



Our Church Matters

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

Dear RUMC Family,

The Sunday closest to January 6 is the Sunday when the church traditionally celebrates Epiphany - the holiday that commemorates the Magi’s visit to Jesus. This story only appears in the Gospel of Matthew, which is often described as the most “Jewish” of the gospels, due to the fact that Matthew makes more than 60 references to the Hebrew Bible (what we call the Old Testament). Yet even while Matthew is hard at work to show how all of the scriptures point to Jesus as Israel’s Messiah, he makes sure to include this story about how God revealed Christ’s light to a group of distinguished foreigners—most likely priests in the Zoroastrian religion. Matthew’s version of the nativity story rounds out the message that we have already heard in Luke—both through angels’ announcement and through God’s choice of lowly shepherds as their audience: God’s gift of a Savior is for *everyone*.

I am so grateful to serve a congregation that takes this message and puts it into action. Through the welcome you extend to our guests, through ministries like Mission of Mercy, our food pantry, and our outreach to Franklin Middle School students, you have demonstrated over and over again that God’s love came for *all*. I pray that this will always be a hallmark of ministry here at RUMC, and I pray that God will use it to transform the lives of those in our community and beyond.

I hope you’ll join us on January 7 as we celebrate Epiphany, and I also hope you’ll plan to be in worship on Sunday, January 28, as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Reisterstown United Methodist Nursery School. This is another ministry at RUMC that is committed to making God’s love accessible to *all*—regardless of a child’s ability, race, gender, religion, or financial situation. We’ll take the opportunity to give thanks for all that God has done through RUMNS over the past four decades, welcome back some alumni, and welcome current RUMNS

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families into the life of our church. It will be a joy-filled service that you won't want to miss!

May you know God's all-encompassing love as we enter this New Year.

Blessings and peace,

Jen

Dear Church Family,

My sincere thank you to the CARE TEAM for the BASKET OF LOVE delivered to my front door recently! The many people who contributed items such as cookies, candy, socks, note pads, soap, etc. are really making sure that LOVE is well and thriving at RUMC!! It was such fun to go through the basket and marvel at each item. May GOD bless each and everyone involved in this ministry.

With LOVE and GRATITUDE . Thelma Mack

Nursery School Registration:



Do you have a child or grandchild that will be ages 2, 3, or 4 next fall?

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year begins February 1! Classes fill up quickly so don't delay. We offer preschool from 9:00 a.m to 12:00 p.m. five days a week.

We also offer an early bird drop off starting at 7:30 a.m. and after care until 5:30 p.m.

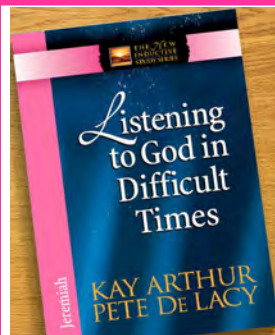
To receive your registration packet and arrange a tour of the classes, contact Lani

Hoffmann at rumns234@gmail.com or leave a message on the school phone:443-546-0585.

Donations wanted:

The nursery school is looking for gently used children's clothes, toys, books, and DVDs.

Donated items will be placed on our Tot Spot consignment account. Proceeds from the sales benefit our Sandy Thawley Scholarship Fund. Items can be dropped off in the old kitchen (room 2) on Sunday mornings. Please leave a note letting us know who made the donation. All items should be clean and ready for sale. Thank you.



The **Sisterhood** Bible study will start on Tuesday, January 9th at 7 pm in the conference room, weather permitting. If bad weather we will do zoom from our homes. Our study is from the book of Jeremiah via the book *Listening to God in Difficult Times* by Kay Arthur and Pete DeLacy. Please join us as we complete this study. Jeremiah's warnings to a nation that has turned its back on the Lord echo through the ages and speak to cultures today. As readers see the prophet's heartbreak at the nation's apostasy, his sense of urgency, and the resistance he faces, they will identify with God's people throughout the ages and receive assurance that nothing happening today is taking God by surprise. Even in the darkest seasons, readers can be confident that evil will be judged, righteousness will be rewarded, and God's plans for His people—to give them a future and a hope—stand firm.

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.

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



The January Gift Card order date is: January 21st



Another year and we are still selling GIFT CARDS/SHOPPERS CARDS as a fund raiser for the RUMW. In 2023, we made over \$2,500 that we use for our donations and gifts helping others. This project has been ongoing for almost 20 years and it continues to give us money for our projects. Orders are taken on the 3rd Sunday of each month and the cards are delivered the following Sunday.

You can use these cards for gifts or your own personal use to buy groceries, gasoline, eating out and going to the movies. January's orders will be taken on the 21st. Thank you for supporting our fund raiser and use gift cards from RUMW.

Thank you Happy New Year!

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

From the Shelves

*We hope everyone had a great holiday and that includes relaxing with a good book.

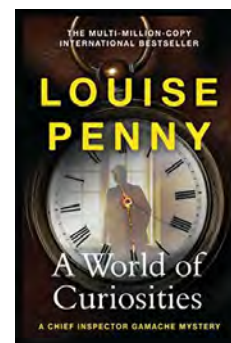
* Two readers received a certificate for finishing 5 books which were in 5 categories. Please consider doing this project which runs from September to September. The ladies who completed step one are Darlene Gobrecht and Cindy Smith. If you have any questions, or just need help getting started, stop by the library. This program is sponsored by Women of Faith.



*We did not read for December but we enjoyed a fine lunch.

*The January book is
A World of Curiosities by Louise Penny.

*Book Club meeting dates are
Wednesday, January 17 at 11:00 am OR
Thursday, January 18 at 7:00 pm



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

Coming to Camp Manidokan in 2024 Summer Explorer Camp!

Reisterstown UMC and Wesley UMC are gearing up for a great week of camp! Save the date and start making plans to attend Summer Explorer Camp from July 28-August 4 at Camp Manidokan. This week-long overnight camp offers young people a special place to grow in Christian community and experience God's creation and love first-hand!

Manidokan is located on beautiful mountain terrain near Harper's Ferry, just 20 miles west of Frederick. The camp offers our kids an opportunity to grow in their faith, paddle a canoe, climb a rock wall, worship in God's beautiful landscape, soar down a zip line, raft on the river, create cool crafts, hike, hang out with friends, make s'mores, and sing by a campfire.

Camp is open to all young people entering grades 3 through 12 in the fall of 2024. Registration opens February 1st at 9:00 am. Space is limited, so plan accordingly. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.bwccampsandretreats.com/>.

RUMC has camp scholarships available for all children and youth who are active in RUMC's ministries. Simply complete a Camper Assistance Request Form, found in the Narthex, and submit to Jill Wright by February 1st.



NEW TO RUMC? How to Become a Member of RUMC

New to RUMC?

Check out RUMC's new member's class which will be determined sometime in January, 2024. This class will offer an introduction to Reisterstown UMC and the vows of membership and give you an opportunity to meet other leaders in the church.

If you're interested in participating, please contact the church office at

rumcoffice1777@gmail.com.

Childcare will be available for those who need it.

Membership in a United Methodist Church means taking on several responsibilities by making several promises. We promise to pray for each other and the church, to be there — our presence, to offer our gifts of both time and money, to serve in the church and beyond the church, and to witness to our faith.

It is not necessary to be a member of RUMC to participate in pretty much all of our ministries. There are a few offices that a non-member cannot hold because of our church law, but other than that, you are welcome to be a fully participating part of the RUMC faith family. We will care for you in every way (such as funerals, weddings, etc.), whether you are a member or not.

It is my prayer that many of those who visit will feel called to become members of the church, but you are welcome to be part of our faith family for as long as you wish without becoming a member.

Our membership process requires that you commit to attend 4 gatherings before new member Sunday and then be present on the special Sunday. (Dates for the 3 other classes are yet to be determined)

If you are interested in becoming a member of RUMC, please let the pastor know via email or the Connection Card. Or call the church office if you'd like to talk about it first!

Pastor Jen's Email: pastorjeneschliman@gmail.com

Church Office email: RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com

Catalyst Initiative Continues!

What is happening with the Catalyst Initiative plan that was begun in March of 2023? At that time, it was discerned that a ministry of our church, and one that looks outward at the needs of the community would focus on the mental health and needs of Franklin Middle School students who walk in front of our church every day on their way home from school. Every Wednesday afternoon from 2:30 – 3:30 pm, Bonnie Lieberman, Kate Strom, Carol Holland and Janice Holsonbake greet these students with drinks and snacks, games (outdoor and indoor) and crafts. During this time, these students have a safe place to go afterschool where they know they are loved and valued. For some, it is the first time they have ever walked inside a church building.



Beginning in September, on Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 2:30 – 5:30 pm (when volunteers are available), our 308 Building hosts THRIVE, a student enrichment program, developed by Elijah Ogden, the director of the Reisterstown Youth Project (RYP). Many of the students who stay for our afterschool program on Wednesdays, participate in THRIVE on Tuesdays and Fridays.

In addition, we have been volunteering at the Franklin Middle School Store. This is another way to serve these students and demonstrate our care for their well-being.

Relationships are slowly growing in our weekly interactions with these students, whether on Wednesdays in our church, or Tuesdays and Fridays with THRIVE or during conversations at the FMS School Store.

In the Spring of 2024, we will begin offering a Young Life Mentoring Program for these Franklin Middle School student and others within the Reisterstown Community. This program will focus on the development of a 1:1 relationship to support and nurture a student, as well as share the love of Jesus Christ and share the Gospel. More information about how to get involved will be coming!

How else can our RUMC family help to continue to nurture these students?

PRAY that these students feel loved, valued and seen through our interactions which will lead them to understand how much they are valued and loved by their Creator.

Volunteer on Wednesday afternoons or with the Thrive program on Tuesdays and Fridays. All volunteers need to complete “Safe Gathering” training.

Donate items for the Franklin Middle School’s School Store. These students are given “Dragon Dollars” when they exhibit characteristics of PRIDE (punctuality, orderliness, respectfulness, intellectual curiosity, determination, and empathy) to spend on various items at the school store.

If you have questions please feel free to contact Janice Holsonbake (jholsonb@comcast.net) and/or Bonnie Lieberman (bnblieb@comcast.net).

THRIVE

A Student Enrichment Program



This is a **FREE program offered by Reisterstown Youth Project (rtownyouth.org) for middle school students in the community**



VISION



We want to see students who are physically healthy, mentally well, excelling in their education, and fostering positive relationships with their classmates, family, and community.



VALUES



Wellness — Community — Growth



MISSION



THRIVE provides a positive environment where students are supported and challenged in their educational success, mental and physical health, and relationships.

YOUNGLIFE MENTOR PROGRAM

VOLUNTEER ~ MENTOR ~ DONATE

Helping young people in
Baltimore County flourish in
every arena of life
ONE RELATIONSHIP AT A TIME.



YLMENTORING.BALTIMORECOUNTY@GMAIL.COM



Good News ! Christmas Angel Tree 2023

This year our congregation again helped 25 families at Cedarmere Elementary School and Glyndon Elementary School with gift cards. The generosity of our members allowed each family to receive gift cards to help with food or gifts. During the economic time we are living in, I can only imagine how a family would feel to have a chance to shop for special foods and for gifts during the holidays.

Heartfelt thanks to all of you who donated cards that purchased gift cards to help these families, some through the UMW gift card program and some at stores where you shop.

Some gift cards came in after I delivered the gifts to the schools. I am keeping them safe, because I know there will be calls from the liaisons at the schools about ways we can help a family as we have in the past.

Again, thank you to all of you who contributed to both efforts! Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy, healthy 2024!

Liz Livermore
School Liaison

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 Phil Gobrecht on the passing of his brother, the Rev. Chris Gobrecht on December 2nd. Condolences maybe sent to Phil & Darlene at 314 Highfalcon Rd Reisterstown, MD 21136 Or to his wife at his wife, Rebeca, at 2429 Chetwood Circle, Timonium, MD 21093-2533. A memorial service is planned for this Spring.

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 Tambaoan'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 Tambaoan 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 Tambaoan'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	



cele JANUARY cele
Birthdays

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



Alan Soskin

1/4

28 Roaches Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Lorna Dix

1/17

514 Berrymans Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Cynthia Humphrey

1/25

324 Nicodemus Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Maggie O'Farrell

1/8

160 Glyndon Trace Dr
Reisterstown, MD 21136-1949

Barbara Reynolds

1/20

306 Lauren Hill Ct
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Susan Wright

1/27

5 Clarks Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Hannah Folau

1/12

14003 Woodens Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Kate McAlonan

1/22

2501 Nubian Ct
Finksburg, MD 21048

Ann Perry

1/31

1030 Green Hill Farm Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Carol Lee

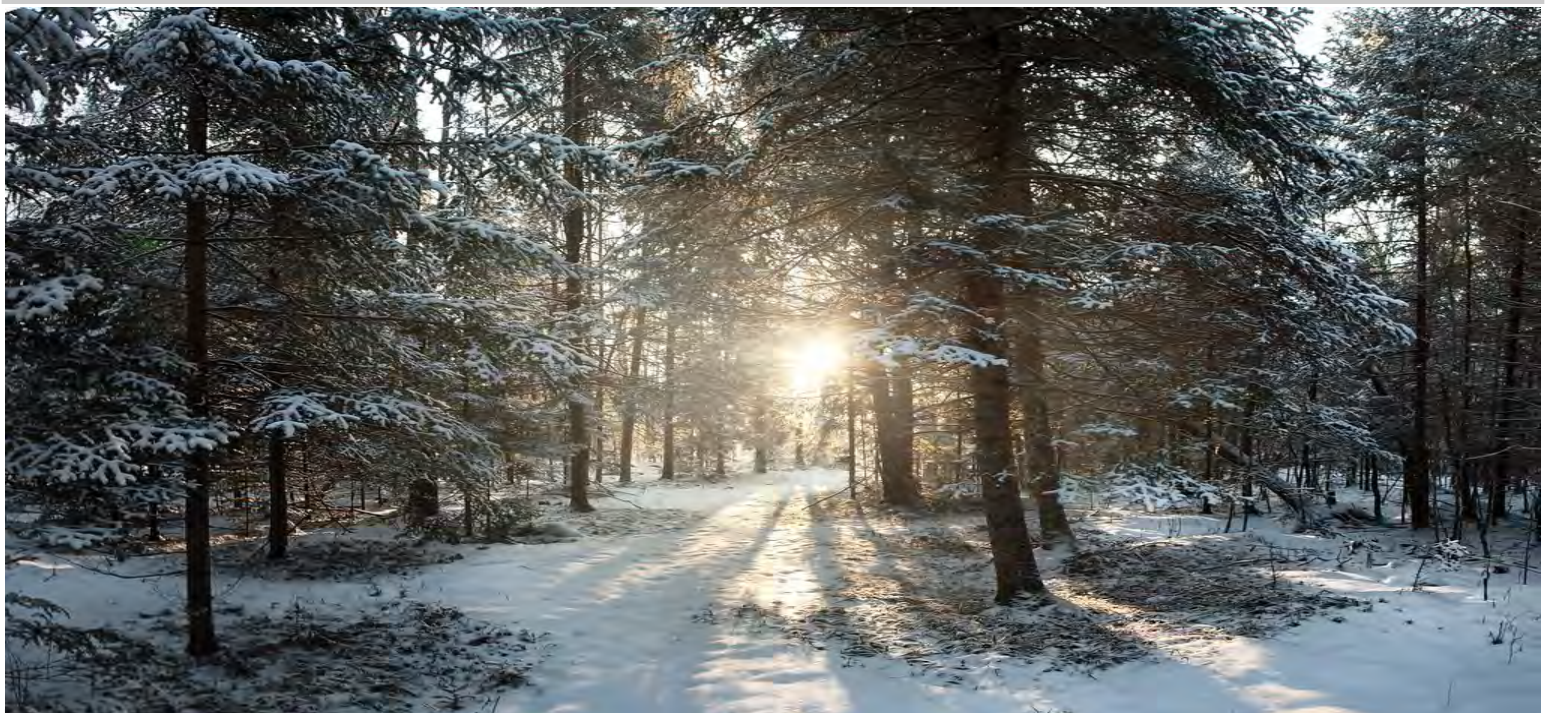
1/16

2860 Chauncey Hill Dr
Manchester, MD 21102

William Hoffman

1/23

1648 Deer Park Rd
Finksburg, MD 21048



Three Month Calendar

JANUARY

1	All Day	New Years Day	
2	All Day	RUMNS & Church Offices open	
9	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
11	6:30 pm	United Women in Faith meeting (note date change)	Library
15	All Day	MLK Day	RUMNS & Office Closed
17	11 am	Book Club	Library
18	7 pm	Book Club	Library
21	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
	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
14	All Day	Ash Wednesday	
		Valentines Day	
18	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
	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

MARCH

10	All day	Daylight Savings time starts @ 2am	
12	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
17	All Day	Saint Patrick's Day	
	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
	All day	Gift Card & Shopping Cards Orders due	
	All day	Newsletter Articles due	
24	All Day	Palm Sunday	
26	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
28	All Day	Maundy Thursday	
29	All Day	Good Friday	
31	All Day	Easter Sunday	

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 Eschliman
E-mail: pastorjeneschliman@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

