



Valentine's Day Breakfast

Sunday, February 12

8 am

All ladies, young and young at heart

Sign up to be serenaded and served breakfast by the men of the church!

"Touched by Christ"

A Lenten Study

There will be two Lenten studies this year based on Pastor Ricki's sermons during Lent. She will be preaching on the theme "Touched by Christ," focusing on several familiar persons of the Bible such as Nicodemus, Zacchaeus, etc.

On Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 at the church, Pastor Ricki and Stan Culy will lead a discussion of the passage which she will preach on the following Sunday. On Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15, Stan will lead a discussion of the same passage which Pastor Ricki would preach on in the next hour. (This is quite an experiment!)

February 26 is the first Sunday of Lent and the morning class will discuss Mary and Martha found in Luke 10:38-42, followed by Pastor Ricki's sermon about the two sisters.

February 29 is the first Wednesday evening discussion group and it will study the story of Nicodemus from John 2, which Pastor Ricki will preach on March 4.



For you created my inmost being: You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Psalm 139:13-14

Traditionally, we think of February as the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. Whether we have a person to share the day with or not, February 14th can remind us of those wonderful cards we gave or received those first heart-shaped cards. It was all about love.

My first memories take me back to grade school, actually, second grade when the whole classroom became a post office and we made and gave cards to everyone in our class with a special card for our teacher. There was a lesson embedded in the weeklong activity. We learned a bit about art, design, writing, and the proper way to address an envelope. Back then everything in school involved some aspect of learning even when our teachers were trying to make it fun for us. Guess that hasn't changed much.

But what has changed, I hope, is the focus for this particular month isn't solely on the observance of giving and receiving cards observing Valentine's Day. It's good to celebrate committed and loving relationships but it is also important to recognize February as a month to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black Americans. The history of our Afro-American brothers and sisters didn't begin well. Enslaved by white business and farm owners, people of color in this country had a great deal to overcome. Amazingly, they made great strides and have contributed in significant ways to the health and well being of this country, which we share. Here is just a short list* of some of those accomplishments:

- **Elijah McCoy** (1843-1929) invented an oil-dripping cup for trains and though others tried to copy his design none were able. As a result, customers started asking for "the real McCoy", which is where the expression derives.
- **Lewis Latimer** (1848-1928) invented an important part of the light bulb –the carbon filament. Latimer worked with both Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell.
- **George Washington Carver** (1860-1943) developed peanut butter and 400 plant products. Carver was born a slave and didn't go to college until he was 30.
- **Otis Boykin** (1920-1982) invented the electronic control devices for guided missiles, IBM computers, and the pacemaker. Boykin invented 28 different electronic devices.
- **Dr. Patricia E. Bath** (1949-) invented a method of eye surgery that has helped many blind people to see and has been nominated to the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

These are just 5 of the hundreds of amazing men and women whose accomplishments and histories have enriched our lives and our world. By God's gracious and giving hand He has created us with a multitude of gifts. As the Psalmist reminds us we are *fearfully and wonderfully made* with the capacity to recognize God's bounty and love.

Gratefully,
Pastor Ricki

RUMC SUNDAY SCHOOL



Last month we kicked off our Winter mission project, which supports the Restavec Freedom Alliance (RFA). It is an organization that helps the Restavec children in Haiti. A guest speaker from RFA spoke to our congregation on January 22nd and showed how we can directly help the children in need. We will be holding a collection drive of items needed until March 4th. Collection bins are placed in the Narthex. Please see the Sunday School's bulletin board (or www.rfahaiti.org) for information on how you can help.

February 19th marks the return of our annual **Pretzel Sunday!** What is Pretzel Sunday? The children learn about the Christian symbolism of the pretzel, and then get elbow deep in flour as they make dozens of pretzels for the congregation. The baking takes place during Sunday School that day. Below is a recipe for pretzel dough – please consider making some and bringing it to church on the 19th by 9:30 (with a cookie sheet we can borrow).

Pretzel Dough Recipe



1 pkg. dry yeast
1 ½ cups warm water
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. sugar
4 c. flour



Dissolve yeast in warm water. Stir in sugar and salt.

Add 2 c. flour, and work in remainder.

Knead until smooth. Let rise for at least one hour.

Finally, We'd like to once again thank the congregation for the continued support of our church's Sunday school program, it is greatly appreciated!

Important dates coming up:

Feb 5:	Teachers/Christian Ed Meeting, 9:00am
Feb 19:	Pretzel Sunday
March 4th:	Teacher/CEC Meeting, 9:00 ; Mission project ends
April 1st:	Teacher/CEC Meeting, 9:00
April 8th:	EASTER SUNDAY. No Sunday School, Bag hunt, 10:15.

Prayer Requests

Our Church Family

Charlie & Lucy Maupin
 Betty Hanson
 Althea Madigan
 Eleanor Schreiber
 Ernest Pearson
 Amos & Kathy Kentfield

Tami Rizner-daughter of
 Virginia Hickton
 Bill Summers-Shirley
 Edward's nephew
 Billy McLellan—Eleanor
 Schreiber's son
 Dorothy Sunderland

Bereavements

Friends and family of Ruth
 Hart (died Dec. 4)

*If you would like a candle
 lit for a prayer concern,
 please contact Lucy
 Maupin at 860-875-1519.
 Thank you.*

Special Needs

Ryan Towle- B. Priddy's grandson
 Ellen Hendrick-friend of G. Hickton
 Pam-health concerns-S. Bird's friend
 Rev.Val Roberts-Toler-breast cancer
 Darlene Snyder-health concerns- cousin
 of the Sunderlands
 Jean Weaver-knee replacement- cousin
 of the Sunderlands
 Bruce-colon cancer-friend of Felecia
 Charles Latkofsky- health issues- June's
 son
 Ray Mikovitz-friend of the Wilkies
 BettyAnn Oppelt-G. Hickton's sister
 Juli Watrous-health concerns
 Haley Goodrich-B. Priddy's great-
 granddaughter
 Dr. Bob Bartos-nephew of Shirley
 Edwards
 Bernard L. Chappell Jr.-healing from
 stroke-nephew of P. King
 Bernard Boname-health concerns-
 Brenda Mlodzinski's dad
 Betty Schooley-health issues-Kathie
 Kentfield's mom
 Doris Hattan-G. Hickton's friend

Those in nursing homes, Assisted Living and with limited mobility

Margaret Parker- Welles Village
 Herb Pfalzgraf—home
 Pat Brandt—home
 Merrilee Thomas—home
 June Latkofsky-home
 Peter & Janet McKercher—home
 Rose Rowe-home
 Betty Priddy-Welles Village
 Ernie Pearson-home
 Jerrie Kirby—home
 Janet Baldwin-Fox Hill

Those in Service

Pastor Lorena & El Jabillo,
 our sister church in Nicaragua
 Wayne Badstuebner Jr.-Navy
 Peter Adams-Iraq
 (Liane Grady's son)
 Tyler Lee-Afghanistan-
 Juli Watrous' cousin
 Jason McQueeney-Afghanistan-
 Feeney's son-in-law

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



Emerson Robbins	February 3
Pat Feeney	February 5
Eleanor Schreiber	February 5
Jenna Sunderland	February 8
Kathy Sunderland	February 9
Cameron Robbins	February 13
Krystal Fox	February 15
Geoff Gerow	February 15
Dalton Sunderland	February 15
Charlotte Gerow	February 17
Robert Joy	February 22
Wayne Cheveriea	February 23
Aidon Cortes	February 25
Janet Baldwin	February 28
Virginia Wehrli	February 28



8 NOTE CHILDREN'S BELL CHOIR

Message in the Music Room. Contact Norine Veal,
 860-896-1910.

Quote of the Month

“It is better to remain silent and be thought
 a fool than to open one’s mouth
 and remove all doubt.”

-Abraham Lincoln



February Worship Attendants

Greeters

February 5	Helen Stambo & Liz Arzt
February 12	Guy & Pat Feeney
February 19	Joanne & Sara Stenger
February 26	Carol Macri & Aidon Cortes

Liturgists

February 5	Candy Sunderland
February 12	Sherry Pearson
February 19	Mel Bacha
February 26	Joe McCollough

Children's Message

February 5	Althea Madigan
February 12	Pastor Ricki
February 19	Available
February 26	Pastor Ricki

Acolytes

February 5	Available
February 12	Available
February 19	Available
February 26	Available

Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour

February 5	Yoder-Gerow
February 12	Gay
February 19	Available
February 26	Available

Altar Flowers

February 5	Gay
February 12	Available
February 19	West
February 26	Available

I wanted to express my thanks for the cards, visits, phone calls and general concern for my health and continued healing. I am anxious to go home and return to church.

Sincerely, Shirley Edwards

Christmas Eve has become a time for me to give a little extra thanks for the blessing of a church family that includes me in the staff gifts that are bestowed during the service. Thank you very much.

Stan Culy

Food Donations



A total of 58 items were donated to the Tri-Town Pantry since the January Newsletter was published. The "Greatest Needed Foods" for the month of February are: cans of pork & beans, boxes of mac & cheese, cans of stew and hash.

My sincere thanks to the congregation for their generous Christmas gift for me. As always, I enjoy serving you and the church.

*Blessings,
Bridget Joy*

To the Prayer Shawl Ministry:
Thank you for the lovely blanket that was made for Katie. It was beautiful!

Thank you-
*The Willham family
Doug, Tracey, Nick, Noah, Abby and Katie*

February 5
Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (UMH)
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

February 12
2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30 (UMH)
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Mark 1:40-45

February 19
2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6 (UMH)
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

February 26
Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10 (UMH)
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15



Anniversary Recognition Sunday

On **February 12th**, we will have a time of recognition during the service for couples who are celebrating an anniversary in 2012 that is divisible by 5. Example: 5th, 10th, 15th etc.).

If you would like to participate in this celebration, please fill out the form below and hand it in to the office or put it in the offering plate during service. Thank you.

Anniversary Recognition Sunday

_____ Yes, we would like to participate in Anniversary Recognition Sunday.

_____ No, we won't be able to participate, but would like our anniversary mentioned in the bulletin.

Our Names are _____

Our Anniversary Date is _____



History Spot: "The Bank Rooms"

by: David White

For the entire one hundred and two years our congregation used its brick structure in downtown Rockville it leased the first floor front rooms to businesses, which paid rent to the church. Most of these rentals went to banks. In a letter dated 1941, People's Savings Bank informed the church that it would renew its 1930 lease of these rooms for another ten years. In 1951 the bank again renewed its lease with the church. When the congregation moved in 1959 to our present location, the bank purchased the brick church and this money was used towards the cost of our new structure. The bank later sold the building to the town, which now uses it as its Senior Center.

Reflections on the United Methodist Women

The Tri-Town Shelter and Cornerstone Foundation are 2 local missions projects we support. Part of the funds from the Good Friday Walk goes to Tri-Town Shelter. It is the only shelter in the area to offer much needed help to these folks. One can volunteer one's time, money or necessary supplies such as toiletries, sheets pillow cases, etc. Call to see what they need the most. Tri-Town Shelter is located on East Main Street; Cornerstone Foundation is located on Prospect Street. Cornerstone started at Union Congregational Church offering a soup and sandwich lunch and a Friday night meal as well. The volunteers came from the area churches. Our church was involved from the beginning. Helen Syriac started it and it eventually grew to what it is today. Besides meals, there's a community center, a shelter (different from Tri-Town), clothing bank, and social services to offer a helping hand to those in need. All of these services require the input of many people to keep them viable. Please remember them and pray for their missions.

Did you know that doctors from East Hartford come to see patients at no charge and they don't need insurance? Pastor Ricki and I have the phone numbers to make an appointment. There are probably qualifications, but what a great service!

Love in Christ, Shirley Edwards

RUMC Sunday School is helping to support the **Restavec Freedom Alliance**

Restavec Freedom Alliance is dedicated to providing relief for the Restavek children, children who are "given" to families and used as slaves in Haiti. The RFA's mission is to offer a safe, stable, family centered environment for these children so that each child can receive the childhood they deserve – nothing like their life as a Restavek. Each child will have access to an education, medical support, loving care, psychiatric care, and adequate food, clean water and sanitary facilities.

Our Sunday School children are holding a collection drive for the most needed items. Currently they are:



- **Coloring books**
- **Crayons**
- **Dry paint**
- **Beads**
- **Gimp**
- **Soccer balls**
- **Dolls**
- **Backpacks**



A more complete list of requested items can be found at <http://www.rfahaiti.org/donate/essential-items-list/>

Our collection drive will go from January 22nd through March 4th. Donations can be placed in the collection bins in the Narthex. These items will be brought back to Haiti and will help enrich the lives of these children.

GOOD FRIDAY WALK at Rockville United Methodist Church

Jesus challenges us to go out into the world to spread his Gospel. This is one way to exercise your Faith. Jesus Walked on Good Friday, Will You?

Good Friday Walk, April 6, 2012--begins and ends at the Rockville United Methodist Church, 142 Grove Street, Rockville, CT. 860 875-6562. 10 stops, lunch of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches at the halfway point—Windsorville UMC. Over 30 churches and organizations participate. Traditionally, over 100 walkers and about half that many workers volunteer their time and energy. Typically, \$12,000 or so is raised. 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult or will be driven back to the starting point. Participants must have a minimum pledge of \$20.

The concept of Walking on Good Friday was introduced to us in the early 1980s by our then Pastor Dick Thompson, who had come to us from Hingham, MA and had participated in Good Friday Walks there and thought his new congregation would be interested in joining what he believed to be a wonderful cause, raising money for persons in the deep south who needed help to help themselves. We first walked in Hingham, MA; then in Mystic, CT. Twenty-nine years ago in 1984, we decided to walk in Rockville. At first, 100% of the money raised went to Sharing, Inc. A few years ago we began to give 1/3 of the money raised to our own Tri-Town Shelter--A wonderful way of sharing in our own community.

How the original walk began..... “In January 1972, Kay Doherty, one New England woman, learned that the North Bolivar County Farm Co-op in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, was about to collapse due to federal budget cutbacks. She sought help to organize a Walk to raise money for the Co-op. When none was forthcoming, she decided to walk on Good Friday herself, alone if necessary. From that day, Good Friday has become a day on which many Christians choose to walk as Jesus did. They are joined by people of other beliefs who walk in the shared conviction that we must respond with love and justice wherever God’s people cry out.”

The original Walk of 1972, incorporated as Sharing in 1975, remains focused on rural poverty in the southern states. The majority of grants in recent years have been sharply focused on the needs of children—supporting gifted, committed, caring groups who are making a difference in the lives of children who suffer the dual oppressions of poverty and racism. Each year Kay travels south and evaluates organizations that receive support from **Sharing, Inc.** Sharing, Inc. has distributed over \$3 Million. Their website is: <http://www.walkingongoodfriday.org/>

To get more info, take a walk sheet, volunteer to work (we need drivers, stop workers, etc.), make a donation. Last year’s walkers will receive a walk sheet in the mail directly from Sharing, Inc. Others may pick them up at RUMC or by calling: 860 872-3122 or 643-4080. We need YOU!! Let’s make this the best Walk ever!!

United Methodist Women

We did not meet in January. Our budget was voted in on December 15, 2011. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, February. the 21st. at 1pm. All women of the church are welcome. We will be setting the dates for our 2012 activities and looking over a possible donation to Haiti's Restavec Freedom Alliance. Also, we will set a date and place for the Lunch Bunch to meet in March. Don't forget to sign up for the Ladies Valentine's Breakfast on February 12th.

-Norine Veal



Amy & Samuel Velasquez are the proud parents of

Lucas Matthew (5 lbs 11 oz) and Zachary Tomas (5 lbs 15 oz)

Born January 24 at 8 am

Congratulations!



Blood Drive

**Tuesday,
February 14th**
1:30 pm—6:30 pm

Needed: Volunteers to work the Blood drive, food donations and blood donors.

Please see the sign up sheets in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Visitation and Nurture

The Visitation and Nurture Committee will assist those who need rides for medical and church functions.

Meals can also be provided to those who are in need due to hospitalization, etc. In order to reach committee members to help with these needs please call the church office.



February 22
7 pm



Corned Beef Supper
March 17, 2012

MARK YOUR CALENDARS-Continuous serving from 5-6:30pm. Come and enjoy a corned beef and cabbage dinner. Menu includes: potatoes, vegetables, Irish soda bread, beverages and Grasshopper pie.

Minutes from Church Council Meeting-January 8, 2012

Attendees: Pastor Ricki Aiello, Candy Sunderland, Phyllis King, Judie Culy, Sandy Bogan, Marie Pierce, Don Corne, Emily Matthews, Barbara Tourtelotte, Pete Schilling, Jerrie Kirby, Geoff Gerow, Ray Clark, Karen Stearns, Don Ross, Dave White, Bridget Joy.

Meeting began at 12:56 pm.

Visitation & Nurture (Phyllis King/Sandy Bogan) - Stan Culy has been very involved and helping one family in particular. The Birthday card ministry needs help. Volunteers are needed to give rides, make meals etc. You can volunteer by contacting Bridget, she will pass on the information.

Finance/Treasurer Report (Geoff Gerow)- Geoff made a motion that we accept the 2012 budget. Judie Culy seconded. The 2012 Budget has been accepted. The Year End report shows a \$5000 surplus and no unpaid items. The 2012 Budget shows Pledged Offerings for 2012 at \$161,766; for 2011 it was \$150,000. We had 4 more pledge units this year than last year. Expenses for 2012 are \$194,399; for 2011 it was \$187,964. Insurance has gone up and we no longer are receiving a break on Mission Shares. Ricki stated that the Christian Education Committee will meet on January 18th and the \$5000 surplus is being considered to support a person to be paid to run the Sunday school in the fall, as well as build more offerings for Adult Education. Vote was taken to accept the 2012 budget; it was unanimous in favor.

SPRC (Marie Pierce)- Charlie Maupin resigned, Roger LaChance was hired. Carol Macri and Joanne Stenger alternate on Children's Church. Amy Nagy and Giselle Beloff alternate on Nursery. All evaluations are done. SPRC is grateful to all staff and volunteers who support the church.

Trustees (Don Ross) - Trustees met on Dec. 5. The church received a check from the insurance company for the storm damage for \$7395.75. The electric bill, the parsonage brush cleanup and the food loss bills have been paid. Work yet to be done: parsonage repair, church repair, brush and tree removal at church. Waiting for estimates from Distinctive Tree Service and Precision Remodeling. The organ was taken by Lou Furnas and repaired. Signs with Pastor's name, church hours and phone number have been hung under RUMC sign. Bill and Joy Pikor donated the signs costing \$200. Roger LaChance signed on as church custodian on Dec. 5th. Three smoke detectors were recently installed at the Parsonage. On Dec. 27th a storm caused a large tree on Nat Woodruff's property to fall on church property causing tree damage. This will be taken care of with other tree removal. Nat will probably use same service. Trustees plan a fund drive to replace carpet in the Narthex and office soon. Trustees will meet again on Jan. 9th.

Worship Committee (Joy Pikor) - will meet on Jan. 15th.

Music (Karen Stearns) - quiet, working on Spring program.

Missions - there is currently no chair, Good Friday Walk will take place. Blood Drive is Feb. 14th.

Education (Don Corne/Emily Matthews) - Pageant went well. Acolyte Training has started, Julie Nagy and Ian Corne are being trained. There is a Christian Education meeting on Jan. 18th. Winter Mission Project-contact of Michelle Gerow-involved in mission work in Haiti, trying to help child slaves by giving them homes etc. On Jan. 22nd the Sunday school will make cards and write letters to them. The contact person will give the Children's Message that day and give sermon. A drive to collect backpacks, clothes etc. will be ongoing until April. Hoping to make a personal connection with the Haiti children. The organization is Restavec Freedom Alliance (RFAHaiti.org). Pretzel Sunday will be Feb. 19th. Emily has been communicating the gospel to the children, so they can get the fundamentals.

Youth Group - Ricki said she is hoping to plan a winter field trip for the 11 & up class.

UMW Representative (Shirley Edwards) - Shirley wrote the annual report.

Men's Club (Dave White) - meet Jan 15 at Mitchells. Valentine's Breakfast is Feb. 12th. Corned Beef Supper is March 17th. Palm Sunday Breakfast is April 1st. Men's Club has pledged \$1000 to the church so far. If they get chairs for future fundraisers, they may raise their pledge.

VCN (Judie Culy) - grant money is coming in. Groups is made up of professional people and volunteers; volunteer opportunities may come up. They meet monthly, it is a great group.

Small Groups - Ray Clark gave report on Seekers. Typically it is 4 people who meet, Jane Thomas is one of them. The meeting helps to bring Jane out of her shell, they discuss what happened in their time apart and then do the Serendipity bible with ice breaker questions and multiple choice. The talk about who to pray for.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget Joy

Return Service

Requested

Rockville United Methodist Church

Adult Study 9:15 am

Sunday School 9:30 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.

Phone: 860-875-6562 Fax/Phone: 860-871-9977

E-mail: rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.rockumchurch.com

Rev. Dr. Henrietta "Ricki" Aiello, Pastor

Karen Stearns, Music Director

Bridget Joy, Office Manager

Roger LaChance, Church Custodian

Rev. Stan Culy (Retired)

Dr. Belinda Forbes, Missionary to Nicaragua



To update address information or to be removed from the mailing list, please call or e-mail the church office.