



Rectortown Reporter

November 2022

From *the Pastor*

Pastor's Report for Charge Conference 2022



"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."
(Philippians 1:2 New International Version)

I arrived at the Middleburg-Rectortown Cooperative Parish in July. I'm thankful for the welcome that I have received from both congregations. Thank you in helping me connect for the meet and greets in July! At Rectortown we had donuts with the Pastor and an Ice Cream Social. At Middleburg, we had a cookout and fellowship opportunities after worship. It has been such a privilege to get to know everyone. I have focused on listening and learning from both churches and the wider community.

Through this season of listening and learning, I have been visiting church members in-person and phone calls. I have also been connecting with those who share prayer requests for both congregations. I have enjoyed working with small groups. At Middleburg, the Women have assembled for monthly gathers and fundraisers. Rectortown Men have a few informal gatherings for lunch and we hope to expand the group with a community focus in the future. Middleburg Men also plan on having gatherings in the future too!

In this season of listening, I want to hear the stories of my new church family and surrounding community. I also shared my personal testimony in my first sermon. Throughout the rest of the summer, we did a sermon series on "The Heroes of The Bible." We've also had sermon series on the Apostles Creed and 2 Timothy. Our future series includes a stewardship series in November, and we will have a series in January to talk about our vision for both congregations for reaching out to the local community.

Rectortown Church through its Outreach Committee launched the Fig Leaf, a clothes closet that provides free clothes to people in our local community. We have established hours with volunteers and sharing this news with our local community. Middleburg Church relaunched its Children's Ministry known as Kingdom Kids, which plans on having monthly gatherings. Both ministries' teams have been working in collaboration on a harvest party after our regularly joint fifth Sunday worship.

The Trustees of both churches have been busy. Middleburg's Trustees have been working on the brick walkway to make it safer and launched a fundraiser by selling engraved bricks for the

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JOIN US

9:50 a.m. Sundays
for In-person
or Livestream Worship at
www.rectortownumc.org

Psalm of the month

"For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

Psalm 100:5 NIV



Date	October Psalm	November Psalm
1	50	104
2	51	105
3	52-53	106
4	54-55	107
5	56-57	108-109
6	58-59	110-111
7	60-61	112-113
8	62-63	114-115
9	64-65	116-118
10	66-67	119
11	68	120-121
12	69	122-123
13	70-71	124-125
14	72-73	126-127
15	74-75	128-129
16	76-77	130-131
17	78	132-133
18	79-80	134-135
19	81-82	136
20	83-84	137-138
21	85-86	139
22	87-88	140-141
23	89	142
24	90-91	143
25	92-93	144
26	94-95	145
27	96-97	146
28	98-99	147
29	100-101	148
30	102	149-150
31	103	X

>>> **From the Pastor continued**

walkway. Rectortown Trustees have been hard at work overseeing a remodel of the fellowship hall, assisting the Fig Leaf in its launch, and working on their playground to prepare for its use by future children.

The Administrative Councils and Financial Committees have been busy at work helping care for the church. We also have some future events—Rectortown will host their Annual Community Interfaith Holiday Kickoff and Middleburg will participate in fundraisers and outreach at the town’s Christmas event.

I’ve sought to be intentional in helping to provide discipleship opportunities by providing the cooperative parish with a three-month reading plan, providing monthly meditations in the Newsletter, and started Noon Prayer on Thursdays at Middleburg. This Autumn we also began a Pastor’s Bible Study focusing on the Story of all Scripture. Pastor Steve taught a Study based on the Book of Revelation. In the Spring, we will be studying one of the Gospel and learning about Jesus’ ministry.

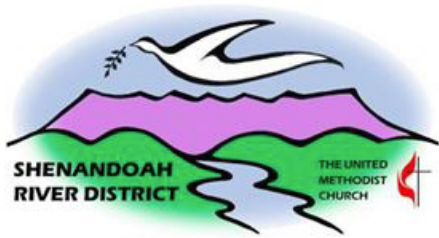
I’m excited about the opportunities that are ahead for us here at the cooperative parish. We’ve been able to do many things in our first months together and look with anticipation for what is ahead. May the Lord bless you and keep you!

Pastor Jonathan



**Tuesdays 6:30 pm
through November 15**

It’s not too late to join **Pastor Jonathan at the Parsonage in Bible Study!** Explore major highlights of the grand story of Scripture and discuss *Creation, the Fall, Israel, Jesus, the Church, and the New Creation*. The series will run through Tuesday, November 15. You may also attend the Study via Zoom. Email secretaryRUMC@gmail.com for the link or more information.



The 1st Annual District Conference of the Shenandoah River District

will be held immediately following the 2022 Charge Conferences on

Sunday, November 6

(Charge Conference begins at 3 pm)

at Randolph Macon Academy-Boggs Chapel

200 Academy Drive
Front Royal, VA 22630

November

Birthdays



Karyn Landoll	. . . . .	02
Benjamin Willis	. . . . .	.06
Morgan Crossen	. . . . .	.08
Diane Harrington	. . . . .	.13
Tara Wegdam	. . . . .	.14
Tyler Crossen	. . . . .	.19
John Crossen	. . . . .	.21
Jackson Glascock	. . . . .	.23
Theresa Roberson	. . . . .	.26

Notes from the Warren Fauquier 2022 Zone Laity Celebration



The Warren-Fauquier Zone of the Shenandoah River District (SRD) met on October 16 to “Celebrate Laity Sunday”—an annual United Methodist Tradition. The Warren-Fauquier Zone is led by Susan Schall, an Associate SRD Lay Leader, covering 10 pastors and 19 churches. Our celebration was hosted by Pastor John Rowe, at Marshall UMC and included four pastors and ten Churches, while the remaining pastors and churches were hosted at Front Royal UMC simultaneously.

- John Rowe (Marshall, Markham and Linden)
- Jonathon Lamb (Middleburg and Rectortown)
- Cindy Ranger (The Plains, Upperville and Unison)
- Richard Bensinger (Howellsville and Cool Spring)

Above: Pastor Jonathan participated via livestream since being quarantined with Covid. Right: Larry Scheuble thanks Gail from Middleburg for her service. Thanks to Muggie for the photos!

During the celebration Lay Leaders and Lay Servants were presented lapel pins in recognition for their service. Chad Hrbek represented the SRD Superintendent and updated the attendees on SRD activities. The churches shared mission outreach activities during a period of refreshments and sharing, including RUMC’s information on the Fig Leaf Clothes Closet. Hoot and Holler Bluegrass Band provided music.

From the Trustees **RUMC Playground is Ready!**



Roxie Willis, her grand-daughter, Erin, and great-granddaughters Hannah, Roxie, and Evie got hugs from Shirley Embrey after worship at RUMC. Then the three girls proved that the newly refurbished playground is ready for visitors.

Thanks to Carl for the playground photos!

RUMC Upcoming Meetings & Events

Tuesday, Nov. 1	6:30 pm	Bible Study
Thursday, Nov 3	7 pm	Admin Council
Sunday, Nov 6	Daylight Savings Time Ends	
	All Saints Sunday	
	3 pm	Charge Conference <i>at Randolph-Macon Academy Boggs Chapel</i>
Tuesday, Nov 8	10 am	Worship Committee
Tuesday, Nov 8	6:30 pm	Bible Study
Wednesday, Nov 9	6 pm	Trustees
Tuesday, Nov 15	11 am	Fig Leaf
	6:30 pm	Bible Study
Saturday, Nov 19	9 am-Noon	Ornament Making & Community Tree Decorating
Sunday, Nov 20	Samaritan's Purse Donations Due	
	3-6 pm	Sanctuary Decorating
	7 pm	Community Tree & Menorah Lighting (Rectortown Community Interfaith Holiday Kick-Off)
Tues-Wed, Nov 22-23	Pastor Vacation	
Thursday, Nov 24	Thanksgiving Day (office closed)	



Annual Shoe Box Event

It is time for Shoe Boxes! Each year, we have the opportunity for an outreach ministry to children around the world. These boxes are important to children in parts of the world that they either can't afford, have no access to or don't know about. The Outreach Committee is providing shoe boxes (at RUMC) with a list of suggested items inside. Call Linda Daniels at 540-364-3776 if you have any questions.

Boxes are due by Sunday, November 20.

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 by the 15th.



Our Mission Statement

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



Thanks to Diane for sending this photo of three garden grazers who ran through the RUMC parking lot on Oct 16.