



RECTORTOWN Reporter



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NOT JUST GOOD BYE
BUT THANK YOU



Pastor TaeWon Kang

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this
is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
— 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Grace and peace to you all at Rectortown UMC,

As announced, I will be leaving Rectortown UMC to serve at Prince of Peace UMC, located in the area of Manassas, Dale City, and Woodbridge, VA. This new church is part of the Northern Virginia District of the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church. It is not easy to say goodbye to the beloved people of Rectortown UMC. Still, the time has come for us to bless one another and part ways in grace and love.

GOODBYE CONTINUED

Through this message—my final note for the church newsletter—I want to say something more meaningful than just “goodbye.” I want to say “thank you.” I pray that this simple phrase brings renewal and vitality to your hearts today and in the days to come.

We often say “thank you” out of habit or cultural politeness, without much thought. But the phrase holds deeper value when viewed through the lens of worship. What is worship, after all? It is the act of honoring and serving God—the very essence of the believer’s life. And to honor and serve God is, in its purest form, to give thanks to God.

So, dear friends at Rectortown UMC, I urge you to be radically thankful in all circumstances. One of the greatest spiritual crises we face today—despite material abundance—is the loss of a thankful heart. While our outward lives may appear full, our inner selves can remain impoverished. If you are among those who are materially blessed, I encourage you to focus on nurturing your soul and leaving behind any spiritual poverty.

A powerful way to do this is to live out gratitude both physically and spiritually in your daily life. Reflect often on the Book of Exodus. Why did the Israelites leave Egypt? What did Moses tell Pharaoh? It was simple: the Israelites desired to worship God. That was the sole reason for their exodus. Pharaoh, however, demanded their worship for himself. But Moses remained firm—his devotion was to God alone.

GOODBYE CONTINUED

Even after leaving Egypt, the Israelites struggled in the wilderness.

They looked back longingly at their former lives, revealing their ongoing need for spiritual transformation. But through God's guidance, they gradually shed their old selves and became people who worshiped God alone. For them, to worship meant to honor, serve, and give thanks to God alone.

So again, Rectortown UMC, I say: Be thankful to God in all things. This is your reason for being. And those who know their purpose never falter—they move steadily toward their promised transformation. Let your faith shine, making your inner life beautiful and abundant. Don't let anything cause you to backslide, for spiritual decline leads not to salvation but to spiritual death.

Instead, clothe yourselves in Jesus Christ. Examine your mindset, your habits, and your way of living. Be willing to break away from anything that hinders your faith. Move forward boldly, joyfully, and courageously into the likeness of Christ. Commit yourself fully to God the Trinity. In doing so, you will share in the glory of the cross of Jesus Christ.

I thank God—and I thank you, Rectortown UMC.

Are you with me?

*God bless you all. **Amen.***

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT - PONN FAMILY

Dennis Ponn has been selected to attend Naval Post-grad School (NPS) in Monterey, Ca for the next 18 months. He will be moving out there in mid June after he completes his out processing at Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs where he was recently selected for his Captain promotion effective Sept 2025. He asks for travel mercies.

Tom Glasgow, Carrie's youngest, graduated from Randolph Macon in Front Royal. He will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall.

Emma, Carrie's middle child, is awaiting decisions on doctoral program research sponsorship at Virginia Tech where she hopes to join Tom this fall.

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT - PONN FAMILY



Kate is in her second year of her nursing contract in Boston where she is a medical critical care registered nurse.



Sarah is working in the Central Florida area as a large animal veterinary tech. She travels around with the equine vet and get to do some cool things helping take care of horses in need of veterinary care.

HOMECOMING RECAP

**Thank You for a Wonderful Homecoming!**

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make RUMC's Homecoming such a meaningful and memorable event. Your presence, prayers, and joyful spirits truly made the day special.

A special word of gratitude goes to our Fellowship and Worship teams—your hard work and dedication behind the scenes made everything run smoothly, from the inspiring service to the warm and welcoming meal that followed. We are so grateful for all you do to support the life of our church.

Thank you for being the **heart** of RUMC!

HOMECOMING RECAP



UPCOMING EVENTS



June 8th

Pastor Kang's last Sunday is June 8th! Come and wish him good luck!

REMINDER

1. Annual Audit Due - July 1st
 2. Parsonage Review Due - July 1st
 3. Budget Surveys Due - July 30th
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JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Kyle Peters - 1st
 Larry Underwood - 3rd
 Nathan Kridler - 4th
 Deborah McLaughlin - 8th
 Erika Harrington - 8th
 Tammy Frazier - 8th
 Johvan Hackley - 9th
 Colin Hall - 13th
 Linda Neish - 16th
 Donielle Riniger - 17th
 Joann Garrett - 17th
 Abbey Klooster - 18th
 Tony Willis - 19th
 Susan Haley - 20th
 Debbie Hall - 21st
 Ethan Brown - 25th

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Diane & Jim Harrington - 3rd
 Tammy & Todd Frazier - 12th
 Laura & Jeff Symanski - 17th

JUNE MEETINGS & EVENTS

Admin Council

June 5th at 7pm



Pastor Kang's Last Sunday

June 8th

Worship

Cancelled

Trustees

June 10th at 6pm

Fig Leaf

June 17th at 10am

Father's Day

June 15th



RECTORTOWN UMC MISSION STATEMENT
 SERVING GOD THROUGH **P**RAYER, **A**CTION,
 AND **L**OVE THROUGH **S**ERVICE.