



PHOTO BY ALAN BARBOUR

# Rectortown Reporter

November 2018

## From the Pastor

### Living a Life of Thanks Giving

*Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ!*



November is, of course, always associated with Thanksgiving. But in this day and age it's often hard to find things to be thankful for. The news and social media are full of stuff that assaults the soul with a storm of negativity that makes giving thanks seems out of place. But, is it? Well, it depends on what you're thankful for and; to whom you're being thankful.

Two years ago, I read a book written by Ann Voskamp called *One Thousand Gifts*. The author asks, "What does it mean to live full of grace? To live fully alive?" Her answer came through writing down 1,000 things, however big or small they might be, that she was truly thankful for. Why? Because sin, she says, comes from ingratitude towards God. Thus, gratitude leads away from sin and towards God. So, rather than merely existing in *ingratitude*, she decided to live fully in purposeful *gratitude*. With that in mind, here are some things I'm thankful for.

- I'm thankful for a gracious and loving God who cared enough to create me in God's own image.
- I'm thankful for God's love for me that makes it possible for me to love others, and to know their love for me.
- I'm thankful for family — the family I grew up in; the family my wife and I have made together; the family of friends I've made over the years; and for my church family.
- I'm thankful for living in a democratic republic where every voice deserves to be heard, even those I strongly disagree with; and dialogue and compromise ensure the well-being of all citizens.
- I'm thankful for health, for a roof over my head, and for clean water and good food to satisfy my physical needs.
- I'm thankful for the many women and men who have served, who are serving, and who will serve to preserve the constitutional ideal of America.
- I'm thankful that this list is just a short beginning to the full list of all the things I'm truly thankful for!

What are you thankful for? What are the things in your life that you have failed to be thankful for? How might you know God better through your gratitude for the things, friends, family, and love you have? This is November — the month of Thanksgiving. Let's go a step beyond and make it a month... a year... a life... of thanks giving.

Grace and peace to each and everyone of you!

*Pastor Steve*

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you, Creator of the universe, for the people gathered around us. We give thanks for the things of the earth that give us the means of life. Thank you for the plants, animals and birds that we use as food and medicine. Thank you for the natural world in which we find the means to be clothed and housed. Thank you, Lord, for the ability to use these gifts of the natural world. Help us to see our place among these gifts, not to squander them or think of them as a means for selfish gain. May we respect the life of all you have made. May our spirits be strengthened by using only what we need, and may we use our strength to help those who need us. Amen.

## In Memoriam

Nancy Joyce (Lannefeld) Tate was loved by many, a friend to all and will always be honored and never forgotten. November 10 will be one year that my mom went to heaven to be with Jesus and my dad, John Tate.  
~Diane Harrington



## November Birthdays

Jean Payne . . . . . 11/10  
Diane Harrington . . . . . 11/13  
Tara Wegdam . . . . . 11/14

## Many Thanks

### from Friends in New Bern to RUMC

Andy and I were wracking our brains to figure out a way to use [the tithe RUMC sent] with the largest, but most direct impact. I'm acquaintances with the City Commissioner (Steve) and he's in the midst of getting the Fuller Group here. The Fuller Group spends 1-3 years in a devastated area rebuilding homes for free (as long as they have a place to stay with a commercial kitchen). They focus on lower income homes, the ones without insurance. Steve found a church to house the 50 people from Fuller Group but he needed a commercial kitchen, so with our donation of \$500 (plus from a few other individuals and Bosch donating the appliances), they'll now be able to build one! This will help build/restore between 50-70 homes this year! Amazing stuff. So just know by sharing our story and what's going on in New Bern... you helped to rebuild at a minimum 50 homes.

-Val

*Editor's Note: Val and Andy moved from Arlington, VA to New Bern, SC in 2017. Their home was completely flooded by Hurricane Florence in September 2018.*

## From the Worship Committee Advent Calendar of Events

### 24 Nov Saturday

**12-2 PM** Decorate Community Tree, make ornaments and enjoy hot dogs and chips.

### 2 Dec Sunday

**5-7 PM** *1st Sunday of Advent*  
Decorate Sanctuary Christmas Tree and enjoy a meal.  
**7-7:15 PM** Community Tree Lighting

### 3 Dec Monday

**6:30 PM** Menorah Service and Lighting Celebration by Rabbi Rose and Pastor Weedling

### 9 Dec Sunday

**5-7 PM** *2nd Sunday of Advent\**

### 16 Dec Sunday

**5-7 PM** *3rd Sunday of Advent*  
Craft night\*

### 23 Dec Sunday

**5-7 PM** *4th Sunday of Advent\**

### 24 Dec Monday

**5:30 PM** *Christmas Eve*  
Candle Light Service\*

### 31 Dec Monday

*New Years Eve\**  
Dinner, Movie and more!

*\*Note: Save the Date—Details to come in December*

## Church Humor

A lady asked what she had to do to become a Methodist. I told her she had to believe in Jesus and own a 9x13 casserole dish!

*Thank you to Muggie for sharing.*



## Annual Shoe Boxes Event

It is time for Shoe Boxes! Each year, we have the opportunity for an outreach ministry to children around the world. If you don't know what shoe boxes are about, please pick up one of the fliers in the entry area. These boxes contain items that are important to children in parts of the world that they either can't afford, have no access to or don't know about. The Outreach Committee is providing shoe boxes that you can fill if needed.

Please contact Linda Daniels or other members of the Outreach Committee for more information. **Boxes are due by Sunday, November 11.**

# From the Outreach Committee *Rectortown Reunion*

On Saturday, 13 October 2018, folks who grew up, lived, or worked in Rectortown over the years, met at the Northern Fauquier Community Park in Marshall. They filled the lakeside pavilion on a sunny, but cold and windy day. **Gladys Willis** was the matriarch of the event, and most everyone knew, and still knows, where Willis Field is in Rectortown! Judy Scheuble blessed the event and the wonderful meal that was fixed by many. Thanks to those who set up this reunion—*maybe* it will become an annual event.

~ Larry Scheuble



# Good-bye and Good Luck to **Joice**



Our sincerest thanks to Joice Freidenburg for 9 years of joyful music. RUMC threw a farewell party to entice her to come back and visit!



# POINSETTIA ORDER



If you would like to order a Christmas Poinsettia "in honor" or "in memory" of someone for the Advent season, please fill in your order form and place it in the collection plate starting November 11-25.

**Christmas Poinsettia - \$7 each**

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_



## Butterfly Symbolism and Meaning

Butterflies are deep and powerful representations of life. Many cultures associate butterflies with our souls. The Christian religion sees the butterfly as a symbol of resurrection. Around the world, people view butterflies as representing endurance, change, hope, and life. There is no doubt the butterfly has significant meanings to us.

Through heartfelt stories, we have heard butterflies symbolizing the passing of a loved one, or life struggles that people have endured to emerge as a better person. We have heard stories from cancer fighters and survivors, people who have dealt with mental breakdowns, heartache, and drug addictions. Butterflies have also been a symbol for celebrations, weddings, life, and our journeys.

*Note: This article by Regina Cutter Edwards was from Hospice Support of Fauquier County Magazine, explaining why they chose the butterfly as their new logo.*

*Thanks to Shirley for sharing.*



### RUMC Hosts Proposed Cell Tower Meeting

On Sunday evening, October 7, RUMC hosted community members who heard Theodora Scarato speak on the impacts of cell towers.

Henry Lavine, Friends of Rectortown leader, arranged a very informative set of presentations, discussion and concerns. At the end of the session, a petition recommending that the cell tower not be placed in the immediate Rectortown area was passed around for signatures. The group also heard from Claude Shock who provides designs and installs fiberoptic based connectivity for homes and business. There was a great deal of interest in Claude's proposed solutions. In the past few weeks, the cell tower provider, who was going to provide their proposed project, cancelled and said they were reassessing possible site locations.

*~ Larry Scheuble*

## RUMC Upcoming Meetings & Events

Thur – Nov 1	7:00pm	Admin Council Meets
Mon – Nov 12	7:00pm	Worship Meets
Wed – Nov 14	6:00pm	Trustees Meet
Sun – Nov 18	3:00pm	Charge Conference Sanctuary
Sat – Nov 24	2-4pm	Decorate Community Tree

## Every Week at RUMC

### **Sunday Worship**

10:00 a.m.

Worship for Adults and Children.  
Nursery provided.

### **Sunday School**

Adults: 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Children: 9-9:45 a.m.

## **RUMC Wants to know...**

**If you have any photos from our events, news or recipes you'd like to share,** we'd love to hear from you. Please e-mail Laura at [Laura@NatsukoGraphicDesign.com](mailto:Laura@NatsukoGraphicDesign.com). Article submissions are **due by the 15th of the month.**



### **Our Mission Statement**

To be a *catalyst* for Jesus Christ, with a proactive, visible, and transforming *presence*, creating an emerging *fellowship*.