

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:** 7:30pm – 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 4:00pm 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, 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 440.773.1301.

- **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

GIFTS OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

JOHN McCOLLEY - "Bach to Salzedo: 300 Years of the Harp"



Sunday, April 15 – 4:00pm

Baldwin Wallace University harp performance major and frequent RRUMC chamber orchestra member, **John McColley** is thrilled to showcase the harp's exciting and diverse repertoire. His dynamic program will take us on a journey, spanning 300 years, beginning with the timeless music of Bach and concluding with a recently composed trio by Bernard Rands. Please join us for a **"can't miss"** concert of heavenly sounds. Don't forget to invite your friends! Additional info is at RRUMC literature displays or www.rrumc.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - APRIL MISSION POSSIBLE



Mission Possible is just around the corner on Friday, April 13, at 6pm. This month we will be making 150 trauma care kits for Frontline. These kits are given to children and families that experience a traumatic loss due to homicide. We

are in need of the following items to make this possible: water bottles, boxes of tissues, chapstick, eye drops, life savers, small microwaveable heating pad to help with headaches and relaxation. Please pray about helping in this incredibly important cause. Please place items outside room 210 by April 4. Losing a loved one is hard enough. Losing them traumatically is life changing. You can make a difference. If you have any questions contact Quinn Bennett at qbennett@rrumc.org.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN – LYDIA CIRCLE

Our Thursday, April 26, meeting will be held at 1:30pm in room 209. Amy Ruebsteck, who is an Employment Specialist for Cornucopia Inc., will be speaking about Cornucopia, a nonprofit organization that helps people with disabilities develop skills and confidence leading to successful employment. Amy is a member of RRUMC. All are welcome.

REFLECTIONS... *by Rev. Dan Bogre*

Happy Easter. As you read this we will be in or close to Holy Week. Holy Week is that time that takes us from the celebration of Palm Sunday to the celebration of the empty tomb on Easter Sunday morning. As we conclude our Lenten sermon series, "Made for a Miracle," I am reminded that Easter each and every year is a miracle for those who will receive its message.

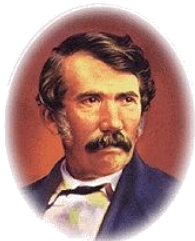
We will celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 1. It is the time we remember that Jesus conquered sin and death and won an incredible victory over the grave. That is an absolute miracle that Jesus brought about and yet we are the ones who get to live into that miracle. In his book, "Made for a Miracle," Mike Slaughter talks about the fact that Easter is seen as a miracle in the wake of Jesus' suffering and death. However, it is hard to see Easter as a miracle when we go straight from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. Our church will have several worship opportunities throughout Holy Week to make sure that we walk the journey that Jesus walked that led to the miracle of Easter Sunday morning. We will celebrate Maundy Thursday when Jesus gives us his last command to love each other as he has loved us. We will have a Good Friday reflection and meditation time which will offer communion. We will journey to the cross to remember that death did not get the final word. There will be an hour by hour prayer vigil in our Chapel from the conclusion of our meditation time in the Chapel on Good Friday to the opening worship service on Easter Sunday morning at 8:30am in our Chapel.



I invite you to all of our services, which are listed in this issue of the Circuit Rider, from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday morning. Don't miss the miracle of Easter. We cannot have the resurrection without the death that must come before. Come this Holy Week and walk the journey with Jesus Christ that takes him from Palm Sunday to the Upper Room, to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the cross, and ultimately to an empty tomb. Happy Easter everyone. Enjoy the miracle. Jesus did it for you.

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. We've made some changes in who we will discuss when so here's the latest information. At our Tuesday, March 27 meeting, we will be discussing William Ashley (Billy) Sunday. Sunday was an American athlete who, after being a popular outfielder in baseball's National League during the 1880s, became the most celebrated and influential American evangelist during the first two decades of the 20th century. On Tuesday, April 24, 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. Meetings are held at 7:00pm at RRUMC. No homework or books needed. All men are invited! To sign up, contact Steve Harry at 440.668.3514 or StephenT.Harry@yahoo.com.



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. After hearing a meditational thought, our individual prayers are offered to inspire every man for the day and for the week. The coffee pot is always on and we are most always on our way by about 7:30am. We could imagine some of you have considered "looking in" on Tuesday morning. Know how welcome you will be in the midst of this group of men, so please know that you are cordially invited to join this dedicated group. Contact Dick Sanders at rbsmls@wowway.com if you have questions.



CONNECTIONS IN CARING

You're an Essential Piece - Connections in Caring Project Sunday

Drop in to Jean and Jan's Café on Sunday, April 15, between 9:00am and 12:30pm for a Connections in Caring Project Sunday. We will be making cards which will be sent to our college students and those who are homebound or facing difficulties, as well as, creating inspiration jars or boxes for our college students.



A SHOPPER STORY FROM AFAR...

by Craig Cowles, Cleveland Campus Free Store Director (ccowles@rrumc.org)

A worn middle-aged man came in Twice Blessed Free Store for worship and to register for some clothing in mid-February. By the time worship was over, I already had heard from multiple volunteers that I needed to talk with him. I quickly wrapped up what I was doing and went to seek him out. He greeted me with a handshake and began to tell me his story. "I am from Ireland but soon after arriving in Cleveland I was robbed. I lost my money, passport, and all my belongings." He went on to say that after a variety of attempts, he found some assistance to get him back home in a few days. Through the grapevine, he heard that we could give him some clean and warm clothes to wear for the duration of his stay in the United States. I told him that he had found the right place and explained a bit about TBFS and RRUMC. He smiled and went on about how eye opening it was to be on the other side of the system and to be viewed as a "bum". After a bit more conversation, he mentioned that he'd like to repay us somehow. I told him that there was no repayment needed; our Free Store is a way of helping people meet Christ in the midst of their story. He persisted and asked, "Does the piano on the stage work?" I said, "Yes, it is not in great shape or perfectly tuned, but it works." He finished his coffee, got situated, and played and sang a lovely song that I didn't recognize. Part way through the song his ticket number was called. He stopped and quickly shopped for the clothing items he needed for the week. After checking out, he smiled, waved to me, and mouthed, "Thanks" from across the store as he left.



God is changing the hearts and lives of all who are in contact with TBFS! How can you be a part of it?

Prayer: Joys & Concerns from our TBFS families fill our Prayer Wall each week. If you aren't at the Free Store during the week, it is a part of the weekly prayer email sent out by RRUMC on Friday afternoons. You can sign up for that email on the church website. You may not know the names or situations that are being faced, but God knows and loves them all.

Donate: Winter is in our rearview mirror! Spring is here and Summer approaches! Please adjust your clothing and small household item donations to TBFS accordingly. Check out the weekly bulletin to see what items are currently in high demand. You can donate at RRUMC during normal weekday hours or at TBFS on Mondays from 10:00am to 1:00pm or Saturdays from 9:00am to 1:00pm.



Members of the Cleveland Alumni Club of Ohio Northern University volunteered at the Twice Blessed Free Store in Cleveland, Ohio, on Feb. 10.

-photo from Ohio Northern University's e-newsletter, "The Northern Express," Feb. 14, 2018 (Vol. 10, No. 3).

Serve: Do you have an upcoming Monday off or a free Saturday? Sign up to serve at Twice Blessed Free Store! Sorting incoming donations and restocking of the store regularly occurs on Mondays from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Worship and shopping occur on Saturdays from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Sign up to be a shopper assistant, sorter, organizer, greeter, or work at check out/in. If neither Monday or Saturday work for you there are still other ways to serve. Contact Craig Cowles at ccowles@rrumc.org for more information and to sign up.

God is at the heart of all of the prayers, donations, and servants needed to continue the success of this ministry. Thank you to all who have been willing to be His hands & feet at W. 65th & Bridge Ave!

YOUTH MINISTRY: TAKE STOCK IN OUR YOUTH!

The youth are selling stock for \$25 per share during the month of April. Visit the youth after each service at the table in the gathering area or fill out this form and leave it in the offering plate or Church Office with your donation. Thank you for your continued support and investment in the youth of our church and their mission work!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Shares: _____ @ \$25.00 TOTAL DONATED: \$ _____

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED FEBRUARY 18

At the 8:30am Chapel Service:

Jessica & Matthew Geiger
Tom Lundin
Janice Perry
Taryn Stephens

At the 10:00am Sanctuary Service:

Douglas (Doug) Cooper
Sarah De Marchi
Robert (Bob) Gerish
Beverly (Bev) Ingram
Barbara & Mark Parr
John & Kim Thomas

At the 11:30am Harbor Service:

Brenda* & Dean Gillogly
Caroline (Carrie) & Johnny Miller
*also baptized

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED FEBRUARY 25

At the 10:00am Sanctuary Service:

Kyle & Laura Foss
David Lombardy
Natalie Thomas

Elizabeth Sheehe (new member but unable to be present at services)

MILESTONES

April Anniversaries

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

4/4	Lois & Ralph Keating	65 years
4/18	Sue & Jim Evans	59 years
4/30	Mary Lou & Dick Sanders	52 years

Births

Nico Christopher Wehrheim, on February 19, son of Christopher and Chantelle Wehrheim; great-grandson of Jean & Joe Wehrheim.

Riley Brianna Heavey, on February 20, daughter of Melissa and Jon Heavey. Proud big sisters are Katelyn, Shannon, and McKenna.

Charlotte Ann Wright, on March 5, daughter of Julianna and Mike Wright; great-granddaughter of Mariland and Bob Morsfield.

In Sympathy

Peggy and Roger Heidenreich, in the death of their nephew, Randy Godlove, who passed away on February 9, in Batavia, NY.

Jeff Acker and family, in the passing of his younger brother, Joel, on February 18.

Susan Taylor and family, in the death of her husband, Jeff, on February 27.

Phyllis Cooper and Patty Vogdes, in the death of their brother Albert Wykoff, on March 9, in Hilo, Hawaii.

John Malm and family, in the death of his wife, Elizabeth, on March 10 (mother of Bill Malm).

With Gratitude

Many thanks for the beautiful flowers received on Sunday, also to the members who delivered them. Thank you also for the neck wrap that Caleb delivered. – Carol Harrington

MARY ANNE & RICHARD CAVICCHI CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SEMINAR

Sunday, April 22, 4:00pm-7:30pm, at Rocky River United Methodist Church

"*Finding Our Stories in Abraham's Journey*" - Four-part presentation and discussion led by Rabbi Enid Lader, Beth Israel, The West Temple, Triskett Rd., Cleveland, Ohio. 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.

Meal provided. Registration deadline is Monday, April 16. Register online at:

<https://www.rumc.org/cavicchi-seminar-sign-up>

We have been invited to the Beth Israel Temple to attend the Torah Study at 9:30am, as well as, the Shabbat or morning services at 11:00am on Saturday, April 21. If you would like to attend, please sign up at the Cavicchi Seminar registration table on Sunday mornings. Questions? E-mail: cavicchichristianed@gmail.com.



SUMMER 2018



Vacation Bible School

June 25 - 29

5yrs-6th grade

9:00am-12:00pm

\$40 per child

\$100 family limit (thru May 6)

100 children maximum

**SIGN-UPS FOR BOTH AT
WWW.RRUMC.ORG,
BEGINNING APRIL 2, AT 7AM**

Upward Basketball Camp

July 9 - 13

5yrs - 6th grade

9:00am - 12:00pm

\$55 per child

100 children maximum



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - MISSION POSSIBLE THANKS

February Mission Possible Report — We want to say a big “thank you” to everyone who donated or prayed for our most recent Mission Possible! Thanks to your incredible generosity we were able to provide 46 new mother packs to Frontline. The bags were so full we almost couldn't fit everything! We are so blessed to be a part of such an amazing congregation! God bless each and every one of you. Thank you again! - Kristen Wiggers, Quinn Bennett, and the entire children's ministry team!



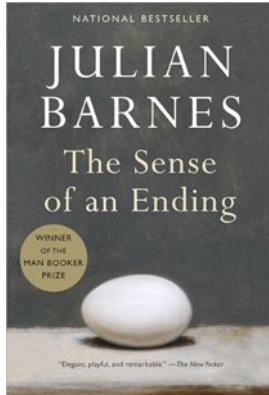
A thank you note was received from Susan Neth, Executive Director of Frontline, for these bags. It reads, in part: “Thank you so very much for this expression of compassion and love. These bags were beautiful to behold – full of needed items and assembled in a way that simply creates smiles. Thank you for your attention and caring of those we serve!”

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:00am in the Church Parlor.

Please join us on April 19, to discuss the

book, *“The Sense of an Ending”* by Julian Barnes. Questions? List of future books? Contact Bruce Biggin at biggin@netscape.net or 216.221.5880. Always happy to see new faces, and regular attendance is not required.



SOCIAL CONCERNS DISCUSSION GROUP

Our next meeting is planned for April 15. Discussion topic will be included in the Sunday bulletins closer to the meeting date.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEEDS!

We are still in need of quite a few items for Vacation Bible School. If you are interested in helping purchase items or making a donation please see Quinn Bennett or email her at qbennett@rrumc.org. A few items to keep a lookout for are listed below.

- wrapping paper tubes (need 50 - so we will take any you have)
- Paper towel tubes
- Stuffed animals that belong in the jungle or sea (borrow)
- Wooden barrels (borrow)
- Wooden crates (borrow)
- Nautical decorations (borrow)
- Old chests (borrow)
- If you are disposing of any plastic greenery or flowers
- Canvas tarps (borrow)



Thank you always for the love and support you consistently give to the children of Rocky River UMC!

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

It seems appropriate that this year National Public Health Awareness Week immediately follows Easter. Jesus's healing of individuals and teachings in community were an integral part of his ministry. Jesus taught us to care for the whole person - body, mind, and spirit. Jesus cared for the whole community, their health and relationships.

The plan for National Public Health Week 2018 is subtitled "Changing Our Future Together." The daily themes you will see in the news address risk factors of poor health and disease risk for individuals and community. I am sure the daily themes will not surprise you and do reflect needs we see in the news daily: behavioral health, communicable disease, environmental health, injury and violence prevention, and finally advocate for everyone's right to a healthy life. All are themes addressed in the Bible. As you enter this Eastertide, consider how you can model Jesus's teaching and make a difference by caring for yourself and our community.

Learn more about National Public Health Week at www.nphw.org/nphw-2018 or see the Health Ministry bulletin-board.

Senior Living Tours are a great opportunity to learn what's happening in the world of seniors, enjoy great fellowship and have a terrific lunch. See a full list on the website or health ministry bulletin board.

April 16 visit O'Neill Health Care in Bay Village. Van pick up in RRUMC parking lot at 11:00am. We will tour and lunch at the Bradley Bay assisted living and rehabilitation center. Plan to return to RRUMC parking lot at 2:00pm. Please RSVP to the Church Office by April 11.

April 30 visit both Wesleyan Meadows in Sheffield and Wesleyan Village in Elyria. Van pick up in RRUMC parking lot at 10:30am and return approximately 3:00pm. First stop will be Wesleyan Meadows with tours of two model homes. We will move onto Wesleyan Village for lunch and tours of patio homes, an independent apartment, and an assisted living apartment. Please RSVP to the Church Office by April 25.

Conversations of Health fourth Sunday of every month during academic year, 11:10-11:45am in the parlor. Come join us for a mini Daniel Plan session with Kris Purdy on April 22. This is a great opportunity to sate your curiosity or get encouragement. On May 27, Bill Malm will help us navigate the Emergency Department and on September 23, we will learn about Medication Management from pharmacist Cari Mitchell.

Questions or if you would just like to chat please call me at 440-331-7676 or gdonahue@rrumc.org.



Mom Prom

May I Have This Dance?

Saturday, May 5, 2018

5:30pm-8:30pm

Dinner, Dancing, Disc Jockey,

and Photographs

\$20 12yrs and up

\$10 3-11yrs

2 and under free

No tickets will be sold at the door.

Bring one child or bring them all. Girls

and boys of all ages are

welcome.

This is your day!!!

Go to www.rrumc.org between

March 18 and April 23

to reserve your

seating.



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 March 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, Cleveland Campus 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 May Circuit Rider:
April 3

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE STORY!

Church and Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 2 (the day after Easter).

ALGART HYMN SING

Their normal pianist had broken her hand and at the time of publication they were looking for a substitute.

Please make sure you check with Bob Secrist at 216.521.2365 before showing up for the April 17 Algart Hymn Sing.



SAVE THESE DATES...

- March 25 – Palm Sunday & Brunch
- March 29 – Maundy Thursday
- March 30 – Good Friday
- April 1 – Easter
- April 2 – Upward Summer Camp Signups
- April 2 – Vacation Bible School Signups
- April 13 – Mission Possible
- April 15 – Connections in Caring
- April 15 – Social Concerns Group
- April 15 – Gifts of Music
- April 16 – Visit O'Neill Health Care Bay Village
- April 17 – Algart Hymn Sing?
- April 19 – Book Club
- April 22 – Cavicchi Christian Education Seminar
- April 22 – Conversations of Health Class
- April 24 – Men of Christian Character
- April 26 – UMW Lydia Circle
- April 30 – Visit Wesleyan Meadows & Village
- May 5 – Mom Prom
- June 25-29 – Vacation Bible School
- July 9-13 – Upward Basketball Camp

MISSION ZONE MONTHLY COLLECTION ITEMS

Children's Free Store Donations:

- March: underwear
- April: flip flops & sunscreen
- May: towels & washcloths