

# RAYMOND UMC

## CHURCH NEWSLETTER OF UPCOMING EVENTS, REMINDER AND HAPPENINGS

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Mark 15: 46

“Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

The Easter story can be summed up in just two words, love wins!

In just 24 hours Jesus was betrayed, deserted, humiliated, condemned, imprisoned, beaten, crucified, died and buried. The agony of his final day is unimaginable to us. But at the same time, if we're honest, we can see ourselves in those final hours. The times we have been ashamed of our faith, turned our backs to someone in need, or passed judgement on another person. We may not have been there on that day, but we've been there nonetheless.

The essential and life-giving truth, though is this, he hung upon that cross and was laid in that tomb not because of us, but for us. Jesus took our sins, betrayals, disobedience, and failure upon his own back. He was laid in that tomb in our place. But death did not have the last word in his story and it does not have to have the last word in our story either.

On the third day, as the women came to the tomb, they found the stone rolled away and an angel spoke these words, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, for he is risen.” Those words are the very essence of our faith. Those words are our hope.

Out of love, Jesus took our sin and death into that tomb, but on the third day he emerged victorious. His love for us defeated sin and death and his love for us means that the door to eternal life has been opened to each and every one of us.

So, this Easter, may you find joy in Jesus' resurrection and hope in Christ's promise of eternal life.

*Pastor Brandi Rigby*

Luke 24: 5

Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.”



## Calendar of Events

### Sunshine Girls:

6:30 at Helena Anderson's

April 10 & 24

May 8 & 22

### Men's Share Group:

Every Thursday 7:00pm

Location: Church Basement

### Kid's Club:

April 6 & May 11 from 3:40-6:15

### Graduation Sunday:

May 21

### RUMC Rummage Sale:

May 5 & 6

### VBS:

June 19-23 from 6:30 pm-8:35 pm

### VBS Closing Celebration:

Sunday June 25

## Safe Sanctuary:

It is time again for our annual Safe Sanctuary Training. This is a 2 hour session, that will be held on May 13th.

The updated West Ohio Conference Safe Sanctuary will be officially presented to all delegates at the June Conference Meeting. After that, churches will be updating their own individual policies to be in compliance, including our church's Faith Development Team and Covenant Council.

More details will follow later this year or early 2018.



## Children's Sunday School Class

The kids are continuing their "Candy Lessons" which include a skit with the Candy Man and Bible Lesson centered on a variety of candy. Both the kids and Linda are happy with this curriculum from Ministry Deals.

Thanks to Dick and Ginny Sparks for the new storage cupboard in our classroom. This will be used for all Sunday School kids' Bibles, Kids Club & VBS supplies, arts & crafts materials, etc...and will be for TEACHER USE ONLY!

### Kids Club Update:

We only have two more months of Kids Club remaining this school year. On April 6, the theme is "Easter" and on May 4, the theme is "Prayer". This year our Kids Club Closing Celebration will be held as a part of our May 11 gathering. This will include recognizing our 4th graders, sharing our accomplishments, a special family dinner, and more. Special invitations will be sent to all of our kids and their families. Feel free to join us for dinner at 5:30 pm on May 11. The May date was changed from original May 4th date to the 11th so that we could accommodate our RUMC Rummage Sale which will need to use basement area to organize.

This year our kids made Valentines and Easter bookmarks for those attending our Senior/Community Meals in February and April. Hopefully, this will be the beginning of a partnership with these two groups.

### Graduation Sunday:

Graduation Sunday will be May 21. Our graduates will be honored during the worship service followed by a reception hosted by the Hospitality Team. At this writing, we know of 3 graduates. If you have a graduate and have not been contacted, please contact Pastor Brandi, Sharon Parker (Hospitality) or Linda Paver (Faith Development).

### Vacation Bible School:



Our VBS theme this year is **Mighty Fortress: In Jesus the Victory is Won**. The key verse is 1 Corinthians 15:57. The lessons are: God's Might Tumbles Jericho's Walls, Good Delivers King Hezekiah's Kingdom, God's Word Reforms King Josiah, King Jesus Enters Jerusalem, and Jesus Wins the Victory.

To better accommodate the needs of our community, we have made some changes of dates and times. **Dates: June 19-23 @**

**6:30pm-8:35pm. Closing Celebration will be Sunday June 25.**

We have several folks who have committed to help, but we still need **MANY MORE HELPERS**. There will be a sign-up sheet on the clipboard at church very soon that describes our needs. We ask you to prayerfully consider where God might be calling you to help. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Linda Paver at [paver51linda@yahoo.com](mailto:paver51linda@yahoo.com)

### It's A Birthday Party & Miracle Celebration



Amber and Dan Bible invite you to celebrate Briley's 1st Birthday and Briley's Life Miracle, Saturday June 17. They want to share this special day with all who have prayed and supported them in any way since February 2016 when Briley was diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia. More details will follow. Please RSVP to Grandma Linda Paver by June 1.

**Sign up:** To receive announcements, the newsletter in full color or reminders about church calendar items.

Go to: [www.raymondumc.net](http://www.raymondumc.net) or Sign up via email or text





Our church has a walking team and Linda Paver is the team captain. To join us, visit: [www.newpathprc.com](http://www.newpathprc.com) and click on the icon.

**Hospitality Update:**

Hello everyone,

As spring hits, Hospitality is in a bit of a busy season for us. On April 8th, we will be helping Missions with the Easter Egg Hunt by providing cookies and icing for the children to decorate.

April 16th, Easter Sunday breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall around 8:30am before Sunday School. There is no fellowship after church on that day.

April 30th will be our 2nd Fifth Sunday event. This one is going to be a pie contest coupled with a children's talent show.

May 14th we will be having a special fellowship in honor of the young women and men being confirmed.

May 21st we will be having fellowship honoring our high school graduates. If we have not spoken to you already and you have a graduate, please Linda Paver or myself.

April 17th and May 15th are our next two meetings beginning at 7:00pm. If you would like to join us, please let me know and I can tell you where we will meet.

God Bless and Thank your for all you do,

Sharon Parker

**Missions Schedule:**

**April Dates:**

Missions Meeting: Monday April 3rd @ 6pm

Community & Senior Lunch: Tuesday April 11th @ Noon

Christ's Pantry: Thursday April 20th @ 6pm

**May Dates:**

Missions Meeting: Monday May 1st @ 6pm

Community & Senior Lunch: Tuesday May 9th @ Noon

Christ's Pantry: Thursday May 18th @ 6pm

**Community & Senior Lunch:**

Come join us for our Community & Senior Lunch. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at noon for lunch, fellowship, and entertainment. Bring a friend and as always there is no charge.

**Christ's Pantry:**

Christ's Pantry is the third Thursday of each month from 6-7pm. We help neighbors by providing food and personal needs items along with serving a hot meal. Thank you to all that donate your time and/or items to Christ's Pantry. Its is very much appreciated. We gratefully accept food and personal needs donations. Here are a few items we are most in need of: canned tomato soup, peanut butter, laundry detergent and shampoo. If you would like to help out with an upcoming Christ's Pantry, please contact Heather Holland for additional information.

**RUMC Easter Egg Hunt:**

Saturday April 8th @ 1:00pm. All ages up to and including 5th grade are welcome. Bring your own basket. Activities will include: cooking decorating, storytelling, prizes and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Parents do not forget your camera!

**Rummage & Bake Sale:**

RUMC will be having a rummage sale and bake sale on May 5th and 6th. Please start gathering items you would like to donate. Also, do not forget to start thinking about something yummy you might like to make for the bake sale. Rummage items can be brought to the church beginning Sunday Apr. 9th and placed in or by the Mission's room. Please consider volunteering your time to help before to set up, during sale and/or after the sale for clean up. Proceeds from the sale will got to the capital campaign and Christ's Pantry. Items not sold will be donated to Mountain Mission. Should you have any questions, talk to Heather, Jean, Pam or Mary.