



The Herald

RUMC Newsletter

January 2021
Issue No. 1297

At the dawn of the new year I'm filled with hope for what is to come, and I have thankfulness in my heart for what has already passed. I pray that I will keep my focus where it needs to be this year and that we'll all have a year filled with joy, love and happiness.

Psalm 96:1-3





Dear Rockville Family and Friends,

Happy New Year!

It's hard to believe we have completed the year of 2020. Thank you so much for your perseverance. With your support and dedication, we made it through this difficult year safely. As we reflect on this past year, many will remember grief and worry. If you are still feeling struggles with the past, I want to remind you of the disciple Paul's uplifting words, **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he/she is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Cor. 5:17).**

I am certain that you are ready to put all the struggles of 2020 behind you and are now looking forward to the good news that this year will bring – the good news like an end to this Pandemic with all the isolation and restrictions, and getting life back to normal. As we move into a New Year, we truly want to start our new journey with grace and power from God. Along with our New Year's hopes, I'd like to share with you God's promise that I know from the prophet Isaiah: **"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).**

In spite of our high expectations, however, the realization of recovery may be slow to come. Perhaps, early 2021 may be the same as we've been experiencing these last several months. As the CDC warns, we need to continue taking precautions even though people are getting vaccinated. I humbly ask you to stay a little bit more patient in the boat named "RUMC Online Virtual Service" while the water is still over our heads. I encourage you to keep in mind these words of God: **"But we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." (Romans 5:3-5).**

I am so grateful for all the ways you have remained steadfast in the past year. You've been faithful in your worship and ministry; you've been gracious in supporting our church; you've been holding each other in your prayers and hearts. Thank you so much for your discipleship, engagement, support and dedication. As I know you love God and you love each other, I am confident that you will continue to stay strong and keep following Jesus Christ our Lord. In the midst of darkness, Jesus said: **"I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" (John 16:33)**

I will continue to pray for you daily and look forward to travelling through 2021 with you!

In God's love,
Pastor Cheol



January 6, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Epiphany celebrates the revelation and manifestation of Christ the King to the Magi, and ultimately, the gentile world. The Magi journey across many miles following a star until it rests over the Christ child in Bethlehem. There, they offer the Christ child gifts worthy of a righteous and eternal king who is prophesied to provide abundance for his peoples, defend the cause of the poor with justice, deliver the needy, crush the oppressor and the violent, and bring peace (Psalm 72:1-7; 10-14).

The Magi were learned astronomers, scholars, and priests. They knew enough to know that the heavens spoke through the stars (Psalm 19:1-6). They observed that something unusual and extraordinary was happening in the heavens. And, they knew enough to search through their vast library of books until they came upon Old Testament Scripture, and specifically, the biblical prophecies in the Old Testament **that mention a coming “child that would be King.” Somehow, God gave them enough light of understanding** so they could make the connection between the natural phenomena they observed in the heavens and the biblical prophecies in the Old Testament.



The Worship Team is sending out a very special thanks to all who have participated in putting together our Online Worship Service each week. With the help of many hard-working and caring church family members, our services have continued non-stop since March 22 of this past year.

We would like to thank all who have stepped up by participating in our services. Many of you have been behind the scenes, reading scriptures, doing service introductions, and providing special music. This list includes Shawn Harward, Dave Joy, Bridget Joy, George Klingman, Stan Culy, Myrna Sawyer, Dave Saunders, Allison Corne, Leah Corne, Ian Corne, Michelle Gerow, Charlotte Gerow, Anna Gerow, Jake Gerow, Alyson Stearns, Matt Stearns, Beth Stearns, Lauren Stearns, Tamika Brock, Sylvia Yoder, Candy Sunderland, Carol Aronson, and Mat Mlodzinski. Forgive us if we have failed to mention others. You have our deepest gratitude.

And to those who participated in the online candle-lighting for our Christmas Eve Service—it was wonderful to see all **those faces we’ve missed so much!**

Happy New Year!

RUMC Worship Team

Pastor Cheol, Geoff Gerow, Karen Stearns, Nat Woodruff, Janice Klingman

Would you like to participate in our online worship service? We can (safely) record you reading the scriptures and insert it into the service. (You would not be on camera.)

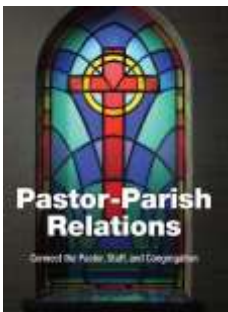
Let us know if you would like to participate by emailing our Worship Chairman, Nat Woodruff at woodruff983@gmail.com or Pastor Cheol at starcheol@gmail.com.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

NEWS ABOUT THE HOLIDAY GIFT FUND !!

Thank you to all who donated to this annual event. The folks who utilize the Cornerstone Shelter, New Hope House and Clairvaux House will have a little light of hope this holiday season.

Kathy and Amy



On behalf of SPRC, THANK YOU to all our very committed leaders and to everyone for all your talent, faith and energy during a very challenging 2020. As we enter 2021, I look forward to a new year of hope, healing and reconnection with you all. Happy New Years! All our very best,

Geoff Gerow

KID'S PAGE
Adults can do it too!!

THE BEST YEAR

OUT WITH THE OLD {2020}



IN WITH THE NEW {2021}

2 FAVORITE MEMORIES

3 THINGS I'M GRATEFUL FOR

1 HARD LESSON I LEARNED!

1 THING I DID THIS YEAR I'M PROUD OF

3 PLACES I WANT TO GO

2 WAYS I CAN HELP OTHERS

1 THING I WANT TO GET BETTER AT

2 THINGS I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO

3 NEW THINGS I WANT TO TRY



The Worship Team has been working hard to keep our church family connected since March of 2020 with our weekly online services.

In addition, we have been sending weekly mailings. (Pastor's letter, weekly service bulletins and sermons and monthly Newsletter).

If you are interested in helping to prepare these documents for mailing, please let me know. (No computer skills are needed.) This could be done at home or at church using social distancing.

Thank you. Janice

(jjklmn@aol.com, 860-798-7406)

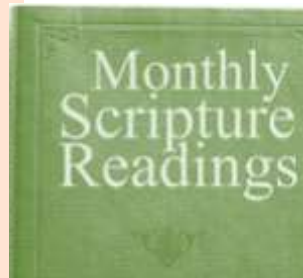


Alyson Stearns	January 1	Owen Longo	January 21
Eileen Gay	January 8	Billy Spivey	January 21
Amanda Klingman	January 14	Lucas Velásquez	January 23
Sienna Spicer	January 14	Zachary Velásquez	January 23
Katherine Durham	January 16	Adrienne Brock	January 24
Xavier Rodriguez	January 19	Craig Thompson	January 25
Tommy Shivers	January 19	Karen Perras	January 29

January 1
 Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8
 Revelations 12:1-6a
 Matthew 25:31-46

January 3
 Isaiah 60:1-6
 Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14
 Ephesians 3:1-12
 Matthew 2:1-12

January 10
 Genesis 1:1-5
 Psalms 29
 Acts 19:1-7
 Mark 1:4-11



January 17
 1 Samuel 3:-10
 Psalm 139; 1-6, 13-18
 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 43-51
 January 24
 Jonah 3:1-5
 Psalm 62; 5-12
 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14
 January 31
 Deuteronomy 18:15-20
 Psalm 111
 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
 Mark 1:21-28

Our Church Family

Ann Chisenhall
Marie Pierce
Ray Clark



Other Concerns:

- Ray Benner—Covid (brother of Janice Klingman)
- Cassity Kerstetter (niece of Dave Saunders—Boot Camp)
- **Peter McCarthy (Wayne Badstuebner's nephew)**
- Paula Herlihy and her parents, Ed and Rosemary Ostafi
- Rev. Herbert Chisenhall—**Steve's Dad/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 Rushton's aunt) cancer**

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

Those in Christian Service

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



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

Services provided on YouTube and Facebook only, due to Covid 19.
If you would like to receive a link to the service, please call the church office.



Office Hours 10am-2pm Tuesday-Friday

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