



His Faithful Followers

A publication of Rush United Methodist Church

February 2022

A Note from Pastor Todd

I've come to the conclusion that I'm a better Christian when I'm surrounded by people who don't look or think like me. The context for this thought is the wonderful Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr celebration planned, supported, and carried out by a coalition of community partners from Rush, Henrietta, and our school district. Thankfully, the video is available online. Do a search on "15th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration January 13th, 2022 7pm". You'll be inspired. We are blessed with wonderful, talented, faithful, loving members of our community, many of whom, don't look like me.



February is recognized as Black History Month, an annual observance of recognizing individuals and events in the history of the African diaspora. Don't let it pass by without taking notice. We are blessed with the local legacy of giants, such as Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman, both of whom were people of faith who recognized racial and gender discrimination as sinful, oppressive, and evil. I encourage you to take the time to read their biographies. I've found them inspiring. Neither of them look like me.

A colorful church is a vibrant church. We enrich each other when we listen, learn, and love people who come from different backgrounds and experiences. Though I think I've come a long way in my own personal maturity, I need diverse people around me to keep me growing, to challenge my assumptions, alert me to my personal prejudices, to call me out when I sin. I regress when I'm only surrounded by people who look and think just like me. I suspect you do, too.

The Spirit leads me to wonder how we can make our church family more colorful. Yes, I'm thinking about race. I'm also thinking about diversity of gender, age, culture, Christian belief, and (dis)abilities. We are vital when we

welcome and include the individual with autism, the family from Haiti, the veteran who served numerous deployments, the student from Korea, and refugees from a distant land. We become the love of Christ, and receive the love of Christ, when we make space and time in our lives for others who don't look like us or come from the same background.

Unless we are mindful and intentional about being diverse, it becomes too easy to regress into an inevitable echo chamber of people who look, believe, and act just like us. I'm so thankful for the progress the Rush church family has made that has brought us to where we are today. There is some diversity in our ranks. In my pastoral opinion, there is room for a lot more. Where do we begin? I'm curious about your thoughts and ideas. What do you think? When it comes to color, what and where is the Spirit leading you?

God loves you, and so do I.

Todd R. Goddard

Pastor Todd

"Souper" Bowl Sunday

From Thursday, February 3 to Sunday, February 13, we will be collecting cans of Soup for "Souper" Bowl Sunday. There is a box between the doors at the church or a large soup kettle in the lobby near the kiosk, to put can (s) in. Of course, other nonperishable food items, especially protein, are welcome as well. Financial donations can be made payable to Rush UMC and mailed or dropped off at the church. This is an annual food drive sponsored by our youth.



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Choir Update

I anticipate choir starting back up on Wednesday, February 2 at 7:00pm. We will follow any mandates in place and ask that all members be vaccinated. All are welcome to join us. We will be rehearsing and recording on Wednesday evenings. Sunday morning rehearsals are on hold for the time being.

Kellianne Williams,
Choir Director



Choir Practice Resumes

Safe Sanctuary Training

I have a small, dedicated group of volunteers willing to teach Sunday school but could definitely use more individuals willing to join this important ministry. We are still running a one room class that meets during the second service. There is a Safe Sanctuary class the districts asks anyone to take if they are working with children, youth or vulnerable adults. The next district sponsored training will be on February 26, 2022 via zoom and the deadline to register is February 19. I am also a trainer and able to do a training via zoom or in person if there are sufficient numbers. I would ask anyone to consider taking this training if you have any contact with one of the populations above. If you are interested in more information, please let me know.



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

Church Work Day - Fellowship and Fun

The Board of Trustees invites everyone to join us for a church work day / fun day on Saturday, Feb. 26, so mark your calendars now. We will put a final coat of paint on the Fellowship Hall wainscoting and paint the trim, and door jams; and do an "impact cleaning" in the stairwells. Additional projects will be determined as we get closer to the event - please let us know if you have a project suggestion. Our goal is to make this a family event, so we will have jobs and projects for kids as well as adults. A "work project suggestion box" will be available in the church lobby for project ideas.



As this is the last Saturday before Lent begins, we would like to combine the workday with a Mardi Gras party. When the work is done, we will celebrate with food / snacks / games. If you are interested in being part of the planning for this event, please contact Cindy Gray at cgtgray1039@gmail.com.



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 out 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" and Communion will be served.

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



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!



Kellianne Williams,
Director of PromiseLand Childcare

Sunday school Teachers

I want to thank the dedicated individuals who have been willing to teach Sunday school with me this fall and winter. Without them, we could not run the Sunday school class every week. Angie, Cheryl, Tanya and Cindy - you are all very much appreciated. Thanks also to Mackenzie who is always willing to fill in when she can. I couldn't do it without all of you!

Teachers Needed!



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

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"

*Rush United Methodist
Church
Analysis of Revenues &
Expenses*

December 2021

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Budget (This Year)
Revenues			
Other Income	\$4,337.83	\$19,449.98	\$12,850.00
PPP 2 Loan	\$0.00	\$90,057.50	0.00
Offerings	\$23,400.00	\$252,039.45	\$237,665.00
P/L Expense Reimbursement	\$994.59	\$9,285.18	\$11,266.72
Total Revenues	\$28,732.42	\$370,832.11	\$261,781.72
Expenses			
(5) Board of Trustees	\$5,984.72	\$32,855.27	\$32,651.04
Education	\$124.15	\$700.18	\$1,149.00
Insurance	\$3,105.95	\$11,189.33	\$10,000.00
(1) Mission	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$1,000.00
Office Expenses	\$1,386.45	\$12,554.26	\$13,914.00
(3) Clergy - Salary	\$6,313.86	\$54,720.12	\$57,000.00
(3) Lay - Salaries	\$7,516.07	\$71,751.50	\$76,109.00
Clergy Benefits	\$2,478.50	\$31,762.38	\$34,694.00
Ministry Team	\$19.99	\$2,843.21	\$4,905.00
Other Program Expenses	\$1,309.44	\$2,545.42	\$5,770.00
(2) Utilities	\$2,307.38	\$23,684.29	\$25,200.00
(4) PromiseLand	\$5,000.00	\$73,556.41	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$55,546.51	\$338,192.37	\$262,392.04
Net Total	(\$26,841.09)	\$32,639.74	(\$610.32)

1. Shared Ministries 47.70% paid to end of December
2. Utilities: \$3,948.57 paid with Payroll Protection Program 2 (PPP 2) in May, June, July and August
3. Church Staff Salaries Paid with PPP 2 Loan in June and July: \$22,611.69
4. PromiseLand Payroll paid with PPP 2 Loan in June and July: \$62,989.96
5. PPE paid for with PPP 2 Loan in May, June and July: \$507.28



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	02/15/2022		
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		



Remember
Your Pledge

Mission and Outreach News



When delivering the Christmas basket to the Grimms, Chaplain Buzz shared his interest in the book, *The Awakened Brain* by Lisa Miller. I was immediately captivated by Dr. Miller's opening chapters of her experience in a psychiatric inpatient unit in the 1990s. She wrote, "The bulk of our patients returned to the ward multiple times over the course of decades." It reminded me of my rotation as a student nurse



in



1966. When we returned to the hospital after our psyche affiliation, graduates of years past would ask about patients we had cared for.

Dr. Miller spent years researching effective treatment for depression. She found that we are universally equipped with a capacity for spirituality, and that our brains become more resilient and robust as a result. An engaged spiritual life enhances optimism and resilience while providing insulation against addiction, trauma and depression.



As we think about love this Valentine's Day, I found Dr. Miller's study of dimensions of spirituality interesting: "we found that people shared five common spirituality phenotypes. 1. Altruism, 2. Love of Neighbor as Self, 3. Sense of Oneness, 4. Practice of Sacred Transcendence, 5. Adherence to Moral Code."

Perhaps the pandemic can help us find time to deepen our spirituality and care for our neighbors.

"It is unlikely that we will deepen our relationship with God in a casual or haphazard manner. There will be a need for some intentional commitment and reorganization in our lives. But there is nothing that will enrich our lives more than a

deeper and clearer perception of God's presence in the routine of daily living."

William O. Paulsell

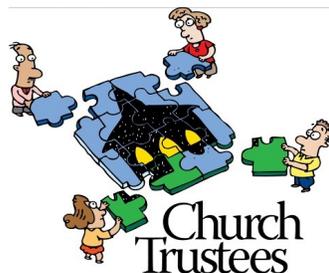
"I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love one another." John 13:34

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



Board of Trustees

The job of the Board of Trustees is to supervise and maintain all property belonging to the congregation of the church, so the ministries of the congregation can be effective. In order to do this we need volunteers! There are big jobs and little ones, long term and short term, skilled and unskilled opportunities to help. If you would like to learn more about the work of this important ministry, please contact Cindy Gray at cgtgray1039@gmail.com.



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	lwanzenried8@gmail.com
Patti Weaver	585-754-3774
Steve Williams	williasc@gmail.com

A New Year -- A New Opportunity

Many older folks in our community have given up their keys and no longer drive. Yet, they still need to get to medical appointments, go shopping, do their banking, have their hair cut.

Can You Help?

If you have a couple of hours a week, or even a couple of hours a month, consider being a volunteer driver. You can select your geographic area and the times you wish to drive. You will be provided with training, and supplemental accident and liability insurance.

Call Sr. Anne Guerin at 244-8400, ext. 142, or email her at aguerin@lifespans-roch.org and she will help you get started. Why wait?



Thank You

A big thank you to Geoffrey Furman, Chris Chamot, and Rob Gruschow for helping to dig out the church after our recent snowstorm on Sunday to Monday, January 16-17. It was a lot of snow to move, and they did a great job so that the building could reopen for business on Tuesday.



Thank You from RHAFT/ FISH

Dear Friends of the Rush United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for your continued support of the R-H food cupboard during this past year! Your continued efforts in supporting our mission and taking care of your neighbors in need are very much appreciated. It is so reassuring to know that, even in these crazy times, we can count on the helpers to continue to step up!

On behalf of FISH/RHAFT, Inc. I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$1,180.00. Your contribution makes it possible for us to continue with our mission to help families who request assistance from our emergency food cupboard located in Henrietta.

Please accept our thanks for your kindness and generosity.

A NOTE OF

Sincerely,

Joanne Paladino
DiSano
RHAFT Financial
Secretary

Debra Dewey
RHAFT Financial
Coordinator

Last year, RHAFT Volunteers provided food on 334 occasions to 210 families who faced an emergency shortage of food. Most families received help one or two times during the year; other families in difficult situations received help 4 or more.

Fifty-two families were helped last December by **RHAFT and other community partners** through the "Adopt-a-Family" project. Both RHAFT and Rush-Henrietta Rotary volunteers visited the homes of 345 senior citizens as part of the Senior Citizen Outreach Program, providing Holiday greetings and gifts to 312 seniors and ten baskets to families.

Thank you

Thank you very much for the beautiful and generous Christmas Basket of fruit, cookies, candies, and decorations. It was a very pleasant surprise that I have greatly enjoyed and I sincerely appreciate being remembered.

Yours truly,
Louise Miller



Thank You from St. Pauly Textile, Inc.

Dear Friends,

We hope this letter finds you and your families safe and warm this winter. We're happy to report that 2021 was a record year. Over 40 million pounds of clothing were donated to our clothing sheds – that's over 200,000 pounds of clothing collected every business day!

Every clothing shed is an important part of the big picture. Here are some numbers to show you the impact your own shed made in 2021...

-42,935 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed in 2021

-This was enough to clothe an estimated 7,909 people all over the world

-Based on this volume of clothing, your organization received \$1717

Thank you so much for partnering with us on this. We truly appreciate all the support you continue to give to the clothing shed program!

Sincerely,

The Team at
St. Pauly Textile, Inc.



Thank You

Thank You to the Rush United Methodist Church and PromiseLand Childcare,

I would like to take the time to express my feelings in getting such a beautiful surprise Christmas Basket from all of you. I had no idea what a Christmas Basket was until I received mine. The night I received it I just sat and looked at the beautiful basket and how great it was done. The carnation on the top just set it off for me. I want to take the time to thank each and every person that was involved in making up my basket. All of the organizing and getting each article in a separate package and so very well done. I have the little angel on my tree and the decoration that was made I have it on my tree. God bless each and everyone who helped making my Christmas Basket a success for me.

I really appreciate being able to watch the live stream of the Sunday Morning Church Service.

Thanks to one and all,

Gert Burr



Enjoy the Convenience and Greener Approach of Electronic Giving

Rush United Methodist Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly or monthly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Credit & Debit Card Giving lets you make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card.

Giving online is fast, easy and secure. Never worry about bringing your checkbook or cash again – you can set up recurring payments, so your donations continue even when you forget. 1. Visit our website at www.rushumc.com. 2. Locate the Give Online button. 3. Donate! To learn more about giving online, visit our website or contact the church office. You can also change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. This is made possible through VANCO Payment Services.

A less frequently discussed benefit of electronic giving is its positive impact on the environment. An enormous amount of natural resources are consumed in the production, transportation, processing and disposal of paper checks. That's why paying bills electronically always ranks high on any list of actions an individual can take to improve the environment. The trend toward electronic payments has already produced more than a 50% decline in check use since the year 2000.

As you consider the payment method you use to make your regular offering, we hope that you will think about the unique connection between financial stewardship and environmental stewardship, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.



A wonderous washing

David's prayer of repentance reveals a desire to be cleansed of his sin.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the left. Then match them with the correct phrases from Psalm 51 (NIV) on the right.

ETRCAE _ _ _ _ _	_____	out my transgressions (v. 1)
HSAW _ _ _ _ _	_____	away all my iniquity (v. 2)
RSEEROT _ _ _ _ _	_____	me with hyssop, and I will be clean (v. 7)
WNERE _ _ _ _ _	_____	me, and I will be whiter than snow (v. 7)
TLBO _ _ _ _ _	_____	your face from my sins (v. 9)
DIHE _ _ _ _ _	_____	out all my iniquity (v. 9)
NATRG _ _ _ _ _	_____	in me a pure heart (v. 10)
LNSECAE _ _ _ _ _	_____	a steadfast spirit within me (v. 10)
LBTO _ _ _ _ _	_____	to me the joy of your salvation (v. 12)
WHSA _ _ _ _ _	_____	me a willing spirit, to sustain me (v. 12)

Answer: blot, wash, wash, cleanse, wash, hide, blot, create, renew, restore, grant

Bereavement

Family and Friends of Robert Bock who passed away on Wednesday, January 5
 Family and Friends of Rhonda Burgos, A Meal & More's assistant chef, unexpected death
 Jim and Nancy Miller and family, death of Jim's brother, Ken Hicks, on January 14



Praises

Craig Crowell celebrates his 93rd birthday on January 29; his address is: The Friendly Home; Porter Neighborhood, Room 244, 3156 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14618; cards would be appreciated!
 February Birthdays and Anniversaries



Prayer Concerns

Friends of Maureen Cronin, Joanne and Hank, lost their home in Colorado wildfire
Michele Cuatt's sister, Barb, continued prayers for pancreatic growth
Michele Cuatt's daughter-in-law, Nicole, auto accident, prayers for healing
Genesee Valley District Superintendent, Vonda Fossett, on medical leave
Phil and Connie Kellogg and their family, friends of Barb and Paul Kingsley, Phil has cancer that has spread to his lungs
Bessie Luft, cataract surgery
Brian Mansfield, appendix cancer that spread, completed chemo, had surgery on Thursday
Joan O'Mara's granddaughter, Krystin, surgical repair of a parastomal hernia
Colorado families who lost their homes in the recent fires
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
Parents of New Drivers
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
Violence in places of Worship
Those who life has changed: death of loved one, relationships broken, families separated; give them love, courage and strength
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
Trudy Corio	Craig Crowell
Alberta Greer	Jim Hughes
Meg Kinnally	Gisela Rice

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

Phillip Banker	Jason Bello
Ryan Blood	Ben Frederick
Christian Koch	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 March 2022 issue is 5PM on Thursday, February 17, 2022.