

Our Church Matters

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

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
Lord of all, to thee
we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

Dear Church Family,

In worship this past Sunday, we joined our voices in singing, "For the Beauty of the Earth," giving thanks to God for the natural world that surrounds us, as well as for the love, joy, and relationships that enrich our lives. As we consider all the beautiful gifts that God has given us, words alone seem insufficient to express our gratitude. God has been so generous to us—what can we do in return, other than to offer God the gift of our lives?

One of the most important ways we can show our thanks to God is by loving and caring for the things that God loves. Most often when we imagine doing this, we think of God's *people*. We love God by loving our neighbors. But we also express our love for God by caring for the world that God made—protecting it and preserving it for future generations.

With this in mind, the Church Council and Trustees are excited to share that our congregation will be taking a meaningful step in our commitment to caring for God's creation. After careful consideration and planning, we have made the decision to install a solar canopy in our church parking lot. This project will not only reduce our carbon footprint but also eliminate the majority of our monthly electric bill.

The decision to go solar aligns with our values as stewards of both the environment and the financial resources God has provided. By transitioning to solar energy, we are reducing our reliance on nonrenewable energy sources and decreasing the church's environmental impact. Additionally, this change will help us save money on utility costs, freeing up more funds for ministry and outreach programs that make a life-changing impact in the community.

Groundbreaking for the canopy will begin over the winter months, and until it is completed, a portion of our parking lot will be unavailable. We have already begun conversations with our Main Street neighbors to ensure that we will have ample parking for large events, such as our Holy Week and Easter services. We are hopeful that the canopy will be fully functional by the summer, and we will begin experiencing its benefits immediately. For additional information, check out the Q&A at

Inside this issue

(Control Click to move to article)

	Page #
From the Pastor	1 & 2
Food Pantry needs; From the Shelves;	3
Angel tree; Christmas Flowers Orders Notice	4
Family Ministries; Advent Chrismons Party	5
From the Finance Team; Christmas Eve Services; Gift Card Orders;	6
For the Young At Heart	7 & 8
Prayer Lists	9
Birthdays	10
Three Month Calendar	11
QR Code, Sunday Worship	12

the bottom of this letter, and look for updates in the coming months!

I am grateful for your ongoing support of our church's mission and look forward to seeing the positive impact this project will have on our local community and in the wider world. May this season of gratitude inspire us to continue giving thanks for God's many gifts and to commit ourselves to being faithful stewards of God's creation.

In gratitude,

Jen

Q&A:

Why did we choose a parking lot canopy vs. rooftop panels?

The Trustees spent more than half of 2024 in an exploration process, assisted by a consultant named Wade Sewell, who has worked with other United Methodist churches in the Baltimore-Washington Conference. While our initial conversations were about the installation of rooftop panels, a review of the advantages and disadvantages led the Trustees and Church Council to support the installation of a canopy instead. A canopy will allow for easier maintenance and upgrades as solar technology changes in the coming decades. It will also offer shaded parking and the ability to provide electric car charging stations. Lastly, it means that we will not risk damage to our new sanctuary roof.

How will we pay for the project?

We are blessed to have the Turnbaugh Trust, a generous gift provided by J. Walter and Eleanor Turnbaugh. While the TTT cannot be used for the church's operating expenses, it can fund capital improvements such as this one, as well as projects that align with the mission of RUMC's library. By signing the contract and beginning the permitting process in this calendar year, we also have access to large state and federal subsidies to offset our cost. The canopy is projected to become cost-neutral in year eight, but funding from the TTT will make it possible for us to see savings in our monthly operating expenses as soon as the project is completed.

How much will we save with this transition to solar?

Initial projections suggest that we will save approximately \$28,000 per year in utility costs. However, the canopy design we have selected will provide more electric energy than our church currently uses. This offers exciting stewardship options going forward, including the potential to move away from gas for heating our buildings to a geothermal heating approach down the road. Ultimately, we could eliminate our dependence on non-renewable energy sources altogether.

The Trustees will provide regular updates on the status of the solar project in the coming months. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please reach out to Randy Hart, Trustee Chair, at randyhart83@gmail.com, or Pastor Jen, at pastorjeneschliman@gmail.com.

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



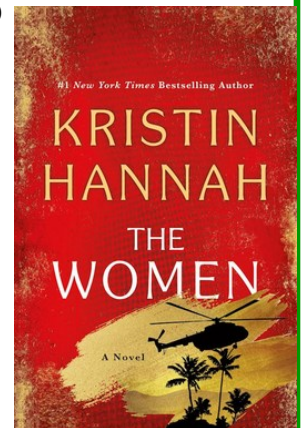
The RUMC Book Club met on Thursday, November 11-21 for the annual Christmas Party. All of our thanks go to Judy Wright and Joann Ditto for providing us with such a wonderful evening to help kick off the holiday season.



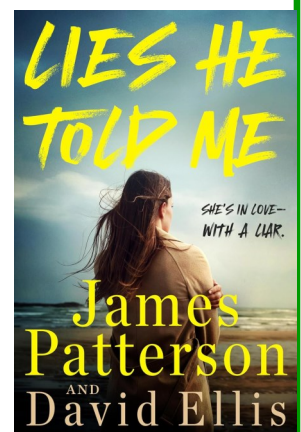
Our book, *The Wishing Bridge*, was a treat taking us to the famed German Christmas Villages of Michigan. The dog was still alive at the end of the book...always a good sign.

There is no club meeting in December.

January will hopefully bring restful days and extra time for reading. January's book is a change of pace when we read about the nurses of Vietnam in *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. Amazon says it is "at once an intimate portrait of coming of age in a dangerous time and an epic tale of a nation divided." We will be discussing this on January 16, 2025 at 7 pm in the Church library.



In February a thriller by James Patterson and David Ellis is on the slate. The book, *Lies He Told Me*, is the story of a woman whose perfect husband has a hidden past. Could this attorney be so wrong about the man she chose as her soul mate? Is he the ultimate bad guy?



Join us on January 16, 2025 in the Church library at 7:00 pm to help start the new year off right.



2024 has continued to impact our lives due to Covid and economics. This year there were changes for all of the families and staff in the schools we help: Cedarmere Elementary and Glyndon Elementary. Our angel tree plans continue to look different this year. We will continue to support our families as we did last year with gift cards to Target, Walmart, and grocery stores in the Reisterstown area: Weis, Giant, Aldi, and Lidl are the best choices and will allow families to shop for what they need. Many of our families shop at ALDI, so those gift cards are welcome, too! The cards will be distributed according to family size.

Last year we were able to support our gift card program which also helps with other out-reach efforts. You don't have to wait till the Angel Tree is up to get started! The gift cards will be on sale on November 17, 24, and December 8 and come in the following Sunday in order to have them in time for the schools. Of course, they may also be purchased in stores. We need the cards on or before December 15 to deliver to the schools for students by December 18.

If you purchase gift cards, you may give them to me when it is convenient for you. Or give them to Judy Wright on Sunday Mornings. Feel free to contact the church office with questions: 410-833-5440 or RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com

Liz Livermore

Christmas Flower Orders Due December 7th!

Order forms are available in the Narthex and will be in the December 1st and 7th Bulletins and attached to the Midweek

Poinsettias: 4 1/2 " (white) \$4.00

Poinsettia: 6 1/2" (red or white—specify) \$7.00

Christmas Cactus: 6" (no color choice) \$9.00

All money & orders must be received by December 7th



Family Ministry News



**Advent Party will be held on
Sunday, December 1,
2-3:30 pm
in the fellowship hall.**

We will be making Chrismons, which are ornaments that remind us of Jesus Christ's birth and life. We will hang the Chrismons on our sanctuary tree, sing some carols, then enjoy some cookies with a special visitor. In Sunday School this past month, we talked about how God provides for our needs. This month, we will be focused on Advent. Make sure you take a peek in our classroom throughout December so you can see how our Advent paper quilt grows over the course of the month. If your child hasn't received an Advent calendar to color in each day this month, see Cara or stop by the Sunday school room, where there will be extra copies.

Our family Christmas Eve service will be December 24 at 11 am. Many of our children and youth will be involved and it is always an amazing way to worship together and celebrate the birth of Jesus. As many of us over the age of 18 already know, this service is not just for young children; it's for anyone who is looking for a service full of joy and smiles and youthful energy!

Please contact Cara Norris at 443-804-3792 or rumcfamilyministires1777@gmail.com if you have any questions about Sunday School or Family Ministries.

*No Sunday School on December 29, but be sure to come to a fun, laughter-focused worship service that day!

Advent Party
Sunday, December 1, 2-3:30 pm
RUMC Fellowship Hall
246 Main Street

We will make Chrismons (ornaments that are Christ symbols) for the church and home. We'll hang them on our sanctuary tree and sing carols.



End the afternoon with a special visitor and Christmas cookies!

Questions? Cara Norris 443-804-3792
rumcfamilyministires1777@gmail.com

Message from your Finance Team:

As the end of the year approaches, please remember that your giving needs to be post-marked by December 31 (if you mail in your contributions) for credit on your 2024 giving statement. If you use online giving, gifts need to be entered by December 27 to ensure your gift is processed by December 31. Thank You for your continued support of RUMC. rumctreasurer1777@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support of Reisterstown UM Church
Pat Botelle

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



Gift Card orders for Christmas will be selling on November 17 and 24. NOT SELLING DECEMBER 1ST (THANKSGIVING WEEKEND) CAN LEAVE ORDERS. BUT NOT FILLED THEN.

Then selling December 8 and 15

Do you go to Weis for your groceries? UMW gets 5% back on every gift card for there you purchase. That is \$5 on a \$100 you spend. Just one of many, many cards available. Buy them and use them from RUMW to help support our missions and church.

Order forms are in the Narthex.

Thank you. RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com



A HUGE CATCH

Make a catch of fish to show what happens when Jesus calls his first disciples.

What you need:

- Cardboard egg carton
- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Darning needle
- Fishing twine
- Scissors
- Googly eyes or buttons
- Glue



What you do:

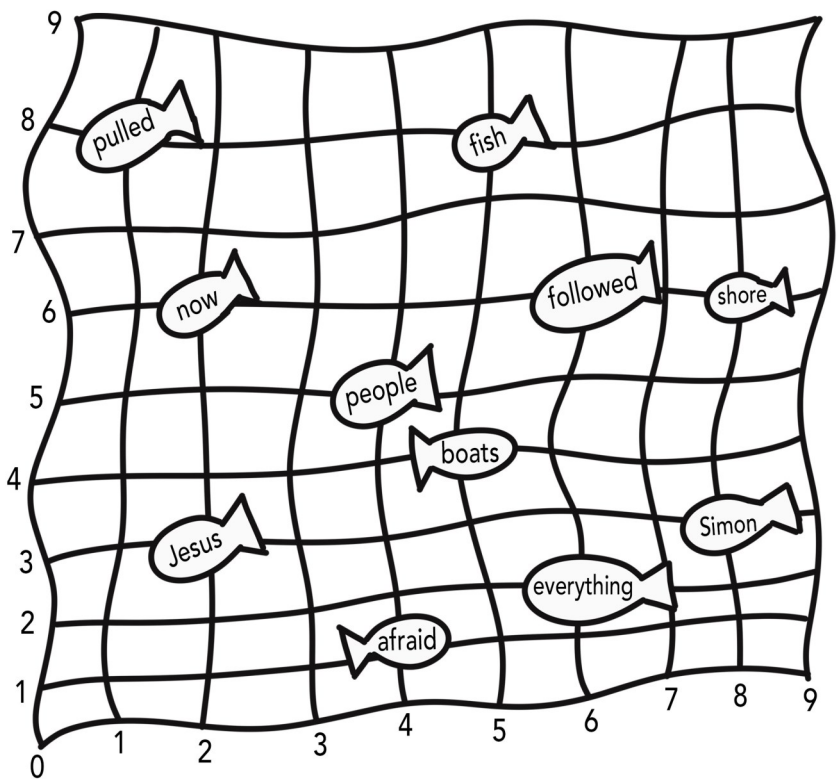
1. From the egg carton, cut out the 12 cups. From the lid, cut out two fish tails.
2. On a protected surface, turn the cups upside down. Paint the outside of each cup and both sides of the tails. Let dry.
3. Thread the needle with an arm's length of twine. Tie a knot at the end.
4. Thread the needle through the end of the tail. Tie another knot an inch from the tail.
5. Thread the needle through one upside-down cup. Pull the twine through until the cup rests on the knot.
6. Continue tying knots an inch above each cup and threading on another cup until you've strung six cups. Tie a knot above the last cup and leave a long string to hang the fish. (You can make two fish with each egg carton.)
7. Add googly eyes or buttons to the last cup to make a face.



FISHING DIRECTIONS

When fishermen obeyed Jesus and let down their nets, they caught so many fish that their boats began to sink! Simon Peter fell at Jesus' knees. What happened next?

Directions: Use the coordinate clues to locate the correct words and complete Luke 5:10-11 (NIV) below. The first number in each clue pair goes across, and the second number goes up.



Then Jesus said to (2,3), "Don't be (8,3); from (4,1) on you will (2,6) for (5,8)." So they (4,5) their (1,8) up on (5,4), left (8,6) and (6,2) him. (6,6)

Luke 5:10-11, NIV

Answers: Jesus, Simon, afraid, now, fish, people, pulled, boats, shore, everything, followed

Puzzle!

Complete the maze to help people from all directions hear the good news. Then, starting at the N (north) and going clockwise, read John 3:16, NIV.

perish but have eternal life." N "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." N

John 3:16,
NIV

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; Cindy 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;
 Ken Harry; Jerry Hilton; Mike Hockstad;
 Julie Hoffman; Debbie Johnson; Lisa Johnson;
 Denny Johnson; Eddie Jones; Rita Jones;
 Mary Lewis; Roger Lipp; Tyler Llewellyn;

Celia Diniz Luiz; Alfred Luginger; Pat MacLeer;
 Vikki McAdory; Tina Meeks; Ronald Metz;
 Don Mills; Aaliyah Parker; 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; Marilyn;
 Nicholas; Rachel; Shannon;
 Nicole (alumni of Preschool); Christa

*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 SGT 1st Class, Marion Yohn's granddaughter, back home in Georgia
Jeremy Hadden, Pat Dinsmore's grandson, Air Force, stationed at Edwards AFB in California
Steven Lee, Carol 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	Shirley Krause
Ann Clayton	Gerry Lewis
Lorna & Gordon Dix	Thelma Mack
Ginger Gelwicks	Jean Moss
Velvia & Howard	Christie Newcomer
Goodrich	Betty Pulse
Mary Jane Huffman	Gill Seal
Dave Kehne	Judith Wetzal

OUR MEMBERS IN SENIOR COMMUNITIES

Carroll Lutheran Village Nancy Welsh Cherrywood- Reisterstown Kerrie Flanagan Lorien—Harmony Hall in Columbia Jeanne Knight	Lorien Center— Taneytown Monte Hatcher Janet Porter
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**CELEBRATING ALL OF OUR
Under 25 AND Over 70 MEMBERS
December Birthdays**



Thomas Surber

12/2

132 Cedarmere Rd
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Monte Hatcher

12/3

100 Antrim Blvd Apt 304
Taneytown, MD 21787-2406

Kim Riesenfeld

12/7

607 Bond Ave
Reisterstown, MD 21136-1813

Sherry Osborne

12/8

1195 Fish And Game Rd
Littlestown, PA 17340

Jason Waters

12/8

203 Homevale Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

John Dunkle

12/14

2404 Caves Rd
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Ed Hare

12/16

23 Franklin Valley Cir
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Barbara Rhodes

12/16

6 Meadow Mist Ct
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Susan Donovan Henry

12/17

122 Glyndon Trace Dr
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Ethel Trump

12/17

402 Lees Mill Rd
Hampstead, MD 21074

John Wright

12/19

5 Clarks Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Barbara Kelly

12/21

304 Townleigh Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Suzanne Pierce

12/27

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

Maya Trump

12/28

4770 Wentz Rd
Manchester, MD 21102

Joanne Ditto

12/30

208 Highfalcon Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Nancy Welsh

12/30

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



Three Month Calendar

DECEMBER

1	All Day	First Sunday of Advent	
	All day	Gift Card Orders but not submitted until next week	
	2:00 pm	Advent Party	Fellowship Hall
7	TTBD	United Women of Faith Christmas Party	Fellowship Hall
8	All Day	Second Sunday of Advent	
	All day	Gift Card Orders Due	
	8:45-12	Cookie Walk	Fellowship Hall
10	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
14	9am-2pm	RUMNS Breakfast with Santa	Fellowship Hall
15	All Day	Third Sunday of Advent	
		Final Gift Card Orders for Christmas Due	
		Newsletter Articles Due	
20	10:30 am	RUMNS Christmas Program	Main Sanctuary
22	All Day	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
23-1/1		RUMNS Closed	
		RUMC Office Closed for Christmas Break	
24	All Day	Christmas Eve	
	11 am	Family Service	
	8 pm	Traditional Service	
25	All Day	Christmas Day	
31	All day	New Years Eve	

JANUARY

2	All Day	Offices and Preschool Reopens	
14	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
19	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	
	All day	Newsletter Articles due	
20	All Day	MLK Day—Offices and RUMNS Closed	
28	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall

FEBRUARY

1	All Day	First Day of Black History Month	
6	All Day	RUMC Anniversary	
11	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
14	All Day	Valentines Day	
16	All Day	Gift Card Orders Due	
		Newsletter Articles Due	
	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
17	All Day	President's Day	UMC Offices Closed
22	5:00 pm	RUMC Spaghetti Dinner	Fellowship Hall
25	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 FMS
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
2:30 pm—Junction After School Program
7 to 9 pm—Adult Choir, choir room (End of Aug. ~ May)
7:00 pm—Men’s Fellowship, 308

THURSDAYS

3-7 pm—Artist Music, 308
7 to 9 pm—Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall

FRIDAYS

2-6pm “Thrive” After school Program for Franklin Middle School
3-7 pm—Artist Music, 308
7:00 pm—Cristos Iglesias Band Rehearsal, NSC

SATURDAYS

6 am—Cristos Iglesias—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)

2ND & 4TH SUNDAYS

2-3:30 pm Youth Group—308 Bldg.

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

CHURCH COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

1st Thurs.— UMW (6:30 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

