

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. - Philippians 4:13*

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

- **MARCH 25 — Palm Sunday.** Palm Processional at all three services; Palm Sunday Brunch, 9am-noon, in Wesley Hall, served by our youth to benefit their summer mission trips.
- **MARCH 29 — Maundy Thursday:** 7:30 pm - Tenebrae Service (Service of the Shadows) and Communion at the rail.
- **MARCH 30 — Good Friday:** Noon - 4pm, in the Chapel - Reflection, Meditation and Communion. The Easter Prayer Vigil will begin at 4pm on Good Friday and continue around the clock in the Chapel, in one-hour shifts, until the beginning of services on Easter Sunday morning.



The Chapel will be staffed during the overnight hours. Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to commit to pray for the church, the community, and other concerns God brings to their hearts.

After each Sunday worship, starting March 4, look for the easel with the poster board on it, to sign up for a one-hour shift or for a prayer time slot. For more information contact Michael Parry at [MParry3638@gmail.com](mailto:MParry3638@gmail.com).

- **APRIL 1 — Easter Sunday:**
  - ◇ **7:00am** - Sunrise Service at Rockport United Methodist Church, 3301 Wooster Road, in their outdoor chapel
  - ◇ **8:30am** - Chapel Service
  - ◇ **10:00am** - Sanctuary Service at 10:00am. Fuller Sounds Handbell Choir, Erie Shores Brass Quintet, and the Chancel Choir will perform.
  - ◇ **11:30am** - Harbor Service

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### YOU'RE INVITED TO PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH!

Sunday, **March 25, 9:00am-noon** in Wesley Hall. Our youth and their families will prepare and serve a wonderful brunch for you to enjoy after the Chapel Service, before or after the Sanctuary Service, or before the Harbor Service.

You can expect warm casseroles, pastries, fresh fruit, coffee, and more!

We also will be starting our **Butter Braid Pastry and Cookie Dough** sale on Palm Sunday. Stop by our table in Wesley Hall to place your order.

For more information about the youth ministry of RRUMC, contact Rachel Burns, Director of Youth Ministries, at [rburns@rrumc.org](mailto:rburns@rrumc.org) or 440.331.7676, extension 233.

Youth Mission Teams are getting ready for summer trips to Athens County, OH and Chavies, KY. We hope you will take part in our trips by supporting these young missionaries.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### VBS 2018: JUNE 25-29

This year's theme for VBS is "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus!"

Please keep your eyes out for the following:

- Tiki torches, wooden barrels, wooden crates (all sizes), palm leaves, treasure chest, anchors, ship wheels, thick rope, wooden pallets, anything that looks like it belongs on an island.

If you or someone you know is getting rid of these things, I would greatly appreciate you lending or giving them to the children's program.

Thank you for helping make Vacation Bible School a success yet again! If you have any questions, please contact Quinn Bennett at [qbennett@rrumc.org](mailto:qbennett@rrumc.org).

## REFLECTIONS... *by Rev. Dan Bogre*

As you read this we will have just started the season of Lent. The word LENT comes from the Anglo-Saxon word LENCTEN, which means "spring." For Christians, it is a season that goes from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday morning. It is a season of inner reflection and discernment about who we are and whose we are as we journey to the cross and ultimately to the empty tomb.

This year we are using Mike Slaughter's book, "Made For a Miracle." In the book, Slaughter says: "God's miracles throughout both the Old and New Testaments reveal that miracles typically have two dimensions: divine intervention and human responsibility." If God is going to work a miracle in someone's life, it's not only on God to do his part but it is also on us to do our part. God works his miracles through his people. We become the tools that he will use to carry out miracles in the world and ultimately in people's lives.

Slaughter also says, "Miracles aren't for you; God releases miracles through you for God's purposes in the lives of other people." I have never looked at it that way. I am a person that God can and will use to bring about miracles in other people's lives. I just have to make myself available. If I am available to God's miracle being worked in this world through me, lives are then changed - including my own.

This sermon series and accompanying small group studies can and will unleash the power of God to work through our church, and each one of us individually, as we make ourselves available to God's miracles in the world. The book's subtitle is, "From your ordinary to God's extraordinary." I get to take my totally ordinary life and hand it over to God for his extraordinary. What kind of Lent do you want to experience this year? Ordinary or extraordinary?



## CHANCEL CHOIR LENTEN CANTATA

Sunday, March 11  
10:00am — Sanctuary

Chancel Choir Presents Ola Gjeilo's  
*Dark and Luminous Night of the Soul.*

Join the RRUMC Chancel Choir in a service of Lenten introspection and reflection as we dive deep into the dark depths of our souls and emerge to the surface of a luminous night.

Text adapted from St. John of the Cross.

This cantata will feature choir, piano, strings, lighting effects, and a visual artist.



## FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE PREPARING FOR YOUR AGING

*by Gayle Donahue, MSN, RN*

Are you in control of your aging and your choices? I suspect the majority of you just said yes. You are remembering your earlier transitions from childhood and perhaps on to retirement. With the exception of a few bumps along the way you are OK with where you are now. So based on past experience, with some basic goal setting and lots of prayer, your older years will flow smoothly. You could be correct.

A 2008 National Institute on Aging report concluded that by 2017 there would be more people over 65 than children under 5. Do you know that because the over 65 population is growing so rapidly, we are seeing not only older and healthier adults, we are

seeing changing models of social support, health care, disease patterns, and economics? Is your goal setting informed and proactive reflecting these changes?

There are several programs developing here at RRUMC that can prepare you with information, processes, and experience to meet you in the midst of your developing story:

- **Daniel Plan** — Original and Essentials versions offer you a foundation in the five pillars of Faith, Fitness, Focus, Friends, and Food. Each of these pillars needs to be addressed and expanded upon in a plan for healthy aging.
- **Senior Living Tours** — Introduce you to the changing world of senior community living. I am always thrilled to see the new

energy that develops for new residents as they find new friends, new activities, improved nutrition, and relief from the stress of private home responsibility.

### NEW CLASS

Starting in April, on the fourth Sunday of each month, there will be a **Conversations of Health** class for adults in the Parlor, 11:10-11:45am.

Each class will have a different topic and speaker sharing his/her expertise to meet you in the midst of your story.

Watch the church bulletin, health ministry bulletin board, or church website for additional details.

If you are a health care professional and would like to share your expertise, or if you would like to chat about your plan for healthy aging, please e-mail me at [gdonahue@rrumc.org](mailto:gdonahue@rrumc.org).

## WITH GRATITUDE

Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia plant that was delivered to me. I have enjoyed it for several weeks and now am sharing it with someone that rarely receives gifts.

– *Marian Sell*

Dear RRUMC Family, Thank you for the red poinsettia plant at Christmas time. Thank you for the colorful spring-like flower arrangement delivered last Sunday. The plant and arrangement brought us much joy. I appreciate the many thoughts and prayers for my recovery from heart surgery. I hope to get back to church soon. In Jesus name - *Ruth Glynn*

Thank you letters were received from Dawn Kolograf, Executive Director of West Side Community House, for donations made by RRUMC toward senior hunger programs and toward programs supporting children, teens, and families. One letter said, in part: "Do you realize what RRUMC has helped to make possible? Isolated, homebound seniors will receive a warm meal, and seniors coming to the center will have the opportunity to engage in activities that strengthen their bodies, minds, and spirits ... Children will have experience that stimulate the imagination, enhance self-esteem ... and guide them to become caring young adults. Struggling families will receive the resources and encouragement they need in order to stay whole and strong. You have helped to make all of this possible, and we thank you."

Thank you, thank you, thank you!! The Super Bowl voting collected \$270! Thanks to your generosity we will be able to cover the postage to send each of our church's college students a care package from RRUMC to help them prepare for finals! What an amazing group of people you all are!!  
- *Kristen Wiggers (on behalf of Families in Action core group).*

Thank you church for your caring contributions - because of you, we collected 93 blankets on Blanket Sunday and distributed them to area agencies.

- *The Mission/Outreach Committee*

Thank you for your generous gift of 10 blankets. Your donations will help to further the work of the May Dugan Center and goes directly to enrich and advance lives. Moreover, this contribution permits us to save dollars so that we can apply them directly to support the programs and services we provide. Your willingness to help people overcome socio-economic disadvantages makes all the difference for people.

- *Richard Kemm, Exec. Director, May Dugan Center*

## MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Start your Tuesdays with coffee, conversation, and prayer. Men meet for prayer every Tuesday morning at 7:00am in the church parlor.



## MILESTONES

### March Anniversaries

(50 or more years and those in 5 year increments)

3/13 Mid and Don Walker 65 years

### Birthdays (age 90 and above)

\*2/14 Nancy Kammeier 90 years

3/08 Barbara Fulton 91 years

3/16 John Rowland 93 years

3/23 Mary Jean Hagen 90 years

3/26 Herbert Hoppe 90 years

3/30 Jewell Walther 99 years

\*A belated birthday wish to Nancy Kammeier who turned 90 on February 14. Apologies for omitting her birthday from the February issue of the Circuit Rider.

**Note:** If you are a church member who is about to turn 90 or to celebrate a significant anniversary, please consider calling the Church Office a couple of months before your birthday or anniversary to make sure we have your information in the computer. We try to collect this information when you join the church but may not have complete information on everyone.

### Baptisms

Laila Meta Bekeny, daughter of Amanda and Karl Bekeny, on January 21. Big brothers are Axel and Anton.

Aubrey Marie Ponziani, daughter of Brittany and Kevin Ponziani, on January 28.

### In Sympathy

Family and friends of Mary Sarris who passed away in mid-January; friend of the Tenhovers.

Robert and Karen Lynn Jorgensen, in the death of his father, Augie Jorgensen, in Texas.

Sarah Pierce and family, in the death of Sarah's grandfather, Rev. Dr. Robert J. Beyer, on January 22.

Barbara Milenius and family, in the passing of her husband, David, on January 26.

Dan Bush and family, in the passing of his father, Alan D. Bush, on January 31.

## MISSION ZONE CHILDREN'S FREE STORE DONATIONS

February: Soap

March: Underwear

April: Flip flops & Sunscreen



MARY ANNE & RICHARD CAVICCHI CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SEMINAR

"FINDING OUR STORIES IN ABRAHAM'S JOURNEY"



Sunday, April 22 4:00-7:30pm

This four-part presentation and discussion will be led by Rabbi Endi Lader, Beth Israel, The West Temple, Triskett Road, Cleveland. She has been the rabbi at The West Temple since August 2012 and is very active in interfaith outreach.

Program:

- Part 1: God's Call to Abraham: What does it mean to leave one's land...one's place of safety?
Part 2: The importance of the Land and the Temple: Exile and Diaspora - making a new home/yearning to return.
Part 3: Jewish Rituals and Symbols: From around the world: Israel, Eastern Europe, Spain, China...China????
Part 4: "And you shall be a blessing..." Moving beyond ourselves, opening our hearts and extending our hands to others.

A light meal will be provided. Questions? E-mail Elizabeth Cavicchi at e.m.cavicchi@gmail.com.

Registration deadline is Monday, April 16. Register online at www.rumc.org/cavicchi-seminar-sign-up.

ALGART HYMN SING

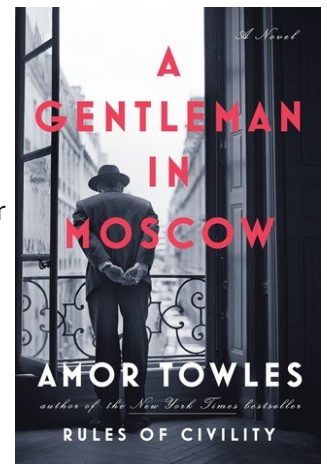
Come sing the wonderful old hymns of the Methodist Church like "Blessed Assurance," "In the Garden," "The Old Rugged Cross," and "Holy, Holy, Holy" in a sing-along with the residents of Algart Home, a nursing care and assisted living facility on West 89th St. and Detroit Rd. in Cleveland. This isn't a choir. There is no performance or rehearsal. We are simply there to talk with, sing with, and care for people who truly need our presence to brighten their day. If you come, it will brighten your day too!



We are there the third Tuesday of each month, 2:00-3:00pm. Contact Bob Secrist at 216.521.2365 for more information or simply arrive to sing with us. We need you and they need you. Please join us on March 20!

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club meets the third Thursday of the month at 10:00am in the Church Parlor. Please join us on March 15 to discuss the book "A Gentleman in Moscow" by Amor Towles. Questions? List of future books? Contact Bruce Biggin at brbiggin@netscape.net or 216.221.5880. Always happy to see new faces, and regular attendance is not required.



EASTER REMEMBRANCES EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Dedicate a spring flower to a loved one and light up the Sanctuary on Easter morning. After the 10:00am service, flowers can be taken home or left for delivery. Plants cost \$10 each and the order deadline is Sunday, March 11. Please complete the following information and make checks payable to "RRUMC."

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of plants to be delivered: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to the Memorial Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ordered by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ and/or e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## CLEVELAND FOODBANK



The next Foodbank opportunity for adult volunteers (age 12 and older) will be **Monday, March 12, 6:00-8:00pm**. Those who want to carpool will meet at the church at 5:15pm.

To volunteer and receive registration instructions, contact Dave Sagerser, 216 525 0779 or [dsagerser@aol.com](mailto:dsagerser@aol.com).

Special thanks to our volunteers in January: Patrick Bennett, Nancy and Bill Cowles, Gabe Dery, Dave Huller, Lindsay Jurcenko, John and Holly Kneubel, Sally Lenhart, Roy McKinney, Cory Nesbitt, Fred, Kathy, and Allie Rafferty, Amy and Ella Ruebsteck, Dave Sagerser, Dick Sanders, Marcia Siedel, and Brooke Thomas.



## Social Concerns Discussion Group Save the Date – March 18

## MEN OF CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

Join with other River Men to hear about and discuss the impact of Christian men of character who changed the world. Our next meetings are:

- Tuesday, February 27, 7:00pm at RRUMC. We will be discussing Eric Liddell, a devout Scottish Christian who ran for the glory of God in the 1924 Olympics - the movie "*Chariots of Fire*" is based on his life.
- Tuesday, March 27, 7:00pm at RRUMC. We will be discussing David Livingston, a Scottish Christian Congregationalist, pioneer medical missionary with the London Missionary Society, an explorer in Africa, and one of the most popular British heroes of the late 19th-century in the Victorian era.

No homework or books needed. All men are invited! To sign up, contact Steve Harry at [StephenT.Harry@yahoo.com](mailto:StephenT.Harry@yahoo.com) or 440.668.3514.

### GIFTS OF MUSIC

REMEMBER to join us for the next Gifts of Music Concert on **Sunday, March 4** at 4:00pm to hear Andrew Sords' concert, "The Romantic Violin."

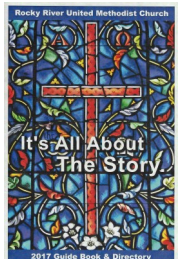


## GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY UPDATE SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHANGES BY MARCH 1!

We are in the process of updating our annual Guide Book & Directory for the church. This book will contain everything pertinent to our church: the various ministries, organizations, committees, activities, functions, and events, plus a complete directory of all members.

Does our church database have YOUR family membership record correct? Have you changed your phone number or e-mail address? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record, or have they moved out and now have new households of their own? Do you want / not want your record published? Please take the time to update YOUR family's information so our annual Guide Book & Directory contains the correct information. E-mail the Church Office at [office@rrumc.org](mailto:office@rrumc.org) (preferred) or call 440.331.7676. Thank you for your help!

**Advertising Opportunity.** This book is being provided and direct-mailed to each family listed at no cost to our church, and it is again being subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please e-mail the Church Office. Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1% of families would rather patronize a Guide Book & Directory advertiser over a non-advertiser. It "will pay" to advertise in our new Guide Book & Directory.



**Rocky River United Methodist Church**  
19414 Detroit Road  
Rocky River, OH 44116-1873  
Ph: 440.331.7676  
Fax: 440.331.7637  
E-Mail: office@rrumc.org  
Web: www.rrumc.org

DATED MATERIALS—PLEASE RUSH  
Mailed February 22, 2018

#### Ministry

Daniel F. Bogre, Senior Pastor  
Paul A. Bennett, Associate Pastor  
Robert B. Hibbard, Pastor Emeritus  
Christopher M. Burns, Harbor Worship Leader  
Sheri B. Swartz, Director of Church Ministries  
Rachel E. Burns, Director of Youth Ministries  
Quinn E. Bennett, Director of Children's Ministries  
Robyn E. Gauder, Service Engagement Coordinator  
Gayle E. Donahue, MSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse  
Craig W. Cowles, Interim Free Store Director

#### Mission Ministry

Rev. Paul Webster, Kanyama, Zambia

#### Music Ministry

Braden J. Pontoli, Director of Music  
Darius J. McBride, Children's/Youth Choir Director  
Carmen G. Massaro, and Lynn Young, Handbell Choirs  
Jeffrey A. Acker, Organist

Address Labels

**Deadline for April Circuit Rider:**  
**March 5**

**IT'S ALL ABOUT THE STORY!**

## SAVE THESE MARCH DATES...

*(See the newsletter articles for details.)*

- 1 - Deadline for Directory Changes**
- 4 - Gifts of Music Concert**
- 6, 13, 20, & 27 - Men's Prayer Group**
- 11 - Lenten Cantata**
- 11 - Easter Flower Orders Due**
- 12 - Cleveland Food Bank Volunteers**
- 15 - Book Club**
- 18 - Social Concerns Discussion Group**
- 20 - Algart Home Hymn Sing**
- 25 - Palm Sunday & Brunch**
- 27 - Men of Christian Character Discussion Group**
- 29 - Maundy Thursday**
- 30 - Good Friday**

## LOOKING AHEAD...

- April 1 - Easter**
- April 22 - Cavicchi Christian Education Seminar**
- April 22 - Conversations of Health Class**
- June 14-17 - Middle School Mission Trip**
- June 25-29 - Vacation Bible School**
- July 1-7 - High School Mission Trip**