



News From the ROCK ...

"To make disciples for Jesus Christ by
proclaiming God's Good News
and by providing a community for
spiritual growth"



Rockbrook United Methodist Church
9855 W. Center Rd
Omaha, NE 68124
Phone: 402-393-1015
Fax: 402-955-1434
E-mail: churchoffice@rockbrookumc.com
www.rockbrookumc.com





Thank you once again
to all our Rockbrook
Sewers! Barb Dinges
collected & mailed off
approximately **64** children's
gowns & outfits this past month
through our partnership with
Midwest Missions to share
around the world! Great job
ladies! If you would like to join
this group of sewers, please
contact Barb Dinges.

All patterns, material & supplies
provided!

You just need a sewing machine!



The Red Cross collected 9 units of whole
blood at the August 6th Bloodmobile visit
to Rockbrook United Methodist Church.
A big Thank You goes to each of those
donors who stepped forward and gave
the Gift of Life! 

There were 2 first-time donors!
Linda Stroud 



Rockbrook United Methodist Church NEWS FROM THE ROCK...

Message from the Pastor...

September 2023

For the last week, the road I take to get to work has had a sheriff pulled off into a culvert waiting to stop someone for speeding. Right after the sheriff, there is a house that has lots of pumpkins out front. Clearly the occupants of the house are waiting for fall. Waiting. We wait a lot. We wait at a stop light. We wait for the train to cross the track. We wait for our partner to get home from work. We wait on our food to be done. We wait for the coffee to be brewed. And we are waiting for Jesus to return. There is a lot of waiting. What do we do in the liminal space?

We live our lives. We work. We spend time with those we love. We play. We go to church. And hopefully we help our neighbors. Fall is when church ramps up. Summer church is over. All the Sunday school classes start back up. Choir and Bells begin practicing again. Worship committee plans for the fall and the Advent season. Finance starts to create a budget for the next year and a stewardship campaign committee is formed. Nominations Committee starts to look at who can fill different spots on the church's committees. It is a time filled with hope, nervousness and waiting. Finance waits for the different committees to turn in their budgets and then waits for the pledge cards to come in so a budget can be created. Nominations waits for people to return emails or phone calls. Waiting!

This fall, I challenge us to think about how we feel in the waiting. How does waiting make your body feel? Does your blood pressure rise? Does your heart beat fast? Do your fingers tap and legs shake? How does waiting make your mind feel? Does your mind ruminate? Do you mindlessly daydream or figure out ways to stay busy? How does waiting for God affect your world? Are you filled with trepidation? Are you anxious or are you peaceful? Waiting is part of being human, however it is how we spend our time waiting---we actively wait. We do! We act! We seek the last, lost, and lowest.

In the waiting, I also want us to think about how we would describe Rockbrook in three words. I want you to think about one thing (an activity, a study, a program, etc) that you wish Rockbrook offered. Finally, I want you to consider one thing you could do for Rockbrook to make it the best church in the neighborhood.

I continue to pray for y'all every day. I am praying for cooler weather. I am praying that the Holy Spirit moves us to be the people that Jesus wanted us to be.

Peace+ Pastor Marcee



Thank you

for getting us closer to a cure!

07/24/2023

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$150.00 to the National MS Society, on 07/11/2023 to Walk MS: Nebraska 2023. I hope you know just how deeply your support is appreciated — and more importantly, the difference it's going to make for people living with MS.

Your gift will fund essential research, advocacy and services, including our highly skilled MS Navigators who connect people living with MS and those around them to the information and resources they need. Plus, you'll help advance research aimed at curing MS. Your impact will change lives and change the world:

- **You help power discoveries** so people with MS can get back what has been taken away.
- **You help ensure the voices of those with MS are heard**, to drive change at all levels of government.
- **You help bring the world together to cure MS for every single person** — as quickly as possible.

Thanks to your generosity, we are one step closer to a world free of MS, and for that I am forever grateful.

Sincerely,

Tami Caesar
Chief Operating Officer

Dear Pastor Marcee &
RUMC congregation,

Thank you for the
"Hero Activity Book" for
Lucas and the children's
bible for Samuel. We were
excited to have Samuel
baptized at RUMC and are
happy to have made it our
home church.

Love,
Kevin, Sara, Samuel & Lucas
Bisanz



News From the ROCK ...

Thank you's from the Micah Corp Interns!



Dear members of the congregation of Rockbrook United Methodist Church,

I am writing to express my deep gratitude for your amazing support, your kindness and your presence with our community. The dedication to your congregation is truly inspiring in so many ways and just to see you practice the acts of Mercy within your community was truly a wonderful experience. Thank you for making it easy for us to present to you and share the stories that were on our hearts; your collective efforts to welcome us and give us a great farewell was very special to us and because of that we are grateful for you all. Thank you again and may you always continue to thrive and may you always find joy in your shared journeys in Christ.

God bless you all!

TATENDA



Now that I am back to school and start to reminisce about the incredible summer spent with you all, I can only send my thanks and tell you how appreciative I am for the time spent with you. Thank you for everything: the support, the love, and the gifts you shared with us/me. Also, thank you very much for the words, wishes, prayers and money found in the cards; they really helped!

May God bless you Rockbrook UMC, see ya! Joseph Kasongo

Dear Rockbrook UMC,

We cannot express enough gratitude for the support, the Community, the guidance, the warmth and the love you all shared with us throughout the summer.

Though our gratitude is expressed in these few words, our hearts and lives have been impacted by your love and we appreciate it. We will surely miss you. Warm regards, Aabiskar



Save the Date!
September 24, 2023

Celebrate Barb Gresham's 30 years of service at the Pearl Pantry Ministries!

1:00pm Luncheon (RSVP to Teresa by 9-15-23)
Tri-Community UMC 6001 Fontenelle Ave. Omaha



News From the ROCK ...

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:30-8:30p One For All Musical Theater (FH)	2 NO Sq. Dancing Dancing!
3 Luau Sunday! 9:30am Worship Service, Live Streaming (S) NO Sunday School (Children, Youth & Adult)	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed!	5 7:00p Sq. Dancers (FH)	6 6:45p Bell Choir (BR) 7:30p Choir Practice (S)	7 7:00p Sq. Dance Lessons (FH)	8 6:30-8:30p One For All Musical Theater (FH)	9
10 8:30am Worship Service (S) 9:30a Sunday School (Children, Youth & Adult) 10:45a Worship Service (S), Live Streaming	11 7:00p Finance Mtg. (FR)	12 11:00a DAR Mtg. (FH) 7:00p Sq. Dancing (FH)	13 1:30p UWF Monthly Mtg. (FR) 6:45p Bell Choir (BR) 7:30p Choir Practice (S)	14 7:00 NO Sq. Dancing	15 6:30-8:30p One For All Musical Theater (FH)	16 10:00a All for One Theater Auditions (FH) NO Sq. Dancing
17 UWF Sunday! Special Guest - Rev. Stephanie Ahlschwede - District Superintendent 8:30am Worship Service (S) 9:30a Sunday School (Children, Youth & Adult) 10:45a Worship Service (S), Live Streaming	18	19 7:00p Sq. Dancers (FH)	20 6:45p Bell Choir (BR) 7:30p Choir Practice (S) Newsletter articles due for October Newsletter Newsletter!	21 7:00p Sq. Dance Lessons (FH)	22 6:30-8:30p One For All Musical Theater (FH)	23
24 8:30am Worship Service (S) 9:30a Sunday School (Children, Youth & Adult) 10:45a Worship Service (S), Live Streaming 1:00p Barb Gresham's 30 yr. celebration Tri-Community Luncheon	25	26 5:00p Staff Meeting (FR) 7:00p Sq. Dancing (FH)	27 1:00p Pastor Marcee's Parlor Group (P) 2:00p Sisters (FR) 6:45p Bell Choir (BR) 7:30p Choir Practice (S)	28 7:00p Sq. Dance Lessons (FH)	29 5:00p Serve at the Stephen Center 6:30-8:30p One For All Musical Theater (FH)	30





News From the ROCK ...



August friends we remembered in prayer:

*Dave Diggs in-home rehab,
Bob Christensen,
Prayers for Ukraine & Hawaii,
All Church Congregations,
All Hospital Staff,
All First Responders &
All Military Personnel*

Volunteer to serve a meal at the Stephen Center
with our RUMC team!

Our next serving date at the
Stephen Center will be
Friday, Sept. 29th or:

* Volunteer to donate the ingredients for our
monthly meal. (Ingredient list items provided
on clipboard)

• Help prepare meal at Rockbrook

• Sign-up sheet is located in the Parlor area
next to the bulletin board on our clipboard!!

• Contact Vance Allred with any questions!!



“Sisters” Fall Study!

God the Holy Spirit

Wednesdays 2:00pm or Mondays 7pm - Zoom
Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
& Nov. 1

RSVP to the Church Office by September 17th
churchoffice@rockbrookumc.com 402.393.1015
(Materials provided!)

SEPTEMBER



9/1 Darlene Hicks
9/3 Marilee Garrison
9/7 Jenny Stilwell
9/9 Barb Reilly
9/9 Jim Phillips
9/12 Debbie Allard
9/14 Bob Christensen
9/21 Lucie Ripley
9/21 Kandi Holly
9/22 Kouakou Bruce
9/24 Doug Tyser
9/25 Tyson Boellstorff
9/27 Betsy Bond
9/29 Paul Pennington
9/30 Heidi Johnson



UWF Sunday

Sept. 17th

We will only have one Service
this Sunday at 10:45 AM

Guest Speaker

Rev. Stephanie Ahlschwede

District Superintendent!

Join us!



News From the ROCK ...

September & October Church Mission Project!



Annual Coat Drive in Sept./Oct. !

*Please consider donating some new or gently
used coats or jackets for donation to Saint
Vincent de Paul. They will provide a free coat
to anyone in need! Coats & jackets may be
dropped off in the Parlor area through the
end of October!*

(Children, Men & Women's!)



NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN CHOIR!

A new season of Chancel Choir is approaching. We are hoping to gain new members to our choir and invite you to consider joining us. We sing weekly at the traditional service (10:45) and at special services during the year (Christmas Eve, Good Friday, Ash Wednesday). We rehearse on Wednesday evenings during the year beginning at 7:30. We sing a variety of musical styles and have good fellowship along the way.

Our second rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30pm!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our director, Paul Susemihl:
402.651.1760 or Paulsus@me.com.



KIDS ON THE ROCK - September 2023

Rockbrook United Methodist Church Children's Ministry

Julie Vidlak, children's ministry director

"HAPPY NEW (SUNDAY SCHOOL) YEAR!"

JOIN US SUNDAY, September 10th
for our

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Children ages 3 to 6th grade are invited
to begin our new "school year" together!

Come learn how to be students of God!



FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL will include:

- **PRAISE** TIME - worship and song
- **PRAYER** TIME - shares (thanks and/or asks) and partners (take home name)
- **BIBLE** TIME - stories and verses (students should bring their Bibles)
- **GAME AND/OR CRAFT** TIME - have fun with our lesson theme
- **LIBRARY** TIME - 1st Sunday of the month check-out opportunity
- **LARGE GROUP AND SMALL GROUP** TIME - PreK/K and older grades

EXTRA HANDS NEEDED: PreK/K teacher Juliana Ewing and Older Grades teacher Julie Vidlak each need another adult helper each week. No prep work required. Contact Julie to volunteer for this part-time opportunity! Thank you in advance!

Update from Julie -

What fun to be together again for our Backpack Blessing and Back-to-School BBQ in August! Special thanks to Heidi and Rob Hufford for their kitchen help at the BBQ. Thank you also to Dave and Kristeen Shabram for BBQ meat donations and to Marc Welander for being a great partner in ministry. I'm looking forward to restarting Sunday School September 10th, when we will learn how to be true students of God. See you Sundays!

Save these dates in December:

Children's Christmas Program Sunday, December 10, 2023 during 10:45 worship
Program Rehearsal Saturday, December 9th at 9 am and craft party at 10 am



Rockbrook United Women in Faith

- September 13** Regular monthly meeting 1:30pm (FR)
- September 17** UWF Sunday for the only Worship Service we will have this Sunday at 10:45am. (No 8:30am Worship Service)
- October 7** Participating in the Fall Festival 4pm - 6 pm



Calling all women of Rockbrook United Methodist Church!

Inviting you to mark your calendars for Wednesday, Sept. 13th at 1:30 pm! The United Women in Faith September meeting is hosting Diane Cox to share with us about her trip to Ghana and her storytelling activities at the Royal Promise School and the government school in Asikuma. Let us join together for fellowship and to hear Diane's presentation on Sept. 13th. Hope to see you there!

Call Linda Stroud (402-293-7718) if you have questions.

United Women in Faith will be leading the Sunday service on September 17th. **We will only be having one service on this Sunday, September 17th. There will be no 8:30am service.** Rockbrook UWF is excited to welcome as speaker at the 10:45 am service, Rev. Stephanie Ahlschwede, recently installed as the District Superintendent for the Elkhorn Valley East and the Missouri River Districts of the Great Plains United Methodist Conference.



Family Fall Festival

Rockbrook United
Methodist Church

9855 W Center Rd Omaha

Saturday, October 7th

4-6 pm

Free Family Fun
Everyone Welcome



Save the Date!

October 7, 2023
Saturday
4pm-6pm!

**Volunteer signup sheets are
located in the Parlor area!**



News From the

FALL FEST EVENTS

2023

SEPT. 30 **SPLIT OAK HOLLOW**
OPENING DAY
10AM - 6PM
 Admission: Kids (12 & under): \$10
 Adults: \$15
 3 and under: Free

SEPT. 30 **CRAFT/VENDOR FAIR**
10AM - 3PM
 Included with admission to Split Oak Hollow

SEPT. 30 **CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT***
12PM - 3PM
 *Requires sign-up in advance

OCT. 1 **SPLIT OAK HOLLOW AND CRAFT/VENDOR FAIR CONT.**
10AM - 6PM, 10AM - 3PM

OCT. 1 **WORSHIP SERVICE**
SPEAKER: BISHOP WILSON
3:30PM

OCT. 1 **SIT DOWN DINNER***
5PM
 *Requires purchase of ticket in advance
<https://square.link/u/pdxu4K4C>

Camp Fontanelle exists to provide people of all ages a sacred place to grow with God in all seasons while experiencing intentional Christian community in God's beautiful creation. This weekend is Camp Fontanelle's biggest fundraising event of the year. Your participation and generosity helps further the ministry of camp. If you would like to learn more about our year round ministries you can visit campfontanelle.com.



Fall Fest!

Fun for the whole family!



News From the ROCK ...

Back-Pack Blessing!



Thanks
Marc W.!

Back to School BBQ & Scavenger Hunt!

Thanks
Ms. Julie!



CAMP FONTANELLE'S SPLIT OAK HOLLOW

Outdoor movies
Campfires
Concession Stand
Fun, Fun and more fun!
Scary Maze & Scary Trail
Nighttime Zipline

The Maze at Night

Friday, October 27 and Saturday, October 28
7:00-10:00pm

Camp Fontanelle—9677 County Road 3, Fontanelle
splitoakhollow.org | campfontanelle.com | 402-478-4296

Something for everyone! Scary Maze...Yes Non-scary Maze...Yes (NEW)

CAMP FONTANELLE'S SPLIT OAK HOLLOW

Sunday, October 22

Search for Treats
2:00-4:00

Join us for fall fun while searching for treats in the maze..

\$15.00 Ages 13 & older
\$10.00 ages 4-12

No additional charge | Come prepared with a treat bag and wear a costume!

Splitoakhollow.org | campfontanelle.com
 402-478-4296 | campfontanelle@greatplainsumc.org
 Camp Fontanelle: 9677 County Road 3 | Fontanelle, NE



Crafters Needed!!

Crafters of homemade/handmade item will sign up to sell their special wears at this re-imagined Camp Fontanelle Fall Fest, Sept. 29th-Oct. 1st. Staff is seeking those who would like to reserve a table space for the craft/vendor fair part of the Fall Fest. If you, or someone you know would like to be part of the craft/vendor fair need to fill out the Google Form: <https://forms.gle/ao5bcjcgexygv2QJ7>.



PUMPKIN PATCH &

CORN MAZE AT

CAMP FONTANELLE' SPLIT OAK HOLLOW!

SEPT. 30 THROUGH OCT. 31

Open Saturdays and Sundays

We are open on weekends to the public.

Saturday Hours: 10:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday Hours: 10:00am - 6:00p

We are open during the week by reservation only. Do you want to come out with a group, school, church or business during the week? Groups may make reservations by phoning 402-478-4296. (During the week, some of the activities may not be available.) If you have a group you would like to come out during public hours, you can still phone and make special arrangements. We will work with you to be able to manage large groups on Saturdays and Sundays.
Phone for more information 402-478-4296

Special Days:

Non-Scary/Scary Maze Nights ~ Friday, Oct. 27, Saturday. Oct. 28, 7-10pm

Search for Treats in the Maze ~ Sunday, Oct. 22, 2:00-4:00pm



CAMP FONTANELLE PRESENTS
Fontanelle Fall Fest
CRAFT/VENDOR FAIR - FOOD* - CORN MAZE
PETTING BARN - PUMPKINS* - ZIP LINE*
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
Admission: \$10 Kids under 12 - \$15 Adults - Kids under 3 are free
Admission fee covers entrance to corn maze and craft/vendor fair.
Activities with an asterisk have an additional cost

SPECIAL GUESTS
BISHOP DAVID WILSON
3:30PM SUNDAY WORSHIP
BOB KAHLE, DIRECTOR OF GP CAMPING
5PM SUNDAY DINNER SPEAKER

*Dinner on Sunday evening requires purchase of ticket in advance by visiting this link: <https://square.link/u/pdxu4K4C>
Cost: \$30 per person, menu also available at the link above

9677 County Rd 3
Fontanelle, NE 68044
402-478-4296
fontanelle@greatplainsumc.org
campfontanelle.com
splitoakhollow.org

GATE OPENS
10AM - 6PM
EACH DAY
CRAFT FAIR ENDS AT 3PM EACH DAY

SEPTEMBER 30TH - OCTOBER 1ST