

Highlights &

OCTOBER 2021

ROCKVILLE
FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

A Note from the Pastor

October 2021

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As we pass through town it appears like a “normal” October again. The festival tents are going up. Vendor food wagons are being set in place. The Catholic Church is advertising their crullers. The fellowship hall is filling up with rummage sale items. The Covered Bridge Festival preparation is in full swing for 2021. As hectic as the festival may be to some, it is reassuring to see that part of our annual routines returning to some semblance of normal.

Some other parts of our lives are getting closer to normal. I have been to a couple of football games to watch our youth play. It was nice to be in the stands without a mask watching kids on the fields playing. We had our 200th anniversary kick off dinner in the fellowship hall. That is the first meal we have shared together in over 1 ½ years. All ministries and activities in the church are back to full steam. We’ve had the Girl Scouts resume meeting and starting Wednesday the Council on Domestic Abuse (CODA) will begin ministering to abused women in the chapel.

There has been a lot of talk about what is normal. Is there a chance to return to the “old” normal or will there be a “new” normal? Or will there ever be any type of normal again? One of the things I have realized as I have grown older is there is really no such thing as a standard normal. As I look back over my life I can see there was never a normal that lasted very long. In my personal life normal never lasted too long. Going from single to married changed my normal overnight. However, I found that normal quickly disappeared when Jessica was born. The young couple who’s normal allowed them to throw a couple of things in a bag, hop on a motorcycle, and take off for a couple of days became the normal that needed diaper bags, bottles, toys, baby clothes and a station wagon (remember station wagons?). Then came DJ and a couple of years later Bryan. For 7 years we had kids in diapers. About the end of the diaper era I decided to accept the UMC’s offer to Pastor a church. Then I became a single parent for 8 years. My “new” normal was taking care of kids, working, serving 2 churches, and all the while studying for the 2 weeks of school that occurred every year for 14 years. Normal included boy scouts, girl scouts, choir, sports, youth groups and such. The station wagon was replaced with a mini van which I guess has become one of the “normal’s” in our family since we just acquired the 4th one. Normal changed again when a 40-year-old single teacher who had never been married became part of a family of 5 with a child in elementary, one in Jr high and one in high school. That *really changed her normal. Since then, work has changed, kids have grown, grandkids have arrived, churches changed. Somehow along the way I got a little heavier, a little slower, and my hair has changed colors.*

Cont’d

A Note from the Pastor Continued

Normal has changed in a lot of other ways. Remember the station wagon above? How many people had them in years past? When we traveled somewhere we all piled in the back of a pickup truck. Now we ride inside and wear seat belts. I didn't attend a church with air-conditioning until 1986. Almost every church had a pianist AND an organist. We have gone through church music on cassettes, 8 tracks, CD's, phones, I-pads and yet still pianos (Thanks Janie!). Remember when people had their Sunday clothes? Guys wore suits and women wore dresses to church? And everyone one had to have new ones for Easter! My dad had a remote control for the TV ever since I was big enough to change the channels . It was normal in our house to move the foil on the TV to get a better picture. Now we have TV's that get input from computers, phones, internet, and satellite. Remember when normal was remembering someone's phone number and dialing it on a rotary phone or one of those phones that hung on the wall with a 20 foot cord? Now we can normally just tell the phone who to dial and we don't know phone numbers anymore.

Normal worship in the time of Jesus was to gather in a field or to go to the Temple in Jerusalem. Then churches met in houses. Soon they were building church buildings. Normal for some was meeting in caves to avoid persecution. Then there were huge cathedrals with 4 hour sermons. In our congregational history normal has changed many times. We are in at least the 5th location. Our present church building has been through 5 changes (not counting adding air conditioning). Our congregational size, make-up, and members are always changing.

So my question to you is, "Has there ever really been a normal?" When things change too quickly, or in ways that disturb our comfort, we think there was a normal to which we desire to return. I have never seen anything change to a past normal. Every part of life brings new normal. Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 reminds us there is a time for every purpose under heaven. Life changes because times change, conditions around us change, and we change. Even a casual look at the Bible shows us that nothing remains the same and no one was normal. Only God is changeless. His love never changes. His Grace never changes. His faithfulness never changes. God's people always get through the times of change and uncertainty because of the certainty of our God.

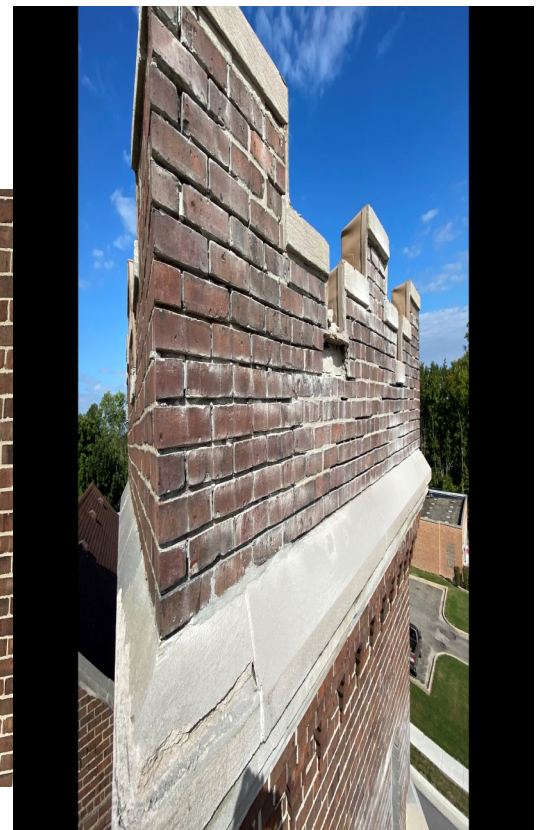
What will be the new normal? I don't have a clue and I'm not really worried about it. WE need to do the best we can in every situation and let God do the rest. We will get through it as God's people have gotten through everything else this world has thrown at them. We will be no different. As John Wesley was dying and those close to him were gathered at his bedside they heard his last words, "Best of all, God is with us." As we proceed through this pandemic and other rapidly changing conditions of the present age, as we get concerned about what may happen or what is happening, keep you eyes on Christ and remember, "Best of all, God is with us!"

May God Bless you and make you a blessing to others!

Pastor Jon



TUCK POINTING THE BRICK GOING STRONG NEXT COMES THE NEW ROOF!!



WORSHIP AND PRAY

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS!

Our Shut-Ins:

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

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: \$279,856.16. This amount includes all designated project funds. Also, donations from generous givers, Grants, Fund Raisers. Many of the projects have begun!

FACTS & FIGURES

Date	Sunday School Attendance	Worship Attendance	Tithes & Offerings
9/05/2021		50	\$4,409.00
9/12/2021		38	\$2,006.25
9/19/2021		57	\$2,047.25
9/26/2021		45	\$1,739.00
August total to date:			\$10,201.50



Needed monthly to enable the church’s ministries: \$8,468.14
2021 Average Worship Attendance: 49

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: **Adult and Children Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings 10:00 a.m. Inside service; Facebook Live, distributed later on YouTube; and radio station 92.3; and Facebook live. Sunday evening Bible Study 6 p.m.; “Midweek Chat” Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Always practice “Social Distancing”**



CELEBRATE RECOVERY

**A Christ-centered recovery
program for adults struggling
to overcome hurts, habits**

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 has been extended throughout the summer also, for the year 2021-2022. 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.



Greeters for October 2021

3rd Debbie Davies
10th Carol Keller
17th Belcher Family
24th Bob & Mary Ann Jones
31st LeAnn & LuAnn Malone

AROUND THE CHURCH

The Dine with a Doc[®] program is **cancelled until March 2022**

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 _____ . 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!

October Birthdays



03 Logan Carlton
04 Kapria Collings
05 Charles Allen Miller
06 Nick Waltz
08 Richard Keller

18 Karen White
21 Clara Jack
22 Jacob Bryant
25 Russell Hall
28 Kinley Noelle Geiger
31 Mary Jane Evens



29 Rob & Shannon Belcher

Worship with
Rockville FUMC

Adult and Children
Sunday School 9:00a.m.

Inside Service 10:00 a.m.
OR
Face book live; radio 92.3

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

Also Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Facebook live



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

SERVE AND GIVE



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

The Clothes Closet is open to the public
every Thursday
1:00 p.m.— 5:00 p.m.
Everyone is Welcome
Everything is FREE.
Please use the side door on York St.

If you have donations,
please drop off during office hours only
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Monday through Thursday



OCTOBER 11, 2021



The 2nd Tuesday of every month.
9:00 a.m. at Benjamin's.
(Only in October it will be the 19th)



Hand bell Choir will meet each Monday, in the
Chapel from 6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
New members always welcome.

Ad Council members present: Pastor J. Overbey, M. J. Evens, B. Becker, Mark Spelbring, R. Randall, E. Waltz, R. Belcher, A. Milligan
Absent: M. McGill, Maddie Belcher, S. Harbison, P. Ballinger
Guest: Carol Milligan

Council Business

Rob Belcher opened the meeting with prayer.
The August minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Alex & Carol Milligan discussed grants pertaining to the Buddy Bag Program. We currently receive a grant through International Paper. Alex and Carol have applied for a grant through the Food Alliance Program, Melinda Duncan at the Extension Office. We can pick up food donations at the extension office, also we can be re-imbursed for any food or any item we purchase for the Buddy Bag Program. These purchases are retroactive back to April 19 2021. Alex and Carol announced snacks have been added to the program for the middle school at Turkey Run. Marshall Federated Church oversees this program. We now serve 84 students.

Tuck Point construction is making progress. Some of the limestone shows a lot of damage. Chimney is down, old air vents have been filled in and covered up. Construction crew will be working through the Covered Bridge Festival.

Handicap Ramp: Luke Waltz and Pastor Jon shot new elevations for the ramp. The south side is a lot higher than the north, the ramp on the south side would not be as long a run. The old handrails will be removed. Council voted unanimously to go with the South Ramp

Council discussed problems with doors being locked during morning service. Instead of disrupting the service, people will go outside and walk around to the restrooms, childcare, etc. They are not aware of the outside doors being locked, therefore cannot get back in. A door will be installed in the hallway in the basement to be locked and will be located just past the restrooms.

A new Custodian has been hired: Russell Hall

Covered Bridge: Parking lot project is coming along well. Randy will be opening the yard sale a week ahead of the festival. There has been a very large donation accepted and Randy will be looking for help to set it up. Everyone is welcome to bring your donations to the fellowship hall on October 3rd. Randy has a sign-up sheet for volunteers for the rummage sale. Kathy will print flyers to pass out at the Parking Lot.

BSA Update: Paperwork has been filed to the Boy Scouts of America, separating us from the boy scouts. We believe we are in the clear of this lawsuit.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mark Spelbring reported a Fire Inspection was conducted on September 21st with Josh Sorrels. Josh used this time to educate us as to what needs repaired/updated. Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors need installed. Fire extinguisher inspection is monthly. The custodian will do this.

Exit lights are installed with exception of one for the fellowship hall and one in the basement.

VBS: The material is at Merideth McGill's house.

Also discussed the procedure for giving bibles to our youth: induction into the Honor society, high school graduation, 6th grade graduation.

Ad Council Minutes, Cont'd

Pastor's Report: WTWO Channel 2 did a really nice job promoting our 200th Anniversary "Kick-off". You can see it on our website, our Facebook page and WTWO website.
CODA starts October 6th; we need a coordinator to represent the church.

The change of officers will be coming up soon.

Charge conference will be held at the Brazil First United Methodist Church on November 21st at 3:00 p.m.

Trustee's Report:

Bill Becker reported on the roof quotes:

H&H \$17550; Pell \$43200; Cottrell \$19355; All Weather Roofing \$23765.

Cottrell was awarded the bid with the upgraded shingles and can start within 10 days. Alex will check with State Farm Insurance to see if we would get a credit for the upgraded shingles. Also, check with construction for the Tuck pointing to see how soon the roofers can start.

The replacement ceiling tiles have been purchased and will be installed soon.

Next construction phase: plaster; removal of radiators, painting and carpet removal and installation. We will ask Mark Downing to work on the tower window.

Alex reported many items left in the garage at the parsonage. The snow blower is the only item the church wants to keep and possibly store on the south porch of the church.

Sunday School can't meet in the basement because of the musty smell. Marty and Mary Jane Evens volunteered to clean, paint and remove the carpets. All furniture will be removed for the Sunday School classroom. We will advertise the furniture on free sights on Parke County Facebook page

Finance Report: Mark Spelbring reviewed the profit/loss reports.

The building fund donations has slowed down. Alex Milligan asked about funds for the 200th Celebration project.

Staff Parish Relations Report:

With COVID on the rise again, and many giving in different ways, we will start leaving the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary instead of passing the plate during service.

Ministry Reports:

The Girl Scouts have started meeting at the church. Stacy Feldhake, the leader, had been given a key previously. Plans have scheduled for bus trips. October 1st a trip to Newport to hear the Lester's. In December a trip is scheduled to Christian Christmas Celebration at Richard's Farm in Casey, IL. Also, a Youth trip over Christmas break.

Bicentennial Committee: Working on a logo and invitations for "save the date". We will be using Facebook and our website to spread the word. Also dedicate slides on Sunday morning presentation to promote the 200th Anniversary.

The next meeting will be October 19, 3021.

Pastor Jon closed in prayer.



Covered Bridge Festival

October 8th - 17th



Harvest Soup Supper

Where: Rockville First United Methodist Church on the corner of York St. and Market St. 1 block North of the square next to the library.

When: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 from 5:30pm to 8:00pm.

What: Chili, Vegetable Beef Stew, and Chicken Noodle, Sandwich, Dessert and Drink

Price: \$5.00 per person children under 10--\$2.00 3 and under free!

We will also be running our
Annual Covered Bridge
Rummage Sale
and
Hospitality Table





OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Bus trip to Newport Lester's Southern Gospel	2
3 10 a.m. Worship Holy Communion 6 p.m. Bible Study	4 6:45 p.m. Handbells	5	6 7:00 p.m. Mid- week Chat	7 1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 6 p.m. Buddy Bags 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery	8	9
10 10 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study Grandparents Day	11 6:45 p.m. Handbells	12	13 7:00 p.m. Mid- week Chat 5:30 p.m. Havest Soup Dinner	14 1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 7 p.m. Celebrate Recovery	15	16
17 10 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study	18 6:45 p.m. Handbells	19 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:30 p.m. Ad Council Meeting	20 7:00 p.m. Mid- week Chat	21 1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 6 p.m. Buddy Bags 7 p.m. Celebrate	22	23
24 10 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study	25 6:45 p.m. Handbells	26	27 7:00 p.m. Mid- week Chat	28 1-5 p.m. Clothes Closet 6 p.m. Buddy Bags 7 p.m. Celebrate	29	30
31 10 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Bible Study 7 p.m. Trick or Treat Around the Square						

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

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.

