

# The Herald

## RUMC Newsletter



*April 2018*  
*Issue No. 107*




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*April is*  
*National Volunteer Month*

*Thanks*  
for VOLUNTEERING!

Thank you to all of  
our church volun-  
teers for everything  
you do for us.



“It’s never too  
early to begin  
‘scrubbie-ing’!”  
~S.B.

### **RUMC IN THE NEWS**

Rockville United Methodist Church has received some good press recently. Copies of the articles from the Journal Inquirer are on our website on the **RUMC in the News** page under **Share Your Spark**.

Dear Church Family,

As always, Easter was a special time in our church family and the events of the ***Palm Sunday Breakfast, The Ecumenical Maundy Thursday Service, The Good Friday Walk and the Easter Worship Service*** was meaningful to our faith.



Our religious faith is based on the empty tomb, when Jesus conquered sin and death. However in the first week after Easter our lectionary centers on the doubts of the Apostle Thomas. If we were to look in a spiritual window, it might surprise many that we are much like him. When you think of it doubt in itself is not necessarily a bad thing, but an unsettled state of opinion. It can also be a means of spiritual growth with a little research and reflection.

Thomas was fortunate; he eventually saw Jesus and believed. But if any of you still have doubts, let me challenge you to do something about it. Don't rely on hearsay ideas or erroneous information that you might have been taught, but settle the question once and for all.

May I suggest you read the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John's account of the death and resurrection and do a systematic analysis. Absorb the words and let them speak to you. Read both pro and con resurrection articles on the internet. Let me recommend Frank Morison's ***Who Moved the Stone*** or Josh McDowell's ***More than a Carpenter and New Evidence that Demands a Verdict*** or the cd ***The Case for Christ*** by Lee Strobel.

Be honest in your appraisal and hopefully, as you examine the evidence, you can say like the Apostle Thomas of old, ***"My Lord and my God"***.

Pastor Paul

Bishop Devadhar and District Superintendent David Calhoun have announced that they intend to transfer Pastor Paul O'Neil to the Hillsborough United Methodist church in New Hampshire effective July 1, 2018. Pastor O'Neil's replacement is pending.

The United Methodist Church operates under the "itinerant" system, which means pastors go and serve wherever the bishop sends them. In a given year there are retirements, sickness, family considerations, etc.; thus the annual movement of pastors. The bishop's goal is to match the gifts and graces of the particular pastor and the ministry needs of a given congregation; these will be considered for Rockville United Methodist Church.

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It has been a delight serving you in the gift card program and working with Lisa. Sadly, it is time for us to move on. If you are interested in co-coordinating the Gift Card Program, please let me know. It will require about an hour and a half each week or less. It is beneficial if you know Excel and have email access. If you have a computer and don't know Excel, I would be glad to teach you. We have made about \$4000 since its inception.

~Janet O.

## **April Christian Education Newsletter**

**April, 2018**



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE:**

- April 1: Easter Sunday, no Sunday school class but a movie will be offered for those 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and under who do- not want to stay in church. Easter Bag Hunt after church- weather will decide if it's indoors or out.
- April 8: Sunday school class after children's message
- April 15: Spring break, no Sunday school class, but a movie will be offered.
- April 22: Sunday school class after children's message.
- April 29: Earth Day celebration. Bring some gardening shovels, rakes, and flowers to help clean -up and beautify our church grounds.

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS:**

April 22: after church (this class was changed to this date to allow for those away on vacation)

### **SUNDAYS BEYOND SUNDAYS YOUTH GROUP:**

- April 7: Boda-Borg . **Another driver is needed to help transport the youth to this activity**
- April 8 & 22: Wyld Life is available for the youth to attend. The group meets from 4:00 pm -6:00 pm at Tolland Rec Center. The kids who attended last month had a great time. We are giving this information out because Don and I are not always available to attend these meeting with the youth, but they are open to individuals. We will be checking our schedules to try to reschedule our sleepover and let everyone know the date.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:**

June 25-29. Registration forms are now available. Let your family and neighbors know. This years theme is "Shipwrecked; Rescued By Jesus".

**Director of Christian Education is Linda Shivers.**

**contact info: [necsvga@aol.com](mailto:necsvga@aol.com), home- 860-871-9164, cell-860-558-7632**

## **RUCM Vacation Bible School**

**June 25 to June 29, 2018**

**9 am to 12 pm**

**\$20 per child (\$40 Maximum per family)**

**Children from age 3 (toilet trained) to 5th grade**

**(just finished as of June 2018)**

Please fill out and return one (1) registration form per family with the payment to Rockville Untied Methodist Church. Make checks out to RUMC with VBS in the note section.

**REGISTRATION CLOSSES ON JUNE 14, 2018.**

**VBS REGISTRATION**  
**Student's Name(s):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_ Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Friend they would like to be with? \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_ Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Friend they would like to be with? \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_ Grade completed \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Friend they would like to be with? \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_ Grade completed \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Friend they would like to be with? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please note that we may not be able to place all children with the Friends they request to be with, but we will try.

Parent/Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

To keep costs down, we will provide one music CD per family. If you would like additional CDs, please enclose \$4.00 for each.

\*\*\*\*\*

# of children registered \_\_\_\_ at \$20 each (or \$40 family cap) = \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed for **additional** music CD \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_. Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_



# **RUMC Braided Bread Fundraiser Sale**

## **Thank you for your participation in our Braided Bread Fundraiser. We raised \$424 for the church.**



### **GOOD FRIDAY WALK 2018**

Ninety-six walkers gathered on Good Friday morning to sign in, greet one another, and pray before starting out on this year's twenty mile walk: individuals, families, friends—all walking to raise money for Sharing, Inc. and Cornerstone Overnight Shelter. All walking because Jesus walked so many, many years ago. 1/3 of the money raised goes to Cornerstone Overnight Shelter; 2/3 to Sharing, Inc.

AWARDS were given to Charlotte Gerow for participating for 10 years; Sandy Bogan for participating for 20 years; Nat Woodruff for completing 200 miles; Stan Culy for participating for 30 years; Steve Yoder for participating 35 years; Karen Stearns for walking 500 miles; Janice Klingman for walking 700 miles; George Klingman for walking 700 miles and Mark Thompson for walking 800 miles!! Kay Doherty was with us to make these presentations, and she expressed her heartfelt appreciation to all of us for supporting her and Sharing, Inc. for so many years!!

- ◆ 96 Walkers, including 33 from RUMC
- ◆ Walkers and workers came from 17 Churches and Agencies.
- ◆ \$9,670 Pledged; \$5,160 turned in on Good Friday
- ◆ Workers: 72
- ◆ Youngest walker: 7, Caleb McPeck
- ◆ Youngest pledged participant: 18 months, Rae Yoder
- ◆ Oldest: 80, Stan Culy
- ◆ 79 Walked the whole 20 miles; 17 Did the very best they could!!

We are thankful and grateful for the law enforcement support from the three towns we walk in—Vernon, Ellington and East Windsor. Radio spots, newspaper articles, posters and other publicity made our efforts more visible to willing walkers and workers. Sign putter uppers, stop hosts and workers, crossing guards, drivers, registrars, walkers, cookie bakers, food donators, cleaner uppers, statistic compilers, pledgers, prayers and others—all together make our Walk one of the very best!! Many hands make light work!!

So, on behalf of the 2018 Good Friday Walk Committee: Steve and Sylvia Yoder, Bob Lyle, Carol Robbins, Sandy Gallup, Don Ross, Larry Meehan, Claudia Steele, Kay Doherty, Bryan Flint, Pastor Paul O'Neil and Judie Culy—we truly thank you for your support and prayers all these many years.

Remember the Walk isn't over until all the pledges are sent in.

Jesus walked on Good Friday and continues to walk with us each and every day. Praise God!!



# Rise<sup>SM</sup> AGAINST HUNGER

food • community • sustainability

formerly **STOP HUNGER NOW**

**Meal Packaging Event**

**Saturday April 21, 2018**

**3 to 5 pm**

We need approximately 40 volunteers at the event to portion, seal, and pack for shipment 10,000 meals. Approximately \$3,000 must be raised to support this life-changing event. Donations are being collected and the sign-up sheet is available at Rockville United Methodist Church or online at

<https://shn.secure.force.com/events/homepage?id=701f1000002qpymAAA>. Checks brought to the church should be made out to RUMC with “Rise Against Hunger” or “Stop Hunger Now” in the memo.

The meals provide protein, vitamins, minerals, and carbohydrates to the malnourished. They are packaged in sealed plastic and, unopened, can last up to two years. Many of the recipients are school children who otherwise would be too hungry to concentrate on their lessons. These meals have a huge impact on increasing education levels and breaking the chain of poverty. <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>



## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Our April 8, 2018 Baked Potato Bar Fellowship Fundraiser collected \$1,181. This brings our total collected at church and online to \$2,477.

**We need to raise another \$368 by Monday  
April 16, 2018.**

Don't forget you can still sign up to work the event on the list on the RUMC bulletin board or online. The link is on the RUMC website.

## LINKS TO ONLINE NEWSLETTERS

Here are links to some newsletters that may interest you:

**Cornerstone:** <https://www.joomag.com/magazine/my-first-magazine-cornerstone-newsletter-march-2017/0041000001487529753>

**Accion Medica Christiana:** <http://www.nicaraguacovenant.org/newsletter.html>

**HVCC:** <http://files.constantcontact.com/e1ebfd6201/8eddb7c7-d5c2-4844-aa26-960d17684227.pdf> (sign up for the newsletter is on <http://hvcchelps.org/>).

**Interpreter Magazine:** <http://www.interpretermagazine.org/magazine/current-issue>

Interpreter Magazine will no longer be a print document; it will be an on-line publication only.

## **THE MARRI FAMILY\***

In December, 2015 Mohamed and Aisha Marri and their seven children arrived in Connecticut under the Refugee Resettlement Act. The Marri's come from a small town near Aleppo, Syria. They fled their home in Syria six years ago and lived in a refugee camp in southern Turkey for the next five years. Mahmoud, their oldest child, describes the camp days, "We lived in a tent for most of those years, our family and several other relatives. The last few months we were moved to a nice apartment with running water, a kitchen, and a bathroom. Soon after that we received notice that we would be moving to America." During those years in the camp the children received very few opportunities to attend school. Now they are catching up as they attend school in New Britain.

Mohammed and Aisha have eight delightful children. I can vouch for that as I see them every week. A new baby girl was born this week making the number of children eight. Then there is Ahmed, just two and arriving here as an infant. Wiaam is five, a girl with a strong will and very smart. She will start school in the fall. Suhaib is a sweet boy who is doing well in Kindergarten and learning to read and speak English. Ahib is in third grade and does well with spoken English. She frequently interprets for her dad. Aamina and Muna arrive home from school all smiles saying they had a good day. The girls are just a year apart and in addition to school they are expected to help with household chores. The girls are wearing the jibab, the traditional head covering. Mahmoud, the eldest boy, is in middle school and does very well with spoken English, frequently taking charge with his younger siblings. He is especially good with his little two-year-old brother. This is a busy household and can get a little chaotic and noisy. This is an adjustment for me as I grew up an only child, but I love it, always gaining more than I give. Being with this family is complex as our cultures are quite different and their needs here as they settle into live in America are great. There is a fine line between giving them fish to eat and teaching them how to fish. I struggle with that all of the time.

A small army of people interact with the Marri's. Perhaps the main groups are the Mosque in Berlin with Wail and Ghoufran Allababidi, spending a great deal of time. The Rockville United Methodist Church Refugee Committee, led by Steve Yoder and Stan Culy have been very involved from the beginning.

Jackie Abbott from NUMC has recently joined the group. She encouraged our Mission Committee and the Knitters to give Aisha a baby shower, to celebrate new life. The shower was proclaimed a huge success.

Immigration is in the news nearly every day. We are blessed to see immigrants here in our midst and begin to understand their plight and their hope for a better life.

\*Adapted from an article in the North United Methodist Church Newsletter by Jackie Abbott.



### **Baby Yumna on April 3, 2018**

"Aisha is actually feeding her with a bottle and using a pacifier. Becoming real Americans."

~ Steve

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Cornerstone Foundation 4th Annual Prom Event**  
**Saturday, April 7th & Sunday, April 8th**  
**10 am to 3 pm**

**Caregiver Support Group**  
**Tuesdays 1:30 to 3 pm**  
**Hockanum Valley Community Council**

**Boy Scouts Troop 15 Spaghetti Supper**  
**April 28, 2018**  
**seating from 4 pm to 7 pm**  
**donation \$5**

**United Congregational Church, Tolland**

**Bolton UMC Tag and Bake Sale**  
**Saturday, May 12, 2018**  
(Part of the Bolton town-wide tag sale.)

**Preparing for Natural Disasters and Human-Caused Threats**  
**Saturday – April 28, 2018 9 am to noon**  
**Christ UMC, Northampton, MA**

## METAL/ALUMINUM RECYCLING FOR MISSION SHARES

If you have any metal/aluminum laying around the house, please give it to the church. We will take it to Manchester for scrap metal recycling where we will receive cash. We can make pickups. The money will be used to pay our Mission Shares of \$31, 442. Mission shares supports United Methodist missionaries, local and global mission projects and the administration of the United Methodist Church.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Check out the Mission/Outreach bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for volunteer opportunities in our community.

### Through the Church:

**Church Maintenance:** The GOM's need your help! Since our Grumpy Old Men are getting even older, there are many things they did without fanfare on Wednesday mornings that they can no longer do. We will start posting in the bulletin, on Facebook, and on the website activities where we need help; these are activities octogenarians should no longer be doing. Please keep an eye out for these opportunities, and help where you can.

**Refugee Program:** Please talk to Steve Yoder if you would like to help the Marri family. Transportation and English lessons/practice are two of the opportunities available.

**Prayer Chain:** If anyone is interested in joining the prayer chain and would prefer contact via telephone, please call Phyllis King at (860) 454-5127

**Church Dinners:** The Men's club has stepped down from running the Corned Beef Supper and the Strawberry Fest Dinner. If you are interested in taking over either of these projects, the planning information is available.

### In the Community:

**Cornerstone Foundation:** Volunteers needed for their Youth Outreach Program: home-work help, music, art, team building skills, substance abuse education, employment skills, self-care and sports classes. Email Paula Plante for information or to volunteer: PPPLANT-E10@HOTMAIL.COM.



## APRIL IS PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a neurodegenerative disorder... Symptoms generally develop slowly over years. Some early warning signs of Parkinson's can be found at <http://www.parkinson.org/understanding-parkinsons/10-early-warning-signs>. Scientists are exploring ways to identify biomarkers for PD that can lead to earlier diagnosis and more tailored treatments to slow down the disease process.

**“Every April, the Parkinson's Foundation engages the Parkinson's community near and far to raise awareness about both PD and the foundation...Our theme is ‘Start a Conversation,’ a call to action that urges people to talk about Parkinson's with their friends, family, neighbors, healthcare team, local businesses and community. It also reflects the speech bubble in the foundation's signature P logo.”<sup>1</sup>**

**“Submit a ‘My PD Story’ or encourage someone you know to tell his/her story. ‘My PD’ stories powerfully illustrate what it's like to live with Parkinson's and how our programs and resources provide hope and support. These stories elevate voices we need to hear. Visit [Parkinson.org/MyPDStory](http://Parkinson.org/MyPDStory) to share a story.”<sup>1</sup>**



Although Parkinson's Disease was first identified almost 200 years ago, it was a disease that didn't get much attention. Parkinson's disease became a hot news item when Michael J. Fox announced that he was leaving his popular sitcom due to the affects of the disease. Mr. Fox then directed his considerable energy into gathering the information and experts needed to find a cure. The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research gathers resources for research, clinical trials, fundraising, and awareness in one place, <https://www.michaeljfox.org>. “The Michael J. Fox Foundation is dedicated to finding a cure for Parkinson's disease through an aggressively funded research agenda and to ensuring the development of improved therapies for those living with Parkinson's today. ...Ultimately we have only one definition of success: Scientific solutions that produce tangible improvements in patients' lives.”<sup>2</sup>

**Hartford Hospital is hosting a free Parkinson's disease program called “Exercise 4 Brain Change” on Friday April 20, 2018 from 6 to 7:30 pm at the Hartford HealthCare Movement Disorder Center, 35 Talcottville Road. Registration is required 1-855-442-4373.**

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.parkinson.org/parkinsonsawarenessmonth>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.michaeljfox.org/foundation/promise.html>

### Boy Scouts of America Troop 15 Spaghetti Supper



April 28, 2018  
4:00 to 7:00 pm



\$5 per plate

United Congregational Church

**Special Needs**

Michael Svenson - medical  
 Barbara Sweeney - medical  
 Nick - medical  
 Lindsay - medical  
 Victor - medical  
 The Marri Family  
 Chester Chase - medical  
 Julie - special needs  
 Madison Kanneman - emotional support & medical recovery  
 Jodi - medical  
 Paul Doucette - medical  
 Melina - health  
 Joe DelRio - medical  
 Bruce Rieder - medical  
 Lynn & Mom - emotional support  
 Kate and family and all displaced by natural disasters  
 Judy Delaney - medical  
 Beverly Myers - medical  
 Debbie Balkow - medical  
 Staci Rizner - medical  
 Dianne McLaughlin - medical  
 Colin Thorn - medical  
 Mike Ambrosi - medical  
 Vetta - family tragedy  
 Bob King - medical  
 Ruth & family - healing



**Those in Christian Service**

**Dr. Belinda Forbes**  
 Accion Medica Christiana,  
 Managua, Nicaragua  
**Pastor Kristin White,**  
 Green Street UMC,  
 Augusta, ME

**Our Church Family**

Don Ross - medical  
 Carol Macri - medical  
 Ginny Wehrli  
 Jane Thomas - medical  
 Lucy Maupin - medical  
 Marie Pierce—medical

**Those in nursing homes, Assisted Living and with limited mobility**

June Latkofsky-home  
 Esther Harris-home  
 Eleanor Schreiber-Crestfield Manor  
 Shirley Edwards-Brookdale SW  
 Vita Aiello-Fox Hill  
 Pat Brandt—Pennsylvania  
 Kay Lyke - Crestfield Manor  
 Annette Welton—Brookdale SW  
 Irene Surette—home  
 Leonard Aronson - Vernon Manor  
 Tom Rider - Fox Hill  
 Ray Clark - home  
 Earl Robertson - home  
 Bob King - home  
 Harry Thomas - Woodlake  
 Ginny Wehrli - Indiana

***If you would like a candle lit for a prayer concern or to make a change to this prayer list, please contact the church office at 860-875-6562 or rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net. Thank you.***



Mariah Shivers	April 2	Zachary Glidden	April 19
Judie Culy	April 14	Rebecca Bacha	April 20
Taylor Glidden	April 14	Doreen Ward	April 21
Matthew Yoder	April 16	Michelle Gerow	April 24
Analese Branon	April 16	Brandan Walters	April 28
Donald Ross	April 17	Kevin Chen	April 29
Zachary DeVaux	April 18	Sandra Spivey	April 30

**Quote of the Month**

**“Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won’t stay there.”**

**~Clarence W. Hall**



### April Worship Attendants

#### April 1

Acts 10: 34-43  
Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 (UMH)  
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11  
John 20: 1-18  
Mark 16: 1-8

#### April 8

Acts 4: 32-35  
Psalm 133 (UMH)  
1 John 1:1-2:2  
John 20: 19-31

#### April 15

Acts 3: 12-19  
Psalm 4 (UMH)  
1 John 3:1-7  
Luke 24: 36b-48

#### April 22

Acts 4: 5-12  
Psalm 23 (UMH)  
1 John 3:16-24  
John 10: 11-18

#### April 29

Acts 8: 26-40  
Psalm 22: 25-31 (UMH)  
1 John 4: 7-21  
John 15: 1-8

#### Greeters

Phyllis King, coordinator  
Please see Phyllis if you would like to be a greeter.

#### Liturgists

April 1 David Joy  
April 8 Rebecca Bacha  
April 15 Richard Bacha  
April 23 Sandy Gallup  
April 29 available

#### Acolytes

Don Ross, coordinator.

#### Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour

April 1 Easter  
April 8 Baked Potato Bar for Stop Hunger Now  
April 15 O'Neil  
April 23 available  
April 29 Lisa Williams

#### Altar Flowers

Please fill out a blue form and turn it in to the office manager.

April 1 Lutz Fund  
April 8 available  
April 15 Eileen Gay  
April 23 available  
April 29 Lisa Williams

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Rise Against Hunger  
(Stop Hunger Now)  
April 21, 2018  
3 to 5 pm**

**Confirmation Sunday  
May 20, 2018**

Last month, we collected a total of **47** food items. The food was distributed to the Cornerstone Food Pantry. Thank you for helping your local community.

Cornerstone has 488 families registered for food assistance. The most needed items for April are cereal, pasta or rice side dishes, baked beans, spaghetti sauce, fruit cups, pudding cups, crackers, canned soup, dessert mixes, ketchup and mustard.

**Wanted: Coffee Table without glass for refugee family. Call Steve Yoder 860-644-2663.**



**Have you made your will?  
Have you remembered  
your church?**

**The District Office has moved:  
310 Hartford Turnpike  
Suite 1  
Vernon, CT 06066**

**Our winter coat box was filled and donated to The Cornerstone Clothing Bank four times this winter. Thank you for helping to keep your neighbors in need warm this winter.**

Return Service  
Requested

## **Rockville United Methodist Church**



**Adult Study — 9:00 am**  
**Sunday School 10:00 am**  
**Worship Service 10:00 am**

Coffee & Fellowship follow the worship service  
Nursery Care is available for children 4 and under.



Office Hours 10am-2pm Tuesday-Friday

To update address information or to be removed from the mailing list, please call or e-mail the church office.

### ***Our Mission Statement***

Rockville United Methodist Church is a people seeking to be faithful to God; by reaching out to all, inviting each to a relationship with God, nurturing each in the love of Jesus Christ and sending everyone back into the world to minister in God's name.



Phone: 860-875-6562  
E-mail: rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net  
pastorpaul0202@gmail.com  
Website: www.rockumchurch.com

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*Rev. Paul R. O'Neil, Pastor*  
*Karen Stearns, Music Director*  
*Diane Lajoie, Office Manager*  
*Linda Shivers, Director of Christian Education*  
*Diane Lajoie, Church Custodian*  
*Rev. Stan Culy (Retired)*  
*Dr. Belinda Forbes, Missionary to Nicaragua*