

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

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The Rocktonian

Newsletter of Rockton United Methodist Church March 2020

Rev. Howie Snyder, Pastor

Email: pastorhowiesnyder@gmail.com Cell: 630-809-9419

Contact Us

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

Email: info@rocktonumc.org Office Phone: 815-624-7591

Visit Our Website

www.rocktonumc.org

Mission Statement

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

Worship With Us on Sunday Morning

(Sunday services temporarily held at Prince of Peace Church on Freeport Road)

9:00 am Adult Sunday School Class

Lead by Mark Alcorn

10:00 am Join us for Coffee Hour .

10:45 am Worship Service

Children dismissed for Sunday
School at 11:00 am



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From the Pastor's Pen



During this season of Lent we will be joining the Durand United Methodist Church for a Lenten Bible Study: Exploring Contemplative Practices with the Art of Lent. I will be joining Rev. Dr. Nicole Snyder in facilitating this Lenten event where we will follow the themes of Sister Wendy Beckett's book to guide us in a new mindfulness practice each week—from Centering Prayer to Sumi-e (Japanese black ink painting). Please join us in practicing Lent together:

Each Wednesday evening from March 4— April 1

6:00 pm

Meeting in the Betty Young Community Room in the Durand UMC

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Pastor Howie



I want to take a moment to thank all of you for the beautiful card and monetary gift as I move on to be the Administrative Assistant at Beth Eden United Methodist Church. It was a difficult decision to make since I enjoyed my work here in Rockton and getting to know all of you. As I thought about the pros and cons of changing churches, I realized the best thing was a closer drive to work, but the worst would be leaving all of you! I have asked that I could continue to receive the Rocktonian to keep up with all of the adventures at Rockton UMC. So don't be surprised if you see me at one of your events. I feel I will always be welcome here!

Pamela True

Soup Kitchen

On Saturday, March 21st, we will once again provide a meal at the Jubilee Center, Emanuel Episcopal Church, Park Ave., Rockford. We anticipate feeding 150-175 meals and are asking for financial donations or some of the following:

- Store bought cookies
- Milk
- Mostaccioli or Penne Pasta
- Spaghetti sauce

All food items must be at the RUMC church kitchen by 9:00 AM on that Saturday. There will be a sign-up sheet on the clip board Sunday mornings to sign up for food donations and to volunteer to help prepare and serve the meal. There will be an envelope if you want to make a monetary donation for the meal. If you are free on the 21st, we'd love to have you assist us with this mission activity. We need at least 10 workers to prepare and serve the meal. We leave the church at 9:30 AM for the Jubilee Center and head home at about 1 PM. Transportation is available.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Chambers: 815-904-4646

Thanks,

Donna Chambers



SISTERS IN CHRIST

March 3

6:30 pm

Join us for a night of

Trivial Pursuit Challenge

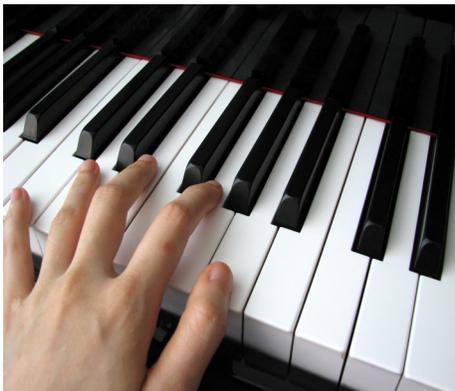
We will meet in the Sisters in Christ room at RUMC. It should be an evening of great fun!

Wanted:



Someone to board our Siamese cat for three weeks in May. She's very sociable, doesn't scratch furniture, has all her shots, and loves being held. She also loves sleeping on your bed. She's okay with dogs. We will pay a boarding fee. She does a lot better in a home setting than in a kennel. She is strictly an indoor cat. If you can help out, please call me.

Thanks Phyllis DeGraff 608-368-1051



Piano and Organ Concert

Judy Paddock on piano and JoAnn Medernach on the organ will be performing an afternoon of music for your enjoyment.

Tuesday, March 3

1:00 pm

River of Life Church

2345 Prairie Ave, Beloit, WI

This will be a FREE concert!



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 those that helped make the Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper a success - those that set up, fried pancakes, donated supplies, worked in the kitchen, and cleaned up.
- Those that contributed to the Ash Wednesday Soup Supper by donating soup, cheese, crackers, or dessert.
- Pamela True for her work as our Administrative Assistant.
- Pastor Howie for arranging a joint Ash Wednesday service with the new Interim Pastor at Prince of Peace.



What's Up With the Building? **March**

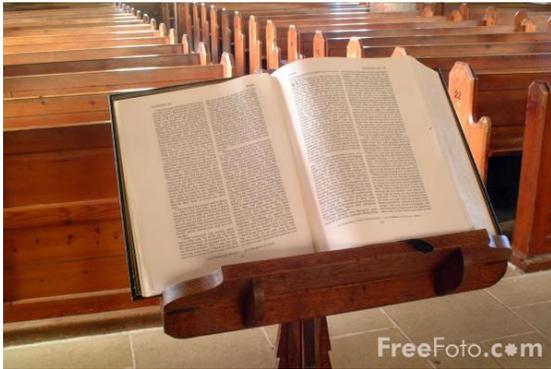
After a lengthy search to find a Structural Engineer to direct us in how to make our sanctuary safe and sound we have secured the services of Mr. William Waldorf of Larson and Darby Group in Rockford. This firm has had experience with similar types of church structures in the western suburbs, Freeport and just up the road at St. Peters in South Beloit. As discussed in the February, "What's Up?", they will be attaching a large beam to the south wall at the ceiling level and then using more and much larger rods to secure the roof and wall once the ceiling has been jacked up to its former level. Upon completion of the engineering, we can begin looking for contractors to perform the work. When we think we have the contractor(s) we want at the prices we can afford, then we'll need to seek the approval of the Methodist NIC Building Committee. As you can see, we still have a few hoops to jump through before we can actually begin the work. Again, all of this is to make it safe and sound. While we will attempt to include the "cosmetic" work in with the construction bids, we may have to bid that separately depending upon what has been done during construction or if the congregation wants to make changes to the appearance to the sanctuary.

John Carleton
Building Chair

Pulpit Exchange

On March 8, Howie's wife, the Rev. Dr. Nicole Snyder, Pastor at the Durand United Methodist Church and our Pastor Howie will exchange pulpits.

Please plan to be with us to welcome Nicole as she returns to inspire us with her message!



Pastor Howie and David Barnes, the new interim pastor at Prince of Peace Church, after our joint Ash Wednesday Service.

MARCH 22 LUNCH & DISCUSSIONS

Please plan to stay after the worship service on Sunday, March 22nd, to have a light lunch and join in small group discussions about current issues concerning the United Methodist Church. More details will be coming as we get closer to the date.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3 Ruth Melles	20 Melinda Croisant
6 Donna Hayenga	22 Jan Kerch
12 Laura Noel	24 Judy Bradac
14 Anita Stiffler	25 Dorothy O'Brien
18 Judy Davis	27 Heather Fysh
Troy Vail	29 Darlene Weaver
19 Karen Fysh	31 Donna Granath
Jason Knoespel	Rose Lovejoy

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

25 Jim and Sandy Stamm





Congregational Care Team



March 2020

As I prepare this message for the March Rocktonian it is the end of February. As I look out the window, I can see the wind is really picking up. The March wind is arriving a little early. It made me think of the wonderful people involved in our Congregation Care Team for our church. "Neither snow nor rain nor heat... (You know the rest!) will stop our team from spreading Christian love and light when visiting our members. They will be out there in their happy place to share sunshine to those who may enjoy a visit from Rockton United Methodist Church. I am so proud of each and every one of those people. They are doing what Jesus asked us to do. If you have an extra hour once a month, come join us and let your light shine also.

Blessings to each one of you,

Mary Louise Muench
Coordinator of the Congregational Care Team



JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM IN MARCH!

Our Prayer Team meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month and would love to have you join our group. We will continue to meet at the home of Bruce and Mary Louise Muench, 6918 Saladino Drive in Roscoe at 10:00am.

Let Us Pray For:

Recovering from health issues:

Gail Johnson
Jim Stamm

Continued prayers for:

Charlie Cunningham
The Family of Dawn Miller
Peg Hayelan
Bev Widrig

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**

March 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 Choir 6:00 pm	3 Sisters in Christ Trivial Pursuit Challenge RUMC 6:30 pm	4	5	6	7
8 Worship 10:45 am (At POP) Pulpit Swap Young Adult Small Group 5:00 pm RUMC	9 Trustees 5:00 pm Choir 6:00 pm	10 Prayer Group 10:00 am	11	12	13	14
15 Worship 10:45 am (At POP)	16 Choir 6:00 pm	17 Finance meeting 7:00 pm	18	19 SPRC 7:00 pm	20	21 Soup Kitchen Meet at church at 9:00 am
22 Worship 10:45 am (At POP) Lunch and discussion groups right after worship Food on the 4th Young Adult Small Group With Howie 5:00 pm	23 Choir 6:00 pm	24 Prayer Group 10:00 am	25	26 AD Board meeting 7:00 pm	27	28
29 Worship 10:45 am (At POP)	30 Choir 6:00 pm	31				