



Our Church Matters

Our Mission: Growing Together in Christ Through Worship, Fellowship, Witness and Service

Dear friends,

My husband and I have a tradition of getting a real tree each Advent - typically waiting until the second Sunday of the Advent season so that the tree will last until Christmas. Last year was no different. We went out on the second Sunday of Advent and brought home what we thought was a beautiful, full Fraser fir. We put on the lights, decked it with ornaments, but by the end of the week, it had stopped taking up water. It didn't matter that we had cut several inches off the bottom; that we had used the recommended Christmas tree preservative; or even that I had spritzed the branches with water every day. By the end of the next week, it was hard and crispy, and it had begun dropping needles like that was its job.

These developments didn't seem to bother anyone else in my house, but I was quite stressed out by our shedding tree, which was quickly becoming ideal kindling for a Yule fire. And then came the inner voices: "I can't take it down now. We have to have a tree on Christmas Day." "I should go out and get a new one... but when am I going to find time to do that?"

Maybe you haven't had this same experience, but the days and weeks leading up to Christmas are rife with situations that lead us to entertain those inner "shoulds," "have-tos" and "musts." For example: "We must celebrate with family on Christmas Eve (even if it's a burden for me to host it then)." "I have to get my cards in the mail by Monday (even though I've been sick, am juggling a lot of extra responsibilities, and would have to sacrifice sleep to make it happen)." "I should put up outdoor lights (even though I don't like doing it and don't have any help)."

When we listen to these inner voices, we can quickly end up stressed out, filled with resentment, and even burnt out—all things that make it difficult to receive Christmas as a gift. It may be hard for some of us to believe, but we actually do have a choice in each of those situations. Because if we're able to take a step back and ask ourselves where those "shoulds," "have-tos" and "musts" are coming from, we'll discover that none of them are from God. Many have

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their origins in lies, like the lie that our value comes from what we do, or that we, just by ourselves, are not worthy of love and acceptance.

Christmas—the real Christmas—exposes those lies. In Jesus, God gave the world a priceless gift, and it was not because we had dotted every “i” and crossed every “t,” nor was it because we had done anything impressive or commendable. It was simply because God believed we were worth loving.

So when those voices crop up over the next several weeks—and they will—I hope you’ll recognize them for what they are, and I hope you’ll challenge the ones that threaten to rob you of a Christmas full of hope, peace, joy and love. Because whether you mail those cards or not, you are enough, and you are loved beyond measure.

Much peace be with you,

Jen

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES



Family Service | 11:00 am

*A dramatic celebration for all ages,
with joyful carols, a Christmas message,
and a family-friendly take on candlelight
Christmas Eve*

Traditional Service | 8:00 pm

*An uplifting celebration of the Savior's birth,
with music led by choir, handbells and organ*

FOOD PANTRY HOURS: The Food Pantry is only open on Saturday mornings from 8:30-11 am. No one is allowed in the Food Pantry. Volunteers will bring all the food out to the parking lot for clients. There will be no WaWa food available, however, Panera IS available, WaWa is NOT.

At this time we are NOT accepting donations of clothing or household items.

Food pantry immediate needs: 18 oz jars of Peanut Butter and boxes of Mac and Cheese.

Drop off: Saturday mornings between 8:30am-11 am. Also, Sundays in the fellowship hall bin.

The Food Pantry will CLOSED DECEMBER 23rd

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS OUTSIDE ANY CHURCH DOORS OR THE FOOD PANTRY



The December Gift Card order dates are:

**December 3, 10 and last order for 2023 on Dec 17.
Plan ahead and order early. Gift card order forms are available
online or in the Narthex.
Always a great gift for all ages. Thank you**

(410) 833-5440—RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com

Celebrate the Light

Bursting through December nights
that could be long and cold,
our Christmas lights bring warmth and joy
with colors soft or bold.

Cascading from the rooftops,
and from trees both small and tall,
the lights cry out, "We have good news!
We want to shout to all.

"You've seen the darkness earth can hold,
the sorrow, war and fear;
but God has sent his Son for all,
to show his Love is here.

"The darkness can't put out God's Light.
Christ's with us day by day,
illuminating paths so we
can follow in his way."

Light homes and streets and candles.
Make your world shine clear and bright.
God's love surrounds and blesses us.
Come, celebrate God's Light!

—Peggy Ferrell



SAVE THE DATE

SUMMER EXPLORER *Camp*



Friends, Faith,
Swimming,
Hiking,
Canoe/Rafting,
Zip Line, Chapel,
Bible Study &
Campfires

JULY 28 - AUGUST 2

For Rising 3rd - 12th Graders

Camp Manidokan | Knoxville, MD

Registration Begins in February | Scholarships Available for Active Kids & Youth

Save the Date! Explorer Camp - July 28 - August 2

Reisterstown UMC and Wesley Freedom UMC are teaming up with The United Methodist Church's Camp Manidokan to offer a week-long Explorer Camp for rising 3rd - 12th graders.

Explorer Camp offers campers the opportunity to “explore” all Manidokan has to offer, while learning about the gifts and blessings God has given them. Adventures include river trips, team challenges, and beautiful hikes - including the Sawmill Creek trail and a visit to Harper’s Ferry - along with traditional activities like campfires, s’mores, archery, crafts, gaga ball, 9 Square, a talent show and more! Older campers will soar on Manidokan's aerial park.

Registration typically opens on February 1, and spots fill up quickly. RUMC has scholarships available for kids and youth who are active in RUMC's ministries throughout the year. Stay tuned for more information!

Join the Chancel Singers on December 17th at the 10 am service for the cantata: *A Brand New Hallelujah—A Christmas Worship Experience*.



BRAND NEW
Hallelujah
A CHRISTMAS WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Created and Arranged by
Jay Rouse

*Presented by Reisterstown
United Methodist Church
Chancel Singers
and guest artists
Sunday, December 17th
10 am
246 Main Street
Reisterstown, MD 21136*



A CHRIST-CENTERED CHRISTMAS ADVENT READING PLAN



Explore the true meaning of Christmas as you travel through God's Word. Discover God's promises he fulfilled through the birth of His only Son, the **KING OF KINGS.**

1 Isaiah 7:14

2 Isaiah 9:6-7

3 Malachi 3:1

4 Micah 5:2-4

5 Luke 1:5-7

6 Luke 1:10-15

7 Luke 1:18-22

8 Luke 1:24-25

9 Luke 1:26-29

10 Luke 1:30-33

11 Luke 2:1-5

12 Luke 2:6-7

13 Luke 2:8-14

14 Luke 2:15-20

15 Matthew 1:18-21

16 Matthew 1:22-25

17 Matthew 2:1-3

18 Matthew 2:4-6

19 Matthew 2:7-9

20 Matthew 2:10-12

21 Romans 15:13

22 Galatians 4:4-5

23 Philippians 2:8-11

24 James 1:16-18

25 John 3:16

A black and white line drawing of a donkey standing on a pile of hay. Below it is a manger with a baby lying in it, wrapped in swaddling clothes. To the left of the manger are three kings in long robes, each holding a gift.

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*Alternative Christmas Gift
Suggestions for Family and Friends*

December 2023

Deadline to turn in your Gift is

December 24, 2023

At Christmas, we often want to honor someone special. One way is to give a gift to missions in their honor, thus helping those in need and remembering those who mean so much to us. The Missions Committee is offering the opportunity to support missions and ministry outreach while honoring family and friends. This year we have chosen three projects related to our congregation: Thank you for your generosity!

Local RUMC Nursery School

RUMC Nursery School to fund additional resources needed to meet the needs of an under-served student body. \$ _____

National - Advance # 901670 - UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery provides support when natural disasters are of such a magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. \$ _____

International - WHO - Conflict in Israel & the Occupied Palestinian Territory

In the Gaza Strip, airstrikes and a lack of medical supplies, food, water and fuel have virtually depleted an already under-resourced health system. Hospitals have been operating far beyond capacity due to rising numbers of patients as well as displaced civilians seeking shelter. \$ _____

When giving to the Alternative Christmas program, please put the name of the project you support on the "For" line of your check. You can pick up the donor cards and envelopes at the Welcome Center.

Make checks payable to **RUMC** with Alternative Christmas and your choice indicated in the "Memo" section and place your envelope into the offering plate (with this form).

In order to receive credit on your Contribution Report, fill in below.

Name _____ Envelope # _____

Envelopes for your alternative Christmas Gift are in the Narthex on the Glass Table. Envelopes and cards to acknowledge your gifts to your family and friends are also on the table.

This alternative Christmas Gift program is for your family and friends and is not intended to replace your regular giving to RUMC

RUMC Participates in the Board of Childcare Annual Collection of Christmas Store Items

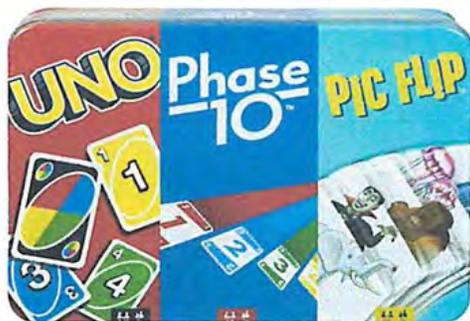
Members purchase specific items for the Christmas store catalog. The youth at BCC chose gifts for their family and friends from the catalog. The Amazon wish list can be found at

[:https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2HR6N60XAF7T1/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2HR6N60XAF7T1/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex)

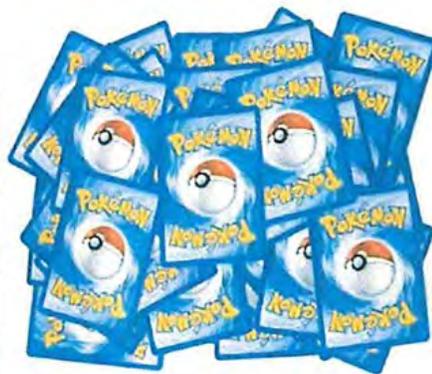
Click on the Christmas store Wish List. If you would prefer to give gift cards, they can be ordered from church. The next order goes in on November 19th. Order forms are available on the glass table in the Narthex or on the church website. Some popular ones are Walmart, Target, McDonalds, Panera, Subway and Dominos.

Some suggestions for gifts are below:

Pokemon Cards



Card games



Warm socks and gloves



Colorful notebooks, Journals, Blank books, Travel Journals, Children's Books
Sketchbooks and Art Supplies

Bath and body Gift sets for Women, Great Spa Sets, Body Wash, Bubble Bath, Bath Bombs

Holiday Grooming Gift Packs for Men

Dove Bath sets for Him and Her

Sports Balls: footballs, basketballs, soccer balls

Fidget hand spinners

Stress balls

Legos

Board games

Play cars and trucks, dolls

COLLECTING UNTIL 12/3/23

QUESTIONS?

Contact Charlotte Braxton at 410-833-8671

or email at charlott07@yahoo.com

Prayer List— PLEASE PRAY FOR RUMC FAMILY, FRIENDS, & NEIGHBORS

Ongoing Prayers for Healing from Cancer
 Taylor Angus; Frank Banz; Jacob Barford;
 Pat Barton; Beth Bolin; Bruce Bond;
 Marilyn Brathwaite; Renee Brooksbank;
 Jean Chambers; Benjamin Dapper; Steve Diehl;
 Sandy Engle; Megan Evans; Jacque Eyler;
 Ryan Gardner; Sondra Hadden; Mary Hanlon;
 Jason Harris; Jerry Hilton— Kathy Bogert's brother;
 Mike Hockstad; Debbie Johnson; Lisa Johnson;
 Denny Johnson; Eddie Jones; Rita Jones;
 Diane Kanemoto; Roger Lipp; Tyler Llewellyn;
 Alfred Luginger; Pat MacLeer; Vikki McAdory;
 Tina Meeks; Ronald Metz; Don Mills;
 Aaliyah Parker; Darlene Parlette; Dottie Payne;
 Molly Ruppert; Les Schafferman; Marge Shaw;

Rebecca Sloan; Sean Staley; Melanie Stierhoff;
 Mary Telchi; Jenna Thornton; Patty G. Walsh;
 Dave Weinstein; Lynn Whitter; Mike Wright; Cindy;
 Ann; Deb; Jim; Ken; Makenna; Nicholas;
 Rachel; Shannon

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Kay Shaeffer on her passing. No further information is available at this time. Condolences may be sent to Dave Shaeffer at 5825 Oklahoma Road Eldersburg, MD 21784

*Those battling cancer will be kept on the prayer list—names only.
 Please inform the office of any changes or updates.*

LOVED ONES SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Davey Brickman, Ruth Withlock's granddaughter's husband—National Guard back home from overseas
Eldridge Brown, Jr., Serving in the Army
Joshua Coleman, Rosemary Dragunas' nephew—United States Air Force, deployed to Qatar, SW Asia
Michael Edmondson, Friend of the Tambaosan's, US Marines
Christian Evans, Thelma Mack's nephew, serving in the US Army stationed in Texas
Lindley Garcia, Carol Judkin's friend — USMC not currently deployed
Elizabeth Haines Greenway, Army Staff Sgt., Marion Yohn's granddaughter—deployed to Poland
Jeremy Hadden, Pat Dinsmore's grandson, Air Force, stationed at Edwards AFB in California
Luke Hoyman, Lynn Owings Grand daughter's husband, serving in the Air Force, stationed at Andrews Air Force Base
Steven Lee, Carol & Danny Lee's son—has been promoted to Command Master Chief, has served in the US Navy for 25+ years and is stationed in Virginia Beach VA
Fred Linborn, Friend of the Tambaosan family—serving in the Army
Vance Listwan, Son of Rachel & Mark Utterback—serving in the Air Force, stateside in Texas
Dennis Mack, Thelma Mack's nephew—serving in the Army is stationed in North Carolina
Allen Messinger, Ruth Whitlock's grandson — Serving in the Army at Fort Bragg, NC
Isaac Shroll, Tracy Tambaosan's cousin—serving in the Army

OUR MEMBERS AT HOME

Barb Bonicker	Gerry Lewis
Ann Clayton	Thelma Mack
Lorna & Gordon Dix	Jean Moss
Ginger Gelwicks	Christie Newcomer
Velvia & Howard Goodrich	Betty Pulse
Mary Jane Huffman	Gill Seal
Barbara Kehne	Judith Wetzal
Shirley Krause	

OUR MEMBERS IN SENIOR COMMUNITIES

Carroll Lutheran Village	Lorien Center—
Nancy Welsh	Taneytown
Cherrywood-	Monte Hatcher
Reisterstown	Janet Porter
Kerrie Flanagan	
Lorien—Harmony Hall	
in Columbia	
Jeanne Knight	



**CELEBRATING ALL OF OUR
Under 25 AND Over 70 MEMBERS
December Birthdays**

Thomas Surber

12/2

132 Cedarmere Rd
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Ed Hare

12/16

23 Franklin Valley Cir
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Maya Trump

12/28

4770 Wentz Rd
Manchester, MD 21102

Monte Hatcher, Jr.

12/3

100 Antrim Blvd Apt 304
Taneytown, MD 21787-2406

Susan Henry

12/17

122 Glyndon Trace Dr
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Nancy Welsh

12/30

Way Of Joy
300 Saint Luke Cir Apt 216
Westminster, MD 21158-4174

Sherry Osborne

12/8

1195 Fish And Game Rd
Littlestown, PA 17340

Ethel Trump

12/17

402 Lees Mill Rd
Hampstead, MD 21074

Joanne Ditto

12/30

208 Highfalcon Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Jason Waters

12/8

203 Homevale Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Dave Shaeffer, Sr.

12/19

5825 Oklahoma Road
Eldersburg, MD 21784

Kim Riesenfeld

12/7

607 Bond Ave
Reisterstown, MD 21136-1813

John Wright

12/19

5 Clarks Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

John Dunkle

12/14

2404 Caves Rd
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Barbara Kelly

12/21

304 Townleigh Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Barbara Rhodes

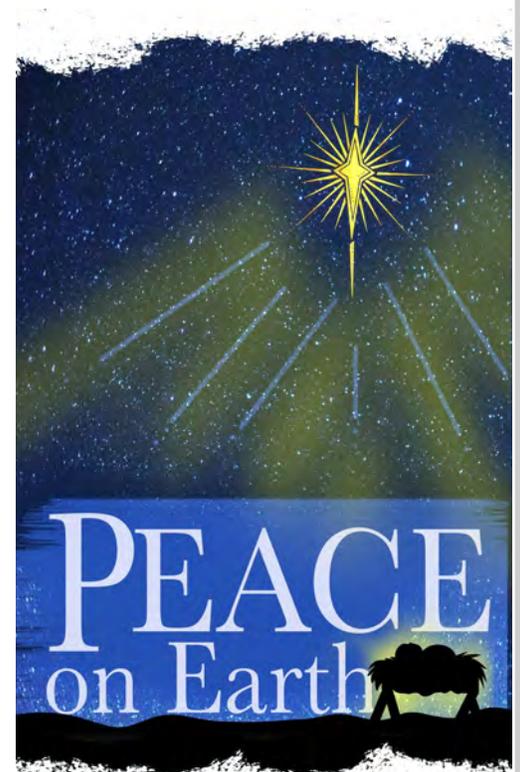
12/16

6 Meadow Mist Ct
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Suzanne Pierce

12/27

5592 Salem Square Dr S
Palm Harbor, FL 34685-1140



Three Month Calendar

DECEMBER

2	9-12	RUMNS—Pancakes with Santa	Fellowship Hall
	2-5	UWofF Christmas Party	Fellowship Hall
3	All day	Second Sunday in Advent	
	All day	Gift Card orders Due	
10	All Day	Third Sunday in Advent	
	All Day	Newsletter Articles due	
	All day	Gift Card orders Due	
12	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
17	10 am	Brand New Hallelujah presented by Chancel Singers	Main Sanctuary
		Last Day to order Gift Cards for Christmas	
23	All day	Food Pantry CLOSED	
24	11 am	Family Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
	8 pm	Traditional Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
25	All Day	Christmas Day	
26-Jan 1		Office Closed for Christmas Break	
31	All Day	New Year's Eve	

JANUARY

1	All Day	New Years Day	
2	All Day	RUMNS & Church Offices open	
9	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
15	All Day	MLK Day	RUMNS & Office Closed
17	11 am	Book Club	Library
18	7 pm	Book Club	Library
21	All Day	Gift Card orders Due	
		Newsletter Articles due	
23	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
28	10 am	Preschool Sunday—SAVE THE DATE!	Sanctuary

FEBRUARY

6	All Day	RUMC Anniversary	
13	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
18	All day	Gift Card & Shopping Cards Orders due	
	All day	Newsletter Articles due	
19	All day	Presidents Day	RUMNS & Offices Closed
21	11 am	Book Club	Library
22	7 pm	Book Club	Library
27	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall

Entire RUMC Calendar is available on the church website and is updated frequently—check it out: www.rumcweb.org

Food Pantry—Open Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 11 am—In person inside still to be determined. For donations—Let the volunteer know you are dropping off, not picking up. If you can pop your trunk from inside your car, place the donation in your trunk. If you cannot open from inside your car, put in your back seat—Volunteers will take it out of your car for you.

MONDAYS

10 am to 12 pm — AA, 308
3 to 7 pm—Artist Music, 308
7 to 8:30 pm— AA, 308

TUESDAYS

7am—4pm: Mission of Mercy (2nd and 4th Tues.)
10:30 am – Staff Meeting
2-6pm “Thrive” After school Program for Franklin Middle
3-9pm— Artist Music, 308
7:00 pm—Sisterhood, 246 Conference Room (Aug.-June)
7:00 pm—Cristos Iglesias Service, NSC
7:30 pm—Refuge Dharma, 308

WEDNESDAYS

10 am to noon – Library Committee
8:30 am – 3:00 pm—Infants & Toddlers, 308
2:30 pm—Junction After School Program
6:30 pm — NA, Fellowship Hall
7 to 9 pm—Adult Choir, choir room (End of Aug. ~ May)
7:00 pm—Men's Fellowship, 308

THURSDAYS

8:30 am—1:30 pm – Infants & Toddlers, 308
3-7 pm—Artist Music, 308
7 to 9 pm—Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall

FRIDAYS

8:30 am—1:30 pm – Infants & Toddlers, 308
2-6pm “Thrive” After school Program for Franklin Middle
3-7 pm—Artist Music, 308
7:00 pm—Cristos Iglesias Band Rehearsal, NSC

SATURDAYS

6 am—Cristos Iglesia—Prayer and Cleaning NSC
8:30 to 11:00 am—Food Pantry Open
9:30 to 11:30 am—AA , 308
11-5—Artist Music, 308
4 pm—Cristos Iglesia Band Rehearsal, NSC
7:00 pm—Cristos Iglesias Service, NSC

LAST SATURDAY OF MONTH

10 pm—Cristos Iglesias Prayer Service, NSC

MOST SUNDAYS

11:30 to 12:30 – Joyful Noise Handbell Rehearsal (End of Aug. thru May)

EVERY SUNDAY

Noon—Cristos Iglesias Service, NSC
6 to 8 pm—Youth Group (End of Aug. thru May)

EVERY WEDNESDAY (End of Aug. thru May) Choir Rehearsals

CHURCH COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

1st Thurs.— UMW (7 pm) Library
2nd Mon.— Circle of Friends, Library (No meeting Dec.)
2nd Tues.— Even months— Finance (6:30 pm) Library
2nd Tues.— Odd months — Trustees (6:30 pm) Library
3rd Sun.— Newsletter Deadline and Gift Card orders Due
3rd Mon.— Missions (7 pm), 246 Conference Room
3rd Tues.— SPRC (7 pm) Library
4th Mon.—JOY Circle (11:00 am) Parlor (no meetings in the Summer)
4th Tues.—Church Council (6:30 pm) Library

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Reisterstown United Methodist Church
246 Main Street
Reisterstown, MD 21136
Phone: 410-833-5440
Fax: 443-381-0200
Pastor Jen Eschlieman
E-mail: pastorjeneschlieman@gmail.com
Office Email: RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.rumcweb.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ReisterstownUnitedMethodistChurch>



**This QR Code will take you directly to our
on line giving screen for the church.**

We are gathering for Sunday morning worship at 10 am in the sanctuary and online.

We now have several ways to join us virtually, including Zoom, Facebook Live, and a livestream that appears at the bottom of our worship page: <http://rumcweb.org/event/2021-05-23-1000-am-service/> This is the easiest way to view the service and also provides the highest quality viewing experience - especially for those with low internet speeds.

We also have YouTube account - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzltzPeTDuFxeJv_EJpgjgQ for our services if you miss one, you can pull it up at this link.

ZOOM Link for Sunday Morning Worship

Topic: Sunday Worship

Time: 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86822778412?pwd=THZCN0pkZXIsWG1DVWN5Sis0T1VNQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 2277 8412 | Passcode: 271199

Dial by your location: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) | Meeting ID: 868 2277 8412

