



# Rectortown Reporter

February 2022

## From the Pastor

### The United Methodist Appointment System



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

The United Methodist Church sends pastors to serve churches under an appointment system. This means that pastors are appointed by the bishop to serve a church or a charge (more than one church) each year for a one-year period. Appointments are officially “set” by the Bishop at Annual Conference which happens in Virginia in the mid to latter half of June. Assignments to new appointments begin July 1. This happens every year, even if the church retains the same pastor for many years.

The decisions on whether a pastor will stay or go are made in consultation with the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) each December or early January. The SPRC is tasked with assessing the pastoral needs based on the mission and ministry of the church. So, in that December meeting, the SPRC meets to decide if the current pastor is meeting the needs of the church, and if so, recommends that the pastor stay in that current position. If not, they request that the District Superintendent (DS) consider a new appointment to better meet the mission and ministry needs.

The Pastor also assesses if her/his gifts for ministry are being fully utilized and if God is calling them to stay in their current church or to request a move. For the past couple of months, Faith and I have been feeling called to ask for a move. We both feel like we have accomplished what God has called us to do in our current churches. We also would love the opportunity to serve together in the same church if that opportunity is available this year. This is a very tough decision to make because we have such dear friends here, but it was made in prayer.

If a move is requested, the DS meets with the pastor to hear his/her needs and desires for a new position and the SPRC to discuss pastoral needs of the church and details like salary and housing provisions. The eight DSs then meet with the bishop (called Cabinet meetings) to match available pastors with available churches. They meet one week in January, February, March and April until all appointments are made.

Once a pastor or an SPRC is notified of a possible appointment, meetings are set up with the DS, the SPRC and

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## JOIN US

10 a.m. Sundays for In-person  
or Livestream Worship at  
[www.rectortownumc.org](http://www.rectortownumc.org)

## Scripture of the month

After these things, the Lord commissioned seventy-two others and sent them on ahead in pairs to every city and place he was about to go. He said to them, “The harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest. Whenever you enter a city and its people welcome you, eat what they set before you. Heal the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘God’s kingdom has come upon you.’”

(Luke 10:1-2 & 8-9, CEB)

the prospective pastor, but appointments are not confirmed and therefore cannot be shared with the rest of the church at that time. This prevents confusion if appointments need to be adapted. Once all the meetings for that round of Cabinet session are held, the Cabinet meets again, and those appointments are confirmed or adapted if necessary. The bishop will then release that round of appointments to be shared at the church and across the Conference.

As you can see, this is a long process that requires patience on the part of the pastor, SPRC, and the church members. Please know that neither I, nor the SPRC can release information to you until after the bishop releases the appointments, but I am happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the process of appointments. Please hold your SPRC, me, Steve, DS Sarah Calvert, Bishop Lewis and the Cabinet in your prayers during this appointment processing time.

Grace and peace to each and every one of you!

*Pastor Steve*

## Help Needed from The History Committee

How will you mark what is important to the members of Rectortown United Methodist Church (RUMC) to know or discover in 25 years? Let's create a time-capsule about our church, its members and our community. Time-capsules are a fun event to capture a snapshot of time in our history, but it's also an important way to preserve and communicate our history to others.

May is just around the corner marking this year's Homecoming on May 15, 2022. We will prepare the Time-Capsule to be opened at our future Homecoming on May 19, 2047 recognizing this as our 266 years of worship.

Please consider contributing a personal letter about a special memory or event at RUMC. Possibly include something from your childhood that you remember or an event in our community. Here are a few other ideas:

- A special note to your future church family or your hopes for the church
- Baptism or Wedding
- Local schools to the church
- Photos from past events, of families or from a more recent time
- Something unique to Fauquier County or our United States government

Another way to contribute to the time capsule box would be to tuck in memorabilia from:

- Sunday school class
- Youth group friends or events
- Vacation bible school
- Christmas or Easter play or Autumn festival
- A bible given to you as a child
- Community events held or sponsored at the church
- Choir music

The time-capsule collection box can be found in the church's sanctuary or social hall to gather these treasures. I want to personally thank those who have already gotten creative and made a contribution. Keep them coming!

*- Diane Harrington, History Committee Chair*

**Imagine**  
**May 19, 2047...**  
**The day the RUMC**  
**Time-Capsule is**  
**opened!**

# 2021 Christmas Eve Worship

Thanks to everyone who came to RUMC and made Christmas Eve a night to remember.



RUMC organist Karen Chase with guest musicians, Cynthia Saucedo (violin) and her brother, Alan Saucedo, (cello).



# 2022 Christmas Undecorating

Many thanks to everyone who helped to put away our magnificent Christmas tree, all the decorations on it, and throughout the church.



## Snapshots from Out and About



For those of you who haven't stepped foot inside a grocery store in a while, these are photos of the egg and milk sections in Giant in Warrenton earlier in January. Shelves are now stocked but prices are higher.

# RUMC Upcoming Meetings & Events

Thurs, Feb 3 7 pm Admin Council  
Tues, Feb 8 10 am Worship Committee  
Wed, Feb 9 6 pm Trustees  
Thurs, Feb 17 7 pm SPPRC  
Mon, Feb 21 Presidents' Day Holiday

*All events take place at Rectortown UMC*



## February Birthdays

Shirley Embrey . . . . . 2/7  
Greg Kroes . . . . . 2/15  
Kim Kroes . . . . . 2/16  
David Weedling . . . . . 2/29

**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](mailto:Laura@NatsukoGraphicDesign.com).



### **Rectortown United Methodist Mission Statement**

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