PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND FOR THE WORLD:

For Family and Friends:

Russell Campbell Jeff Duff Debbie Hall David Hickey Avis Kessler James Matthew Joyce Rauch Hazel Sisk Henry Symanski Larry Underwood Roger Daniels JoAnn Garrett Wanda Hanna Earline Hickey Mac Kirkpatrick Tom McLaughlin Zulla Russell Roy Sisk Dougie Thompson

For Those Who Grieve:

the Richards Family

For the Church and For the World:

For those with COVID-19, and those caring for COVID-19 patients. For first responders, and the military, and their families. For God's People, The Church, and the World. Prayers for national, state, and local leaders; and for our Nation.

If you know someone you would like to add to our prayer list, please forward your request to the church office by email at: secretaryrumc@gmail.com, or by calling (540) 364-1066.

RUMC CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

Larry Underwood, Thursday, June 3rd

Anniversaries

Jim and Diane Harrington, Thursday, June 3rd

UPCOMING MEETINGS and EVENTS

Administrative Council, Thursday, June 3rd at 7:00 pm Worship Committee – Tuesday, June 8th at 10:00 am Trustees – Wednesday, June 9th at 6:00 pm SPPRC – Thursday, June 17th at 7:00 pm *VIRGINIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE (Virtual)*

The VAUMC Annual Conference will take place virtually on June 18th and 19th. The theme this year is *United As One*. If you plan to attend, there will be a *Test Your Tech* time from 8:00am on June 14th and continuing through 8:00pm on June 16th. Additionally, there will be a time of Holy Conferencing on June 17th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, as we are all reminded that we are all called to serve in this Annual Conference.

For more information on this, and many other upcoming events in the Virginia Annual Conference, visit the Conference website at www.vaumc.org.



Requirements when attending in-person worship services:

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) issued new mask-wearing guidance on May 13th, which states that fully vaccinated people can "**resume activities without wearing masks or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.**" Then, on May 14th, Governor Northam issued Executive Order 79 (which will be effective beginning at midnight on May 28th), which states that "**all individuals in the Commonwealth aged five and older should cover their mouth and nose with a mask in accordance with the CDC guidance.**" However, Governor Northam also amended Executive Order 72 concerning mask requirements that is still in effect right now to allow the updated CDC recommendations in Virginia right now.

Bishop Sharma Lewis issued a statement on May 15th in response to the CDC recommendations and Governor Northam's executive actions which says "we strongly encourage churches to continue their vigilance to keep everyone safe, including those who cannot be vaccinated, those that have decided not to be vaccinated, and children under 16 who are now starting to get vaccinated. Our recommendation is that all churches continue to worship with masks on when indoors. This is a recommendation and not a requirement."

This is all good news! In response, our Healthy Church Team will discuss our particular situation and congregational needs here at Rectortown United Methodist Church with regards to these recent changes. Once decisions are made, and changes (if any) are implemented, we will get the word out as quickly as we are able. Until any changes are announced, however, we will continue to adhere to the current requirements approved by our Healthy Church Team. I know we're all ready for some changes – but I ask you to please be patient so we have time to do what's best for all those who worship with us!