

# RUMC Newsletter

*January 2017*  
*Issue No. 093*



Church Fundraiser - page 4

Refugee Update - page 5

Stop Hunger Now - page 6

RUMW Update - page 7

Community Bulletin Board - page 8



Last month, we collected a total of **64** food items bringing **our 2016 total to 859 items**. The food was distributed to the Hockanum Valley Community Council Food Pantry. Thank you for helping your local community.

Cereal, peanut butter, jelly, canned soup, pasta, fruit cups, tuna, and juice boxes are always needed.

-Suzanne Bird

## Holiday Gift Fund

A BIG HEARTY THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way with the Holiday Gift Fund. Due to your tremendous generosity with contributions and gift purchases for our 3 adopted families, we were able to provide for a 4th family in need. Thank you for opening your hearts so big.

-Kathy Sunderland/Amy Velasquez



Dear Church Family and Friends,

There is a Dennis the Menace cartoon which depicts Dennis lamenting the end of Christmas as the family puts away all the decoration. Dennis says to his father, **“Can’t Christmas go into overtime?”** It is a wish for many, but unfortunately, the answer is no.



At Rockville UMC, we had a wonderful and memorable Advent and Christmas season with special worship services and activities for all. Thanks to everyone who made all this possible and to you who were active participants.

2016 will be remembered as a time where we as a church continued to combine our faith with action, with programs of spiritual devotion and outreach to the community and the world.

As we begin 2017 with new beginnings and possibilities, I would encourage all to have your own personal time with God in addition to Sunday worship. That would make a good New Year’s resolution. Our private time with God is like having exercise for our souls. It forces our attention off ourselves and on to God’s purposes and promises.

Our longing for the Lord is God given. Devotions are a way to cultivate our relationship with the Almighty. Many days it may seem mundane, but in the long run, it will deepen our love for an awareness of Him.

Wishing you God’s blessing in 2017

Pastor Paul



Our Winter Coat box is by the front door. Donations are taken to the Cornerstone Clothing bank for our neighbors in need. So far this winter we have made two trips to Cornerstone thanks to the generous people here at RUMC.

### Church Closings



If our church has to cancel a class, activity or event (examples: worship service, Sunday school, choir practice, dinner event) due to inclement weather, etc., we will post the cancellation notice on WFSB Channel 3. This will be our way of communicating cancellations throughout the winter season. Likely notices are: “No religious ed.” (Sunday school canceled), “Event cancelled” or “Closed”.



I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and is looking forward to a New Year. It was so great to see so many on Christmas Eve- and I meant to say hello to everyone but I had to get right home because of company coming. As you reflect on your New Year's Resolution- I hope you consider making church and prayer a top priority. Worship, fellowship, missions, youth music, youth group, and Bible study, are many of the opportunities our church has to offer families, youth and children.

**Sunday School News:**

- Jan 8- Sunday school after Children's message.
- Jan 15- Sunday school after Children's message.
- Jan 22- Sunday school after Children's message
- Jan 29- Sunday school after Children's message.
- Feb 5- Holy Communion- our table is open to all, and it is up to the parent/guardian if you want your child to join in communion. After Communion children 5th and under will meet in one of the classrooms to practice bells with Jacob Gerow.
- Feb 12- Sunday school after Children's message.

**Sundays Beyond Sundays** (Youth group):

We will be meeting to discuss and plan our Youth Worship Sunday (Feb 5th). We will let you know the day and time. We also will be discussing Mission week this summer (week of July 16)- do we want to sleepover and work in Springfield Mass for the week or do community missions in CT and sleep at home in the evening.

Basketball -has now started. Jan 7 and 21; Feb 4 and 18, and March 4 and 18- 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm Wapping Community Church, 1790 Ellington Rd South Windsor, CT 06074. Get exercise and have some fun while you're playing. If weather is questionable please contact Linda Shivers- cell# 860-558-7632 or home# 860-871-9164. Bring a friend, bring a snack; open to 4th grade and older.

**Grove Street Music Project:**

Keep an eye on your text messages from Mrs. Stearns , Mr Gerow, or Mrs Corne for schedule and times.

Before you know it we will be discussing Easter, Earth Day and Vacation Bible school!! When times get tough let go and let God and hope to see you in church. Call me with any questions, concerns or if you are interested in helping out. home # 860-871-9164 cell # 860-558-8546

Blessings, Linda Shivers

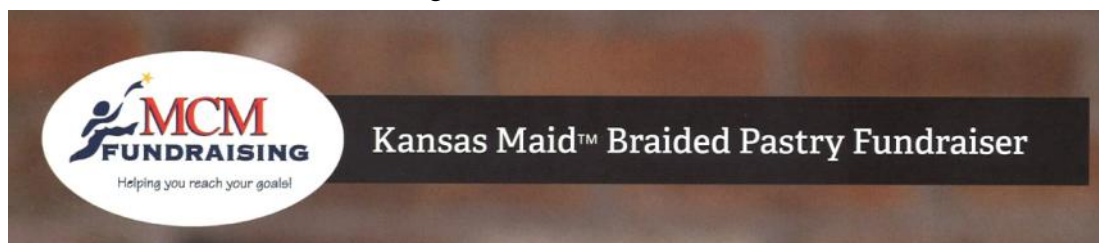
Dear God,  
In this moment, I let go of all thoughts and concerns.  
When I let go, I am able to receive.  
When my hands are formed into tight fists, I cannot open my hands to receive anything.  
When I hang onto tight control,  
When I close off my heart and my spirit,  
I cannot receive your blessings for me.  
I let go to receive your blessings.  
Letting go in this moment, I receive your loving presence around me and within me.  
Help me to let go when I am feeling overwhelmed, so that I may receive your peace.  
Help me to let go when I feel fear so that in fear's place I may receive love and courage.  
I let go of problems and challenges in order to receive your guidance and clarity.  
I let go and trust you.  
I will not fall.  
You will catch me.  
I let go and trust in the still, small voice inside of me.  
Help me not to struggle but to surrender my struggle to you.  
I gladly receive this gift of letting go and letting you lead me and guide me.  
Amen

# RUMC Fundraiser Sale

Just in time for Easter!

**February 26 to March 17, 2017**

Delivery March 25, 2017



Grab an order form\* and ask your neighbors, friends, co-workers and family if they would like to purchase a 22 oz. pastry for only \$13. RUMC will receive \$4 for every pastry sold.

Strawberry Cream Cheese

Cinnamon

Apple

Cream Cheese

Raspberry

Italian Herb Bread (20 oz.)

9 Caramel Sweet Rolls

9 Cinnamon Sweet Rolls



\*Order forms will be available in February.



## REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT UPDATE

The Marri family arrived from Turkey on December 5th. They were transported in a van from JFK to Hartford where Dave Joy and I helped pick them up. It has been four weeks since they arrived and moved into their new home.

When we met them for the first time that night, in a dark parking lot in Hartford, they were very nervous and tired from their long flight. At the apartment they were greeted by several folks from RUMC and others who had frantically been working up to the last minute to make sure the apartment was ready. Our group of volunteers had the refrigerator and pantry stocked with food and had tea, cheese and fruit waiting for them. Others had just finished installing a new kitchen floor shortly before their arrival. The family soon realized they were in a safe place and among friends. We started seeing lots of smiles and even some hugs from the mother, Alisha. The kids started running around exploring the house. None of them speak English, but the kids all gave us thumbs up and high fives when they found the toys Linda Shiver's Sunday school classes had collected for them.

Since then, we have taken the family to scheduled appointments including their intake interview with Catholic Charities, Department of Social Services, Social Security, their medical exams and Quest labs for blood work. There is still much more work to be done. The most important and most difficult will be to help find a job for the father, Mohamed. We also need to help enroll the parents in an English program and to help enroll the children in school. The family will also need help learning how to use the bus system.

Thanks again for your continued support.

Steve Yoder

---

## Shop to Help your New Year's Resolution!

Whatever you've resolved, we have the card for you!

- **Stocking up on fruits and vegetables to eat healthier this year?** ShopRite \$100.00 and \$25.00 @ 4.0%; Stop & Shop \$100, \$50 and \$25 @ 4.0%; Big Y (any denomination) @ varies; Whole Foods \$100.00 and \$25.00 @ 3.0%
- **Determined to read the classics this year?** Barnes & Noble Bookstores \$25, \$10, \$5.00 @ 9.0%; Amazon.com \$100, \$50.00 and \$25.00 @ 3.0%
- **Need new sneakers to start training for your first 5k?** Bob's Stores \$25.00 @ 9.0%; Foot Locker \$25.00 @ 9.0%
- **Resolved to enjoy the New England outdoors year round?** L.L. Bean \$100 and \$25.00 @ 18.0%; Cabela's \$25.00 @ 11.0%; Under Armour \$25.00 @ 12.0%
- **Job interview for your dream job?** Brooks Brothers \$25.00 @ 14.0%; MasterCuts \$25.00 @ 9.0%; Sephora \$20.00 @ 5.0%; Regis Salons \$25.00 @ 9.0%
- **Resolved to try new adventures this year?** Groupon \$100.00 and \$25.00 @ 7.0%
- **Finishing home renovations on this year's to-do-list?** Home Depot \$1000, \$500, \$100, \$50, \$25 @ 4.0%
- **Is this the year to take that unforgettable vacation?** Delta Airlines \$500.00 and \$250.00 @ 4.0%; Carnival Cruise Lines \$100.00 @ 8.0%; Hyatt Hotels \$100.00 and \$25.00 @ 9.0%; Avis Rental Car \$50.00 @ 8.0%; Budget Rental Car \$50.00 @ 8.0%

**Happy New Year Everyone!**



Stop Hunger Now distributes nutritious meals to impoverished countries and areas affected by disasters. Since 2005, Stop Hunger Now has distributed 225 million meals to 73 different countries for just 29 cents a meal. The meals are financed and packaged by volunteers at meal packaging events. We will be hosting a meal packaging event on **Saturday April 1, 2017 from 3 to 5 pm.**

Please join us for this amazing hands-on volunteer experience. In two hours, over fifty volunteers will measure, weigh, seal, and package over 10,000 meals of rice, vitamins and protein. Throughout the two-hour event, progress is tracked and announced at the sound of a gong. At the final gong you will be able to see the boxes ready to ship all of the meals you helped package. It is a charity event with an immediate feeling of accomplishment.

We need to raise at least \$2,944.08 to sponsor our meal packaging event on April 1st. Any amount you can contribute will help. Make your checks out to RUMC with Stop Hunger Now in the memo or log into our meal packaging event page on <http://events.stophungernow.org/Rockville2017>.

You can sign up for the event on our event page (<http://events.stophungernow.org/Rockville2017>) or on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. No volunteer is too old or too young!! Lots of fun and you'll surely have a feeling of great accomplishment when the final package is boxed. Mark your calendars and sign up soon!

If you have any questions please contact Judie Culy: [judie.culy@gmail.com](mailto:judie.culy@gmail.com).

---

Make New Year's goals. Dig within, and discover what you would like to have happen in your life this year. This helps you do your part. It is an affirmation that you're interested in fully living life in the year to come.

Goals give us direction. They put a powerful force into play on a universal, conscious, and subconscious level. Goals give our life direction.

What would you like to have happen in your life this year? What would you like to do, to accomplish? What good would you like to attract into your life? What particular areas of growth would you like to have happen to you? What blocks, or character defects, would you like to have removed?

What would you like to attain? Little things and big things? Where would you like to go? What would you like to have happen in friendship and love? What would you like to have happen in your family life?

What problems would you like to see solved? What decisions would you like to make? What would you like to happen in your career?

Write it down. Take a piece of paper, a few hours of your time, and write it all down - as an affirmation of you, your life, and your ability to choose. Then let it go.

The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. We can help write that story by setting goals."

— Melody Beattie, *The Language of Letting Go: Daily Meditations on Codependency*

## RUMW

Again, thanks to all who made our two 2016 fundraising events so successful--Truly an all Church project!! Special thanks to those who spent time making items to sell, doing food preparations and donating items and money, working the day, or setting up and taking down. A lot of work goes into getting these events together both before and after.

To date the Harvest Dinner profit is \$1,290.86 and the Holiday Bazaar profit is \$5,543.79. Special thanks to the Youth of our church who tithed their gift jar project profits!!

Thought you would like to know how we spent the money you helped us raise in 2015 which was expended in 2016:

- \$5,000 to RUMC for Current Expenses (\$1,000 above our pledge);
- \$825 to Local Social Concerns including local High School Project Graduations, Cornerstone Foundation, Interval House, KidSafe CT, Tri-County ARC, Hockanum Valley Community Council, Tri-Town Fuel Bank; \$1,400 to Missions including \$725 UMW District Treasurer for our pledge to missions (global), Cooper Community Center and Gifts in Memory of Jean Benner, Sandi Halm and Dorothy Willis; and \$625 for Habitat for Humanity, UM Elder Care, Dr. Belinda Forbes, and RUMC Youth mission project. \$275 for Operating Expenses including postage stamps for RUMC Birthday Cards and Holiday cards to our We Care List.

We had few times in 2016 of actual meetings. However, our dedicated volunteers who prepare and send out birthday cards are sincerely thanked. We also organized and sent holiday cards for Valentine's Day and Thanksgiving. We thank The Seekers for doing Easter and Christmas. Many helped with the funeral receptions for Jean Benner and Ernest Pearson, who are dearly missed.

We look forward to this New Year. We will have a meeting in January or February to get our 2017 budget prepared. We did have a mini-meeting in December 2016 and voted \$5,000 for our Church Pledge for 2017. All women are welcome to be members of Rockville United Methodist Church Women. I am (unless you would like to volunteer) your fearless leader.

—Blessings, Judie Culy

## Get your Camera Ready!



Having a good hair day? Did the kids stay clean in church today? Now is the perfect time to take an updated photo to send to the church. We have a photo station set up in Fellowship Hall with a nice neutral background to take the picture.

Take a selfie or ask someone to take your picture for you. Send the photos to the office at [rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net). We have room for individual and family photos in our new Servant Keeper program to create an informal photo directory.

We have new faces since the last directory was done and the kids have changed tremendously. Please take a few minutes to send me an updated photo. I will create the photo directory with the photos I receive.

Thank you,  
Diane



**Here is a sample of the events you can find on our  
Community Bulletin Board.**

**THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS**  
**Support for families who have lost a child.**

Union Church  
3 Elm Street, Rockville

**Meetings on the First Tuesday of every  
month at 7 pm.**



---

**HVCC Senior Food Program.** Free food assistance available to Vernon residents age 60 and older. Sign up in person; bring positive id and proof of income. Form more information call 860-872-7727 x2910.



**'Tis the Season**  
**Saturday, January 7, 2017**  
**7 pm**  
**South Windsor High School**  
**\$7 adults; \$5 seniors and students**

**SUNDAY'S AT 9 AM**

**JITTER'S CAFÉ, JOIN US FOR COFFEE.**

**ADULT STUDY:** NEW TOPICS WILL BE DISCUSSED EACH WEEK COVERING BOTH THE OLD AND NEW TESTEMENT.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

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

**Through the Church:**

**Sunday Morning opportunities:** Sign up sheets are in fellowship hall for the attendants needed on Sunday mornings.

**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

**Good Friday Walk:** Organizational meeting: January 31, 2017 at 7 pm.

**In the Community:**

**Quillow Making Session:** Members of Bolton United Methodist Church are making fleece blankets for the Children's Hospital in Hartford. Bring a 1 7/8 yard of fleece with a kid's theme on **Saturday January 21, 2017** at Bolton United Methodist Church 1041 Boston Turnpike, Bolton, CT from 10 am to 2pm. Bring a bagged lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided. Call Laurie Parsons at 860-645-9736 for more information.

**Cornerstone Food Cupboard:** Cornerstone has added a food cupboard to help the community in addition to the Hockanum Valley Community Council Food Pantry. Monetary donations can be made through FoodShare with a notation in the memo space "for account #21605;" this will ensure the money will go to help in the tri-town area.





## Grove Street Music Project

Rehearsals are Sundays after Service.

Youth ages 10 and up.  
Musicians, Singers, and Tech Crew opportunities.

## TEA AND TEXT

Tea and Text will meet on Thursday January 12, 2017 at 1:30 pm.



Don't forget we are collecting labels for the final year of the Campbell's Soup Labels for Education program. Lake Street Elementary School, in Vernon, is 5000 points from meeting their goal. We will collect labels until June to help them get the equipment they need. Leave your labels in the plastic bag on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



Thank you to everyone who helped decorate our **mitten tree** this year. The items collected were donated to the Hockanum Valley Community Council. We collected the following:

- ◆ 7 scarves
- ◆ 2 pairs of knit slippers
- ◆ 11 pairs of mittens/gloves
- ◆ 14 hats
- ◆ 8 hat and mitten sets.

Thank you for helping to keep our neighbors warm this winter.

-Sylvia



# Prayer Requests

## Special Needs

Baby Lily- medical  
 Raya Thorington - medical, age 9  
 Dianne McLaughlin - medical  
 Rose- infant daughter, medical  
 Paul Doucette - medical  
 Al Boulais - medical  
 Ross Middleton - medical  
 Bill Kayba - medical  
 Jody- medical  
 Barbara Doyle - medical  
 Scott Stubbs - medical  
 Michael Svenson - medical  
 Lincoln Gottier - medical  
 Barbara Sweeney - medical  
 Don Milanese - medical  
 Rev. Ron Adcock - medical  
 Pat - employment  
 Jane and Bill - grief  
 Geraldine Cyr - medical  
 Leah Sutton - medical  
 Pat Brandt - medical  
 Leanna- medical, age 17  
 Toye King - medical  
 Rhys - medical

## Those in Christian Service

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

*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](mailto:rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net). Thank you.*

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

Merrilee & Harry Thomas-home  
 June Latkofsky-home  
 Esther Harris-home  
 Earl & Natalie Robertson-home  
 Eleanor Schreiber-Crestfield  
 Shirley Edwards-Brookdale SW  
 Vita Aiello-Fox Hill  
 June Guillow-home  
 Pat Brandt—Pennsylvania  
 Steve & Kay Lyke—home  
 Annette Welton—Brookdale SW  
 Irene Surette—home  
 Leonard Aronson - Vernon Manor  
 Barbara Tourtelotte - Woodlake

## Our Church Family

Sandy Gallup. - medical  
 William Spivey Jr. - medical



Alyson Stearns	January 1	Billy Spivey	January 21
Judith Wilkie	January 7	Lucas Velasquez	January 23
Brenda Mlodzinski	January 8	Zachary Velasquez	January 23
Eileen Gay	January 8	Craig Thompson	January 25
Amanda Klingman	January 14	Nancy St. John	January 25
Sienna Spicer	January 14	Mel Bacha	January 27
Thomas Shivers	January 19	Karen Perras	January 29
Xavier Rodriguez	January 19		

## Quote of the Month

**"Start by doing what is necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."**

**~Francis of Assisi**



**January Worship Attendants  
SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN FELLOWSHIP  
HALL.**

**January 1**

Isaiah 60: 1-6  
Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14 (UMH)  
Ephesians 3: 1-12  
Matthew 2: 1-12

**January 8**

Isaiah 42: 1-9  
Psalm 29 (UMH)  
Acts 10: 34-43  
Matthew 3: 13-17

**January 15**

Isaiah 49: 1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11 (UMH)  
1 Corinthians 1: 1-9  
John 1: 29-42

**January 22**

Isaiah 9: 1-4  
Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (UMH)  
1 Corinthians 1: 10-18  
Matthew 4: 12-23

**January 29**

Micah 6: 1-8  
Psalm 15 (UMH)  
1 Corinthians 1: 18-31  
Matthew 5: 1-12

**Greeters**

Please contact Phyllis King about volunteering to be a greeter on Sunday.

**Liturgists**

Candy Sunderland, coordinator  
January 1 Mel Bacha  
January 8 Sandy Spivey  
January 15 Richard Bacha  
January 22 available  
January 29 available

**Acolytes**

Don Ross, coordinator.

**Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour**

Candy Sunderland, coordinator.  
January 1 Sherry Pearson  
January 8 available  
January 15 available  
January 22 available  
January 29 available

**Altar Flowers**

The sign up sheet is on the fellowship Hall bulletin board. Please fill out a blue form and turn it in to the office manager.  
January 1 available  
January 8 Jim Mlodzinski  
January 15 available  
January 22 Tamika Brock  
January 29 available

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Good Friday Organizational Meeting**

**January 31, 2017 - 7 pm**

**RUMC Fundraiser Sale  
February 26 to March 17th**

**Stop Hunger Now Packaging Event**

**April 1, 2017 - 3 to 5 pm**

**VERNON ADULT EDUCATION\***

VRABE hosted a training for the Burlington English pilot program on November 30, 2016. This program improves the following:

- Language skills (listening, reading, speaking, and writing)
- Gain life skills for functioning in the U.S.
- Learn important EL Civic concepts and develop digital literacy skills
- Plan career pathways and career options
- Gain skills necessary to succeed in the workplace

Attendees included: Christine Vincent, Richard Welk, Karen Adrian, Steve Phelps, Andy Tyskiewicz, Svetlana Grishtaev and Melanie Fox (trainer). On behalf of the VRABE team, we would like to thank CWP/Move Up! and Ren Brockmeyer for the positive support and encouragement of the Burlington English pilot. We look forward to a successful deployment of the pilot!

\*From the VRABE November/December 2016 newsletter

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 9am-2pm Tuesday-Friday

### ***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.



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

Phone: 860-875-6562  
E-mail: rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net  
pastorpaul0202@gmail.com  
Website: [www.rockumchurch.com](http://www.rockumchurch.com)

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