

PHOTO BY ALAN BARBOUR

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Scripture of the month

John 14:1-3

Don't be troubled. Trust in God. Trust also in me. My Father's house has room to spare. If that weren't the case, would I have told you that I'm going to prepare a place for you? When I go prepare a place for you, I will return and take you to be with me so that where I am you will be too.

Rectortown Reporter

March 2020

From the Pastor

Prioritizing Our Priorities

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

It seems like Advent and Christmas were just a few days ago and here we are already moving into Lent and Easter! Where does the time go? Are you one of those who often says things like, "there's just not enough hours in the day" or, "there needs to be at least one more day in the week"? Perhaps that's one of the reasons people seem to be so fond of the past "golden age" of their lives — things were simpler then, and not nearly so hectically chaotic! Perhaps that could be the focus of your Lenten reflections this year — prioritizing your priorities.

Lent is a period of 40 days (not counting Sundays, which the church considers to be "mini Easters") that begins on Ash Wednesday, and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent is more than just a series of days — it's a journey that takes us along the path to Jerusalem and the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Traditionally, Lent began as a preparation period for those wanting to join the church. Later, it became a time of penance for everyone in the church; which continues today in the form of "giving up" some vice or temptation during these 40 days.

That changed not too long ago when many Christian leaders began asking folks to consider "taking on" rather than "giving up" something during Lent. Rather than giving up chocolate, or soft drinks, or desserts after dinner, or... well, you get the point... why not take on a new spiritual discipline, or a new mission task? Perhaps you could add a time of prayer to your busy schedule, or you could spend time reading the Bible each day. Perhaps you could get involved in helping the Friends of Rectortown with their Backpack Buddy program that feeds hungry children at Claude Thompson Elementary. Perhaps there is another way you might help meet the many needs in and beyond our community. Perhaps you could reprioritize what's really important in your life.

Jesus prepared for the time when he would act for everyone's benefit. Now is the time for us to reflect and prepare so we can be ready to answer God's call to act for the benefit of others. Now is the time for us to determine how we will live as disciples in prayer, action, and love through service.

Grace and peace to each and everyone of you!

Pastor Steve



Request from the RUMC Historian

HISTORY in TIME is our past, current and future.

Rectorstown United Methodist Church will celebrate Homecoming on May 17, 2020—our 239th year of service.

This year, I was asked to take on the role of historian. It's a little overwhelming to think I am qualified. I am not; but with help I will learn a lot. The historian position as I see it is really not just one person, it's you, me, our children and grandchildren, our past members, and most of all our future member(s) and future generations.

Thinking about how to get EVERYONE involved to help to preserve our Church's history and have FUN doing it, we would like to create a TIME CAPSULE and collect things to tuck inside that will be opened in the future (date to be determine). Please begin to think about what is important to you that would be interesting and a BLESSING to a future generation to find when the capsule is opened. You are probably asking yourself: how and when will the capsule be buried and how long will it will be buried. All this still needs to be decided.

Our goal is to portray what life is like in our faith community as much as we want to represent what life is like in our local community and our government.

What do you put into a time capsule? It's endless (more details to follow). To get started, ask yourself — Do I/you have church history tucked away in a box, on the computer, in the attic or basement?

Here are a few suggestions for our time capsule:

- Autographs/signatures from our current members and those that attend homecoming
- Letters (old and new)
- Photographs
- Digital history
- Music
- Bible, Prayer book, Hymnal
- Biographies
- Legal documents
- Things from previous Homecomings — Like the booklet created for the 225th year
- Newspaper and/or articles
- Old Bulletins/newsletters
- Sunday school lessons
- Things from VBS/church special events or skits/plays
- Bookmarkers
- Things from members who served in our military and in war
- A diary
- Recipes
- Dated coins
- List of member/parishioners, past & current pastors and committees members
- Big milestones or major events that have happened to and in our church and/or community

- Diane Harrington

Adult Sunday School Class Goes on the Road

Members of the Adult Sunday School Class were able to take their class on the road this month. The class met at Betty and Larry Underwood's house to conduct the class on February 9. Coffee and pastries added to the good fellowship and Bible lesson.



Notes from the Board of Trustees

New Rain Gutters on Social Hall

After months of work on the Social Roof the final touch was installing new rain gutters, down spouts and drain line. The repairs and additions to the Social Hall included; adding a new front porch, rebuilt the back entry steps roof, updated all the roof trim, added new lights and installed security cameras. The project has provided better outside lighting, improved security and made front and rear entry “dryer” during inclimate weather. Multiple contractors and lots of volunteer time made this project doable.



see the daffodils, hyacinths, naked ladies and other early blooming plants. The Trustees will be scheduling more clean-up projects as we move closer to Easter and Homecoming. A list will be posted in the entry way and in the Social Hall, describing the work to be done. In hopes that those of you with green thumbs (and not so green thumbs) will take time to take one or more on to get the jobs done. Ask any of your Trustees if you have questions. **Thanks to Cando Castro for the recent early clean-up!**

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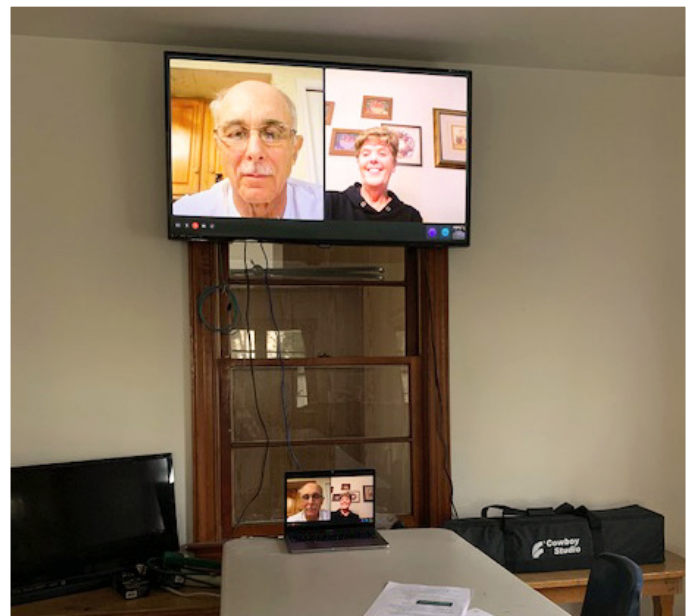
First FaceTime Virtual Meeting Tested From White House

On Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 4 p.m., Carl Carter (in Sterling, VA), Paula (Muggie) Grice (in Haymarket) and Larry Scheuble (at the White House, in Rectortown) conducted a three-way FaceTime test using the recently installed fiberoptic internet capability and 4K HD large screen TV. The test was successful, and Administrative Council meetings will now offer FaceTime connection starting March 5, 2020, for Officers and Chairpersons, as a means of attending the meetings. The Board of Trustees will also provide FaceTime connection starting at their March meeting. Most meetings will now be held in the White House. At this time, FaceTime can only be connected on Apple devices (iPhone, iPad, MAC), while the Trustees look into other applications for future capabilities.

- Larry Scheuble

Spring Clean-up Has Begun

Well, it is still very early in the year, but with the warm weather, plants are beginning to pop up. Although Spring clean-up is not complete, a great start has been made, letting everyone



Lenten Schedule

Sunday, March 1		First Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 8		Second Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 15		Third Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 22		Fourth Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 29		Fifth Sunday of Lent
Sunday, April 5		Palm/Passion Sunday
Thursday, April 9	6:30pm	Maundy Thursday (at MUMC)
Friday, April 10	6:30pm	Good Friday Service
Sunday, April 12	6:30am	Sunrise Service Easter Breakfast following Sunrise Service
	10:00am	Easter Sunday Service
	11:30am	Easter Sunday Service (at MUMC)

All events take place at Rectortown unless specified.
MUMC=Middleburg UMC

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.

RUMC wants to know...

If you have any photos from our events, news or recipes you'd like to share, please e-mail Laura@NatsukoGraphicDesign.com. Please send by the 15th of the month.



Our Mission Statement

Serving God through Prayer, Action, and Love through Service.