

May 2014
Issue No. 064



An Impressive Video

On **Sunday, May 4th at 9:30 am** in the library, Stan Culy will show a 12 minute video that has more punch than you can imagine. It is about a young father who is carrying his little son through the rain and realizes this is how God brings us through the rains of life. He closes with a blessing for all of us:

*“May you, when you’re soaking wet, lost, hurting, and confused may you cry out
and may the Creator of the universe hold you tight up against his chest,
may He wrap his eternal loving arms around you.*

And may you hear him whisper.

“I love you buddy. We’re going to make it.

Dad knows the way home.

We’re gonna make it. I love you.””

A Video Series for Adults at 9:30 Sunday Morning

May 4 “God’s Protection”, led by Stan Culy

May 11 “God Hasn’t Given Up On Us”, led by Pastor Ricki

May 18 “Nothing We Can Do Will Make God Love Us Less” led by Stan Culy

May 25 “God Flows in Each One of Us,” led by Stan Culy

Vacation Bible School is coming on June 23—27!



VBS will be held at RUMC this year and registration forms are on the Sunday school bulletin board. Children 3 years old (potty trained) to completed 5th grade are eligible to attend.

Can you volunteer? Are you retired, a teacher off for the summer, or working part-time? Grandparent, Aunt, Uncle, Mom or Dad, do you want to do something that is extraordinarily rewarding and will only take a week of your time: about 4 hours a day. Please consider volunteering for Vacation Bible School, we still have leadership and assistant roles that need to be filled or the program cannot happen (crafts, babysitting, music, bells, science, storytelling). Curriculum and training is provided. Get your feet wet and reap the benefits of making children smile, laugh and have fun when you teach them about their Christian faith.

It was a Sunday morning and I had prepared the bread for the Communion service. The dough was a pre-packaged, frozen loaf, one of five in a plastic bag. It was easy to pick up at the store, defrost, let it rise and bake. But I was a bit nervous. Communion was by intinction this month and I wasn't sure the loaf of white bread would hold up well. Would it crumble into little pieces or dissolve into soggy bits of juice soaked globs of bread? So I had a plan B. I would buy some Pita bread, have the Pita on a separate, covered plate and put it on the altar - just in case the loaf of bread didn't cooperate. The one hitch in my plan was I was too lazy to stop at the grocery store the night before to pick up the Pita bread. I figured I would just leave the house a few minutes early Sunday morning and run over to Big Y. I could get the Pita bread and still have plenty of time to get to the church, unlock the doors and be there to greet the first folks who came in that morning.

God was good! There was one package of Pita Bread left on the shelf...just one and after a few nervous minutes I found it. I happily headed for the first open cashier's line to check out. But there wasn't an open checkout. There was only one cashier checking out groceries that morning and two people in front of me, both with shopping carts filled to overflowing. Just as the very nice lady in front of me turned to ask if I might want to go in front of her, the young woman at the service desk waved me over offering to check my one item out. I thanked my fellow customer for her gracious offer and headed for the service desk. Once again, I breathed a silent prayer of gratitude to God for paving the path. Standing in front of the service counter, I smiled at the woman who was checking me out saying, "Thank you. I'm late for church and that isn't good because I'm the minister" to which she said, "Yes, I imagine that would be frowned on." Now armed with my bread, a smile, and the words of my thoughtful cashier and the fellow shopper who would have made room for me to pass her, I left the store and arrived at the church with more than enough time to unlock the doors and get ready for the day.

Our days are filled with God moments like this, opportunities to make connections with someone else, which might lend themselves well to words of gratitude and exchanges of pleasant smiles and sweet offers of help. God took a moment of anxious uncertainty and turned it into a day full of blessings. I'm fairly certain I would not have noticed those moments if I hadn't stayed awake and aware, if I hadn't anticipated some goodness in the day and in those around me. Blessings are everywhere but, I often wonder how many times I miss them, fail to recognize them, ignore them, or worse, commit an offense because I didn't make the return gesture of blessing to another. It's something to think about. As I thought about missed opportunities to give or receive a blessing, I realized truer words could not have been spoken by the young woman at the service desk. She was right. *"Yes, I imagine that would be frowned on."*

Gratefully,

Pastor Ricki



I can't believe that I am thinking about the end of the year already, wow! This year went by fast. I know that the kids had a lot of fun, and so did I. But we aren't done yet. We have Stop Hunger Now on May 17th (looking for some of our Sunday school kids to help out). May 18th we will celebrate Earth Day by planting flowers outside. On June 8th we will have Children's Sunday where all the kids will be part of the service; I am looking forward to that! But even when Sunday school is over, there is still Vacation Bible School from June 23-27 with Family Night on June 26th. This is a great time for the kids to come and experience bible stories, games, activities, music and snacks! All the kids love it as well as the adults and teens who help out!

"He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love."
-Saint Basil

-Eileen

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

May 4—Sunday school class

May 11—Sunday school class

May 18—Earth Day-outside activity

May 25—No Sunday school class



Rockville United Methodist Church participates in Stop Hunger Now Meal Packaging event on May 17th at 3:00 pm at RUMC.

It is hard to believe that we are already in the month of May. Perhaps it was because Easter was so late this year that the month has just snuck up on me. Certainly the deluge of rain over the last several days has been a less than

gentle reminder that spring is upon us. With that said, we are just over two weeks away from our Stop Hunger Now meal packaging event. Rockville United Methodist Church, along with our brothers and sisters at The New Covenant UMC in East Hartford, have collected over \$3,000, which is well over our \$2500 goal. The generosity of the members of our church family never ceases to amaze me. Every \$500 results in another 2,000 meals being packaged and distributed to families in need. This brings us to 12,000 meals being packaged by our church family in just over two weeks. The pie luncheon on Sunday, April 27th put us over the top of our financial goal. Thanks to the generous donation of pies and grinders from Carol Ross, Lorraine White, Sylvia Yoder, Jen Chapman and Bridget Joy, we raised over \$500.

It is not too late to support this cause. You can donate on line by going to <http://events.stophungernow.org/rockvilleumc>.

Thanks for your support and look forward to seeing many of you on May 17th!

Dave Joy



Prayer Requests

Our Church Family

Charlie & Lucy Maupin
Pat Brandt & Juli Watrous
Tim Arzt

Staci Rizner-daughter of
Tami Rizner
Bill Summers-Shirley
Edward's nephew

Bereavements

Family and friends of Harry
Milanese (died 3/31)

Family and friends of Heather
Stambo (Helen Stambo's
granddaughter-died 4/13)

Family and friends of Corinne
Pinney (died 4/20)

Special Needs

Joe DellaGrotte-cancer-friend of the
Klingmans

Roger & Alice LaChance-serious
health issues-P. Cheveriea's
brother & sister-in-law

Sarah-daughter of Lou & Linda Furnas

Joseph Denardis-heart surgery-
relative of Judy Wilkie's co-
worker

Those in nursing homes, Assisted Living and with limited mobility

Margaret Parker-Avery Heights
Merrilee Thomas-home
June Latkofsky-home
Esther Harris-home
Marilyn Barton-Woodlake
Natalie Robertson-home
Eleanor Schreiber-Crestfield
Shirley Edwards-Emeritus
Rose Rowe-Norah's Place
Ken & June Guillow-home
Harold Reed-Suffield House

Those in Service

Pastor Lorena & El Jabillo,
our sister church in Nicaragua

*If you would like a candle
lit for a prayer concern,
please contact Lucy
Maupin at 860-454-7798.
Thank you.*

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



Jean Benner	May 9
Kady Joy	May 9
Pat Brandt	May 11
Robert Bernier	May 16
Nat Woodruff	May 20
Ian Corne	May 21
Carol Robbins	May 25
Karen Schilling	May 26
John Ward	May 26



Scholarships are available to attend Camp Aldersgate or Rolling Ridge Summer camps from the United Methodist Women. Please contact June Latkofsky at 860-871-7311.



Our Lenten Series that ended on April 6 was a great success. We heard from Bryan Flint and Helen Syriac of the Cornerstone Foundation. Rev. Gary Richards from New Covenant UMC in East Hartford spoke of their support of Dunwell Methodist Church in Ntonso, Ghana. Rev. John Mueller of Trinity UMC in Springfield, MA, spoke about JFON, Justice For Our Neighbors. Dr. Saud Anwar spoke of missions projects to Haiti, and Peter Kenny of Wesley Memorial UMC in East Windsor gave a talk on the support group he started for unemployed workers providing job search assistance and support group. Along with an honorarium of \$50.00 to each mission on behalf of Rockville United Methodist church, a free will offering was taken each week for a total of \$830.00. Thank you to all that came out each week to support our series.

Candy Sunderland



May Worship Attendants

Greeters

May 4	Kathy Kentfield
May 11	Sandy Bogan & Jerry Kirby
May 18	Helen & Carole Stambo
May 25	Sue Bird

Liturgists

May 4	Ray Clark
May 11	Sue Lessoff
May 18	Sherry Pearson
May 25	Mel Bacha

Children's Message

May 4	Allison Corne
May 11	Pastor Ricki
May 18	Jen Chapman
May 25	Pastor Ricki

Acolytes

May 4	Available
May 11	Emily Sunderland
May 18	Available
May 25	Available

Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour

May 4	Wayne Badstuebner
May 11	Jen Chapman
May 18	Carol Macri
May 25	Available

Altar Flowers

May 4	Available
May 11	Macri
May 18	King
May 25	Stenger

May 4
Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (UMH)
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

May 18
Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (UMH)
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 11
Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23 (UMH)
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

May 25
Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20 (UMH)
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

Food Donations



A total of 86 items were donated to the Tri-Town Pantry since the April Newsletter was published. The "Greatest Needed Foods" for the month of May are: cereal and instant oatmeal, boxes of macaroni and cheese, bottles of apple or cranberry juice.

-Suzanne Bird

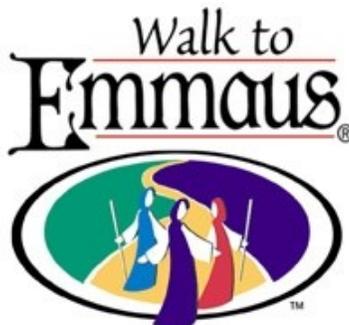
Quote of the Month

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

-John F. Kennedy



Ever Considered A Retreat?



The Walk to Emmaus is a 72 hour spiritual life retreat featuring talks by laity on discipleship and talks by clergy on God's Grace. There will be a gathering of the members and friends of the Southern New England Walk to Emmaus community at our church on Sunday afternoon, June 1 from 3:00 to 5:00. There will be singing, worship, explanations and a couple of brief talks followed by some refreshments. Come and learn more about the experience that has enhanced so many of our lives. Please speak to Stan or Judie Culy (860-872-3122) for more details.

Well, I did it! I'm fresh off accomplishing one of my goals for 2014. I led the entire worship service on April 27th. When Pastor Ricki asked me to preach on that day, I felt honored and excited. She gave me a blank slate and told me I should plan the entire service from

beginning to end. As I started gathering my thoughts, I quickly realized just how difficult putting a service together is. I wanted to tell a story....my story....my faith journey. I turned to the various resources she gave me for the call to worship, prayer of illumination, and prayer of confession, following the guidelines for Second Sunday in Eastertide. But as I was choosing a scripture, 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13, kept dancing around in my head—"The Gift of Love". This is one of my favorite scriptures, most popular at weddings. As I thought about what to share and it became so deeply personal, I found it difficult for the words to go from my thoughts to the paper. I wasn't sure how I would get through it. I turned to God in prayer to guide me. I knew I needed to speak from the heart. I spoke about my childhood. I spoke of growing up and being raised in this church. I spoke of moments when my faith was tested and prayers with God were what helped me deal with life's challenges. We need that partnership with God, that unbroken communication. My church is home to me. My church is like family to me. This is the place where I find peace in my life. This is what brings me comfort. I hope my story was one of hope, faith, but above all else, LOVE. I hope my story inspires others to share their story. We all have something to offer. What does God call us to do with our life? How can we affect the lives of others? Trust in God. Take that Leap of Faith!

Candy Sunderland



The **Good Friday Walk 2014 Committee** thanks each and every one of you who walked, worked, sponsored, prayed and/or greeted walkers on their return to RUMC. It was a beautiful day in every way.

One hundred three persons walked. Over \$9,000 was pledged. Eighty persons completed 20 miles. We had 27 first timers. The oldest walker was 96, the youngest under a year old. Seventeen churches or organizations were represented. At least 68 persons worked either before, during, or

after the Walk!! Just amazing. Thanks to you all—each and everyone!!

On Easter Sunday, Kay Doherty and her husband joined us for worship and she gave out the following awards: Sylvia Yoder-600 miles; Judy and Jack Wilkie- 35 years of participation; Alyson Stearns- 200 miles; Matt Yoder and Sandy Gallup-20 years of participation; Terri Goldich-10 years of participation. Dick and Jane Thompson received their 40 years of participation on Friday.

Of course, the Walk isn't over until all the pledge money has been collected and turned in. If you have any problems in collecting, need a copy of your walk sheet or have any other questions, please contact Steve Yoder or Judie Culy.

ROCKVILLE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 29 2014

We gathered for lunch in the backroom at Mitchell's Restaurant after adding a few more chairs for our group of 19 women. We opened with greetings and devotions taken from a book by Debbie Macomber called Patterns of Grace. We received the offering of the least coin. We introduced ourselves to our guest, Nancy Baker, a friend of Marie Pierce.

The Treasurer, June Latkofsky, gave her report that was accepted. It was proposed and approved that in appreciation we send \$50 to the Men's Club to help defray the cost of the Palm Sunday Breakfast. Hot boxes have been purchased with help from the Men's Club.

We continue our heading up of the church birthday card sending and work with the Seekers Small Group on holiday cards to those on our "We Care List."

Bazaar Musings and Hopes: Candy Sunderland is our prime candidate to be chair of the 2014 bazaar. The more help we offer her the easier her decision will be!! The date of Saturday, November 15th has been determined. Some notations: Janice Klingman will once again provide publicity. A new lawn sign will appear closer to the date. Lorraine White has agreed to help beforehand with the Silent Auction. We need another volunteer. Our thanks to Pauline Cheveriea who has been heading this up for some time and who has expressed her decision to step down but who will provide guidance. Norine Veal will take orders for the Rada knives but will not be selling them at the bazaar. Contact her should you wish to order from the catalog. Marie Pierce will be Treasurer for the day. Marie will also head up the scrubbies brigade of Carol Robbins, Carol Macri, Sylvia Yoder, Karen Schilling and Jerrie Kirby. Attendees were asked to look for and buy good quality towels for our towel-making group consisting of Carol Robbins, Jerrie Kirby, Karen Schilling and Marie Pierce and YOU should you let us know of your interest in any of these areas. Donations of towels can be left in the office. Monetary donations for materials for towels and scrubbies can be given to any of the above. Donations of knitted or crocheted dishcloths as well as mittens would be greatly appreciated as well as wide warm scarves. We plan to make some catnip mice for the kitty cats in your midst!! We are looking for new ideas and donations of crafted items so please know that we are ALL needed including YOU to make this event a success!! We welcome your ideas and creations!!

Upcoming: The first meeting of our Book Discussion Group will be held at Ginny Wehrl's home in June. If you are interested, contact Judie Culy, 872-3122, as soon as possible for more details. The book title is Trusting God, by Sharon Jaynes, Gwen Smith and Mary Southerland. A few copies are still available.

Also mentioned was our Stop Hunger Now event on Saturday, May 17th that has our full support!! Norine Veal reported more on the Memorial Garden project. Pastor Ricki offered prayer and we departed.

Respectfully submitted,
Judie Culy, President and Secretary



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Mother's Day 2014 BLANKETS OF HOPE

For the person who has everything, why not give a gift of hope? At a cost of only \$5, a Church World Service blanket is a great gift. In war, flood, earthquake, famine, wherever people are displaced, these blankets help to let people know that somebody cares. Blankets provide warmth in the cold, privacy in crowded camps, a way of carrying a child or one's possessions on the march. In giving them we honor mothers, or anyone else who is special in our lives, whose names will be listed in a special bulletin on **Mother's Day, May 11**. Orders will be accepted from **Sunday, April 27 through Sunday, May 4**.

Please return this to the church office no later than May 4.

BLANKET SUNDAY - May 11, 2014

Enclosed is my check/cash for \$_____.

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Given by _____

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.



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

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E-mail: rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.rockumchurch.com

Rev. Dr. Henrietta "Ricki" Aiello, Pastor

Karen Stearns, Music Director

Bridget Joy, Office Manager

Eileen Gay, Church School Superintendent

Roger LaChance, Church Custodian

Rev. Stan Culy (Retired)

Dr. Belinda Forbes, Missionary to Nicaragua