



the Doorway

Behold, I stand at the door and knock... (Rev. 3:20)

**A Welcoming Community
Living and Sharing
The Transforming Love of Jesus Christ**

December 2017



Waiting Well

I don't wait well, but then again, who does? We spend a lot of time waiting, don't we? It's been estimated that on

average, Americans wait:

- 20 minutes a day for the bus or train
- 32 minutes whenever they visit a doctor
- 28 minutes in security lines whenever they travel
- 21 minutes for a significant other to get ready to go out
- 13 hours annually waiting on hold for a customer service
- 38 hours each year waiting in traffic - those living in big cities wait in traffic more than 50 hours annually (Source: Timex Survey)

That's a lot of waiting! Most often there's nothing we can do about waiting, but maybe the question is can we learn to wait well?

The word wait is an important faith word. It seems that God moves at a different pace than we do. We want things now, but God says wait. We want action now, but God says wait. We want patience now ... well, I think you see the problem with that one!

As we enter into the Advent season, we turn our attention to learning to wait well.

Biblically speaking, waiting is equated with hope. In fact the word wait and hope are often used interchangeably. As a result, people of faith should not wait passively, but rather learn to wait with an active hope. Hope is a call to live expectantly as we do the things that we know to do and look forward to the things that God has promised to do.

Advent, which means "coming" or "arrival", focuses on the "comings" of Jesus. It's a season of anticipation in which we look to the coming of Jesus as a baby born in a manger, but also look to the coming of Jesus as the King of Glory at the end of the age. Advent, as it turns out, reminds us to wait for Jesus to show up ... not just to celebrate his birth at Christmas, but also to prepare for what is to come.

Waiting well involves watching (now that's a great Advent word). Watch or pay attention to your attitude – and be sure to pray about it. Watch or pay attention to those living without hope – and be sure to actively come aside them in love and service. Watch or pay attention to what God is saying to us through prophets of old – and be sure to live accordingly. As we learn to pay attention we learn to wait well.

So hurry up and wait and learn to wait well. And may you see God during this blessed season of actively hoping for Jesus to show up!

In Christ,



December 3 – Advent 1

Text: Isaiah 64:1-9 and Mark 13:24-37

Theme: Hope

December 10 – Advent 2

Cantata at 9:00 a.m.

Text: Isaiah 40:1-11 and Mark 1:1-8

Theme: Peace

December 17 – Advent 3

Text: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 and Luke 1:46b-55

Theme: Joy

December 24 – Advent 4

Text: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 and Luke 1:26-38

Theme: Love

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services

Text: Isaiah 9:2-7 and Luke 2:1-20

Theme: Light

Riverside United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve Services
Sunday, December 24

5:30 p.m. Family candlelight service in the fellowship hall

7:30 p.m. Traditional candlelight service in the sanctuary

11:00 p.m. Communion candlelight service in the sanctuary

Life Changing Teaching

ON-GOING STUDIES – All welcome!

SOUL FOOD – Sundays, December 10 and 17 at 7:00pm (conference room). Study TBD. Led by Bruce Davis.



Thursdays, 6:30am (Lounge) – Start your morning in God's Word and then head to work.

12/7 Luke 1	12/21 Psalms 88-89
12/14 Luke 2	12/28 no meeting

Women's BIBLE STUDY

There are no women's Bible studies scheduled for December. Look for details about the women's study in January.

THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH –

Mondays, at 1:00pm (conference room). Led by Pete Snook and guest speaker(s).

CHRISTIANITY- Sundays at 10:30 AM (conference room). Class entails a 30-minute recorded lecture, then a 30-minute discussion. Led by Byron Nolte.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER - STILL NEEDED -- No need to be a Bible expert; you will learn as you prepare for class. Contact Kathy Knight kjknight71@gmail.com or 614-216-7045

- 10:30am – Need one teacher for K/1st grade. You will rotate weeks.

Life Enriching Community

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS to OUR OCTOGENARIANS (and UP)

12/04	Norma Mueller
12/06	Richard Bull
12/08	Rich Mueller
12/08	Byron Nolte
12/13	Carl Scott
12/15	Patty Bostic
12/19	Edwin May
12/22	Sue Southworth
12/27	Sherry Yost
12/30	Blaine Bierley

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: 50+ yrs.

- Ed and Nancy Hower, 52 years, December 5
- Ronald and Roseann Foster, 65 years, December 20
- Thomas and Marilyn Smith, 65 years, December 20

WELCOME TO GOD'S WORLD!

- Dean Wilson Roby born November 3rd to Dana and T. J. Roby. Grandparents are Tom and Debbie Wilson.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to

- Dave and Sharon Moore at the passing of Dave's brother, Steve Moore.

If we've missed you, please call the office or email Sharon (rumcua@gmail.com).

HEALTH & WELLNESS

The Bulletin Board has articles on:

1. Kidney Cancer:
 - new thinking, new options
2. When It's Not Alzheimer's:
 - dementia has many forms
3. Long QT Syndrome:
 - when mediation is to blame
4. Knee Resilience:
 - improving function, avoiding pain
5. Health Tips:
 - monitoring Blood pressure at home
6. News and Our Views:
 - Tick bite causes meat allergy
 - Speedy Recovery from Major Surgery with Eating

Gifts of Stock to RUMC

Appreciated Stock is an excellent way for making charitable gifts to the Church. The gift of stock that has been held for at least one year and has increased in value qualifies for a favorable income tax treatment. This appreciated stock is deductible for its full fair market value at the time of the gift, and tax on capital gain is not imposed on the donor or the Church.

Your gift will be valued on the day that it appears in Riverside's Wells Fargo account, which is usually the day you authorize the transfer. We urge you to complete your transactions by the close of business on December 27 to assure that your gifts are credited to you for 2017 tax purposes.

Contact Michelle Steinhaus at the Arlington Group, 614-388-8797.

There are 2 ways to transfer stock to RUMC:

1. Electronic Transfer of Stock
If the stock you intend to gift is held in an account with a brokerage firm, please provide your broker with written instruction to transfer the stock of your choice as follows:
Account Name-
Riverside United Methodist Church
Wells Fargo DTC #: 0141
Account #: 5715-4660
2. Physical Delivery of the Stock
If you hold stock certificates you plan to gift to Riverside, the unsigned certificates should be sent to : The Arlington Group, Wells Fargo Advisors, Attn: Michelle Steinhaus, 1650 Lake Shore Drive, Suite 250, Columbus, OH 43204. You will need to sign a Stock Power Form (contact Michelle at the Arlington Group) for each different security you plan to gift. Only your signature is required on the stock power form; do not fill them in. You must include a letter of authorization to deposit the stock into Riverside's account as a gift.

You can address questions to Michelle or Pastor Herman at hfdjr1959@gmail.com or 614-486-5201.

Life Enriching Community

"LIFE BEGINS" POTLUCK



Friday, December 1 at **Noon**
in Fellowship Hall.

Please note the time change.

All who are 55 (or better) are invited to attend.

Join us for great food and great fellowship!

DISCOVER RIVERSIDE LUNCHEON

December 10 -- at the conclusion of the
10:30 service (about 11:30 am)

- Are you **new to Riverside** and want to learn more about the church?
- Do you have an interest in baptism and/or church membership?

The *Discover Riverside Luncheon* is the place for you to discover how to take a next step with God at Riverside.

To RSVP for the Luncheon, please contact the church office at rumcua@gmail.com or 614-486-5201 OR sign the attendance pad and indicate "wish to join."

We will conclude by 1:00 pm. Childcare will be provided.



ORDER YOUR STICKY BUNS!

These are lovingly baked by the Men of Riverside and 100% of the donations go to Vinton County CARE Ministries. No set price, donations only.

**Order forms are at the Welcome Center!
Pick up is Saturday, December 23 between 9 AM and NOON.**

MOMS IN PRAYER –

Sundays, 5:30-6:30 pm – Join us to pray for our children and schools (public, private and homeschooled) from preschool through college /adult prayer room).

For the Moms in Prayer schedule for December, please contact Kathy Stauffer at 614-886-3303 or kathystauffer5@gmail.com.

Life Saving Outreach

LIVING WATER

Thanks to your generous contributions to our Living Water Fund, Riverside was blessed to be able to pay for the cost of drilling two wells in 2017 to provide safe water to communities desperate for life-saving clean water. Both of these wells were drilled with the help of international mission teams from Riverside who also taught proper hygiene and shared the gospel of Jesus.



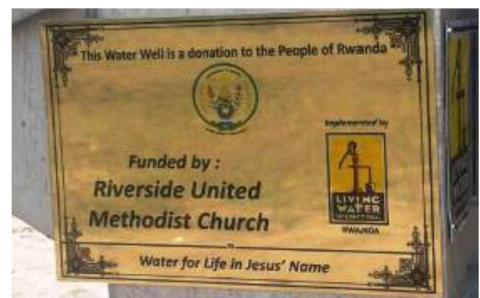
The first well was drilled in the community of La Cieba, Nicaragua, and will serve 20 families. Their previous water source was shallow hand-dug open wells that had contaminates that caused dysentery and respiratory infections. Santos, a 43 year member of the community who had suffered from a parasite contained in animal feces that had found its way into the shallow water source expressed his gratitude to Riverside by saying "Thank you for changing lives, for making dreams come true, for every blessing, for every hygiene lesson learned, for sharing Christ with us, and for supplying clean water."



This plaque, which is mounted on the well platform, commemorates the generosity of Riverside U. M. Church.

Our second well was drilled in Karambo, Rwanda, and will serve 72 families. Their previous water source was primarily a local spring but the water quality and flow was low which resulted in long queues and a perpetual shortage. Many residents resorted to walking

Life Saving Outreach



long distances or relying on nearby swamps for their daily water needs. Residents frequently suffered from water-related diseases such as typhoid, malaria, or respiratory infections. The residents were overjoyed to learn that Riverside United Methodist Church had covered the cost of the well project and that members of the church would be coming to their village to help drill the well.

Thirty-three year old farmer, Niyirera, said thanks to Riverside "we are blessed to have this borehole drilled in our village as challenges to get clean water are now solved."

All this in the name of Jesus!



Life Saving Outreach

COLLECTING COATS FOR KIDS – Winter is approaching and students will need winter essentials. Donate coats (new or clean, gently-used ones), gloves, mittens, scarves and hats to Weinland Park Elementary School. Place items in the designated cart for "Weinland Park Elementary" outside the office area.

FREEDOM BAG MINISTRY will not meet in December. The next meeting will be in the narthex on Saturday, January 13, 10am-2pm. Donations of jeans-weight, woven (not knitted) fabrics are always welcome. The ideal size is 48" X 36" (because those pieces are ready to sew). You may also donate money or Jo-Ann Fabric gift cards.

You do not have to be able to sew to participate with the group. There are tasks for everyone. If you do sew, bring your machine and a pair of scissors. We have plenty of extension cords.

We usually sew on the 2nd Sat. of each month. Please put all the dates for 2018 on your calendar now: Jan. 13, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 14, May 12, and June 9.

AA meetings
Mondays, 8:30pm (Lounge)

AI Anon meeting
Wednesdays, 7:30pm (Lounge)

NA meeting
Thursdays, 7:00pm (Lounge)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MidOhio

HELP BUILD OUR HOUSE – Located at 1756 S 6th St. – Volunteers are needed Thursdays 8:30a–12:30pm and Saturdays 8:30a–3:30p.

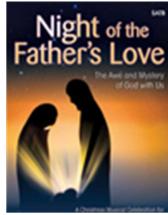
NNEMAP – Near Northside Emergency Material Assistance Program

CURRENT PANTRY NEEDS: Canned Vegetables and Fruits, Canned Beans, Canned Meats and Ravioli (pop-top cans). Hygiene items are always low (dental items, razors, shampoo and feminine hygiene items).

NNEMAP is also collecting unwrapped toys for Christmas. Questions? Contact Jill Kiely, 614-264-2058.

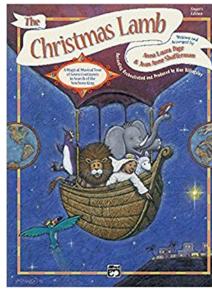
Music at RUMC

CHRISTMAS CANTATA!



Our combined Chancel Choir and Agape Choir will present "Night of the Father's Love" at the 9am Worship Service on Sunday, December 10th!

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR
of Riverside UMC
proudly presents:



DECEMBER 3, 5:30pm.

There will be a cookie fellowship immediately after the program

Stewardship

RUMC 2017 FINANCIAL STATUS

October Y-T-D Giving	\$495,500
October Y-T-D Need	\$579,000
Shortfall	\$ 83,500

RECRUITING and SCHEDULING VOLUNTEERS for 2018

We are looking for Servants in all three of our services. Specifically: 9:00 Service – Greeters, Ushers, Communion Servers; 10:30 Service - Ushers, Communion Servers and Sound Techs; and Tuesday Evening 7:15 Service - Ushers, Liturgists, Communion Servers and Sound Techs. If you would like to volunteer to serve in any of these ways, please email the church office. (rumbua@gmail.com).

Youth Fellowship

JH BIBLE STUDY – Sundays, 9:00am Sunday in the Youth room.

SH BIBLE STUDY – Thursdays, 7:15 pm

Coffee with Jenna – 12/5, 12/12 & 12/19, 3-5 PM

Parents' Night Out!

December 8th, 6-9:30pm

Have some Christmas Shopping to get done? Time for a date night?

Enjoy a night out while our Riverside Youth Group watches your kids! We will have plenty of fun activities, games, and movies for them to enjoy while you enjoy Parents' Night Out.

There will be plenty of babysitters, including both youth and adults. No need to sign-up beforehand, just show up and fill out our simple form, then sign your kids out at the end of the evening.

We will be accepting donations to help send our youth to Lakeside Christian Camp next summer.

Youth News

JH Lock-in

December 8-9th, after Parents' Night Out. Pick-up - 9am Saturday Morning.

All youth grades 6-8 are welcome to join us for a night of fun, and of course you can bring friends! Make sure you have a medical release form on file. Forms can be found on the website or picked up in the office.

YF Christmas Party

December 17th, 5:30-7pm

Join us for our annual YF Christmas Party! All youth grades 6-12 are invited, and welcome to bring friend! We will have a gingerbread decorating contest, lots of games, and plenty of Christmas cookies!

Youth Fellowship

Sundays from 5:30-7pm in the Youth Room

JH YF- December 3rd

SH YF-December 10th

Youth Christmas Break:

- No Youth Events from December 21- January 5th

Call, text, or email Jenna anytime with questions (614-558-8498).

More info at rumbua.com – on 'Youth' tab



RIVERSIDE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 2017

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HANGING OF THE GREENS!
Saturday, December 2 at 1:00 pm



SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

Traditional - 9:00am, Sanctuary
Contemporary - 10:30am, Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sr. High & Jr. High at 9:00am
Children & Adults at 9:00 & 10:30am

TUESDAY EVENING WORSHIP

7:15-8:00pm, Sanctuary

the D o o r w a y

Volume 45 Issue 12

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Deadline for newsletter items is the 15th of each month.

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