

**January 2015**  
**Issue No. 071**

## **JESUS WALKED ON GOOD FRIDAY, WILL YOU?**

**GOOD FRIDAY WALK, APRIL 3, 2015**

**Our annual Good Friday Walk is early this year and plans are already in process. The Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 27, at 7 pm at the Church. Present with us will be representatives from several area churches as well as Pieter Nijssen, from the Tri-Town Shelter, and Kay Doherty, of Sharing, Inc.**

**We need additional members on the committee and we invite you to become part of this group. Few meetings, faithful workers, great causes—join us. Several “work and then Walk.” Any questions, call Steve Yoder 860 644-2663 or Judie Culy 860 872-3122. A brief history of the Walk is available which explains why we do this year after year.**

**We will complete updating our website information early in February.**  
**<http://www.rockumchurch.com/home/>**

### **Food Denations**



We delivered a total of **53** items to the Tri-Town Pantry in December. Our RUMC family donated **1,220** items for the Tri-Town Pantry throughout 2014. Thank you for your generosity helping those in need.

Hunger continues: As you donate in 2015, please remember *peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna, canned or dry soup, canned vegetables, canned fruit and juice boxes are always needed.*

-Suzanne Bird



## Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends:

Another new year; another new set of resolutions doomed to be forgotten far too soon. The routines of life seem to play out with increasing speed as we watch our children and grandchildren grow up and move on. Our lives also change so resolving new behaviors and attitudes never really grows old. We continue to live out a life full of changes. Each change has the potential to move us forward or give us reason to slow down and even stall in place.

But I hope for your life and mine, we don't fall victim to stagnation and apathy. I hope we continue to strive to reach God's perfect plan as individuals and as a church community. To encourage our progress forward, I'd like to offer a suggestion, one I hope I will take myself. A resolution we might all make and one we might all be able to keep is to reflect on the past year with an eye to embracing the good in our lives and cleaning up the litter we wish to leave behind as we exit 2014. It takes some doing to ask ourselves these questions and then to answer them with honesty. "Who have I hurt this year?" and "Who have I helped?" "To whom must I make amends?" "What might I need to say?" How might I improve a relationship?" and "Which relationships in my life have become destructive and do I need to let them go so I will become a healthier person?"

Yes, New Year's Day marks a new-year opportunity to embrace and release the good and the not so good in our lives. Rachel Field writes this four line poem, which speaks to the possibilities inherent in a new beginning. Titled *New Year's Day*, Ms. Field writes:

*Last night, while we were fast asleep,  
The old year went away.  
It can't come back again because  
A new one's come to stay.<sup>i</sup>*

And so it has. Each new-year, a new beginning. Each new beginning offering new hope, new resolve, new plans, new direction, and a new focus in which God can take hold and draw us in and call us out inviting us to a new place where God's plan and purpose for our lives takes on the strength of a resolution, which we will not choose to break. May the year 2015 be one filled with great purpose and great hope for you and for those you love.

Gratefully yours,

Pastor Ricki Aiello

<sup>i</sup>Julie Andrews' Treasury for all Seasons – Poems and Songs to Celebrate the Year, Little, Brown and Company, 20.



First of all I want to say a huge **thank you** for all you who helped make the Christ Child Drive what it was. ... Over 100 items were collected with a value of \$1265, including money from the Men's Club. Candy and I distributed the items to four agencies: Tri town Shelter (a mom and four day old baby were coming the next day),

Hockanum Valley Food Pantry, Hockanum Valley Community Council, and WIC of Vernon. All were very grateful.

I am looking forward to Sunday School in January. There will be class every week: January 4, 11, 18 and 25<sup>th</sup>. On January 11<sup>th</sup> we will be handing out bibles to all the kids who are in the third grade or higher and have not received one from our church. Please let me know right away if your child needs a bible. (I will be in church on January 4<sup>th</sup>, so I will try to talk to you all.)

The students will be having our food drive on January 18<sup>th</sup>. Our "Souper Bowl Sundae" will be pushed ahead until February 8<sup>th</sup>; I will be out of town January 21<sup>st</sup> to February 4<sup>th</sup>.

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

See you in 2015!

Eileen

If you have any questions, my contact information is below:

Cell: 860-841-1433

Home: 860-875-7641

Email: eileengay1928@gmail.com

**leadership**  
dedication **discipline**  
excellence **drive**  
motivation **passion**  
heart

Lay Leader is a challenging role that consumes both time and energy. The RUMC lay leadership position is now in the capable hands of both Candy Sunderland and Mel Bacha, working together. We know great things are to come in 2015.

**THANK YOU**

We thank all of the faithful volunteers who work diligently throughout the year and who enhance the programs and mission of our church. We couldn't do anything without you. Thank you.

## **ROCKVILLE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**We have had a busy year that has just flown by. Thanks to all who have been able to participate and in many cases taken on leadership roles and an invitation to any and all women to look for upcoming activities that might interest you and know that you would be more than welcome.**

**Thanks to our two main fundraisers—the Harvest Dinner and the Holiday Bazaar, we were able to pledge \$5,000 to our 2015 church budget; \$1,000 to local social agencies; \$700 to other mission projects; \$625 to connectional United Methodist Women’s missions; church camp scholarships, and still have some left over for operational expenses, memorial gifts and the like. In 2014 Gifts to Mission were given in memory of Rose Rowe and Alice Campbell.**

**Our “Tea & Text” book discussion group read two books during the year, Trusting God by Sharon Jaynes, Gwen Smith and Mary Southerland and Cottage by the Sea by Robin Jones Gunn--Both wonderful books. We will soon begin another book, A Lantern in Her Hand by Bess Streeter Aldrich. Look for info in the February newsletter.**

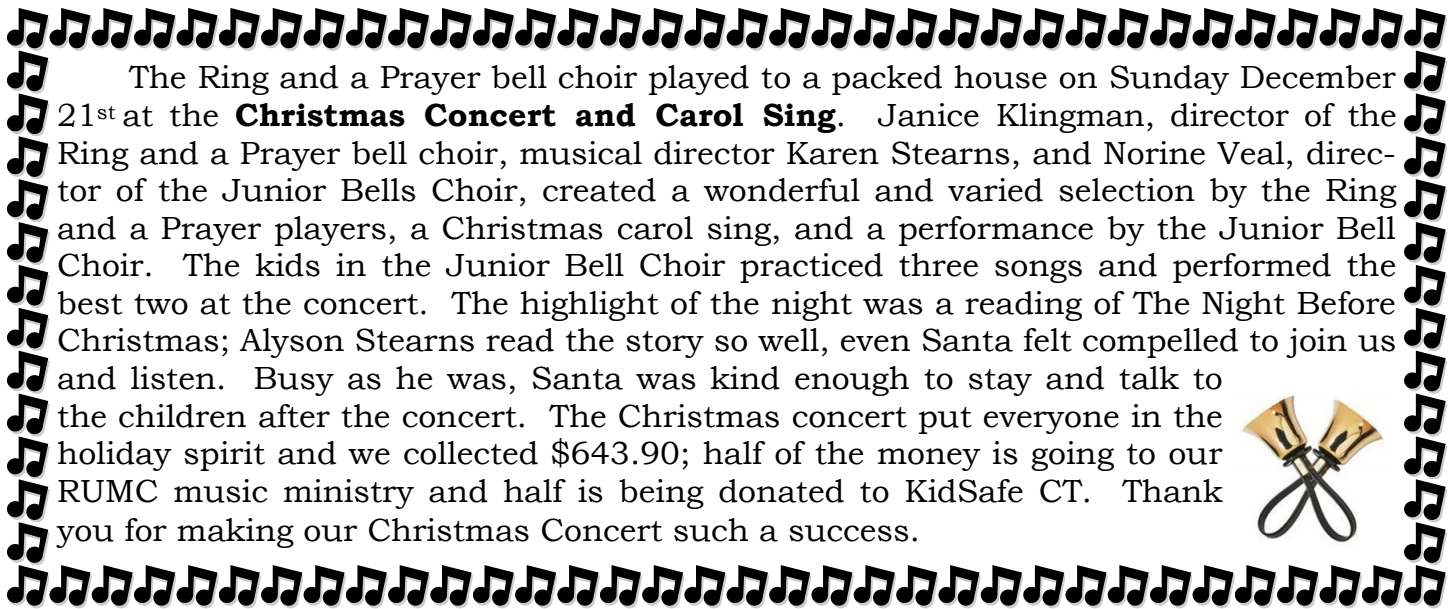
**Twelve of us went to Victoria House at the Willimantic Camp Grounds for “A Day Apart” in August. Led by Pastor Ricki, it was a grand day. We were surrounded by a feeling of peace and the love of God. Hope you will be able to join us the next time we do this.**

**The Lunch Bunch at Mitchell’s Restaurant has been a popular activity. A visit to Sue Bird’s home to view her Nativity Display was certainly a highlight for those of us able to attend. Thanks to all those who participate in the Birthday Card Ministry. We have a few months open.**

**We are in the process of planning with other committees an evening gathering with a pot luck supper. The program, Human Trafficking. So much to do, so little time!!**

**My personal thanks to all who have enabled us to do the things we do—women, men and children. I will stay on as President, Carol Robbins is coming on as Treasurer. We thank June Latkofsky for her loyal service as treasurer for the past few years. Have any ideas? Call me.**

**Blessings, Judie Culy**



The Ring and a Prayer bell choir played to a packed house on Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup> at the **Christmas Concert and Carol Sing**. Janice Klingman, director of the Ring and a Prayer bell choir, musical director Karen Stearns, and Norine Veal, director of the Junior Bells Choir, created a wonderful and varied selection by the Ring and a Prayer players, a Christmas carol sing, and a performance by the Junior Bell Choir. The kids in the Junior Bell Choir practiced three songs and performed the best two at the concert. The highlight of the night was a reading of The Night Before Christmas; Alyson Stearns read the story so well, even Santa felt compelled to join us and listen. Busy as he was, Santa was kind enough to stay and talk to the children after the concert. The Christmas concert put everyone in the holiday spirit and we collected \$643.90; half of the money is going to our RUMC music ministry and half is being donated to KidSafe CT. Thank you for making our Christmas Concert such a success.



**Thank you to all who helped make our Christ Child Drive a huge success!!!**

We collected more than 100 items and more than \$100 in cash. We distributed the items to four area agencies; all were very grateful.

- 15 packages of diapers
- 11 packages of wipes
- 28 food and formula containers
- 17 new clothes
- 2 big bags of used clothing
- 8 bottles of shampoo
- 10 bibs
- 1 package of bottles



Thank you again,  
Eileen

The **Vernon Regional Adult Based Education** program returns for its spring session on January 13, 2015. The program finished its winter session on Thursday December 18, 2014. The students invited family members to enjoy a concert performed by the students' children. The kids sang Christmas carols they had been practicing for weeks. A pot luck lunch followed the concert. Students were able to enjoy good food and company. Their final project was to make scrapbooks of the winter session; the students shared their work at the lunch.



**Our Church Family**

Pat Brandt & Juli Watrous  
Tim Arzt  
Lou Furnas  
Lucy Maupin  
Annette Welton

Staci Rizner-daughter of  
Tami Rizner  
Bill Summers-Shirley  
Edward's nephew  
Sue Brannon and Family  
Joyce Pike

**Bereavements**

**Prayer Requests**

**Special Needs**

Buckingham family-health  
concerns  
Sandra Bradley-uterine cancer-  
Bill Pikor's sister  
Samuel Gustafson—eye cancer—  
Linda Shiver's friend's  
infant son

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

Margaret Parker-Avery Heights  
Merrilee Thomas-home  
June Latkofsky-home  
Esther Harris-home  
Marilyn Barton-Woodlake  
Natalie Robertson-home  
Eleanor Schreiber-Crestfield  
Shirley Edwards-Emeritus  
Vita Aiello-Fox Hill  
Ken & June Guillow-home

**Those in Service**

Pastor Lorena & El Jabillo,  
our sister church in Nicaragua

*If you would like a candle  
lit for a prayer concern,  
please contact Lucy  
Maupin at 860-454-8689.  
Thank you.*

**To make a change to this prayer  
list, please contact the church  
office at 875-6562 or  
[rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net)**



**Happy  
Birthday**

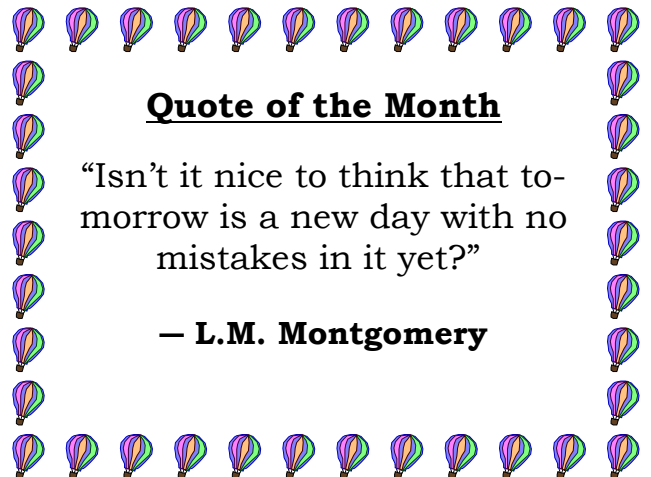
Alyson Stearns	January 1	Zachary Velasquez	January 23
Judy Wilkie	January 7	Lucas Velasquez	January 23
Eileen Gay	January 8	Craig Thompson	January 25
Brenda Mlodzinski	January 8	Mel Bacha	January 27
Amy Nagy	January 14	Sienna Spicer	January 27
Lucy Maupin	January 18	Ruth Bell	January 29
Xavier Rodriguez	January 19	Karen Perras	January 29
Billy Spivey	January 21		

Our birthday card ministry continues and we hope you and your family's birthdays are on our list. Members with missing birthdays are listed on the RUMC bulletin board. Please check to make sure we have your birthday so we can send greetings to you from your church family.

**Quote of the Month**

“Isn't it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?”

— **L.M. Montgomery**







## January Worship Attendants

### Greeters

January 4	Joanne Stenger
January 11	Lorraine White
January 18	Mary Grabowski
January 25	Lisa Williams

### Liturgists

January 4	Candy Sunderland
January 11	Ray Clark
January 18	Wayne Badstuebner
January 25	Joy Pikor

### Children's Message

January 4	Jen Chapman
January 11	Mel Bacha
January 18	Pastor Ricki
January 25	Linda Shivers

### Acolytes

Dates are available for your child to participate as an acolyte. Please contact Sherry Pearson to schedule an available day.

### Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour

January 4	Candy Sunderland
January 11	Yoder
January 18	available
January 25	Mel Bacha

### Altar Flowers

January 4	Phyllis King
January 11	McKercher
January 18	available
January 25	Tamika Brock

### January 4

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

### January 11

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

### January 18

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

### January 25

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

## The Culy's Pictures of England

Come join the Culy's in the fellowship hall on Sunday morning, Jan. 25 at 9:30 to view photos of their trip to England. They were in England for two weeks in October.



## Church Closings

If our church has to cancel a class, activity or event (examples: 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".



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Worship Committee

**January 8, 2015**

**6 PM**

### Human Relations Day

**January 18, 2015**

**Sunday School Food**

Return Service  
Requested

## **Rockville United Methodist Church**

**Adult Study 9:30 am**  
**Sunday School 10:45 am**  
**Worship Service 10:45 am**  
Office Hours 9am-2pm Tuesday-Friday

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

### ***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](mailto:rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.rockumchurch.com](http://www.rockumchurch.com)

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*Rev. Dr. Henrietta "Ricki" Aiello, Pastor*  
*Karen Stearns, Music Director*  
*Diane Lajoie, Office Manager*  
*Eileen Gay, Church School Superintendent*  
*Roger LaChance, Church Custodian*  
*Rev. Stan Culy (Retired)*  
*Dr. Belinda Forbes, Missionary to Nicaragua*