



May/June 2024

THE IN-SPIRE

The Rutland United Methodist Church Newsletter

In-person Worship at 60 Strongs Avenue at 11 am

Zoom Fellowship at 10:45 am

“Mark Your Calendar”

Sundays at 10:45 am: **Zoom fellowship** prior to and including worship

Sundays at 11:00 am: **Worship** (in person, by Zoom and live on Facebook)

Sunday, May 5 after worship: **Cinco de Mayo Celebration: Tacos and Burritos** potluck luncheon

Sunday, May 26: **Last day of Sunday School**; closing celebration

Sunday, June 2 at 4:00 pm: **Bells of Joy Concert** at Grace Cong. UCC. See poster below

Sunday, June 9: Pastor Sue's last worship service. There will be a **farewell for Pastor Sue and Pastor John** following the service, along with a potluck luncheon.

Saturday, July 19: **Ice Cream Social** at The Maples.

Sunday, August 18: **Outdoor Worship Service** at Kristen Jarvi's home in West Rutland.



Message from Pastor Sue

Spring has finally sprung. Trees are budding, daffodils and tulips have sprung up across lawns and fields, the grass is greening. The world is beautiful. What a wonderful time of year! A time of newness and growth. Spring always follows the snow and mud of winter, and is followed by the flourishing warmth of summer, then the glorious colors of autumn. It's the way God's creation works. The seasons of the year change, and each one has its own beauty and promise. Our lives are enriched as we embrace and enjoy each season as it comes.

Our church is in a season of change. As of this writing, Pastor John has retired, I will be starting a new appointment in Walnut Bottom, PA on July 1st, and we do not yet know who the next pastor at RUMC will be. Like the cycle of the changing seasons, our lives are designed for change and transformation. Change can bring uncertainty and anxiety, but it is necessary for growth and life. Let us continue to trust God in this time of change, embrace the new possibilities that come along, and let the love of God flourish and grow within us, among us and beyond.

Care and Connect Team

Care and Connect Team has been busy. We continue to plan monthly "connection" events. In April we had a quiche and salad potluck after- church luncheon.

On May 5th we will have a Cinco de Mayo buffet luncheon with make your own burritos and tacos. Comfort Zone will assist us with the Mexican decor.

On June 9th we will have a potluck (menu to be determined) as we bid Pastor Sue and Pastor John farewell.

On Saturday, July 20th we will have an ice cream social at the Maples senior living facility.

On August 18 we will worship outdoors at Kristin Jarvi's place with a potluck following.

In September we will have a Saturday afternoon outdoor game day, TBD.

Irene Goebel

Care & Connect Team

Financial FYI

Our figures show that an **average income of \$1,800 per week** is necessary to balance the Budget. Income from tithes and offerings in 2024 to date totals **\$25,464**, which averages out to **\$1,498** per week. Thank you for your continuing support!



COMPANIONS IN WHOLENESS
Feeding our Neighbors

We have been very busy throughout the month of April. As of April 25, we served 2,294 breakfasts for an average 143 per day and 2,751 lunches for an average of 172 per day. We served 556 individual people meals throughout the month of April. This included children as well as adults. During vacation week we saw many families with young children coming through our doors. We are seeking stuffed animals to give out to our children. A stuffed animal can mean a lot to a child who is homeless.

We continue to need items for our clothing section for both men and women, blankets, and underwear. We understand that folks will soon be left out of the hotels/motels, the date the state is talking about is June 30, and we will be in need of tarps, tents, and sleeping bags.

As of the beginning of April we learned that there were 645 individuals living in the hotels/motels in Rutland and 154 of them were children.

Our pantry is extremely bare right now. There is a list of items that are needed in this newsletter.

This month we are partnering with Jones' Donuts to have a fundraiser. The donuts are \$20.00 a dozen. You can order either a dozen Maple Glazed, a dozen Boston Crème or ½ dozen of each. See the flyer to scan and pay through Pay Pal or call the Rutland United Methodist Church at 802-773-2460 to place your order. All orders need to be ordered and prepaid by May 9. Pick up is May 18 at the United Methodist Church, 60 Strongs Ave. between 10-12am.

We want to express our gratitude for all of you who donate your time, items and money to help us Feed and Care for Our Neighbors. We are still in need of volunteers anytime from 6:30-1:00, Monday through Thursday. We have many different jobs and can always use assistance with a variety of things that need to be done. If you have a hobby you would like to share with our neighbors, please let Ellie or Linda know. We are hoping to have various individuals from our community come in and share a hobby. We are already building Legos, playing games, coloring, putting a puzzle together and painting rocks. Or if you just want to come in and visit, we would like to have folks who can circulate among our neighbors and form relationships. Making those connections means a lot to our neighbors. One never knows the impact you can have on someone's life when you share a part of yourself to help another person who is struggling in our community.

We still have \$222,000 to raise until December 31 to meet our budget. We will do this through donations, grants, and fundraisers. If you have a fundraising idea, please send it our way.

We are already starting to prepare for this year's Holiday Fest in October. This year it is going to be a Chocolate Fest. This will be held at Grace Church on October 12 from 10-2. We need assistance seeking donations of chocolate for tastings, items for our silent auction and more hands to help with organization and implementation. If you can assist us, please contact Ellie at 802-236-3136. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated. To date this has been our largest fundraiser each year.

Ellie McGarry, Director, CIW

Items Needed for The Comfort Zone

CIW Pantry Needs: *Any type of Ready to Eat Meals (packaged or canned with pop tops)*

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Chunky Soups | Mac & Cheese (Shelf stable) | Canned Pasta Meals |
| Peanut Butter | Jelly | Tuna |
| Canned Ravioli | Juice Boxes | Family-sized Juice |
| Canned Meats & Fish | Crackers | Microwavable Meals |
| Shelf Stable Milk | Canned Chili | Canned Fruit |
| Cereal | Snack Food | Coffee |
| Toilet Paper | Paper Towels | Shelf-stable meals |

Outreach Needs for the Comfort Zone:

| | | |
|---|--|---------------|
| Tents | Tarps | Sleeping Bags |
| Blankets | Band-aids | Toothpaste |
| Tooth Brushes | Body Wash | Razors |
| Gauze Wrap | Medical Tape | |
| Individual Packets of Antibiotic Ointment | T-Shirts & Underwear for Men and Women | |

MUSIC NOTES AND WORSHIP TEAM

We would like to thank the Joy Choir and other musicians for providing music during Lent and Easter. The choir continues to practice on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:00 a.m. Our last Sunday for singing will be on June 16, Father's Day. During the summer, soloists and special ensembles will provide music. Please let Ann Reed know if you are interested in joining the choir, or if you are interested in providing music during the summer.

The Bells of Joy will resume practice on the Fridays of May 10, May 17, and May 31 at 4:00 p.m. We will play in church on Sunday, May 19. In addition, the Bells of Joy have been invited to play a joint concert with the Tintinnabula Handbell Choir at Grace Congregational Church to benefit Companions In Wholeness. The concert will take place at 4:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars for this event. Please let Karen James know if you are interested in participating in the handbell choir.

The opening song for the worship in May is "Here I Am to Worship;" closing song is "Shine Jesus, Shine."

Ann Reed, Music Director, **Karen James**, Bells of Joy Director
Ellen Wakker, Worship Team

JUNE 2 AT 4 P.M.

TINTINNABULA
GRACE CHURCH HANDBELL CHOIR &
BELLS OF JOY
RUTLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
KAREN JAMES, DIRECTOR & SOLOIST

HANDBELL CONCERT
TO BENEFIT
COMPANIONS IN WHOLENESS

COMPANIONS IN WHOLENESS
Feeding our Neighbors

GRACE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
8 COURT ST. RUTLAND, VT. 05701
802.775.4301 GRACECHURCHVT.ORG

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The year has gone by quickly. Sunday School classes will be held during the four Sundays in May. May 26 will be the last day classes, and we will have a special presentation and a celebration for the last day of Sunday School.

This year we completed a unit on Jonah and the Whale, learning to listen to and obey God. The children studied about Advent and Christmas, and we hosted a Christmas party for the children on December 17th. As it turned out, some new faces attended, and there were nine children playing games and activities, and singing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus!

In-person Sunday School was put on hold for a few weeks for a number of reasons, including the fact that I had surgery. At that time, I delivered lessons each weekend to the children at their homes. These included lessons on Jesus' 12 Apostles and the Fruits of the Spirit.

Thank you for your support of RUMC's Christian Education program. We especially wish to thank Blanche Kelly, whose financial contributions have enabled us to purchase educational materials and other supplies to enrich the children's experience.

We will see you in September, and hope for more children who are eager to learn about the Lord! Have a fun Summer!

Marsha Johnson, Sunday School Co-Supt.

A BENEFIT FOR




**THE 32ND ANNUAL
DINNER & AUCTION CELEBRATION**

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024

SPARTAN ARENA - RUTLAND

3:30 DOORS OPEN 5:00 LIVE AUCTION & DINNER

*Help
Transform
Lives*

\$75 tickets in support of second chances and reconciliation
RSVP before May 10 - sorry, no tickets at the door
Buy tickets at www.dismasoftv.org or call 802-775-5539

SILENT & LIVE AUCTION RESIDENT SPEAKERS COMMUNITY AWARDS

Fr. Jack Hickey Award
The Rutland City
Police Department



Honorary Chair
Richard Gagne for
40 years of service



Loving Spoonful Award
David Perry & the Christ
the King Students



Mary O' Award
Rutland Treatment
Court



**MUSIC FROM
BREANNA
ELAINE**



**MENTALIST &
MAGICIAN
PETER GROSS**



Thank you to our generous sponsors:







DONUT FUNDRAISER

Featuring Jones' Donuts in Rutland

CHOOSE FROM:

Boston Crème or Maple Glazed or Combo of Both



Companions In Wholeness provides meals to the homeless and those who live with food insecurity in Rutland

Donuts need to be ordered and prepaid by Thursday, May 9

\$20.00 a dozen

PICKUP SATURDAY, MAY 18 BETWEEN 10:00-12:00

AT THE RUTLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

60 STRONGS AVE. IN RUTLAND

May & June Birthdays & Anniversaries

| MAY | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1 | Zachary Gauthier | 6 | John Anderson |
| 11 | John Hardman-Zimmerman | 9 | Paul Whitney |
| 12 | Cynthia Cahill | 10 | Michaela O'Connor |
| 17 | Ofelia Navarette | 11 | Chris O'Connor |
| 18 | Dianne Anderson | 14 | Susana Abuel |
| 26 | Gary & Cathy Archer ♥ | 15 | Sam Groom, III |
| 26 | Andrew & Stephanie McMahon ♥ | 19 | Cathy Archer |
| 30 | Tristan Dotson | 20 | Erika Mead |
| 31 | Shirley Oskamp | 21 | Judy Blair |
| | | 21 | Jack & Linda Mackin ♥ |
| JUNE | | | |
| 1 | Sara Reynolds | 21 | Mike & Jackie Gauthier ♥ |
| 3 | Chris & Terry O'Connor ♥ | 21 | Scott & Linda Kuiken ♥ |
| 3 | Chris & Terry O'Connor ♥ | 22 | Diane Fleur |
| 4 | Saylor Somers | 22 | Kayla Siliski |
| 5 | Shawn Abuel | 23 | Penny Ford |
| | | 30 | Paul & Sharon Whitney ♥ |



**CIW welcomes
Rob McGarry as
Data Coordinator**

**Rutland United Methodist Church, Inc.
d/b/a Companions in Wholeness
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