



Rectortown Reporter

January 2022

From the Pastor

Change isn't only necessary—it's inevitable...



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

“Happy New Year!” As 2021 is being wrapped up and relegated to the history books, 2022 looms large before us! It’s hard to believe how much things have changed in our communities and our country over the past 24 months. And, with the ongoing COVID concerns, it’s hard to imagine how much things will change again in the next 24 months. I cannot imagine it will be the same old same old for anyone this year! Change isn’t always a comfortable or enjoyable thing; but regardless of how hard we work to keep things the same as they’ve always been, they change anyway.

Change. A new chapter—or a new journey. How do we begin? Winnie the Pooh says, *“Whenever I want to go someplace new, I always begin by leaving the place I’ve been.”* (Christopher Robin, 2018 movie) If we want things in the church to be different than they are, then we have to be willing to do things differently than we’ve been doing them; and we must be willing to try things we’ve never tried before. Easy to say that COVID has proven this to be true. It will take the ideas and the effort of everyone in the church to make the changes we experience in 2022 changes that we can be happy with. I encourage as many of you as possible to attend the Winchester District training for Trustees, S/PPR, Finance, Nominations/Lay Leadership, and Intro to SAS from 2–3:30pm on Sunday January 23rd. These workshops will be conducted via ZOOM this year.

As the New Year begins, it’s time for us to make some resolutions for changes in our lives and in our church. It’s time for us to make promises to God for ways through which we will become better people as we become better disciples of Jesus Christ. The question is—how will we be part of the 10% that succeed rather than the 90% that fail every year in their New Year’s Resolutions? I believe we do that *together*. We succeed by loving and supporting one another—by building one another up in our failures even as we celebrate one another’s successes. I believe that we succeed by believing that in God all things are possible!

Grace and peace to each and every one of you!

Pastor Steve

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JOIN US

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

Scripture of the month

Then Levi threw a great banquet for Jesus in his home. A large number of tax collectors and others sat down to eat with them. The Pharisees and their legal experts grumbled against his disciples. They said, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” Jesus answered, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor, but sick people do. I didn’t come to call righteous people but sinners to change their hearts and lives.”

(Luke 5:29-32, CEB)

2021 Advent Activities



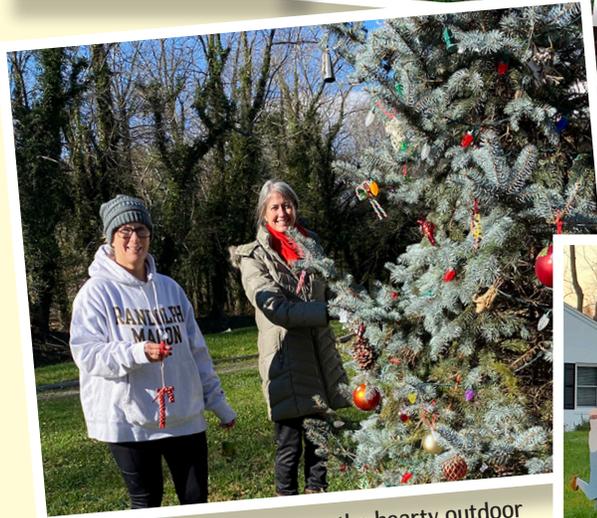
Roger and Linda ready for anyone who want to make ornaments. These are her popular candy sleds.



Linda, Muggie and Eileen repaint the outdoor nativity scene.



The big tree is back! Jimmy hones his Christmas Tree decorating skills.



Kristen and Laura decorate the hearty outdoor tree which has withstood the elements, insects, and ornament-eating deer.



The outdoor Nativity Scene ready for Advent!

Annual Rectortown Interfaith Celebration Makes History



Rabbi Aft and Robin Fields sing the "8 Days of Hannukah" like the Beatles' "8 Days a Week"



Larry and Pastor Steve welcome the crowd.

On November 28, members of Fauquier NAACP attended Rectortown United Methodist Church's annual interfaith event, a Community Tree Lighting and Lighting of a Menorah for Hanukkah. Members of the Fauquier Jewish Congregation and the Mormon faith community were also present.

Robin Fields sang "God Bless America" as well as "8 Days of Hannukah" with Rabbi Aft. Henry Lavine announced there was so much giving that night that an endowment fund was started to support Claude Thompson Elementary School where teachers often use their own funds to buy supplies.

Thanks to everyone who brought treats to eat and festive fellowship!



Rectortown community filled our front yard.

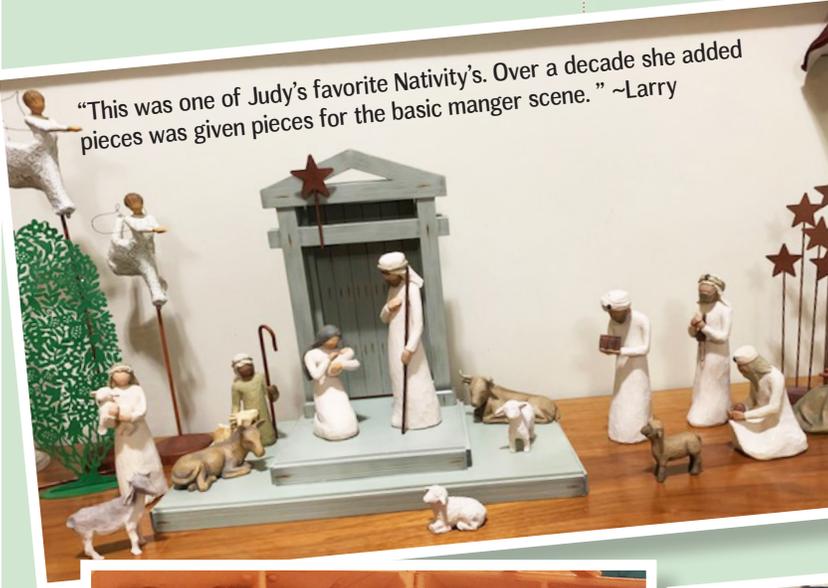


Fauquier NAACP members (seated:) Taryn and Dr. Weaver; (standing, left to right:) Henry Lavine, Robin Fields, Scott Christian, Bob Copeland, Debra Copeland and Dr. Ethel Bothuel.

Here's our 2nd Annual Parade of Nativity Scenes.

A Nativity's Nativity

In 2020 we first displayed photos of Nativity Scenes including this one (or 2 if you count the shadow?), from Larry Scheuble's yard that's back by popular demand.



"This was one of Judy's favorite Nativity's. Over a decade she added pieces was given pieces for the basic manger scene." ~Larry



9-year-old Garland, of Middleburg UMC dreamed up her own Nativity Scene.



These 3 belong to the Weedlings. "The ceramic one was made by Faith when she was a teenager." ~Pastor Steve



"Mine was a gift from my grandmother-in-law's best friend who lived near El Paso TX." ~Laura

This one is set up every year at Rectortown UMC.



Serving God through
Prayer, Action, and
Love through Service

IN MEMORIAM

Harry McKinley "Mac" Kirkpatrick

January 29, 1947 - January 24, 2021

Mac Kirkpatrick, 74, of Marshall, passed away December 16, 2021, surrounded by his family at home following complications from Guillain-Barre Syndrome.

He was born January 29, 1947, in Winchester, to Amos Spitler and Minnie (Kendall) Kirkpatrick.

He is survived by his wife, Tommy Ann (Russell); his son Brian and daughter-in-law Joyce; granddaughters Kimberly Alexis "Lexi" and Brianna McKenzie; his sisters, Betty Leonard (Donnie) and Dawn Dye (Nolan); his mother-in-law Zula Russell; his sisters-in-law Terry Linton, Brenda Poland (Dwight) and Linda Kirkpatrick (Chubby), and numerous nieces and nephews. His nieces and nephews especially loved his joking and infectious laugh, as did everyone he knew.

He was predeceased by his daughter, Kimberly Ann; his parents, Amos and Minnie, and a sister-in-law, Barbara Russell.

"Mac" married Connie Bell in 1967 and they had two children, Kimberly and Brian, who he loved with all his heart. His greatest love was family. He was fun-loving, always playing little jokes on people, and had a tremendous work ethic, taking great pride in his work. It had to be just right,

The family would like to thank everyone for their many acts of love and kindness, especially all the prayers. We would also like to thank the team from Hospice of the Piedmont: Tonya, Kelly, Jenny, Joni, among many others—too many to mention. Also, a special thanks to Elizabeth, who came on a minute's notice on our first night home.

A visitation took place on Tuesday, December 21, with a Celebration of Life immediately following, at Moser Funeral Home in Warrenton.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105; Hospice of the Piedmont, 675 Peter Jefferson Parkway, Charlottesville, Va. 22911, or the Rectortown United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 301, Rectortown, Va. 20140.

RUMC Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Thurs, Jan 6 7 pm Admin Council
- Sun, Jan 9 11 am Undecorating the Sanctuary**
- Tues, Jan 11 10 am Worship Committee
- Wed, Jan 12 6 pm Trustees
- Thurs, Jan 20 7 pm SPPRC
- Sun, Jan 30 11 am Joint Service w/Middleburg UMC**

All events take place at Rectortown UMC



January Birthdays

- 9Kristen Hylton
- 29Mac Kirkpatrick
- 31.....Paris Wegdam

Anniversary

- 10.....Carl & Ann Carter

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.



Rectortown United Methodist Mission Statement
Serving God through Prayer, Action, and Love through Service.