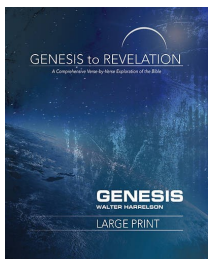
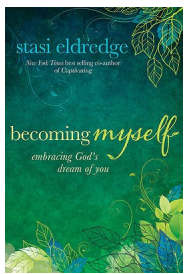


FALL BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

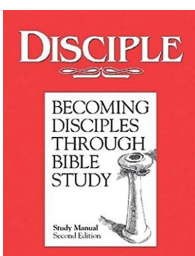
The following studies will begin in September. Register by contacting the group leader or via the Church Office at office@rrumc.org or 440.331.7676. We would need your name, e-mail, and phone number. Disciple I books will be provided by the church for free. Disciple IV books can be purchased from the church for \$50; exact change or check made out to "RRUMC" please. Both are available in the Church Office. Contact group leader about if, and which specific versions of, other study books are needed (they may not be those pictured).



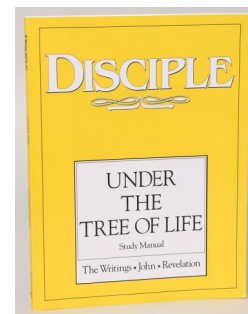
Genesis to Revelation - Thursdays at 6:30pm, beginning on September 7. Study the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation, including a verse-by-verse, in-depth look at the Scriptures and background material. Discussions will include focus on word studies, the history of the biblical setting, and a consideration of today's geography as compared to biblical geography. Along with discussions, use of a participant book will aid the process of applying Scripture to current life situations. This study is geared toward participants who want to take their faith journey to the next level (regardless of the level they may presently be on) and are interested in developing deep ties and experiencing multi-generational relationships with other members of the church. Participants are expected to attend as many classes as possible and will be provided with a rich learning environment. Led by Dave Huller, dhuller@cox.net; contact him regarding book purchase.



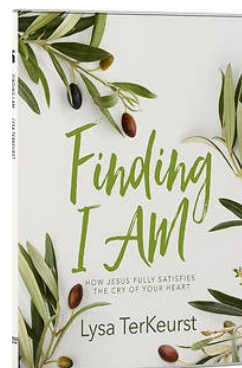
Ladies in Faith Together (LIFT) - Becoming Myself: Embracing God's Dream of You by Stasi Eldredge - Tuesdays at 6:30pm, September 19 - November 7. God has dreams just for you. This book is hope-filled for anyone who wonders if her life will ever change, if she will ever change. God desires to restore us, and he is able to restore us, the real us. As he heals our inner life, he calls us to "rise to the occasion" of our lives. The most important journey any woman can take is the one into becoming her true self through the love of God. It's a beautiful paradox; the more God's you become, the more yourself you become, the woman he had in mind when he thought of you before the creation of the world. Led by Lynn Gorton, LGorton@rrumc.org.



Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study - Mondays at 6:30pm, beginning September 11. Disciple I provides a viable option for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement over time with the entire biblical text. This is a 24 week study, devoting 12 weeks each to the Old Testament and the New Testament. Participants read a manageable 3-5 chapters of the Bible daily in preparation for the weekly meetings, which last approximately 90 minutes. Various videos will be utilized to add insights into weekly lessons. Led by Dave Huller, dhuller@cox.net.



Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life - Sundays at 6:30pm, beginning September 10. Disciple IV is intended for those who've completed Disciple I to continue their discipleship journey. This is a 32 week study, concentrating on Old Testament Writings, the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, Jude, and finally, Revelation. Videos will be utilized to add insights into weekly lessons. Led by Eric Richmond.



Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study - Finding I Am: How Jesus Fully Satisfies the Cry of your Heart - Wednesdays, at 9:30am, September 27 - November 1. Jesus said I AM THE WAY (when there is no way),

THE TRUTH (that silences lies), and THE LIFE (certain and secure). This study explores the seven I AM statements of Jesus found in the Gospel of John, and helps participants more fully understand WHO JESUS IS and the significance of each of His I AM statements. Sessions include a video, filmed on the streets of Israel, by author Lysa TerKeurst, class discussion, and small group prayer. Books are available on Amazon and from other retailers. Led by Barbara Napier, napierbk@gmail.com, 440.356.1604.

REFLECTIONS ...

by Rev. Daniel F. Bogre

Dear Friends and Family of RRUMC,

It's time to kick off the new school year. As many of you know, the schools may even be in session by the time you read this Circuit Rider Article. I know that my two boys, who are both at Rocky River High School now as a freshman and a junior, started on August 22. Where did the summer go?

It also means that, at RRUMC, we are kicking off a whole new year of Bible studies in September. The studies offered this year include "Genesis to Revelation," which is an in-depth verse by verse study of the entire Bible over a six year span. We are offering Disciple I as we do every year. It is a 24 week study which spends 12 weeks in the Old Testament and 12 weeks in the New Testament. There is homework and, once a week for an hour and a half to two hours, the group gathers together to reflect on what they have read and learned over the last seven days. We are also offering Disciple IV. This one is a 32 week study concentrating on the Old Testament writings, the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, and Jude, and the book of Revelation. You are required to have taken Disciple 1 to take 2, 3, or 4. The Wednesday morning Women's study is using, "Finding I Am: How Jesus Fully Satisfies the Cry of Your Heart" and the women's LIFT group (Ladies In Faith Together) will be meeting on Tuesday nights through much of the fall covering, "Becoming Myself: Embracing God's Dream of You." We will also offer multiple Advent and Lent studies.

As you can see, there are many topics, times, dates, and lengths of Bible studies for you to choose from. Every church I have been a part of over the last 28 years have grown and new ministries have come to life when the people of the congregation are studying the Word of God. When you are in the Bible on a regular basis, you can't help but hear God, see God, follow God, and walk the path that His Word unfolds for you. Many of the new ministries that have emerged in my now 12 years here as your senior pastor have all bubbled up not because I made a suggestion, but because the Lord had spoken to someone's heart. All of those people were in Bible studies. The car cruises, the Link-Up Bicycle Ministry, the new Bible studies that we had not done before, and many more all came to life because someone was in the Word of God.

Are you in a Bible study right now? If not, please go to our website, read this Circuit Rider or the Sunday bulletin, or call the church for all the information about teacher, time, date, and place for the study that best fits your schedule. I wonder what amazing ministry is currently hidden deep in your heart but has not come to the surface yet because God's Word has not had a chance to set it free. A study is calling you.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Dan



September Anniversaries

(50 or more years and those in five-year increments)

9/1	Maggie & Dan Rader	50
9/5	Dorothy & Dale Cashin	64
9/6	Allison & Chris Revay	20
9/9	Dianne & David Vogt	51
9/13	Sharon & Bill Chitty	54
9/15	Emily & Dan Peplinski	5
9/19	Annie & Marc Rasor	25
9/23	Carol & Herb Harpster	45
9/25	Jean & Larry Gilbert	30
9/28	Mary Kay & Tom Reilly	60
9/29	Beth & Steve LaMantia	50

September Birthdays

(90 years or more)

9/13	Joe Wehrheim	95
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In Sympathy

Bunny & Dave Huller, in the passing of their brother-in-law, Gene Klein.

Karen & Fred Harvey, in the passing of their sister-in-law, Michele Gerber.

Laurie Baisch and family, in the passing away of her father, Arthur Langdon, on July 25.

Bill Malm, in the passing away of his father, John Malm, on August 3.

Family and friends of Marlys Arnold, who passed away on August 7.

Pat Wilson, in the passing of her husband, Barry, on August 16.

Thank You

A big thank you for the prayers, phone calls, cards from so many during my recent hospitalization and illness. They were greatly appreciated.
- Roy McKinney.



OFFICE UPDATE

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 4, for the Labor Day Holiday. After that time, we will be back to our regular hours, Monday to Friday, 9:00am-4:30pm.



YOUTH MINISTRIES

by **Steven Young** at SYoung@rrumc.org

Crossroads Kickoff - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 5:00-6:45PM

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to kick-off the new Crossroads year. Join us as we eat food, play games, discuss the upcoming year, and have a good time around a campfire. The time will be 5:00-6:45pm at Mr. Parry's home, 3638 Canterbury Rd., Westlake. Regular Crossroads youth meetings begin on September 17, from 7:00-8:30pm. New this year is "Common Ground," a new program in the youth ministry, that aims to foster a sense of community and belonging among middle school and high school students. Once a month, the students will split up into groups based on their grade level and engage in fun activities, meaningful discussions, and inspiring talks about issues that they can have among their peers. It will be during Crossroads hours, 7:00-8:30pm, on October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14, February 18, March 10, and April 14.



2023-24 Confirmation - SIGN UP NOW

ORIENTATION, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 6:30PM

CLASSES BEGIN, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 5:30PM

Confirmation is for all youth who are entering 8th grade and above. Confirmation is about learning and growing in a relationship with Jesus Christ, as well as becoming members of Rocky River United Methodist Church. Registration for confirmation is now open. Confirmation Orientation is Wednesday, September 13, at 6:30pm. Classes start Sunday, September 17. Email Steven Young at syoung@rrumc.org to get more information about signing up.

Guardians Game - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 3:00PM - END OF GAME

This year, RRUMC youth will be attending a Guardians game on Saturday, September 23. RRUMC is partnering with Youth for Christ for a unique Guardians experience which includes: early entrance, "Crunch and Munch" in Carnegie Tent, player interviews about their faith, and the game (fan appreciation night, dollar dog night, and fireworks). Use the link in the youth e-mails to register (contact Steven Young, Director of Youth Ministries, at the e-mail above to be added to youth e-mail list). We will leave RRUMC at 3:00pm for the game and stay until the game is completed. Cost is \$20. If paying with check, please make checks pay able to "RRUMC" and put "Youth Guardians Game" on the memo line.

Ramseyer Farms - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 12:00-4:00PM

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join the youth group as we travel down to Ramseyer Farms. We will leave from the church at 12:00pm. Come on down to the farm and enjoy the day exploring, racing, sliding, jumping, playing, and making memories with over 50 fun activities for all ages. Space is limited. Cost is \$20 per person. Email Steven Young at syoung@rrumc.org to sign-up.

Youth Schedule

SEPTEMBER

- 3 No Crossroads
- 10 Crossroads Kick-Off 5:00-6:45pm
- 17 Crossroads 7:00-8:30pm
- 23 (Sat.) Event: Guardians Game
3:00pm - end of game
- 24 Crossroads 7:00-8:30pm

OCTOBER

- 1 Crossroads 7:00-8:30pm
- 8 Crossroads/Common Grounds
7:00-8:30pm
- 14 (Sat.) Event: Ramseyer Farms
12:00-4:00pm
- 15 Crossroads 7:00-8:30pm
- 22 Crossroads 7:00-8:30pm
- 29 No Crossroads



Youth Mission Trip June 2023 to Milwaukee, WI

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

by *Quinn Bennett* at QBennett@rrumc.org



Twice Blessed Free Store Family Missions - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Twice Blessed Free Store Family Missions are back with a bang! Join us Sunday, September 17, at 3:00pm, in the café to make mugs of hot chocolate to be given away. Family missions are a short and fun way to teach your child to serve others. We look forward to seeing you there! Questions? Contact Quinn at qbennett@rrumc.org.

3rd Grade Bibles - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

It is that time of the year again! It's time to celebrate your child on the day they receive their 3rd grade Bible on Sunday, October 1. If you have a 3rd grader this year, please send an email to Quinn Bennett at qbennett@rrumc.org if you don't receive a letter in by Monday, August 28. Sometimes our lists aren't complete and we do not want to miss your child. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.



Tables and Treats - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER TODAY

We need your help to make Tables and Treats a success. It's just like Trunk or Treat but inside and much warmer. Sign up to decorate a table and hand out candy! The fun will be on Saturday, October 21, from 5:00-8:00pm for those volunteering. To sign up or if you have any questions, email Quinn Bennett at qbennett@rrumc.org.

Church Picnic Recap

We had a ton of fun at our churchwide picnic this year. Lots of food, fun, and a whole lot of water! The weather cleared up just in time to enjoy the fellowship of our church family. Thank you to all who helped to make the night possible! It was a blast and we are already looking forward to next year! Tentative date August 5, 2024.



As these photos show, a ton of fun was had at the church picnic held on Monday, August 7, 2023 at Elmwood Park in Rocky River.



CHANCEL CHOIR

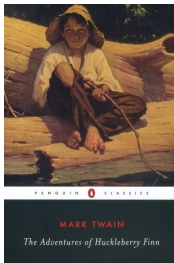
**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 6**

The Chancel Choir will start rehearsals on Wednesday, September 6, with a pizza party in the cafe at 6:00pm and then onto the choir room for practice. Always accepting new members and there are no auditions. Just the want to sing joyous praises to our Lord! Normal rehearsal time is on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30pm and we sing at the 10:00am Sanctuary Service on Sundays. Questions? Contact Matthew Dolan, Director of Music, at MDolan@rrumc.org.

BOOK CLUB

**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER
21**

Join us on Thursday, September 21, at 10:00am at the church as we discuss "*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*" by Mark Twain. Questions? List of future books? Contact Bruce Biggin at brbiggin@netscape.net or 216.544.5980. Always happy to see new faces, and regular attendance is not required.



LYDIA CIRCLE (UMW) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Lydia Circle will start a new season on Thursday, September 28, in room 209 at 1:30p. We will greet each other then talk about the months ahead. Patty and I will do refreshments. We always welcome new women into the circle. Please call MaryElin at 440.773.6569 with any questions. Hope to see you there!

LGBTQA+ SUPPORT GROUP

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

LGBTQA+ Support Group is a ministry of the Rocky River UMC which provides a safe space for members of the LGBTQA+ community and their friends and family to share their joys and concerns in a safe and confidential space. Meetings are held monthly on the 4th Thursday alternating every month on Zoom or in-person. **On Thursday, September 28, at 7:00pm, we'll meet at the church.** For more information and to get the Zoom link, please contact Mark Brandt at brandt486@gmail.com or Rev. Laurie Bruce at labruce83@gmail.com.



DINE TO DONATE

for Twice Blessed Free Store
Rocky River United Methodist Church

at TAZA Rocky River



Join us at Taza, 19310 Detroit Road, Rocky River, in the Beachcliff Shopping center just East of RRUMC!

Taza a Lebanese Grill is thrilled to be a part of the Rocky River community. We are amongst the city's newest residents, only opening our doors this past spring. At Taza, we are committed to giving back and making an impact in the neighborhood and beyond.

September 20th, 11:00 am - 9:30 pm

10% of all proceeds from your purchases on Wednesday, September 20th, any time between 11:00 am - 9:30 pm, will raise critical funds for Twice Blessed Free Store!

The Twice Blessed Free Store was created to help people meet their basic needs by providing free-of-charge clothing, household items, and personal necessities, to area families and individuals. Donated goods are collected, sorted, and stocked. Sometimes, critical supplies are purchased, such as paper products, diapers, and toiletries, to assure they are in stock each week so that everyone can have what they are most in need of.

Rocky River United Methodist Church
19414 Detroit Road, Rocky River, Ohio
www.rrumc.org

MOLL SOCIETY MEMBERS MEET & GREET by Lisa Sierk, Director of Endowment Ministries

lsierk@rrumc.org or 216.926.1702



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

The Theo & Belle Moll Society is named in memory of Theo and Belle Moll, who exemplified faithful stewardship through their generous gift to establish the endowment funds at Rocky River United Methodist Church.

Members of the Theo & Belle Moll Society share their testimony to our trust in God and faith in providing RRUMC with their support. Anyone who has a plan to give through their estate, or makes an outright gift to the Endowment Fund, regardless of the amount, is considered a member of the Theo & Belle Moll Society.

Join us following each worship service on Sunday, September 24, to meet some of our Moll Society members and consider joining these faithful friends. And know that I, or any member of our Endowment Committee, welcome the opportunity to meet with you and learn how you meet Jesus Christ in the midst of your story.

Endowment Committee:

- Rev. Dan Bogre, Senior Pastor
- Andy Henton
- Gary Lanzen
- Cindy Schafer
- Karen Weger
- Lisa P. Sierk, Director of Endowment Ministries



NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

by Aaryn Holland & Margery Wanosik,
Co-Directors, rrumns@gmail.com

Hello RRUMC Congregation,

The nursery school welcomes students ages 3-5 back on September 5. The staff is busily getting ready for a new year. Our children are always excited but a little anxious to meet their new teachers and see their new classroom. The first day is scheduled open house style where mom and dad stay with their child. The families have the opportunity to ask the teachers and/or directors any questions they may have. RRUMNS is looking forward to another great school year.

PRAY LIKE JESUS by Dave Huller, Lay Leader

Until Jesus came along, the people in early biblical times understood prayer only through the lens of the Pharisees: boisterous, long, self-righteous, and self-serving. Jesus was different as he could spend hours at a time in silence as if he were listening more than he was proselytizing the people to accept thousands of rules to govern their lives! What the people noticed most about Jesus was that, when he rose from his prayers and joined them for the day's activities, he was energized and utterly at peace. There was an incredibly unique presence about this man who they called the Messiah, and the more time they spent with him, the more they knew it was founded in his practice of daily prayer. So, one day, they asked him to teach the people how to pray and it forever change the trajectory of humanity.

"Our father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.
- Matthew 6:9-13

"The most famous prayer in the world can be recited in less than thirty seconds, and it is a virtual treasure of theological and spiritual insight."

- Don Underwood, "Pray Like Jesus:
Rediscovering the Lord's Prayer"

All of us recite this prayer in worship, but have you ever played that recording in your mind in slow motion and prayerfully considered it line by line? I had the honor to lead a Disciple Study on this very topic and would like to share with the congregation in this forum what I and my fellow Disciples learned. Buckle up and come along for a journey in faith, for as my brother-in-law used to say, "You'll never walk alone." Walk with me and vision the Lord's Prayer in ways you may never have considered!





GREETINGS FROM TWICE BLESSED FREE STORE AND STORY CHURCH!! *by Lisa Thomas, Director TBFS*



I am overwhelmed with gratitude as I sit and reflect on the incredible day we had last Saturday as we moved the mountain of donations from RRUMC to TBFS. My heartfelt thanks goes out to each and every one who gave their time and energy to help us with this monumental task. I especially want to thank the Rocky River boys soccer team who volunteered, while giving up their Saturday to help us move. Boys, your hard work and dedication made the process of packing and unpacking the U-Haul smooth and efficient.

I also want to extend a special thank you to the volunteers who helped sort and bag all the clothing donations. A tip of the hat goes to the remarkable LIFT ladies who went above and beyond and generously donated their time sorting and bagging all of the items. It was a huge undertaking, and I cannot thank you enough!



I am also thrilled to share that Twice Blessed Free Store will be reopening on Saturday, September 9! The anticipation is building, and we can't wait to, once again, start helping those in need. As we gear up for the reopening, I'd like to extend an invitation to all of you to join us in volunteering once again! Your continued support is essential to our success.

If you are able and willing to lend a helping hand, whether for a few hours during the week (sorting) or just on Saturdays (during store hours), we'd love to have you on board! Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those who depend on Twice Blessed Free Store and the services we provide. Thank you all once again for your incredible dedication and commitment to our mission! Your kindness and generosity continue to make a positive impact on our TBFS community, and I couldn't be more grateful.

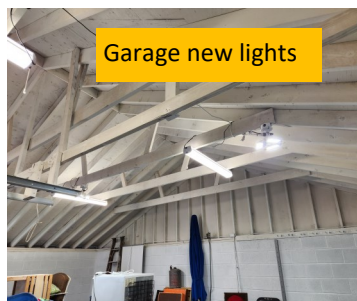


BACKYARD MISSION TEAM AT STORY CHURCH

The Backyard Mission Team has been hard at work at Story Church. Over the past couple of months, they have cleared vegetation, power washed, and then painted the outside of the storage shed and the outside of the garage. They also hung



Shed before & after



Garage new lights



Garage exterior

lights inside the garage. Thank you to all who helped with these efforts. If you have any projects that the Backyard Mission Team could help you with, please contact Roy McKinney.

Rocky River United Methodist Church
19414 Detroit Road
Rocky River, OH 44116-1873
Ph: 440.331.7676
Fax: 440.331.7637
E-Mail: office@rrumc.org
Web: www.rrumc.org

DATED MATERIALS - PLEASE RUSH
Mailed August 23, 2023

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
Lisa Thomas, Twice Blessed Free Store Director
Lynn K. Gorton, Faith Community Health Professional

Music Ministry

Jeffrey A. Acker, Organist
Matthew Dolan, Director of Music
Carmen G. Massaro, and Lynn Young, Handbell Choirs
Robert W. Kimmel, Harbor Worship Leader

Mission Ministry

Dr. Belinda Forbes, Managua, Nicaragua

Deadline for October Circuit Rider:
Wednesday, September 6, 2023

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE STORY!

REMEMBER THESE LATE AUGUST DATES

Aug. 24 - LGBTQA+ Support Group*

SAVE THESE SEPTEMBER DATES

Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24 - Open Gym Basketball
Sept. 3 - Communion Sunday
Sept. 4 - Labor Day (Church Office Closed)
Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26 - Men's Prayer Group
Sept. 6 - Chancel Choir Pizza Party
Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27 - Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28 - Thursday Morning Breakfast Group
Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28 - Genesis to Revelation Bible Study
Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28 - Harbor Worship Rehearsal
Sept. 9 - TBFS reopening
Sept. 10, 17, 24 - Disciple IV Bible Study
Sept. 10, 17 (rehearse); Sept. 24 (play) - Fuller Sounds Handbell Choir
Sept. 10, 17, 24 - Joyful Sounds Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Sept. 10 - Crossroads Youth Kickoff
Sept. 11, 18, 25 - Women's Fellowship Group*
Sept. 11, 18, 25 - Disciple I Bible Study
Sept. 13 - Confirmation Parent Orientation
Sept. 14 - Shawl Ministry
Sept. 17 - TBFS Family Mission Project

Sept. 17, 24 - Crossroads Youth
Sept. 17, 24 - Confirmation Class
Sept. 19, 26 - LIFT Bible Study
Sept. 20 - TAZA Dine to Donate TBFS Fundraiser
Sept. 21 - Book Club
Sept. 23 - Guardian's Game (Youth Activity)
Sept. 24 - Moll Society Meet & Greet
Sept. 27 - Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study
Sept. 26 - RiverMen
Sept. 28 - Lydia Circle (UMW)
Sept. 28 - LGBTQA+ Support Group

*virtual meeting via Zoom or other platform

SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- 8:30am - Chapel Service
- 10:00am - Sanctuary Service
- 11:30am - Harbor Service in Beacon Hall, also livestreamed at www.rrumc.org

OFFICE INFORMATION

Office hours are back to our regular hours of Monday to Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm beginning after the September 4 Labor Day holiday.