



# The Herald

RUMC Newsletter



*May 2020*  
*Issue No. 1290*

For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

Isaiah 61:11



Dear Rockville Family,

On Sunday morning last week, I came to the church to pray to God. When I came into our sanctuary, I was greeted by the Easter lilies placed on the pulpit. Their sweet scent touched my heart, that I said to God, "Lord, thank you for the chance to serve these wonderful people who love your church!"



"O my goodness!" I screamed with joy (without my knowledge) as I saw that several buds were opened wide! They had been just crouching in this dark room over the past weeks. Honestly, I didn't give good care to them except for giving them some water once a week. But they still opened their buds in this dark room. I was so impressed with the lilies full of vitality and the strength to stay alive.

"Hey idiot, why don't you move the flowers to the windows, so that they can receive sunlight?" While I was enjoying their buds, perhaps the Holy Spirit awakened me. You know, I am a simple man who doesn't know how to take care of plants. So I apologized to the lilies for my ignorance and moved them to the windows, hoping they could continue to stay healthy and fresh by sunlight.

The weather of April had been a bit of a disappointment until the end of the month. Maybe you have been wearing winter clothes again in this long cold spring. When I complained about too many rainy days, one of our sisters (on the phone) reminded me that all the plants can grow well with the rain in April. That is so true! When I rake the leaves in my yard these days, I can see grass awoken in need of some tender loving care. Despite this cold weather, our mother nature has maintained its life. "Lord, is there anything I can do to help your world and your people?" This time, the Holy Spirit didn't say any words to me. Well, friends, what can you and I do about this Covid-19? There is nothing we can do only except to keep praying.

But I have high hopes for May. It is the season of spring. I can feel a powerful energy coming from everywhere. Soon, we will be busy with our garden work, cutting, trimming, pruning, and planting. We will also open our windows, celebrate spring cleaning, and even enjoy a cook-out in our backyard. Surely, the things we have so much missed are coming back to our life!



When I thought about this new energy of May all around us, I was thinking about when we can finally come back to our community. When we talk on the phone, we both shout to each other "I miss you~~~" Yes, we miss our fellowship and miss our worship in our sanctuary. But nobody knows if we can come back in May. Although we may be able to come back, can we worship and share our fellowship as the same way we used to? Well, nothing is clear right now.

But I still have high hopes for May. To God's people, it is the season of Easter that reminds us of Jesus Christ' promise of the new and eternal life we have in him. The Trustees and GOM are planning to come together to clean the church. Thanks for this clean-up plan. I'd like to take it as a sign of our willingness to come back! Indeed, friends, let us prepare for coming back as we warm our hearts and stretch spiritually in the protection of our loving God. Let us even dream about how we may strengthen our worship and ministry when we come back, that we can grow our church to welcome and reach out to all our neighbors who have been crouching in their lives. We can do it because we have the risen Christ in our hearts, who defeats the power of death and sin of the world and brings us the final victory.

In this fresh morning in May, I along with you, hope and pray for our resurrection with Jesus Christ our Savior.

Peace and joy  
Pastor Cheol

May 10th



- While Mother's Day is a relative new holiday in modern history, versions of similar holidays have existed through the centuries. The Bible does not directly address the holiday of a Mother's Day in its verses, but often addresses the celebration of motherhood and mothers, such as in the following passages. "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way, it is not irritable or resentful, it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- "Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice."

Proverbs 23:22-25

- "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

Galatians 5:22-23

- The Bible consistently asks followers to honor and love their mothers. Examples of this can be seen in Exodus 20:12, "Honor your father and your mother," and Leviticus 19:3, "Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father."



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

There will be a combined Mother's Day/Father's Day Giving opportunity to benefit Church World Service. Please send your gifts and dedications to the church office.

Any questions, call Sylvia Yoder at 860-644-2663.

## CHURCH CLEAN UP



Spring is here and our church grounds are in need of a clean-up! We will be planning a designated clean-up day in May, but encourage anyone who would like to spend some time raking, weeding or doing other outside tasks to give us a head start. For more info, call Don Ross at 860-228-1390. Thanks in advance for your help!

(THERE ARE JOBS FOR EVERYONE!)



Thanks to Dave and Bridget, Nat, Don and Carol for all your hard work.

Beautiful Job!



## Keeping in Touch



Stan Culy recently shared a phone conversation he had with Lucy Maupin, a former member of RUMC who has moved away. She said she was thinking about us, concerned about us and praying for us. She has found an exuberant church, warm weather, and is only 22 miles from her son, Richard and her two granddaughters.

Charlie is also doing well. It was good to hear from them!



Watch Our SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE on YouTube.  
Stay Connected in worship!

The link to the service is sent out every Saturday evening. If you are not already included on this list, email Janice at [jjklmn@aol.com](mailto:jjklmn@aol.com).

The following is a letter from Linda Shivers. Though we are saddened by this news, it is not unexpected in the light of our current world-wide health situation. VBS has long been a highlight of the year for Linda, the VBS Staff and all the children. We look forward to what the future holds for the children, Linda and her staff.



One thing we know for sure, is that It will be done well!

*After much thought and prayer, Don, Kathy and I have decided that we are cancelling VBS this year. Even if things start opening at the end of May, it does not give us enough time to prepare and implement a good VBS program. We also feel that people will still be hesitant about letting kids gather together for awhile.*

*Don, Kathy and I also texted about keeping options open for possible opportunities to involve the youth on a mission or two if one comes up that we feel will engage the youth but also keep them safe.*

*Kathy has gratefully let us know that she is around this summer if we need her for any church children/youth activity.*

*As disappointed as we all are—we need to keep our volunteers and children safe. I have done VBS for over 25 years and this is the first year I will not be working one, so I am very disappointed. I think Don and Kathy are not far behind me in the number of years we have worked together.*

*Please stay safe,*

*Linda Shivers*

## Can You Help Pay Off the Parsonage Loan?

### Our Progress Thus Far:

Loan Balance:	\$10,000
Raised to Date:	\$8,370
Pay off Amount:	\$1,630



## VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED (When we are up and running!!!)

**Church Custodian:** Volunteers are needed to help clean the church. Clean the restrooms, vacuum the rugs, etc. The more who volunteer, the easier it will be for everyone.

**Worship Attendants:** There are many opportunities to serve the church on Sundays: greeters, ushers, liturgists, hosting fellowship, or bringing the food donations to the pantry. The sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall.

**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.**

**Food Collection:** Volunteers are needed to bring the nonperishable food items in our donation box to one of the food pantries in town. The sign up sheet is on the volunteer bulletin board.

### In the Community:

**Cornerstone Soup Kitchen:** Cornerstone Soup Kitchen is looking for volunteers who ServSafe Certified; they are the only volunteers who can cook the Soup Kitchen meals. Non-certified volunteers can serve the food or clean-up, but not prepare the food. Contact Sharon Redfern or Bryan Flint to volunteer.

Sharon.Redfern@cornerstone-cares.org or Bryan.Flint@Cornerstone-cares.org

Volunteers are the heart of the church.  
Please consider how you can help.



**Our Church Family**

Ann Chisenhall—Medical  
 John Ward  
 Ginny Hickton  
 Marie Pierce  
 Ray Clark



**In Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Limited Mobility**

Eleanor Schrieber—Crestfield Manor  
 Shirley Edwards—Brookdale SW  
 Barbara Milanese—Welles Village  
 Kay Lyke—Crestfield Manor  
 Harry Thomas—Woodlake  
 Janet McKercher—White Oaks  
 Norine Veal—Woodlake  
 Phyllis King—Vernon Manor  
 June Latkofsky  
 Esther Harris  
 Irene Surette

**Special Concerns**

Julianna—Teenager with cancer  
 Emily Matthews, Don Corne and all medical professionals on the front lines.  
 All teachers and students teaching and going to school online.  
 All professionals facing the challenges of running a business online.  
 Employees working outside the home in grocery stores, drug stores, day care facilities and all other on-site locations.

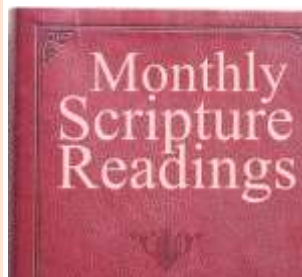
**Those in Christian Service**

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



Barbara Kent	May 6		
Kady Joy	May 9	Ian Corne	May 21
Patricia Brandt	May 11	Carol Robbins	May 25
Esther Harris	May 15	John Ward	May 26
Nat Woodruff	May 20	Earl Robertson	May 31

May 3  
 Acts 2:42-47  
 Psalm 23  
 1 Peter 2:2-19  
 John 10:1-10  
 May 10  
 Acts 7:55-60  
 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
 1 Peter 2:2-10  
 John 14:1-14



May 17  
 Acts 17:22-31      Psalms 66:8-20  
 1 Peter 3:13-22      John 14:15-21  
 May 21  
 Acts 1:1-11      Psalm 47  
 Ephesians 1:15-23      Luke 24:45-53  
 May 24  
 Acts 1:6-14      Psalm 1-10, 32-35  
 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
 John 17:1-11  
 May 31  
 Acts 2:1-21      Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13      John 7:37-39



Rockville United Methodist Church  
142 Grove Street  
Rockville Vernon, CT 06066

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

US POSTAGE PAID  
VERNON, CT  
PERMIT NO. 112

Dated Material—Please Deliver Promptly

### Rockville United Methodist Church



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.



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

Rev. SeokCheol Shin, Pastor  
Karen Stearns, Music Director  
Linda Shivers, Director of Christian Education  
Rev. Stan Culy (Retired)  
Dr. Belinda Forbes, Missionary to Nicaragua