



Our Church Matters

Our Mission: Growing Together in Christ
Through Worship, Fellowship, Witness and Service

Dear RUMC family,

Merry Christmas! (And yes, Christmas greetings are still appropriate until January 6!) It was a gift to worship with so many of you on Christmas Eve, and I pray that you had a meaningful celebration of our Savior's birth, even if it looked different than it has in previous years. As we approach New Year's Eve, I know many of us are ready to leave 2020 behind. There is hope on the horizon with the approval of two vaccines, and many of us are hopeful that we might be able to resume something that feels more like "normal" sometime later this year.

Yet even in the midst of this less-than-normal Christmas, Jesus came and made His presence known among us - just like He did more than 2000 years ago. As I reflect on the miracle of the incarnation, I find it particularly fitting, at the close of this difficult year, that God chose to come to us not as a full-grown adult but as a tiny infant.

Whether you've had kids of your own or not, one of the first things you'll notice about babies is that they're *messy*. Diapers, spit-up, piles and piles of laundry - need I say more? Even when you bathe them and finally get them clean, they don't stay clean for long. The fact that Jesus became an infant means that we have a God who *isn't afraid of our mess*. God embraced the messiest parts of human life and isn't removed from the parts of life we'd rather run from or just as soon gloss over.

"Mess" might be a kind word to describe the year we've had. And yet, Jesus came to save us from all of it - from our divisions and the vilification of those who think differently from us, from the evil of white supremacy, from our loneliness and isolation, and from feelings of despair. He came and He still comes into the messiest of messes, to change us from the inside out with His love, to heal us, and to make us whole. When God became a baby, God left no part of human life untouched.

The other important thing about babies is that they're incredibly *vulnerable*. In general, we dislike vulnerability. No one likes being perceived as weak or dependent, so we resist asking for help, even when we really need it. We want people to believe that we have life figured out and that we can do this on our own.

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Yet God took on one of the most vulnerable postures in our human experience, and in doing so, showed us that weakness and dependence aren't bad things. In fact, sometimes they're good, and necessary, and even transformative - because out of weakness and vulnerability came the salvation of the entire world. So in this season that has been such a challenge for everyone, perhaps we can learn from our Savior - to admit need for one another, to ask for help, and to stop pretending that we're impervious to the things that life throws at us. If there are good things to come out of 2020 (and I believe that there are, because God works all things together for our good), I pray that this is one of them.

In the coming year, may our lives continue to take the shape of the life of our Savior, and may we find Him even in the midst of our mess.

In faith,

Jen

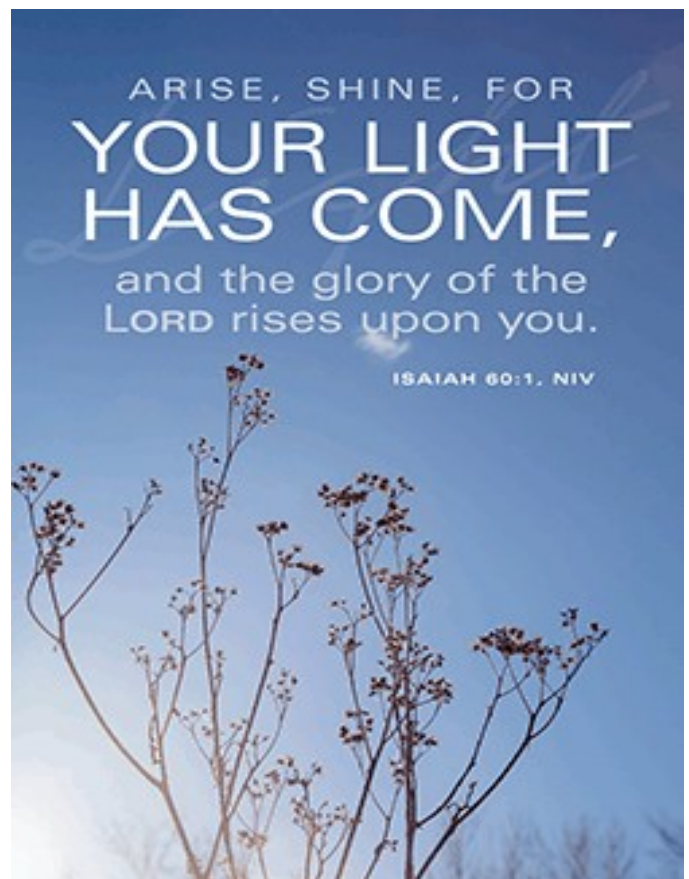
P.S. I hope you'll join us January 3 for our Epiphany worship service, and then again on January 10 as we kick off our *Superheroes* sermon series, looking together at our own "Origin Stories."



As you clean out your children's and grandchildren's summer clothes, please consider donating them to the Preschool's Tot Spot account. The proceeds earned will help offset our snack budget, which has increased this year with COVID limitations on homemade food and donations.

Parking lot drop offs can be arranged with Lani Hoffmann at 443-996-9375 or lanilee05@gmail.com as donations cannot be brought into the Church building. We are looking for clean and good conditioned Spring and Summer clothing, toys, books, and DVDs.

Thank you.
RUMNS staff and children.





Good news!

In spite of COVID-19 and virtual communications, together we have reached out to many families at Glyndon Elementary and Cedarmere Elementary. Our angel tree was virtual and had different 'items' listed on the 'tags' this year. Instead of adopting families, we were able to help the families by using gift cards so they could shop for needed items. School closings created a challenge for both schools and like our church, no one could go in except personnel. We work with the guidance counselors at each school who are virtually in touch with the students and teachers. Each school has a weekly email with announcements and information. We shared the flyers with times and days for the food pantry, the turkey give away, and for the community lunch.

Heartfelt thanks to many people who contributed to these efforts. Twenty-four families purchased gift cards which were organized by Lois Burton and Tammy Nash. These were used to help families at both Glyndon Elementary and Cedarmere Elementary. In addition, seven families contributed cash and other cards as well as community members who contributed gift cards.

Since Glyndon Elementary qualifies as a site for food supplements from Baltimore County, we could still provide for arranging to have gift cards and food and treats from the Food Pantry picked up on their usual delivery day. The guidance counselor assisted us with those efforts. Kris Brown organized food bags for the 26 families that we helped at Glyndon Elementary. She also collected items contributed by our congregation for personal care, and kid snacks. Laundry detergent, paper towels and toilet paper were also included in the items collected. Her contact with Sinai Radiology resulted in 26 fun bags. In addition, she contributed Christmas stockings with treat snacks for each of the 81 children in those families.

Cedarmere Elementary does not have food supplements delivered to the school by Baltimore County. We worked with the guidance counselor there to provide gift cards to 19 families. The guidance counselor mailed the cards to the families to help them shop for food and other items at food stores and Target. In order to allow for timely delivery, we had to have those ready to allow for delivery time.

A heartfelt thanks to the Kiwanis group that meets at RUMC who asked if there was a way they could be involved. They were able to help two other families that came to our attention through phone calls to the office. One was from the Chaplain in Harford County who is involved with Gabriel's Gift, an organization that helps people who are incarcerated there but have families with children in other counties. The Reisterstown family that Kiwanis helped has three boys and each will have a gift from their father. In addition, Kiwanis provided other items and winter coats, warm underwear, and socks.

The Food Pantry helped with a food bag and kid bags for each child.

The other family that Kiwanis helped is a woman with a difficult circumstance who asked for help with clothes for her two girls. In addition to that, the Food Pantry provided a food bag and the kid bags for each child.

The pandemic has affected all of us, and especially people who are already facing challenges of providing food and shelter for their families.. It is an honor to be part of a congregation that reaches out to help make a difference in their lives.

Blessings,
Liz Livermore
Mission Committee liaison to the schools

From Nkemba Ndjungu:

Dears,

Epworth Methodist Church celebrated its 186th anniversary on March 24 of this year. 186 years of witness is quite a great achievement. For many years since its existence, the Epworth Methodist Church had been a vibrant congregation that has produced the majority of the ministers that serve in Belize and Honduras today. However a close look indicates that this church has been losing members from some time now. For the last ten years, the congregation has been terribly decreasing in numbers. Members are aging, but they are not being replaced by young people. Today, 80 percent of all members are 60 of age and beyond. So, this year we have sought to reach out to the young people in order to bring them in the church. As a result of our effort, six youth will be confirmed in the church next Sunday, December 27, 2020. twenty-one other young people are on the list to be confirmed next year. This is a sign and evidence of hope. We have plans to continue reaching out to more young people and bring them in so that Epworth Methodist Church will not die even after all the elderly folks have departed this earth.

Your gifts to our work are the answer to prayers in our ministry and in our community. You give us hope that we will not lose sight of God's mission even when times are tough, and together we are working with God to bring about God's kingdom. I hope that you will consider continuing on this journey with us, and that you will support our mission.

Thank you for giving us hope for a world transformed.

Nkemba Ndjungu

[Click here \(for Mbwizu\)](#) or [here \(for Nkemba\)](#) to give hope online today.

To give by check, make it out to Advance GCFA, put my Advance Number 12909Z (for Mbwizu) or 12910Z (for Nkemba) in the memo line, and send it to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087



Thank you to all our supporters who purchased gift cards. Our December profits were \$ 592.32. Our profit for 2020 was \$3,862.58. Tammy and Lois have been selling gift cards for 14 years with a profit of \$44,768.04 for Reisterstown United Methodist Women. And now it is time for a change. Please consider joining and selling gift cards for RUMW. We will help train and support the new team. Our last orders will be in March 2021. Keep this fund raiser alive and volunteer. And thank you to all who have bought and used gift cards.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Tammy and Lois

FOOD PANTRY HOURS: While we are still under quarantine, the Food Pantry will only be open on Saturday mornings from 8:00-10:30 am. No one is allowed in the Food Pantry. Volunteers will bring all the food out to the parking lot for clients. There will be no Panera or WaWa food available.

At this time we are NOT accepting clothing donations.

We will be closed on 1/2/2021

IMPORTANT NEED: PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY
PLEASE EMAIL KRIS BROWN AT krisbrown69@yahoo.com
Thank you for your understanding.



LOVED ONES SERVING OUR COUNTRY

- Joshua Coleman**, Rosemary Dragunas' nephew—United States Air Force, deployed to Qatar, SW Asia
- Michael Edmondson**, Friend of the Tambaoan's, US Marines
- Christian Evans**, Thelma Mack's nephew, serving in the US Army has returned to the states from Afghanistan
- Bradley Fagan**, in USAF stationed at Ramstein Air Base in Germany
- Lindley Garcia**, Carol Judkin's friend — USMC not currently deployed
- Jeremy Hadden**, Pat Dinsmore's grandson, Air Force, stationed at Edwards AFB in California
- Elizabeth Haines Greenway**, Marion Yohn's granddaughter, stationed in MO service as Drill Instr., Staff Sergeant
- Steven Lee**, Carol & Danny Lee's son—has been promoted to Command Master Chief, has served in the US Navy for 25+ years and is stationed in Virginia Beach VA
- Fred Linborn**, Friend of the Tambaoan family, serving in the Army
- Vance Listwan**, Son of Rachel & Mark Utterback, serving in the Air Force, in Germany
- Dennis Mack**, Thelma Mack's nephew— home from South Korea, now serving in the US Army, stateside
- Allen Messenger**, Ruth Whitlock's grandson, stationed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds
- Isaac Shroll**, Tracy Tambaoan's cousin, serving in the Army

Prayer List— PLEASE PRAY FOR RUMC FAMILY, FRIENDS, & NEIGHBORS

Paula, Brenda Soskin's sister. Praise report— biopsy was benign^(1/1)

Vivian Crouse, Vivian McCarthy's mother, in hospice, prayers for comfort for her and for the family^(1/1)

Cindy Eigel, Christine Martin's mother, prayers for healing and comfort^(1/1)

Daryl Bogert continued prayers as his cancer treatments and recovery continue.^(1/1)

Christy Newcomer, who is receiving PT after her fall and continues to recover from long-term complications from COVID.^(1/1)

Nicki, Mary Lewis' brother-in-law, , got a good report from the doctor. The cancer in his lungs is shrinking and he doesn't have to go back to the doctor for four months.^(1/1)

Joanne Ditto has moved to a rehab center in Timonium. Continue prayers for healing.^(1/1)

Erik, Linda and Bill Fitzhugh nephew's son, who is in the hospital in Vermont with an autoimmune reaction and he is on dialysis.^(1/1)

Muriel, Sharon May's cousin, was released from the hospital on 12/11 after a long stay with COVID

Carolyn Quintrell , asks for prayers for her final exams this week.

Robin Dvornicky asks for prayers for her uncle recovering from surgery of a carcinoma that affects his vocal cords^(1/1)

It is such a joy that we have so many talented people in our congregation that are willing to help make our worship on Sunday mornings so meaningful.

Ongoing Prayers for Healing from Cancer

Taylor Angus; William Bancroft; Frank Banz; Jacob Barford; Steve Blessing; Beth Bolin; Daryl Bogert, Bruce Bond; Mary Brauniger; Marilyn Brathwaite; Renee Brooksbank; Jean Chambers; Benjamin Dapper; Sandy Engle; Megan Evans; Jacque Eyler; Ryan Gardner; Sondra Hadden; Mary Hanlon; Roger Hembrough; Mike Hockstad; Debbie Johnson; Denny Johnson; Lisa Johnson; Eddie Jones; Rita Jones; Jim Kane; Diane Kanemoto; Dani Kunkel; Tyler Llewellyn; Alfred Luginger; Tina Meeks; Ronald Metz; Don Mills; Mike Murrar; Aaliyah Parker; Darlene Parlette; Les Schafferman; Marge Shaw; Rebecca Sloan; Sean Staley; Melanie Stierhoff; Mary Telchi; Jenna Thornton; Patty G. Walsh; Dave Weinstein; Lynn Whitter; Lydia Wickenheiser, John Wilton; Cindy; Deb; Jim; Ken; Nicholas; Shannon

OUR MEMBERS IN SENIOR COMMUNITIES

Brightview, Perry Hall
Tom & Sandy Thawley

Brightview, Towson
Peggy Eline

Carroll Lutheran Village
Louise Meyers
Nancy Welsh

Golden Crest-Westminster
Betty Flohr

Lorien Encore—Ellicott City
Vivian Crouse—in Hospice

Lorien Center—Taneytown
Dr. Bill Rosenberger
Monte Hatcher

Oakland Manor—Sykesville
Wilma Cook

Salony House
Gladys Fish

Springwell Sr Living Comm.
Frank Simmonds

OUR MEMBERS AT HOME

Shirley Krause
Bill & Colleen Eysaman
Doris Matthews
Jean Moss
Bud Clayton
Gerry Lewis
Wini Lynde
Lois Woodworth

Please note that names will be updated after 30 days (date in parenthesis is the first date in bulletin). To be kept on the prayer list longer, please contact the church office. Those battling cancer will be kept on the prayer list—names only. Please inform the office of any changes or updates.



January 2021
**CELEBRATING ALL OF OUR
Under 25 AND Over 70 MEMBERS
JANUARY Birthdays**



Owen Harris

1/4

5932 Glen Falls Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Lorna Dix

1/17

514 Berrymans Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Sue Wright

1/27

5 Clarks Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Alan Soskin

1/4

28 Roaches Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Barbara Reynolds

1/20

306 Lauren Hill Ct
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Lindsay McManus

1/28

34 Glen Oak Ct
Westminster, MD 21158

Maggie O'Farrell

1/8

160 Glyndon Trace Dr
Reisterstown, MD 21136-1949

Betty Flohr

1/22

1779 Nelson Rd
Westminster, MD 21157

Lou Fritz

1/31

117 Choptank Terr.
Cambridge, MD 21613-1115

Tensie Wenderoth

1/8

302 Cantata Ct Apt 208
Reisterstown, MD 21136-6524

Kate McAlonan

1/22

2501 Nubian Ct
Finksburg, MD 21048

Ann Perry

1/31

1030 Green Hill Farm Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Hannah Folau

1/12

14003 Woodens Ln
Reisterstown, MD 21136

William Hoffman

1/23

1648 Deer Park Rd
Finksburg, MD 21048

Kylie Behegan

1/25

3211 Old Westminster Pike
Finksburg, MD 21048

Mason Morrison

1/14

28 School St Apt 2
Acton, MA 1720

Cynthia Humphrey

1/25

324 Nicodemus Rd
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Carol Lee

1/16

2860 Chauncey Hill Dr
Manchester, MD 21102



Puzzle!

Discover the identity of a biblical person. First, assign a number value to each letter, starting with M=1, N=2, O=3, ... A=15, etc. Then use the code to complete the clues.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
15												1	2	3											

FIRST CLUE: 15 7 15 13 3 9 2 21 1 15 2

22 19 25 23 26 26 19 18 7 3 1 19 3 2 19.

SECOND CLUE: 22 19 11 15 7 8 19 2 18 23 2 21

7 22 19 19 4 23 2 8 22 19 18 19 7 19 6 8

11 22 19 2 21 3 18 17 15 26 26 19 18 22 23 1.

THIRD CLUE: 15 7 15 16 15 16 13 22 19 11 15 7

20 3 9 2 18 20 26 3 15 8 23 2 21 23 2 15

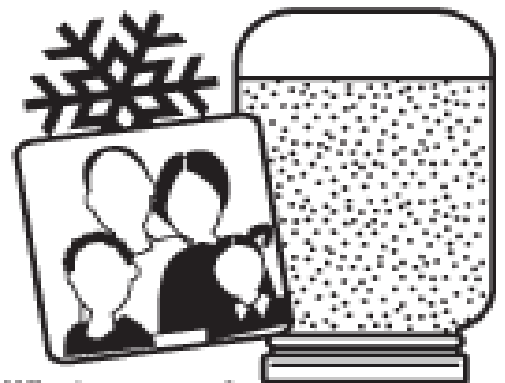
16 15 7 25 19 8 23 2 8 22 19 2 23 26 19 6 23 10 19 6.

Who is this person? _____

Answers: Moses

LET IT snow!

Create a winter wonderland with this fun craft.



What you need:

- Glass jar with lid but no label
- Laminated photo (that will fit in the jar)
- Small plastic Christmas trinkets
- Hot or waterproof glue
- Container with spout
- 1 cup distilled water
- 3 tsp. glycerin
- Glitter



What you do:

1. Unscrew lid and flip jar upside down. Glue the photo and trinkets to the inside of the lid, standing upright.
2. In a container, mix water and glycerin. Pour the mixture into the jar, leaving space at the top.
3. Spoon in some glitter.
4. When glue is dry, attach the decorated lid tightly. Shake the jar to see "snow" swirl and settle.

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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Reisterstown, MD 21136
Phone: 410-833-5440
Fax: 410-526-6838
Pastor Jen Eschliman
E-mail: pastorjeneschliman@gmail.com
Office Email: RUMCOffice1777@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.rumweb.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ReisterstownUnitedMethodistsChurch>



SUNDAY SERVICES UNTIL WE ARE BACK WORSHIPING TOGETHER:

CALLERS:

HOW TO JOIN IN:

Topic: Sunday Worship Time: 10:00 am Sundays

Zoom Meeting [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84433257385?
pwd=UTBSUjZsWk9CdGZuRIE0WjZKWmxSQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84433257385?pwd=UTBSUjZsWk9CdGZuRIE0WjZKWmxSQT09)

Meeting ID: 844 3325 7385

Password: 347846

Dial by your location +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 844 3325 7385