



The Rocktonian

Newsletter

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



2024

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



**sisters in
christ**

**Sunday, September 15
at 6:30 pm**

Our fall kickoff for 2024-2025 will be at Phyllis DeGraf's home for our annual campfire. The address is 12552 W. St. Lawrence, Beloit, Wi. It's 10 miles west of Beloit on dead-end segment of W. St. Lawrence. Please call if you need directions or need a carpool. Phone 608-368-1051. Sisters in Christ will provide snacks and drinks. All ladies in the church are most welcome. See you there!



We are looking forward to ending the summer season on a high note with guest musician Dan Holmes leading worship over Labor Day weekend!

This month our Leadership Cohort also concluded six months of learning about adaptive leadership alongside two other congregations. The work of this group work spearheaded the Tell Me A Story gatherings we held earlier this summer.

As I explained in most of the meetings at the parsonage, the purpose of these gatherings was to listen carefully to the passion and core values which lie beneath the surface of our congregation. These attributes are part of our "core DNA" - they help us understand ourselves and how God has wired us to be the Church in our larger community. We are blessed to be a blessing, and knowing our strengths is important as we discern our role for this chapter of our unfolding story.

What we learned is that loving, caring connections are deeply embedded in the spirit of this congregation; hospitality and service are core values. Of course, most of you have known this for a while; this exercise has helped us name and celebrate our strengths. These aspects of our DNA have and will continue inform and shape the *best* ministries for our congregation.

Following the Tell Me a Story exercise, the cohort also asked our Leadership Team to interview various people in August to help us learn more about the

strengths and needs in our surrounding community. As we compile and reflect on all of these insights, the process will help us to recognize possibilities for our unique calling to serve Rockton and the surrounding area today and in the future.

One opportunity that is currently in very early stages of exploration is a potential partnership with the Roscoe Gardening Club, formed this past year. Members have enthusiastically shared their fresh produce with area food pantries. We are talking with this group about the possibility of a community garden on our church property. We have a wonderful, central location in town. They have enthusiastic members interested in partnering with organizations to address food insecurity and to promote the benefits of fresh foods.

Once the gardening club narrows their focus, they will bring a proposal to our church trustees to evaluate. If all the (yet unknown) details work out, we may be the site for a new community garden in Rockton!

If any members are interested in participating in this potential project, please let me know so you can join the discussions as they unfold. Please be in prayer about this opportunity and any others God may bring us in the coming weeks and months.

Blessings,

What's Up with the Building?

September 2024

by John Carleton, Trustee Chair

Hard to believe summer is coming to a close and the kiddos are back to school. The Trustees will be starting a couple of projects as we hope we have our roofs in shape to take us through the winter. We've already contacted our painter/plasterer and hope to have the North (Bell Choir) Room ceiling redone by the latter part of September. He'll also get the streaks on the wall in the robe room. We've also noticed that the sidewalk that goes from the Education Wing doors to the parking lot has sunk a little again so we'll be looking to get that raised. Until then, keep your eyes on the surface if you use that sidewalk.

One of our more ambitious projects is looking into our heat controls. Now that our building is used at rather irregular times, it makes it difficult to know how to set thermostats. It also doesn't make sense to have the heat up if no one is there. The Trustees will have a couple of heating contractors come in and see what they would recommend with regards to heat controls that can be accessed remotely. That way, the heat can be turned on or shut down to save energy but still have the building be comfortable for the folks who wish to use it. But, again, we'll have to see what works with our boilers and if we can afford it.

If you haven't already, take a look at the parking lot as Brenda has put in a lot of time clearing the weeds. Using "Brenda's Blend" of a safe weed killer, she has made some real progress on getting the pesky weeds out of there. There's still much to be done and if you happen to be walking to your car, kick a weed out of a crack and help out.

Finally, I've been working on the carillon again and folks tell me they've heard it chime on the hours and it played before church on the 18th. It's one of those projects where I'm not sure what I did, but if it plays, I'll take it. You can help by taking note if, and when, you hear it play and letting me know.



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am Worship 	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 10am Small Group Prayer Team		12	13	14
15 9:30am Worship 6:30pm Sisters in Christ Campfire 	16 4pm Trustees 5pm Finance	17 10am Retirement Home Worship 4:30 pm Ad Council	18	19	20 Newsletter articles due	21
22 9:30am Worship Food on the 4th	23	24 10am Small Group Prayer Team	25	26	27	28 Soup Kitchen 
29 9:30am Worship	30	27	<div style="background-color: #4a90e2; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <i>Office Hours by Appointment</i> </div>			