

The Circuit Rider

August 2020 Volume 81, Number 8

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." - Galatians 2:20a



Parking Lot Service: You are invited to our parking lot each Sunday at 8:30am (please arrive 15-30 minutes early) for worship. Please remain in your vehicles!

In Person Worship: You are invited to the 10:00am Sanctuary Service for worship.

Worship Online: You are invited to stream us live at 11:25am each Sunday at our church website, www.rrumc.org. You can view past worship services there as well.

Please check our website for details/instructions before coming at www.rrumc.org.



TWICE BLESSED FREE STORE REOPENING PLANS

by Ben Weisbrod, TBFS Director

The process of reopening the Twice Blessed Free Store, a ministry of Rocky River United Methodist Church, has one goal in mind the safety of all involved. Thus, we have

had to make changes to how the store will be operating as it reopens. Please be flexible, this is new to all of us and may have to change as time goes on. Working side by side with our landlord, the Nehemiah Mission, we have implemented new policies that adhere to the CDC and state guidelines.

The Twice Blessed Free Store will be reopening on Saturday, August 8, from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

Donations will start being accepted again on Monday, August 10, and will be accepted from Monday to Thursday from 9:00am to 4:00pm at RRUMC (no Sunday drop-offs at this point). We are currently collecting summer clothing and items should be clean and in good condition. To comply with Cleveland's new safety rules, one high demand item will be face masks, so donations of these are also appreciated.

New store policies will include masks being worn by everyone, fewer shoppers in the store at any given time, shoppers waiting outside, and other CDC guidelines. The Nehemiah Mission has stated that they will be adhering to strict cleaning policies. These changes are being implemented for the safety of all involved in the Twice Blessed Free Store ministry. If you have any questions about the Free Store operations, please contact Ben Weisbrod, TBFS Director, at bweisbrod@rrumc.org.

CRUISIN' RIVER 2020 DRIVING CRUISES!

WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 12 & 26

Driving Cruises continue on the second and fourth Wednesdays of August.

- 5:3opm Parking lot opens for staging and directions to destination.
- 6:oopm Cars depart for a fun destination (burger joint, ice cream stand, park, etc.)! Destinations will be announced the prior week and printed directions will be provided at the cruise.

Cruisers travel at their own pace, pay for their own food and beverage at the destination, and keep enjoying the collector car hobby with others! Rain or shine cruises you make the call to participate or not if weather is "iffy."

For more information contact Steve Zayac at Stephen.zayac@gmail.com or 440.785.1489 or Michael Parry at mparry3638@gmail.com or 440.773.1301.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

Join us on the third Thursday of each month at 10:00am. During the summer, we are meeting at Elmwood Park (near the cabin), 600 Elmwood Rd. Rocky River; bring a lawn chair. If the weather is inclement, contact Bruce to confirm that whether the discussion will be at Elmwood Park or via Zoom.



On August 20, we will discuss "To Capture What We Cannot Keep" by Betrice Colin. Questions? List of future books? Need the conference code? Contact Bruce Biggin at brbiggin@netscape.net or 216.221.5880. Always happy to see new faces, and regular attendance is not required.

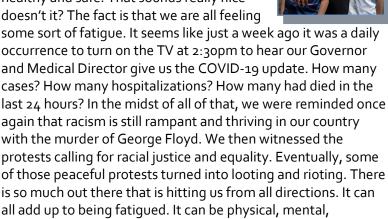


REFLECTIONS ...

by Rev. Dan Bogre

Greetings Church Friends and Family,

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I pray that all of you are happy and healthy and safe. That sounds really nice doesn't it? The fact is that we are all feeling



emotional, or spiritual. Fatique is defined this way, "extreme

tiredness resulting from mental or physical exertion or illness."

We are all feeling that in one way, shape or form. We are seeing it as people disregard the guidelines for health and well-being as they go back out into public. Cases are spiking. Our country seems more divided than ever. I needed this verse that a wonderful person from the church sent to me in an article earlier this week. It says, "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body. ... Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (II Corinthians 4:7-12, 16-18)

We are being inwardly renewed even as on the outside we are wasting away. It seems like our world and our country are wasting away with all the sadness, disease, racism, and injustice that is all around us. That is why we, as Christians, are called to live our lives from the inside out. Our power comes from within because it is not our power at all. It is the power of God that wells up within us to change the world around us. In the midst of the fatigue, may you find the power that comes from within. It is Jesus Christ living within you.

Peace and Blessings, Rev. Dan

CHILDREN & FAMILY ACTIVITIES

by Quinn Bennett, Director of Children's Ministries, qbennett@rrumc.org

Mission Zone Monthly Collection - Children's Free Store Donations:

- **July** shaving cream and razors
- August toilet paper, paper towels, and Kleenex
- September soap, shampoo, and conditioner



Donations can be placed in the bin by the welcome desk (labeled "Mission Zone"). Please attach your child's name on the donated item to receive credit towards their Consecration Sunday promises.

LEAVE A LEGACY



The Theo and Belle Moll Society was created to celebrate and honor those

who have remembered Rocky River United Methodist Church in their estate plans. And do you know that the State of Ohio has an estate plan for you, if you have not defined one for yourself?

Here is an excellent .. and FREE .. resource! FreeWill.com makes it easy to complete what many consider to be a tough task: drawing up a will. After you fill in a form on their website (FreeWill.com), the information is converted into legalese: you sign It in the presence of witnesses, and there you have it, your last will and testament!

FreeWill.com is supported by nonprofit organizations, and the site makes it easy to donate to the charities of your choice, including Rocky River United Methodist Church. This could be a win-win that lets you save money on legal fees now and spend it to help others after you're gone.

I so appreciate those of you who have taken the time to meet with me and share your experience at RRUMC and how you meet Jesus Christ in the midst of your story, and welcome this time, whether it is by phone, ZOOM, or socially distanced. Please reach out to me at lsierk@rrumc.org or 216.926.1702 (mobile – call or text). I look forward to hearing from you!

Lisa P. Sierk, Director of Endowment Ministries

YOUTH MINISTRIES PAGE

by Steven Young, Director of Youth Ministries syoung@rrumc.org

Even though teenagers have a lack of events to choose from now, what is most important for their lives right now is an authentic relationship with Jesus. A relationship is always more compelling than an event. The power of an event fades, but a relationship lasts through the ups and downs of life.

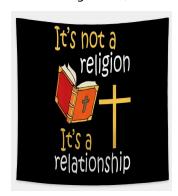
As a church, our goal isn't to invite teens to show up to an event, service, or trip; it's to invite them into a relationship with other teens, Christ-reflecting adults and ultimately Jesus Himself. We are passionate about seeing teens walk with Jesus for a lifetime, well beyond their time in student ministry.



John 10:26-30 gives us a picture of what the process of walking with Jesus looks like:

"But you don't believe me because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

In this passage, Jesus says His sheep will believe Him (which is more like an active faith instead of intellectual acknowledgement). How does that active faith come about?



- 1. Listening to Jesus Jesus makes it clear that His sheep listen to Him. We are inviting students to listen to the voice of God through prayer, scripture and looking for signs of His work.
- 2. Knowing Jesus After we learn to listen to Jesus, He becomes familiar to us. We can discern His voice from others. We have an ongoing relationship with Him. We move from knowing about Him to actually knowing Him.
- 3. Following Jesus Students who listen to Jesus and learn to know Him will naturally follow Him. Where He goes they will go because they will want to be with Him. And what is the result? As a teenager develops a habit of walking with Jesus, they will experience life and security.

If you have teenagers in your life (children, grandchildren, neighbors...) and want them to hold firm to their faith, then here are a few thoughts:

- Don't be satisfied with church attendance. We want teens attending church regularly, but a church attender isn't necessarily a Christ-follower. Make sure you look for deeper spiritual markers (like prayers, Bible study, the fruits of the Spirit) as markers that they are walking with Jesus.
- Model the kind of relationship with Jesus you want them to have. Show them what it looks like to have an intimate relationship with Jesus on a daily basis. They won't believe it unless they see it lived out.
- Initiate the conversation by asking them how they are seeing God at work in their everyday lives. They need reminders to look for God's presence every single day, just like you and I do.

We want Rocky River UMC to be an exciting place to be not because we do great events, but because many people here have a living relationship with Jesus.

Daily Devotions for Student Ministry, One Verse, Sunday Messages

Daily devotions, taking 5-10 minutes of your time, are sent to youth 5 days a week, but hopefully have a much longer impact. E-mail Steven Young at syoung@rrumc.org to subscribe. "One Verse," 2-3 minute videos speak to one Bible verse, discuss its impacts, and spurs spiritual growth. Also, I release short messages geared towards youth every Sunday which offer exciting lessons from God's Word meant to strengthen, grow, and reach youth within the church. Both the "One Verse" and Sunday message videos can be found on the church website, on the RRUMC youth Facebook page, and on the church's YouTube channel so don't forget to like and subscribe to the youth Facebook and Instagram page via the youth page on the church website, www.rrumc.org! Also by subscribing you will get up-to-date information regarding upcoming events, newsletters, and pictures. Questions? Contact Steven at the e-mail above.



A TRIPLE PLAY BICYCLE GIVEAWAY!

Three Ministries - One Event







Please join RRUMC's "Armored Disciples Motorcycle Ministry" (ADMM) on Saturday, August 29, 2020, as they distribute the bicycles you donated to the "Link Up" bicycle ministry for refurbishing. The bicycles will be given away on the grounds of Twice Blessed Free Store (6515 Bridge Ave., Cleveland) by members of the ADMM. Hot dogs and beverages will be provided to all.

We are not looking for volunteers! Rather, we are inviting you to witness with your eyes and hearts how truly happy your donations have made those who receive bicycles that day. Selection tickets will be given away at 10:30am, with the first ticket drawn at 11:00am. That ticket will allow the holder to select any one of the bicycles in the display corral.

What a truly heart-warming day this will be..... be part of it!

Questions? Contact Don Jones at TRKSERDLJ@aol.com.



CONGREGATIONAL BIBLE READINGS

Have you ever wondered where we get the congregational Bible readings found on the back of the bulletin or in our weekly "Our Week Ahead" e-mail that comes out each Monday? They come from the devotional titled "A Guide to Prayer" published by The

Upper Room and prepared by Rueben P. Job and Norman Shawchuck. There is a theme for each week. August's themes are: God's Abundant Provision, Prayers and Problems, The Kingdom Comes, Jesus Is the Way, and True Greatness.

If you want to use these verses as part of your daily devotion time, but worry about missing a Sunday, pick up a copy of an entire month's verses scattered about the church. Look for the August (bright orange) readings on the various information tables and wall brochure racks.

"I sit down alone, Only God is here; In his presence I open, I read his books; And what I thus learn, I teach." - John Wesley



MILESTONES

August Anniversaries

(50 or more years and those in 5 year increments)

8/3	Nancy & Richard Blume	52
8/6	Amy & Bill Bolas	15
8/12	Alison & Ken Hawkinson	25
8/17	Christa & Bob Blum	25
8/24	Debbie & Frank Comery	52
8/25	Mary & Ned Tookman	58
8/31	Joan & James Dean	35

August Birthdays

(age 90 and above)

8/3	Lizabeth Emrick	90
8/5	Roger Knipper	92
8/14	Elda Krach	92
8/15	Rhoda Brodnik	90
8/20	Louise Fletcher	91
8/22	William Minnich	90

In Sympathy

Cathy Tasse and family, in the passing away of her mother, Patricia Bays, on June 16.

Carl Eichler and family, in the passing away of his father, Harlow Eichler, on June 25.

Karen Weger and family, in the passing away of her mother, Rebecca Katterle, on July 6.

Family and friends of Jane Gribben, who passed away on July 8.

Births

Hadley Marie Halek, daughter of Jeremy & Brittany Halek, born on June 26; proud grandparents are MaryElin & Kenneth Halek.



BE AN ANGEL DAY

AUGUST 22

The objective of this day is to be like an angel, to be God's servant in doing good things or being kind to others in need.



The type of angelic help you can offer is not defined or limited. It can be physical, emotional, or spiritual.

stamp

DATED MATERIALS - PLEASE RUSH

Mailed July 22, 2020

Rocky River United Methodist Church 19414 Detroit Road Rocky River, OH 44116-1873

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Web: www.rrumc.org

Ministry

Daniel F. Bogre, Senior Pastor
Paul A. Bennett, Associate Pastor
Sheri B. Swartz, Director of Church Ministries
Quinn E. Bennett, Director of Children's Ministries
Lisa P. Sierk, Director of Endowment Ministries
Steven M. Young, Director of Youth Ministries
Ben Weisbrod, Twice Blessed Free Store Director

Music Ministry

Jeffrey A. Acker, Organist
Matthew Dolan, Director of Music
Josetta Q. Balford, Harbor Worship Leader
Carmen G. Massaro, and Lynn Young, Handbell Choirs
Mission Ministry

Rev. Paul Webster, Kanyama, Zambia

Place Address Label here.

Deadline for September Circuit Rider:
Wednesday, August 5

SAVE THESE AUGUST DATES:

August 4, 11, 18, & 25 - Men's Prayer Group*
August 8, 15, 22 - TBFS Open for Shopping
August 11 - RiverMen Monthly Meeting*
or outdoor gathering
August 12 - Armored Disciples Monthly
Meeting* or Bike Ride
August 12 & 26 - Crusin' River Driving Cruises
August 20 - Book Club*
August 29 - Armored Disciples / Link Up Bicycle
Ministry Bike Giveaway Day at TBFS

*These small group church activities will continue virtually through at least the end of August.
Committees will also meet virtually during this time.

POSTPONEMENTS (NEW DATES TBD):

Confirmation Sunday 50 Year Member Sunday

CANCELLATIONS:

Open Gym Basketball (Tuesday evenings in August)
Algart Hymn Sing (August 18)

It's ALL ABOUT THE STORY!



CHURCH REOPENING NOTE

With our church in the process of "reopening", Mary Lou and I have availed ourselves of worship at the 10:00am service the past two

Sundays. The measures that have been taken to assure worshippers' safety made us very comfortable in our surroundings. Individuals wear masks, every other pew is used for seating, sanitizing is apparent throughout the church, and we are asked to limit our socializing. Even with precautionary measures in place, it was just so nice to be back amongst persons whose presence we had missed for some time. We will be back on successive Sundays. Perhaps we will have the pleasure of greeting you. - Dick and Mary Lou Sanders

IN GRATITUDE

Thank you to Jeanette Lihani, Kathy Rafferty, Janice Perry, and Julia Artbauer for the nutritious and delicious meals they provided for us and to Carol Harpster who delivered



and coordinated the meals. We so appreciate the time and effort they took and are truly grateful for their care.

- Charmaine & Bill Riccio