

**Rockton United  
Methodist Church**  
PO Box 293  
Rockton, IL 61072

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## The Rocktonian

**Newsletter of Rockton United Methodist Church  
December 2018**



### **Worship With Us**

Sunday Worship 9:00 am  
Children's Sunday School 9:15 am

Enjoy fellowship after the service downstairs  
with coffee and treats!

Fusion Service 10:45 am  
(An informal service with small group discussion.)

### **Visit Our Website**

[www.rocktonumc.org](http://www.rocktonumc.org)

### **Rev. Howie Snyder, Pastor**

Cell phone: 630-809-9419  
Email: [pastorhowiesnyder@gmail.com](mailto:pastorhowiesnyder@gmail.com)

### **Contact Us**

Rockton United Methodist Church  
102 West Chapel Street, PO Box 293  
Rockton, IL 61072

Office Phone: 815-624-7591  
Email: [info@rocktonumc.org](mailto:info@rocktonumc.org)

### **Mission Statement**

Grow FAITH in Jesus Christ.  
Share LOVE with others.  
Give SERVICE to our neighbors.



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**Saturday, December 1**

**Chili Lunch and Supper**

**12pm - 7pm**

**Served in our Fellowship Hall**

**\$5**

**All-you-can-eat Chili  
(served with cornbread)**

*Vegetarian  
Chili  
Available*

**Also available  
for purchase:**

Hot dogs

Chili dogs

Beverages

Additional cornbread

Chips



**Saturday, December 1**

Sisters in Christ will be sponsoring a Bake Sale during the hours of the chili supper. Be sure to stop by after your bowl of chili and treat yourself to dessert!



**Saturday, December 1**

**Craft Sale**

**9 am - 5 pm**



**Local crafters display their  
creations for purchase on both levels of the church.**

## Sisters in Christ Christmas Party



Sisters in Christ will be celebrating their annual Christmas party on **Tuesday, December 4**, at the ever gracious Margo Leden's home,

13956 Sunrise Circle, Rockton

The party begins at **7 p.m.** Please bring a festive appetizer or dessert. If anyone needs a ride, please contact Phyllis DeGraff at 608-368-1051.

## Annual Church Conference



Our Church Family

**Wednesday, December 5**

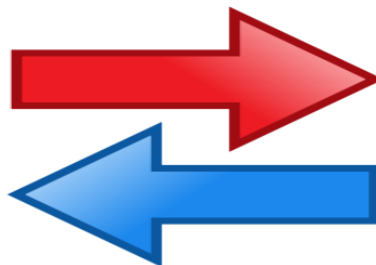
**Dinner at 6:00 pm** (in the Fellowship Hall)

Nothing to bring. Just come and enjoy!

(SPRC to meet at 6:30 pm in the library)

**Conference at 7:00 pm** (in the Fellowship Hall)

**Pastor Swap  
Sunday**



**December  
9th**

Pastor Howie and his wife, Nicole, also a pastor, were fortunate enough to be appointed to churches in the same area. Nicole is serving the United Methodist Church in Durand where their family has also chosen to reside. These close appointments gave us the idea to have an occasional pulpit swap so each congregation could get to know the spouse of their pastor. Please plan to be with us on December 9 to welcome Nicole into our pulpit. There will be no Fusion Service on that Sunday, only one service at 9:00 a.m.



Come and be part of our church Prayer Team

**For the month of December, the prayer team will only meet on Tuesday, December 11th.**

In January, the Prayer Team will resume meeting the second and fourth Tuesdays each month at 10:00 am. They are now meeting in the home of Bruce and Mary Louise Muench at:

6918 Saladino Dr. Roscoe, IL

Let Us Pray For:

Continued Care:

Carol Kingery  
Carter Fleig  
Tom Anderson  
Troy Vail's father

Other:

Charlie Cunningham  
Mike Melaas  
Justin Joiner  
Jean Bennett

At home: Randy Campbell

*Prayer requests will appear for about 1 month after submission. Contact the church office to add or remove names. For an urgent prayer request, call Sharon Ruff to start the prayer chain: 815-229-1932.*



**We still need a Volunteer Counter!**



**We are in need of someone to count the offering on the 4th Sunday of the month. We are required to have 2 people count and we are one person short on that Sunday. If you are interested in taking on this task, please contact Karen Fysh, our Financial Secretary, or call the church office.**



**care**

**Congregational Care Team**

As I write this report for the December Rocktonian, I pause and give thanks for this unbelievable team of men and women who call upon members who cannot make it here to worship with us on Sundays. I am so proud of each of them. Each month they find time in their busy schedules to



**care**

drop in and enjoy a chat and some smiles with those who cannot get out and about. 13 visits were made in November. PRAISE GOD!

If you know someone who cannot attend worship services with us on Sunday mornings, please contact the church office and the Congregational Care Team will plan on going to visit them. If you would like to join our Care Team and help cheer members up, contact the church office and leave your name and phone number. Blessings to all reading this and helping us fulfill the sharing of God's love.

Mary Louise Muench.



## Time to Pick Names for Wimpy's Fund!

Each Christmas our congregation has been blessed with the opportunity to give back to the community by participating in Wimpy's Fund. This event is a wonderful way to honor the memory of a compassionate police officer in this village that we all lovingly referred to as "Wimpy". He made sure that during the holiday season, families in need would receive food for their table and a gift under the tree for each of their children. Our church helps continue this tradition by receiving names from the Lions Club and providing what is needed for each child. Please consider choosing a name (or names) from the bulletin board on the easel in the sanctuary. Then register your name on the clip board nearby. It is suggested that you provide an article(s) of clothing for your child as well as another gift on their "wish list". Sizes and suggestions for the clothing, as well as their wish list, will be included for each child you choose. Please wrap those items, label with a gift tag, and return them to the church by Sunday, December 16th. This shopping will not only bring joy to those families, but to you as well in this holiday season!

**There are many things that get done for our church and congregation by members that expect nothing in return for their good deeds. If you know someone that we should acknowledge please let the church office know. This month it was mentioned we should express our thanks to:**

- ◆ All the people that stayed and helped for the Hanging of the Greens. The church looks so festive!
- ◆ The Fellowship Committee for taking care of the Veterans service, engraved garden stone, and the coffee hour honoring the veterans in our congregation.
- ◆ Choir members that delivered posters throughout town informing community members of upcoming events at church during the Christmas Walk weekend.



THANK  
YOU



THANK  
YOU

*Bruce Muench wrote this some time ago. He gave me permission to put it in the Rocktonian for all to enjoy! Ruth Melles*

## **MY SEAT IN CHURCH**

A lady took my seat in church a while back. It's not that important, really. She is a very nice lady, kind and considerate. A good friend in fact. There were several other seats available. I can sit any place. The people in our congregation are as friendly and caring as you will find any place in the world. A person should be comfortable sitting any place. It's no big deal.

My seat is in the seventh row back from the front of the church. I'm sure she didn't intend to take my seat. She just wouldn't do that. Nor would anybody else in our fine church. It doesn't make that much difference.

My seat is on the end of the pew, on the south side, by the windows. On your left as you come into the sanctuary. I can rest my left arm on the end of the pew. It's a good seat. But I would never raise a fuss about a seat.

I suppose she came early, and my seat appeared available. She probably didn't intend anything personal by taking my seat. I would never hold a grudge.

There were several seats available on the north side. On your right as you come in. I could have taken one of those. Those people who sit over there are very nice, over there on the north side. I know most of those people. I would be welcome over there, on the north side.

Actually, it was about three months ago when she took my seat. I really don't know why she took it. I've never done anything to her. I've never taken her seat. I suppose I'll have to come early now to get my seat. Either that or sit on the north side.

She really took it because it's one of the best seats in the house. That's why she took it. She had no business taking my seat. I wouldn't have been surprised if it had been a couple of other ladies in our church who shall remain unnamed. Dorothy and Candy have been picking on me for a long time.

I'm not going to sit on the north side. That's for northsiders. I'm a southsider. I can just hear those northsiders if I sat over there. "What's she doing over here?" I'll tell you what she is "doing over here". Some unscrupulous person took her seat, that's what. She took it because it is the best seat in the house. And I'm not going to go to church two hours early to get what was rightfully mine from the beginning.

This is the way great social injustices begin; abusive people taking other people's seats in church. This is the way the seeds of revolution are sown. A person can only stand so much. Where is it going to end? If somebody doesn't stand up and be counted, nobody's seat will be safe. People will just sit any place they please. And the next thing they'll do is take my parking place, too. World order will be in shambles.

I am not going to take this lying down. I can't, the stakes are too high. I think I'll go to the church board. Better yet, I'll call the governor. Still better, I'll contact a good personal injury lawyer, a real shark. One who will go right for the throat. Even better, one who will go right for the pocketbook.



This year the Fellowship Committee honored the Veterans in our congregation by purchasing an engraved garden stone to be placed in the mulch near the entrance to the church. This granite slab was presented to those Veterans who were present in the 9:00 a.m. service on Veterans Day. Pictured above, accepting the stone, are Loren Floto, Mary Sprague (representing her husband Merle), Dan Davis, Phil Faivre, and Bruce Muench.

### BIRTHDAYS

- |                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 3 Dan Davis         | 24 Don Huett   |
| 4 Jill Huett        | Lisa Schultz   |
| Sherri Zimmer       | 27 Mary Green  |
| 8 Jerry Weaver      | 28 Jerry Green |
| 9 Karen King        | 29 Sharon Ruff |
| 11 Shannon Nygren   |                |
| 14 Suzanne Boomer   |                |
| 16 Bertha Stogsdill |                |
| 20 Laura Janes      |                |

### Anniversaries

- 5 John and Sheila Bates
- 16 Jerry and Sharon Ruff
- 23 KC and Brenda Wulf
- 29 Dan and Judy Davis



# December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <b>Craft Sale</b> 9am-5pm Chili Lunch/ Supper Bake Sale 12-7 pm
2 Worship 9:00 am Fusion 10:45 am Communion	3 <b>Trustees</b> 12:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 Choir 6:00 pm Bells 7:00 pm	4 Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Sisters in Christ Christmas Party Margo Ledens 7:00 pm	5 <b>All Church</b> Conference Dinner 6:00 Conference 7:00	6	7	8
9 Worship 9:00 am Pastor Swap Sunday No Fusion Service	10 Daisies 6:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm Bells 7:00 pm	11 Prayer Team At Muench's home 10:00 am	12	13 Hononegah Women's Club Fellowship Hall	14	15
16 Worship 9:00 am Fusion 10:45 am	17 Choir 6:00 pm Bells 7:00 pm	18 Boy Scouts 6:30 pm  <b>Finance meeting</b> 7:00 pm	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 9:00 am Fusion 10:45 am  <b>Food on the 4th</b>	24 Christmas Eve Service 4:00 pm	25  Christmas	26	27	28	29
30 Worship 9:00 am	31					