



His Faithful Followers

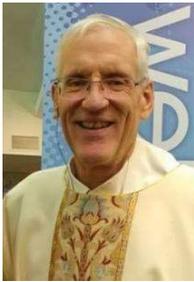
A publication of Rush United Methodist Church

March 2022

A Note from Pastor Todd "Faith in Uncertain Times"

There are many questions which I do not have answers.

I do know that Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 2nd this year. Join me for a traditional Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm. I plan to burn last years dried out palm branches at 6:30 pm outside the kitchen door, if any want to join in the fun.



Lent, from the Latin *Quadragesima*, meaning fortieth, is a solemn spiritual journey commemorating the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in

the desert and being tempted by the Devil. It is a season of grief that necessarily ends with the great celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter.

I know that Resurrection is on the other side of Lent.

It feels to me like the Church (global) and our church (local) have been living through a two year stretch of Lent. The pandemic has dramatically changed life, practice, and faith. Some anticipate church life will return as it was before. Others see a church that is deeply harmed by the traumatic effects of the pandemic. What is happening in our church family is happening in churches across the land. The change is painful.

What do I expect? I do not know what tomorrow may bring.

I do know that my trust is in the Lord. My life is in God's hands. I anticipate the environment for worship and ministry will be forever changed. In what ways? I don't know. What shouldn't change is our love for one another. God's love doesn't change. Why should ours?

I do know the future of our congregation is in God's hands. That's good enough for me. **The faithful approach to uncertainty is to love one another, love our neighbors, and love our God.**

Bill Stambaugh is leading an effort of love over the course of Lent to bring individuals and families back to in-person worship starting on Palm Sunday, April 10th,

complete with Second Lunch, games for children, and fellowship. Loving efforts are being made to contact members of our own church family to invite people back. This fall, the thought is to making loving efforts to invite the community to follow Jesus and join us here at Rush. Go, Bill go! He is going to need a lot of help. Let him know what you can do to support the effort.

Some may be slow to return. Others may be more eager. Some may never return. Come back at the speed of your comfort. When you do, invite others to join you.

I do not know when the pandemic will end. But I trust in the Lord. I know resurrection for the Rush church family is close at hand. I hope you take the time during Lent to grow your trust in the Lord. Love more every day. Serve without the expectation of being served. Talk with God in prayer. Make this a productive Lent.

God loves you, and so do I,

Todd R. Goddard

Pastor Todd



Ash Wednesday

All are welcome to attend and participate in Ash Wednesday worship on Wednesday, March 2, signifying the beginning of Lent. It is a season to spiritually prepare ourselves for the passion and death of Jesus Christ.

We will begin at 6:30PM outside the church kitchen door. We will burn last year's dried palm branches, reducing them to ashes for use during worship.

Our service will begin at 7:00PM in the church sanctuary. Ashes will be imposed on the forehead of the willing, with the words "remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return".

As at Sunday Services, compliance with mandated guidelines is required.



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Fasting from Holy Communion during Lent

The Worship Team values and encourages the practice of fasting throughout the season of Lent. As such we are planning to fast from Holy Communion during the season, as has been our prior practice. The fast will be broken with the celebration of Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 14, 2022, at our 7:00 pm worship service. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Blessings,
Todd

Youth Group

Youth Group has started back up again after a brief break during the holidays. In general, we are trying to meet at least once a month for a time of fellowship, activities, and discussion. If you know of a youth who would be interested in joining the group, please let me know. Our next meeting will be March 9, 2022, 6:00pm at the church. Any updates on meeting times or our activities will be posted on the church website under Youth Ministry.



Alethea Coulter
Interim Youth Ministry Director
acoulter@rochester.rr.com

Choir Update

Choir has resumed Wednesday night rehearsals. We rehearse at 7PM in the worship center. Our Easter Cantata rehearsals will begin Wednesday, March 9 and on Sunday, March 13 at 10AM. The cantata will be held on Palm Sunday, April 10. If you have questions or want to join us, please reach out to Kellianne Williams at klkw1212@gmail.com.



Daylight Saving Time Begins

Sunday, March 13, 2022 – remember to set your clocks ahead



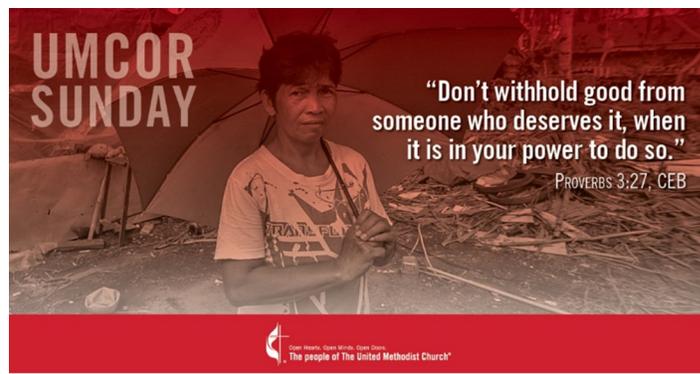
A Special Sunday March 20, 2022

When you give on UMCOR Sunday, March 20, 2022, you help cover the annual operational costs for UMCOR. Your gift allows UMCOR to apply 100% of other donations directly to relief efforts as well as long-term education and support. Will you consider giving as generously as you can on March 20? **Together, we do more.**

Eighty years ago, World War II was raging. Millions of people, displaced from their homes, sought refuge and hope. The church responded by creating the Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief (MCOR) and supporting MCOR through an annual offering called "One Great Hour of Sharing." The 2016 United Methodist General Conference changed the name to UMCOR Sunday to reflect the important work accomplished by the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

UMCOR provides compassion and relief services to people and nations in crisis. They have a presence in over 80 countries and have helped tens of thousands of people receive help after war, disaster, conflict and other disruptive events that leave communities unable to recover on their own. Even now, we have relief workers on the ground all over the world helping people recover from past and recent hurricanes, civil wars, mudslides, floods. This is what we call love in action.

UMCOR Sunday calls the church to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. UMCOR Sunday reaches children, families and communities who have experienced devastation in the wake of disaster.



Spring Super Sale

Dear Church

Please mark your calendars. We will be holding a one-day spring super sale on Saturday May 7th. We will need all hands-on deck to make this sale successful. Please save the date!

Currently we are being very selective in the items we are taking in as we are almost full.



Thank you,
Cindy and Britta

Super Sale

VBS - Save the Date

We have scheduled the summer Vacation Bible School for July 6, 7, and 8, 6:00-8:15pm. In order to make this happen, we will need volunteers for a variety of tasks. More information will be coming out soon but put it on your calendars now!



Alethea Coulter
Children's Ministry Director
acoulter@rochester.rr.com

Promiseland Update

Promiseland continues to have a great need for more staffing. If you know of someone looking for a job working with some truly wonderful children and fellow staff members, please pass along this information. They can reach out to me at PromiseLandchildcare1996@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support!



POSITIONS AVAILABLE



"Souper Bowl"

Thank you to everyone who brought in food and supplies for our "Souper bowl" collection for RHAFT. The youth group organized 6 boxes of donations to be delivered to the food pantry.



Food Collection
a Success

Alethea Coulter
Children's Ministry Director
acoulter@rochester.rr.com

The mission of the Rush United Methodist Church is "to live and share the love of Jesus."

Our vision is "to be more like Jesus."

Our missional priorities are "excellence in worship; ministries for children, youth, adults and families; and mission and outreach"

Parsonage Sale Update

The Board of Trustees voted to select Lisa Shingleton as the realtor for the sale of the church parsonage, and she is already busy at work. Based on her recommendations, we are looking for volunteers to help do some basic "shine-up" work at the house during the month of March. If you are interested in helping with some simple painting or clean-up projects, or have any questions, please contact Cindy Gray at cgtgray1039@gmail.com. We look forward to moving on with this important project so we can get the house on the market!



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday April 10

Services: In person and [on YouTube and Facebook](#) at 8:30AM and 10:45AM
Rush UMC Choir Easter Cantata at 8:30 service



Maundy Thursday April 14

Service at 7:00PM: In person and on YouTube and Facebook
Holy Communion will be served in person and virtual



Good Friday - April 15

Service at 7:00PM: In person and on YouTube and Facebook
The Gospel reading is the Passion of Jesus Christ. It will serve as the message, without comment



Easter Sunday April 17

Services: In person and on YouTube and Facebook at 8:30AM and 10:45AM
Resurrection of the Lord!



*Rush United Methodist
Church
Analysis of Revenues &
Expenses*

January 2022

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)
Revenues			
Other Income	\$409.00	\$409.00	\$3,036.51
Offerings	\$19,329.92	\$19,329.92	\$22,522.32
P/L Expense Reimbursement	\$939.46	\$939.46	\$945.60
Total Revenues	\$20,678.38	\$20,678.38	\$26,504.43
Expenses			
Board of Trustees	\$2,226.74	\$2,226.74	\$3,724.39
Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$104.17
Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
(1) Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Expenses	\$636.06	\$636.06	\$1,002.33
Clergy - Salary	\$4,437.04	\$4,437.04	\$4,607.70
Lay – Salaries	\$5,192.11	\$5,192.11	\$5,482.47
Clergy Benefits	\$3,367.53	\$3,367.53	\$3,300.57
Ministry Team	\$481.60	\$481.60	\$435.00
Other Program Expenses	\$187.91	\$187.91	\$0.00
Utilities	\$2,773.00	\$2,773.00	\$2,819.64
PromiseLand	(\$58.00)	(\$58.00)	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$19,243.99	\$19,243.99	\$21,476.27
Net Total	\$1,434.39	\$1,434.39	\$5,028.16

1. Shared Ministries 0% paid to end of January



AmazonSmile

You can now donate to Rush UMC while shopping on-line through AmazonSmile. Go to smile.amazon.com on your mobile device or computer and enter Rush United Methodist Church as your charity. Each quarter, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases. In 2021 we received \$30.13 from purchases made through Amazon Smile. It does work!



*Roof Replacement Loan
Repayment*

	Date Paid	Amount Paid	Balance
Opening Balance			\$41,140.96
Interest at 3.25%			\$1,337.08
Loan plus Interest			\$42,478.04
Payment #13	01/20/2022	\$274.39	\$42,203.65
Payment #14	02/23/2022	\$274.39	\$41,929.26
Payment #15	03/15/2022		
Payment #16	04/15/2022		
Payment #17	05/15/2022		
Payment #18	06/15/2022		
Payment #19	07/15/2022		
Payment #20	08/15/2022		
Payment #21	09/15/2022		
Payment #22	10/15/2022		
Payment #23	11/15/2022		
Payment #24	12/15/2022		
Year End Payment from additional donations	12/30/2022		



Lent Word Search

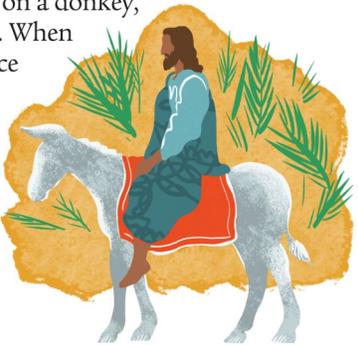
Cross Rejection Arrest Denial Crucifixion Betrayal Garden Example
 Washing Feet Last Supper Disciples Peter Good Friday Holy Thursday
 Palm Sunday Jerusalem Holy Week Ash Wednesday Ashes desert Jesus
 forgiveness penance prayer almsgiving fasting forty days

Q	C	I	T	L	G	C	Z	M	J	Z	K	J	I	Y	I	N	H	G	Q	F	C	T	O
S	S	O	R	C	S	H	Y	D	B	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	O	E	A	M	M
U	T	W	N	W	A	S	H	I	N	G	F	E	E	T	Y	C	I	D	P	C	V	D	C
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C	S	I	N	J	D	S	K	W	W	M	S	S	E	N	E	V	I	G	R	O	F	R	X
T	V	D	G	N	E	T	J	Z	E	M	F	A	S	T	I	N	G	D	Z	S	L	H	X
I	P	A	S	O	W	K	E	E	W	Y	L	O	H	I	F	F	S	R	Q	W	I	L	H
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K	O	Z	X	Y	A	A	L	S	H	D	V	U	T	U	N	V	E	A	U	M	U	P	W
M	N	N	O	X	H	X	W	K	Q	W	O	T	H	C	N	W	J	R	D	C	S	Z	D
U	T	E	L	Y	A	D	S	R	U	H	T	Y	L	O	H	I	T	P	M	K	R	G	T

Bible Quiz

As Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, crowds praised him loudly. When Pharisees told him to silence the people, what did Jesus say would shout if his followers didn't?

A. Stones
 B. Palm branches
 C. Trees
 D. Hillsides



Answer: A (See Luke 19:40.)

Leadership Ministry Team Contact Information

Erin Bills ebills534@gmail.com
 Jan Corey jc4katz@gmail.com
 Geoffrey Furman furman@rochester.rr.com
 Cindy Gray cgtgray1039@gmail.com
 Michelle Prok mibopbuckeye@gmail.com
 Lynda Wanzenried lwandenried8@gmail.com
 Patti Weaver 585-754-3774
 Steve Williams williasc@gmail.com



Mission and Outreach News

“Learn to do good. Seek justice: help the oppressed; defend the orphan.” Isaiah 1:17

I am gratified by the generosity of RUMC members and friends to Musa weNkosi.



Five years ago we learned that after many years of wanting to purchase land in Nselini, the orphanage was able to purchase a site. It is in a very poor area with children in need of nutrition, assist with

education, learning job skills, etc.

I have visited a school very near this site. One year the principal lined up 51 of the 214 students and said they were all orphans.

The land remained vacant as there were no funds or personnel to develop it. In the last newsletter from the Charlton's, they report having cleared the land, fencing it off and installing converted shipping containers. They will start a feeding scheme and continue to develop ministry on this site as resources become available.

They also obtained additional land at the orphanage which will be used to house children who have aged out but remain to be part of the mentoring program being developed for neighbors as well. These contacts have led to Baba Jobe meeting with 8 neighbors for Bible Study.

There was opposition to the land



being provided to them which caused stress and delays. However, investigation found that the land belonged to a widow and her children, not the people who claimed it and resisted its being given to the orphanage.

I am happy to report on the positive developments

but ask for continued prayer. The Hyundai vehicle was hijacked. It has been recovered due to a tracking device but was partially stripped and damaged. There are 2 additional bakkies that are in constant need of repair. They are needed to transport the children to school which is now in session the whole week.



Thank you for carrying this mission in your hearts and prayers.

“When painful realities assume a human face to whom we can put a name and to whose story we can listen, a meeting of human hearts takes place. Such heart encounters possess the power to uncover the more compassionate dimensions of our natures...They do not so much need the skills of our hands or the knowledge of our minds as they do the compassion of our hearts.” *A Mile in My Shoes* – Trevor Hudson

If infection rates allow international travel, I plan to go to South Africa at the beginning of May. Let me know if you would like to be able to put a name and face to our sisters and brothers in South Africa.

Erma Perkins, Lay leader Mission and Outreach, ermaperkins@me.com



Thank You

Thank you for the prayers, thoughts and cards during my brother, Ken Hicks', illness and death. They were greatly appreciated.

Jim Miller



Bereavement

Family and friends of John Bond who died on February 6, Rush resident and retired Shop teacher from R-H

Tami Czerwinski and family, death of her Grandpa Moses Don and Paul Kingsley, death of their cousin, Phillip Bessie, Michael, Ivan and Mackenzie Luft and their extended family and friends, death of Charlie Luft on February 16



Praises

Glenn Balch, gaining strength, getting ready to have a hip replacement

Elise Burmeier, successful open-heart surgery, she had some complications and was in critical condition for several days; now fully awake and talking; continued prayers appreciated for a steady and full recovery

Jim and Sue Comstock's granddaughter, Addie, has recovered well from viral pneumonia

Ben and Nicole Cuatt and family, moved into new home Louise Harris, celebrated her 90th birthday on February

10
Cindy and Dick Wallace's son, Allen, recovering recent heart attack

Bob Weiler recently celebrated his 90th birthday
March Birthdays and Anniversaries



Prayer Concerns

Ashley, struggling with major anxiety, needs prayers
Michele Cuatt's sister, Barb, continued prayers for health issues
Vonda Fossitt, Genesee Valley District Superintendent, on medical leave
Monica, waiting for results of blood tests, hoping for good news
Joan O'Mara's son Mike, flu and grandson, Kyle, Covid
Keri Prok's 3 yr. old niece, Adeline, very sick with Covid, and her family
Sean Thomas, in a situation that he himself can't explain
Colorado families who lost their homes in the recent fires
People of Ukraine
PromiseLand Childcare
School Districts, Parents and Students
Safe and compliant reopening of Church Meetings and Events
Peace to come to our troubled land
Government Leaders
For justice and health care to be deployed equally and evenly among all people
End to racism and inequality
Musa weNkosi Orphanage and Zululand Hospice
Our Bishop and Clergy and Lay leaders
Hospice Houses near and far
RHAFT and FISH
A Meal & More Soup Kitchen and homeless served by them
Staff and Young Men at State School at Industry
Relaxation of restrictions
Small Businesses
Those laid off or facing unemployment or underemployment
Young people, children and youth lacking social interactions
Hospital and Nursing Home Staff – stay healthy and strong to tend to the needs of patients and residents
Help us all to remember that in these times as always Jesus is with us, we're not alone
Inability to visit family and friends
Adult children, neighbors, and friends helping with delivery of groceries and medicine
For those who suffer in silence, please be with them and bless them with strength
Prayers for our youth to find themselves and God in the process
Families affected by Alzheimer's, cancer and other terminal illnesses
Keep remembering the school kids and help find solutions to the violence
All those struggling and affected by fires, flooding and hurricanes and who find themselves homeless or lost within this world
Those looking for employment
Super Sale now and future
Our homebound and ill
Elderly parents, youth, teens, young adults, those suffering from chronic pain, mental health problems depression and addiction
Our children, youth and church family
For all marriages and families
Those who life has changed: death of loved one, relationships broken, families separated; give them love, courage and strength

Parents of New Drivers
Violence in places of Worship
Church worldwide is under attack; help God save your people
Campus Ministries
The United Methodist Church
All Volunteers who go on Missions
UMCOR
Refugee resettlement project and resettlement families
Haiti and Government leaders; root out corruption, bring about justice, lessen poverty
Peace, stability in Venezuela
Justice to flow down like water in the US, Syria, South Sudan, Middle East
Victims of terrorism and survivors of world violence
Injustice in the USA
City of Rochester
RCSD and Board
International Students
Members in Military, especially those in Kuwait
Those who are incarcerated
People with disabilities, anxiety disorders, depression, addictions
For people to get along and not be so divided in America!!
Colleges around the country

Those among our family who are homebound or in senior living facilities:

Ruth Baldoni	Jean and Walt Banker
Kathy Belik	Mary Anne Brice
Marilyn Chase	Trudy Corio
Craig Crowell	Alberta Greer
Jim Hughes	Meg Kinnally
Hubert Koloseike	David Phillips
Durwood Rapple	Gisela Rice
Robert Rider	

Members of our armed forces and reserves, especially those associated with our church family:

Phillip Banker	Jason Bello
Ryan Blood	Ben Frederick
Michael Kurvach	Steven Kurvach
Jason McKnight	Isaiah Montana
James Rice	Sgt. Joseph Sarmiento
Bryan Simpson	Matthew Simpson
Marcus Sydow	

Please help the church staff keep the prayer list current by informing us of any changes.



RUSH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 6200 RUSH LIMA ROAD
 PO BOX 49
 RUSH NY 14543-0049



Sunday Worship and Programs

- 8:30AM: In-Person Traditional Worship Service
also on YouTube and Facebook
- 9:45AM Bible Study
- 9:45AM Adult Sunday School Class
- 10:45AM In-Person Contemporary Worship
Service on also YouTube and Facebook
- 11:00AM One Room
Sunday School
Class
- 12:00PM Rush UMC
Coffee Time
- 5:00PM Confirmation
Class



Sunday Schedule

Leadership Ministry Team

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome by email to toddgoddard@gmail.com or rushumc@rochester.rr.com or to any of the Leadership Ministry Team (contact information on page 3). The next Leadership Ministry Team Meeting is Saturday, March 12 at 8:30AM.

How to Reach Us

- Church Telephone: 585-533-2170
- Church Fax: 585-533-1978
- Pastor Todd Telephone: 585-703-9235
- PromiseLand Telephone: 585-533-2475
- Web Site: www.rushumc.com
- Email Address: rushumc@rochester.rr.com
- Rush Tidings Address: rushumcnews@rochester.rr.com



- Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation
- Pastor:..... Rev. Todd Goddard
- Administrative Assistant: Barbara Kingsley
-Office Hours: 9:00AM - 4:00PM Monday - Friday
- Director of Children’s Ministries:Alethea Coulter
- Director of PromiseLand Childcare: Kellianne Williams
- Chancel Choir Director: Kellianne Williams
- Accompanist:..... E-Na Song
- Lay Leaders: Worship: Steve Williams
- Children, Youth and Families: Tanya Hunt
- Mission and Outreach: Erma Perkins
- Leadership Team: Erin Bills, Jan Corey, Todd Goddard,
 Geoffrey Furman, Cindy Gray, Michelle Prok,
 Lynda Wanzenried, Patti Weaver, Steve Williams

“His Faithful Followers” is a monthly publication of the Rush United Methodist Church; 6200 Rush Lima Road; PO Box 49; Rush, NY 14543-0049; Pastor: Todd Goddard; Editor: Barb Kingsley; Deadline for articles to be included in the April 2022 issue is 5PM on Thursday, March 17, 2022.