



His Faithful Followers

A publication of Rush United Methodist Church

May 2021

A Note from Pastor Todd

"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy." – Psalm 92:1-4



I'm optimistic. I'm optimistic about our church and God's future for our church family. Let me tell you why.

The pandemic is being vaccinated into submission. We grieve those who have suffered and died. Yet we are filled with joy with each dawning day. As guidelines from NY State and our Conference ease, so too will Leadership respond accordingly.

Worship excels. So many give time and talents to provide excellence in worship every Sunday. I can't wait to sing out loud again! It takes a village, it is said, ... ushers, greeters, production volunteers, musicians, readers, designers, and others to make worship intimate, meaningful, and Spirit filled, both in person and streamed. Worship attendance and video streams over the past 12 weeks have remained strong, averaged 250 each Sunday. Thank you to our Lay Leader of Worship, Steve Williams, and your entire team.

Inspiring mission plans are being made. Inquiries are being made into service opportunities and experiences to South Africa and Kentucky's Red Bird Mission in 2022. Our elders and shut-ins are being regularly contacted or visited. Lunches continue to be served to homeless individuals at Christ Church downtown. Apartments for refugees continue to be renovated. A new Mission Advisory Board is being planned. If you'd like to become more involved in missions and outreach, contact Erma Perkins, who is doing a great job as our Lay Leader for Missions heading up this effort.

We are investing in children, youth, and families. Within a month of approving of a replacement playground over \$6,500 has been donated to reduce the \$15,000 loan from our Endowment fund. Thank you! Once the Town of Rush grants approval, construction will begin. Confirmation class is up and running with four wonderful youth, mentors, and parents. Updates have been made by parents and youth to the job description for a Youth Director and plans have been made and approved to employ a new Youth Director as early as September. Dorothy Genazzio and Geoffrey Furman are leading up the effort to revitalize the Youth Fellowship Group. Speak with them if you are interested in serving on a Youth

Advisory Board.

Finances are strong. I encourage you to download from our webpage (<https://www.rushumc.com/documents>) under the heading of "Minutes of Finance Team") our most recent financial statement and Q1 2021 Presentation to Leadership. Both pledging and income is up, while expenses are down. Spencer Haynes, our new church Treasure, does an outstanding job in his presentation and is willing to answer any questions. An anonymous, unrestricted gift of \$25,000 was given to our Endowment fund, and an anonymous gift of \$5,000 was given to deep clean the kitchen, repair windows, and restore the capital reserve fund. This enduring legacy serves as a sterling model for faithful living. May all of us benefit from this example and generosity. Our initial PPP loan (2020) was approved to be converted into a grant and we have been approved for the second PPP loan for 2021.

Individuals are stepping up to assume the operational tasks that were unassigned by recent resignations. Thank you, all!

Challenges remain. The pandemic isn't over. Please don't let your guard down. Ongoing conflict is unhealthy and costs the church family dearly. I pray it ends and remain supportive of every effort for resolution. General Conference in 2022 will likely result in the United Methodist Church dividing over the issues of sexuality and inclusion. Local churches and clergy will be making difficult choices.

Even so, "... at the work of your hands, I sing for joy!"

With Pastoral love,

Todd R. Goddard

Todd



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Called Church Conference

In response to a series of concerns and complaints that have come across her desk regarding the ministry at the Rush UMC, DS Vonda is calling a Church Conference for Sunday, May 2 at 1:15PM. SPRC/Leadership will meet prior at 12:45PM. The purpose of the Church Conference is for a time of conversation about the State of the Church. This conference will be in person and all members are welcome to attend.

DS Rev. Vonda Fossitt



Super Sale Update

Please read carefully, as some of the work days have been changed.

Saturday, May 1: we will work to move items out of the sale room and into the pavilion and garage areas. Women's and children's clothing will go in the pavilion, and the boutique items will go into the garage.

Friday, May 7 & Saturday, May 8: Friday from 9-6 and Saturday from 9-3 the actual sale will take place. We will be having 3 points of sale and as such we will need more than the usual amount of workers.

We will be cleaning up Saturday at 3:00, and will need extra hands to get the pavilion emptied.

Sign-up sheets are in the entrance way to the church. You can also email or call me directly about the times you would be willing and able to work or call the church office. Many hands make light work, and we will need everyone doing what they can to make this sale a success.



Super Sale

Thank you for your support.

Britta
bnbstan@frontiernet.net
585-703-7014

Calling All Choir Members

You are invited to a farewell brunch on May 23rd. I will be making a meal to be served between services in the dining room, and hope you will join me. Dine in or take out will be available and I would love to see you in person.

Judy



Fun in the Sun 2021

Saturday, May 8, 2021

12:45 – 5:00PM

Mendon Ponds Park

Canfieldwood Shelter

Register at <https://fun-in-the-sun-2021.eventbrite.com>

COVID-19 Safety will be followed

All who are attending should be wearing a mask

All who are attending should practice social distancing

Hand sanitizer will be available to all who attend

Activities include:

Orienteering

Capture the Flag

Geocaching

Hiking

Giant Kickball

Meet new friends

Youth led Worship

Crafts

Human Foosball

Snacks



This event is brought to you by the Genesee Valley District Committee on Youth Ministries

Soup Kitchen: Soap Bars Needed!

The Soup Kitchen, "A Meal & More", has made a request for bars of soap. A labeled box will be in the church vestibule, if you feel in your heart to contribute to this cause. We will transport the soap on Wed., May 19.

The Dollar Store has packets of 2 and 3 bars, so for \$5.00, soap could be supplied for 10-15 people. Showering is available at Asbury UMC on East Avenue.



Grateful,

Joyce Smith, volunteer

Sunday School News

I am continuing to offer an in-person and zoom class at 10:00am Sunday mornings. The link for the class is available on the Children's Ministry page. We will continue to study Jesus' teachings and his Disciple's missions after Jesus' death. Please join us!

I will also be delivering crafts in time for Mother's Day this month. If you have not been receiving them and would like to, please send me an email.

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



Save the Date

Occasion: Judy Blachowicz Retirement Party

Date: June 20, 2021

Time: Immediately following the second service – 12:00 pm

Where: RUMC Pavilion

Hope To See You There



Water Adventure Family Day

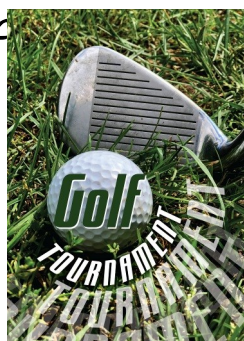
I am planning a family event for July. Tentative date is July 10 or 11. We will have an afternoon of water activities, games, crafts and songs. Be ready to get wet and have FUN! Volunteers will be needed to assist with the different activity areas. I am also looking for slip and slides, kiddie pools, a dunking booth, etc. If you have items I can borrow, let me know.



Alethea Coulter
Children's Ministry Director

PromiseLand Golf Tournament

Put it on your calendar now, we are excited to be bringing back the PromiseLand Golf Tournament this year. The tournament will be held on September 26. Keep your eyes out for more information over the next few months.



Upper New York Summer Camps

The Upper New York Camp and Retreat Ministry Area is excited to welcome back campers and guests for summer programs at all five of our sites. Safety precautions (including limiting capacity) will be in place to ensure the safety of all, as life-long memories are made in our fun and supportive environments.

Click here: <https://campsandretreats.org/summer-camp-2021> for more information on the programs being offered this summer, which is also where you will find the link to register. We can't wait to see you this summer!



PAUMCS Virtual Annual Conference

I attended the 38th Annual Conference of the Professional Administrators of The United Methodist Connectional Structure (PAUMCS) that was held virtually on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 17, 18 and 19. The Missouri Chapter of PAUMCS served as the conference host.

Those attending the virtual conference worshipped, learned, and networked with other church professionals from across the denomination. The virtual conference was a combination of Webinars, Zoom Meetings and Networking Tables. Although we all missed the in person meeting and networking, the Whova app that was used for this virtual meeting worked very well. We were given the opportunity to meet in small groups, renew old friendships and make new ones.

The theme of the conference was "Keep Our Eyes Focused on Christ" Each day was a different focus. Thursday was through the role of administrators, Friday was through the development of Disciples and Saturday was through growing the Kingdom of God. The seminars were uplifting and informative.

The mission focus was Baby Grace. The mission of Baby Grace is to share God's love and grace by offering material, emotional, and spiritual support and development for families with young children. Juli Yocum, a co-founder of Baby Grace, spoke about how Baby Grace came to be and how they are growing, both in mission sites and numbers of families being helped.

PAUMCS is excited to announce next year's PAUMCS Annual Conference will be held in Lake Junaluska, NC, April 21, 22, and 23.

Established in 1982, the PAUMCS organization fosters individual growth, professional development, and spiritual enrichment for its members around the world. To learn more about the organization and certification as a church professional, visit www.PAUMCS.org.

I have learned and grown in confidence and leadership skills during the 27 years I have been involved with PAUMCS and with your encouragement and God's help will continue to do so.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend this conference each year. I praise God for all of you.

Barb Kingsley



May RHAFT Collection

Rush Church will be collecting donations in May for the Rush-Henrietta Area Food Terminal (RHAFT). During this time of uncertainty, RHAFT is very busy distributing food to families in the Rush-Henrietta area.

RHAFT gratefully accepts all non-perishable food items, personal hygiene products, and paper goods. However, the following items are especially needed: 100% Juice: bottles, boxes, packs; Jello and Pudding; Instant Mashed Potatoes, Mayo and Condiments; Coffee: instant and ground (no K-cups); Fresh Vegetables; Canned Meat/ Fish Products: Ham, Spam, Tuna, etc; Hamburger/Tuna Helper; Fruits: cans, jars, packs, etc; Toiletries/Bar Soap/ Paper Goods.

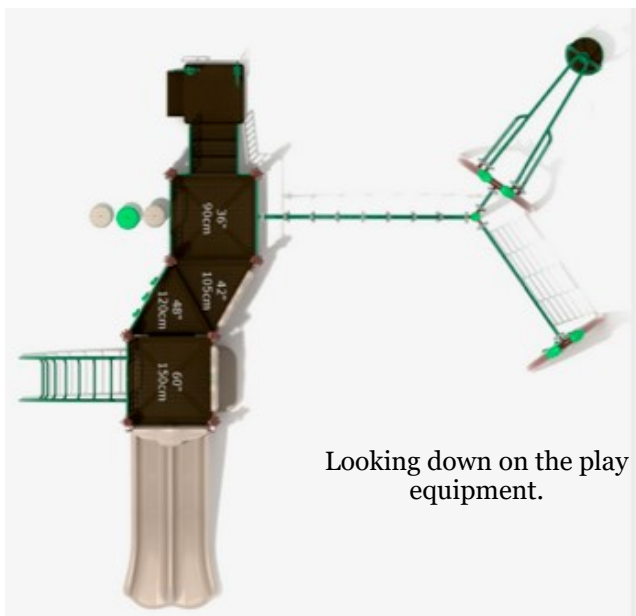
Due to the COVID 19 Virus, RHAFT is accepting donations 9AM – 5PM every day. Please bring your donations to the Don Cook Senior Center, 515 Calkins Rd, Henrietta NY 14623. There is a BLUE container in front of the Center. Town employees monitor & pick-up the donations, disinfect all products & transport them to the food cupboard. This is being done to insure the safety for all involved. Thank you. Or, you can bring items to the church Monday – Friday from 7AM – 5PM and leave them in the box in the vestibule. We will see they are taken to the center.

Cash donations are also appreciated for perishable food items such as meat and milk. Please make your check payable to Rush United Methodist Church, write in the memo area "RHAFT" and mail it to PO Box 49, Rush, NY 14543 or deliver it to the church. A check will be sent to them at the end of the month.

The need for emergency supplies of food, especially protein, personal hygiene products and paper goods is constant. Thank you for your continuing support of our community's emergency food cupboard.



Diane Van Lare
For The Ministry Support Team



Looking down on the play equipment.

PromiseLand Playground Project Update!

We continue to raise funds for our playground project. The contract has been finalized and equipment ordered! We will be setting up a workday to prep the playground area. This will include redistributing the rubber mulch, removing the old play structure and a general spruce up of the playground space. We anticipate this will be done late May.

Through your generous donations, we continue to reduce the amount of the loan we anticipate taking from the endowment fund. You can still help us! Donations can be made securely on the church website or checks can be made out to PromiseLand and mailed to the church or dropped off at the church. We have currently raised over \$6,500.00 of our \$16,000 goal!

A "brick" walkway from the parking lot to the playground is also in the plans. We are selling two different sized pavers that can be engraved with your special message. The size and cost are as follow: 8"x 8" - \$150.00 and 4" x 8" - \$75.00. Order forms and sample pavers are on the kiosk in the church lobby. Order forms are also available on the Rush UMC website. Click on the PromiseLand link then the Playground Project link. If you would like more information, contact Kellianne Williams at promiselandchildcare1996@gmail.com or 585-533-2475.



We are so excited about this investment in the church, the PromiseLand ministry, and our community. Thank you for your continued support.



Mission and Outreach News

The pandemic has prevented mission travel, but “The prayer of the righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve.” James 5:16b.

A post on Facebook offers a map as a guide to pray for the nations around the world. This is a worthy plan, but I am happy to have specific people for whom I pray regularly beyond my family and church friends. Those of you who sponsor an orphan have a name and picture. Some have family in mission around the world.

If you would like to add a person from Zululand Hospice or

“We know we are not in this alone. We feel your heart for us.”

“Words will never be able to express how much and what it means when we receive material, financial, hands on and spiritual support from you all. The difference it makes in the lives of our patients and staff is immeasurable.”

There is power in prayer!



Musa weNkosi to your prayer list, let me know. These servants meet many challenges on a regular basis. The temperatures remain in the 90s + despite this being their Fall season. There is no aircon, as they call it, at the orphanage or in the hovels in which the hospice staff works. Siphewe, Noreen, and Happiness walk up and down hills carrying large basins of water to bathe their patients. They are paid less than \$100/month.

Some quotes we have received make it clear the financial support may not be our most important contribution:



“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

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

90th Birthday Celebration and Celebration of a Life

Help us Celebrate Louise Miller's 90th Birthday and Norm Miller's Life and 90th Birthday

When: Saturday, July 24, 2021

Where: Wildwood Country Club, 1201 Rush West Rush Rd., Rush

What: Dessert Open House, coffee, tea and cash bar

Time: 6 – 9PM

Your presence is your present!

All are welcome to come and celebrate with us.



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 Analysis of Revenues & Expenses Summary Actual

March 2021

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Budget To Date (This Year)
Revenues			
Other Income	\$424.20	\$823.04	\$1,184.98
Offerings	\$30,947.00	\$77,202.00	\$58,041.24
P/L Expense Reimbursement	\$931.72	\$2,795.16	\$2,802.23
Total Revenues	\$32,302.92	\$80,820.20	\$62,028.45
Expenses			
Building & Grounds	\$1,377.56	\$6,104.90	\$8,587.77
Education	\$0.00	\$161.68	\$462.00
Insurance	\$2,797.12	\$2,797.12	\$2,500.00
(1) Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Expenses	\$1,152.25	\$2,949.05	\$2,717.05
Clergy Salaries	\$4,209.24	\$12,627.72	\$13,153.83
Lay Salaries	\$6,268.10	\$18,552.01	\$18,084.38
Clergy Benefits	\$2,488.19	\$7,946.28	\$8,886.00
Ministry Team Expenses	\$118.16	\$425.76	\$693.60
Other Program Expenses	\$0.00	\$54.60	\$75.00
Utilities	\$2,631.51	\$8,022.75	\$7,432.98
PromiseLand	(\$104.04)	(\$74.04)	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$20,938.09	\$59,567.83	\$62,592.61
Net Total	\$11,364.83	\$21,252.37	(\$564.16)

1. Shared Ministries 0% paid to end of March

FINANCIAL REPORT



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.



96th Birthday

Please help Jean Banker celebrate her 96th birthday on May 31 with notes and cards. Her address is: 1445 Rush Henrietta Townline Rd., Rush, NY 14543.



Thank You

The family of William H. Wood wants to thank our friends of the Rush United Methodist Church for their condolences and lovely sympathy cards and notes.

Della Wood



Bereavements

Teri Edom and family, Teri's mom, Marion DeWinde passed away on April 25
Mark Statskey's friend of a friend, Walter, in PA passed from complications of Covid-19

Those who have recently lost loved ones
Those in the United States and the world who have passed from complications of the Coronavirus



Praises

Mary Anne Brice's 90th birthday was April 20
Tami Czerwinski's brother, surgery on brain tumor was successful, he can see and being discharged from the hospital; Grandpa Groth is doing well following two surgeries on his tumor

William Kingsley celebrated his first birthday on April 24
May Birthdays and Anniversaries



Prayer Concerns

Alethea Coulter, continued prayers for healing from a fungal infection in her throat
 Michele Cuatt's sister, Barb, diagnosed with Covid-19
 Saralyn Gould, recovery from fall and surgery
 Erma Perkins, prayers for new children at Musa weNkosi Orphanage
 John, Dorothy and Adam, recovery from COVID-19
 Abby Statskey's friend, Ben Boldt, healing of spleen cancer and Ben's father, throat cancer
 Patty Weaver, fell at home, taken to the hospital
 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
 Church finances
 Hospice Houses near and far
 RHAFT
 Those going to parks
 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
 All those in isolation
 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
 Campus Ministries
 The United Methodist Church
 Ministry at The Pillar
 All Volunteers who go on Missions

UMCOR
 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
 Friends serving in hospice and orphanage in South Africa
 Refugee resettlement project and resettlement families
 FISH
 A Meal & More Soup Kitchen and homeless served by them
 Staff and Young Men at State School at Industry
 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
 Kathy Belik
 Trudy Corio
 Alberta Greer
 Meg Kinnally

Jean and Walt Banker
 Mary Anne Brice
 Craig Crowell
 Jim Hughes
 Marge Weather

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

Phillip Banker
 Ryan Blood
 Ben Frederick
 Michael Kurvach
 Jason McKnight
 James Rice
 Bryan Simpson
 Marcus Sydow

Jason Bello
 Jon Cannioto
 Christian Koch
 Steven Kurvach
 Isaiah Montana
 Sgt. Joseph Sarmiento
 Matthew Simpson

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 YouTube Live, Facebook Live
9:00AM: Bible Study
9:45AM: Zoom Bible Study
10:00AM: Zoom Sunday School Class
10:45AM: In-Person Contemporary Worship
Service also YouTube Live, Facebook Live
1:00PM: Zoom Video:
Rush UMC
Connections
Coffee and
Fellowship Time



Sunday Schedule

Leadership Ministry Team Meeting Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 8:30AM

These meetings are open to the congregation. The Zoom link is on the church website, www.rushumc.com. If you can't attend the meeting, your comments and suggestions are always welcome by email to toddgoddard@gmail.com or rushumc@rochester.rr.com or visit Zoom: RUMC Connections on Wednesday or Sunday. Go to www.rushumc.com for times and links.

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 Directors: .. Judy Blachowicz, 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, Tanya Hunt, Geoffrey Furman,
..... Cindy Wallace, Lynda Wanzonried, Patty Weaver

"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 June 2021 issue is Thursday, May 20, 2021.