



Our Church Matters

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

Dear Church Family,

In the days since the Inauguration and the National Prayer Service, many people have articulated feeling overwhelmed. The intensity of political division, the heated rhetoric, and the constant stream of opinions on social media have left us feeling drained - and perhaps even unsure about what it means to be a Christian in this season.

Jesus' call to love our neighbors as ourselves can feel particularly challenging in an environment where voices are often raised in anger, fear, or judgment. On platforms where division is amplified, and where the temptation to argue or "set the record straight" is constant, it's easy to forget the deeper truth that we are called to love people—not just when we agree with them, but even when we disagree.

While social media can offer us opportunities to connect and share ideas, it can also become a breeding ground for hostility. When we spend too much time immersed in the noise, we risk becoming desensitized to the humanity of those on the other side of the screen. It becomes all too easy to reduce people to their political labels or their opinions, forgetting that each person we encounter is a beloved child of God, worthy of dignity and respect.

This is where the wisdom of taking a break from social media can be particularly helpful. Stepping away from the constant flow of posts, comments, and debates allows us the space to reflect on how we are living out our values in our real-world interactions. It can also help us re-ground ourselves in our faith's foundation: we are made in the image of the God who is Love, and as God's children, we are called to be living reflections of that love.

Disconnecting from social media doesn't mean avoiding important conversations or disengaging from the world around us. But it does provide us with the necessary clarity to engage from a place of peace and intentionality, rather than reacting out of fear or frustration. By stepping away from the digital frenzy, we create space for prayer, reflection, and self-examination—asking ourselves how we can more faithfully live into our calling to be peacemakers, healers, and lovers of all people.

If you're feeling overwhelmed by the polarizing rhetoric online, consider taking a break—whether

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it's for a few days, a week, or longer. Use that time to center yourself in prayer, have face-to-face conversations, and find other ways to connect with your community and faith. In these divisive times, may we engage with the world through Christ's love—a love that transcends division and always seeks peace. By taking care of ourselves, we are better equipped to love others well.

Blessings and peace,

Jen

Message from your Finance Committee

Happy New Year everyone! As we wrap up the finances for 2024, I wanted to give you an update on where we are.

- We started working on my dream of paying off the mortgage. As of November 1, 2024, the mortgage balance was \$173,823.68. We received a generous gift from the Chambers Foundation of \$5,000 for the mortgage and with regular payments, the balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$161,788.02. To date we have received an additional \$2,600 from generous contributions from the congregation which will be applied to the mortgage at the end of January. Look for regular updates as we work together to pay off this debt.
- Once again, RUMC ended the year in the black. While some of the "surplus" will be carried over to 2025, some of that surplus will be used as an extra payment on the mortgage. I am so grateful for your continued generosity to the mission and ministry of RUMC.
- On a personal note, I am grateful to the Staff Parrish Relations Committee and the Church Council for approving the funding for our paid treasurer. Sabrina Hodge started as your treasurer in mid-October and what a blessing she has been given what I went through during November and December. God certainly knew what was needed at just the right time.

Blessings to you.

Pat Botelle
Finance Chair

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.

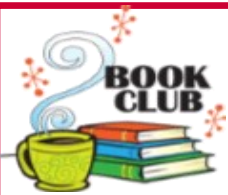
At this time we are NOT accepting donations of clothing or household items.

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.

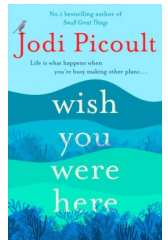
Also, Sundays in the fellowship hall bin.

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



We have changed the February book to give Judy time to get tax season behind her, but don't despair, we will still be doing *Till Murder Do Us Part* by James Patterson later in the year. The February book picked is Jodi Picoult's *Wish You Were Here*.

Diana O'Toole is perfectly on track. She will be married by thirty, done having kids by thirty-five, and move out to the New York City suburbs, all while climbing the professional ladder in the cutthroat art auction world. She's an associate specialist at Sotheby's now, but her boss has hinted at a promotion if she can close a deal with a high-profile client. She's not engaged just yet, but she knows her boyfriend, Finn, a surgical resident, is about to propose on their romantic getaway to the Galápagos—days before her thirtieth birthday. Right on time. But then a virus that felt worlds away has appeared in the city, and on the eve of their departure, Finn breaks the news: It's all hands on deck at the hospital. He has to stay behind. *You should still go, he assures her, since it would be a shame for all of their nonrefundable trip to go to waste. And so, reluctantly, she goes.*



In the Galápagos Islands, where Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection was formed, Diana finds herself examining her relationships, her choices, and herself—and wondering if when she goes home, she too will have evolved into someone completely different. Diana O'Toole is perfectly on track. She will be married by thirty, done having kids by thirty-five, and move out to the New York City suburbs, all while climbing the professional ladder in the cutthroat art auction world. She's an associate specialist at Sotheby's now, but her boss has hinted at a promotion if she can close a deal with a high-profile client. She's not engaged just yet, but she knows her boyfriend, Finn, a surgical resident, is about to propose on their romantic getaway to the Galápagos—days before her thirtieth birthday. Right on time.

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The afternoon meetings have been suspended for the time being. If you wish to have a ride to the evening meeting please contact Brenda Soskin.

Join us on February 20, 2025 in the Church library at 7:00 pm .

Gift Card orders for January will be January 19th



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. RUMCOOffice1777@gmail.com

February 2025—Family Ministries



While I'm not overly concerned with celebrating Valentine's Day (the origins of which, I discovered, seem a little murky), I do like the idea of celebrating love!

It's a great time to send a note or schedule a video call with someone you haven't

seen in awhile, or to check on your local community agencies to see what they might need now that the holiday giving has slowed down. I hope to host a small care package packing event this month, to benefit a local organization, but am still working out some of those details. Stay tuned for that "Share the Love" opportunity in coming weeks!

I also wanted you to share some important dates for your summer so you can get these on the calendar:

- **Vacation Bible Camp** (what we've previously called VBS in the past) is scheduled for July 14-18, 9 am-12 noon at Emory Grove.

- **Adventure Camp**, an overnight camp for rising 3rd graders and up is scheduled for July 27-August 1 at Camp Manidokan. Registration begins Feb. 5 and scholarships are available! Visit bwccampsandretreats.com/manidokan/ for more information.

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

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

Ongoing Prayers for Healing from Cancer
 Taylor Angus; Frank Banz; Jacob Barford;
 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; Susan Harry; Jerry Hilton;
 Mike Hockstad; Julie Hoffman;
 Debbie Johnson; Lisa Johnson;
 Denny Johnson; Eddie Jones; Rita Jones;

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; Dave Weinstein;
 Lynn Whitter; Mike Wright; Ann; Christa; Cin-
 dy; Deb; Jim; Ken; Makenna; Marilyn;
 Nicole (alumni of Preschool); Nicholas;
 Rachel; Shannon;

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	Gerry Lewis
Ann Clayton	Thelma Mack
Lorna & Gordon Dix	Jean Moss
Ginger Gelwicks	Christy Newcomer
Velvia & Howard	Betty Pulse
Goodrich	Gill & Sally Seal
Mary Jane Huffman	Judith Wetzel
Dave Kehne	
Shirley Krause	

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 (in hospice) Janet Porter
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**CELEBRATING ALL OF OUR
Under 25 AND Over 70 MEMBERS
February Birthdays**

Tom Osborne

2/2

1195 Fish And Game Rd
Littlestown PA 17340

Kinsey Pue

2/4

2627 Bag Pipe Dr PO Box 583
Finksburg MD 21048

Kain Cresswell

2/17

1301 Nicodemus Rd
Reisterstown MD 21136

Barbara Hamilton

2/2

4770 Ilkley Moor Ln
Ellicott City MD 21043-6532

Luke Harmon

2/4

1215 Mount Carmel Rd
Parkton MD 21120-9761

Timothy Hontz

2/17

165 Carolstowne Rd
Reisterstown MD 21136

William Carr

2/3

620 Quarry View Ct Unit 202
Reisterstown MD 21136-6261

Pamela Horner

2/13

345 High Knob Ln
Reisterstown MD 21136

Bill Myers

2/17

900 Red Brook Blvd Unit 304
Owings Mills MD 21117-5180

Bev Lipp

2/3

508 Gwynnwest Rd
Reisterstown MD 21136

Emma Osborne

2/13

3738 Black Rock Rd
Upperco MD 21155

Zachary Caltrider

2/19

1791 Brookshire Ct
Finksburg MD 21048

Lynn Owings

2/3

14627 Hanover Pike
Upperco MD 21155-9732

Jim Brondyke

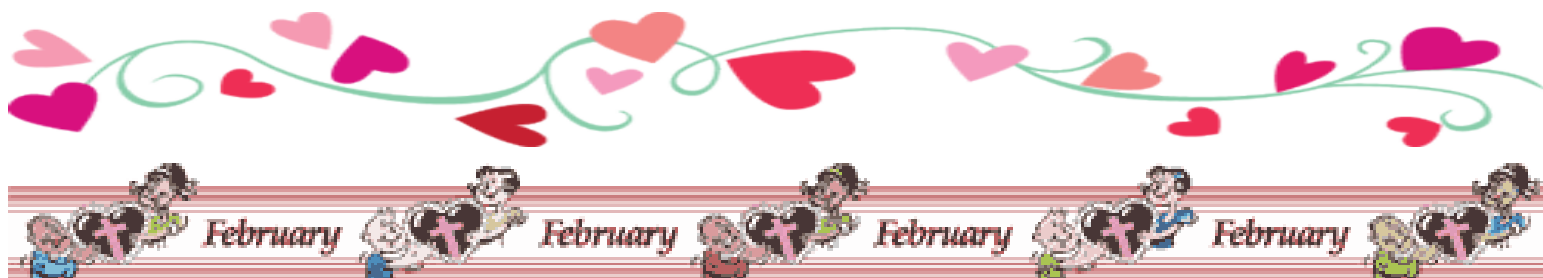
2/14

1220 Marclee Rd
Finksburg MD 21048

Deloris Stark

2/24

11725 Terry Town Dr
Reisterstown MD 21136-3218



Three Month Calendar

FEBRUARY

1	All Day	First Day of Black History Month	
2	11:30 am	Soup & Salad Lunch after Service	Fellowship Hall
6	All Day	RUMC Anniversary	
9	All Day	Scout Sunday	
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—RUMNS & Offices Closed	
22	5:00 pm	RUMC Spaghetti Dinner	Fellowship Hall
25	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall

MARCH

9	All Day	Daylight Savings Time Begins at 2 am	
11	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
16	All Day	Gift Card & Shopping Card orders due	
		Newsletter articles due	
	10 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
17	All day	St. Patrick's Day	
25	8-4	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
31	All Day	RUMNS Closed—Parent Teacher Conferences	

APRIL

8	All day	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
13	All day	Palm Sunday	
14-21		RUMNS Closed—Spring Break	
17	All day	Holy Thursday	
	7:00 pm	Holy Thursday service	Sanctuary
18	All day	Good Friday	
	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service	Sanctuary
20	All day	Gift Card & Shopping Card orders due	
		Newsletter articles due	
	10 am	Blood Pressure screening	246 Conference Room
21	All Day	Easter Monday - RUMC Offices closed	
22	All day	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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ReisterstownUnitedMethodistChurch>

WEBSITE: www.rumcweb.org

Office Email: RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com

E-mail: pastorjeneschlilman@gmail.com

Pastor Jen Eschlilman

Fax: 443-381-0200

Phone: 410-833-5440

Reisterstown, MD 21136

246 Main Street

Reisterstown United Methodist Church



**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

