



# 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) Breath.** 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/UC2CkCxUcHfzi8Uwg3ktE2oQ>

You can also watch services live on [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=rush+united+methodist+church](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](http://www.rushumc.com). Click on the Zoom listing at the top.

Check the church's website, [www.rushumc.com](http://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](mailto: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](http://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.



## 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.

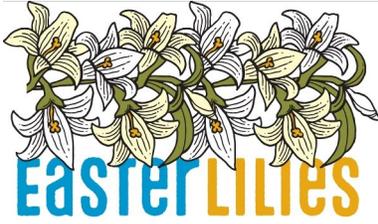


## Easter Memorial Plants

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?

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Worship Technicians Needed

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

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

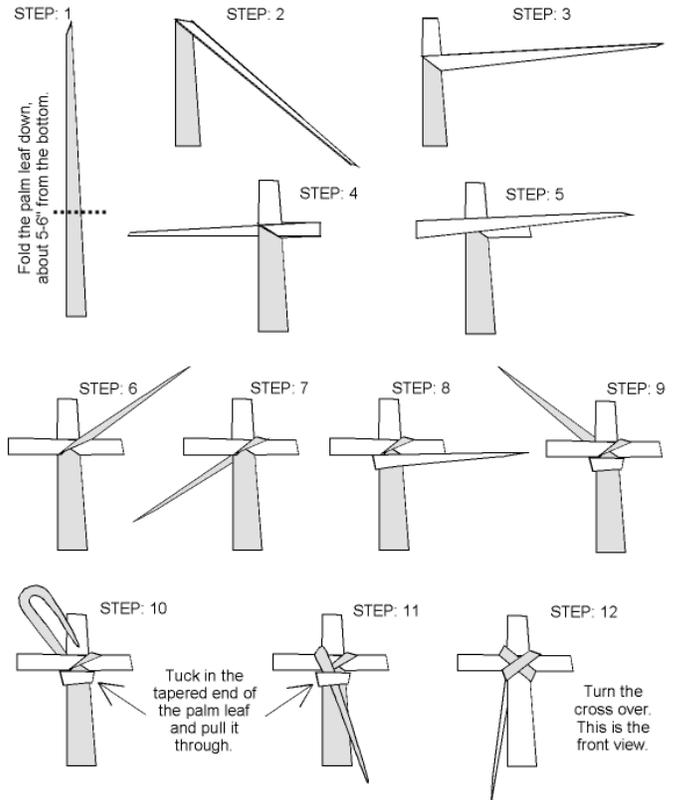


## Palm Leaf Cross Directions

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.

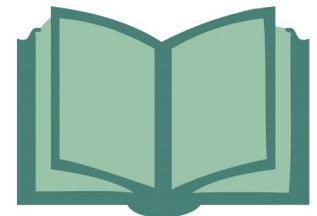
### Palm Leaf Cross Directions

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



## PromiseLand Auctions

PromiseLand's 18<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.rushumc.com).



## Promiseland Is Hiring

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



Childcare Providers Needed

## 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.



**Super Sale**

Thank you,

Leola and Britta

## Family Fun Night

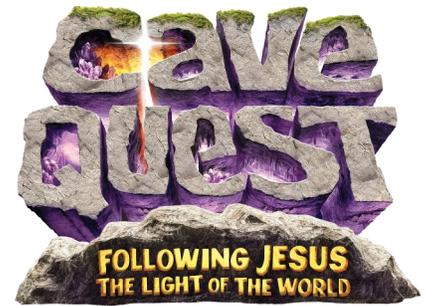
The evening of April 29 from 5:30 – 6:30, will be our monthly winter community dinner. Dinner TBD. All are welcome to attend this casual meal. We hope you will join us for a time of community and conversation (while the joy of children surrounds us). The main components of the meal will be provided. 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](http://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.



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 or 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](mailto: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)
<b>Revenues</b>			
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
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$20,760.72</b>	<b>\$60,812.81</b>	<b>\$48,688.05</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
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
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$20,566.19</b>	<b>\$52,160.19</b>	<b>\$52,761.29</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$194.53</b>	<b>\$8,652.62</b>	<b>(\$4,073.24)</b>

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*

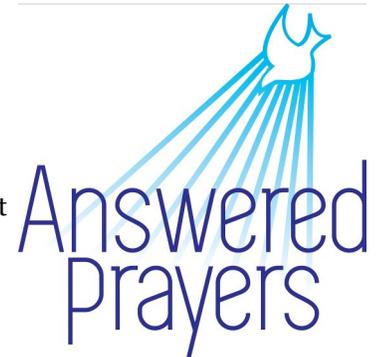
Ainsley Browning's 17<sup>th</sup> Birthday was Tuesday, March 10  
Elise Browning's birthday was Tuesday, March 17  
Chris and Linda Chamot became grandparents at 8:42AM  
on Sunday, March 1 to Westley Charles Kramer  
Dory Peterson is home recovering, continued prayers  
requested

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](mailto: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](http://www.rushumc.com)  
 Email Address: [rushumc@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rushumc@rochester.rr.com)  
 Rush Tidings Address: [rushumcnews@rochester.rr.com](mailto: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 Wanzenried

“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.