

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Rossville United Methodist Church is to love the Lord and our neighbors, teach one another to obey the commands of God, and proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior to all.

Scriptural Foundations: Matthew 28: 8 - 20; Mark 12: 9 - 31; Luke 4: 8 - 19

April 2015

The Echo

church newsletter of the

Rossville United Methodist Church
April 2015

A Letter from the Pastor

Happy Easter

I bring you good news of great joy. Those eight words sound like a greeting from an angel announcing the birth of the Savior because they certainly were used to announce His birth. But I share them with you to announce the Resurrection of our Lord. He has come and He has risen! These are powerful words that are filled with hope, joy, love and peace. They place in the heart of people anticipation, expectancy, and grace. Easter is the one Sunday where families who have no regular contact with the church are most open to an invitation to attend church. Studies prove that the world is still open to a gospel it can hear and see. I recently read "The Externally Focused Church" by Rusaw and Swanson, and I agree with them, the message that Jesus delivered through His life and calls the church to live has two sides two it. His message (and ours) is truth and proof.

Honestly, the Christian messengers have a difficult responsibility. The message of God's love is a compelling message. So let me ask a question: With such a compelling message that gives hope, joy, love and peace; why is the church in such a state of decline? Could it be because we aren't always compelling messengers? Here is some encouraging good news. People are searching in hope, looking for joy, seeking love and needing peace in their lives today. And I believe that the body of Christ is where those sought after emotions are found. Honest, compassionate service reveals the crucial message we have to share. Telling the truth is not enough, we must show the truth, for this is certainly the model Jesus used. The gospel reveals that people were drawn to Christ because of the message He spoke and the message He

lived out in their presence.

The life that Jesus lived and the one He calls the church to live is driven by looking externally. The church/body of Christ that has an external view of life is inwardly strong in relationship to faith in Jesus Christ, but is driven by an outward focus. This church integrates the good news with good deeds in their community and the world. They desire to have an impact and an influence in the world they live, they seek to be salt and light much like in *Sister Act* when they took ministry to the streets and brought change to the community. The gospel calls us to a life of loving God and loving our fellow man.

Easter is a great time to initiate this external view. People are more open to an invitation and a new relationship at Easter than any other time of year. Remember that the good news that brought you hope, joy, love and peace is the same good news that others are looking to find. This good news and good deeds should not be separated. Also, Easter is a great time for personal growth. A Christian can learn through good instruction, but they really grow in faith when involved in outreach and ministry. Finally, Easter (the Resurrection of Jesus Christ) is the message of the church. People are looking for real and authentic faith. The church has the best message on the face of the earth. "Jesus has risen and He is alive." Our hope, joy, love and peace are found in these realities.

Share Him with someone and be blessed,

Pastor Brian

Join us for our Sunday Services

**Quest for Christ / Sunday School
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.

**Check out our new website!
www.rossinumc.com**

APRIL MEETING DATES

- L.R.E. Visitation Team, April 1 & 15, 6:30 p.m.
- Trustee Team, April 6, 6:00 p.m.
- Worship Team, April 6, 7:00 p.m.
- Prayer Meeting, April 8 & 22, 7:00 p.m.
- Praying Together, April 12 & 26, 5:00 p.m.
- Administrative Council, April 13, 7:00 p.m.
- Staff Parish Relations Team, April 20, 7:00 p.m.
- Children's Education Team, April 27, 7:00 p.m.

RUMC Office Hours

- Mondays 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**
- Tuesdays 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**
- Wednesdays - closed**
- Thursdays - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**
- Fridays - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Please note that I am sometimes out of the office during published hours due to medical appointments. If you plan to make a special trip to see me, please consider calling ahead to ensure that I am here. Thank you all for your patience and support!
~Renita

Thank You Notes

Rossville United Methodist Church and Links of Love,

Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

The Charles Martin Family

To Our Church Family,

Thanks to all who came to support my family after the death of my grandmother, Ruby Allen. The rose is beautiful, and I love that Bibles were donated in my grandmother's name.

God bless,
Brandy Marlow & Family

Quest for Christ
Sunday mornings 9 - 10 a.m.

Explorers, ages 3 - 5
Teachers: Phyllis Patterson & Kim Newbauer

Voyagers, Kindergarten - First Grade
Teachers: Vicki Rabanus & Bessy Newbauer

Crusaders, Second - Third Grade
Teachers: Phil Burkle & Connie Hinesley

Navigators, Fourth - Fifth Grade
Teachers: Carol Metzger & Ainura Nametullayeva

Adventurers, Middle School
Teachers: Lyn Burkle & Lori Need

High School
Teachers: Dave & Sharon Need



Quest for Christ

Parents' Corner

Children know what it is to be hurt or sad. They feel better by being close to a parent or friend who loves them and wants to share their hard time. An older child may be more mature and handle life's situations with more confidence than a young child. However, a parent's presence in the older child's disappointments or challenges is still important.

Parents realize they cannot always change their child's unhappy circumstances, but they can offer comfort when disappointment comes. It comforts him or her to have you listen and to know that this disappointment is also important to you. Learning how Mom and Dad care is a foundation for understanding how God cares, too.

There are several helpful DOS and DON'Ts to remember when your child comes to you with a disappointment.

Do Listen. Show empathy by stopping what you are doing and giving your full attention, if possible. Maintain thoughtful eye contact. Get down on the young child's level. Gently ask open-ended questions: How do you feel about . . . ? Why do you think this is so disturbing?

Do Not Lecture.

Do Verbalize Understanding. Repeat what you sense is the hurt: "I can see you feel lonely and left out. That was a friend you really trusted, wasn't he?" Hearing you describe the hurt assures your child you truly understand.

Do Give Affection. A hug, hold, kiss, gently wiping away the tears.

Do Not Make Light or Fun of Her hurt.

Repair or Replace it if appropriate. Keep in mind, not everything should or can be "fixed."

Defend or Protect if necessary. Avoid future recurrences if possible. Pray for God's wisdom of how and when you should intervene.

Do Not Make False Promises.

Discuss God's Character. God knows. God cares. God will help. God provides comfort through family, friends, and His Word. Point your child to words of God that provide comfort (Psalm 119:50-52; Isaiah 49:13; 66:13)

Pray together. Always talk to God about everything.

Divert attention. Be sure at least one of the above has been done first.

All loving parents want to be a comfort to their children. Christian parents also want their children to learn that no circumstance is too small for God's concern. Let your child see you model the way you take your concerns to God by hearing you pray.

God is our comfort in every circumstance. These are truths you want your child to learn. The way you comfort your child today when he is sad prepares him for later experiences where he will need to find his comfort in God's presence and God's love.

Links of Love News

The Links of Love served a funeral supper on February 28, 2015, for the family and friends of Charles Martin. Charles was 93 and a life-long resident of the Rossville area.

Jane Roush, Links of Love

April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 - 11 a.m.</p> <p>L.R.E. Visitation Team 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>3 Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m. @ Living Stone Church</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m. @ Living Stone Church (breakfast after service)</p> <p>Quest for Christ 9 - 10 a.m.</p> <p>Easter Worship 10:15 a.m. RUMC</p> <p>Milner's Worship 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>6 Trustee Team 6 p.m. Worship Team 7 p.m.</p>	<p>7 Adventure Club 6 - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>8 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 - 11 a.m.</p> <p>Prayer Meeting 7 pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Quest for Christ 9 - 10 a.m.</p> <p>Praying Together 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Group 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Adventure Club 6 - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>15 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 - 11 a.m.</p> <p>L.R.E. Visitation Team 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Quest for Christ 9 - 10 a.m.</p> <p>Youth Group 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Adventure Club 6 - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>22 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 - 11 a.m.</p> <p>Prayer Meeting 7 pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Quest for Christ 9 - 10 a.m.</p> <p>Praying Together 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Group 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Adventure Club 6 - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>29 M&M Ladies' Bible Study 9 - 11 a.m.</p>	<p>30</p>		

New Sermon Series

Come and join us as we worship God together and learn from His word how to Encounter, Experience, and Live the Blessed Life.

April 12 - May 17, 2015

Topics: *The Happy Life, It's All About the Heart, What Test?, The Principle of First, Breaking the Spirit of Mammon, and Am I Generous? The Principles of Multiplication*

Prayer Chain

Prayer requests for the church prayer chain can be submitted to Lori Need, 765-258-3022. Lori will start the phone tree system as soon as possible after receiving a request.

If you are not currently on the prayer chain call list and would like to be included, simply call or email the church office to let Renita know. Thank you!

Anniversaries

Steve & Linda Ostler	4/6
Mike & Vicki Ream	4/6
Bob & Arlene Gangwer	4/9
Shawn & Kristine Morris	4/9
Joe & Neena Tudor	4/4
Rex & Jane Rothenberger	4/17
Jerry & Terri Gaylor	4/21
Phil & Jane Emens	4/28
Don & Connie Hinesley	4/29

Financial Notes

Needed Weekly to meet 2015 budget:	\$3,235.49
March 1	Snow Day
March 8	\$6,992.00
March 15	\$2,221.00
March 22	\$3,111.11
March 29	\$1,027.00



Birthdays

Shelby Brock	4/2
Isaac Harris	4/2
Cheri McKoon	4/2
Jack McKoon	4/3
Corbin Pownell	4/3
John Robert Washam	4/5
Blake New	4/10
Sue Wilkerson	4/10
Randall Chamberlain	4/15
Noble Hodgen	4/15
Vanessa Dotson	4/15
Tom Holden	4/16
Amari Pownell	4/18
Emma Bright	4/19
Lyn Burkle	4/19
Tegan Weida	4/19
Emma Dennison	4/20
Nicole Minnear	4/22
Carol Metzger	4/23
Ainura Nametullayeva	4/23
Brent Washam	4/23
Brayton Cooper	4/24
Ali Burkle	4/25
Dylan Disinger	4/25
Kate Harris	4/26
Megan Humrickhouse	4/26
Mark Seest	4/28
John Moore	4/29
Max Thompson	4/29

Ad Council Notes

As the RUMC Administrative Council chairperson, I thought I would share with our members and friends a little about what your church leadership is doing this year. Ad Council meets monthly, and this is generally a time for our team leaders to report on activities, and request approval or assistance for upcoming events. I want you to know that the people we have leading our church teams are an awesome group of people. We've been dealing with some not-so-easy issues, and I'm constantly impressed by our willingness to continue to work at something even when we don't agree. I'm very blessed to serve with this group of people.

One of the more exciting things we've discussed at our meetings is a community outreach project. Since we are the leaders of the church, and since the mission of the church is to reach people for Jesus Christ, we have decided to do three community-outreach projects this year. The Ad Council members will take our April 13th meeting to go out into the community and bless the people who live in the apartments on North Street with a small gift. I'll be reporting back in the May newsletter. If you can't wait until then to hear how it went, just stop one of us in church after April 13th and ask! I'm sure we'll all have good things to share.

Ad Council meetings are the second Monday of each month, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. These meetings are open to everyone, though only members have voting privileges. We'd be happy to have you pull up a chair and join us at any meeting. If you happen to show up for one of our outreach meetings, we'll be happy to have you join us on the bus!

I would like to ask that you be in prayer for your church leadership. The church, as a whole across the United States, is dying. Attendance is down, and reports show that young people don't think the church is relevant to their lives. As your leaders, we need to think outside the box if we want to bring the young people of our community into our church. We need the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. I've been praying for both for each member of the Administrative Council. I ask you to do the same. A copy of the Ballot of Officers is available in the church office if you would like to have it on hand to pray for us.

Thanks to each of you for your care and support.
Renita Harris