



The Rocktonian

Newsletter of
Rockton United Methodist Church

August 2023



Rockton United Methodist Church
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Rev. Carolyn Lukasick, Pastor

Worship With Us Sundays at 9:30 a.m.





By the time you read this we hope to be well underway getting things organized for the new church office. Our volunteers and staff have endured extra warm conditions in the church offices during the months just before and after winter. That's when our boilers are working even when we don't yet need lots of heat. The boiler room does not have enough ventilation to prevent the heat from rising into the church offices.

Our Leadership Team has discussed possibilities and decided to relocate the office to the former library. This room is at the top of the stairs, so it provides the best location for greeting guests. The room was recently given a fresh coat of paint and an new customized display case for our historical artifacts will be installed courtesy of the Memorial committee.

The existing room where the office and workroom are located will transition to storage space.

Our meetings are being held in the last room on the same side of the hallway, just past the pastor's office, in what used to be the church nursery.

We have also received two new banners for the Education Wing entrance, courtesy of Sisters in Christ. We hope to have them displayed within the coming weeks.

If we have volunteers who love organizing, please let me know. We would love your help sorting through the library contents and historical documents. We also hope to consolidate and organize many of the items stored in other rooms throughout the education wing.

Please join me in praying about how God might invite us to use our space. I have heard numerous stories about how churches have experienced new energy and purpose along with new and creative building usage. I don't have a vision yet for how God might want us to adapt our building to the needs of our larger community, but I am excited about the potential, because where God is at work so many things are possible!

Where are you noticing needs in the larger community? How is God challenging you to notice things in new ways? I am honored to be on this journey with you.

Blessings,

What's Up with the Building?

August 2023

Submitted by John Carleton, Trustee Chairperson

In the winter we talk about waiting until summer to get things done when its warmer. As I write this, I am thinking that some projects will have to wait now until fall when it's cooler! I'm sure I wasn't the only one to welcome the rain we had during the last full week of July so our lawns and shrubs can stand the heat. Refer to last month's What's Up article as there are still a number of the projects mentioned there that are continuing to wait for contractors to begin work or come and give us bids on projects. I should remind you that if you ever misplace a Rocktonian and want to look something up, a copy is always available on the rocktonumc.org website. Look for the Rocktonian tab on the top.

We've been informed that the new parsonage windows should be ready by the end of August. Also, some volunteers have come forward with the idea to re-caulk the big windows in the parsonage as the thermal panes themselves still seem to be good. That would help a great deal!

The re-purposing of the offices has begun in earnest and the old library has been pretty much cleaned out to make way for the movement of the Church Office into the library. You may recall that the Trustees approved this move but since then the Ad Council has added it's important blessing as well. Once the new cabinets have been built and installed then we'll see about what will move from the office and what will stay.

Folks have asked if there will be any work in our block similar to what's happening in the blocks west of church. The Village Works Dept. was called and there are no plans at this time for any work in front of the church in the foreseeable future.

Finally, some of you may have noticed the kind of white coating on the west brick wall as you come in the education wing. It's called efflorescence and its due to minerals and salts that come out when the brick "sweats". Brenda tried to remove it but its tough to do without spending a lot of money. Much thanks to Sisters in Christ who will provide vinyl banners that will hide it and also provide a pleasing covering for the wall.

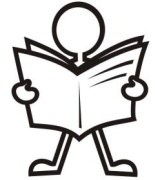
Tips for Zoomers

Just a couple of quick reminders for those of you who attend services on Zoom, especially those who do so on a smart phone. Be sure to always check that you are muted. If not, your voice or that of your dog, or whatever, might interrupt services. Our church Zoom is set to automatically mute everyone who joins but sometimes it is possible for folks to unmute themselves. Most of us have the habit that once you've logged in to the service, just take a second and check the lower left-hand corner of your screen and see that the little microphone has a red line across it. If you can't see the little microphone and camera, just tap someplace on the screen where its black and they should appear in the lower left. If you want to hide your video then you can do that there by tapping on the camera as well.

Folks who join by phone and hold the phone to your ear probably want to be sure to check their video so the rest of the Zoom folks aren't seeing your ear. Note that on some phones the icon for sound might look more like headphones than a microphone. If you have questions please be sure to ask another church member.

Tidbits of Our History

—Rockton Herald, Edson Carr, Editor—



1912

- * “Mr. Selby Blodgett, the first white child born in Beloit, died in Shirland last Tuesday at the home of his daughter. He was 74 years of age.”
- * “Louis Philips of Beloit, while searching for pearls in clams taken from the Rock river near Roscoe, recently found in one clam an 18 karat gold ring with the name ‘C.R. Lieb’ engraved inside. It was purchased by a Beloit jeweler as a novelty.”
- * “Four elephants have been secured to furnish the feature attraction for the Beloit fair along with six Japanese. It was decided not to have an aeroplane because of the difficulty of getting good aviators.”
- * “Is Marriage a Failure? At the Congregational church next Sunday evening, the pastor will lecture on that subject. He has been making a close study of the problem in Illinois, and will present some sensational facts and figures. At the morning service, he will speak on, ‘Why I am not a Christian Scientist.’”
- * “The Ladies Aid of the M.E. church gave an ice cream social Saturday. It was quite well attended. The ladies realized about five dollars on the event.”

1917

Some differences were noticeable in the newspapers being printed by 1917/’18 compared to earlier newspapers. Photos were now being used, the publication of cartoons was common, wording was not as flowery (as had been the case previously), and advertisers used sketches and such to draw a reader’s eye.

One circa 1917 example was an 8 x 4-inch ad for Wrigley’s gum which displayed a drawing of a young woman with her soldier doughboy that stated, “He’s telling her that nothing he received from home brought more joy, longer-lasting pleasure, greater relief from thirst and fatigue, than WRIGLEY’S, THE FLAVOR LASTS. She slipped a stick in every letter and mailed him a box now and then. Naturally he loves her, she loves him, and they both love WRIGLEY’S. CHEW IT AFTER EVERY MEAL. Three of a kind, keep them in mind - Wrigley’s Spearmint, Juicy Fruit and Doublemint.”





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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Worship 9:30am	7	8 10 a.m. Small Group Prayer Team	9	10	11	12
13 Worship 9:30am	14	15	16 4 p.m. Trustees 5 p.m. Ad Hoc Restructure	17	18	19
20 Worship 9:30am September newsletter articles due	21	22 10 a.m. Small Group Prayer Team	23	24	25	26
27 Worship 9:30am Food on the 4th	28	29 7 p.m. Finance	30	31		