

Our Church Family

Joanne Stenger—Covid
Sara Stenger—Covid 19
Ann Chisenhall
Carol Macri
Marie Pierce
Ray Clark

In Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Limited Mobility

Shirley Edwards—Brookdale SW
Janet McKercher—White Oaks
Norine Veal—Woodlake
Phyllis King—Vernon Manor
June Latkofsky
Esther Harris
Irene Surette



Other Concerns:

Cassity Kerstetter (niece of Dave Saunders—beginning Boot Camp)
Peter McCarthy (Wayne Badstuebner’s nephew)
Dr. Belinda Forbes—Hurricane devastation in Nicaragua
Bob Hornbecker—Medical Issues (spouse of Debby Walters’ boss)
Paula Herlihy, caregiver, and her parents, Ed and Rosemary Ostafi
Steve Chisenhall’s father, Rev. Herbert Chisenhall—Recovery from stroke
Emily Rushton, Don Corne, Chelsea Whitney, Glen Stambo, Alyssa Walters, Craig Stearns,
Scott Gay, Al Laflamme Nancy Beimler, Margaret Wilkie and all medical professionals and healthcare workers affected by the virus.
Lorna (Emily’s aunt) cancer
Students and teachers
Those who are lonely

To add a name to our prayer list, please contact the church office at 860-875-6562 or RockvilleUMC@outlook.com.

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



Rockville United Methodist Church
Order of Worship
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020

GATHERING MEDITATION

During this exciting holiday season, we come to this place to be fed by God. We need the peace, hope, love and joy that this season represents. We need to listen again with wonder to the words of Mary and Joseph as they proclaim their faithful participation in God’s most miraculous gift. Let us open our hearts this day to receive and be fed by the words and blessings God has bestowed on us and share those gifts with others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (please see inside of bulletin)

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Today is the fourth Sunday in Advent.
P: **We gather together to celebrate the great love of God.**
L: We light this fourth candle of Love
P: **To remember the birth of Jesus who came to save us.**
L: God, fill every heart with praise for Jesus Christ.
P: **We are joyfully praying, “Be born in us today.”**

LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE Candle of Love

OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, we have come together today to praise you for your bountiful blessings; we bow down before you for the gift of Christ the Savior who has born in the darkness of our world. During these turbulent times, we pray you will search our hearts and know how desperately we need to be comforted and encouraged by the fact that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ. May everything we say and do here today bring praise, glory, and honor to your holy and precious name. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

SERMON

Coming Home—“A Long Journey Home”

Pastor Cheol

OFFERING

(Please send tithes and Offerings to the church office or use the online giving option.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we offer our gifts to you, knowing well that we have devoted so much energy into finding gifts for our families and much less on the gifts we offer to you. You gave Mary, an unmarried girl, a Son so the world might have a Savior. Her response was so simple: “Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be according to your word.” May her affirmation of faith and obedience be the gift we offer this day. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

JOYS, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF OUR PEOPLE (please see back page)

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you today for opening our hearts to accept your living word and making us prepare your coming into our lives. You sent your servants to prepare us for the birth of Christ our Savior, and you call us to be the awakening prophets for a world that doesn't know the Christ yet. Help us to prepare your way in our lives and to announce your coming in love and peace to others. In this time of challenge and confusion, Lord, be with us, with our families and with our wounded world. Bring healing and peace to us, that we can restore hope of life, help each other in love, and work for your kingdom here in our lives. We offer this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE LEAVE WITH GOD'S BLESSING

SONG OF HOPE

“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”

BENEDICTION

God strengthens us to unburden all our worries and fears and come into his ever presence in our lives, so that we may enjoy and celebrate a life of hope, peace, joy, and love. May we live for God's glory always and everywhere and share the good news that we have received from the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thanks to all who contributed to the Holiday Gift Fund this season. Because of your generosity, we were able to donate \$850 to assist with essentials for the Cornerstone Shelter and Clairvaux House.



This Week at RUMC:

Sunday	12/20	4th Sunday in Advent Online Worship (available all week)
Thursday	12/24	Christmas Eve Service (Zoom)
Friday	12/25	Christmas Day Online Worship (available all week)

Please email or text your part of our virtual Christmas Eve candle lighting as soon as possible. For details on how to participate watch Geoff's "how to" video online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzlxfxscJYY&feature=youtu.be>



Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem in Judaea, the home of Joseph's family. The journey takes between four and five days.

