



Rectortown Reporter

December 2022

From *the Pastor*

Waiting and Advent



I struggle with waiting. We all must wait, in line, for computers to restart and for customer service hotlines on our phones. We each must wait for something, and I'm sure you can relate to my struggle too. While we go shopping in stores, we hear Christmas music, and when we flip through our television channels, we find Christmas movies. I enjoy all these things, but it does sometimes feel misplaced in the middle of November. I believe this is a small reminder of how we as people struggle to wait.

The Church calendar begins with the season of Advent; we associate the purple paraments or clothes used in worship and Advent wreath with this season. I remember thinking the purple color doesn't seem to fit with the themes of Christmas red, green, and snow. Advent is meant to prepare us for the coming of Christ Jesus. The Church has associated purple with preparation and self-reflection.

Advent is the season that prepares us for the second coming, the return of Jesus. He will make all things right at the end of time. While we also remember how God shared about Jesus first coming into the world. Advent is a season of waiting. I invite you to reframe this period of waiting as anticipation for Jesus.

This season, I plan to have an Advent Wreath at home; it can be something very simple as electric candles or skip the wreath altogether and have four or five candles in a line. The candles and wreath can serve as a reminder for you and me to wait with anticipation for Jesus. We can give thanks in the angel's declaration of Jesus' arrival too!

>>>

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: Jonathan Lamb

Pastor's Cell: (540) 340-2569

Pastor's Email: jonathanlamb@vaumc.org

Newsletter Design: Laura Symanski

JOIN US

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

Scripture of the month

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah.

Luke 2:10 NIV



DECEMBER READING PLAN

Day	Gospel Lesson
December 1	Luke 1
December 2	Luke 2
December 3	Luke 3
December 4	Luke 4
December 5	Luke 5
December 6	Luke 6
December 7	Luke 7
December 8	Luke 8
December 9	Luke 9
December 10	Luke 10
December 11	Luke 11
December 12	Luke 12
December 13	Luke 13
December 14	Luke 14
December 15	Luke 15
December 16	Luke 16
December 17	Luke 17
December 18	Luke 18
December 19	Luke 19
December 20	Luke 20
December 21	Luke 21
December 22	Luke 22
December 23	Luke 23
December 24	Luke 24

>>> From the Pastor continued

While you wait for the coming of Christmas this December, I invite you to join me in reading the Gospel of Luke. If you read one chapter a day, you will read the entire book by Christmas Day! Thanks to all who participated with me in reading the Psalms this Fall. I believe reading the story of Luke will help us remember to keep our focus on Jesus this Christmas!

Let us pray.

*Gracious God,
Please help us to wait with anticipation for the return of your son, Jesus. Encourage us to preserve in faith and to share joyfully about your son. We pray this in your Holy Name, One God: Father, Son, and Spirit. Amen.*

- Pastor Jonathan



Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
Begins: November 29

We will be using the Upper Devotional Guide and Questions for this Series

At Rectortown UMC Social Hall

Class 1: Nov 29 Class 3: Dec 13

At Middleburg UMC Social Hall

Class 2: Dec 6 Class 4: Dec 20





December Birthdays

- | | | | |
|---------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Nancy Brady | 17 | Colum Bergeron |
| 4 | Rick Willis | 18..... | Dennis Ponn |
| 6..... | Ricky Rector | 21..... | Jeff Symanski |
| 8..... | Jason Hall | 25..... | Tommy Ann Kirkpatrick |
| 12..... | Ben "Buddy" Wegdam | | |

Middleburg-Rectortown Cooperative Parish Harvest Party

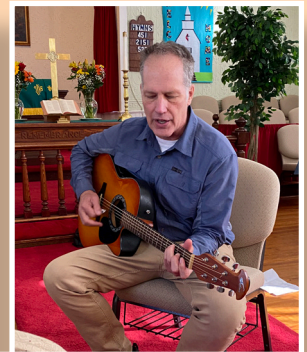


Middleburg and Rectortown Churches joined up for Worship on Sunday, October 29th, we had a special visitor in worship. Zacchaeus dropped by to deliver the word and demonstrate his climbing abilities for us. He told his story from Luke 19:1-10 and how he came to believe in the Lord!

Then the festivities continued with Hunt Lyman providing music for the adults and the children got to watch the classic, *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown*. We had lunch including a chili cook off. The Rectortown Community came out for all the fun. This was followed by a series of events including a hayride, crafts, and games. Everyone had a great time!

>>>

-Pastor Jonathan



Thanks to Muggie, Carl and Diane for sharing their photos from all the events in this newsletter!

>>more snapshots from the Harvest Party



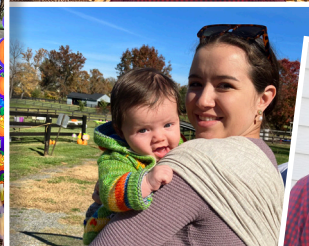
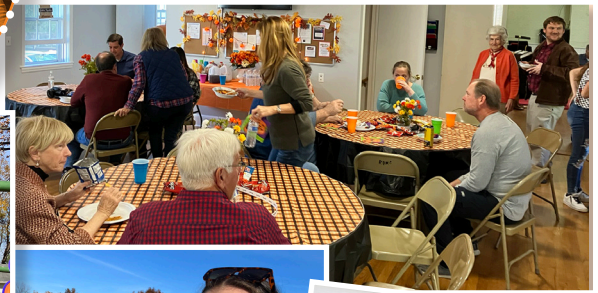
>>more snapshots from the Harvest Party



>>even more snapshots from the Harvest Party



Congratulations to 2022 Chili Cook Off Winner Vince duCellier



Thanks to Jimmy Willis for being our hayride driver at RUMC all these years!

Rectortown Community Interfaith Holiday Kick-Off

It began with decorating in and around the church...



... Then came fellowship, words of thanksgiving, and lighting the Community Menorah and Tree!



Thanks to Henry Lavine, Rabbi Rose, Dr. Ethel Canty Botheul, the members of Rectortown United Methodist Church, and the Rectortown community for an event celebrated with thankfulness, peace, and joy.



Angel Tree

The Outreach Committee set up the **Angel Tree** again this year. Please pick an angel or two to help donate gifts to students at Claude Thompson Elementary School. Please bring *unwrapped* gifts by Sunday, Dec. 11. Contact Linda Daniels for more information.

< Pastor Jonathan shares ornaments made by Middleburg UMC Kingdom Kids for our Angel Tree.

Poinsettias

If you would like to **purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone**, please call the Church office 540-364-1066 or email secretaryRUMC@gmail.com. Payment of \$10/poinsettia due by Sunday, Dec. 11. Let us know who it's for and who it's from.

RUMC Upcoming Meetings & Events

Tuesdays, Nov. 29-Dec 20	6:30 pm	Pastor's Bible Study – Advent Series
Thursday, Dec 1	7 pm	Admin Council – Disaffiliation Vote is on the agenda
Saturday, Dec 3	9 am-Noon	MUMC Biscuit Sale & Christmas in Middleburg
Saturday, Dec 10	2-4 pm	Parsonage Open House
Sunday, Dec 11	10 am	Angel Tree Donations and Poinsettia Requests Due
Tuesday, Dec 13	10 am	Worship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, Dec 14	6 pm	Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, Dec 20	11 am	Fig Leaf Meeting
Saturday, Dec 24	4:30 pm	Christmas Eve Worship Service
Sunday, Dec 25	10 am	Christmas Day Worship Service



This year's Angel Tree set up by Linda Daniels with ornaments made by Middleburg UMC Kingdom Kids.



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 by the 15th.