

Epiphany
January 04, 2026

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 / PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Greensleeves (What Child is This)* Richard Purvis

*OPENING HYMN *The First Noel (245)*

PRAYER Morning / Silent / Apostles' Creed (881) Jacque Melin

*GLORY TO THE FATHER (70)

OFFERING / BREAD PAN: Pastor Dexter Ceballus, Mongolia Missionary

Music: *Still, Still, Still* Paul Manz

*DOXOLOGY (95)

*HYMN *We Three Kings (254)*

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-6 (p. 877) Jacque Melin

MESSAGE "Follow the Star" Pastor Anna Moon

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Music: *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Robert Hebble

*CLOSING HYMN *What Child is This (219)*

*SENDING RESPONSE

Blest Be the Tie that Binds (557 vs.1), followed by *Send Us into the World*

*CONGREGATIONAL AMEN No. 898

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Noël Écossais* Alexandre Guilmant

11:00 Service

GREETING / PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING SONGS

PRAYER Morning / Silent / Apostles' Creed (881)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Abby Teunissen

Children ages 4 yrs to 5th grade leave for JAMS (Jesus and Me Sunday)†

OFFERING / BREAD PAN: Pastor Dexter Ceballus, Mongolia Missionary

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-6 (p. 877) Lorraine DeBaptiste

MESSAGE "Follow the Star" Pastor Anna Moon

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*CLOSING SONG

*SENDING RESPONSE

Blest Be the Tie that Binds (No. 557 vs. 1), *Send Us into the World*

*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.

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).

THIS WEEK AT RUMC

TODAY

8:45 am Traditional worship service

10 am Stained Glass Group

11 am Contemporary worship service

12:00 pm Unhanging of the Greens

12:15 pm ASP Info Meeting, Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY

10 am Tai Chi

3:00 pm Staff Meeting

6:30 pm Tai Chi

7:00 pm Hand2Hand Packing

WEDNESDAY

10:00 am Worship Design Meeting, Room 205

6:30 pm Hand Bell Rehearsal

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

1:00 pm Amity Circle

6:30 pm Tai Chi

6:30 pm Education Meeting, Room 205

7 pm AA Meeting, Wesley Room

SATURDAY

8:30 am RUMC Men's Group

NEXT SUNDAY

8:45 am Traditional worship service

10 am Stained Glass Group

11 am Contemporary worship service

Unhanging of the Greens will take place **TODAY** after second service. Please plan to stay after (or return) to help put away Christmas decorations. Many hands will make light work!

ASP Informational Meeting If you are interested in the Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip, plan to attend the informational meeting **TODAY** at 12:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The trip will be June 13-20, 2026. Students must be at least 13 to participate.

Hand2Hand Food Bag Packing on Tuesday, January 6, from 6:30 - 7:30 pm at Rockford Reformed Church (4890 11 Mile Rd). The more the merrier and the less time it takes to pack the bags!

Today's Bread Pan: **Pastor Dexter F. Ceballus** serves as the country director of the United Methodist Mission in Mongolia. The Mongolia Mission Initiative, where Dexter is assigned, continues to progress steadily, especially in the areas of congregational and leadership development, Christian education and social ministries. One of Dexter's responsibilities is to teach Wesleyan studies at Mongolia Trinity Bible College, where most of the country's future UMC pastors are trained.

Sermon Notes

Where to find

Church Information rockfordumc.org

Get church news, service times, fellowship, missions and more

Monthly Schedule rockfordumc.org/events

See what's going on at RUMC this month

Live Worship/Virtual Bulletin/Attendance rockfordumc.org/watch

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/ministries

Find a ministry right for you and your family

Newsletter rockfordumc.org/connect-with-us

Sign up for prayer requests, weekly updates or the monthly newsletter



Announcements & Upcoming Events

RUMC Leadership Planning Retreat on Saturday, January 31, from 9 am -12:30 pm. All committee/team chairs and members are invited to join to learn, brainstorm, and plan together for 2026. We will also have a training session with Kevin Sweeney. All greeters and ushers are highly encouraged to come.

Community Blood Drive on Wednesday, January 14, there will be a blood drive from noon - 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Beginning in February, there will be blood drives each month on the first Wednesday. All attempting donors with a valid email receive a \$25 e-gift card. Sign up: https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11629937

Greeting Card Fronts are being collected in the worship entrance. Later in the year, they will be used to create cards for our veterans.

Worship Leader Needed Rockford UMC is looking for a contemporary service worship leader to lead and grow with our praise team. A more detailed job description is posted on our church website. Please share this information with a worshiper with experience leading worship teams so they can apply. Please pray as we search for a worship leader for our contemporary service. Thank you all!

The Care Ministry Team is looking for a pool of drivers to rotate giving rides to someone from church who attends the 8:45 service. If you can help, please contact Kathryn Ricker.

Reminder for Online Givers, or those planning to give online, beginning January 1, 2026 we will be using a new company (Stripe) to process our online giving. You will need to sign-up to give with the new company and stop your giving with the old company (Vanco). Please visit rockfordumc.org and click on the **Give** button. There, scroll down and you will find two red buttons. The **Giving 2** button is for current giving where you can cancel the old transaction(s). Click on **Online Giving** to sign up for the new company where you will need to create a username and password.

Finance Update through Dec. 28

You are encouraged to give either through US mail or via the website rockfordumc.org/give/. Thank you for your continued support!

Gifts & Offerings	<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Building Needs</u>
Year to Date Needed:	\$471,488.00	has received
Year to Date Received:	\$459,858.09	\$82,511.22 so far.
Thanksgiving Received	\$21,275.00	

Bread Pan: North Kent Connect: \$1,173.78 (Christmas Eve)
Limb Kind Foundation: \$435.78

Weekly Attendance	<u>8:45 am/online</u>	<u>11 am/online</u>
Dec. 21	99/18	51/4
Dec 24	150 (7 pm)	58 (11 pm)
Dec. 28	81/12	41/2

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

PRAYER CONCERNS – January 4, 2026

New Prayer Concerns

For those who have lost loved ones, prayers of comfort and peace.

Marilyn “Lynne” Williams passed away on December 18. A private ceremony was held per her wishes.

Barbie Dibble and family, death of her sister, Meredith Winchel, on New Year’s Day.

Prayer Updates

Rob Miller, his new oncologist ordered more testing, friend of Al & Val Northcutt.

Continuing Concerns

Please keep the following in your prayers: Lori Burnette, Gerry Hockstra, Diane VanHekken, Joyce Cantlon, Diane Griffiths, Doug DeVries, Cindy Presler, George Mayhak and Nancy Jensen.

Serving Next Week, January 11

Prayer /Scripture:

8:45 am: Jackie Decker - Prayer & Scripture

11:00 am: Jim Larson - Scripture

Greeters:

8:45 am: Jill Mackie & Marilyn Palmer

11:00 am: Julie Roach

Ushers:

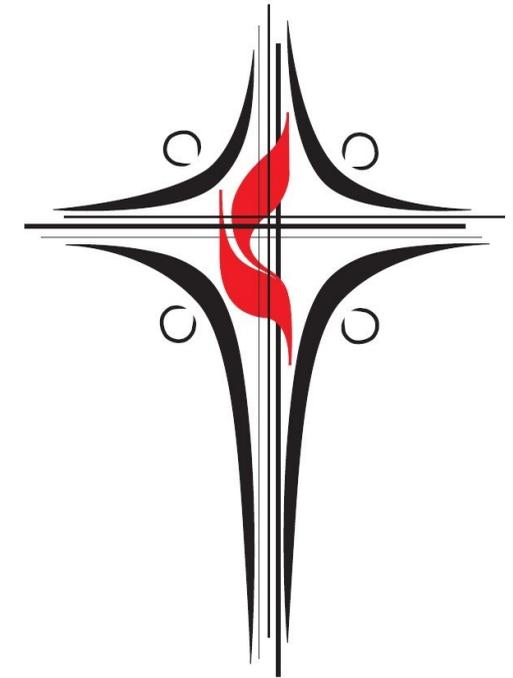
8:45 am: Craig & Susan Witte

11:00 am: Jim & Mary Penrod

2026 Offering Envelopes are available to be picked up in the worship entrance. Let’s try to have all envelopes picked up by mid-January!!

Bottle/can deposits for Pastor’s Discretionary Fund - If you would like to turn in your **rinsed** bottles and cans to the barrel in the Community Room (closet across from the Fellowship Hall), we will turn them in and the deposit money will go in the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. This fund is used to help individuals in need of financial assistance for utility payments, food or gas money.

Your Attendance Counts! Please print clearly the first and last names of each attendee on the attendance pads. Thank you!!



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



Find us on

