



Volume 25 Issue 4

Rockfish Presbyterian Church
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Office Hours 9-1 Tuesday through Thursday
Worship Service on Sunday Mornings at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.;
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Spreading the Word

April 2024



Happy Easter! He is Risen! Again and again in our lives!

The Holy Spirit is certainly moving at Rockfish! It is such a great gift to have people emailing me or meeting me and telling me how the Spirit has been nudging folks in all kinds of areas. We also have people who want to join our church and grow with us. We are a great cloud of witnesses and God is always on the move. What a fabulous reminder that WE really means WE. Our church universal, not just Rockfish church, is a group of people who are answering the call to serve God. As always, scripture says it best: "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10).

As such we can be reminded that when we work together, glorying in our differences, we can accomplish so much. A perfect example is that I am so jealous of all your musical gifts but God has not given me that gift. So I can leave that wonderful ministry to Cynthia's leadership and all of you musically gifted folks! Instead, I have the gift of Big Thinking energy and excitement. (which of course Cynthia has too, in abundance- so the two of us are a 'good dangerous'). Boy oh boy do I LOVE a "good dangerous" God, in God's wisdom, has also surrounded us with a leadership session that has the courage to tether us to reality, asking the RIGHT and important feasibility questions and yet willing to think BIG! What a complete joy to serve together.

Here at Rockfish we have some exciting plans for our future. Of all kinds and I can not wait to see what else the Holy Spirit has up Her sleeve.

Let's keep dreaming big dreams here at Rockfish. The world needs big dreamers anchored in love, in hope, and I guess, in reality... with a little dose of trust and risk!

~Pastor Inger

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Susan Brown	02
Jamie Heard	03
Lee Manchester	04
Deb Andrews	07
Stu Armstrong	07
Valerie Goodrich	07
Phillip Newsome	08
Bill Howard	09
Marilyn Pace	10
Richard Averitt	11
Anna Winter	16
Lynne Hess	18
Jon Rathke	20
Dottie Winter	22
Mike Smyser	23
Marcia Winfield	24
Bill Kampmeier	25
Jewell-Ann Parton	25
Jeri Engebretson	26
Joan Bonheyo	27
Sandi Averitt	29

Inger's Inklings

On Wednesdays a group of us have been studying "The Second Coming" and we have been having some fascinating conversations on how we personally view Jesus and what His return may look like. The fact is none of us has an exact answer and each of us has our own theology. I think that is wonderful because it keeps us humble. Sometimes, and I know others feel this way too, my brain hurts when I try to think too hard about this; when I try to figure things out. It is like Jesus saying to me-" let it go, I got this and you don't need to". Amen to that. I think that is what these Wednesday conversations have taught me the most. That each of us has our own theology, our own definition of what salvation is, what sin is, what afterlife may look like. Hearing what others think, including well known theologians, has been helpful to me, and I hope, helpful to others. Clarifying and thought provoking. At least we have figured out we are not heretics. It all comes down to - Is Jesus your Lord and Savior? Yes, Amen. I don't know how that works but I trust Him.

We have one class left and then we will begin a new series- much less brain heavy - on the History of Christianity. It is video led and we used it at my previous church to great accolades. I hope you will join us! The church's EXCITING history is fascinating and extremely relative to our lives as Christians today!

Come and See!

Easter Blessings on you and yours,

~Pastor Inger



STW NEWSLETTER :

JAMIE HEARD

The deadline for submitting articles **electronically** for the **May** newsletter is **Tuesday, April 23.**

Email: rockfishpcus@gmail.com **Phone:** (434) 361-1221

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH



Adult Sunday School is currently reading Matt Rowle's book "Revealing Jesus" delving into the important "I AM" statements in the Gospel of John. How interesting that as many times as we have read and discussed each of these statements, there is still more to learn, making this a meaningful Lenten study. Please join us downstairs at 9 am.

We're all excited that attendance at Children's Sunday School has continued to grow and grow. Bronwyn White, our new Children's Program Director, and her team have generated lots of wonderful ideas for the expansion and enhancement of the program, especially to address the broader age range and needs. Once some decisions have been made, details of the new and improved program will be shared. Bronwyn is inviting all those interested in the program to attend a meeting in April - see details below.

Susan Luscomb, Chair
Christian Education Ministry

Invitation

Please join us after the 10:00 o'clock service on April 28 in the sanctuary to exchange ideas on how we can offer the best Sunday school experience for your children. Some topics include, but are not limited to, age groupings, class time, and the scheduling of enough volunteers to meet the requirements of the Presbytery.

Together, we can make our program one everyone is excited about and enjoys.

Submitted by
Bronwyn White, Children's Sunday School Program



Mission Ministry

As Pastor Inger announced on Palm Sunday, the big news from Missions, Outreach, and for RPC is the decision by Session to approve use of our facility for a Respite Program and provide \$10,000 in seed money to help start the program. Two days later the Board of Directors for Here to Stay Wintergreen (HSW), a 501(c)3 charitable organization, approved being the administrative partner to manage all financial aspects of the Program as well as grant applications. The Planning Committee is moving forward with creating a job description for the Program Director and soliciting applications. A DRAFT business plan has been prepared. Currently the Program would provide a 10 AM to 2 PM experience up to three times per week and include a hot meal.

The Planning Committee contains several members who have been working for years to begin such programs in Virginia. The members are: Gordon Walker, HSW board Member, Gerontologist, Retired Executive Director of JABA Liz Boyd- MSW, UVA Memory Clinic Ellen Phipps- Executive Director of Aging Together and Certified Recreation in Culpepper George Worthington- Dementia Services Coordinator, Division of Aging Services, Virginia Department for Aging.

RPC is well represented by Pastor Inger, Barb Fenton MD, Christy Ruta RN and a caregiver, and Bill Iverson, Elder.

This is a time of great excitement, and the Planning Committee is highly motivated to make this initiative a reality this year. There are over 30 successful programs in the US and all but one are conducted in church facilities.



Bill Iverson

On Tuesday March 19, 11 brave church members took advantage of a FREE educational opportunity presented by Jeremy Wampler, Training Captain from the Wintergreen Fire and Rescue. We learned the basics of CPR and AED use. We then were able to practice hands on with the adult Annie and Baby Annie performing CPR and the use of the AED.

Jeremy also shared some valuable information regarding health apps for both Apple and Android phones. These health apps can be populated with your health information that the Fire and Rescue crew can access in case of an emergency. As the training captain of the squad, he also recommended we consider other educational opportunities offered by the Wintergreen Fire and Rescue squad (free). These classes could include: Stop the Bleed, Safety in the Home and forms and health care documents we all should have. RPC hopes to offer the CPR/AED family and friends class again in the future as well as these other classes.



Thanks to Jeremy and Wintergreen Fire and Rescue!

Submitted by,
Nancy Johnson

Easter Baskets



A big thanks to all of the Mission Committee members and other volunteers who shopped for, sorted, and bagged Easter food tote bags for 38 families (130 people) in our community! The bags were ready for pickup/delivery on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. Families included those identified from MACAA Head Start programs at Tye River and Rockfish River Elementary Schools, JABA seniors, some RPC Wood Ministry clients and other RPC referrals. The families ranged in size from one or two up to ten! The bags included ham, assorted canned veggies and canned fruit, canned yams, soup, mac & cheese, instant mashed potatoes, gravy mix, cornbread mix, Jello, fresh apples and mini Easter desserts. Also beautiful Easter cards made by our youth were included in the bags. This Easter Food Ministry is an annual outreach to provide for food deprived families in our community. Thanks be to God!



Special thanks to Wendy Culberson, who calculated the amounts of food to purchase, tracked the purchased items and made the inventory lists for each family's food tote – a big task! For those who saw all the food stacked in a corner of the Fellowship Hall last week, you understand! And a special shout out to Ann Mische who shopped for and delivered all of the hams to our church freezer.

Bill Iverson, Chair

Youth News

For March the children were lucky to have Anna White (high school 10th grader) join the boy crew in filling the food bags. Anna is an experienced bag filler having filled food bags when she was in elementary school. Thank you, Anna!!

In youth news, we are celebrating our talented youth that participated in the Nelson County High School Musical - Mama Mia in March. Nathan Manthey (pictured on left) played Sam Carmichael, Anna White (pictured on the right) played Phoebe and Anna Winter was a featured dancer. They were all amazing!!

If you are doing Spring cleaning around your house and looking for somewhere to donate items, consider the following places in Charlottesville that give back to International Neighbors. International Neighbors is an organization that works supporting refugees in our community. If you consign items, you should mention that you'd like the proceeds of your sale go to the International Neighbors account so newcomers can shop for free.



STATED SESSION MEETING of ROCKFISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 3/19/24

Moderator Rev. Inger Manchester called the Session Meeting to order at 7:00pm with prayer. Present and constituting a quorum were Ruling Elders: Sally Bryant, Ken Engebretson, Sandy Gallagher, Mary Hopkins, Bill Iverson, Kathy Kristiansen, Dave Lawson, Susan Luscomb, Joe Steele, Kate Humphrey Chambers via Zoom and Cathy LeGrow, Clerk. Excused: Mac Lumpkin. Visitor: Dave LeGrow.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Elder Ken Engebretson.

JOYS/CONCERNS: Were shared by the Moderator.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Rev. Inger Manchester gave an update on the Respite Program. Further information will be provided under Mission Ministry Team with a Motion from Elder Bill Iverson. A Shepherding Plan from Rick Winters was provided as information. No action was needed. The Children's Choir continues to grow and will have to be divided by age groups. There has been interest expressed in a Women's Retreat and is in the gathering of information stage. Rev. Inger Manchester deferred to Elder Ken Engebretson who reported according to The Book of Order, Chapter 4, Section 4, RPC is not required to have appointed Trustees. Our current appointed Trustees will resign their positions.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Approved minutes of Stated Meeting 2/21/24 Minutes.

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE: Elder Dave Lawson presented the Monthly Financial Reports, Income and Balance Statement, Balance Sheet. The church is in fine standing.

MINISTRY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS/MOTIONS:

Elder Mary Hopkins (Worship Ministry Team) reported there is still a need for Technology Lead/Communications lead and small team for Service video/posting support. Chimes, Children's Choir and Trumpets planned for Palm Sunday, Chimes planned for Pentecost, full Choir for Easter. **Motion to approve vacation days for Rev. Inger Manchester and for only one service at 10:00 am on April 21st. MOTION APPROVED.**

Key dates: April 7 - Single 10:00 am Service; and May 19 - Pentecost

- Elder Sandy Gallagher (Outreach Ministry Team) gave general information regarding Nelson Co. Transportation.
- More information will be available in the Church Library. A fund raiser is planned for Hope's Legacy this summer. There will be a spring recital at RPC on May 17th at 5pm featuring Danielle Talamantes and Kerry Wilkerson. There has been an inquiry for a music recital in June and will followed up by the Outreach Team. Mercy bags containing non-perishable items will be available in the Library for church members to distribute to needy people they meet on the street. **A Motion was made to hold a special event at RPC on May 5th after the 10:00 am service featuring Sandy Gallagher and special friend, T.J., telling of their endearing friendship through the years. MOTION APPROVED.**
- Elder Bill Iverson (Mission Ministry Team) reported a meeting regarding the Respite program was held on March 17th and presented the following Motion: **The Mission Ministry Teams moves to allow rent free use of Rockfish Presbyterian Church fellowship hall, kitchen and restrooms for a Respite program up to three days per week if created in Nelson County. MOTION APPROVED. Elder Dave Lawson presented a Motion for Session to authorize a \$10,000 contribution to HSW for Seed money. MOTION APPROVED.**
- Elder Susan Luscomb (Christian Education Ministry Team) reported the children's Sunday School continues to grow. Bronwyn White, Children's Program Director, has wonderful ideas for expansion and enhancement of the program to address the broader age range and needs. Bronwyn has invited those interested to attend a meeting in April. Please join the Adult Sunday School class reading Matt Rowle's book "I AM" statements.
- Elder Susan Luscomb (Liaison Congregational Life Ministry) Thanks to all who are contributing to make the social time after service a huge success with food, help with setting up, serving and cleanup.
- Elder Ken Engebretson (Facilities Management Team) reported a KnoxBox (to house church keys) has been ordered and will be mounted near the front door to allow emergency crews to enter the building without knocking down the door. Outdoor security cameras will be arriving this week and will be mounted outside the church entrances.
- Elder Sally Byrant (Personnel Ministry Team) presented a **Motion to hire a second Child Sunday School Helper due to the increase in children attending Sunday School. MOTION APPROVED.**

CELEBRATION AND GRATITUDE:

Rev. Inger Manchester gave thanks for the CPR class held in the Library; Sandy gave thanks for Ken's devotion; Mary gave thanks for the Respite Program.

Rev. Inger Manchester closed the meeting in prayer at 8:00 pm. Next Stated Session Meeting Tuesday, 4/16/24 at 7:00 pm in the Library. Elder Sandy Gallagher will have Devotions and Opening Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy LeGrow, Clerk

Membership: 152 Active Members 6 Baptized Members 14 Affiliate Members



Awakening

Showing off, just barely, a slip of soft green,
Trimmed in lacey whites and daffodil blooms,
With textured layers of honeyed hues –
She steps out, unnoticed, at first, onto the still brittle earth.

Her toes brushed in bright purples, fingers tipped in chartreuse,
And donning a golden shawl to warm lingering shivers,
She traces old paths along rushing streams,
And swiftly makes her way up the mountain folds.

With strength in her purpose and energy glowing,
Her presence is unmistakable now;
Driven toward the brilliant blue, limitless sky,
Dressed in layers, spring arrives.

Ute M. Kitching
13 April 2011



April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 2:30 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting	2 9:30 a.m. Outreach Ministry Meeting	3 10:00 a.m. Knitting and Nurture 2:00 Where We Are Support Group	4 3:15 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Rockfish Community Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir	5	6
7 8:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Five Cents a Meal Offering	8 5:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting	9	10 10:00 a.m. Knitting and Nurture 11:30 Christian History Discussion	11 3:00 Worship Committee 3:15 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Rockfish Community Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir	12	13
14 8:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Pack Pantry Bags for Kids 5:00 p.m. Pub Theology at Brewing Tree	15	16 7:00 Session Meeting	17 10:00 a.m. Knitting and Nurture 11:30 Christian History Discussion 2:00 Where We Are Support Group	18 3:15 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Rockfish Community Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir	19	20
21 8:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	22	23	24 10:00 a.m. Knitting and Nurture 11:30 Christian History Discussion	25 3:15 Rockfish Ringers 4:30 Rockfish Community Children's Choir 5:30 Chancel Choir Spreading The Word Articles Due	26	27 9:00 a.m. Distribution at Food Pantry
28 8:00 a.m. Worship Service 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Emergency Relief Offering	29	30				