

# The Herald

## RUMC Newsletter



January 2018  
Issue No. 104



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**Many of the articles in this month's newsletter are from our 2017 Annual Church Conference with District Superintendent David Calhoun.**



**Our winter coat box is by the front doors. Please bring your new or gently used coats for the Cornerstone Clothing Bank.**

## PASTOR'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:



### Overall Synopsis

Rockville UMC had a very productive year in 2017 in terms of ministry, outreach and fundraisers. However, even though we were able to keep pace with income versus expenses, we were behind in mission shares (less than 40%). We do have a lot of transitions and challenges ahead for the church but the remarkable spirit that carried us through this year should work to transform the church as we deal with the future. We are changing and our future success may not look like what we have been in the past, but it could be good.

### Church Services

**Grove Street Youth** was an active participant in our worship services (Sept-Jun).

**Adult Choir** under direction of Karen Stearns has blessed our congregation with anthems and special music.

**Grove Street Bells** with director Allison Corne and **Youth Bells** with Jacob Gerow at the helm performed at Christmas and Easter events.

**Vacation Bible School** drew over 40 young people this past summer.

**One Act Drama**-ESL teacher, Karen Arian performed a one act drama- Throne Room of God.

**Daughters of Zion** -women from area churches blessed us in song, dance and flags in Sept.

**All Saints Day**-we remembered those in our church family who died this past year.

**Summer Preaching focus**-highlighted OT books of Genesis and Exodus.

**Advent/Christmas** was a beautiful time of decorations, inspirational music and holiday cheer.

**Dinner Church** inaugurated in Sept (18 people) and Oct (13). Will resume in January.

**Saturday Prayer Service** in its second year with Ghanaian United Methodists pray for churches, foreign nations and personal needs.

**Sunday morning Adult Study**-taught by Al White, 3/4 Sundays. Janet O'Neil 1/2 Sundays.

### Special Events

**Palm Sunday Men's Breakfast** met in conjunction with the Bolton UMC men's group.

**Christian Youth Rock Group, Pursuing JC** played in our sanctuary in the summer/fundraiser.

**Leap of Faith Concert** performed for the eighth year in a row under the direction of S. Windsor choir director Jereme Martineau.

**Memorial Garden dedications** were held in spring and fall.

**Baptisms**-Mary R. Rushton and Katherine Kentfield-Durham were baptized in the month of April.

**Marriage of** Mel Bacha and Laurie Catalano took place in the Memorial Garden on 9/9.

**Ellington-Vernon Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service**-was held in our church. It involved area ministers and political leaders. St. John Episcopal Church choir sang with RUMC choir.

### Church Groups

**Tea and Text**-met monthly at Virginia Wehrli's home.

**Seekers**-meets at Ray Clark's home on a monthly basis.

**Pastor's Devotional**-studied Genesis/Exodus & Life of Christ through video and discussion.

**Confirmation** which is held monthly is co-taught by Pastor Paul and Linda Shivers

**UMW and UMM** spearheaded needed church fund raising.

**GOM's (Grumpy Old Men)** work three hours every Wednesday on church maintenance.

## **PASTOR'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE - cont:**

### **Mission Projects**

**Marri refugee family from Syria** was supported by our church in their move into New Britain. Steve Yoder and Stan Culy organized transportation and other services.

**Stop Hunger Now**-50 people put together 1,500 meals of rice, vitamins and protein.

**Youth Group Mission Project** went to Hartford for a week long program of community service.

**Holiday Mitten Tree** mitten/glove donations went towards Hands on Hartford organization.

**Holiday Gift Fund**-in association with WIC, provided Christmas gifts for two needy families.

**Winter Coat Collection**-was given towards the Cornerstone Clothing Bank.

**Adopt a Child** assisted needy Vernon children with the purchase of school items.

**Weekly Food donations** went to Hockanum Valley and Cornerstone Foundation food pantries.

**Good Friday Walk** pledges benefits Share Inc. and Cornerstone shelter.

**Belinda Forbes**, dentist in Nicaragua received financial support by our congregation.

### **Fund Raisers**

**Corned Beef Dinner**-March

**Strawberry Festival Dinner**-June

**Peach Festival Dinner**-August

**Harvest Supper & Leap of Faith Concert**-October

**Harvest Bazaar/Luncheon**-November

**Savers Collection** exchange old clothes and household items for money.

**Braided Bread** sponsored by Eileen Gay brought in needed revenues.

**Metal Recycling** sponsored by Pastor Paul for cash was used to pay some of Mission Shares.

**Gift Card Program** has been profitable in raising funds for operating budget.

**Rena Schwartz Benefit Auction**-helped pay medical bills for woman with cancer.

### **Trustees**

**Parsonage Furnace** repairs cost approximately \$1000. Church heating repairs \$2000.

**Installation of System Sensors**-from Hartford Steam Boiler to detect church malfunctions.

**Professional Carpet Cleaning** in the sanctuary.

**Memorial Garden**-upgrade of bricks, benches, plaques and plants.

**Men's Room**-tile floor was replaced by our GOM's focused on Property Maintenance.

**Sound system in sanctuary** was upgraded.

### **Outside Groups**

**Vernon Family Literacy** Program for ESL and GED meets Tues-Thurs (11:30-2:30)

**Family Anonymous** meets Tuesday Evenings in the library. (7:30-8:30)

**Narcotics Anonymous** meets Thursday Evenings in the fellowship Hall. (7PM-8PM)

### **Youth Group**

**Sunday School** meets during the school year. Children's Church in the summer.

**Youth Bells** utilizes grade school children.

**Grove Street** a contemporary youth music group performs at Sunday worship services.

**Youth Group** meets regularly for various activities, spirituality, and service programs.

### **Church Members on the Move**

**Janet McKercher**-White Oaks, Manchester (Winter)

**Sherry Pearson**-South Carolina (Spring)

**Wei Chen family** moved to Ohio (Fall)

**Sandy Spivey and Billy Spivey**-Florida (Fall)

**Noreen Veal**-Flax Hill, South Windsor (Fall)

**Wayne & Pauline Cheveriea** - Stafford (fall)

**Gary & Gerry Lynne Tyler** are in process of moving to Colorado

### **Nursing Homes or Homebound**

**Ray Clark**-home, Ellington

**Virginia Wehrli**-home, Vernon

## **PASTOR'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE - cont:**

### **Nursing Homes or Homebound**

**Ray Clark**-home, Ellington  
**Virginia Wehrli**-home, Vernon  
**June Guillow**-home, Vernon  
**Merrilee & Harry Thomas**-home, Vernon  
**June Latofsky**-home, Suffield  
**Esther Harris**-home, Tolland  
**Pat Brandt**-home, Allentown, PA  
**Vita Aiello**-Fox Hill, Vernon (non- member)  
**Tom Rider**-Fox Hill, Vernon (non-member)  
**Eleanor Schreiber**-Crestfield, Manchester  
**Kay Lyke**-Crestfield, Manchester  
**Shirley Edwards**-Brookdale, South Windsor  
**Annette Welston**-Brookdale, South Windsor  
**Leonard Aronson**-Vernon Manor, Vernon  
**Earl Robertson**-Pitkat House, Vernon

### **Deaths in our Church family**

**Barbara Tourtelotte**-3/8/2017  
**Natalie Robertson**-5/3/2017  
**David Taft**-5/5/2017 (non-member)  
**William Spivey Jr** 7/26/2017 (non-member)  
**June Guillow** 12/30/2017

### **Pastor Paul Personal**

**Chaplain for the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department.**  
**Emergency Responder for the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Company.**  
**Advisor for the Ellington Rescue Post 512.**  
**CFA (Council for Finance Administration for the New England Annual Conference.**  
**Vernon Ministerial Alliance**

Respectfully,

Pastor Paul O'Neil



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 online at WFSB Channel 3 (<http://www.wfsb.com/category/211195/school-closings>) and on TV at NBC Channel 30 (WVIT). 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".

## CHURCH CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Total Membership on December 8, 2016: 165

### Received by:

On profession of faith	2
From other United Methodist churches	1
From other denominations	0
<hr/>	
Total	<b>3</b>

### Removed by:

Action of Charge Conference	5
Withdrawal	3
Transfer to other United Methodist Churches	2
Transfer to other denominations	0
Death	3
<hr/>	
Total	<b>13</b>

**Total Membership 1/02/2018 Charge Conference** **155**

Number of persons baptized in 2017: 2

### Baptisms

Mary Rose Matthews Rushton (4/9/2017)  
Katherine Quinn Durham (4/16/2017)

### New Members

Harold Thomas (1/1/2017)  
David Saunders (6/4/2017)  
Laurie A. Catalano (6/4/2017)

### Bereavement

Barbara Tourtelotte (3/8/2017)  
Natalie Robertson (5/3/2017)  
David Taft (5/5/2017) – not a member  
William Q. Spivey Jr. (7/26/2017) – not a member  
June Guillow (12/30/2017)

### Marriage

Mel Bacha and Laurie Catalano (9/9/2017)



## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:**

### **Confirmation Class:**

We have a class of 7 young people who meet for lessons, mission and activities throughout the year as they explore their faith and decide if they want to be confirmed.

### **Sunday School: 3yrs-high school**

Curriculum: 3yrs-4<sup>th</sup> grade is "Top 50 Bible Lessons, classes set are up with 3 yrs old-kindergarten as a class, 3rd gr.- 4, 5<sup>th</sup>, as a class and 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> as a class and are using "Youth on Missions" curriculum and 8<sup>th</sup> gr. and older curriculum is LinC (Living in Christ). Sunday School runs concurrent with Sunday worship service, with children attending class after a Children's Message.

### Activities throughout the year:

- Super Soupier Sunday- fundraiser for Christian Education, offering the congregation several soups for a free-will offering.
- Pretzel Sunday- children make their pretzels for the congregation and learn about Lent and Easter.
- Easter Bag Hunt- after Worship service- children hunt for an Easter bag
- Earth Day- children bring in rakes, plants, to beautify the church grounds after winter.
- Children's Sunday- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of June with Children leading in worship.
- Vacation Bible School- offered mornings, last week of June, open to the community.
- Summer Sunday School- runs during the summer with a combination of 3yrs to 5<sup>th</sup> gr. Taught by the Director of Christian Education.
- Trunk or Treat- Members offer treats to the children from their car trunks. Children come to church dressed in costume.
- Ingathering- members of the congregation and children bring in non-perishable food items. The items are given to the Hockanum Valley Food Pantry. This year this activity was advertised and organized by the 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders as a mission project.
- Children's Christmas Pageant- children reenact the Christmas story through costume and scripture readings.

### **Sundays Beyond Sundays Youth Group: open to 4<sup>th</sup> grade and older**

Our group of 12-15 youth have started meeting twice a month.

### Activities:

- Several sleepovers
- Bake Sale Fundraiser
- "Bag of Warmth"- working with Vernon Methodist Church Youth- we decorated bags and purchased over 300 hats and gloves to put in the bags to be handed out to lower income children in Hartford, CT.
- Mission week trip (daily 9:00 am- 4:00 pm )- work with Hands on Hartford- doing different mission work throughout the week: cleaning a park, making blankets for the homeless, cleaning a school, feeding the homeless, stocking a food pantry, etc.
- Swim Party
- Spaghetti Luncheon, fundraiser, to raise money for next year's mission.
- Indoor Basketball with Wapping Community Church twice a month Jan-April. Non-competitive fun to get the youth moving and exercising during the winter. We join with the youth from Wapping Church.

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

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



## **MUSIC REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:**

- Started New Year with approx. 20 senior choir members; met every Thursday evening for 1.5 – 2 hour rehearsal.
- Senior choir sang during 98% of services during school year; took hiatus over the summer
- Grove Street Music Project is growing rapidly; group of kids only; time divided between bell choir and praise band; approx. 10-12 kids participate; praise hymn part of Sunday service most Sundays; purchase of sound equipment to accommodate growing needs of music; leadership shared with Geoff Gerow
- Continued to add to church music library electronically; approx. 1400 pieces of choral/piano/solo music recorded
- Special Music program continued this year; members of congregation had opportunity to share their talents during services; “pool” of musicians used this opportunity several times throughout the year; appeared to be a successful program in that it gives musicians a way to express themselves and their faith through their music
- Successful Easter service, including dramatic opening to service orchestrated by Carol Ross
- In Spring, began preparations for 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Leap of Faith concert scheduled for October 29; consulted with and hired a guest choral director from outside church; recruited many singers from the community
- Summer program included special music, and pick-up choir; attendance at pick-up choir (with prior email notice) averaged about 10 people
- In August, began recruiting singers for October concert; implemented program in which people could commit to concert only, without committing to full year of choir membership; was successful in that we recruited 8 extra people, making a concert choir of 25
- Began concert rehearsals in late August; guest director joined us for last 6 rehearsals
- Choir rehearsals up until the October concert were devoted to concert music; Sunday Service music was rehearsed in the “pick-up choir” style, presenting easy music and learning it right before service. This model seemed to work and members were appreciative of having more focused Thursday rehearsals
- Two choir members “trained” in simple choral direction, for use in more difficult pieces in need of more precise direction than can be given from piano
- Use of technology (projector and large screen) to produce slides to aid in worship service; run looping presentation of announcements every Sunday
- 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Leap of Faith concert on October 29<sup>th</sup> in combination with the Harvest Supper; included senior choir, guest choral director, solos, Grove Street Music Project, live and recorded accompaniment. Concert followed the Harvest Supper, which we believe yielded a larger audience; free will offering benefitted Music Program
- Senior choir continued on normal schedule rest of year, with 2 new members (from concert) continuing on
- Successful Christmas season; hiatus over Christmas break

### Goals for 2018:

- Recruit new senior choir members
- Continue to nurture Grove Street Music Project; we feel this is vital to our church’s growth; teach kids about music and performance as well as add a devotional component to this music ministry
- Continue use of technology as a source of music ministry
- Continue Special Music program; encourage “new” musicians to use opportunity
- Plan for 9<sup>th</sup> annual Leap of Faith concert in November; look into using guest choral director again, begin preparations early Summer
- Research and order new choral music; maintain electronic music library
- Develop formal policy for borrowing church music and equipment, in order to keep better track of where our music is

Respectfully submitted by Karen Stearns, Director of Music, December 2017

## **TRUSTEE REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:**

In their January meeting the Trustees elected the following officers: Don Ross, Chairman, Bridget Joy, Vice Chairman, Lorraine White, Secretary

During late winter and spring the Parsonage furnace experienced a series of shutdowns. Fox Heating and Andrews Oil were unable to correct the problem. Beacon Heating was called and resolved the problem by replacing the igniters and some solenoids.

During the spring and summer several plantings were donated to the Meditation Garden. In addition, a new bench was donated by the Stambo family. A brass plaque was made recognizing Fred Edwards, Enos Stambo, and Dave White in whose memory funds were donated for the Garden. The plaque was dedicated during a Sunday morning worship service in the fall.

In the spring, the Trustees approved another year for the Vernon Adult Education to use the facility. The donation for building usage is \$7200 for two semesters.

During the summer, the GOM's were able to retile the men's room floor.

Snow removal for the 2016/17 winter season cost \$4800. The budgeted amount was \$4000.

Carpeting in the Sanctuary and selected Sunday School rooms was professionally cleaned during the summer.

Throughout the year, the Sanctuary sound system was upgraded. Speakers were replaced and added; several microphones and amplifiers were also added. Most of the systems upgrade was to accommodate the Grove Street Music group.

David Joy, who is employed by Hartford Steam Boiler, proposed to the Trustees, an experimental program in which HSB would install a series of monitoring sensors that would notify responsible people when certain conditions existed. For example, approximately 30 sensors were installed in various areas which measured temperature, humidity, open doors, power failure and refrigerator failure. There are temperature and humidity sensors in every room. The battery operated system uses cell phone technology to transmit signals which are directed to the responsible people. The experimental program is at no cost to the church.

In October, the Trustees recommended and the SPRC hired Diane Lajoie to be the church Custodian.

When the church heat was turned on this fall, it was discovered that the Chancel area circulation pump was inoperative. Replacement of the pump by Nutmeg Plumbing cost approximately \$1600.

The annual Parsonage inspection was conducted on November 15 by the Pastor and members of the Trustees and SPRC. The inspection was satisfactory. Routine maintenance is required on the hot water heater.

The Trustees would like to express their appreciation to the GOM's for all that they do throughout the year. The GOM's presently consist of seven retired men who spend every Wednesday morning at the church performing minor maintenance, yard work, painting and cleaning. The work they perform saves many dollars that otherwise would be spent on outside help.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Ross  
Chairman

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**Bible Devotional** - Fridays at 10 am: We are showing a video on the Gospel of Matthew followed by discussion of what we watched.

**Pastor's Prayer Meeting**- Saturdays, 9 am to 11 am: Join Pastor Paul and a group of United Methodist from Ghana as we pray for the United States, the United Methodist Church, and our local church.



## **RETIRED PASTOR REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:**

I finished a three-year commitment to serve communion at the Glastonbury United Methodist Church with a final service this year. I was called upon to do communion once at the Community United Methodist Church in Crystal Lake, and I have assisted Pastor Paul twice at my home church in Rockville, and in bringing communion to two different shut-ins.

I have done extensive visitation and pastoral care with Mike Faiaz and with Ray Clark, who had a stroke in June. I have done other visitation to shut-ins with Pastor Paul, and I have done a third year of monthly visitations for an inmate of our state correctional system, whom I took over from Dave White.

However my primary mission by far has been with Steve Yoder and other members of our church in sponsoring a Syrian couple and their seven lovely children. They escaped from their country village during the Syrian civil war and fled to Turkey, where they lived five years in a United Nations refugee camp. The Marri family came a year ago December and, unfortunately, were given an apartment in New Britain by Catholic Charities. I say unfortunately for us because it is 23 miles away and that has proven to be a large barrier in broadening the relationships with our people. However, it is fortunate for them because they have been befriended by a Moslem family from the Berlin Mosque and our family only lives a block from the New Britain Mosque. Their elementary school has been particularly supportive of the five school-aged. One teacher said, "I love those kids, and wish I could see more of them." The secretaries and hygienist of their dentist say they are one of the most likeable, polite and cooperative bunch of kids they have ever worked with.

Personally, I enjoy the mother and father (Mohamed and Aisha) and found them to have a delightful sense of humor. I appreciate their adjustment to our complicated and imposing urban culture. I am particularly proud of helping Mohamed enroll in two ESL (English as a Second Language) classes and helping him to learn the bus system to get to one of his classes. In spite of all that has been done, there is the constant issue for the kids of catching up with their grade in speaking English and doing math. Hopefully, a new tutoring program beginning in January will help to close the gap.

I look forward to each Thursday when I become part of the Marri family fabric for the afternoon, culminating with an interesting and delicious dinner. I have enjoyed rolling balls and trucks with the younger kids and helping the older ones with their homework. One day Mohamed did his prayer time that he does five times a day bringing out his small prayer rug. It involved a ritual rinsing of his hands, eyes, head, etc. and then kneeling with his forehead touching the floor alternating with standing and raising his hands. At the same time, I was silently doing my prayers to the same God as Mohamed. I wish you could be with me in these adventures because in our world of millions of refugees our church has rescued one family whom our loving God values as much as our own families.

Sincerely,  
Stan Culy

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**Youth Basketball is back!**

**6 pm to 8 pm**

Wapping Church, South Windsor  
Jan 6, Jan 20, Feb 3, & March 17

**Bring a snack to share.**

Rockville United Methodist Church						
2018 Church Budget						
	Final Version			Actual		
		2018	2017	12 mos edg	Actual	Actual
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>10/31/2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<u>Income</u>						
	Pledged Offerings	140,000	133,522	5%	130,582	146,771
	Other Offerings	16,900	16,900		24,950	17,257
	UM Women-Men-Youth	8,000	8,000		7,925	8,000
	Building Use	9,100	9,100		13,265	23,584
	Special Giving	2,500	2,500		9,864	14,694
	Investment Income	1,600	1,600		1,772	1,772
	Fund Raisers	9,000	7,000		6,192	6,192
	Total	187,100	178,622	5%	194,550	190,860
						195,611
<u>Expenses</u>						
	Personnel	122,243	121,517		119,374	117,527
	Mission Shares	5,000	0		6,160	15,295
	Church Council	9,000	5,500		7,544	8,057
	Operating-Church	33,000	33,300		33,637	27,805
	Operating-Parsonage	4,500	4,800		4,195	3,797
	Parsonage Loan	5,757	5,757		5,751	5,751
	Insurance	8,000	7,589		6,286	8,092
	Total	187,500	178,463		182,945	182,190
						193,174
		(400)	159		11,605	8,670
						2,438

## 2018 RUMC CHURCH BUDGET

# NOMINATION/LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:

## Church Council:

Council Chairperson  
Recording Secretary, Church Council  
Lay Leader  
Lay Member of Annual Conference  
Trustees Chair-elected by the Board annually  
Finance Chair  
Stewardship Chair  
Financial Secretary  
Treasurer - Current Expense and Trustee accts.  
SPRC Chair  
Worship Chair  
UMW President (selected by chapter)  
Men's Club Facilitator (selected by the MC)  
Director of Christian Ministries (Staff)  
Membership Secretary  
Mission Team  
Visitation and Nurture  
Publicity  
Members at Large  
Yoder  
Elder, Retired  
Director of Music Ministries (Staff)  
Pastor

Susan Lessoff  
**TBD**  
Mel Bacha and Candy Sunderland  
Sandy Gallup  
Don Ross & Bridget Joy  
**TBD**  
**Judie Culy**  
Allison Corne  
**Jim Mlodzinski**  
**Alan White**  
**TBD**  
Judie Culy  
Don Ross  
Linda Shivers  
Virginia Hickton  
**TBD**  
Pastor O'Neil and Stan Culy  
Janice Klingman  
Phyllis King, Don Ross, Steve Yoder, Sylvia  
  
The Reverend Stan Culy  
Karen Stearns  
Paul R. O'Neil

## Committee on Lay Leadership Chairperson: Pastor O'Neil

Don Ross, Bridget Joy

**Mel Bacha, Candy Sunderland, Steve Yoder**

## Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chairperson: Al White

<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>(Class of 2020)</u>
Sandy Gallup	Al White	<b>Lucy Maupin</b>
Wayne Badstubner	Jerrie Kirby	<b>Lorraine White</b>
Tom Farrish	<b>Candy Sunderland</b>	<b>Felicia Gerardi</b>
	<b>Mel Bacha</b>	

## Board of Trustees Chair(s): Don Ross & Bridget Joy

<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>(Class of 2020)</u>
<b>George Klingman</b>	Don Ross	<b>Rick Bacha</b>
<b>David Joy</b>	Don Corne	<b>Wayne Cheveriea</b>
Norine Veal	Bridget Joy	<b>Ann Provencer</b>

## Stewardship and Finance Committee:

Finance Committee Chair: **TBD**  
Stewardship Chair: **Judie Culy**

## Voting Members of the Stewardship/Finance

Treasurer, Current Expense/Invest, Funds	<b>Jim Mlodzinski</b>
Assistant Treasurer, Current Expense	vacant
Finance Secretary	Allison Corne
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Sandy Gallup
Lay Leader	Mel Bacha & Candy Sunderland
Chairperson of Church Council	Susan Lessoff
Auditor	<b>George Klingman</b>

**Altar Guild:** Myrna Sawyer, Robin Pinchin, Carol Robbins, Judy Wilkie

## Permanent Endowment

George Klingman, Steve Yoder, Geoff Gerow, Pastor O'Neil

## Kristin L. White Scholarship

Sandy Gallup, Terri Goldich, Pastor O'Neil

## Memorial Committee

Candy Sunderland  
Pastor O'Neil  
Office Manager (Diane Lajoie)

# NOMINATION/LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:

## Mission Team Chair: TBD

Pastor Paul O'Neil, Stan Culy, Laurie Bacha, Robin Pinchin

**Holiday Gift Fund** Amy and Samuel Velasquez, Kathy Sunderland

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## Visitation and Nurture Chair: TBD

Members: Pastor O'Neil, Stan Culy, Judie Culy

**Prayer Chain Coordinator** Phyllis King/Office Manager

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**General Publicity:** Janice Klingman/Office Manager

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## Jitters Cafe

Mel Bacha

**Coffee Hour Coordinator**

vacant

## Worship Committee Chair: TBD

**Members:** Laurie Bacha, Geoff Gerow, Don Ross, Karen Stearns, Nat Woodruff

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## Christian Education Committee

Linda Shivers	Director of Christian Ministries
Amy Velasquez	Teacher
Brenda Mlodzinski	Teacher
Jim Mlodzinski	Teacher
Michelle Gerow	Teacher
Bridget Joy	Teacher
Carol Macri	Teacher
Mel Bacha	Teacher/Lay Leader
David Saunders	Teacher/Youth Group
Janet O'Neil	Substitute Teacher
Candy Sunderland	Lay Leader
Janice Klingman	Member-at-large
Emily Rushton	Member-at-large
Allison Corne	Member-at-large
Nursery Care	Sara Stenger
Adult Studies	Janet O'Neil & Al White (Sunday am study), Judie Culy (UMW tea & text), Phyllis King (seekers), Rev. O'Neil (weekly devotional & prayer)
Librarian	vacant

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## Gift Card Report

We made \$334.12 profit from Christmas sales during the Christmas season 2017.

We make a total profit since 9/28/15 of \$3686.28.

From the Ellington Middle School Fair we sold \$510 of gift cards and **gained two new regular attendees for our church!** From the Senior Center Fair we sold \$275.00. If we estimate the profit at 5% then we received approximately \$39.25 in profit. The costs to participate in the fairs and the raffle prizes were donated, otherwise it would have been a financial loss, not gain. The two new attendees to our church and the exposure of our church were positive factors. Lisa Williams and I talked to over 800 people about our church.

Next Christmas season, I recommend that we target the Senior Living Facilities since those residents are limited in their shopping mobility and would appreciate help during the Christmas season. It will also expose our program to a new market.

Beginning in January 2018, Big Y will allow us to buy gift cards at 5% all year round. Previously, we had to buy cards only during October and April to get our 6%. That tied up our inventory and lessened the profit when we had to buy replacements cards at only 2%. This change will benefit RUMC; it will drastically reduce our inventory.

Sincerely,

Janet O'Neil

Gift Card Coordinator

## CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE:

In January the Council decided to participate in Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now). A number of fund raisers to supplement the budget were discussed.

In February the Dinner Church was discussed. It was decided to go forward with this later this year. It will be an informal service held during a meal.

In March the need for more volunteers was discussed. Judie Culy informed us that any extra Rise Against Hunger money will go toward a clean water project.

In April it was decided to try some paid advertising on Facebook. The Men's Group will pay for a one-time trial to advertise the Strawberry Festival. The idea of video licensing was also discussed.

In June reports were accepted from the various groups and committees in the church. It was decided that we need to get the audit completed.

In September the first Dinner Church was held. It was well received by those who attended.

At the December meeting it was decided to ask our office manager to develop procedures for fire drills for our Vernon Adult Ed Program and our Sunday School/Worship time. Fundraisers were also discussed for 2018 in order to assist with the church budget. The pastor's salary was also discussed and a motion was made and passed to keep it the same as last year. The pastor will also apply for a waiver for his health insurance premiums.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan G. Lessoff

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### 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.

**Altar Flowers:** Set up the altar with the correct color linens and the week's altar arrangement. This is a 13-week commitment: one week a month with an additional week once-a-year.

**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

**Lay Ministries:** We still have several lay ministry openings. The duties vary; we are sure to find a service that fits your skill set. Please see Pastor O'Neil for details.

#### In the Community:

**Cornerstone Foundation:** Volunteers needed for their Youth Outreach Program: homework help, music, art, team building skills, substance abuse education, employment skills, self-care and sports classes. Email Paula Plante for information or to volunteer: PPPLANTE10@HOTMAIL.COM.

**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



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

Merrilee Thomas-home  
June Latkofsky-home  
Esther Harris-home  
Eleanor Schreiber-Crestfield  
Shirley Edwards-Woodlake  
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 - Vernon Manor  
Bob King - home  
Harry Thomas - Woodlake

**Those in Christian Service**

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

**Our Church Family**

Harry Thomas - Woodlake  
Shirley Edwards - Woodlake  
Ginny Wehrli - medical  
Anette Welton - medical



*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.*

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Alyson Stearns	January 1	Katherine Durham	January 16
Ahid Marri	January 1	Thomas Shivers	January 19
Aamina Marri	January 1	Xavier Rodriguez	January 19
Judith Wilkie	January 7	Billy Spivey	January 21
Brend Mlodzinski	January 8	Lucas Velasquez	January 23
Eileen Gay	January 8	Zachary Velasquez	January 23
Amanda Klingman	January 14	Craig Thompson	January 25
Sienna Spicer	January 14	Nancy St. John	January 25
Mahmoud Marri	January 15	Mel Bacha	January 27
Muna Marri	January 15	Karen Perras	January 29

**Quote of the Month**

**“We must welcome the future, remembering that soon it will be the past; and we must respect the past, remembering that it was once all that was humanly possible.”**

**~George Santayana**





## January Worship Attendants

### Greeters

Phyllis King, coordinator  
 January 7 Brenda & Jim Mlodzinski  
 January 14 available  
 January 21 available  
 January 28 Lisa Williams

### Liturgists

Candy Sunderland, coordinator  
 January 7 Myrna Sawyer  
 January 14 Tom Farrish  
 January 21 Tyler  
 January 28 Laurie Bacha

### Acolytes

Don Ross, coordinator.

### Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour

Candy Sunderland, coordinator.  
 January 7 available  
 January 14 Shivers Clan  
 January 21 available  
 January 28 Lisa Williams

### Altar Flowers

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

January 7 available  
 January 14 available  
 January 21 available  
 January 28 Laurie Bacha

### January 7

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

### January 14

Genesis 1: 1-5  
 Psalm 29  
 Acts 19: 1-7  
 Mark 1: 4-11

### January 21

1 Samuel 3: 1-10, 11-20  
 Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18 (UMH)  
 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20  
 John 1: 43-51

### January 28

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10  
 Psalm 62: 5-12 (UMH)  
 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31  
 Mark 1: 14-20

### January 28

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20  
 Psalm 111 (UMH)  
 1 Corinthians 8: 1-13  
 Mark 1: 21-28

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Youth Sunday**  
**February 4, 2018**

**Valentine Breakfast**  
**February 11, 2018**  
**8 am**

**Dinner Church @ Parsonage**  
**February 11, 2018**  
**6 pm**

**Corned Beef Supper**  
**March 17, 2018**  
**5 pm**

**Good Friday Walk**  
**March 30, 2018**

Vernon Adult Education has some finance courses that might interest you; the catalog is in the church kitchen. Registration begins January 25, 2018. Here is a sample of some of the courses available:

**Estate Planning, Retirement 101, Social Security Planning, Medicare 101, Wealth and Money Management, and Planning for Long-Term Care: Understanding Medicaid and How to Protect Your Assets.**

**860-870-6060**

**Or [www.vrabe.org](http://www.vrabe.org)**



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

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.



# JANUARY

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*