



# OUR CHURCH MATTERS

ISSUE NUMBER 2

REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2012

**J**esus calls us - not to the FOLLOW the crowd, but rather to follow Him. Our willingness to walk with Him will make all the difference. Join us in worship as we embark on the journey with Jesus.

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There are many, like the road to riches, the pathway to enlightenment, easy street, partying down the highway to hell, and best of all, the stairway to heaven.

The season of Lent is a great time to reflect and evaluate our lives

and to ask those hard questions like 'Which road will I take?'

Jesus makes it very clear that there are only two roads you can take, one that leads to destruction and one that leads to life. And it is also clear that the narrow path is the road that is less traveled. Every day you actually choose which road you are going to take, the road of our modern day society or will you take the road of Jesus.

Following Jesus is not just believing, it is choosing to take a life journey with him,

following wherever he leads and doing whatever he asks. This is called discipleship. To follow Jesus is counter to our modern day cultural, daring to be different from the world around us. When we follow Jesus, our friends, neighbors, and even strangers may think that we are in some way different. It is the way of Jesus that makes real and lasting changes in this world, bringing peace and life to people.

This is how can we know for sure that we are on the right road? When we are following Jesus we will do the same things that Jesus did while here on the earth. Jesus found himself reaching out to those who were the least, lost and lowly, helping those who were struggling, correcting those who became too pious, and forgiving those who needed a second chance. This road is not an easy one for sure, but it is a rewarding one. And even though

His road might seem hard, God has prepared us for this journey so we can find purpose and fulfillment, and eternal joy.

Blessings,

+Steve

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## Memorials



In Memory of: **Mathew Belt**  
 For: Memorial Fund  
 Given By: Barbara & George Belt

### RUMC CEMETERY:

If you placed Christmas arrangements in the Cemetery and wish to save them, please **remove them by March 1<sup>st</sup>**. We will be doing a Cemetery cleanup in March (weather permitting) for Spring.







### Chili Cook-Off:

*The Chili Cook-off* returns by popular demand on **Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at **11:30 am** following worship.

There will be some modifications in the format. Chili chefs are encouraged to sign-up early whether you are a new or returning entrant. The **Men's Fellowship** is proud to sponsor this fun gathering. This is a great way to warm your insides on a cold day during the middle of winter. Registration forms will be available soon.



### February Special Birthdays:

-  2/4 – **Mary Reed**, 83 yrs., 3400 Halcyon Rd, Stevenson, MD 21153
-  2-16 – **Tracey Huster**, 93 yrs, 5020 Roller Rd, Manchester, MD 21102-2245
-  2-25 – **Edythe Hastings**, 87, 300 Salony Dr. #305, Reisterstown, MD 21136
-  2-27 – Edith Fisher, 99, Carroll Lutheran Village Health Care Unit, 200 St. Luke Circle, Westminster, MD 21158



## Happy Birthday, RUMC

**235 Years on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Anniversary Parties - February 5<sup>th</sup>**

Do you know how many crosses there are on the outside of our main and Youth buildings? Each Sunday in February come and learn some interesting things about RUMC in brief messages. You will get an answer to this question on February 12<sup>th</sup>. How close will you be?

There will be plenty of time to get ready for the Super Bowl so **join us after each service for an Anniversary Party with light refreshments.** There will be memorabilia you might not have seen before and several picture albums which will bring back many memories and show how RUMC has progressed through the years.

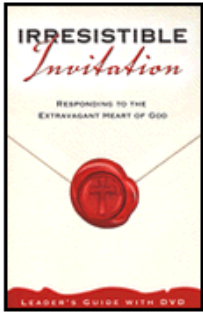
**Book Club** will meet in the church library on **Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** We are reading Winter Garden by Kristen Hannah. This novel tells the story of a family reuniting when the father becomes ill. It explores the bonds between a mother and her daughters and the links between the present and the past. As always, we extend an invitation to anyone who likes to read and discuss books. We are not scary. *Cindy*



<p style="text-align: center;">OUR CHURCH MATTERS          NEWSLETTER OF REISTERSTOWN UNITED          METHODIST CHURCH          PASTOR  <b>REV. STEVEN T. COCHRAN</b>          NEWSLETTER STAFF  <b>Office Administrator</b>, Irene May Catlin  <b>Newsletter Editor</b>, Deby Brooking  <b>Office Volunteers</b>; Pat Dinsmore, Carol Hoffman,          Gae Ray, Cindy Smith, Barb Kehne &amp; Marion Yohn  <b>Collators</b>; Peggy Eline, Helen Fair, Mary Jane Huffman  <b>RUMC e-Mail</b>: <a href="mailto:irene.catlin4@gmail.com">irene.catlin4@gmail.com</a>  <b>RUMC Web Site</b>: <a href="http://rumcweb.org">rumcweb.org</a>  <b>Office Phone</b>: 410-833-5440 – Fax: 410-526-6838</p>
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**Mark Your Calendar:** Submissions for the *March Newsletter* are due by **10 a.m. on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**. E-mail your articles to [rumcoffice@rumcweb.org](mailto:rumcoffice@rumcweb.org) or deposit them in the Newsletter mailbox.

## Irresistible Invitation - Responding to the Extravagant Heart of God



Did you get a chance to read "Irresistible Invitation - Responding to the Extravagant Heart of God"? Did you just run out of time during Advent? Maybe you wished you could have discussed the book with others. Well, now is your

chance. Pat Botelle will lead a discussion of "Irresistible Invitation" during Lent. The group will meet on **Thursday mornings (10:00 am to 11:30 am)** starting **March 1<sup>st</sup>** and go until **April 5<sup>th</sup>**.

One of our members has offered her home for our use, depending on the number who sign up. If you are interested in joining the discussion, please contact Pat at [pat\\_botelle@yahoo.com](mailto:pat_botelle@yahoo.com) or contact the church office by **February 26<sup>th</sup>**. If you didn't get a copy of the book during Advent, don't worry, **there are still some copies available.**



The Health Ministry Team has **cookbooks and gift baskets for sale!** See Tracy Tambaoan or Kelly Fairhurst to get your copy!.....

**We are still collecting dental kits for Mission of Mercy.** Would you please bring in any of the following: (new please) floss, toothbrushes, mouthwash, and toothpaste. (trial sizes are fine) We will have a box in the Narthex for you to place them in! If you know of any local dentists who may want to make a donation of any of these items, we'd appreciate that connection as well! **THANK YOU!**

In His Service,  
*Tracy Tambaoan, RN, BSN, Parish Nurse, RUMC*

## Put on your dancing shoes!!

The Health Ministry Team at RUMC is sponsoring

### Line Dancing



Instructor, Shirley Duncan (Jazz and R&B)

**When:** Fridays, 7pm - 8:30pm  
**Beginning 2/10/12**  
We will have 7 sessions\*\*.  
Last class is March 23.

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**Cost:** \$49 for 7 sessions

**Who:** You!! All are welcome.  
No partners necessary.

Please see Kelly Fairhurst to sign-up. You can call or e-mail.

410-356-8695; [kellysue1966@comcast.net](mailto:kellysue1966@comcast.net)

**Checks can be made out to RUMC with "Line Dancing" on memo line.**

\*\*in the event of inclement weather, we will make every effort to reschedule.

## Men's Fellowship Messages:



Thank You!



The next **Men's Fellowship monthly breakfast** will be held on **Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 8 am** at *Ascension Episcopal Church*, 243 North Court St. in Westminster, MD. All men are invited to indulge in this hearty breakfast and participate in the lively discussions that follow. A carpool will leave from the RUMC parking lot at 7:45 am.

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This month, the **Men's Fellowship Study Group** is exploring *The Revelation*, the last book of the bible. The metaphors in this scripture make this one of the most challenging books to understand. The study group meets weekly on **Wednesday evenings, 7 pm in 308**. All men are invited to participate. A new study will begin in March.

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The **Men's Fellowship Great Annual Chili Cook-off** will be held on **February 12<sup>th</sup>** shortly following the worship service. There are four categories of scrumptious chili that will be offered and judged. A hearty chili meal with accompaniments will be provided for all and hot dogs for the kids. The contest will be judged by popular vote of the guests. Chefs should have their entry forms returned by the **February 5<sup>th</sup> deadline** to **Brandon Elsroad** or the church office. Free will donations will be accepted to defray costs and the profit will be *tithed* to the church. Come one and all to enjoy.

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Coming on *Saturday, March 3*, the **Men's Fellowship Winter Retreat** will be held from **8:30 am. – 3 pm** at Pleasant Grove UMC. Luncheon will be included. The topic for the retreat is **Final Words From the Cross** which is based on the study by Adam Hamilton. This will be followed by a weekly study during Lent for men at RUMC on *Wednesday evenings @ 7 pm*. All men are encouraged to take part in the retreat and the study.

♥ A special note of thanks straight from my heart. Thank you for the gift cards and the food. Happy New Year to all of you. *Asia Mapp*

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The Preschool is now accepting applications for the Fall for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. For more information, contact Jill Fell, 410-998-9710.

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### Gift Cards:

RUMW thanks all of you who purchased Gift Cards during 2011. We made a profit of **almost \$3,500** that we donated to our Mission projects.

Gift cards can be used to purchase groceries (Giant and Safeway) just like you would a credit card. Several of our members purchase \$200 - \$500 a month to buy groceries for their families. *We make a percentage of every card that we sell and they get the full value.* So every time they buy a card, they make a donation to RUMW. It is one of the easiest fundraisers an organization can do to raise money for projects. Other members purchase Walmart and Target cards to buy necessary items for their family. They get the full value and we make a profit. Many members purchase gift cards to eat out or buy carry out and take it home - Subway, KFC, Applebees and (now in Owings Mills) Olive Garden. Everyone who drives should purchase gift cards to buy gasoline. We have many to choose from like WAWA.

**All you have to do is fill out the form and turn it in on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.**

When you have to spend money, why not use a gift card and donate to Missions at the same time?

Co-Chairs for RUMW gift card sales are Tammy Nash 410-239-8394 and Lois Burton 410-833-5489. The due date for February is Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>!

# WELCOME

## Welcome New Members!

Please welcome New Members who joined the Church on January 29, 2012.

- **Mark and Monica Butler**
- **Spencer and Heather Folau**
- **Dave and Kay Shaeffer**
- **Al and Brenda Soskin**
- **Scott Stewart**
- **Kate Strom**

As they wear their new name tags, please wear yours so we all get know each other as part of the family at Reisterstown United Methodist Church. If you can't find your name tag or need to have one created, please contact Irene Catlin at the church office, phone number 410-833-5440 ext 3.

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## "What do I need to know to be a Greeter, an Usher and Welcome Center Volunteer?"



Are we ready to practice "Radical Hospitality?" How can we do this? The church always needs volunteers as greeters, ushers, and helpful hands. Here is your

chance to assist others who come to RUMC.

On **Sunday, March 4, at 11:30**, a short training session will be held to answer questions about being a servant in our Worship setting. **Sign-up on the clip boards or at the Welcome Center beginning in February** so that we know you are coming. We will have current ushers, greeters and a schedule for the Welcome Center so that many volunteers will make this an easy way to serve our Church.

Thank you,

*Kathleen Goebel*  
Evangelism/Welcoming Committee Chair

## The Relevance of Rock

by Matthew Surber

For those of you who were aware, the youth group spent this past weekend (Jan 20-22nd) in Ocean City, Maryland for the annual Rock retreat.

This ministry of the Baltimore-Washington Conference hosted 7,000 people, many of who were high school and middle aged youth. While the messages expressed by the guest speaker Steve Fitzhugh were certainly aimed at that age range and life stage, the adults in attendance heard just as much spoken directly to them.

Steve Fitzhugh was a Denver Bronco for some time and found a way to successfully intertwine his spirituality with his profession. That message alone is one that resonates with so many adults as the struggle to maintain balance between the two can be overwhelming.

We often have workplaces where we don't want to create waves or draw too much attention to ourselves, but the truth of our spirituality is one that can't be ignored in the way we relate to those around us.

This ties into one of Steve's other points, the idea of choices. At each step of journey we have the ability to continue onward, or step aside. The challenge is perseverance. It's a business buzz word to be sure, but it also speaks to the way God calls us to continually walking farther into our faith.

In the first chapter of his letter to James, Paul writes

*<sup>2</sup>Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,  
whenever you face trials of many kinds,  
<sup>3</sup>because you know that the testing of your faith  
produces perseverance.'*

And finally, Steve's message was one of hope. Hope that no matter where we end up, through good or bad choices, that Christ will always lead us back to the cross should we choose to follow.

While these are certainly messages our young people need to hear, there is as much truth in them for adults. God calls us to live out our faith where we are, to persevere in times of struggle, and to know that we can never fall too far for Him to pick us back up again.



**REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Steven T. Cochran, Pastor**

**246 Main Street**

**Reisterstown, MD 21136**

Return Service Requested

To God Be the Glory for the great things he hath done!

It is an honor and a joy to extend greetings to the members and officers of Reisterstown United Methodist Church. Words cannot describe the warm hospitality and love, my family and I have received since our arrival in November. From the Welcome Reception to the holiday expressions of love, we thank you. To Rev. Steve Cochran and Minister Matthew Surber, it is a blessing to join you in ministry to the RUMC family and the greater community, as we partner to be the “hands and feet” of Christ.

In my brief time with you as Minister of Visitation, I have learned that the favorite hymn among our seniors is “How Great Thou Art” and the favorite Scripture is Psalm 23. These are just a couple of the things shared during my visit with them either in their homes, nursing facilities and/or rehabilitations centers. Each visit provided unique moments of insight and knowledge of their contributions to the RUMC community.

I will be sharing more about our seniors and the wonderful gifts they possess in the months to come. Thank you to the members of RUMC for your ministry to our seniors by your calls, your cards and your visits. Members interested in partnering with me in ministry to our seniors, are asked to please contact me @ 443-415-8906 or look for upcoming information on the Care Team.

Last, but truly not least, I invite you to join me during our 2012 Lenten Season as we begin our Lenten Prayer Services on Wed., February 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30p.m. – 7 p.m. Services will be held weekly, as we come together in prayer to seek God’s guidance during this Lenten Season.

May God richly bless you and keep you.  
Pastor Brenda Lewis

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