His Faithful Followers

A publication of Rush United Methodist Church
November 2026

A Note from Pastor Kyle

As autumn approaches (it's actually already here in fact) and we get ready to gather around loaded tables (with Turkey Dinner… we have already started) with our loved ones, our hearts naturally turn toward the people and blessings we hold most dear. November is the month of Thanksgiving for us here in the United States. It is a wonderful, sacred pause. It is a time to look across the room at family and friends, breathe deeply, and remember that every good and perfect gift comes from above (James 1:17).

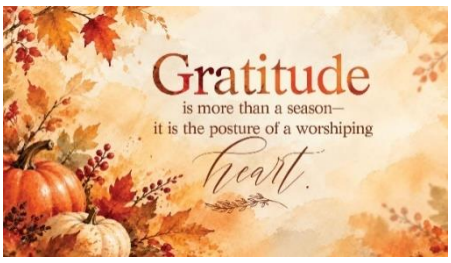


Whether your Thanksgiving table features boisterous children, quiet reflection with a spouse, or an adopted "friendsgiving" circle of neighbors, family is one of God's greatest creations. We give thanks for the laughter shared, the traditions passed down, and the comfort of knowing we belong.

Yet, as we treasure our own circles, God invites us to remember that our definition of "family" doesn't stop at the dining room walls or our church walls.

True gratitude is never meant to be collected; it is meant to flow out; freely. When we recognize how richly God has provided for us—our homes, our daily bread, and our spiritual home right here in this congregation—we are naturally moved to ask: *How can we share this abundance with others?* (At least I pray this is your natural mental and emotional response!)

This November, as you plan your holiday festivities (and your holiday spending) I encourage you to look beyond your immediate household and invest in the church's local and global efforts. This is not a short-term request nor is it a one-time ask. I am never sure (other than the fact that it is close to the end of the budget year) why we do a Stewardship Campaign during the month of Thanksgiving? I do think that it makes messages like this easier for me to craft.



Being grateful for what we have makes it easier for us to be cheerful, bringing that joy to others. And yet, stewardship is required not only during a thankful time… it is needed throughout the year (always in fact).

This Thanksgiving, before you bow your head to give thanks for your meal, take a moment to ask God how He wants you to stretch your table a little wider this year. As you look in the eyes of your family… whether at the dinner table or around the communion table – consider how you might find a means to not only open a space for someone new… but help to fill the gap. This Thanksgiving month (this Stewardship month) let your gratitude turn into action. Let what we have be the active AGAPE that reaches beyond our tables into a world in need; a world whose needs we can help provide for. Have a blessed, joy-filled, and deeply thankful Thanksgiving month!

Blessings,

Pastor Kyle

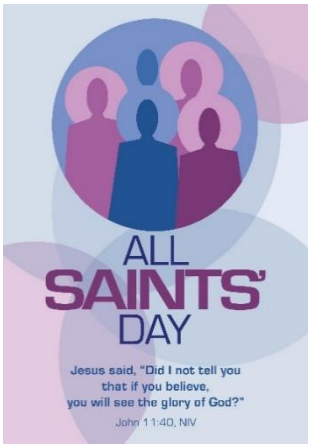
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All Saints Sunday

On Sunday, November 1, we celebrated those in our church family who have gone to be with the Lord in the past year. The families were invited to worship with us. As the names were read, a candle was lit and a bell chimed. The names I have are Mary Ann Brice, 11/18/2025; Ernest Herington, 12/27/2025, Bette Yager 12/29/2025, Mary Davis, 01/19/2026, Al Sweet, 01/25/2026, Mary Callerame, 03/01/2026, Debra Kostiw, 04/26/2026, Jean Banker, 06/03/2026, Jim Swanger, 10/27/2026



District Safe Sanctuary Training

The quarterly Zoom Safe Sanctuary training will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2026, 9a-12:30pm. Please see the district page to register (https://www.unyumc.org/ safe-sanctuaries). If you have any questions, please let me know.

Alethea Coulter
Children's Ministry Director
alethea.coulter@rushumc.org

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

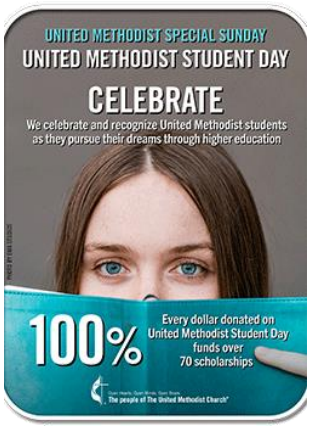
The Ladies' Lunch Bunch is a time of fellowship for women in our church community who are single, widowed, divorced, or separated – *or who just want an opportunity for a good meal and conversation!* They ***usually*** meet the first Monday of the month, at 12:30pm, in the church Fellowship Hall. This month's luncheon, however, is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 9.

If you would like to join Pastor Kyle for lunch this month, please let Barb Kingsley, or Cindy Gray know. Reservations are not required, but it's helpful to have a rough idea of how many are coming, in order to know how much food to prepare. If you would like to know more about this opportunity, please call Cindy Gray at 585-362-6206 or contact her at cgtgray1039@gmail.com.



United Methodist Student Day

On United Methodist Student Day, we partner with other congregations in a special offering to support the next generation of young disciples on their educational journey. One of denomination's six special offerings, United Methodist Student Day celebrates young adults and gives them a financial and spiritual boost. When you give to the special offering on United Methodist Student Day, you invest in a channel of hope for young leaders who bring their Wesleyan values into their schools and professions. Your contribution is an acknowledgement that the church has confidence in them and in their abilities.



The United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition. Now, perhaps more than ever, United Methodists are called to extend healing and hope that can guide us to transformational ministries. Through our gifts and support, we partner with God and God's creation to strengthen Christ's loving presence in a hurting world. United Methodist Special Sunday celebrations invest in transforming communities, empowering leaders, and building up ministries of peace with justice. Concentrating our resources to support shared ministries equips us to step into a grace-filled new beginning with faithful determination. United Methodists are striving to make a difference in the world and discerning what God has called them to do. Gifts to the United Methodist Student Day offering help send young leaders into the world with the justice seeking, healing and compassionate values that have been instilled in them over the years. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY: Write a check to Rush UMC with "UMSD" in the memo line and put it in the plate on the kiosk or mail it to Rush UMC or give online through the church website, www.rushumc.com. You can also give online or set up monthly giving, at UMC.org/SSGive. An envelope/flyer will be on the kiosk beginning November 15, 2026.



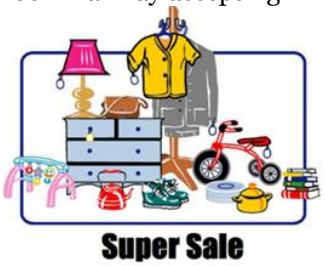
Where Faith Meets Family and Everyone Has a Seat at the Table
Rush United Methodist Church - Annual Stewardship Campaign

As we prepare our hearts for the upcoming Stewardship Campaign, we will be shifting our November brunch from the 2nd Sunday to the **3rd Sunday**. It will also be a Potluck, so bring your favorite dish to pass on **11/15/26** along with your pledge card. Thank you for your understanding, and we hope to see you at brunch on the new date!



Holiday Super Sale

Holiday Super Sale December 5, 9AM-3PM, half price 1-3pm. Downstairs sale room hallway accepting donations of housewares, home decor, toys, kitchen items, etc, now until November 19. Please put all clothing and linens in the St. Pauly shed. A sign-up sheet for the sale will be on Eagle Island Sunday, November 1.



Christmas Activity Night

PromiseLand will be hosting an evening of food, family geared crafts, and a chance to meet Santa and you are all invited. This event will be held on Tuesday, December 8 from 5:30 – 7:00pm. Please email Promiselandchildcare1996@gmail.com to let Kellianne know if you plan on attending so that we can ensure we have enough crafts and food. While crafts are geared toward families, all are welcome to join us.





Christmas Cheer Bags

On Saturday December 12 from 10 - noon, we will be continuing our annual tradition of filling about 25 goodie bags to spread some cheer for our homebound, those in Senior Living facilities or those who need some extra cheer this holiday season.

Volunteers are needed to provide homemade cookies, muffins, fruit, snack bags, Nutrigrain bars, candies and small ornaments. A fresh red carnation is added to each bag ordered from Chases Greenhouse. A card is enclosed as well from our church family and PromiseLand. Sign-up sheets will be provided in mid-November with all information.

Delivery people are needed to make this annual event a success. Names, addresses and phone numbers will be provided for you. **Please pick up the bags on Saturday, December 12 or any time on Sunday, December 13 (dining room).** You can deliver whenever convenient for you from December 13-15 while the bags are fresh.

Your nonperishable items can be left anytime under the table where the signup sheets are or delivered before 10am on Saturday, December 12 to the conference room and set on the chairs. Barb Kingsley might be able to store some items for you, if the conference room is being used by Heritage Christian Services. I am happy to pick up your items from your home, if you cannot deliver them to the church.



Please be aware that Extra Cheer Bags will be filled and available for you to deliver to a special friend or loved one.

Thank you and may you all have a safe, healthy and blessed Christmas season.

Joyce & Ray Smith
585/356-5310; joysmo314@gmail.com

Pianist and Choir Update

We are excited to welcome Thomas Johnston as our new church pianist. Thomas is a student at Eastman School of Music working on a Master's in Jazz studies for Double Bass. His first official Sunday will be November 8 with choir starting up Wednesday rehearsals on November 11 at 6:30pm. He was at the service on November 1st to meet the congregation and play some special music for the service.





Christmas Memorial Plants

We will be ordering plants from Chase's Greenhouses for our Christmas Eve services.

If you would like to provide a memorial plant, please email Barb Kingsley at barbara.kingsley@rushumc.org by Monday, December 14. There is also an order form on Eagle Island.



As an alternative you may contribute to the Capital Stewardship Fund. Please tell Barb in your email or on the order form.

The plants available and price, which includes a sleeve over the pot, are listed below:

Red, White or Marble Poinsettias:
6½" pots – $8.50

Red, White or Marble Poinsettias:
7½" pots (2 plants): $13.50

Cyclamen in 6" pots $8.50

Christmas Cactus 6" pots $8.50

PromiseLand is hiring!

PromiseLand is looking for a caring individual with experience working with infants and toddlers and a degree in ECE to work full-time at PromiseLand. If you know someone who fits this need, please encourage them to send their resume to Kellianne Williams at Promiselandchildcare 1996 @gmail.com.



Children/Youth Christmas Play

Practices for the Christmas play will start in November. The Christmas play will be performed on Sunday, December 20th during the worship service. If you are available to help, please let me know. We can always use people to help with rehearsals, costumes, and sets.



Alethea Coulter
Children's Ministry Director
alethea.coulter@rushumc.org

PromiseLand Bake Sale

Thank you to everyone who baked and purchased items for the PromiseLand bake sale during the Turkey Dinner. PromiseLand made over $1,500! This money goes to support extra programs for the children and families of PromiseLand. Your support is so important to the PromiseLand ministry. Thank you!



A Story from Richard Nereau

Recently, I read on Facebook a young family man had started a lawn mowing business while working a full- time job. He was frustrated that he was working long hours and missing family opportunities with regard to his young daughter, wife and other family members. He felt physically and mentally drained. He decided it was not worth the strain and lost family time. He has stopped trying to develop a lawn care business and started a new career in the food business as a full-time butcher.

Why did this interest me? I replied to him, blessing him for taking care of his family! I told him I had watched him develop into a caring young man we knew he could become!! God bless!!

Later that day I received an email from him.

"Richard Nereau no one knows my path quite like you! It has been a long road but you instilled a lot of good practices in me and gave me the head start in food service that I needed! Thank you for everything"

As you probably guessed by now, Scott was one of the boys I helped train at the State School at Industry. This is now 12 years since he left the school. When I first met him he had no confidence in himself, he was a loner. I had the privilege of working with Scott for 4 years in the Dugout café at the school, and watched him gain confidence in his abilities he did not know he possessed.

God works in mysterious ways!!

Next month I wish to share a story of another young man that wanted to honor his grandfather who fought in Vietnam.

Families First

Rush United Methodist Church

Analysis of Revenues and Expenses

General Operating Budget

January – September 2026

Accounts	Annual Budget 2026	Month to Date Actual 2026	Year to Date Actual - 2026	Annual Budget Remaining 2026	% of Annual Budget Used
Revenues					
Program Income	$39,550.00	$3,883.69	$33,655.05	$5,894.95	85.09%
Received Through Pledges	$244,300.00	$13,838.00	$185,369.20	$58,930.80	75.88%
Reimbursement of Expenses	$25.045.00	$1,782.44	$16,133.07	$8,911.93	64.42%
Total Revenues	$308,895.00	$19,504.13	$235,157.32	$73,737.68	76.13%
Expenses					
Board of Trustees	$59.763.00	$3,832.93	$37,837.60	$21,925.40	63.31%
Education	$7,737.00	$254.00	$4,225.68	$3,511.32	54.62%
Insurance	$18,735.00	$2,613.75	$11,385.82	$7,349.18	60.77%
Missions	$39,020.00	$3,210.00	$28,890.00	$10,130.00	74.04%
Office Expenses	$14,554.00	$849.56	$10,637.58	$3,916.42	73.09%
Clergy Salary	$55,311.00	$4,254.70	$40,419.65	$14,891.35	73.08%
Lay – Salaries	$93,266.00	$6,209.21	$62,739.43	$30,526.57	67.27%
Clergy Benefits	$59,755.00	$4,602.39	$45,571.23	$17,183.77	71.24%
Ministry Team Expenses	$5,525.00	$443.49	$2,868.23	$2,656.77	51.91%
Other Program Expenses	$9,855.00	$680.93	$3,654.86	$6,200.14	37.09%
Utilities	$33,271.00	$2,038.40	$19,824.04	$13,446.96	59.58%
PromiseLand	$0.00	$0.00	($6,858.46)	$6,858.46	0.00%
Total Expenses	$396,792.00	$28,989.36	$258,195.66	$138,596.34	65.07%
Net Total	($87,897.00)	($9,485.23)	($23,038.34)	($64,858.66)	0.00%

As per the budget, $21,000.00 of unrestricted funds were transferred from the saving account to the checking account to be used against budget expenses

Prayer Concerns

Health Concerns: Alison, Bob and Linda Faugh, Buzz and Joan Grimm, Kevin Kinnally, Leola Porter, Penny Schultheis, Ray Smith
Michele Cuatt's brother-in-law, Jeff, please continue prayers for his healing
George and Cindy Gray's son Brian Gray, had successful spine surgery on October 13 at RGH
Wendy Kuhn's brother, TJ suffered a heart attack while visiting from out of state, he was at Strong Hospital and has since gone back to Florida
Wendy Kuhn's nephew and niece and their pregnancy with twins
Dian Zhao Lin, detained by ICE in Mt. Morris and his family
Kris Roehrig, surgery on her neck and spine scheduled for November 23
Those in our congregation who are suffering with loss, illness, or deteriorating health
PromiseLand Childcare staff, children and families
Heritage Christian Services Rush Day Hab
Please continue to pray for the children and staff of the Children's Home, Musa weNkosi
Zululand Hospice
Our President and Government, Our Country, our world
Unity and peace to come to our troubled land
Government Leaders
The conflicts around the world
The Jewish people
People of Ukraine
Difficult marriages
School Districts, Parents and Students
Families and friends of those affected by continued gun violence and mass shootings
Those struggling with addiction and alcoholism
For justice and health care to be deployed equally and evenly among all people
End to racism and inequality
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
Small Businesses
Hospital and Nursing Home Staff
Help us all to remember that in these times as always Jesus is with us, we're not alone
Prayers for our youth to find themselves and God in the process
Families affected by Alzheimer's, cancer and other terminal illnesses
Parents of New Drivers
Those looking for employment
Employers looking for people to hire
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
All Volunteers who go on Missions
UMCOR
Refugee resettlement project and resettlement families
Injustice in the USA
City of Rochester
RCSD and Board
International Students
Members in Military
Those who are incarcerated
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	Lynne Jacobs
Kevin Kinnally	Leola Porter
Penny Schultheis	

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

Phillip Banker	Jason Bello
Ben Frederick	Jason McKnight
Isaiah Montana	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.



Bereavement

Please keep Pat Boyes and her sisters in your prayers; their sister, Bernetta Nanny, recently passed away
Maureen Cronin and family, passing of her brother-in-law, Don Miller and his twin brother also recently lost his wife
Kris and Kyle Roehrig, prayers for Bill and Beckett on the loss of Corrine, a long-time good friend of theirs and Kris's sister
Shiela Swanger and Beth Malone and their families, death of their husband and father, Jim Swanger on October 27



Praises

Twice the love and joy have arrived with the birth of girls, Wren Elaine, and Eleanor Sue, to Chris and Linda Chamot's daughter and son-in-law, Stephanie, and Peter on September 23; our hearts and hands are completely full!

"Thank God I Do", Sunday, October 11th Musical Reflection was given in memory and honor of Elio Modafferi's birthday a year ago

A successful Turkey Dinner

November Birthdays and Anniversaries



Mission & Outreach

"It is time for the LORD to do something!" Psalms 119:124 It is discouraging to be praying for the situation of Musa weNkosi's being unable to admit children for almost 2 years, but it is much more fraught for the staff. Will the Department of Social Development allow them to admit children again or "just let things run down."



Questions they face are:

1. Do we replace the water tank whose stand is a safety concern?
2. Should we patch or replace leaking roofs?
3. Should we go ahead with plans for solar power? A big expense.
4. "Do we repair and flog old bakkies (pick up trucks) that do the job with only 17 children so long as we don't have breakdowns or do we plan a replacement we would need if we had more children?
5. "On top of that the Mama's always have a to-do list of immediate needs; taps, windows, doors jamming, etc, etc?"



Praises they report:

1 DSD has always moaned about our composting toilets. We installed a septic tank and all our toilets are flushing!" (Funded by Rush UMC)

2. Nselini has been going strength to strength under Joy's leadership. They have 35 children being fed, given a Bible lesson and homework help every school day.
3. September 24 is Heritage Day. The children planned singing, dancing and menus for a mock Zulu celebration for a girl's 21st birthday. Everyone had lots of fun.

Prayer needs:

1. Joy had a positive mammogram. Decisions will be made as to how much further treatment she will need.
2. Elaine had a bronchoscopy due to a troublesome cough of over a year. It showed inflammation and a very uncommon bacteria. She's on 10 days of dual antibiotic therapy.
3. That DSD will make a decision soon, so that the future is clearer and we can plan.
4. For the children as they start end of year exams next week.
5. That more people will come to help us; there are still so many gospel opportunities that are not taken up.



We are planning to assist with their Vacation Bible Club on our 2027 visit to South Africa. Tentative dates for the trip are June 23-July 8.

If you would like to receive these reports, send a request to musawenkosiorphans@gmail.com.

Turkey Dinner Thank You

This year's 82nd Annual Turkey Dinner and Bake Sale was a huge success, thanks in large part to many, many volunteers. We served approximately 525 dinners in just about 2 hours and collected 45 boxes worth of food donations for RHAFT. Cash donations, prior to, the night of the dinner and after, were $4,810.00. Expenses as of October 21, 2026, were $4,476.68

We were able to do two seatings in the dining room this year – an improvement over last year's numbers – and takeout numbers remained strong. Many attendees complimented both the food, but also the service.

This is an important ministry for our church and a longstanding tradition that does not happen without a small army of volunteers, including the church's Youth Group and local Boy Scouts. Additionally, the culinary program at Industry roasted all 800+ pounds of turkey for the dinner. We are so grateful for all your help and support.



We hope to improve again for next year's dinner and invite anyone who volunteered or attended to give their suggestions to us at rumcturkeydinner@gmail.com Next year's dinner will be held on Saturday, October 16, 2027.

October Second Sunday Brunch



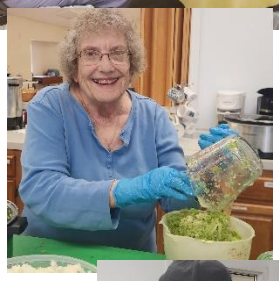







82nd Turkey Dinner












Capital Stewardship Campaign Update

As of Friday, October 30, 2026, we have received $269,200.00 or 53.84% in pledges towards our $500,000.00 goal. Of the amount pledged, we have received $246,153.69 of which $204,696.69 has been spent on fabric to reupholster the sanctuary chairs, for the materials and installation of the carpet and baseboard in the lobby, sitting area and halls, for repairs to gutters, as a deposit and finishing the drainage work in the parking lot and west side of the building and patching, sealing and striping the driveway and parking lot and for the permit, electronic sign and electrical work to install the sign. Twenty-one thousand two hundred seventy dollars ($21,270.00), not pledged, of this total has been designated for the electronic sign. $10,000.00 of this was donated by PromiseLand Childcare. Additionally, the project to repair and replace the board and batten siding has been finished and paid in full. Pledges continue to be accepted. Even if you haven't made a pledge, donations to the Capital Stewardship Campaign are gratefully accepted.



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"





Leadership Ministry Team Contact Information

Kelly Barrett	kjbarrett92@gmail.com
Jan Funkhauser	jsquaredf@aol.com
Geoffrey Furman	furman@rochester.rr.com
Cindy Gray	cgtgray1039@gmail.com
Natalie Johnstone	johnstone.natalie@yahoo.com
Dan Kingsley	deltakilo@gmail.com
Michelle Prok	mibopbuckeye@gmail.com
Lisa Shingleton	homeforsale51@gmail.com
Steve Williams	williasc@gmail.com

Industry Residential Center Advisory Board Christmas Gifts

A special request to members and friends of Rush Church,

This is the 15th consecutive year we at Rush Church have generously supported funding of gifts for the boys at Industry.

This past year many of the gifts donated by other organizations did not meet the approved gift list furnished by the State of New York and could not be used.

Several years ago we made the decision to donate funds so the proper gifts might be purchased by The Advisory Board for distribution to the boys.

We suggest donating the following: Walmart and/or Wegmans gift cards, cash or checks made out to RUMC indicating Industry gift in the memo.

We are grateful for your continued support to help make the Christmas holiday a special time for the boys. For many of them this is their first Christmas away from home and family.



Blessings,

Richard Nereau,
Industry Advisory Board

GRACE Choir Christmas Concert

GRACE Choir is a multi-denominational choir made up of people from at least 20 different churches around the Rochester area. We sing under Director, Lon Beery. We are planning to sing *"Joy!"* twice in December. First on Saturday, December 12 at 4:00PM at the United Church of Canandaigua, 11 Gibson Street, Canandaigua and second on Sunday, December 13 at 4:00PM at Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 S. Winton Rd, Rochester. These concerts are free and open to the public, although a free will offering may be taken. Come and enjoy an afternoon of Christmas music.



Rush United Methodist Church
6200 Rush Lima Rd
PO Box 49
Rush NY 14543

Sunday Worship Schedule



8:30AM – Adult Book Study led by Michelle Prok
9:30AM — Worship Service - In-Person and Streaming
9:30AM — Communion served on the 2nd and 4th Sunday
9:45AM — One Room Sunday School Class for Children
10:45AM — Rush UMC Coffee Hour
11:00AM — Lectionary Study with Pastor Kyle
11:00AM — Third Sunday Brunch in November

Youth Group



Youth in grades 6—12 meet a couple of times a month. Watch the bulletin and youth page on the website for dates and activities. All youth are welcome to come and invite a friend.

Leadership Ministry Team

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome by email to any Leadership Ministry Team Members, contact information on page 9.

How to Reach Us



Church Telephone: 585-533-2170
Church Fax: 585-533-1978
Pastor Kyle Telephone: 585-533-2170
PromiseLand Telephone: 585-533-2475
Web Site: www.rushumc.com
Email Address: rumc@rushumc.org
Rush Tidings Address: rumcnews@rushumc.org

Ministers: ..... Every Member of the Congregation
Pastor:..... Rev. Kyle Roehrig
Administrative Assistant: ..... Barbara Kingsley
.....,... Office Hours: 9AM - 4PM Monday- Friday
.....Remote Working Tuesdays, occasional Friday
Director of Children's Ministries: ..... Alethea Coulter
Director of Youth Ministries: ..... Alethea Coulter
Director of PromiseLand Childcare: .. Kellianne Williams
Chancel Choir Director: ..... Kellianne Williams
Accompanist: .....Thomas Johnston
Lay Leaders: Worship: ..... Steve Williams
Children, Youth and Families:..... Tanya Hunt
Mission and Outreach: ..... Erma Perkins
Leadership Team: ..... Kelly Barrett, Jan Funkhauser,
..... Cindy Gray, Geoffrey Furman, Natalie Johnstone,
..... Dan Kingsley, Michelle Prok, Kyle Roehrig,
..... Lisa Shingleton, 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: Kyle Roehrig, Senior Pastor; Editor: Barb Kingsley; Deadline for articles to be included in the December issue is Thursday, November 19, 2026