



# The Rocktonian

## Newsletter

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

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

# December

## 2024

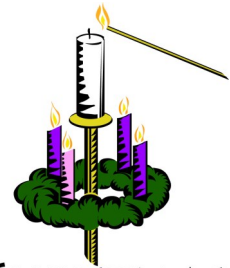
Welcoming all in Jesus' name  
as we Grow Together in Faith, Service, and Love  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.



Wednesday, 12/4 6:30pm  
Church Conference



Saturday, 12/7  
9:00 am—2:00pm  
Craft & Bake Sale



CHRISTMAS  
EVE SERVICE  
Tuesday, 12/24 7:00pm



Although Advent is a season of preparation, it is easy for Christians to forget that although we are getting ready to celebrate the birth of Christ, the real focus of Advent is the anticipation and preparation for Christ's return.

The birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus ushered in the reign of God and began the process of God's dream of healing and reconciliation for all of Creation. That process began, but is not complete. It will be fulfilled when Christ returns. In the meantime, we wait, and we prepare, and we offer ourselves and our resources as agents and messengers of God's love.

Our worship series this Advent is focused on the promise of Christmas and the hope we rekindle as we await the coming of God's kingdom here on earth.



Following worship in Advent, we will have bible study or discussion groups further exploring the themes each week in Advent. I hope you will join us in person or online (we will use the same link as worship, starting 10-15 minutes after worship ends.)

The past two years, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day fell over the weekend, so we held one service on Sunday morning. This year, Christmas Eve is on a Tuesday, so we will have a traditional Candlelight service at 7:00 p.m., featuring a special musical guest.



I hope everyone will join us on Wednesday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. at our Church Conference. This is our annual business meeting where we elect leadership and committee members for the following calendar year. Our budget is also approved and we review changes to membership and celebrate with our District Superintendent the milestones we have observed and what we are looking forward to in the coming year. I know December is a busy month for everyone; I hope you are able to join us to celebrate another year of serving in ministry together.

Blessings,

# What's Up with the Building?

December 2024

by John Carleton, Trustee Chair

With the weather turning cold (really cold compared to what we've been used to in previous years), as you might guess, we're pretty much done with any outside projects. If you look back at November's What's Up article, you can see that all of our projects now are inside and they are all in the planning stages. I'm thinking here of the security camera project and putting in some new thermostats. As regards to the latter, we're kind of in new territory here as a lot of our building is not used very much but some of our thermostats are so old they look to be the originals from the 1960's. So, it's kind of hard to plan for how to heat it when rooms can sit idle for weeks and then get some concentrated use. There are, however, some real savings we can reap as heating is a big part of the budget. Our concern is making sure folks can have heat when they need it and that it gets shut down after they're done so there may be a mix of conventional thermostats with a couple that are programable. We worry a little about meetings of which we are unaware and the folks coming in on days and evenings like this to cold rooms. We did look into internet capable thermostats but they are very pricey and our old system won't play well with them. Bottom line is to let someone know if you're going to be in the building and, at a minimum, ask someone to show you where the thermostats are in the rooms you need and how to work them if they're new. The Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall will probably be the last to be changed, if at all.

We could use some good pictures for our website, especially of the Sanctuary with folks in it (try to avoid empty pews). And, as always, we'll be looking forward to some new pictures of this year's craft sale so crank up those cameras in your phone and start snapping.

## Sisters In Christ

by Phyllis DeGraff



The annual bake sale for Sisters in Christ will be during the Christmas Craft sale on December 7. Please bring donated baked goods to Fellowship Hall by 9:00 a.m. Items should be labeled and priced. If there are nuts in the recipe, please identify. This is our only fundraiser for the year and your participation is very much appreciated.

Our annual Christmas Party will be on December 10 at 7:00 p.m. at Margo's house, 13956 Sunrise Circle, Rockton. If you need a ride, please contact me at (608) 368-1051. Please bring a treat to share with your sisters.

Thanks everyone!



# Christmas Walk

# CRAFT & BAKE SALE

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 7  
9 AM TO 2PM**

**Rockton United Methodist Church  
Corner of Blackhawk & Chapel Street**

Variety of craft vendors  
Homemade treats!



# DECEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1 9:30am Worship 	2	3	4 6:00pm SPRC 6:30pm 	5	6	7 Craft & Bake Sale 9am-2pm 	
8 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Discussion	9	10 10am Small Group Prayer Team 6:00 pm Rockton Pride 7pm Sisters in Christ at Margo's house	11	12	13	14	
15 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Discussion Christmas Walk Teardown 1:30pm Girl Scouts	16 4pm Trustees 5pm Finance	17 10am Retirement Home Worship NO Ad Council in December	18	19	20 Newsletter articles due	21	
22 9:30am Worship Food on the 4th 10:30 am Discussion	23	24 10am Small Group Prayer Team 7pm 	25 10am Private Event 	26	27	28	
29 9:30am Worship 10:30 am Discussion	30	31 					