

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
Website: www.rm-umc.org
Our Mission: "To Know Jesus and Share His Love"



May 2022



United Women of Faith

Mission Workday 2022

Please join us on **Monday, May 2** for a church wide mission workday in the fellowship hall. We will meet at **10:00 a.m.** until about **2:00 p.m.** Come for all or some of the time. We will be working on a special project we will be doing with the youth in September and packing and checking the UMCOR hygiene and school kits we have collected this past year. These kits will go to Annual Conference in June. We will find a job for YOU. Please bring sharp scissors, pins, and measuring tapes if you have these items. A salad and baked potato bar lunch will be provided.



Mother's Day Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will sponsor their annual Mother's Day breakfast on Sunday, May 8, at 9:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. All mothers and their families are invited to this delicious complimentary breakfast prepared by the men in honor of all mothers on their special day!



Listed below are our 2022 high school graduates and their future plans.

Jackson Amos – Emory & Henry College
Lili Call – University of Tennessee
Will English – Virginia Western Community College
Tori Huffman – Virginia Western Community College

Congratulations and best wishes Jackson, Lili, Will, and Tori!

Our 2022 college graduate is **Daniel Cundiff** with a Master's Degree in Education and Curriculum from Radford University. He is currently teaching art at Patrick Henry High School in Roanoke. Congratulations Daniel!

Graduate Sunday

Graduate Recognition Sunday will be observed on Sunday, May 15. We will be recognizing this year's graduates. Let our graduates know that we are proud of them by your attendance.





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To Know Jesus And To Share His Love

Dear RMUMC,

These days we hear often about supply chain issues. We can't get the refrigerator we want until Halloween. Cream cheese was in short supply for a while. Now, canned biscuits are hard to come by.

While economists might first see our woes in 2022 as supply chains breaking down, what if the real problem is on the other side of the coin. What if instead of supply chain issues, we have demand issues? What if our problem is we want too much, we crave too much, we demand too much?

In the Bible, the people crave all the time. They crave to be like gods. They crave to go back to Egypt. They crave their general's spouse. They crave to be like the idolaters they live amongst. They crave to be lukewarm, riding the middle.

The cravings, the demands don't stop once the Bible's final words are written. These cravings take shape inside our hearts too. My demands are many. Great and small, they infect me with a quivering instability, a ceaseless fidgeting of my knee. You might not see it, but sometimes the table jiggles. I know the agitations are there.

This of course is works-based righteousness. The idea that I can prove my worth before God if I just complete a task, climb a mountain, finish a report, make someone laugh, cook a fabulous 5-star meal, run a race in under 8 minutes a mile, tell a perfectly crafted story, clear my desk of the to-do list. If only, I tell myself. Do you have the same inner dialogue?

Do we demand too much? What if there were a way to turn down the radio of our demands? What about some serenity now?

17th century French Mathematician Blaise Pascal once wrote, "There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the Creator, made known through Jesus Christ." Perhaps our demands are simply misplaced. We've traded the love of the Creator for love of the creature, as Paul aptly put it.

As I preach on the Ten Commandments for many weeks, we will return again and again to the idea that God ordains a path of life for us all. That the LORD alone is worthy of our praise, the LORD alone is the one who led us out of slavery. Our primary demand must be to be in relationship with the LORD. Everything else, everyone else, everywhere else will disappoint. Our God never does. Our God never will.

In Christ,
Pastor Will



United
Women
in Faith

(Debbie Caulder, President)

Mission Workday: May 2, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. We will work on hygiene kits, school kits, and blankets for a Youth Project. Lunch will be a salad and potato bar. Please join us!

Sunday, May 15: After church we will partner with our Youth for a **Yard Clean-up Day**. Bring a bagged lunch.

Thanks to all who helped with the Lenten Luncheon!

Mark your Calendar: June 6 Annual Picnic at the home of Dan and Linda Walters from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

The Reading Program continues. You may check out any of the books on the shelf labeled UMW Reading Program in the Assembly Room. Simply sign each book out in the red folder and sign it in when you return it. If you take the children's books, please keep track of the names of the children to whom you read. Children count as readers too!

The UWF continues to collect soda can tabs and stamps. The box for the collections is in the hall to the left of the Narthex on the windowsill near the mailboxes.

We welcome all women of the church to join us. Please contact Debbie Caulder (540-204-2266 or Debra.Caulder@yahoo.com) or any other United Methodist Woman if you are interested or have questions. Check out the new website: UWFaith.org.



On Tuesday, May 24 and Thursday, May 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!



FEED THE
CHILDREN

Sontag Nutrition Program

(Kelly Peterson and Terri Naff, Coordinators)

Below is the schedule for baggers and deliverers for May.

Baggers: Roger and Nancy Middaugh

Deliverers:

Week of May 2-6:

Benny and Annette Board

Week of May 9-13:

Jack Collins

The next week is the last week of school and it is a short week for students. Therefore, there will be no more food deliveries after the second week of May. We plan on making several extra food bags to be delivered during that second week.

We would like to sincerely thank the person/persons who placed an Easter lily in church for each of us. It meant so much to us. We truly feel blessed to be able to serve our church in this very important outreach program.

Samaritan Offering

The Samaritan offering for Virginia United Methodist Homes will be received from Mother's Day, May 8, through Father's Day, June 19. Your gift supports residents who have been blessed by longevity but have outlived their financial resources. Samaritan gifts are not used for operational, capital, or administrative cost but are instead made available only for benevolent care. Make your checks payable to RMUMC and designate "Samaritan Offering" on the memo line. Thank you!



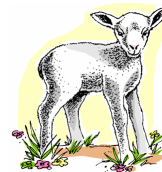
Help Kids MAKE WAVES!
Sign-up to be a VBS volunteer.

Kids are a part of the Church NOW! Be a part of helping them see how much they can do as they learn about and grow in their relationship with Jesus. Take a moment to prayerful consider how you can lend your gifts and talents to making VBS a time of fun, learning, and growth. You can be a part of any one of our teams: music, crafts, admin, decorating, and more. To sign-up, visit rmumc.org/vbs/ and click on the Volunteer button.



Photogs Wanted

Every week, Pastor Will likes to feature pictures from events throughout the church. If you snap a picture of ministry in action, can you think to send it to Pastor Will? If you do, send it to will@rm-umc.org, he would love to feature it in an upcoming e-newsletter so that we all can celebrate the ways in which God is active in our church and community. Of course, it doesn't have to be ministry on church grounds and it doesn't have to be ministry directly tied to RMUMC. How God is working is always worth a 📷.



Little Lambs in the News

(Kelsey Dillon, Director)

Little Lambs had a fantastic April. Each Easter party had a hopping good time. All the children enjoyed learning the Easter story as well.

We are so excited for May. May is going to be a very busy month. The Little Lambs are excited for our upcoming field trip, moving on ceremony, and so many other activities we have planned. Both classes this month will learn about "*finishing the race*" - 2 Timothy 4:7.

We are now in full swing for registration for fall. The 3-year-old class is full, but we are still looking for 4-year-olds to join us. The Little Lambs wish you a magnificent May and a safe summer.

Blessings!
Kelsey



(Lynn Meeks, Director of Music Ministries)

On Mother's Day, May 8, we will again celebrate Children's Sabbath. The children will lead our worship through prayers, scripture, message, and songs. The day's message will be the musical, "The Tale of the Three Trees." This musical is a fresh retelling of the life of Jesus. Mark your calendars and plan to celebrate this Mother's Day in a special way.

Our **last Wonderful Wednesday** for this season will be May 11. I plan to have an end-of-the-year picnic in Mary Elizabeth Park from 5:30-6:30 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet on the music bulletin board near the Assembly Room if you can help with food. This will be a chance for the children to play in the park, eat, sing and just enjoy being together. Parents are invited to stay and picnic and help with supervision.

Jubilant Ringers are preparing a piece for worship in May. This will complete rehearsals for this season. Thanks everyone for all the wonderful music! We will resume rehearsals in September!

Chancel Choir members, Dea McClure (flute), Charlotte Hill (trumpet), and Jeanne Banks, thank you so much for the beautiful Holy Week/Easter music. You worked so hard to make the cantata and instrumental music outstanding! Thank you to Jane Roseberry, Jami Clements, and all the participants in the Good Friday cantata for saying "yes" and doing such a wonderful job.

Love and Peace,
Lynn



The Youth Group are eagerly looking ahead to the summer season and all the amazing opportunities that season holds. This past month, they volunteered as the leads on the Easter Egg Hunt. Thanks go out especially to Martha Sue Gibson for providing a TON of delicious cookies that were distributed at the hunt. The hunt was small, yet well appreciated by all the little ones that got to find the over four hundred eggs. The youth group also went to the trampoline park in Salem and bounced their cares away.

Next up for the youth group will be a yard clean-up day. We're asking for church members that are looking for their yards to get a little TLC. We'll have roving bands of youth out and about as we mow, rake, and plant flowers throughout Franklin County. If you would like your yard to be one of the ones we hit, please contact the church office and nominate your address! The workday will be May 15 after the worship service.

Prayer's certain payoff

Prayers prayed in the Spirit never die until they accomplish God's intended purpose. His answer may not be what we expected, or when we expected it, but God often provides much more abundantly than we could think or ask. He interprets our intent and either answers or stores up our prayers. Sincere prayers are never lost [and] will never be wasted or go unrewarded.

—Missionary Wesley Duewel



Vital Congregation Statistics for March

I. Finances—Church Operating Budget

Amount Brought Forward From 2021	\$54,974	
Budgeted Offerings Expected to Receive through 3/31/22		\$65,127
Actual Offerings Received through 3/31/22	\$87,928	
Budgeted Expenses Expected to Spend through 3/31/22		\$77,499
Actual Expenses Paid through 3/31/22	<\$66,151>	
Ending Balance, 3/31/22	\$76,751	

- II. Average Worship Attendance = 119
 Average Online Viewers = 36
 Average Small Groups Attendance = 26
-



The church has been so supportive. We knew we were at the right place when we came to the Christmas service two years ago. It's so nice to have an extended family and shoulders to fall apart on. Thank you, church, for taking food to dad on that first nightmare day. Thank you church for all the prayers for me. I'm not a public speaker. I think of Martha Sue often when I love to say something to a crowd. I know God is telling me to be strong, but I've almost broken down and can't fall apart around my dad. I know God is looking out after all of us. God bless all of you.

Love,
 Linda and Jerry Davis, and Clarence (Linda's dad)

Our fun-loving God

Whence comes this idea that if what we are doing is fun, it can't be God's will?
 The God who made giraffes, a baby's fingernails, a puppy's tail, a crooknecked squash,
 the bobwhite's call and a young girl's giggle has a sense of humor.
 Make no mistake about that.

—Catherine Marshall



Happy Birthday to:

- May 3 Harmon English
- May 3 Pete Santrock
- May 5 Kemper Hodges
- May 6 Nathan Angle
- May 6 Katherine Flora
- May 6 Conner Quinn
- May 7 Melinda Justice
- May 9 Abraham Tosh
- May 10 Arlo Gibson
- May 12 Linda Davis
- May 12 Wendy Saunders
- May 13 Eric Lorens
- May 13 Ezekiel Waller
- May 16 Ti Godfrey
- May 16 Susan Hatchett
- May 16 Wayne Sink
- May 16 Bruce Tuttle
- May 22 Jeanne Banks
- May 23 Rachel Worley
- May 28 John Godfrey
- May 28 Jennifer Haynes
- May 29 Heather Quinn
- May 31 Cameron Keys
- May 31 Abbie Pinckard

Happy Anniversary to:

- May 12 Arnold and Rebecca Dillon
- May 14 Cecil and Doris Young
- May 22 Geroge and Annette Board
- May 22 George and Debra Loya
- May 29 Craig and Debbie Teeple



**REQUESTS
— FOR —
PRAYER**

Prayer Concerns:

Our country, our church and those serving in our armed forces; People of Ukraine; Kathleen Higgins; Lillie Hatchett; Bobby Hodges; Jerry Davis; Tim Funk; Barbara Huffman; Lynn

Cooper; Anna Campbell; Betty Dillon; CO Brickey; Dick Shoemaker; Jennifer Cooper; Eva Prillaman; John Cooper; Arnold Dillon, Sr.; Richard McDaniel (Lindsay McDaniel); Doris Ferguson (wife of Bill Ferguson, former pastor of RMUMC); Everett Cotter (LuAnn Dunbar); Becky Bennett (Jennie Ardis); Matt Foutz (Jennifer Altice); Sophia Moore (CO Brickey); Mike Shea (Enna Roseberry); Melissa Hays-Smith (Marsha Robertson); Debbie Ford (Ben Whitesell); and Dennis Holland (Cyndee Holland).

Forget-Me-Nots:

Eleanor Woody



Ben Whitesell and Family in the death of his cousin, Jimmy Sanders on March 29

Family of Shirley Vaughn who passed away on April 10

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35 North Main Street
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STANDARD**
US POSTAGE PAID
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ROCKY MOUNT,
VA 24151

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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
Rebecca Dillon, Children's Church Coordinator
Craig Jamison, Custodian

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.)



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
10:00 a.m. Small Groups
10:55 a.m. Worship