

THE ECHO...



2023

The church newsletter of Rossville United Methodist Church - Rossville, IN



FROM THE PASTOR

As you will read elsewhere in this month's issue of *The Echo*, we have completed our discernment process at the present time in regard to whether or not to consider disaffiliating from The United Methodist Church. We held three town hall meetings and two prayer discernment sessions. The most recent vote of the members who were present at our March 20th town hall meeting indicated that we did not have a 2/3 majority who felt that God was leading us as the Rossville Church to pursue any additional disaffiliation plans at this time.

What does this mean?

It means we will continue as the Rossville United Methodist Church at least until after the 2024 General Conference of the United Methodist Church meets in late April and early May of next year. In the period following the General Conference, we will reassess our options.

Regardless of what decision we made, we were going to continue offering the same kinds of ministries which we have for many years such as Adventure Club, Release Time Religious Education, Backpack Buddies, Prayer group, Links of Love, and the Good Samaritan program, plus our involvement with other churches in our local community. None of this was going to change. Nothing which is happening in the United Methodist Church denomination would change any of the ministry we offer or our beliefs as followers of Jesus Christ. Beyond this, here in 2023 our focus is on the Scripture verse in which God says, "BEHOLD, I AM DOING NEW THINGS; NOW IT SPRINGS FORTH, DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT? I WILL MAKE A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS AND RIVERS IN THE DESERT" Isaiah 43:19

An increased prayer emphasis and specifically our efforts through our prayer ministry as we work on a breakthrough prayer for this year will continue unabated. Only God knows what the results of breakthrough prayer will be in connection to Rossville. All I know is that God is doing a new thing! Yes, we live in and are doing ministry in challenging times. Generations have grown up without knowing the first thing about who Christ even is other than maybe a curse word. Our outreach programs to children through Adventure Club and hosting the Religious Education program help to reach some of these. How is God calling us to reach out to older youth *AND* their parents or guardians? What about those in our community who live alone and are in need of someone to come alongside them? These and so many other issues face our aging congregation. But fret not. God is doing a new thing!

We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ in another few days. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is what we are all about. It's all about Jesus! Regardless of the name on our church building now and into the future, let's not forget it's all about Jesus!

Christ was crucified for sin. Hear the greatest news: Christ is risen indeed!

Pastor Bob

Pastor Bob Raschka



HOLY WEEK at ROSSVILLE

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE –We will have a Children’s Parade with Palms to Celebrate Christ’s Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem at our 10:30am Service.

April 2nd Worship Service 10:30 am Handbell Choir Practice 2:45 pm
 Bible Study 3:30pm Prayer Group 5:00 pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY SOUP SUPPER AND HOLY COMMUNION

April 6th 6:30 pm in the Church basement

Let the ladies of the church cook for you! Here are your soup options: vegetable beef, potato soup, chicken and noodle. Drinks, PB&J Sandwiches and Dessert will also be provided.

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

April 7th 7:30 pm Rossville Presbyterian Church

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE and BREAKFAST

April 9th 7:30 am Rossville Presbyterian Church

EASTER SERVICE OF RESURRECTION AND CELEBRATION

April 9th 10:30 am Worship Celebration

Bell Choir



Join our handbell choir as we perform a piece or two on Easter Sunday morning. Practice is on Sunday afternoon April 2nd at 2:45pm. Those who participated in this back at Christmas had a lot of fun. Join us on the 2nd as we prepare for the Easter Sunday celebration!

Wednesday Fellowship at Mary's Continues

Join us Wednesdays at 6:30 pm now through May 3rd. Everyone is welcome at the home of Mary Gray 304 E. Main St for this time of growing in our relationship with God and with each other. Each week we pray, share a meal together, sing, and share our hearts. Please see Carolyn Bushfield for the volunteer list of who is cooking which night, if you would like to volunteer.



BLESSED BITES
@Rossville UMC
FORMALLY Comfort Kitchen

Join us the 2nd Thursday each month for food, fellowship and the Cutler Band.

Next Café is April 13th, 5:30-7pm. This month we will be serving Ham & Cheese Sliders

This is a free event offered every month and open to the public.

LADIES DAY OUT April 14th

Friday, March 10th 9 ladies met for lunch at Culvers sharing in fellowship. The next "Ladies Day Out" will be Friday, April 14th at Chick Fil-A. All ladies are invited to join.

Meet at the church parking lot to carpool promptly at 11am.

For Questions Contact Jane Emens (765-376-3176) or Connie Hinesley (765-379-2234).

If any lady would be willing to take a turn driving the group please see Jane Emens.



SUNDAY APRIL 23rd after church

Join us after church on Sunday, April 23rd as we host a burger bash. Burgers and all the "fixings" will be provided. Please see Jeff Miller if you would like to volunteer to bring your grill or help with the event. A sign up sheet to bring desserts or drinks will be available closer to time. All proceeds will go to help with repair of the stained glass windows.



March 20 Town Hall Meeting Straw Poll Results

The last of our three town hall meetings was held on Monday, March 20th. At this meeting, we heard from Rev. Scott Pattison, Rev. Jack Hartman, and Rev. Justin Cason. After a time of questions and answers, a vote was taken. The results of the vote were as follows.

1. Remain in the United Methodist Church at the present time: 52.4 %
2. Begin the process of disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church now: 47.6 %

As a result of this vote, we will continue our ministries as the Rossville United Methodist Church at the present time. We will revisit this issue after the 2024 General Conference meets depending on the decisions which are made at that conference. In the meantime let us maintain an attitude of prayer as we continue to seek to fulfill God's vision for our church in our 192nd year of ministry here in the Rossville community.

Rossville United Methodist Church

110 W. Main St. P.O. Box 568
 Rossville, IN. 46065
 (765) 379-2981

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am
 Worship & Jr. Church: 10:30 am

Email: rossvilleum@gmail.com

Website: rossinumc.com

Pastor: Rev. Bob Raschka

Office Manager: Brandy Marlow

Pastor contact info:

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Rossville, IN 46065



Shelby Brock April 2nd

Kristin Arnone April 13th

Israel Green April 15th

Lyn Burkle April 19th

Tegan Weida April 19th

Ainura Nametullayeva April 23rd

Ali Burkle April 25th

Dylan Disinger April 25th



Rex & Jane Rothenberger April 17yh

Phil & Jane Emens April 28th

Don & Connie Hinesley April 29th

April 2023 Worship Themes

April 2nd Palm Sunday "Is it I?"
 Matthew 21:9-11 & Mark 15:13-15

April 9th Easter Sunday "Sunday Came!" Luke 24:1-12

April 16th "Seeing and Believing" John 12:19-31

April 23rd "The Turn Around" Acts 2: 36-41

April 30th "Restored!" Psalm 23












Stewardship

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>On Line</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>	<u>Missions Offering</u>
Feb. 26	53	38	91	\$1,845	\$83
March 5	52	57	109	\$2,117	\$71
March 12	39	30	69	\$1,234	\$33
March 19	70	61	131	\$1,062	\$60

UMCOR Sunday special offering:\$360.00



April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<p>2 Communion Sunday School 9 am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am</p> <p>Hand Bell Practice 2:45pm</p> <p>Bible Study 3:30pm</p> <p>Prayer Group 5pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Trustees Meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship</p>  <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>Maundy Thursday</p> <p>Maundy Thursday Soup Supper & Communion 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Religious Education 1-3pm</p> <p>Community Good Friday Service @RPC 7:30pm</p>  <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 Community Sunrise Service 7:30am @RPC Sunday School 9am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am</p> <p>Milner's Service 3pm</p>  <p>He is Risen</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Administrative Council 7pm</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship</p>  <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	<p>13</p>  <p>Blessed Bites 5:30-7pm</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>Ladies Day Out Meet at church parking lot 11am</p> <p>Religious Education 1-3pm</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Sunday School 9am</p> <p>Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am</p> <p>Open Road Book Study 4pm</p> <p>Prayer Group 5pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Missions Meeting 7pm</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship</p>  <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Religious Education 1-3pm</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 Sunday School 9am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am Burger Bash After Church Book Study 4pm Prayer Group 5pm</p> <hr/> <p>30 Sunday School 9am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am Book Study 4pm Prayer Group 5pm</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship</p>  <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Religious Education 1-3pm</p>	<p>29</p>