

# Highlights &

ROCKVILLE  
FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

MARCH 2021

## Highlights:

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## A Note From The Pastor March 2021

Here we are in March already! Do you realize that one year ago, this month, our world changed in a lot of ways? One year ago, in March the world shut down. This virus, that at first we were told was nothing to concern us, devastated our lives. Twelve months ago schools, businesses, and even churches shut down.

We were growing. Our attendance was increasing steadily and we had climbed to about 65-70 on Sundays for Worship. We had VBS and a regular youth group. We were gathering for church meals and other functions. We had plans for several new activities throughout 2020. We were excited about the prospects of our church.

Then we had to close the doors. Before March 2020 I would never have believed that our church's, or any church, would have locked doors on Sunday morning. Our ministries stopped. The Diner wasn't serving, the closet wasn't clothing, Celebrate Recovery wasn't strengthening, the bus wasn't running, and Buddy Bags wasn't feeding. Our studies, Sunday School, Bible study, and Men's group were all quieted. The Covenant Group and Service Circle were not able to meet. The youth group that was just getting into its groove had to hit the brakes. Worst of all, fellowship ceased.

I have told you before, there is no one who misses in person worship more than I do. To visit briefly before the service, then to see each one of you as you leave was the highlight of my week. To hear all of your voices singing praises and lifting prayer was uplifting to me. To stand before you and look into your face as I present the Word for the week is always special. To see the interest, the occasional nodding, and even you who were falling asleep (and you know who you are 😊) was rewarding on a grand scale.

Now here we are in March 2021 opening up on almost the same day we closed down 12 months ago. We still won't be back to "normal". It may be a few more weeks before everyone is vaccinated and feel comfortable about returning. For now, we still must avoid social contact. We can't have big fellowship meals. But, we will be gathering together. We will still do Radio, Facebook Live, and YouTube.

It would be easy to concentrate on the negatives of the past 12 months. If we take out our emotions and disappointments and evaluate the past year, we can see that God has moved in some wonderful ways over these twelve months.

When we had to close down we wondered how we were going to be able to serve you all with a way to worship. Meredith came up with the idea of Facebook Live. I don't have to tell you it was a struggle. Believe me, we worked hard at trying to make it better each week. Because of the pandemic, a group called the Center for Congregations made a grant available for churches using Facebook. BillieSue heard about the grant from her son Bryan and informed us about it. Mark S. pursued the grant and we got the full \$5,000 that was available for our new projection system. It has made a huge improvement in the projection system as you all can tell when you watch. Without the virus we would not have acquired the money to install a new projection system and there are more changes coming.

Cont'd

## A Note from the Pastor Continued

If I had to choose between a new system and in-person church, I would pick the in-person worship. Unfortunately, we did not have that choice. But, we have a new projection system. Even more amazing is the impact the system has made on viewers. Not just in the quality of the broadcast, in the quantity of those watching, and the other ways we can use the system. At Norval's funeral Pat had the service recorded for those who, due to COVID, were not able to attend. It was recorded in our old fashion, had

to be converted and then was transferred to a disc that Pat mailed to all who needed it. Things changed with the new system. At Dale's funeral the church was able to let the family broadcast the visitation and service (over 3 hours total) on zoom. Family from all over the country were able to view the entire time or just portions. For BillieSue's service we broadcast in our normal fashion on Facebook Live and we recorded it also. We sent the recorded service to the family in a YouTube segment only they can share. The church was full and many were in the balcony for her service. In addition to that, at the writing of this note 283 have viewed the service on Facebook. That was not possible a year ago. In addition to offering this service to our church family we have gained in other ways. We have a Sunday evening Bible study that is typically in person in the chapel. Due to the 2<sup>nd</sup> church shut down we started broadcasting them and uploading them to Facebook. Last Sunday's study has 111 views on Facebook and more on YouTube. The Mid-week Chat was something that started because of the shut down and as a way to keep everyone connected. I thought it would last 4-6 weeks. Now a year later it averages over 100 views each week. We have people from all over the county, state, and country that watch our church. Some are new people and some are relocated Rockville folks looking for a connection back home. We started to see the growth in viewers as soon as we started the broadcasts but nothing like it grew after the new projection system. We will not stop the broadcasts no matter how good things get in the future.

We have also a radio transmitter for those who want to come to the church, but not inside. It allowed us to do "drive-in" church until we were able to reopen the doors last summer. We will continue the radio broadcasts and mount the antenna outside which will reach a 2 mile radius for those who don't have Facebook or internet.

The doors may have been closed but we have seen God working in the lives of those around us. Folks are still fellowshiping electronically, by social distancing, and any other way that works. We have seen prayers answered in a mighty way. You have continued to minister and service those of our congregation in times of grief and illness. God has even made some of you learn to do electronic things that you would never have though possible a year ago. We are again serving through the Buddy Bags, Celebrate Recovery, Fellowship Diner, the hygiene closet, and the clothes closet.

It been a 12 months like no one ever expected or imagined. Some things were bad, but God is always good. I hope the next 12 months are better on us than the past 12. Remembering that hope is not a wish. It is a confidence in what God is going to do in the future.

I am excited to get back in church. I am even more excited to see what God will do in the days that await us!

Love you all and can't wait to see you!!

Blessings to you all,

# Pastor Jon



NCP Schools loves how our community supports our schools!

Casey's  
General  
Store

Rockville  
Christian  
Church

Tri-Kappa-  
Gamma Sigma  
Chapter

Otterbein  
United  
Methodist

Rockville  
United  
Methodist  
Church

Ashley  
Soltermann

Tri-Kappa,  
Rockville Assoc  
Chapter

A big thank you to all of our February donors!

Allan  
Soltermann

Dawn  
Schiefelbein

Smith  
Family  
Cookies

John and  
Sharon  
Malone

Box Tops

Poke County  
Community  
Foundation-Allan  
and Maggie  
Bradford Family  
Heritage

Marshall  
Federated  
Church

**MARCH 14TH, 2021**



# WORSHIP AND PRAY

## KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS!

### **Our Shut-Ins:**

Diana Lows, Roleen Pickard; Lois McGrannahan; Mary Alice Barnes; Dorothy Smith

**Our World:** Our Country; Churches and People of Congo; Veterans dealing with PTSD and Re-Entry; Operation Classroom; Klausmeier family missions; Covered Bridge Cluster; Parke Vermillion Community Pregnancy Center; our schools, community, and government leaders; the children of Parke Co.; emergency personnel; local businesses; Kairos ministry; inmates and staff of Rockville Women's Correctional Center and the Parke Co. Jail; those suffering from mental illness; those having financial difficulties; homeless children and adults; immigrants; refugee; widows; orphans; peace on earth; 1,132 churches and 536 pastors of the Indiana Conference.

### **Keep in your prayers church family in active U.S. military service:**

Ben Ford, Air Force, Son-in-law of Rob and Shannon Belcher; Offutt AFB, Nebraska; Staff Sgt. Jacob Gregg, son of Guy and Shelly Gregg, MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida; Rob Graham, Navy, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, grandson of Helen Graham; Lance Catlin, Marines, grandson of Lenora Douglas.

**Capital Improvement Fund:** \$117,974.15. This amount includes all designated project funds. Also, donations from generous givers, Grants, Fund Raisers. Some designated projects (Audio/visual) are near completion.

### FACTS & FIGURES

Date	Sunday School Attendance	Worship Attendance	Tithes & Offerings
2/07/2021	Outside Service		\$1,890.00
2/14/2021	Outside Service		\$2,490.00
2/21/2021	Outside Service		\$ 990.00
2/28/2021	Outside Service		\$2,340.00
<b>February total to date:</b>			<b>\$7,710.00</b>



**Needed monthly to enable the church's ministries: \$8,468.14**  
**2020 Average Worship Attendance: 65**

## LEARN AND GROW

### **Want to grow deeper as a Christian?**

We currently have opportunities for adults and youth to learn more about God, the Bible, and how to grow in discipleship:

**Sunday mornings 10:00 a.m. “Drive-in Church Service” on 92.3 FM and on Facebook Live, distributed later on YouTube ; Bible Study 6p.m. (at the church) and Facebook live “Midweek Chats” Wednesdays at 7:00 p..m. Inside morning service begins March 28th.**

**Always practice “Social Distancing”**



**A Christ-centered recovery program for adults struggling to overcome hurts, habits and hang-ups.**

**Thursdays, 7-9 p.m.**

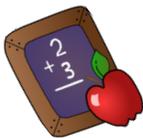
*(Doors open at 6:30p.m.)*

**Rockville First United Methodist Church**

128 N. Market St., Rockville, IN

(1 block north of the courthouse)

**For information, please call (765) 569-5356**



### ***BUDDY BAGS***



The Buddy Bag program will start the new school (in September) for the year 2020-2021. Buddy Bags are distributed to needy children on Fridays to help ensure that they have adequate food over the weekend to be able to return to school on Monday ready to learn. If you would like to volunteer to help pack and/or distribute the Buddy Bags, please contact Larry or Charla Malone.



## AROUND THE CHURCH



The Dine with a Doc ® program is \_\_\_\_\_, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at The Rockville First United Methodist Church.

Dine with a Doc ® is a FREE educational program that welcomes senior citizens to get to know the doctor of the month while enjoying a free meal, courtesy of Bethesda Gardens. *For your convenience, the ramp door on the South side of the church will be open allowing easier entry in to the church.* Please **R.S.V.P.** to **Carole Perry (765-569-2349)**.

All senior citizens are welcome (reservations are required), so please invite your friends and neighbors to join you! We hope to see you there!

### **ALL DINE WITH A DOC PROGRAMS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**



01 Randy Randall  
07 Bob Jones  
10 Alex Milligan  
11 Pastor Jon Overbey  
14 Roleen Pickard  
23 Brittany Simons  
31 Steve Waltz



Worship with  
Rockville FUMC

Drive-in Church Service  
or  
Face book live

Sunday Evening Bible Study 6:00  
p.m. Inside & Facebook

Also Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Face-  
book live

Church services INSIDE will begin  
PALM SUNDAY  
March 28, 2021



## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEMEBERS 2021

Rob Belcher, Council Chair  
Elaine Waltz, SPRC-Chair  
Bill Becker, Trustees Chair  
Mark Spelbring, Finance Chair  
Mary Jane Evens, Treasurer  
Susan Harbison , Women's Rep

Alex Milligan, Men's Rep  
Merideth McGill, Young Adult Rep  
Pat Ballinger, Lay Leader  
Randy Randall, Member-At-Large  
Maddie Belcher, Youth Rep  
Jon Overbey, Pastor

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## SERVE AND GIVE

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Peanut Butter  
Pasta (boxes or bags)  
Pasta sauce (jars or cans)  
Vegetables (cans)

Please bring your donations to the office. Thank you!  
(Please make sure you bring **un-expired** goods, as we can't  
distribute food that is expired.)

*Our Food Pantry is an independent ministry of our church*

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## ROCK PAINTING

Every Tuesday  
6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

The Clothes Closet has partnered with Parke Heritage High School to provide clothing and personal hygiene items to students. In January, nine students visited the Clothes Closet with their guidance counselor. The students were able to get brand new socks, underwear, hats, gloves and blankets, thanks to a partnership with the Catholic Church. The students also took gently used clothing items, as well as full-sized hygiene items that were donated by our congregation and community. There are plans to serve additional students in the near future. Additionally, all students plan to return in March and May to shop for spring and summer apparel.



## How to use Amazon to fund the church projects.

As you probably know, the church has started a building fund and some of the projects to get our church ready for our 2022 bicentennial have begun.

Did you know that if you shop through Amazon, we can actually get a donation from them? The Smile website allows for a small portion of qualifying purchases to be donated to a charity of your choice, and we would hope you choose the church.

It's easy to do:

1. Open a browser window to <https://smile.amazon.com> Notice this is NOT just amazon.com, but it has a SMILE in it. This page will look slightly different than your usual Amazon page.
2. If you already have an Amazon account, you can sign in using the link in the upper right hand corner of the page.
3. Then click the "Get Started" button.
4. In the search box, type in "Rockville First United Methodist Church" and click "Search" for our church's name.
5. You should see the church name pop up in a list. Hit the gray "Select" button next to the church's name.
6. Check the box next to the statement "Yes, I understand that I must always start at **smile.amazon.com** to support Rockville First United Methodist Church."
7. Click the orange "Start Shopping" box
8. The next page you see is the regular Amazon shopping page that you normally have used.
9. You may get a pop up asking if you want to add an app to your browser to automatically go to the Smiles page each time.
10. Remember your purchases only help the church if you go to the smile.amazon.com before you start shopping.

As you do your Christmas shopping, or anytime during the year, we ask that you consider using the Smile site to make a donation to our church. Thank you for your help in supporting the church's building project.

## How to activate AmazonSmile on your iPhone or Android

1. Step 1: Join **AmazonSmile**. ...
2. Step 2: Open the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. ...
3. Step 3: Open Settings within the app. ...
4. Step 4: Tap **AmazonSmile**.
5. Step 5: Tap the button for "**Turn on AmazonSmile**" ...
6. Step 6: Make note of your renewal date.

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Dividends from Amazon  
Smile are given out  
every quarter. We have  
received our  
first dividend of  
\$33.31



# METHODIST MOUNTAIN MISSION

God's Mission in the Mountains—Your Mission in His Service!

## Truck Schedule

April 12-14 Terre Haute -Bloomington  
Rockville United Methodist Church

### For Our Stores/

### Customers

#### EMERGENCY NEEDS

\*\*\*\*Socks and underwear (We desperately need new socks and underwear for our stores. Men, women and children.)

\*\*\*\*

- \*Men's and children's summer clothes
- \*Easter outfits (sundresses, etc.)
- \*EASTER items (stuff to fill baskets, etc.)
- \*Good pots n' pans
- \*Men's shoes
- \*Good used furniture
  
- \*School supplies (backpacks, paper, pencils, notebooks, etc.)
- \*Back to school clothes



#### PROCESSING PLANT

##### NEEDS

- \*Coffee
- \*20 oz. coffee cups
- \*Air fresheners (aerosol cans)
- \*33 gallon black garbage bags
- \*Pinesol
- \*Dust mops
- \*Toilet bowl cleaner
- \*Sugar



Karen Bunn  
Executive Director  
1-606-666-7795 (Office)  
1-606-666-9457 (Fax)

Andy Mitchell  
Editor

Thank you for continuing to give to the Mission.  
Financial donations can be mailed to:  
Methodist Mountain Mission  
P.O. BOX 888  
Jackson, KY 41339

## RFUMC CLOTHES CLOSET

In November 2019, the Rockville First United Methodist Church began a new Clothes Closet as an outreach to provide new and gently used clothing to our community. As we neared our one-year anniversary, our Clothes Closet had doubled in size and more space was needed. Elaine Waltz suggested the Closet and Nursery exchange places. Now, our Clothes Closet fills both rooms of the former nursery. It contains clothing, shoes, hats, gloves, coats, blankets, small household items and more!

All members of the community are invited to come in and “shop”. There are no income requirements and there is no limit to how much one person can take. **Everyone is welcome and everything is free.** Monetary donations are accepted, but not necessary. At one point, attendance had waned. During a discussion with Kaleigh Ford, an idea came to light. The Clothes Closet was listed on numerous Wabash Valley Facebook Yard Sale Sites. Soon after, we had 59 people come to shop in one four-hour period! We currently average 18 people per Thursday. Each person typically shops for more than one person. We estimate that 40 people are impacted by our ministry each week. The Clothes Closet continues to be listed on multiple Facebook sites each week, and has been advertised in The Sentinel twice. We ask that you spread the word, as well. The church is asking respectfully that shoppers wear a mask when visiting the closet to help protect the health of the volunteers.

Charla Malone, Carole Perry, and Shannon Belcher volunteer to allow the Clothes Closet to be open weekly. Current hours are Thursdays from 1-5pm. Other volunteers include Diane Ader, Cindy Hein, Carol Milligan, Linda Spelbring, Robbin Swinehart, and Elaine Waltz, who launder items as needed. Although the program is time-intensive, the response from the community has been amazing and makes the work well worth it.

The Clothes Closet is always in need of children's clothing. Donations of all kinds are accepted during office hours on Monday – Thursday from 9am – 1pm and while the Closet is open on Thursdays from 1 – 5pm. If these hours don't work, you can send a message to the church's Facebook messenger to set up a different time. It has been exciting to watch this project out grow its storage and display space and serve so many people. This is a rewarding outreach and our thanks to the volunteers who put in many hours to make this available to so many!



Irishman, Dermot McCann opened the morning newspaper and was dumbfounded to read in the obituary column that he had died. He quickly 'phoned his best friend Reilly. 'Did ye see the paper?' asked Dermot. 'They say I died.' 'Yes, I saw it.' replied Reilly. 'Where are ye callin' from?'

### Ten Reasons Eve Was Created

10. God was worried that Adam would frequently become lost in the garden because he would not ask for directions.
9. God knew that one day Adam would require someone to locate and hand him the remote.
8. God knew Adam would never go out and buy himself a new fig leaf when his wore out and would therefore need Eve to buy one for him.
7. God knew Adam would never be able to make a doctor's, dentist, or haircut appointment for himself.
6. God knew Adam would never remember which night to put he garbage on the curb.
5. God knew if the world was to be populated, men would never be able to handle the pain and discomfort of childbearing.
4. As the Keeper of the Garden, Adam would never remember where he left his tools.
3. Apparently, Adam needed someone to blame his troubles on when God caught him hiding in the garden.
2. As the Bible says, It is not good for man to be alone!
1. When God finished the creation of Adam, He stepped back, scratched his head, and said, "I can do better than that."



A parishioner was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed the parishioner by the hand and pulled him aside. The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!" The parishioner replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor." Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."



How many Easter eggs can you put in an empty basket? Only one—after that it's not empty anymore!



# MARCH 2021

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:30 p.m. Rock Painting	3	4 6 p.m. Buddy Bags  1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery	5	6
7  10 a.m. Worship  6 p.m. Bible Study	8	8 6:30 p.m. Rock Painting	10	11 6 p.m. Buddy Bags  1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery	12	13
14 10 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study  	15	16 6:30 p.m. Ad Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. Rock Painting	17  	18 6 p.m. Buddy Bags  1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery	19	20
21  10 a.m. Worship  6 p.m. Bible Study	22	23 6:30 p.m. Rock Painting	24	25 6 p.m. Buddy Bags  1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery	26  6 p.m. Fellowship Diner	27
28  PALM SUNDAY  10 a.m. Worship Holy Communion  6 p.m. Bible Study	29	30 6:30 p.m. Rock Painting	31			

# ROCKVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

128 North Market Street  
P.O. Box 142  
Rockville, IN 47872

Church Phone: 765-569-5356  
Church Email:  
office.rockvilleumc@gmail.com  
Church Website:  
rockvilleumc.net  
Facebook:  
facebook.com/rockvillefirstumc

## Office Hours:

**M-Th 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**



~Pastor Jon Overbey~

Email: [Jon.overbey@inumc.org](mailto:Jon.overbey@inumc.org)

## SUNDAY WORSHIP AND STUDY

9:00 a.m. - Adult & Youth Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service

10:15 a.m. - Children's Church

6:00 p.m. - Bible Study

Rockville First United  
Methodist Church is a  
bridge to help all:

- find the WELCOME  
of Christ,
- learn the WAY of  
Christ, and
- become His  
WITNESSES in our  
world.

