

ROCKVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (RPC)

RPC Newsletter

WEBSITE: WWW.ROCKVILLEPRES.ORG

The Reverend Michael McNamara



Harvest in Provence, **Vincent van Gogh**, 1888

Greetings in the Name of the Lord!

We have officially begun our stewardship campaign. The theme this year is Time, Talent and Treasure for Transition. Over the next few weeks you will get a sense of how your time, your talent and your treasure will help Rockville Presbyterian Church make its way through the double transition of a new pastor, and the transition to what the world will look like after this Pandemic. A lot of people talk about the new normal that we find ourselves in, this new normal is a period of transition, we don't know for sure how long the pandemic will last, and we won't have to social distance and mask up forever. But this pandemic is long enough that things will certainly be different when it is

over. Things won't necessarily return to the way things were, some things will of course change, but other things won't, and from our current perspective, it will be hard to know exactly what will change and what will not.

As we eventually transition out of this period of social isolation, gearing up for the new new normal will take time-- time to listen to what others are experiencing as we move towards a shifted reality, and what people are looking for and spiritual hungry for. It will also take volunteer time to take part in church wide discussions, to be an active part of the decision making process, and then once we have a clear

vision, time in helping make that vision a reality. It will take talent-- each of your talents are God given gifts. You have all been called to Rockville to combine those talents with the rest of our faith community to live into God's call of this particular church. Identifying what you can do, and letting others know what those talents are, will help us live into the fullness God intends for Rockville, if we hold back those talents, it is like putting a lamp under a bushel, we are limiting what it is Rockville can be. It is up to us to trust that God has combined all of our talents to do something as Christ's hands and feet, serving the world in Love. And it will take our treasures-- it takes money to keep our building standing, staff in our offices and to effectively and efficiently provide outreach and service. This last "T" is often the hardest to talk about, but it is necessary, and the more treasure we can gather, the more we can do, the more we can prepare and then live into the new new normal that will be coming. Imagine the joy of getting to gather together again in person, and what that new found energy and

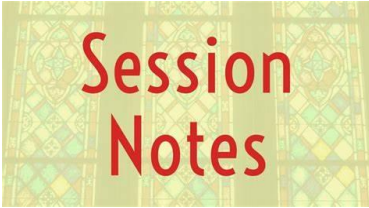
passion might lead us towards! That is what we are giving to now, although we might be worn out, lonely, exhausted, just plain sick and tired of this pandemic, there will be another side, and it is how this particular church navigates that transition that will define it for at least a generation, possibly even two or three.

So, engage your time, your talent, and your treasure so Rockville Presbyterian Church can make all the transitions in front of it. And maybe most importantly, we need to make sure to pray, so we can make sure there is space for God's vision, to allow ourselves to be led by the spirit, to allow Christ to truly be the head of the church. There is so much in front of us, so many exciting things that might be, and it is what we do now that can make all the difference. So take seriously the call of our stewardship campaign this year, give as you are able of your time, talents and treasures for the transitions we will be moving through.

In Peace, Mike



RPC continues the outdoor and in-person Sunday morning service at 9 am on the front steps of the church, weather permitting. There is no singing, participants should bring their own chairs, masks and social distancing is required. It is a lovely way to spend a Sunday morning!! The service lasts approximately 30 minutes. The regular Sunday live stream service continues every Sunday at 10:30 am.



Session Notes

Greetings from the RPC Session members: Anne Baur, Sue McGee Anderson, Bernice Brown, Mark Chittum, Marty Heilman, Elke Herzfeld, Mary Williams, Jerry Macomber and Aimee Ranaivoarijaona

The Session met with Pastor Mike via Zoom on October 13th for our monthly Session Meeting. Each time we meet, we are deepening our friendship and as Pastor Mike explains his hopes and desires for how he wants the Session to work as an extension of Christ's love. We studied parts of the Book of Order and have the expectation of sharing a book together with Pastor Mike's guidance in order to understand more fully the task of providing effective leadership to the congregation now and in the future.

The Session has accepted the Covid-19 Task Force's recommendation for the use of the church building by members of the RPC and EPIC congregations. The goal of keeping the building safe during the pandemic is foremost in our minds. The guidance below has been adopted and will be required for the use of our building for worship services and meetings in the future:

Procedures for RPC/EPIC members' use of the RPC Sanctuary, John Calvin Room & meeting rooms in the main worship building:

"Every person entering the main building must sign in and give the following information on the sign-in sheet:

1. Date/time
2. Name
3. Temperature (which should be less than 100.4 degree Fahrenheit.)
4. Wear a mask at all time when in the church building.
5. Visitor name
6. Location in the church where the individual intends to go
7. Wash your hands with sanitizing solution when you are finished with the sign-in sheet.

Every member-related group must contact our Office Manager, Barbara, to add their meeting to the RPC calendar.

According to the current (10/10/2020) Montgomery County guidance, a maximum of 29 people can attend a service in the Sanctuary and 28 people can attend a meeting in the Calvin Room. All attendees must practice social distancing while in the Sanctuary or the Calvin Room. After the use of the church for Sunday worship with 29 members' attendance, the sanctuary will be cleaned professionally on the following Monday/Tuesday.

Each group (worshipping in the Sanctuary or meeting in the Calvin Room) is responsible for cleaning the meeting area when the meeting is over. Cleaning includes the following:

1. Use disposable gloves to clean and disinfect the room
2. Clean and disinfect surfaces. (Ask Bob Taylor for the proper disinfectant to use.)
3. Clean frequently touched surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, etc.
4. The only rest room available for use during meetings is located by the door to the parking lot. It must be cleaned when the meeting is over."

Please note at this time, the decision to use the sanctuary for regular worship has not been made. Our streaming of the Sunday worship will continue with a **9:00 am** service outside of the church on Sunday morning, weather permitting.

Peace and Patience to each and every one of you,

Anne Baur, Clerk of Session.



RPC 2021 Steward Campaign - Week One: Focus on Time

Hope for the future is a powerful thing. It inspires us to do the impossible and helps us carry on during difficult times. As RPC looks to the future with our new pastor, the Stewardship Team asks that this week you pause to think about your hopes for RPC and consider how you can share your time to support our church's future. The Team also asks you to take some time this week to reach out to someone you haven't talked to for a while to offer a caring message. This could be a member of your family or a friend or one of RPC's homebound that are listed below.

John 3:17-18 "...We should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring."



...We should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring.

RPC 2021 Steward Campaign - Week Two: Focus on Talent

Anticipation is the emotion we feel when we are waiting for something to happen. As RPC looks forward to the time when we can again be together for worship and fellowship, the Stewardship Team asks that this week you pause to think about how your talents might contribute to our church's future. The Team also asks that this week you use one of your talents to put a smile on someone's face. You might give someone an item you made or bake them cookies. You could fix something for someone or serenade them with song. We know that whatever you choose to do will be appreciated.



1 Peter 4:10 "God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."

Week Three: TREASURE – make a small donation to your favorite charity or cause.

Week Four: Prayerfully consider making a financial pledge to support RPC in 2021.

Week Five: CELEBRATE – Nov. 22 will be Stewardship Dedication and Celebration Sunday.

EN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Schedule for Sunday Mornings

9:00 am outdoor service - weather permitting.

10:30 am – Live Stream Sunday Service, followed by ZOOM Coffee Hour, Instructions are provided in weekly emails. Contact the office at 301-762-3363 or by email at Rockvillepres1@verizon.net to be added to the mail blast.

Live stream is accessible through the link below.

<https://www.christianworldmedia.com/livesite/RPCPraise> OR

The church website RockvillePres.org

Zoom Sunday school for children will be held on **Nov. 1st at 9:30 am**. Parent-led lessons will be provided to families with children.

Zoom information will be provided to parents of children. The title of the Nov. 1st lesson is "Abigail Makes Peace".

The congregation is encouraged to invite other kids to participate - your grandchildren, children of neighbors, children of friends. Our program is designed for young people ages 5 to 10, but younger siblings can participate with their sister or brother. Names, email and postal addresses are all we need to get new students started.



- 2 *Howie Jung*
- 4 *Brian Macomber*
- 10 *Jackson Taylor*
- 15 *Bob Taylor*
- 22 *Jennifer Taylor*
- 26 *Damaris Baker*

Have you been missing Fellowship? There's an opportunity for Fellowship every Sunday following our regular Live Stream service. Join



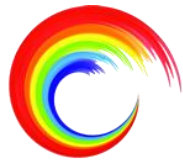
us at our new Coffee Hour on ZOOM. Check the weekly emails for the ZOOM invitation.



Directory Updates

There are no new updates for the Directory. New updates to the directory will be published once a month. If you have an update or know of an update, please call the office 301-762-3363 or email to Rockvillepres1@verizon.net

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Rainbow Place

Rainbow Place opens Monday, November 9th



Rainbow Place Shelter will open on Monday, November 9th. There are some changes due to COVID this year. First, there will only be 14 guests instead of the usual 30-some to allow for social distancing. In addition, Rainbow Place will stay open 24 hours a day for the months of November, December, and January.

Rainbow Place is looking for volunteers to prepare and deliver lunches, snacks, and

dinners for 17 people (14 women and 2-3 staff). No volunteers will be allowed in the shelter. Meals can either be home cooked or ordered from restaurants, so even if you can't cook, you can still volunteer. To volunteer, fill out the Volunteer Form at <http://www.rainbowplace.org/volunteerSignupForm>.



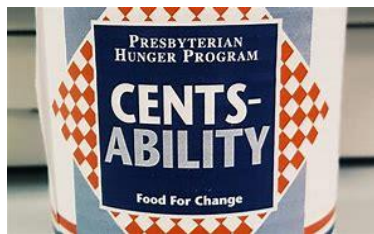
Didn't get that something special at the Rainbow Place Raffle and still want to support Rainbow Place? To donate, go to <https://bit.ly/DonatetoRainbowPlace>.

*Another way to support Rainbow Place is to order from **AmazonSmile**? If you find yourself shopping on Amazon, shop through AmazonSmile instead and designate your charity of choice as [Rainbow Place Shelter](#). That way, a portion of your purchase will be donated to the shelter. While you're there, check out our [charity wish list](#) on Amazon Smile to easily order items Rainbow Place needs. As always, thank you for your support!*

Buy a Mask to Support Rainbow Place

Mask buying? Doin' Good T-shirts and More has already sold over 400 face masks for Rainbow Place Shelter, bringing the shelter thousands of dollars we can put to good use. This also means there are a lot of beautifully colorful faces out there! If you would like to buy a face mask, [click here](#).

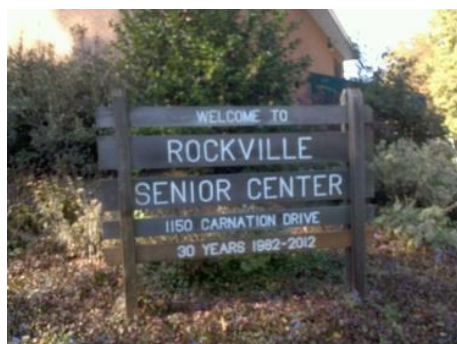
Cents-Ability: Remember to Collect your Coins!



Don't forget about Cents-Ability! Cents-Ability is part of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, where congregations collect coins at mealtimes to fight against hunger. Half of our collection

will go to the Presbyterian Hunger Program and half of our collection will go to Manna Food Center. We will collect our coins when we are able to worship together again.

Donate Food at the Rockville Senior Center



The Rockville Senior Center is currently serving about 200 seniors per week frozen lunches, shelf staple food, and fresh fruits and vegetables. The Senior Center is in need of shelf staple food donations to continue food distribution. Suggestions for food donations include: canned chicken or tuna, pasta,

spaghetti sauce, oatmeal and cereal, rice (small bags or boxes), canned fruit, individual applesauce or fruit, soups, beans, all vegetables (small sizes). Donations may be dropped off under the side awning of the Senior Center at any time of the day.



Community Reach's Virtual Fundraiser for Mansfield Kaseman Clinic

On **Saturday, November 14th** Community Reach will host a virtual fundraiser for the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm. The Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic is located a few blocks from RPC and provides health care to Montgomery County

residents without health insurance/ For more information, go to <https://www.cmrocks.org/events> or call 301-637-0730. The event is free with a suggested donation of \$50.

Community Reach COVID-19 free testing and Volunteers needed

Community Reach Free COVID-19 Testing

Community Reach's Mansfield Kaseman Clinic is offering free COVID-19 Testing every Friday from 12 pm to 4 pm and Saturday from 11am to 3pm starting October 30 through December 19. Call (301) 917-6800 to schedule an appointment. Appointments are preferred but walk-ins are also accepted. All appointments will be at Rockville United Methodist Church at 112 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

Community Reach needs Volunteers COVID-19 Testing for Community Reach

Community Reach is in need of volunteers to staff their COVID testing on Friday and Saturday afternoons through December 19th. Volunteers must be over 18 and available to work a few days or more. For more information about volunteering, contact Ms. Carmen Lezama at CLEzema@CMRocks.org.

Community Reach Thanksgiving Basket Drive

Even during COVID, Community Reach will continue to provide food and presents to families in need during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Community Reach has specifically reached out to RPC to ask for our support this year.

In the past we collected food items before Thanksgiving and delivered them to Community Reach. As this is not possible this year, please consider writing a check or giving a special electronic donation to RPC designated

for the Community Reach Thanksgiving/Holiday Drive. Please be sure to designate your offering for this project. All donations will either be given directly to Community Reach so that they can purchase needed items or will be used to purchase food items/gift cards that will be given to Community Reach. For more information contact

Andrea Kempner-Wink, 301-637-0172
or AndreaKWink@CMRocks.org

Community Reach Volunteer Opportunities

The following are opportunities to volunteer with Community Reach

Client Intake Coordinator – work with the Rockville Emergency Assistance Program to answer calls from Rockville clients facing eviction and in need of medical care.

Yard Clean Up – work with Senior Reach to provide lawn care for seniors.

Translators – translate for patients at the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic.

Donations Needed at the Mansfield Kaseman Clinic – paper towels (c-fold and rolls), hand sanitizer, antibacterial hand soap, trash bags, disinfecting wipes, scoring powder, window cleaner, facial tissue, bleach, toilet bowl cleaner, dishwashing liquid.

For more information, go to <https://www.cmrocks.org/volunteer> or contact Andrea Kempner-Wink at 301-637-0172.

The deadline for the *December* Newsletter is **Sunday, November 15th**.

