

Our Church Family

Ann Chisenhall
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:

Those travelling at Christmas time
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
Those who are separated from family

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
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020

GATHERING MEDITATION

Now the time is near! The One who will save us, bringing God's light into our world. We come with our hopes and our dreams. We come as little children. We come because of loneliness. We come offering our lives and bringing our gifts. In the spirit of this night, let us open our hearts and receive our Christmas gift to us from the Holy One who shines in the darkness.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: On this night, Christ is born!
P: **Now the Savior has appeared!**
L: On this night, the heavenly chorus resounds!
P: **All creation rejoices!**
L: On this night, the church throughout the world joins their cry:
P: **Glory to God in the highest!**

LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Christ Candle

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom give everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:8-20

SERMON "The Light in the Darkness" Pastor Cheol

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, on this day when we joyfully and expectantly give and receive gifts, help us understand what it truly means to receive the gift of your only begotten Son. In turn, may we be willing to give our gifts to you – our time, our talents, and indeed our very selves. Amen.

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

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (See opposite page)

WE LEAVE WITH GOD'S BLESSING

SONG OF HOPE "Silent Night"

BENEDICTION

Tonight is the night of a great celebration! Rejoice! Christ is born in our hearts! Rejoice! We have the light of Christ in our lives! And let our shouts of joy be heard throughout all the land. Go now in peace and great joy! Amen.



Prayer of the Church- *Christmas Day*

We rejoice, O Lord, with Mary and Joseph, the angels, and the shepherds, at the birth of our Lord Jesus. Let us now ask him to help us.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

You have come to live among us, full of grace and truth. Live in our hearts, and show your grace to others through us.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

You have brought us pardon and peace with our heavenly Father. Help us to please him by living at peace with each other.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

You gave up your riches in heaven, and were born among the poor here on earth. Show those who are poor your love through us.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

You are the Prince of Peace, and Lord of all. Guide the nations of the world, and help them to work together for justice and peace.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

You took on our human weakness. Strengthen the weak, heal the sick, and comfort those who suffer and those who have lost their beloved.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

You have brought great joy to all people. Gladden those who are sad, lonely, and depressed.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Your birth brings us light and life. Comfort the dying with the light of your presence, and lead them through death to eternal life.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

O heavenly Father, as we prepare ourselves for the coming of your Son, fill our hearts and lives with praise. Grant that we may be just and merciful, ready to help in the needs of our neighbor and conscious of your great love for all the world. Fill the Christian family with your spiritual gifts of forgiveness, patience, mutual love, and unending joy. For we ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together: (Lord's Prayer)