

# Raymond UMC

## Church Newsletter of Upcoming Events, Reminders and Happenings

A Word from Your Pastor –

Beloved Church - Throughout Lent and Holy Week we talked of uncertainty and surrender, we reflected on releasing anything not of God that may serve as stumbling blocks to others seeking Jesus – or to our own faith journey. We asked God to help our unbelief, to calm our fears and to revive our spirits. Together we embrace the arrival of Easter Sunday bursting into our lives proclaiming hope and new life that we share with all people. Still after Easter, as resurrection people we continue to have a choice about the path that we follow in our faith.

After the Palm Sunday celebration, the crowd chose a path away from Jesus, abandoning him to his trials. The disciples stayed awhile longer but they grew tired and afraid. Their fear of consequences led to denials of Christ. How will we remain faithful? How will we grow in our commitment to Jesus and one another? We choose to follow, and we can do so joyfully – even laughing with God at times!

As Resurrection people we pray with the confidence of people that serve a risen savior. We serve with hearts and minds on divine restoration. In the Lenten Study Rev. Magrey deVega encouraged us to adopt a routine of S.O.S – Study Scripture, Others (be in community with Others that want to follow Jesus as you do, and serve others in love) and Silence (daily choose to Be Still and Know that God is God, Listen for God). (Embracing the Uncertain pages 75-56). In order to be faithful followers we must embrace spiritual disciplines like these that help keep us on the path of discipleship.

In the months ahead we will encourage one another to follow Jesus faithfully and be mindful of our steps and stumbling blocks on this path together. Join me in praying for our church as we commit to listen for God and live out our faith to glorify our risen Savior and reflect the light of God's love for all people.

In the love of Jesus Christ our Messiah -

Pastor Sara McSwords

### **Our Mission Statement:**

***Helping our neighbors meet Christ. Renewing our passion for Christ. Loving beyond our walls in the name of Christ.***



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## MISSIONS SCHEDULE:

### **April Dates:**

Missions Meeting – Monday, April 2<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.  
Community & Senior Lunch – Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> @ noon  
Christ's Pantry – Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m.

### **May Dates:**

Missions Meeting – no meeting in May  
Community & Senior Lunch – Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> @ noon  
Christ's Pantry – Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m.

### **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 – 7 p.m. We help neighbors by providing food and personal needs items and also serve a hot meal. Thank you to all that donate your time and/or items to Christ's Pantry it is very much appreciated. We gratefully accept food and personal needs donations. If you would like to help out with an upcoming Christ's Pantry please see Heather Holland for additional information.

## CALENDAR DATES:

**Kids Club:** Thursday, April 5; **Thursday, May 10** @ 3:30 – 6:15 @ the church

**Women's Circle:** Monday, April 16 @ 7:00, Monday, May 21 @ the church

**Sunshine Girls:** meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month @ 6:30 @ Helena Anderson's

**Men's Share Group:** alternate Thursdays @ 7:00 @ the church

**Faith Development Team:** Tuesday, April 3; Tuesday May 1 @ 7:00 @ the church.

**Missions Meeting:** Mon. Apr.2 @ 6:30 @ church, No May meeting

**Rummage/Bake Sale:** Fri. May 4, 9am-3pm; Sat. May 5, 9-Noon

**Rustic Reflections:** Fri. May 11, @ Time TBA

## KIDS CLUB:

KidsClub for this school year is coming to the end. Only our April and May meetings remain. **DUE TO THE CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE, THE MAY MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 10!!!** In addition to our regular activities, we will be honoring our 4<sup>th</sup> graders who will be leaving us next year as they move to Creekview Intermediate. Parents, family, and church family are invited to joins us @ 5:15 PM that night for a special closing in the sanctuary followed by a family dinner for all. We are grateful for all of your prayers and for everyone who has helped make this another wonderful Christ centered year.

## NEW YOUTH GROUP:

***OUR NEW YOUTH GROUP WILL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING ON SUNDAY APRIL 15, FROM 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM AT THE CHURCH. Pizza and pop will be provided for dinner.*** Meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month...same time...same menu. Galen Ash, Chris Eirich, Pastor Sara, and Karla Wygle will be leading the group, but additional help will always be welcome. Flyers will be given to those invited youth on Easter Sunday, April 1 or mailed if not present. Each youth will be given 2 additional flyers to share with friends. ***PLEASE PRAY FOR THE LEADERS, THE KIDS, AND ALL ASPECTS OF THIS NEW MINISTRY.***



*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





**VBS 2018:**

SPLASH CANYON will be the theme of this year’s VBS.

**Dates and Times:** June 18 – 22, 6:30 PM – 8:35 PM with Closing Celebration on Sunday, June 24 @ 10:45 AM.

We will need Adult Station Leaders and Group Leaders to help. Please contact Linda Paver if you are interested. More detail will follow very soon.

**RUMMAGE**

**SALE:**

RUMC will be having a rummage sale and bake sale on May 4<sup>th</sup> (9am – 3pm) and 5<sup>th</sup> (9am – Noon). 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, April 8<sup>th</sup> and placed in or by the Mission’s room. Please consider volunteering your time to help set up prior to the sale, during sale, and/or after the sale for clean-up. Proceeds from the sale will go to the Capital Campaign and Christ’s Pantry. Items not sold will be donated to United Methodist Mountain Mission. Should you have any questions please talk to Heather Holland, Jean Thornton, or Mary Horsley.

**KIDS/YOUTH FISHING DERBY:**

The men’s prayer group is sponsoring a fishing derby for kids and youth to take place in Marysville at Aldersgate Park on May 6, 2018 from 3-6 PM.

If you know a kid or parent that would like to come....we will have some poles provided for their use, if they don't have one. There will be prizes, along with grilled hot dogs, chips and drinks. It is a nice park to have a fun afternoon. Bring your kids and the neighbors as well out for a fun afternoon!



**MEN’S GROUP MEETINGS:**

Come and bring a friend, neighbor or anyone else that might enjoy laughter, and learning. This meeting is held on the 2nd. & 4th. Thursday of each month....come rain, shine, snow or hail. Next meeting **April 12, 2018.**

We are planning now for our Fishing Derby in May, and the Pancake Supper in April for Christ’s Pantry, which is on April 19 at 6 PM to 7 PM. We are cooking pancakes, eggs, sausage...along with coffee, juice for all who come.

**FELLOWSHIP EVENT:**

**Rustic Reflections-Save The Date** for May 11- Time TBA- Mark your calendar that we will gather for fellowship, food and fun as we create something new together. You will create and take home a new wall piece for your home! All are welcome. Cost will be around \$40. Scholarships may be available for those interested. You can visit [rusticreflectionsllc.com](http://rusticreflectionsllc.com) to see examples of the decor work that can be done.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**

**KROGER REWARDS:**

To help our Church, if you shop at Kroger and have one of the Kroger Reward cards that gives you a discount on grocery items and gas, you can go on-line and designate that you would like Kroger to donate to Raymond United Methodist Church. It is easy to sign up at Kroger.com and select Community Rewards. At this time our Church receives a check from Kroger every 3 months. The more people that do this, the more free money to help our Church.

**BOX TOP FOR EDUCATION:**

To help Raymond Elementary School, you can save the Box Top coupons that appear on a lot of grocery items. Just cut them off the box, bring them in, put them in the container that is on the table at the back of the Church (beside the basket that holds the Daily Bread devotionals). The rewards from this allows the school to purchase some really nice useful items.

