



His Faithful Followers

A publication of Rush United Methodist Church

April 2020

A Message from Pastor Todd - "Ten Simple Things"



The current pandemic reminds me of how dependent we are on God. Life is fragile. It is as if our efforts to serve the Lord became stale, predicable, too easy and the Lord wants us to be more creative, daring, fresh, and bold. Perhaps God is calling the faithful to create new ways of Christian engagement to deepen faith, strengthen the church, and meet the needs of the world. Talk with me. Let's work together to identify and address the new opportunities for ministry this current crisis provides.

We are all anxious about unfolding events. The Lord woke me at 4:00 am to give you ten simple things to bring immediate relief to fear, replace anxiety with joy, and wrap each of us tightly in the confidence of God's love:

1) Turn off the news. The constant stream of information is exhausting. Take a break. The quickly changing environment that upset routine will begin to slow. Rest. Update yourself on your terms, only to keep yourself and your family safe. Restore. Use the break to grow strong; physically, emotionally, spiritually. Restore.

2) Get outdoors. Spring is here. Go for a walk or run. Revel in God's glorious creation. Find the Divine Awe creek side, along a hiking trail, overlooking a waterfall, in the smell of a patch of emerging Jack-in-the-Pulpit, raindrops falling on the cheeks, the wind making its way across a field. This is God's majesty at work. We are a part of God's greatest masterpiece! Release the joy!

3) Touch the Eternal. Place a small stone in your pocket and carry it with you. Allow the stone to serve as a reminder. The Eternal God who created that stone long before we were born, who loves us so much we are given Jesus, is the same God who will save us to an eternal home long after our mortal bodies are gone.

4) Take your pulse. Lightly touch your wrist. Gently touch your neck. You're alive! Every heart beat is a gift from God, a constant reminder of how much we are loved, and an ever present source of God's gift of life. Take your pulse according to your own routine, such as before and after every meal, or at waking and before sleep.

5) Breathe. Breath deep and slow. Long inhales and long exhales. Position yourself for maximum effect. Invite the Holy Spirit to enter your ebb and flow. Feel the Spirit's fullness in your lungs. Experience the tide like movement in and out of your body. Breathe the Holy Spirit upon another (from more than 12 feet away!) as a blessing, using your arms and hands to send it on its way.

6) Check in with your neighbors and each other. Call. Text. Write a note. Stop in *Rush Connections* using Zoom video. Watch for God at work in others. Be alert to needs that may emerge. Strategize how to meet those needs. When you experience God at work, report it! Witness it to others! I call it "Glory Sightings!"

Keep a list of your Glory Sightings and share them often.

7) Practice charity. Where there is a need, give. Give joyfully. Give generously. Give sacrificially. Give in the name of God; the One who has given you and me all good things. Sacrifice means giving something up. Think about what can be surrendered to make your act of charity more vibrant. The happiest, most joy filled people on the planet are those who give. Spread some happiness.

8) Read your Bible daily. Connect with God through the Word God has provided. It's a tool; use it! The more you use it, the more proficient you'll get. Experience develops muscle memory in the body, mind, and heart. Set a time every day to experience God's holy Word. If it has been a while, start by reading the Gospel of Matthew. Read it slowly. Pace yourself. Read small chunks at a time. Read the Gospel from start to finish. Watch for key words and allow God to speak to you through them.

9) Practice Sabbath weekly. Take one day a week off to do nothing except to thank God for the expanse of grace we've been given. Make a list of everything God has given you, for which you are thankful. You've been given a whole day, so make it a long list! Once you've wrung every ounce of thanks out of your body, give God praise. Praise God in prayer, song, worship, and Sacrament.

10) Wash your hands. Every time you wash your hands, say a prayer. Make it a good prayer, because hands need to be scrubbed frequently and thoroughly. End your prayer while washing with The Lord's Prayer. Do this and you'll successfully wash for two minutes. You will have made that connection with God that gets you through that very next moment. Thank you for your prayers, support, and kind words.

Beloved, God loves you, and so do I,

Todd R. Goddard

Pastor Todd



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On Line Services

Online video worship is streamed at: <https://www.rushumc.com/live-stream>

Online video archive of worship services is hosted on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2CkCxUcHfzi8Uwq3ktE2oQ>

You can also watch services live on https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=rush+united+methodist+church

Rush UMC Connections

Rush UMC Connections offers the ability to check in with one another five times a week for prayer, devotions, assessing needs and to coordinate a response to needs.

Tuesdays / Thursdays at 10:00 am. Click on this link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/776895085>

Tuesdays / Thursdays at 7:00 pm. Click on this link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/205170732>

Sunday at 1:00PM for Coffee Hour, bring your own coffee and cookies! Click on this link: <https://zoom.us/j/597867115>

Lenten Book Study, Thursdays at 6:00 pm. Click on this link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/464090578>

These links can also be accessed from the church website, www.rushumc.com. Click on the Zoom listing at the top.

Check the church's website, www.rushumc.com for updates and additional online services.

If you or someone you know would like to use any of these services but doesn't know how, let us know and we will try to assist. Call the church office, 533-2170 or send an email to rushumc@rochester.rr.com.

If you know of someone who does not have internet access, please let us know. We are working on getting DVD's to people who would like one.

Ways to Give Without Being Physically Present at Worship

1. Mail your check to the church.
2. Sign up through VANCO on the church website, www.rushumc.com, to send an electronic donation, either through your checking account (ACH) or a credit card (additional fees apply)
3. Send an electronic payment through your bank

Even though we are not holding in person worship services, our day to day expenses, including payroll, continue and need to be met. We are monitoring our extraneous spending to keep it minimal. Your assistance in keeping our income steady is greatly appreciated.



Online
Giving

Time to Zoom!

Let us help you host your next meeting or class online and in the safety of your own home. Alethea Coulter, Peter Lagueras and Pastor Todd can help set up an online



meeting, send out invitations, and give a quick orientation about how to conduct the meeting.

The church has purchased the Pro version of Zoom Video (<https://zoom.us/pricing>). We can hold an

unlimited number of meetings with each meeting lasting up to 24 hours. We are not able to hold multiple video meetings at the same time. Zoom Video is simple, effective, and an affordable solution to meet our need for staying connected while social distancing.

Zoom Video meetings works well on just about any desktop, laptop, tablet, and phone that has a good internet connection. It works on Windows, Apple, iOS, and Android. Simply click on the meeting link provided by the meeting host. The first time, you'll be asked for permission to download and install necessary software. A few seconds after permission is given, the meeting will launch with you in it.

The meeting will look like "Hollywood Squares" with each attendee in their own square. You will have your own square. You always wanted to be on TV! In the bottom left portion of the screen there are icons to turn on or off your microphone and video. It's good etiquette to keep yourself muted until ready to speak.

Take part in Rush UMC Connections, hosted every Tuesday and Thursday at 10AM and 7PM and Sunday at 1PM. Stay connected, be nourished. Share resources and listen for needs that can be met. Love God on line, and love our neighbors, too.

Sunday school News

Since we aren't able to physically meet, our Sunday school lessons will be available from the church website <https://www.rushumc.com/children-s-ministry> There are pdf's available for both the preschool and school age classes. They provide information about the topics we would be discussing in class and resources for crafts, games and materials to supplement the scripture. I hope you find them helpful and the children can continue to learn and grow in their faith. The page also includes a list of additional resources that families can use to assist in their faith journeys.

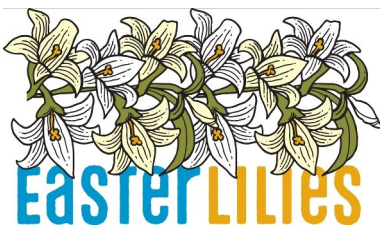


Easter Memorial Plants

To celebrate the Resurrection and remember/honor a loved one, why not order an Easter Plant?

Flowering plants will grace our Worship Center with their beauty on Easter Sunday, April 12.

The form for ordering "Memorial/In Honor of" plants is on Eagle Island in the café or you can call the church office at 533-2170. Orders must be placed on or before Tuesday, April 7. The prices are as follows:



Lilies - 5+ Blooms	\$8.50
Lilies - 8" pot Doubles	\$17.50
Hydrangeas - 4+ blooms	\$17.00
Hyacinths - 6" pots	\$6.50

The price includes foil pot covers. When you order, please print clearly the information you would like in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Holy Week Plans

In person worship is not possible during the current pandemic. Therefore, plans are being adapted to take all worship online. Our online sanctuary live stream is found at: <https://www.rushumc.com/live-stream>. There are also links to our YouTube Channel and Pastor Todd's sermon page for an archive of worship and sermons.

Plans remain to conduct Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter services. Creative details are being worked out that will adapt to an online video environment. For example, how do we get palm branches into everyone's hands? How do we celebrate Holy Communion together? Easter Lilies? Children dancing and blowing bubbles?



HOLY WEEK



Worship Technicians Needed

Candles being extinguished and descending light? If you have ideas, send them to Pastor Todd at: toddgoddard@gmail.com.

Volunteer worship production and leaders are always needed. If you are able, please give this prayerful consideration. Thank you!

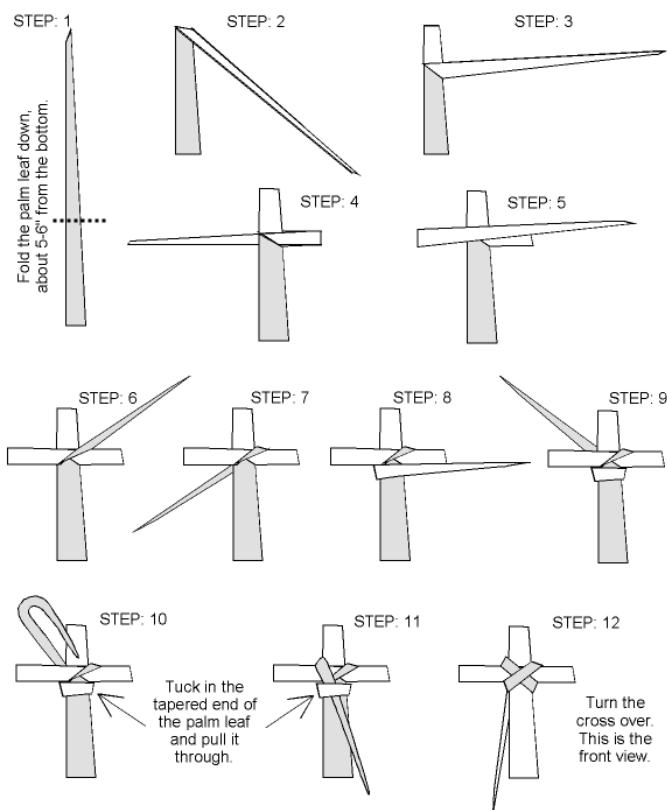


Palm Leaf Cross Directions

You will have the opportunity to make your own palm cross to wear on Palm Sunday, whether we meet in person or online. We are still working out the logistics, but palms will be available for everyone. The directions follow. They will also be available at church.

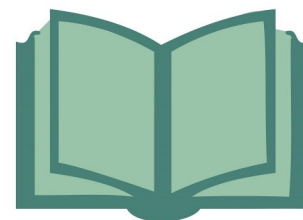
Palm Leaf Cross Directions

Supplies: One palm leaf strip about 24-26" in length, 1/2" in width, tapering to the end.



PromiseLand Auctions

PromiseLand's 18th Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Live Auction has been cancelled. We are still holding the book auction and the silent auction. End dates have not been set yet, as this is still one of our big fundraisers of the year, please bid often and bid high if you are able! If you have any questions, please send me an email at promiselandchildcare1996@gmail.com.



Book Auction

Photos of items for the silent auction are on the PromiseLand website. You can access them through the link on the church web site, www.rushumc.com.



Promiseland Is Hiring

PromiseLand is hiring full-time childcare providers. Please contact Kellianne Williams at promiselandchildcare1996@gmail.com if you are interested or know of someone who is. More information is available on the church's website.



Spring Super Sale

Our next Super Sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday May 1 and 2, situation permitting. We will keep you updated. Please mark your calendars as all able bodies will be needed to make this sale a success. We have plenty of furniture so we will need extra helpers to arrange and price what we have. Please hold your all donations until further notice.



Thank you,

Leola and Britta

Super Sale

Family Fun Night

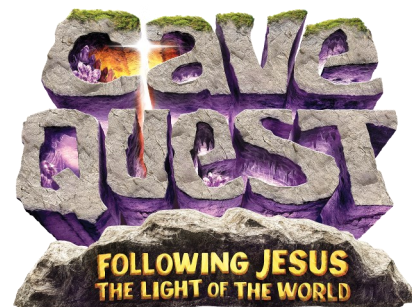
The evening of April 29 from 5:30 – 6:30, will be our monthly winter community dinner. Dinner TBD. All are welcome to attend this casual meal. We hope you will join us for a time of community and conversation (while the joy of children surrounds us). The main components of the meal will be provided. If you want to contribute, we ask for desserts. We hope to see you there. (Watch for updates.)



Family
Night
Supper

VBS July 21-23, 2020

Get ready for some cave fun at this summer's VBS! I am moving forward with planning activities and materials to explore why Jesus is the "Light of the World".



March 2nd Sunday Lunch/Chili Cook-off



The Best Chili—
Paul Macauley



Musa weNkosi Orphanage Update

Schools are closed and there is limited help to work on academics with the 40 children.

They have reported that the issue for which they requested prayer last month has "started to improve."

Elaine Charlton is over 60 and has a "bad chest" so she is being isolated. A reason for thanksgiving is that their daughter and husband have joined the work recently so the responsibility is no longer mainly on Elaine's shoulders.

They write, "We pray that you all will know God's peace in these uncertain times as we ask you to pray for us and the Musa children and staff."

Another issue of concern is the major disruption for the German volunteers. They can't go to the orphanage and are trying to get home to Germany, but the German borders are closed. The government is supposed to send a charter flight and they are booked to fly out on Thursday, but could it be cancelled. If they fly to Johannesburg, what would they do if stranded there?

Fervent prayers are needed!

We will be wiring the funds we have raised next week. Please send your donation to RUMC, PO Box 49, 6200 Rush-Lima Road, Rush, NY 14543 or go to rushumc.com, click on GIVE ONLINE and the orphanage box will show.

Thank for your interest, prayers and support! I am grateful to have concerned people with which to share these concerns.

orphanage
OUTREACH

Erma

RUMC Guatemala Trip 2020

We are hoping to head to go to Guatemala in August, but even if it gets delayed, we are committed to getting there eventually! When we go, we will bring wheelchairs to the disabled, bring supplies to those in need, and build two houses.

This fund raiser allows you to order safely online and have the products delivered straight to your house. This would make a great care package to send to love ones! They have many fun shapes and different products, including gluten free. We can use some fun right now!

We are excited to be partnering with FUN PASTA FUNDRAISING! Shop now and order some creative, delicious pasta goodies. It's simple, and you'll love the selection - great for any special occasion or just for yourself!

With each sale, our group earns 40% which helps us reach our fundraising goal.

Plus you get FREE shipping over \$55!

Thanks for your help! Your order will be shipped from Nashville, TN within 3-5 days.

<https://www.funpasta.com/fundraising/shop/rumc-guatemala-trip-2020>



Third Annual Shoe Collection Drive Lead BY GV District UMM April to June 2020

We will be conducting our Shoe Drive this year in conjunction with the Finger Lakes District UMM. The funds raised will go to support the Veterans Outreach Center of Rochester, The UMM Wheelchair Ramp Building Ministry and Wheelchair Ministry to Guatemala. Please start saving gently use shoes. We will determine how to pick up or drop off shoes as the conditions warrant. While you are at home due to the limits on travel it maybe a good time to clean out those usable shoes. Contact George Sanford at GeneseeDistrict@unyumm.org if you need more information.



Native American Ministries Sunday May 3, 2020

Now more than ever, your contributions on Native American Ministries Sunday are critical so The United Methodist Church can honor its commitments to invest in mission that reaches out to more than 20,000 Native Americans. Many are part of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, but Native American United Methodists ministries are far-reaching – from the tip of Florida to the top of Alaska.

Your gift educates, evangelizes and enriches. The special offering nurtures mission with Native Americans and provides scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians. It allows The United Methodist Church to launch and strengthen Native American ministries, both urban and rural, and to recruit and prepare Native American pastors.

Your generous gifts on Native American Ministries Sunday support:

Native American ministries within the annual conference

Scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology and seminaries approved by the University Senate of The United Methodist Church (administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry)

Expansion of the number of target cities in the Native American Urban Initiative (related to the General Board of Global Ministries)

A special leaflet/envelope will be in the bulletins on May 3, 2020.



NATIVE-AMERICAN
MINISTRY

Rush United Methodist Analysis of Revenues & Expenses Summary Actual

February 2020

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Budget To Date (This Year)
Revenues			
Other Income	\$589.82	\$1,154.35	\$1,021.67
Offerings	\$18,080.00	\$55,343.00	\$43,351.00
P/L Expense Reimbursement	\$2,090.90	\$4,315.46	\$4,315.38
Total Revenues	\$20,760.72	\$60,812.81	\$48,688.05
Expenses			
Building & Grounds	\$2,742.71	\$9,161.13	\$6,860.16
Education	\$152.18	\$196.65	\$383.00
Insurance	(\$371.00)	(\$371.00)	\$0.00
(1) Mission	\$1,823.50	\$3,647.13	\$7,294.00
Office Expenses	\$1,531.99	\$2,264.51	\$2,014.38
Clergy - Salaries	\$4,209.24	\$10,698.48	\$10,555.55
Lay - Salaries	\$5,097.16	\$14,862.09	\$14,886.50
Clergy Benefits	\$2,829.40	\$6,147.13	\$6,087.50
Ministry Team Expenses	\$0.00	\$324.00	\$646.66
Other Program Expenses	\$202.60	\$254.13	\$316.66
Utilities	\$2,231.61	\$4,976.08	\$3,716.68
PromiseLand	\$116.80	(\$0.01)	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$20,566.19	\$52,160.19	\$52,761.29
Net Total	\$194.53	\$8,652.62	(\$4,073.24)

1. Shared Ministries
50% paid to end of
February

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**



Bereavement

Abbott Family – loss of Mark
Friends and Family of Marge DeBerardinis
Family and friends of
George Peterson,
passed away on
Tuesday, March 3 due
to complications of
esophageal cancer
4th year anniversary of Dan
Varble's death
Those in the world who
have passed from
complications of the Coronavirus



Praises

Ainsley Browning's 17th Birthday was Tuesday, March 10
Elise Browning's birthday was Tuesday, March 17
Chris and Linda Chamot became grandparents at 8:42AM
on Sunday, March 1 to Westley Charles Kramer
Dory Peterson is home recovering, continued prayers
requested
Matthew and Antonia Prok
are expecting their first
baby in August; it's a
boy
"Praise the Lord" from
Musa weNkosi: staff
spoke at local Methodist
Church and they
committed to get
involved in various
ways. This is
encouraging because
many people are unwilling to go out to rural areas in
South Africa
German volunteers at Musa weNkosi arrived safely back
home; staff has been added at Musa weNkosi to care
for children
April Birthdays and Anniversaries



Save the date

Be included in the new
Rush United Methodist Church directory.

Photography dates:
Thursday, September 10th, 2 - 9 pm
Friday, September 11th, 2 - 9 pm
Saturday, September 12th, 10 am - 5 pm

Lifetouch

Prayer Concerns

Cathy Browning and Sarah Stacy's parents, Bonnie and Fran Stacy, continued health issues
 Elise Browning, continued struggle with mental health
 Elise Browning, went to partial hospital for her mental health on March 2; taking a leave of absence from college
 Jan Corey, best friend, Kay, diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer; chemo began last week
 Alethea Coulter's former client, Fred, at Strong with pneumonia
 Ben Cuatt's mother-in-law, prayers for healing from surgery
 Michele Cuatt's father-in-law's friend, breathing issues; friend, Ricco, leukemia, waiting for bone marrow donor
 Cheryl Engh's parents, health concerns
 Cynthia Goddard's co-worker's 18 month old daughter, in ICU at Strong
 Traci Gruschow, pain relief, back procedure cancelled until March 26; mom, Louanne, for healing; dad, Tony and sister, Toni for patience and understanding
 Jackie, shingles for a second time
 Rich Janik, torn aorta surgery
 Dan Kennison, brain cancer, tumor to be operated on March 17
 John Kessler's brother, Paul Kessler, heart surgery
 Lyn Kessler
 Kyra, struggling with anxiety
 Lisa, surgery this week
 Louise Miller, health concerns, non-virus related
 Norm Miller – awaiting results from a nuclear stress test
 Nancy, complication from chemo
 Jakineh Sapangal, needs prayer of protection in Malaysia with much sickness and closings of where to find help
 People who work in the freezing weather in our shed for super sale
 May the Lord place a barrier around those areas of the world without adequate medical care to deal with the Coronavirus
 Family members not able to visit family in the hospital
 Hospital Supplies
 Hospital and Nursing Home Staff – stay healthy and strong to tend to the needs of patients and residents
 Our homebound and ill
 Those who have lost their jobs, even temporarily
 Elderly parents, youth, teens, young adults, those suffering from chronic pain, mental health problems depression and addiction
 Our kids and church family
 Haiti and Government leaders; root out corruption, bring about justice, lessen poverty
 Church worldwide is under attack; help God save your people
 For all marriages and families
 Government Leaders
 Violence in places of Worship
 The United Methodist Church
 Peace, stability in Venezuela
 Those who life has changed: death of loved one, relationships broken, families separated; give them love, courage and strength
 Prayers for all travelers
 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
 For people to get along and not be so divided in America!!
 Families affected by Alzheimer's
 Families affected by cancer
 Students and teachers
 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
 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
 Colleges around the country
 City of Rochester
 Ministry at The Pillar
 All Volunteers who go on Missions
 UMCOR
 Those looking for employment
 Staff and Young Men at State School at Industry
 Those among our family who are homebound or in senior living facilities:

Ruth Baldoni
 Don Barrett
 Rose Bock
 Trudy Corio
 Charis Davis
 Jim Hughes
 Delores Sheppard
 Marge Weather

Jean and Walt Banker
 Kathy Belik
 Mary Anne Brice
 Craig Crowell
 Alberta Greer
 Meg Kinnally
 Helen Skibinski
 Bill Wood

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
 Aaron Yager

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



Prayer Requests

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



Revised Sunday Worship and Programs

- 8:30AM - Traditional Worship
Service—Streaming and
YouTube
10:45AM - Informal Worship Service—
Streaming and YouTube
1:00PM - Coffee and Fellowship Time
Rush UMC Connections—
Zoom Video
5:00PM - Youth Group Meeting—Zoom
Video



**Sunday
Schedule**

Leadership Team Meeting this month:

Saturday, April 11 at 8:30AM

Manner and location of this meeting has not been determined. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome via email to rushumc@rochester.rr.com.

How to Reach Us

Church Telephone: 585-533-2170
Church Fax: 585-533-1978
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
Director of Youth Ministries: Peter Lagueras
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
Nursery Care Supervisor: Katelynn Lagueras
Worship and Praise Band Coordinator: Steve Williams
Leadership Team: Erin Bills, Chris Chamot, Jim Comstock,
..... Todd Goddard, Tanya Hunt, Geoffrey Furman,
..... Lyn Kessler, Cindy Wallace, Lynda Wanzanried

"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 May 2020 issue is Thursday, April 23, 2020.