are interested in completing a plan, take a brochure from the yellow folder with the sign-in/sign-out sheet. Don't forget to sign out your books. I use this sheet to do the reading report in August.

Do you feel called to be more involved in UMW? We are in need of a secretary and a treasurer for 2017. Please see Linda Walters or Hazel Henderson if you are interested.

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.

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.



All women of the church are invited to the Ladies Bible Study that begins September 20. We will be studying "Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman" by Beth Moore. We will meet 9:30-11:30 a.m., in the Assembly Room (Redeemer's SS Classroom). Books will cost \$16 per person. Please notify Linda Walters (540-346-2004; lindaw@shentel.net) or Peggy Hodges (540-483-0771; [peggyjhodges@hotmail.com](mailto:peggyjhodges@hotmail.com)) as soon as possible if you plan to participate so we can order books. Invite your friends and family to come too!



UMM

**United Methodist Men**  
(P.D. Hambrick, President)

The United Methodist Men will resume their monthly breakfast meetings on September 18 at 8:45 a.m. We encourage all men in the church to attend.

We will mow the grass at Henry Fork Service Center on September 3 at 8:00 a.m. See you there!



**SERVING LUNCH AT  
STEPPING STONE SOUP KITCHEN**

On Thursday, September 22 and Tuesday, September 27, 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!



**College Students  
Addresses Still Needed**

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.

**Flower Chart**

We still have some Sundays available to reserve your special Sunday to provide altar flowers during the worship service. 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.



**Charge Conference**

Charge Conference will be on Sunday, November 6. Please mark your calendars!



**New Member!**

On August 21, we welcomed Evelynne Rash-Davis by transfer of letter from Bonsack UMC.



**Vital Congregation Statistics for July**

- I. Finances—Church Operating Budget
 

Amount Brought Forward From 2015	\$21,377	
Budgeted Offerings <u>Expected</u> to Receive through 7/31/16		\$156,947
<u>Actual</u> Offerings Received through 7/31/16	<b>\$144,935</b>	
Budgeted Expenses Expected to Spend through 7/31/16		\$156,709
Actual Expenses Paid through 7/31/16	<b>&lt;\$150,447&gt;</b>	
Ending Balance, 7/31/16	<b>\$15,865</b>	
- II. Average Worship Attendance = 148  
Average Sunday School Attendance = 52
- III. Average Number of Small Groups Meeting each Week = 12
- IV. Total Number of people engaged in missions, to date = 132



## Youth News

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

Hi RMUMC friends!!

As I write this, students are well into their second week back to classes, and it appears that summer is coming to an end and that the leaves will be turning, and boots and scarves will be emerging from closets soon. The youth and children at RMUMC have had such a fun summer, and I don't want it to stop. We just had our Back to School Bash and it was a blast! There was lots of food, fellowship and fun games, what could be better?

While we are sad that summer is coming to a close, we are so excited to begin our fall programming! Sunday night youth meetings started back on August 21, 5:30-7:00 p.m. I am praying that the Lord is going to do wonderful things through our weekly meetings! If you are a student and haven't had a chance to check one of our youth meetings out, I encourage you to join us and bring a friend.

Some other exciting things we will be doing this fall are going to Scaremare at Liberty University on October 9 and having our annual Harvest Party on October 26. We are so looking forward to these things! Please continue to keep our students in your prayers as they begin this new school year. Also a huge thanks to all the volunteers who help with our youth and children's programs. We appreciate you more than you know and couldn't do it without you.

Blessings,  
Lindsey and Josh

## Music Notes

(Lynn Meeks, Director of Music  
Ministries)



This time of year is so exciting! I have new music for all the choirs and the seasonal music has been chosen and ordered.

**Our first handbell rehearsal will be Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.** At our first rehearsal, we'll begin with a piece to present in worship in October as well as starting some great Thanksgiving and Christmas music. Remember, I'm looking for adults, middle school, and high school students. I'm hoping for an overflow crowd!

**Calling mature 4-year-olds through fifth graders! Join us for Wonderful Wednesday!** Come enjoy some fun songs and games as well as our Bible story and craft. I hope to see our returning friends as well as lots of new faces. See you on **September 7 at 5:00 p.m.!!**

It is very important to have an accurate head count for our first meeting since we need to plan how much food and how many craft projects to prepare. **If you haven't registered your child yet, don't worry, just let me know as soon as possible that they are coming and also if you are available to volunteer. We really need more helpers!! You may call the church office (483-5338) anytime.** We're going to have a great year!

**New Members/Welcome Back Members Chancel Choir night is September 7 at 7:00 p.m.** Since some faithful members have "retired" there are some empty seats we really need filled!!! We will begin some new pieces, start to look at our Thanksgiving music and Christmas cantata and have time for refreshments and fellowship. **If you enjoy singing, whether you have been in a choir before or not, I**

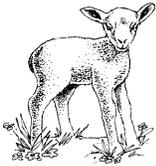
(continued on page 6)

**hope you will prayerfully consider joining us on September 7.** (This choir is open to middle and high school students, as well as adults.) See you then!

All choirs meet upstairs in the Music Room beside the children's Sunday school area. Adults, if you shy away from stairs, take the elevator to the fourth floor! Wonderful Wednesday parents, I would like an adult to come with your child upstairs at 5:00 p.m. and one of our volunteers will escort them downstairs to the parking lot level at 6:30 p.m.

I hope everyone has had a restful summer. I can't wait to see you in choir!

Love and Peace,  
Lynn



### **Little Lambs in the News**

(Jan Mohler, Director)

We are so blessed to be opening our Little Lambs doors for another school year. After a well-attended Parent Orientation, everyone was excited to get started.

Our annual trike-a-thon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will be the last week in September. If anyone would like to donate to St. Jude on behalf of our Little Lambs, you can see Ms. Rebecca in the nursery on Sundays or leave an envelope with Valerie in the church office during the week. The trike-a-thon is a wonderful way to introduce that serving others we don't know can be meaningful and fun all at the same time.

As always, members and friends of the congregation are invited to come read a story or just visit with the children. They love special guests and Ms. Rebecca and I are usually pretty flexible with our schedule.

We still have some room so if you hear someone lamenting that they didn't get their child into preschool please send them our way.

Blessings,  
Jan

## **Modern miracles**

At the mention of miracles, we often picture the biblical kind: a dead person brought back to life, a small amount of food feeding a crowd, sight restored to a blind man. Yet even today we look for unexpected healings or an earthquake victim found alive after days amid rubble.

But consider someone born with poor eyesight who, thanks to technology, can work as a professional proofreader or create intricate digital paintings. Consider someone with a prosthetic leg who can run and even win races. Consider someone who, thanks to a donated heart, kidney or blood, continues to live. Consider friends in the United States and Europe who can connect in "real time," offering support during a crisis.

Technology – whose source is the human brain created by God – makes possible a new, modern-day type of miracle. When used for good, it can overcome barriers, allowing us to celebrate life and serve one another. Miracles, indeed!

## **Giving your all**

Christ says, "Give me all.  
No half-measures are any good.  
Hand over the whole natural self, all the desires which you think innocent as well as the ones you think wicked – the whole outfit. I will give you a new self instead. In fact, I will give you Myself:  
my own will shall become yours."

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*



Thank you for all your expressions of love and concern.

Blessings to this wonderful church family,  
Ann Coffey



### **Prayer Requests**

#### **Prayer Concerns:**

Our country, those serving in our armed forces, and our church; Marsha Robertson; Marion Higgins; Gary and Betty Hatfield; Martha Ann Naff; Beryl King; Charlie & Eleanor Easter; Mark Singleton; Teresa Atkins; Jennifer Cooper; Tommy Barrett; 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; Margaret Linkous; Hilda Morris; Eva Prillaman; Ann Robinson; and Dot Wimmer.



Kathy Palmieri and Family in the death of her mother-in-law, Carol Palmieri, on August 6.

Taylor Jones and Family in the death of her father, Ken Jones, on August 18.

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

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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**