

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS 2/22/26**



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### **EASTER Groceries and EASTER BASKETS for Rochester Advocates for Children (RAC):**

It's time to gather the groceries and Easter Basket stuffers for Rochester Advocates for Children. Everything is due by March 15. Use the following link to sign up or use the paper copy in the narthex. Questions? Ask Wendy wlesko88@gmail.com

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ws0F4okE4ZHIRQOXFVrEdwbo2eEBvQEjy0cbvSy4LCs/edit?usp=sharing>

**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE:** Blanket Sunday donations will be received through Feb. \$10 buys a CWS blanket to provide warmth, shelter, and comfort to those experiencing difficult times.

**DIRECTORY:** The directory will be printed in February. Please update your information and add your photo here: <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/e6338a4b-b47d-463c-b06c-bc569b90301e/family/new> .

If you have trouble signing in, please contact [wendi.latko@gmail.com](mailto:wendi.latko@gmail.com).

**DISRUPTED:** On Sunday February 22, the Rebel Beat youth & kids begin DISRUPTED...How Jesus Changed Everything. During their Lenten journey the youth & kids will use interactive dramas, deep discussions and outreach projects to explore the radical love of Jesus and the ripple effect it still has today.

**THE CURRENT:** Youth & kid led worship experience, Feb 22 at 10:00. Theme: Water Walking

**WINE & CHEESE:** February 23rd at 6:30. Come as you are. It is optional to bring a snack/drink to share. Everyone is welcome.

**MARCH 1:** Confirmation class in Blue Couch Room 11:00-12:30.

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING: Special Event** March 3, 7pm-8:30pm. A virtual drag queen bible study with Rev. Marge Erin Spread that will take a deep dive into queer theology. What happens when Jesus crosses boundaries, tells the truth, and turns gossip into gospel? Open to ALL LGBTQIA+ and Allies. Free to attend and sponsored by the UCC Open & Affirming Coalition. Will take place in the sanctuary.

**HOT TOPICS:** will be meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of March. Our first meeting, on March 3, will be a joint program with the church's Open and Affirming Committee, a "A Deep Dive into Queer Theology" workshop, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will have our second meeting on Tuesday, March 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary at which we will discuss the workshop. For more information or to be added to the Hot Topics e-mail list, contact [richard\\_kendrick@verizon.net](mailto:richard_kendrick@verizon.net).

**FREE COMMUNITY SUNDAY SUPPER-** March 8th 4:30-5:30. Everyone is welcome. The menu is ... Stuffed Shells, Garlic Bread, Tossed Salad and ice cream sundaes. Contact Wendy [wlesko88@gmail.com](mailto:wlesko88@gmail.com) if you'd like to volunteer!

**CHILI COOK-OFF:** On March 15th the Rebel Beat Youth & Kids will host a chili cook-off. Do you have a fabulous chili recipe? Do you enjoy eating chili? Do you aspire to be on a celebrity judging panel? If you said yes to any of these questions, then do we have a community building event for you. Come to taste, to eat, to laugh, to build community. Also, any donations collected will be used to fill "meal bags" for family promise.

**LUNCH BUNCH IS BACK MARCH 18th:** Please sign up in the narthex and bring a Potluck dish, or bread, or dessert to our gathering. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School June 29-July 3 9:00-12:00

Project Impact- Youth Mission June 29-July 2 12:30-2:30

SHINE minicamp: August 3- August 5

**AN INVITATION TO CONVERSATION AND ACTION:** Faith leaders in the greater Rochester area have issued an Invitation to Conversation and Action for Tuesday, February 24 at 7:30 pm at the First Universalist Church of Rochester- 150 South Clinton Ave. The Rochester community is invited to discuss how faith speaks to our current moment in the United States, especially concerning immigration and the tactics currently being used by federal agents against our citizen and immigrant neighbors. A few people of different faith traditions will speak briefly to lay the groundwork for the conversation, then there will be small group discussions to contemplate what we can do together, as people convicted by faith principles, and to imagine how we might engage in collective action.

### **ONGOING**

**MEDITATION GROUP-** Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the back of the Sanctuary. All are welcome!

**PASTORAL RELATIONS TEAM:** The Pastoral Relations Team works on your behalf "to promote the mutual ministry of the pastor and congregation, according to our Guidance Document. We met with Pastor Michelle for the first time January 27 and plan to meet every other month. Our next scheduled meeting is March 24. Please contact any of us if you have any questions or concerns. We're here to make our shared ministry a reality. Liz Green, Michael Green, Konrad Emmert.

**The Nurture Team:** is a group of caring individuals who express the love of God through their Ministry of Care. They hope to walk with those in need of company or pray. They liaison with the pastor if a pastoral visit is desired. If you have a concern or need of prayer or if you know someone who does, please put a note in the offering plate.

**PRAYER SHAWL:** This group does not formally meet. It's for anyone who wants to knit or crochet prayer shawls to be given to people in need of comfort and/or dish cloths for outreach grocery bags given to people in need. contact Wendy [wlesko88@gmail.com](mailto:wlesko88@gmail.com)

**INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER** should be directed to Wendy Lesko [wlesko88@gmail.com](mailto:wlesko88@gmail.com) by the 25th of the month

**ANNOUNCEMENTS EMAIL LIST** If you'd like to receive email notifications from church, you can join our email list. There's a link on the church website under "Connect with Us". <https://uccwebster.org/connect-with-us/> Enter your email address and hit "subscribe."

**NAME TAGS** – If you need a nametag, please email Carole Kohler at [carolekohler1192@gmail.com](mailto:carolekohler1192@gmail.com) with the first and last names of your family members or sign up in the narthex.

**FLOWERS** for the communion table – sign-up in the hallway. One arrangement per Sunday. You can bring your own flower arrangement or pay for the florist to deliver one. Please pay in advance. Leave payment in church office or give to Heather Himes.

**CLOTHING & SMALL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS** Please place the items in the 2 bins located in the hall near the West Entrance. Items are distributed to Cameron Community, Matthew's Closet, or Saints Place. Thank You!

**THE ROCKERS** This is a group of the mature men from our congregation that meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month at 8:30am at The Nutcracker Restaurant

**COFFEE HOUR** Volunteers are needed to sign up to coordinate a week (make the coffee, provide a treat). If you are interested, please contact Heidi Zastowny ([heidizastowny@gmail.com](mailto:heidizastowny@gmail.com); (585) 314-0678) or Diane Cannarozzo ([dcannaro@gmail.com](mailto:dcannaro@gmail.com)).

### **IN THE COMMUNITY**

**PURSE FILLING:** Save your purses and purse fillers! Collection basket in the narthex. Purse filling party March 7th at 10:00

**RICHARD KENDRICK** will be performing in the play, "There's a Man Going 'Round Taking Names: A Protest with Song," on Friday, February 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Multi Use Community Cultural Center (MUCCC) on 142 Atlantic Avenue, Rochester. The play is written by local author, Karen Culley, and directed by Reuben J. Tapp. It will be presented as part of the annual Bronze Collective festival of African American performing arts, which runs February 15-22. The play is a powerful and moving collection of stories and music from the centuries-long struggle for racial justice. The parallels to current events are profound. For more information and for tickets visit <https://www.muccc.org/events/2026-annual-bronze-collective-theatre-fest>.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CAMP:** July 13-July 15 9:00-12:00

**PET FOOD NEEDED:** The pet food pantry needs donations of dry and canned cat food and dog food. A collection basket is in the narthex. Thank you.