



Our Church Matters

Our Mission: Inspiring people to put Christ’s love into action for the good of our neighbors and the world.

Dear RUMC Family,

Sometimes I think we’re tempted to treat our Lenten practices like New Year’s resolutions—like a path to a “new us.” In a world where algorithms fill our feeds with ads for self-improvement apps, promising to fix us “for a fee,” Lent can seem like the poor-man’s alternative. We give up vices, hoping to become healthier, have more energy, be more productive or more present. We take on new routines, hoping to become more intentional.

These impulses aren’t bad, but they were never what the early Christians intended when they carved out this 40-day season of repentance and preparation. Our attempts to make Lent something it isn’t can leave us feeling frustrated, disappointed, or even like we “failed at Lent” (something more than a few people have said to me over the years).

At the end of last month, I happened upon a short video by Kate Bowler, who reminded her social media audience that Lent is not a 40-day “glow-up.” It’s not 40 days to get it together. It’s not meant to fix us, optimize us, or make us more impressive. We start the season of Lent with ashes to remind us that we are finite, but that is not a problem to be solved. Lent interrupts the fantasy that we will one day wake up less restless, less tender, less achy, less human. That ache, she says, is what it means to be alive. (You can see it here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1C6ueb3S8U/>)

Lent reminds us of our humanity—of our frailty, our imperfections, and our inability to muscle our way into better versions of ourselves. It reminds us that we need God, and we need the grace shown to us in Christ.

Fasting and prayer are meant to remind us of our dependence; they aren’t exercises in personal mastery. Almsgiving, or giving to those in need, teaches us to see the poor and

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vulnerable not as abstractions but as neighbors, people whose fragile lives are bound up with ours. And doing those things makes us better—if they make us more like Christ—then it's grace, not an accomplishment.

So let us embrace a Lent that reminds us of our humanness, our frailty, and our dependence upon God. At our journey's end, we may just experience even more profoundly the gift of Christ and His resurrection.

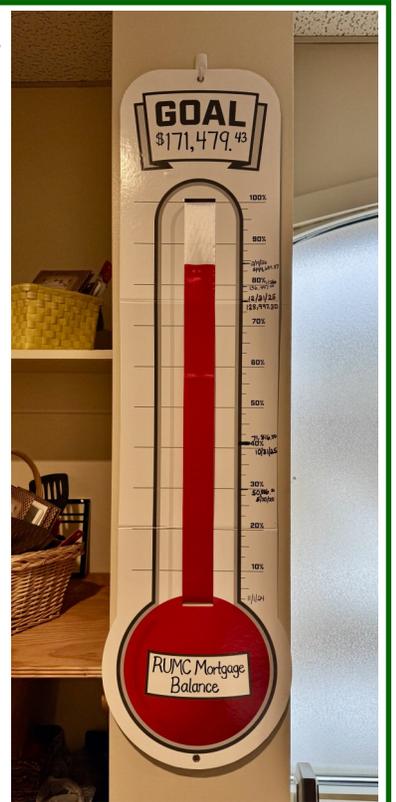
Blessings and peace,

Jen



It has been a cold and dreary 2026 so far. Snow, rain, fog, cold, clouds. So here's something to brighten your day and hopefully bring a smile to your face. As of this writing, our mortgage balance is \$26,794.56!!!! I challenged the congregation back in November 2024 to see if we could pay off the mortgage by our 250 anniversary in February 2027. Not only did you meet that challenge, you exceeded it!!!! We are on track to have the mortgage paid off by this summer. To date, your generosity has contributed a little over \$110,000. I can't thank you enough for stepping up in faith. What a blessing you all are to RUMC and the surrounding community. As we move toward the cross, let us start to imagine what we can do with the funds not needed for the mortgage.

Pat Botelle
Finance Chair



GAME NIGHT



Game night is always the second Friday in the month, so in March, we will meet at **6:00pm on March 13th** in the Fellowship Hall. We don't always have a crowd, but we always have fun.

Hope to see you there!

Family Game Night is a joint venture of the Rachel Bruehl Memorial Library and RUMC Family Ministries. Any questions contact the Brenda Soskin or Cara Norris.





Gift Card orders for March

Gift Cards and Shopping Cards orders will be taken on March 15th.

Our profits are used for many different charities in our community. Thank you.

Please buy and use RUMW Gift Cards. Thank you.

RUMCOffice1777@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.

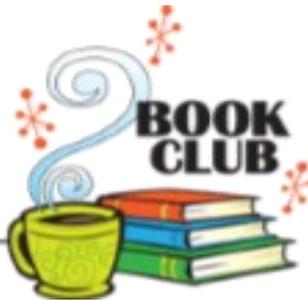
At this time we are NOT accepting donations of clothing or household items.

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.

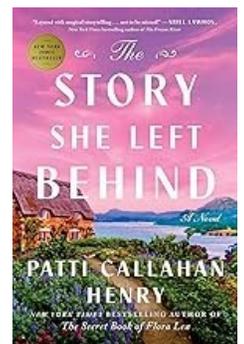
PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE DONATIONS OUTSIDE ANY CHURCH DOORS OR THE FOOD PANTRY



Join us on March 19th in the Library at 7:00 pm as we discuss March's book: ***The Story She Left Behind*** (Patti Henry) Inspired by a true literary mystery, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the mesmerizing *The Secret Book of Flora Lea* returns with the sweeping story of a legendary book, a lost mother, and a daughter's search for them both.

In 1927, eight-year-old Clara Harrington's magical childhood shatters when her mother, renowned author, Bronwyn Newcastle Fordham, vanishes off the coast of South Carolina. Bronwyn stunned the world with a book written in an invented language that became a national sensation when she was just twelve years old. Her disappearance leaves behind not only a devoted husband and heartbroken daughter, but also the hope of ever translating the sequel to her landmark work. As the headlines focus on the missing author, Clara years for something far deeper and more insatiable: her beloved mother.

By 1952, Clara is an illustrator raising her own daughter, Wynnie. When a stranger named Charlie Jameson contacts her from London claiming to have discovered a handwritten dictionary of her mother's lost language. Clara is skeptical. Compelled by the tragedy of her mother's disappearance, she crosses the Atlantic with Wynnie only to arrive during one of London's most deadly natural disasters—the Great Smog. With asthmatic Wynnie in peril, they escape the city with Charlie and find refuge in the Jameson's family retreat nestled in the Lake District. It is there that Clara must find the courage to uncover the truth about her mother and the story she left behind.



"Graceful in its telling and so very wise in its insights, *The Story She Left Behind* is a book that will capture your heart, lift your spirits, and delight your soul" (William Kent Krueger, *New York Times* bestselling author).

March 2026



Feeding our neighbors

Our children are busy learning about different ways to feed people in our local community and around the world. They will spend one Sunday morning in the food pantry, getting a tour and packing food bags. They will spend the other Sundays learning about Heifer International, an organization that works to end global hunger and poverty. Heifer gifts animals, and training to care for those animals, so that families can raise them for food to eat and

sell. Each Sunday our children will receive an offering challenge to raise funds for Heifer. After Lent, they will count up the money and decide what projects to support. Here is each week's offering challenge:

March 1 – Bring in 5 cents for every egg in your fridge.

March 8 – Bring in 10 cents for every kind of cheese in your house.

March 15 – Bring in a can or box of food for our food pantry.

March 22 – Bring in 25 cents for every jar of honey in your house.

March 29 – Bring in 20 cents for every water faucet in your house.

Eggstravaganza

Reisterstown Improvement Association is holding their annual Eggstravaganza on Saturday, March 28, 10 am-12 noon. ***Cara is looking for volunteers*** to help set up, run activities and clean up that morning. This is the same day as the Celebration of Life for Sarah Smith; if you are not involved with that service, Cara could really use your help, since many of our volunteers will need to be at the church that day. They are running the egg hunt a little differently this year, so we do NOT need to fill any eggs.

Important Dates

April 26, 5:30-8 pm – Talent Show Dinner Fundraiser – You will not want to miss this!

Come see our children and youth show off their talents – they will sing, play their instruments, show off their flexibility, dance, draw, and more, all to raise money for Heifer International!!!

August 3-7 – Vacation Bible School at Emory Grove



Please contact Cara Norris at 443-833-5440 or rumcfamilyministires1777@gmail.com if you have any questions about Sunday School or Family Ministries.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Holy Week Services

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 29, 10 AM

HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 2, 7 PM

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 3, 7 PM



Celebrate the Resurrection

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

10:00 AM Spirited-Traditional Service





RUMC
Circle of Friends
2026 - Order Only Plant Sale Fundraiser

Pick Up Thursday, May 7th, 3 p.m. ~ 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Name:				Phone #:			
Type of Plant			Quantity		Price per Plant		Total
Flowering Hanging Baskets 10" Pot							
Red Geranium					\$25.00		
Petunia					\$25.00		
Red Begonia					\$25.00		
Mixed Annuals					\$25.00		
Edibles, Herb, and Veggie 4" Pot							
Herbs	Sweet Basil				\$5.00		
	Chives				\$5.00		
	Cilantro				\$5.00		
	Dill				\$5.00		
	Oregano				\$5.00		
	Parsley				\$5.00		
	Rosemary				\$5.00		
	Thyme				\$5.00		
Tomatoes	Red Slicing (Better Boy)				\$5.00		
	Cherry (Sweet 100)				\$5.00		
	Italian or Paste				\$5.00		
Peppers	Sweet Bell				\$5.00		
	Sweet Banana				\$5.00		
	Hot Jalapeno				\$5.00		
Flowering Geraniums 4 1/2" Pot							
Red					\$8.00		
White					\$8.00		
Pink					\$8.00		
Flowering Annual 4" Pot in bloom							
Assorted varieties					\$5.00		
Garden 4 Plant Market Packs							
Red Wax Begonias					\$5.00		
French Dwarf Marigolds:	Yellow	Mixed Colors			\$5.00		
Impatiens:	Red	White	Mixed Colors			\$5.00	
Tomato:	Red Slicing (Better Boy)				\$5.00		
Type of Plant			Quantity		Price per Plant		Total
Perennials Quart Pot							
Coreopsis					\$8.00		
Black-eyed Susan					\$8.00		
Coneflower:	Purple	White			\$8.00		
Order Total						\$	

Orders due by **March 29th**, Make checks payable to COF
 Order Forms to go in **Pink Box** in Narthex
Questions: Call or text Tammy Nash @ 410-239-8394

REISTERSTOWN MAIN STREET PRESENTS

egg-STREAM eggSTRAVAGANZA! Doy

ACTIVITIES FREE FOR ALL!
AGES 0 -100+.

SATURDAY

MARCH 28

10AM - NOON

FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL LAWN

Egg Hunt. Games. STEM Challenges. Art.
Candy. Prizes and More!

BRING \$\$ FOR WETZEL'S PRETZELS FOOD TRUCK!

REISTERSTOWN.COM



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

Ongoing Prayers for Healing from Cancer

Taylor Angus; Frank Banz; Jacob Barford;
Beth Bolin; Bruce Bond; Marilyn Brathwaite;
Renee Brooksbank; Jean Chambers;
Benjamin Dapper; Steve Diehl; Sandy Engle;
Megan Evans; Jacque Eycler; Ryan Gardner;
Sondra Hadden; Mary Hanlon; Susan Harry;
Jerry Hilton; Mike Hockstad; Julie Hoffman;
Debbie Johnson; Lisa Johnson; Denny Johnson;
Eddie Jones; Rita Jones; Roger Lipp;
Tyler Llewellyn; John LeCroix; Celia Diniz Luiz;
Alfred Luginger; Pat MacLeer;
Vikki McAdory; Becky McClure; Tina Meeks;
Ronald Metz; Don Mills; Dottie Payne;
Charles Rahley; Molly Ruppert; Les Schafferman;

Marge Shaw; Rebecca Sloan; Sean Staley;
Melanie Stierhoff; Mary Telchi; Jenna Thornton;
Dave Weinstein; Lynn Whitter; Mike Wright;
Ann; Christa; Cindy; Deb; Jim;
Karen; Ken; Makenna; Marilyn;
Nicholas; Rachel; Shannon; Liz; Ellie

*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

Davy Brickman, Ruth Witlock'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 Tambaon'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, stationed at Davenport, IA
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 Tambaon 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 Dietrick in Frederick MD
Isaac Shroll, Tracy Tambaon's cousin—serving in the Army

OUR MEMBERS AT HOME

Barb Bonicker	Shirley Krause
Ann Clayton	Gerry Lewis
Lorna & Gordon Dix	Christy Newcomer
Ginger Gelwicks	Betty Pulse
Velvia & Howard Goodrich	Sally Seal
Mary Jane Huffman	

OUR MEMBERS IN SENIOR COMMUNITIES

Cherrywood- Reisterstown	Charter Senior Living at Woodholme Crossing
Kerrie Flanagan	Thelma Mack
Lorien Center— Taneytown	
Janet Porter	

Three Month Calendar

MARCH

3	6:00 pm	RUMNS Board Meeting	Library
8	Turn clocks ahead one hour at 2:00 am		
10	All day	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
13	6-9 pm	Game Night	Fellowship Hall
15	All day	Gift Card & Shopping Cards Order Due	
	All day	Newsletter Articles due	
	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
24	All day	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
28	noon	Eggstravaganza	Franklin MS
29	All day	Palm Sunday	

APRIL

2-12	All day	RUMNS Closed for Spring Break	
2	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Main Sanctuary
3	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service	Main Sanctuary
5	All day	Easter Sunday	
6	All day	Office Closed	
10-11	All day	Confirmation Retreat at West River (tentative)	
11	6-9 pm	Game Night	Fellowship Hall
14	All day	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
19	All day	Gift Card & Shopping Cards Order Due	
	All day	Newsletter Articles due	
	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
28	All day	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall

MAY

1-3	Tentative	Confirmation West River Retreat	
7	3-6pm	COF Plant Sale pick up	Fellowship Hall
12	All day	Mission of Mercy	Fellowship Hall
17	All day	Gift Card & Shopping Cards Order Due	
	All day	Newsletter Articles due	
	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Screening	246 Conference Room
24	All day	Pentecost	
25	All day	Memorial Day	Office & RUMNS Closed
30	10am-1pm	RUMNS Craft Expo	Fellowship Hall
31	All day	Trinity Sunday	
	10 am	Confirmation Service	Main Sanctuary

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 (School Year)
 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 — SAIL After School Program (School Year)
 6:00 pm — Joyful Noise Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 pm — Men’s Fellowship, 308

THURSDAYS

3-7 pm — Artist Music, 308
 6:30-8 pm — Adult Choir, choir room (End of Aug. ~ May)

FRIDAYS

2-6pm— “Thrive” After school Program for FMS (School Year)
 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

EVERY SUNDAY

Noon — Cristos Iglesias Service, NSC
 11:15 am — 12:15 pm: Youth Sunday School—308 Bldg.
 11:15 am — 12:00 pm: Children’s Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
 2-3:30 pm: Youth Group (End of Aug. thru May) 308 Bldg.

CHURCH COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

1st Wed.— UMinFAITH (6:30 pm) Library
 2nd Mon.— Circle of Friends, Library (No mtg Dec.)
 2nd Tues.— Finance Even months (6:30 pm) Library
 2nd Tues.— Trustees Odd months (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

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Reisterstown, MD 21136
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Fax: 443-381-0200
Pastor Jen Eschlieman
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Office Email: RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.rumcweb.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ReisterstownUnitedMethodistsChurch>



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

We have several ways to join us virtually, including 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.

YouTube Account! Google: "reisterstown umc maryland" We have archived our sermons and any music videos! The link is also available on our website – www.RUMCweb.org.



YouTube account for our services if you miss one, you can pull it up at this link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzltzPeTDuFxeJv_EJpgjgQ