



Rectortown Reporter

November 2020

From the Pastor

Thanks Giving in Gratitude

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 seem out of place. But, is it? Well, it depends on what you're thankful for; and to whom you're being thankful.

It's been several years ago now that I read a book called *One Thousand Gifts*. In the book, author Ann Voskamp asks, "What does it mean to live full of grace? To live fully alive?" Her answer was that to live gracefully, one must live in gratitude. Sin, she argued, comes from ingratitude towards God. Thus, gratitude leads away from sin and towards God. In her own way, Ann had come to the same conclusion as the author of the sermon series we just completed on the "enemies of gratitude." With that in mind, here's a few things that I'm grateful for:

- I'm grateful for a gracious and loving God who cared enough to create me in God's own image.
- I'm grateful for God's love for me that makes it possible for me to love others, and to know their love for me.
- I'm grateful 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 grateful 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 grateful for health, for a roof over my head, and for clean water and good food to satisfy my physical needs.
- I'm grateful 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 grateful that this list is just a short beginning to the fuller list of all the things I'm truly grateful for!

What are you grateful for? What are the things in your life that you have failed to be grateful 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 every one of you!

Pastor Steve



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JOIN US

9:50 a.m. Sundays for
Livestream Worship at
www.rectortownumc.org

Scripture of the month

2 Corinthians 4:15-16

All these things are for your benefit. As grace increases to benefit more and more people, it will cause gratitude to increase, which results in God's glory. So we aren't depressed. But even if our bodies are breaking down on the outside, the person that we are on the inside is being renewed every day.

Message from the Admin Council

RUMC Admin Council approves move toward In-Person Worship

On October 1, 2020, the Healthy Church Team (HCT) presented a recommendation to the Administrative Council. After reviewing the actions required by the Virginia UMC Technical Assistance Manual (TAM) the HCT recommended to (1) begin planning for In-Person worship on December 6, 2020, that (2) the In-Person Worship Plan should be finalized and that (3) Committees responsible for volunteers to staff the required positions Will be needed to implement TAM guidelines, be approved. The Council agreed that this must be a “total church” commitment, as although most of the required positions have been in place for years, there will specific training required to ensure all understand the new roles to be performed. The HCT sent plans to the District Superintendent on October 25. The District Superintendent requires 10 days to review and approve the plan.

Larry Scheuble
Lay Leader RUMC

Message from the Healthy Church Team

HCT Finalizes Positions Needed to Begin In-Person Worship Services

The Healthy Church Team (HCT) is a new team that has been implemented across the Virginia UMC Conference to track, plan and recommend implementation guidance published in the Technical Assistance Manual (TAM) for all churches. After months of meeting every other week, preparing and presenting recommendations to the Admin Council, the HCT deemed it time to recommend finalizing the plan and set a date for In-Person worship. Although plans are normally presented in writing to the District Superintendent, the RUMC plan will be a video, demonstrating the correct/incorrect ways things will be done, from parking to greeting to seating. The video plan will also be used by the Nominations and Leadership Development team to help train all volunteers and responsible Committees. The HCT will also assist with the training. Please watch for more information on In-Person Worship.

RUMC In-Person Worship Service Servant List

If you haven't heard, RUMC and MUMC are both readying to begin In-Person Worship. **RUMC is preparing the plan to start**

In-Person Worship Services beginning at 10am, December 6, 2020. Many of you have served as Greeter, Usher, Reader and other roles to support the worship service. All of those positions will be need as we move forward, with several new positions added.

The important part of this action is that as we start in-Person worship, we will need to change what some of the positions will do. And, we will live-stream the service at the same time. So, training is being prepared for all volunteers (*See the In-Person Worship Service Servant List on the page 3*). Some names are already listed as examples. Committee Chairs listed at the bottom are responsible for arranging volunteers to fill the positions.

The difference in the new In-Person Worship is that we need alternates for each position to ensure that all COVID-19 guidelines are met for inside/outside, before/during/after the service. The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee will provide easy but important training on the new requirements. Committee Chairs will be contacting you for your support. Please prayerfully consider your ability, willingness and availability to sign up.

Larry Scheuble
HCT Chair

RUMC Needs Your Help!

Please consider signing up for any of the positions listed below.

(Although there may be names listed, you can still be an alternate so please contact us.)

RUMC In-Person Worship Servant List

Nov. 1, 2020: Worship Service Time changes to 10:00am

Servant Position	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 27
Trustees				
Parking Attendant 1	Carl C.	Carl C.	Carl C.	Carl C.
Parking Attendant 2				
Parking Attendant <i>Alternate</i>				
Church Cleaning	Tammy F.	Tammy F.	Tammy F.	Tammy F.
Church Cleaning <i>Alternate</i>	Eileen M.	Eileen M.	Eileen M.	Eileen M.
Worship				
Multimedia				
Multimedia <i>Alternate</i>				
Greeter				
Greeter <i>Alternate</i>				
Scripture Reader	Tara W.	Tara W.	Tara W.	Tara W.
Scripture <i>Alternate</i>	Kiki W.	Kiki W.	Kiki W.	Kiki W.
Usher 1				
Usher 2				
Usher <i>Alternate</i>				
Outreach				
Videographer	Paris W.	Paris W.	Paris W.	Paris W.
Videographer <i>Alternate</i>	Kiki W.	Kiki W.	Kiki W.	Kiki W.

Point of Contact for Servant Positions:

Trustees Committee Chair: Carl Carter

Worship Committee Chair: Debbie Hall

Outreach Committee Chair: Linda Daniels

Message from the Worship Committee

RUMC and MUMC Set Dates for In-Person Worship

After months of joint live streaming Sunday morning worship services, both Rectortown and Middleburg have plans to transition to In-Person Sunday morning services. Middleburg has had their plan approved by the District Superintendent, and are working towards a November 1, 2020 start date. Rectortown submitted its plan October 25, with its **first In-Person worship service scheduled for December 6**. Live-streaming will continue at RUMC, as there are still many folks not ready to attend In-Person yet.

To make this happen, **starting November 1, the Live-streaming from RUMC will begin at 9:50a, and Middleburg will start their In-Person service at 11:30a**. Then, on **December 6, Rectortown will begin Live-streaming the In-Person service at 10a**. (RUMC will continue live streaming indefinitely to serve those who prefer not to partake in In-Person services). Much planning and preparation still needs to happen—it will take our entire church family to complete the plan.

Larry Scheuble, Lay Leader RUMC

Volunteers Needed

Volunteer training sessions are set for **9a-Noon on Saturday, November 7 and 14** for anyone interested in helping with any of the following: Readers, Screen Operators, Greeters, Ushers, Videographer, and multimedia-run power point during the service. Choose whichever day best fits your schedule)

Rectortown UMC would like to start In-person worship the first Sunday in December. If you are interested please let any of the committee chairs, Larry, Linda, Debbie or Pastor Steve know.

We also would like volunteers to help decorate the outside tree on the Saturday (Nov 22) before Thanksgiving.

Debbie Hall, Worship Chair

RUMC Upcoming Meetings & Events

11/1	8:30a 9:50a* 11:30a*	Adult Sunday School RUMC Live Stream Worship MUMC In-Person Worship
11/5	7p	Admin Council Meeting
11/7 OR 11/14	9a-Noon	Nominations and Leadership Development Committee hosts "In-Person Worship" Training at RUMC and on Zoom
11/8	8:30a 9:50a 11:30a	Adult Sunday School RUMC Live Stream Worship MUMC In-Person Worship
11/10	10a 7p	Worship Committee Meeting HCT Meeting
11/11	6p	Trustees Meeting
11/15	8:30a 9:50a 11:30a	Adult Sunday School RUMC Live Stream Worship MUMC In-Person Worship
11/19	7p	S/PPRC Meeting
11/22	8:30a 9:50a 11:30a	Adult Sunday School RUMC Live Stream Worship MUMC In-Person Worship
Last Day for Samaritan's Purse Drop off		
11/24	7p	HCT Meeting
11/26	THANKSGIVING DAY	
11/27	TBD**	Decorate Sanctuary and Community Christmas Trees
11/29	8:30a 9:50a 11:30a	Adult Sunday School RUMC Live Stream Worship MUMC In-Person Worship
TBD		Community Menorah Set up

*Note: First day of new time schedule for separate services for RUMC and MUMC

**Note: Time slots will be made available for individuals/families to decorate, in accordance with VAUMC Technical Assistance Manual COVID-19 Guidelines. Please watch for more information. (Trustees/Worship)

Notes from the Board of Trustees

A HUGE THANK YOU

Thanks Eileen
and Muggie!!

If you've traveled through the basement of the church in recent months you have seen quite a mess.

Last weekend **Tammy, Eileen, Muggie and Russ** worked to start moving items to the dump. We decided it may be easier to get a dumpster.

This week we had a dumpster delivered to start work cleaning it out. Amy, Larry and I went out Friday to start some moving of heavier items only to find the work to be already done.

So I wanted to share some photos of the absolutely amazing work done by Muggie and Eileen this week. They spent the week hauling and dragging and pulling and dusting and vacuuming. The results are AMAZING!!! The photos here show you what a beautiful job these ladies did this week.

THANK YOU EILEEN AND MUGGIE!!!!!! The basement is gorgeous and if folks have time they should swing through and see it in person. Your work is appreciated and will be enjoyed by all when we can get back in the building.

Take a minute to swing by when you have a chance. You won't believe the transformation!!!

-Kris



Help Needed! Now Hiring!

Rectortown United Methodist Church is seeking...

An Administrative and Communications Specialist.

This is a paid, part-time position for 16 - 20 hours per week. Interviews will be conducted based on resume evaluation. Salary commensurate with experience.

If interested, please send cover letter and resume to: secretaryRUMC@gmail.com



November Birthdays

- 6 Tyler Willis
- 10 Jean Payne
- 13..... Diane Harrington
- 14..... Tara Wegdam



Our Mission Statement

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

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.**



Annual Shoe Box Event

If you'd like to donate a box to Samaritan's Purse, you have options via their website at samaritanaspurse.org.

- **Order a pre-printed shoebox** so you can fill it, then drop it off at RUMC by **Nov 22**
- **Build a shoebox online** (you can have them fill one for you or go through the menus and choose your own girl or boy and items)

Call Linda Daniels at 540-364-3776 if you want to do your own box and have any questions.

And heads up... it's almost time for the Angel Tree so keep an eye out for your chance to donate to our local families in need.