

**September 2014**  
**Issue No. 067**

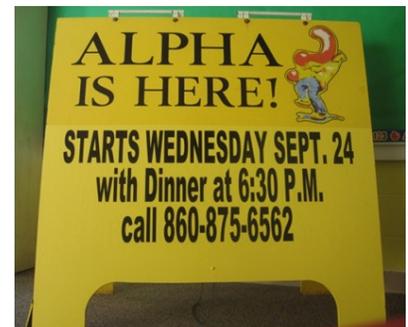
## **ALPHA II Starts this Month**

This sign says it ALL!

**Our second round of ALPHA begins September 24<sup>th</sup>.**

We especially want to invite folks who are outside the walls of our church to come and enjoy.

Please ask someone you know to come to our introductory session – good food, good fellowship, good music, good fun!



On Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup>, our special speaker will be Lisa Oelerich, **ALPHA** Regional Director for the Metro Boston area. Lisa will be sharing her faith journey with us; how after 20 years of separation from her church, **ALPHA** brought her back to Christ. I know that you will want to hear her story.

As we start **ALPHA** on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, we are honored to have Jim Lenn, a local Christian music composer and singer, bring us his original music. Jim has performed at coffee houses as well as coordinated musical events in the greater Enfield area.



**ALPHA is for everyone,**  
**welcoming people from all backgrounds, religions and viewpoints.**



## Pastor's Corner

I'm jump-starting my September newsletter column in July. An appropriate question could be, "Why do such a thing?" Well, in my world, if you have a few free moments, you make the most of them. So, I have a few free moments.

We entered our rush to summer on the high of several successful ministries. The two that come readily to mind are the first RUMC *Alpha Class*, which ended in May. For those attending it was a very good experience. The second was our "*Stop Hunger Now*" project in which over 90 people of all ages and from three churches came to help package over 14,000 meals for the hungry in our country and elsewhere. It was a great day and everyone felt good about the experience. Now we are engaged in two summer projects...the Memorial Garden...it really is going to be beautiful when completed...and the "Operation **Y**ou" Kindness project. This "pay it forward" project should net not only goodwill but real dollars of help for KidSafe, CT.

By the time you read this column, we will be on the other side of a successful and inspiring women's retreat – "A Day Apart" and gearing up for our Rally Day and our Homecoming worship service on September 14th. The choir will be practicing for the annual "Leap of Faith" Concert and the Men's club will already be planning out its fall/winter schedule of upcoming dinners. Time doesn't stand still so, how can we? Individually, as families, as a church, we are always starting or finishing something; always anticipating or reminiscing about something, which either already happened or soon will.

There are always changes in our lives and churches shouldn't be any different. A healthy church is a church ready and willing to try something new, diverse, and challenging. So, we're going to try a new approach to our Church School ministry for all ages including the Adult Study on Sunday mornings. Look for us in the Fellowship Hall at our popular Jitters Café. Come and join us for a cup of coffee, a sweet to eat and some casual, informal discussion on a current issue, mission activity, or a faith question. As to the younger students in our church, read more about our changed schedule in Eileen's Church School column.

I look forward to this coming church year and I hope you do too. Embracing new challenges enlivens a church and extends the good news of Jesus Christ and God's redeeming love and isn't that what we should be striving for?

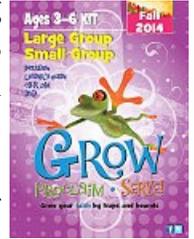
Gratefully yours,

*Pastor Ricki*



As I am writing this and thinking about changes, our weather is changing. Our days are a little shorter, our nights are a little cooler, I think we are heading into FALL; I'm not ready for fall. I was thinking that I had many more weeks to do all my projects that I planned on doing, Anyway, I digress...there are changes coming to our Sunday school. **After talking to some of the parents, we are changing the time when Sunday school starts. We will be starting classes right after Children's Message in service (pre school**

**-5th grade). 6th grade & up will leave right after the sermon. We will be trying out this time change until Christmas break.** At that point we will revisit the times and see if it is working for all of us. **We are also going back to Grow Proclaim Serve Large Group/Small Group. Sunday school will begin on September 14th.** We will be collecting food items on that day (Rally Sunday) and I will meet with all children and parents at 10:15 am to get everyone registered and set up with their teachers. I hope everyone will give this change a chance, I do know that change is hard for some of us, but sometimes change is good. I will be sending out letters to all parents and grandparents in the next week giving all details of classes.



*Food for thought---*

*What if we began to treat our Bibles the way we treat our phones.....*

*What if we.....*

*carried it with us everywhere?*

*Turned back to get it if we forgot it?*

*Checked for messages throughout the day?*

*Used it in case of emergency?*

*Spent an hour or more using it each day?*

*Eileen*

## **Adult Open Forum**

In the far left corner of the Fellowship Hall are a couple of sofas and a few chairs clustered nicely together. Last year this was the base for Jitter's Café which was a drop-in area for anyone walking by who wanted to sit down and have a cup of coffee between 9:30 am and 10:30 am.

This year, we will share the same space with Mel Bacha as our congenial host and offer interesting guests and topics for discussion. We have asked Don Ross to bring an overview of the Memorial Garden on September 28 and one Sunday Stan Culy will share some worship experiences he and Judie had last Fall in San Francisco and in his home church of Medford, Oregon. They should all be worth coming for!



# 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 & friends of  
Robert Bernier (died 8/13)

## Special Needs

Joe DellaGrotte-cancer-friend of the  
Klingmans  
Roger & Alice LaChance-serious  
health issues-P. Cheveriea's  
brother & sister-in-law  
Buckingham family-health concerns  
Sandra Bradley-uterine cancer-Bill  
Pikor's sister

## 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  
Vita Aiello-Fox Hill  
Ken & June Guillow-home

## 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](mailto:rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net)**



## Happy Birthday

Alice Campbell	September 3	Caleb McPeck	September 10
Marilyn Barton	September 4	Rose Goldich	September 12
Sylvia Lanz-Matthews	September 4	Dorothy Willis	September 20
Janet McKercher	September 6	Matt Stearns	September 22
Andrew Velasquez	September 6	Sharon Robbins	September 24
Nicolas Velasquez	September 6	Joy Pikor	September 25
Kori Kentfield-Durham	September 8	Jacob Gerow	September 26
Allison Corne	September 10	Phyllis King	September 29



## Shawl Ministry

## With thanks to the Prayer Shawl Ministry

In July, the prayer shawls, which were stored in our choir room, were moved to make space for the Vocal and Bell choirs' equipment and music. Rather than have the shawls stored in our attic and forgotten, we decided it would be best to find a home for the shawls and we did! The prayer shawls were delivered to Fox Hill Nursing Home and were received gratefully. Many, many thanks go out to the women who made the shawls. Your gift of time and talent will bring both comfort and pleasure to the residents at Fox Hill.



**September Worship Attendants**

**Greeters**

September 7	Eileen Gay
September 14	Sue Bird
September 21	Virginia Wehrli
September 28	Helen Stambo

**Liturgists**

September 7	Candy Sunderland
September 14	Available
September 21	Joy Pikor
September 28	Emily Sunderland

**Children's Message**

September 7	Available
September 14	Pastor Ricki
September 21	Available
September 28	Pastor Ricki

**Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour**

September 7	K. Sunderland
September 14	Rally Day
September 21	Macri
September 28	Eileen Gay

**Altar Flowers**

September 7	McKercher
September 14	Waltz/Ward
September 21	King
September 28	King

**September 7**  
 Exodus 12:1-14  
 Psalm 149 (UMH)  
 Romans 13:8-14  
 Matthew 18:15-20

**September 21**  
 Exodus 16:2-15  
 Psalm 105:1-6  
 Philippians 1:21-30  
 Matthew 20:1-16

**September 14**  
 Exodus 14:19-31  
 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 (UMH)  
 Romans 14:1-12  
 Matthew 18:21-35

**September 28**  
 Exodus 17:1-7  
 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 (UMH)  
 Philippians 2:1-13  
 Matthew 21:23-32

**Food Donations**

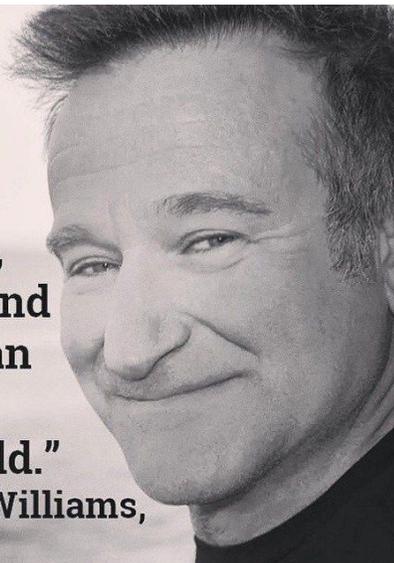


A total of 120 items were donated to the Tri-Town Pantry since the July/August Newsletter was published. The "Greatest Needed Foods" for the month of September are: *peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna, canned or dry soup, canned vegetables, canned fruit and juice boxes.*

-Suzanne Bird

**"No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world."**

— Robin Williams, 1951-2014



**MARK**

**YOUR**

**CALENDARS**

**Harvest Supper/  
 Leap of Faith Concert**

**Saturday,  
 November 1**

**Holiday Bazaar**

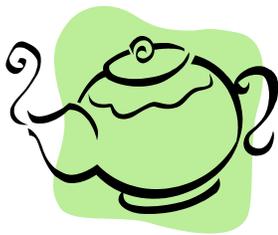
**Saturday,  
 November 15**



Greetings from Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Yes, you read this correctly, Gatlinburg! Emily and I are “vacationing” in Gatlinburg 900 miles from home. We had a very long drive, which, as you can imagine; gives a person lots of time to think, and THINK I did, and daydream a lot! I

had hoped to write about my experience at the Women’s Day Apart, at Victoria House in Willimantic, which I was looking forward to, but unfortunately, my plans to attend were derailed. I did get a bit of feedback on Sunday from several who attended and I understand it was a lovely day away for fellowship, food, and spiritual reflection led by Pastor Ricki. So, I have other stories to share. As I mentioned, we made our way driving to Tennessee stopping off for our first nights’ stay in Pennsylvania at the “Sunderland” home. We won’t have too many more trips to the house I still refer to as “going home”, as we prepare to sell the home our parents had for nearly 20 years. I am flooded with such mixed emotions every time I walk through the door, (being the most sensitive kid there is). As I struggle with my thoughts and feelings of having to let go of the home I’ve loved going back to all these years, I am reminded by friends that I just need to hold tight to the precious memories and not worry so much about all the beautiful material things of the home. I keep telling myself that, but check on me in a few months when we get closer to the sale, let’s see how I am doing then. I guarantee it won’t be so good. So....back to our vacation. Proud mother moment. Emily and I decided to get tattoos while we were down here. There were hundreds to choose from on the wall and in books, but without any hesitation; Emily asked if she could show the girl her design that she wanted. The tattoo artist was a young girl from Ukraine, in her early 20’s here as an exchange student going to college nearby and working. When Emily drew her design, the young artist was so impressed and told her what a nice design she chose and that she hadn’t seen anything like it. What Emily drew was the symbol of the cross with the words “Love God” inside. The Love was vertical in the cross, and the word God was horizontal using the “O” from love to connect them. I was beaming with pride, and wanted to cry but thought instead of playing it cool, all the while thinking “Wow, I’m raising a great kid”. P.S. For all the moms and dads wanting to scold me for allowing a tattoo on my child, they were Henna tattoos (ink that fades away). That tattoo became a conversation piece on many occasions throughout our week, and Emily was only too happy to talk about God and Love and her love for the church. Again, proud mother here! This week we met so many nice people down here and heard some great stories of their lives. Be Kind to others.... The rewards are endless. Until next time.....

### **TEA AND TEXT**



Six of us started meeting in June at Ginny Wehrli’s home for fellowship and study of the book, **Trusting God** by Sharon Jaynes Gwen Smith and Mary Southerland. On September 4<sup>th</sup> we will finish the book and have decided to continue.

On Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, at 1 pm, we will commence a study of the book, **Cottage By The Sea**, written by Robin Jones Gunn. We’d love to welcome you to this small group.

See Judie Culy, Ginny Wehrli, Barbara Kent, Pauline Cheveriea, or Jerrie Kirby should you want more details. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

## **Rockville United Methodist Women's News**

### **Summer and Fall 2014**

Our Day Apart was held at Victoria House at the Willimantic Campground on Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>. Led by Pastor Ricki, 11 women attended. It was a wonderful time of getting to know each other better, while contemplating just what "rest" means, enjoying the beautiful surroundings and sharing our thoughts. Pastor Ricki quoted Elizabeth J. Canham's definition of Sabbath --"I impoverish myself if I fail to receive gratefully the rest that wraps itself around all my doings." My notes say, "Rest wraps itself around all of my doings."

And so I am at peace, Judie Culy

#### **How I Feel Rest in God**

Written and shared by Felecia Gerardi

As I sit here with my feet in the water and just breathe,  
I see fish swimming about without a care.  
I hear the birds chirping in the air.  
I feel the breeze blow through my hair as it softly touches my face.  
I find rest in the great outdoors and in this place.

I am reminded that God is with me  
Even in my darkness times.  
I am reminded that I am never alone.

#### **Quiet Time - Silence**

Written and shared by Pauline Cheveriea

I am sitting in the arms of Gods love.  
The fountain in the pond is spouting peacefulness  
as the water jumps to the heavens.

I hear the silence around me.  
I hear the wind blow through the trees.  
I ride the waves of the clouds as they  
bring me closer to God.

For that is where I want to be.  
Be still my soul. Be.



## CHOIR MUSIC DONATION 2014

We are looking to expand our choral library with new, fresh praise music! In order to offset costs, we would like to offer you the opportunity to buy a choir anthem in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Each piece of donated music will have labels with your loved one's name on it -- this will remind the choir of the significance of the piece! Each time we sing it, we will also recognize the piece in the Sunday bulletin. A set of 25 copies of music for each anthem costs about \$50, and we already have selections of music in mind we would like to purchase. If interested, please fill out the form below, attach a check, and return to the church office, or to Karen Stearns – any questions, please contact Karen at [kcstearns916@gmail.com](mailto:kcstearns916@gmail.com) or 860-916-5832. As always, thank you for your continued support of our music ministries!

---

### RUMC CHOIR MUSIC DONATION

Given in Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration Of: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

Return Service  
Requested

## **Rockville United Methodist Church**

### **Begins September 14**

**Adult Study 9:30 am**

**Sunday School 10:45 am**

**Worship Service 10:45 am**

Office Hours 9am-2pm Tuesday-Friday

### **Summer Hours**

**Worship Service 9:30 am**

Office Hours 9am-1pm 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.



**September**

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

Phone: 860-875-6562

E-mail: [rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rumcoffice@sbcglobal.net)

Website: [www.rockumchurch.com](http://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*