
**BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS
Kids' Sunday School Classes**

December 22 the kids will be celebrating Jesus. We are asking anyone that would like to bring a gift of canned meat, canned fruit, tomato paste/juice/sauce, hearty soups, and/or cereal. These will be donated to the Food Pantry.



**TOGETHER ON CHRISTMAS
PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER**

Anyone wishing to help with the set up for Together on Christmas should be at the Community Building on Thursday, December 19th at 7:00. Items will be moved from the church, tables will be put in place, and some of the decorating will take place. This may take 90 minutes.

On Friday, December 20th, anyone wishing to help wrap silverware, decorate and set the tables, and other miscellaneous preparations should come to the Community Building at 3:00. We will conclude before 5:00. Questions regarding moving can be directed to Matt Fisher. Other questions direct to Karla Butler.

COLLEGE STUDENT PACKAGES

Sunday, Dec. 22 our college outreach packages will be ready for pick-up. Please plan to pick them up before Christmas.



MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED

We are currently in need of individuals that would be willing to serve as money counters for the upcoming year. If you are interested in serving the church in this manor, please get in touch with Tammy McDonough for more details.



When You Pray, Please Remember

Those in Nursing Homes and Home Bound

Marcia Winscott
Joe Fisher
Dick Figley

Bea Roebuck
Jerry Schaadt
Barb Williams
Jon Vickery

Prayers For Our Community

Barry Harner
'Tyke' Black
Tom Sidenbender
Family of Marvin & Darlene Shindeldecker
Randy McDorman
Pat Frysinger
Terrie Northcutt
families grieving loss of loved ones
Transitions for college students
Sam and Lucille Zizelman
The family of Dorothy Opdycke, Janet Steffy's mother
Charyl Luth

Charles Stephens
Betty Bollenbacher
Anne Esselstein
Elle Long
Marti Lentz
Kersten Archer
Dudley Shrider
Dick Wolford
those taking chemo
Chuck Eberle
Don Campbell

Military Personnel with RUMC Connections

Michael Black, Jr.
Casey Louth
Garth Louth
Kent Ransbottom, National Guard.

Shaun Hunter
Matt Billeter
Sierra Williams
Kyle Zizelman

RUMC College Students

Reghan Waltmire Tessa Thatcher Griffen Waltmire
Bailey Strickler Austin Habegger

Praises To God For...

Seeing familiar faces in time of need, a special phone call, Bibles to give, all the boxes given for operation Christmas Child, angel tree gifts shared, the Christmas Prayer Walk sponsored by the youth, the joyful Kids Club Christmas Program, the Christmas cheer boxes to give...

New updated Church Directory is available in the café.

BUILDING TEAM UPDATE

The next regular meeting of the Building Team will be December 17, 2019, at 6:00 pm. Updates on Building Team progress are also included in the Administrative Board minutes in the church monthly newsletter.

Building Team

Kathy Bransteter Matt Fisher Randy Linn
Matt Suzuki Casey Nuttle Kara Ransbottom
Machell Price Chad Ransbottom Nathan Rupp
Dick Sherrick Pastor Chip

Prayer Contact Team Members

Ann Hileman, Misty Bolenbaugh, Diane Sheets, Karen Nuttle, Tami Suzuki, Kara Fisher, Lucille Zizelman, Jean Henkle, Kristen McDorman, Kathy Fisher, Tenna Browning, Kelly Twigg, Barb Pedroza, Kara Ransbottom, Jill Yoder, Machell Price.

CRISIS CARE

Crisis Care is available to folks in need of emergency assistance. If you know of anyone in need, please contact Pastor Chip, Casey Nuttle, Dan Henkle, Ann Hileman, or Karen Sapp.

December 2019 NEWSLETTER AND CALENDAR

Available online and in the café. Access the church website: www.rumcoh.org and under menu you will find Newsletter. The calendar is also accessed on our webpage. Click on calendar.

Advent Prayer

**In this Advent of expectation
draw us together in unity,
that our praise and worship
might echo in these walls
and also through our lives.
In this Advent of expectation
draw us together in mission,
that the hope within
might be the song we sing,
and the melody of our lives.
In this Advent of expectation
draw us together in service,
that the path we follow
might lead us from a stable
to a glimpse of eternity.**

www.fithandworship.com

Christmas Eve Services:
7:00p Family Friendly
10:00p Candle lighting

Our mission is—to build community by knowing Christ, growing in Christ and going out to share Christ.

Welcoming our Guests

If you are a guest in our church, please pick up a guest's sack in Café 1031. These sacks contain lots of goodies and information about our church. Hearing assistance is available. Please speak with an usher.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Today:	Mission Hospitality	
Monday:	Dartball Game-Mt. Tabor	7:00p
Tuesday:	Building Team Meeting	6:00p
	Administrative Board Meeting	7:00p
Thursday:	Set Up Christmas Day Dinner	7:00p
Friday:	Decorate: Christmas Day Dinner	3:00p
Next Sunday:	Youth Hospitality	
	Birthday Party for Jesus	
	College Student Packages:	Pick-up

Ushers serving today:

8:30a—Peg Williams, Sam Zizelman, Roger Sapp,
Dean Ulrey
10:30a—Neil Field

Nursery volunteers: Michelle Field and Kara Fisher

Advent Candle Lighters:

8:30a—Dan & Jean Henkle
10:30a—Matt & Kara Fisher and Family

Altar: Articles on altar are in memory of Mary Lou Taylor, a former member who hand-painted them.

December Mission Focus: Helping Hands/Food Pantry

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

"Huddle" - Matt Fisher and Ryan Twigg

Wednesday Bible Study in the Conference Room at 6:15pm.

Girls Night Out: 3rd Sunday of the month. (could vary)

Chancel Choir: every Wednesday at 7:30pm

Wednesdays:

Dec. 18, 25, and Jan. 1

No Kids Club

No Community Dinners

No Choir rehearsals

Last Week December 8, 2019

General Offering received: **\$8979.50**
Attendance: **8:30 Service = 64**
10:30 Service = 51

BEING NEIGHBORLY

NEXT FIVE02 Community Dinner JANUARY 8th

Menu: brats/hotdogs, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, and refrigerator desserts.

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Christmas Season Open House

Friday, December 27th at 3pm. Everyone is Welcome to the parsonage Open House.

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Rockford Bicentennial Grand Celebration

Tuesday, December 31 at 7:30pm with appetizers, 2 drink tickets, fireworks, dueling pianos + drummer from 8:30-11:30pm. Tickets available at Village Hall; Single \$40, Couple \$75 More info on the church bulletin board.

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Bibles For Believers UPDATE

To all those who have so faithfully supported Bibles For Believers in the past, I must ask your forgiveness and understanding of a terrible mistake I made in last years report. We did NOT send 195 Bibles; we sent only 97, half that amount. This is NOT because of a loss of support on your part but because I misunderstood the matching grants from Open Doors. We were paying \$7 for each Bible, not \$3.50 as I thought. This error deeply pains me for two reasons: (1) because I unintentionally misinformed you and (2) because our suffering brothers and sisters in other lands did not receive these desperately wanted and needed Bibles. (3) Next month, we will publish our annual report and it will be accurate.

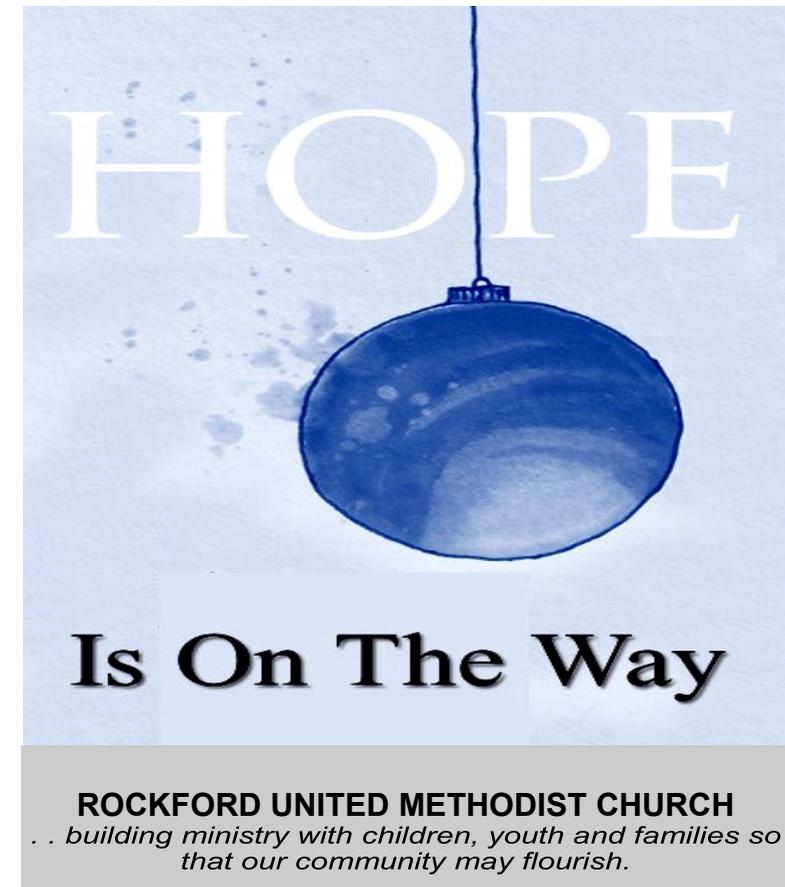
We will send 151 Bibles, thanks to your increased support during the year. Words can not begin to describe how grateful I am for your faithfulness to this ministry. I hope and pray you will continue to support Bibles For Believers. From this point on, we will not use matching grants but will send children's Bibles at \$5 each. I have reason to believe we can send 200 or more of these Bibles this coming year if you stand with us. Again, my most profound apologies for this unfortunate error. We will continue no matter what happens, remembering that we do this for them, not for ourselves.

~Norm Pankop (on behalf of Bibles For Believers)

Upcoming Activities

Dec. 22 Birthday Party for Jesus
Dec. 22 College Student Package Pick-up
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service 7p and 10p
Dec. 25 Christmas Day Dinner 10:30a-1p
Dec. 27 Christmas Open House: Parsonage 3:00p

Ministers: The People of Rockford UMC
Pastor: Thurlow 'Chip' Steffy
December 15, 2019



Welcome!

We are glad to have you here today as we praise God together and celebrate the way God blesses us.

419-363-3230
Fax: 419-363-2827
Email: pastor.chip.rumc@bright.net
nathan.rupp@rumcoh.org
office.mgr.rumc@bright.net
Website—www.rumcoh.org
Like us on facebook

Third Sunday in Advent