



The Rocktonian

Newsletter of Rockton United Methodist Church



Rockton United Methodist Church
102 W. Chapel Street Rockton, IL 61072

(815) 624-7591

Office Hours Tues, Thurs 9am-noon
email: RocktonUMC@gmail.com
website: www.rocktonumc.org

Rev. Carolyn Lukasick, Pastor
847-271-2733 (call or text) 9am-9pm



Our Mission

Welcoming all as we
Grow Together
in Faith, Service, and Love

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.



The church office is working on an updated church directory. The information will not be posted online, but will be available to members actively involved in our church.





Our Leadership Team recently worked on renewing a mission statement for our church. We want to share the working version with everyone in the church. If anyone has feedback or suggestions, please share them with any leaders.

The elements in our statement were recognized as core values for our congregation, both past and present. This new statement will be used by the leadership as a benchmark as we evaluate new projects and opportunities.

We wanted to emphasize that all are welcome here at Rockton UMC. We embrace the diversity that God has created, which extends to people. We have much to learn from those who are different from us.

We believe faith is a lifelong journey, and we continually grow in our ability to follow Jesus. Our commitment to loving God and loving people inspires us to service in many ways.

We are actively seeking ways to connect with our larger community and explore ways we might be the hands and feet of Jesus in our world today. Special thanks to Dave Wellen, who worked to incorporate our insights, highlighting growth, inclusion, and discipleship. We would love to hear your thoughts!

Blessings,



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What's Up with the Building?

March 2024

by John Carleton, Trustee Chair

Based on a usually warm February, this is turning out to be a mild winter. Let's hope it helps with the heating bills. It certainly has helped our snow crew and kept the sidewalks and parking lots cleaner and safer. There's been a few minor things being worked on around the building but not much worth mentioning. You'll notice the old drinking fountains are gone and now the redecoration crew can get ready to work on the hallways in the Education Wing. Many thanks to the folks who have been going through the rooms and cleaning out items that are old and no longer being used but taking what's usable and creating new spaces. There are very few new keys left so thanks to everyone that stepped up to help with handing them out and collecting the old ones.

Finally, we're gradually hosting more and more events in our Fellowship Hall and things have been going well. If you're considering using the church for something, a reminder to check with the office and pick up a Building Use Form so you can see what all is involved. Those who have used it recently have taken good care of the place, have been pleased and the process is easy.

Congregational Care Team

by Gail Terry, Chairperson

The Congregational Care Team is working to connect members who cannot attend services or are going through difficult times with members who would like to make visits, phone calls, or send cards. Prior to the covid epidemic, we had an active list of visitors and visitees, usually connecting once a month. So we need two things: names of congregation members who you feel might like a visit. If you would share these names with Pastor Carolyn at church at (815) 624-7591 or Gail Terry at (815) 988-0498 we can connect with them. Also, we need members to be a part of the visiting team. You do not need to be a member of the Congregational Care Team although if you do participate, you will be an honorary member of our team. Thank you in advance for participating in this rewarding ministry!



Fellowship Committee Update

by Gail Terry, Chairperson



The Fellowship Committee is planning a potluck brunch on Palm Sunday, which is March 24th. There will be two sign-up sheets: one for helpers to serve and clean up after the potluck. The other will be for those who are participating to sign up, letting us know how many will be with your group and also to sign up for dishes to pass by category. Egg casseroles will be provided. Food can be brought in before the service with preparation to be completed after the service. Last year was our first official Palm Sunday Potluck and it was well attended, fun, and enjoyable with the great kinds of foods that have made Methodist potlucks famous. Mark your calendars!

Our church also has a tradition of celebrating graduates for members of our congregation. Please call the church office at (815) 624-7591 or Gail Terry at (815) 988-0498 to have your graduate included. We will need names, level of school graduating from, degrees for college graduates, and other information if you like, such as plans for the future of the graduate. Please do let us know as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly.

Missions Team

Thank you to everyone who donated needed items or cash for the collection we took in February to support the Veterans Drop In Center in Rockford.

There will be a Missions meeting on Sunday, March 3 following worship to discuss upcoming Soup Kitchen on March 30.

Soup Kitchen Dates

Saturday, March 30

Saturday, September 28

Mark your calendars to save the dates!





March 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Missions  | 4 | 5 Office Hours 9am-noon | 6 Noon lunch at RUMC for area UMC clergy | 7 Office Hours 9am-noon | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:30am Worship  | 11 | 12 Office Hours 9am-noon 10am Small Group Prayer Team 7pm Sisters in Christ | 13 | 14 Office Hours 9am-noon | 15 | 16 |
| 17 9:30am Worship  | 18 3:30 pm Trustees 4:30 pm Finance | 19 Office Hours 9am-10:15 a.m. Pastor leads worship at Highview 10:30 4:30 p.m. Admin Council | 20 Newsletter articles due | 21 Office Hours 9am-noon |  5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts | 23 |
| 24 9:30am Worship PALM SUNDAY Food on the 4th POTLUCK | 25 | 26 Office Hours 9am-noon 10am Small Group Prayer Team | 27 | 28 Office Hours 9am-noon | 29 |  |
| 31 9:30am Worship  | | | | | | |