



Rectortown Reporter

March 2021

From the Pastor

Reflecting and Acting



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

Much has changed since I wrote this newsletter article for the March 2020 *Rectortown Reporter*. The focus of that article was "prioritizing our priorities." What we didn't know then was that COVID-19 was about to change everything. It's been a long year of reacting to the changing Federal, State, and UMC regulations and restrictions the pandemic forced upon us. And, as you might guess, things are still changing, and we will continue to change as needed to keep up and to prosper in 2021 and beyond; and we will do our best to keep you posted concerning those changes and how they will affect our church as they happen.

What has not changed is that we are now in Lent; which 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 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 deserts 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 purchasing the necessary food items for a local foodbank or Backpack Buddy program — or, you could go and actually pack the food that will be distributed in many local schools. Perhaps you could get involved with Habitat for Humanity, or... well, there are many needs in and beyond our community.

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.

Grace and peace to each and every one of you!
Pastor Steve

Rectortown United Methodist Church
3049 Rectortown Road
Rectortown, VA 20140
www.rectortownumc.org

OFFICE/MAILING ADDRESS
PO Box 301, Rectortown, VA 20140
Office: (540) 364-1066
Office email: secretaryRUMC@gmail.com
Pastor: Steve Weedling
Pastor's Cell: (540) 340-2569
Pastor's Email: steveweedling@vaumc.org
Newsletter Design: Laura Symanski

JOIN US

10 a.m. Sundays for In-person
or Livestream Worship at
www.rectortownumc.org

Scripture of the month

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "I am now setting up my covenant with you, with your descendants... This is the symbol of the covenant that I am drawing up between me and you and every living thing with you, on behalf of every future generation. I have placed my bow in the clouds; it will be the symbol of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds... I will remember the covenant between me and you and every living being among all the creatures." God said to Noah, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I have set up between me and all creatures on earth."

(Genesis 9:8-9, 12-14a, 15, 17; CEB).

IN MEMORIAM

Judith Eleanor Sisk Scheuble

April 25, 1944 - January 24, 2021

Judith Eleanor Sisk Scheuble passed away on 24 January 2021, peacefully at her home as she slept. Her battle with lung cancer ended that Sunday morning.

Judy was born and raised in and around the community of Rectortown, VA. Church records show that she had been a member since 1956, being baptized and confirmed at what is today Rectortown United Methodist Church. Most of her childhood family and friends were members and supporters of the church and Judy followed those footsteps.

Judy loved everything about Rectortown United Methodist Church. She attended worship service and Sunday School without fail. She taught children in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Youth activities. She raised our daughters by example and led the family in working in many ways in the church, schools, community and events. At her passing she was Financial Secretary, Discretionary Fund Manager, Fellowship Chairperson, Sunday School Teacher alternate, Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee and Member of the Administrative Council, Finance Committee, Worship Committee, Outreach Committee and engaged in any activity that was happening. Due to her health and the pandemic over the past year, she was unable to participate in in-person events, but kept up with all that was happening.

One of her most important activities of recent years was being the "Lead Prayer Warrior". Gathering joys, concerns and updates from far and wide, she felt compelled to keep the prayers moving. She loved anything to do with children and youth, and found joy in just seeing the children at church. She loved her church family and could not wait to get to church to see her loved ones. Her choir was a passion, as were any and all of the annual events, Lent, Easter, Advent, Christmas, Homecoming and every Sunday worship. She loved and worshipped God with all of her heart, and mind and soul.

-Larry Scheuble



NOTES FROM THE SPPRC

- Beginning March 2, please join us in welcoming our new Administrative and Communications Specialist, **Pam Hunter**. (More about Pam in our next issue.)
- If you, or someone you know, enjoys reading our monthly newsletter and would prefer a hardcopy, please contact the office with your name and mailing address.



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

From the Outreach Committee

LENT FOOD DONATION CALENDAR

Each day, add an item to a bag. Drop off your bag at the church **no later than March 22nd** and OUTREACH will donate your food to local food bank. If you are unable to take them to the church, please contact Linda Daniels at (540-364-3776) and arrangements will be made to pick them up.

MARCH 1	CANNED VEGETABLE	MARCH 11	MACARONI & CHEESE
MARCH 2	CORNBREAD/MUFFIN/BISCUIT MIX	MARCH 12	CANNED FRUIT
MARCH 3	BOX OF GRANOLA BARS	MARCH 13	CANNED VEGETABLE
MARCH 4	BOX OF PEANUT BUTTER CRACKERS	MARCH 14	CANNED TUNA/CHICKEN
MARCH 5	CANNED SOUP	MARCH 15	DESSERT MIX
MARCH 6	SPAGHETTI SAUCE	MARCH 16	PACKAGE/BOX OF RICE
MARCH 7	BOX OF CEREAL	MARCH 17	BOX OF OATMEAL PACKETS
MARCH 8	PEANUT BUTTER	MARCH 18	BOX OF CRACKERS
MARCH 9	JAR OF JELLY	MARCH 19	PACKAGE OF PASTA
MARCH 10	BOXED POTATOES	MARCH 20	OUR CHOICE



Message from RUMC Historical Committee

“Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you...” Deuteronomy 32:7

The Rectortown administrative (admin) council has postponed this year’s 2021 time capsule project that would have been buried during the 239th Homecoming in May. This decision was made because they wanted to have the best outcome in attendance and participation — so it would not lose its meaning to the people.

The Rectortown Historian, Diane Harrington, is still accepting donations to be put in the capsule. Anything related to the history of the town, community, the church or something of importance that should be remembered in 25 years can be put in the capsule (see examples below). These items can be brought to the White House and placed in the back office. Arrangements can also be made to pick up or drop off with Diane or any other member of the admin council.

The new interment date for the time capsule project has not been determined at this time.

-Erika Harrington, youth member

- 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
- Newspaper and/or articles
- Old bulletins/newsletters
- Sunday school lessons
- Things from previous Homecomings — Like the booklet created for the 225th year
- Things from VBS/church special events or skits/plays
- Bookmarks
- 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

Message from Worship Committee

Our next communion is **March 7**. As long as the weather cooperates, communion elements will be available for pickup after the service between 11:00 and 11:45 for our congregants who watch the service online. Just knock on the front door. If you plan to participate contact **Debbie Hall at debhall@drhengineers.com** or call at **540-229-9969** by **March 5** so we can make sure that we have an appropriate supply of consecrated elements for everyone.



March Birthdays

Yvie Frazier 3/4
Skyler Riggio 3/24
Tom McLaughlin 3/26
Joice Fredenburgh. . . . 3/29
Rick Hylton 3/30
Ward Ponn. 3/31

Anniversary

Larry and Judy Scheuble . 3/4

RUMC Upcoming Meetings & Events

Tues March 2	7 pm	HCT (tentative)
Thurs March 4	7 pm	Administrative Council
Tues March 9	10 am	Worship Committee
Wed March 10	6 pm	Trustees
Thurs March 18	7 pm	SPPRC

Starting March 7 our livestreaming will be broadcast from youtube rather than on Twitter's Periscope. Visit www.rectortownumc.org to access the link.



Our Mission Statement

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

Keep an eye out – you'll see banners like this showing what part of our mission an article highlights.



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