

**December 15, 2024**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**

**Welcome to our worship service!** Please silence your cell phone; covered beverages are allowed in the Sanctuary. Congregational responses on the screen are in bold print. \*Please stand if you are able.

**8:45 Service**

GREETING / ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Mark Self & Lee Aldrich

PRELUDE *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Henry R. Mann

\*OPENING HYMN *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* (240)

PRAYER Morning / Silent / Lord's Prayer Cindy Beel-Bates

\*GLORY TO THE FATHER (70)

OFFERING / BREAD PAN: Advent Conspiracy Project - Worldwide Mobility

MUSIC: *He is Born/Carol of the Bells* Hand Bells acc. by John Dibble

\*DOXOLOGY (95)

\*HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (230)

SCRIPTURE Cindy Beel-Bates  
Luke 1:35-38; Matthew 1:18-25 (pgs 932, 877)

MESSAGE "Hidden Christmas 3 – Mary & Joseph" Pastor Anna Moon

\*CLOSING HYMN *Angels from the Realms of Glory* (220)

\*BLEST BE THE TIE / SEND US INTO THE WORLD / AMEN

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* Paul Manz

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**11:00 Service**

GREETING / ANNOUNCEMENTS / PRAYER

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE Valerie Northcutt & Grandsons

\*OPENING SONGS

PRAYER Morning / Silent / Lord's Prayer

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Barb Crowder  
*Children ages 4 yrs to 5<sup>th</sup> grade leave for JAMS (Jesus and Me Sunday)†*

OFFERING / BREAD PAN: Advent Conspiracy Project - Worldwide Mobility

OFFERING SONG: *Mary Did You Know* Katie Bird, Brandon Teunissen

SCRIPTURE Valerie Northcutt  
Luke 1:35-38; Matthew 1:18-25 (pgs 932, 877)

MESSAGE "Hidden Christmas 3 – Mary & Joseph" Pastor Anna Moon

CLOSING SONG / SENDING RESPONSE

\*BENEDICTION

†**JAMS** geared toward children 4 yrs to 5th grade and is a time for them to learn about Jesus through activities, games, and crafts.

**THIS WEEK AT RUMC**

**TODAY**

8:45 am Traditional worship service  
10 am Advent Study, front half of Fellowship Hall  
10 am Stained Glass Group, back half of Fellowship Hall  
11 am Contemporary worship service  
3:30 pm Christmas Caroling at Story Point, meet at 3:15 pm

**MONDAY**

6:30 pm Advent Study, Val Northcutt's House

**TUESDAY**

10 am & 6:30 pm Tai Chi, TWC  
1 pm Staff Meeting, Pastor's Office  
6:30 pm DAR Meeting, Fellowship Hall

**WEDNESDAY**

10 am Worship Design Meeting, Room 205  
6:30 pm Advent Study, Fellowship Hall  
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal  
7:30 pm Christmas Eve Dress Rehearsal

**THURSDAY**

1 pm Friends2Friends, Fellowship Hall  
6:30 pm Tai Chi, TWC  
6:30 pm SPRC Meeting, Room 205  
7 pm Girl Scout Leader Meeting, Fellowship Hall  
7 pm AA Meeting, Wesley Room

**FRIDAY**

10 am One Day Niche, Room 200  
7 pm Live Nativity Warming Station, Fellowship Hall

**NEXT SUNDAY**

8:45 am Traditional worship service  
10 am Advent Study, front half of Fellowship Hall  
11 am Contemporary worship service

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**Christmas Caroling Today** at Story Point (2885 10 Mile Rd) to sing Christmas carols to the residents today at 3:30 pm. Even if you haven't RSVP'd, come and join us anyway!

**A Nursery for those birth - 3 years old**, is staffed with trained volunteers during our 11 am service. It is not staffed at the 8:45 service but feel free to use the space and the TV to watch the service with your child(ren).

**Today's Bread Pan:** (In Honor of Pastor Ken) **Worldwide Mobility** – The Holland Plant makes special Mobility Carts for children in third world countries who have lost their feet or legs due to birth defects, disease, accidents, and land mine explosions. With a Mobility Cart a child has the opportunity to attend school; a family provider can find employment; they can go to church, the marketplace, and social gatherings; they can travel to local health centers; and their pride and dignity is restored as they are better able to interact with others. Each child Mobility Cart costs \$300 to make and ship.

**Sermon Notes**

**Where to find**

*Church Information* [rockfordumc.org](http://rockfordumc.org)  
Get church news, service times, fellowship, missions and more

*Monthly Schedule* [rockfordumc.org/calendar](http://rockfordumc.org/calendar)  
See what's going on at RUMC this month

*Live Worship/Virtual Bulletin/Attendance* [rockfordumc.org/live](http://rockfordumc.org/live)  
View live worship; download the bulletin to your mobile device or home computer; or register your in-person or virtual attendance

*Ministries for You* [rockfordumc.org/christian-education](http://rockfordumc.org/christian-education)  
Find a ministry right for you and your family

*Newsletter* [rockfordumc.org/newsletter](http://rockfordumc.org/newsletter)  
Sign up for prayer requests, weekly updates or the monthly newsletter

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**End of Year Donations** If you would like to have your year-end financial donation(s) reflected on your 2024 tax statement, be sure to have your donation into the church office by December 20 either in person or by mail; otherwise place it in the December 22 offering plate.

**From the Safety Committee** To ensure the safety of the Nursery and building, the doors by the office will stay locked on Sunday mornings.

**Staff Appreciation Gift** Pastor Anna and the church staff works hard all year to make sure the church has weekly worship services, programs and events for children and youth, and daily oversight of the church business. This is the time of year to show them how much they are appreciated. If you would like to contribute to a staff appreciation gift, please place it in the offering plate, add it to your online giving or mail it to the church office by December 20.

**Rockford's Live Nativity** will be held this Friday, December 20 in downtown Rockford at 7pm. Our Fellowship Hall will be open to the public as a warming station, serving cookies and our famous hot chocolate. We will also be singing Christmas carols. Come and join us! We will need several dozen homemade/ decorated cookies for this event. If you would like to donate a couple dozen cookies or help with serving and cleanup, please contact the church office.

**Offering Envelopes** If you have not already picked up your offering envelopes for 2025, they are available in the worship entrance. If you can help someone out by delivering their envelopes, please feel free to do so.

**Rockford UMC Cookbook** We are putting together a church cookbook. We are asking for your favorite recipes to be submitted. You can fill out the recipe form (found in the worship entrance) or submit to [rockfordumcrecipes@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordumcrecipes@gmail.com).

### Finance Update through December 8, 2024

You are encouraged to give either through US mail or via the website [rockfordumc.org/online-giving](http://rockfordumc.org/online-giving). Thank you for your continued support!

Gifts & Offerings	Operating Fund	Building Needs
Year to Date Needed:	\$413,520.00	\$68,304.00
Year to Date Received:	\$380,014.46	\$70,887.41
Bread Pan: Next Generation Ministries: \$289.65		
Weekly Attendance	<u>8:45 am/online</u>	<u>11 am/online</u>
December 1	110/7	52/3
December 8	107/19	49/2

## PRAYER CONCERNS – December 15, 2024

At RUMC, we know prayer works. Please contact the church office with prayer concerns. Thank you for your commitment to prayer.

### New Prayer Concerns

**Krissy**, has a growth on her spine and breast, and also has bone cancer; she doesn't want treatment at this time and hoping for a miracle. Friend of Kim Vitacco.

**Rob Schaap**, hospitalized in need of a quadruple bypass, but his lungs won't support the operation. Friend of Alan & Val Northcutt and grandfather of Dylan Northcutt

### Continuing Prayer Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Rey Robinson, Dan Kusenda, Josiah, Bonnie Velazquez, Nancy Jensen, Dan Lomonaco, Janis Parker and Lynne Harms.

### Serving Next Week, December 22

Prayer /Scripture:

8:45: Motu Johnston - Prayer, Pete Darling - Scripture

11:00: Abby Teunissen - Scripture

Greeters:

8:45: Jill Mackie, Marilyn Palmer

11:00: Jim & Mary Penrod

Ushers:

8:45: Kathryn Ricker, Pam Wolven

11:00: Mike & Lisa Freiburger

### Christmas Schedule

**Tuesday, December 24 - Wednesday, January 1, 2025:**

Church office will be closed. Church building closed except for worship services. If you have a pastoral need, please text or call Pastor Anna at 586-322-8055.

**Tuesday, December 24:**

**7 pm:** Family friendly Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**11 pm:** Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

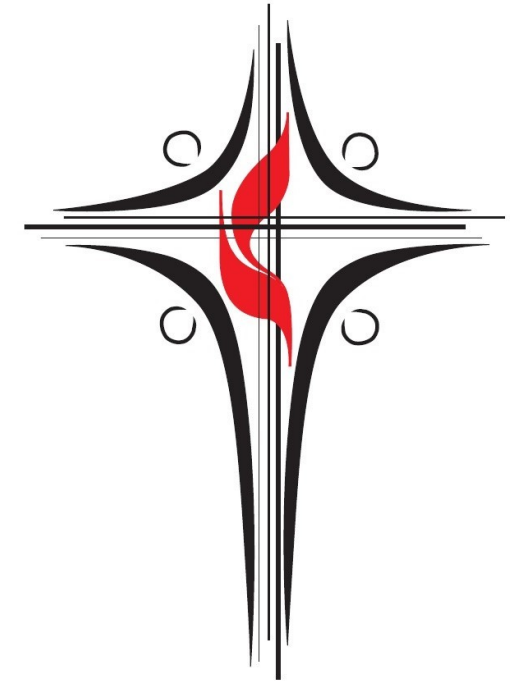
**Sunday, December 29:**

**8:45 am:** Traditional worship service

**11 am:** Contemporary worship service

**Thursday, January 2:**

Church office and building will be open.



# Rockford

## United Methodist Church

*A welcoming family of worship growing in our faith, reaching out to serve others and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ*

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Wi-Fi password  
welcomefriends



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