

Children on Sundays

Children are always welcome at the RUMC Church Services, OR at any of these:

Children's Sunday School is at 9:45. Brochures are in all the lobbies.

The Nursery is for children 6 weeks through 2 years old. The nurseries are located down the hall from the Welcome Center.

Children's Church at 8:45 and 11:00 is for children ages 3-K only. Parents pick up children from Room S207 after worship services are finished.

Children's Ministry

December 17 – Birthday Party for Jesus – During the 9:45 Sunday School hour.

December Mission Focus: Baby food/formula.

SPECIAL NOTE for Christmas Eve on Sunday the 24th – There will be no children's Sunday School at 9:45. Instead all children and their families are encouraged to attend either our traditional or contemporary worship service at 10:00 AM. There will also be Christmas Eve candlelight services at 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, and 11:00 PM. Children's choirs will be singing at 3:00 PM, and Children's Church (for ages 3 through Kindergarten) will be offered at 5:00 PM. Our nursery for children under age 3 will be available at the 10:00 AM, 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM, and 7:00 PM services.

In case you were wondering!...Dates for our 2018 VBS will be June 11-15

Riverchase Student Ministries

What is the best way to stay in the know of all things RSM?

Go to Riverchasestudents.com! Check it out for all details about events, calendars, pics and videos!

Sunday, December 10 – RSM on Ice – Meet at the church at 6 PM, and we will return to the church at 8 PM. Bring \$10, wear your favorite Christmas sweater and don't forget thick socks!

Sunday, December 17 – Chili Bowl – Hoover East fields on Old Rocky Ridge – 1 PM – To sign up your team or read the rules for play, please visit riverchasestudents.com.

Sign up for mandatory Confirmation Retreat for 6th graders opens this week! Beginning December 15, you can sign your 6th grader up for Confirmation Retreat at Riverchasestudents.com. This retreat will be held January 12-14 and will be \$200. There will be a very important parent meeting for those going on the retreat on Sunday, January 7 at 4 PM in The Well.

Adult Ministries

- **Pilates:** Thursdays at 5:00 PM in the Fireside Room. stephanierfedor@aol.com.
- **Needle & Thread:** First and third Tuesdays at 10:00 in E104. Bring your own needlework or join us in our project.
- **Connect/Young Professionals:** Meets Thursdays at 6:30 PM, in Room 26. Contact Cynthia Nicholson, cnicho85@gmail.com.
- **Community Grief Support:** Meets 1st & 3rd Thursdays at RUMC, 10 AM, Room 28. Contact Frances Stanfield, 823-3372.
- **Riverchase Community Choir** meets in Room S210 on the 1st Sundays at 4:30. Come join the group as we sing old Gospel favorites.
- **Open Prayer Meeting:** Sundays at 4:00 PM in the Prayer Room, S214.
- **24-Hour Prayer Line:** 1-800-251-2468; the *Upper Room* Prayer Center.
- **Riverchase Runners:** Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:15 AM. Start locations vary around Riverchase, email LaRonda, larondac@riverchaseumc.org for details.

Adult Sunday School information available in the brochure racks in all lobbies.

Mission Needs and Opportunities

(Please bag and label all items you place in the mission bins.)

Hope Community Centre in Kenya: We need your help sponsoring 40-80 more orphans. Contact Gay Blalock if you can sponsor a child, au65gcb@bellsouth.net or 706-8969.

UMW Mission Focus: Hats, gloves, socks, and pillar candles. Mark "UMW" and place in the green mission bins.

Habitat for Humanity: Saturday, December 16. Contact Clint Bruess, cbruess@bsc.edu to join the team.

Christian's Place/Nauvoo: Food distribution is the third Saturday of each month. Next trip is December 16, from 10:00 AM to noon.

Ride To Church Ministry— New opportunity to serve. To volunteer or for more information on Mission Opportunities, contact Wes Savage, Wesleys@Riverchaseumc.org.

View 20+ other opportunities on the RUMC website.

Mission Moment

Angel Tree 2017 has been a wonderful success. Through the overwhelming generosity of this congregation, Christmas was provided for 233 local children, 32 local adults as well as 77 elderly in Jamaica and 60 special needs children in Jamaica. We also collected toys for over 200 children in the Hispanic Ministry. Donations were made to SafeHouse, Special Forces for Jesus, and the Hispanic Ministry. Your support of this ministry is amazing. Thank you for touching the lives of so many this holiday season.

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are in honor of our granddaughter MacKenzie Reed's 4th birthday, given by Ron and Kathy Babin; in honor of our parents, given by Al and Sally Folcher.

The rosebud on the altar is in honor of Lily Elizabeth Chmura, new daughter of Chris and Beth Chmura.

Sympathy

The church staff and congregation would like to offer our deepest sympathy to Andy Cooley, Patrick Cooley, and family and friends on the death of Andy's wife and Patrick's mother, Louise Cooley.

Wednesday Dinner

Wednesday Night Dinner Menu, December 13: Chicken casserole, rice, French cut green beans, roll, and desserts. Adults \$7.00, children \$3.50. Now accepting credit cards! Make your reservations by marking the Friendship Pad or calling the church of fice, 987-4030, by noon on Monday.

Last Wednesday Dinner of 2017!

Dinners, classes, and programming resume January 10, 2018.

Open Classes on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM

- **Invitation to Romans** with Bob Brown and Janna Steele in room 27.
- **Invitation to the New Testament** with Rev. John Ray in room 28.
- **When Did God Become A Christian?** With Rev. Buzz Barrett in S210.
- **God In the Movies** with Rev. Wes Savage in Riverchase C.
- **Of Mess and Moxie**, by Jen Hatmaker, with Courtney Snuggs in 104. (Women)
- **Anxious For Nothing**, by Max Lucado, with Natalie Moon, in Riverchase A. (For Women)
- **A Woman Overwhelmed** with Betsy Head in Rm 11. (Women)

**December 10, 2017
8:45 AM**

Like us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/RiverchaseMethodist>
Unless otherwise noted, emails are (First Name & Last Initial) @riverchaseumc.org

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Rev. Wesley Savage
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Rev. Nancy Harper
Pastor
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Rev. John Ray
Pastor

Lanie Sweeney
Adult Ministries
397-3012

Dr. Jeff Reynolds
Minister of Music

Kathy Wallace, Pianist

Walt Rogers, Organist

Susan St. John
Children's Minister
397-3008

Cheryl Beckham
Nursery Director
823-7100

Seth Moon
Youth Ministry
397-3006

Brittany Krietemeyer
Youth Ministry

Natalie Moon
Worship Arts
397-3005

David McGarr
Communications Director
397-3019

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Adam Smith
Day School Director
989-8070
rds@riverchasedayschool.com

RUMC Counseling
Stephanie Fedor-Joseph
stephanierfedor@aol.com
520-1379

A Service for the Worship of God

Second Sunday of Advent

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome! Please fill in the Friendship Pad so we can record your attendance
OR reach out to you if you're visiting. Thank you for **silencing your phones.**

Announcements Rev. Nancy Harper

Prelude Saint-Saens
Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts
Acolytes: Judy O'Neil and Kyle O'Neil

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – The Candle of Faith
Mike and Lyn Coffey

*A Litany of the Angels

Leader: And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them . . .

People: My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit greatly rejoices in God my Savior.

Leader: And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

People: For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden; for behold, all generations shall call me blessed.

Leader: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord". And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

All: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men."

*Hymn of Praise 220 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

PEACE, GOODWILL TOWARD MEN

*Greeting of Friends and Guests Rev. Wes Savage

Children's Church (*ages 3-5 years old go to room 207*)

Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SING CHOIRS OF ANGELS

Receiving of Our Tithes, Offerings, and Attendance
Rev. Clay Farrington

Offertory

*Song of Thanksgiving ADESTE FIDELES

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exaltation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.
Glory to God, all glory in the highest.
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST THE LORD

Scripture Lesson (Pew Bible 816) Isaiah 40:1-5
This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon Rev. Wes Savage
Worth the Wait

Invitation to Christian Discipleship
(Those wishing more information on church membership are asked to call one of our pastors at 987-4030)

*Hymn 240 MENDELSSOHN
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Benediction

We wait in faith for the coming of our salvation. May the God of faith so fill your hearts with the assurance of His redemption that you trust only in His promises and know that His salvation is near. Amen.

Postlude arr. Page
Sing We Now of Christmas

Wireless earphones are available. Please ask an usher for assistance needed.

Communion is served at 10:40 in the Prayer Chapel when not offered in the Sanctuary.

This Week

- **Getting to Know RUMC:** Today at 9:45 in the Prayer Chapel. Come ask questions and take a tour.
- **Blood Drive:** Today from 8:00 AM-2:00 PM, in room 168.
- **Singles Impact Ministry:** Meets Tuesday at 6:30 in Riverchase B. Bring a pot of soup, sandwiches or dessert to share. We will continue Adam Hamilton's book *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*.
- **Agape Circle's Christmas Party** is Monday, December 11 at 11 AM at Carole Harrison's home in Ross Bridge.
- **Night Readers:** December 12, at 6:00 PM, in the RUMC Library.
- **December Day Trippers:** Thursday, December 14, 7:00 am, join us for a trip to the Biblical History Center in LaGrange, GA. Call the church office 987-4030. Cost: \$45.00.
- **Sign-up Today for the Adult Christmas Dinner:** Friday, December 15, 6:30 PM in the Well. Tickets: \$5.00 and bring a covered dish to serve 15. You can sign-up in the Narthex or the church office during the week. Call or email Lanie, 397-3012 or lanies@riverchaseumc.org, with any questions.

Coming Soon

December 17: Birthday Party for Jesus at 9:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall.
December 17: Chili Bowl, Hoover East fields on Old Rocky Ridge at 1 PM
December 19: Night Readers Christmas Book Swap-off campus.

Christmas Eve and New Year's Schedule

Sunday, December 24

10:00 AM

Traditional Service in the Sanctuary
Contemporary Service in The Well
Children's Church in S207

3, 5, 7, & 11 PM

No Children's Sunday School Classes

5:00 PM

Candlelight Communion Services
Traditional, Contemporary, and Children's Church

Sunday, December 31 New Year's Eve

8:45, 9:45, 11 AM

Regular Worship and Sunday Schools

From the Finance Office

To qualify for a 2017 charitable tax deduction, your gift must be received in the church office before Sunday, December 31. Offering checks will be credited to 2017. All checks received Monday or later will count toward 2018 contributions.

For stock transfers from your investment company to the church's investment company, email nicoleb@riverchaseumc.org or call Nicole at 987-4030 for guidance through the process. The deadline for making a stock gift must be made by **December 20** in order to allow for processing prior to the end of the year.

To date, we have received 310, one-year estimate of giving cards, for a total of \$1,870,833.76. Help us plan for our 2018 Mission and Ministry Budget by dropping your pledge card by the church office, placing it in the offering plate, or mailing it. Thank you for your generous giving and commitment to the many ministries at RUMC.

Stewardship Report

Mission & Ministry Budget 2017	\$3,238,475
Budget Needed Weekly	\$62,278
Budget Received (Dec 3)	\$80,602
Over/(Under)	\$18,323
Total Worship (Dec 3)	1631

Remember RUMC in your will.