

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

# The Echo

church newsletter of the

Rossville United Methodist Church  
July 2015

## A Letter from the Pastor

### Church Family,

"You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." It seems that the apostle Peter included every believer in this statement and excluded no one. He goes on to say, "Once you had not received mercy, but now you have received the mercy of God." What a gift! God chose us and, through our belonging to Him, we are made holy. Through His gift, we have been made royal and have been given the privilege of declaring His praises. What a gift He has lavished upon each of us!

Other than our name being written in the Lamb's Book of Life, being a church member is simply one of the greatest gifts God has given to us. We just received three new members into the life of the church on the last Sunday in June. There was such a sweet spirit in the sanctuary as we all renewed our vows to God, our vows to church membership, and our vows to each other. Sunday was a gift from the Lord!

As I look at the church moving forward, I want to continue to be the pastor of a church where people join and want to belong. To assist in the process of spiritual and numerical growth, I want to identify 8 key features of a healthy growing church.

The first key that people are looking for is what the expectations are of belonging. Peter (the Word) identifies the body (the church) as a chosen people. Therefore, as a people belonging to God we declare His praises. This is a great gift from God, and an expectation to all who belong.

The second key of a healthy church is the demand of excellence. Notice the word is not perfection. Certainly, God calls each of us to live righteous lives, and holiness is always the mark that we set our sights on. God deserves

our very best at all times. I have never met a person who enjoys mediocrity. Excellence is what God deserves and is what draws people to Him.

You see people joining churches thirdly where relationships are emphasized. Certainly the important relationship is with Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "To love God with all your heart mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself." We were created with a heart for relationships.

The fourth key to healthy churches is when joining and serving is promoted by all people. People seek to belong to a church where people are excited about belonging themselves.

Key number five that attracts people to joining a church is when a person is assisted or led to a deeper level of understanding of their spiritual makeup.

In addition to the five previous keys that cause people to want to believe is the key of recruiting people. This is typically done by a leader, however it has been proven in studies that a person approaching another person, one to one, is by far more personal and affective.

Matching a person's skill level to work needing done is the seventh key. Setting a person up to have a good experience is critical.

The eighth and final key is celebrating the work of all. Every person likes to know that the work they have been doing is important and appreciated.

Your involvement is important. A person is depending upon you to declare His praises.

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](http://www.rossinumc.com)**

### JULY MEETING DATES

L.R.E. Visitation Team, July 1 & 15, 6:30 p.m.

Worship Team, July 6, 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting, July 8 & 22, 7:00 p.m.

Administrative Council, July 13, 7:00 p.m.

SPRC, July 20, 7:00 p.m.

Children's Education Team, July 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

# July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  <i>L.R.E. Team</i> 6:30 p.m.	2	3	4
5 <i>Praying Together</i> 8:30 a.m. <i>Quest for Christ</i> 9 - 10 a.m.  <i>Milner's Worship</i> 3:00 p.m.  <i>Youth Group</i> 5:30 - 7 p.m.	6         <i>Worship Team</i> 7:00 p.m.	7	8         <i>Prayer Team</i> 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11
12 <i>Praying Together</i> 8:30 a.m. <i>Quest for Christ</i> 9 - 10 a.m.      <i>Youth Group</i> 5:30 - 7 p.m.	13         <i>Ad Council</i> 7:00 p.m.	14	15         <i>L.R.E. Team</i> 6:30 p.m.	16	17	18
19 <i>Praying Together</i> 8:30 a.m. <i>Quest for Christ</i> 9 - 10 a.m.      <i>Youth Group</i> 5:30 - 7 p.m.	20         <i>Links of Love</i> <i>Make Noodles</i> 9:00 a.m.      <i>Staff-Parish Team</i> 7:00 p.m.	21         <i>Links of Love</i> <i>Bag Noodles</i> 9:00 a.m.	22         <i>Prayer Meeting</i> 7:00 p.m.	23	24	25
26 <i>Praying Together</i> 8:30 a.m. <i>Quest for Christ</i> 9 - 10 a.m.      <i>Youth Group</i> 5:30 - 7 p.m.	27         <i>Children's Ed</i> 7:00 p.m.	28	29	30	31	

## Praying Together

We have several opportunities to come together as the body of Christ and pray for our church & community, and one another. Every Sunday morning we come together at 8:30 to pray for the morning's service. Second and fourth Wednesday evenings, we meet at 7:00; this is a less-structured prayer time. Everyone is welcome to join us!

## Anniversaries

Mark & Stephanie Need	7/7
Ray & Jayne Peterson	7/10
Jason & Nikki Mowery	7/14
Chad & Jodi Dennison	7/15
Mike & Angie Willis	7/19
John & Jessica Washam	7/23
Noble & Jennifer Hodgen	7/31

## Birthdays

Chris Willis	7/2
Shirley Cooper	7/6
Ray Peterson	7/6
Rachel Need	7/7
Davon Miller	7/8
Betsy Remaly	7/9
Anna Hayward	7/10
Taylor Peterson	7/10
Jacque Cooper	7/18
Sharon Unger	7/23
James Newbauer	7/22
Megan McGrew	7/25
Ann Gochenour	7/27
Kayden Newbauer	7/27
Ashlynn Douglas	7/29

Renita will be taking a medical leave of absence for the month of July. During that time, the church office will be covered by volunteers. Your support during this time is greatly appreciated.

## Prayer Chain

Prayer requests for the church prayer chain can be submitted to Lori Need. 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!

## Links of Love News

Links of Love will meet on Monday & Tuesday, July 20 - 21 at 9:00 a.m. to make and bag noodles to get ready for the Summer's End Chicken & Noodle Dinner on Saturday, August 22, 2015. Donations of eggs and flour are needed. Helping hands are always welcome!

## Financial Notes

Needed Weekly to meet 2015 budget:	\$3,235.49
June 7	\$3,210.18
June 14	\$1,599.43
June 21	\$1,456.88
June 28	\$1,976.00

