

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

March Mission Focus: Toilet Tissue.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for our Easter Faith Walk & Egg Hunt on Saturday, Mar. 31 from 10:00-12:30. Go to www.riverchaseumc.org/egghunt to register your family for the event and register yourself to volunteer!

SAVE THE DATES: VBS (ages 4 thru 5- grade) is **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 Night Activities:** Begin at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

♦ **Wednesday Night:** Unwind and Midweek start at 6 PM.

An Update on Summer Trips:

♦ **High School BigStuf is full!** Our High School BigStuf trip registration has been taken offline because it is full! We have started a wait-list for those who email Gina and still hope to participate. Those on the wait-list will not be guaranteed a spot, but if one becomes available, it will be given on a first-come, first serve basis.

♦ **Middle School BigStuf:** Our Middle School BigStuf trip (July 16-20) is over half full, so we would love to remind parents that this trip is first-come, first-serve. Once it fills, we will start a wait-list for those who still hope to participate. So sign up today at www.riverchasestudents.com. Your kid(s) will thank you!



We will be accepting dedications for Easter lilies in memory or honor of loved ones in the Narthex this Sunday (March 18). The potted lilies will be used in the Saturday and Sunday services on March 31 & April 1. Those making dedications may take their purchases after the 11:00 service on Sunday. Each lily costs \$15.

Adult Ministries

- **Early Birds Yoga:** Friday mornings, in the Narthex, 5:30 AM. All levels welcome.
- **Pilates:** Thursdays at 5:00 PM in the Fireside Room. stephanierfedor@aol.com.
- **Needle & Thread:** First and third Tuesdays at 10:00 AM 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 10 AM, Room 28. Contact Steve Sweatt, 870-8667.
- **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.
- **Training for Steeple 2 Steeple 5k** (April 21) has begun. Contact LaRonda Corrin.

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.)

2018 International Mission Trips: Interested in serving on a team travelling to Cuba, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, or Kenya/Nigeria? Contact Mark Bourgoin, umaine@bellsouth.net.

RUMC Backpack Ministry: Help pack food for local children in need in Hoover schools on the first Wednesday of each month. The next packing event is **April 4 at 4:45 PM in The Well.**

Good Samaritans- Join this group of volunteers which visits area nursing homes each week. Contact Cecil Reynolds to join the group: ondukkpond1@yahoo.com.

March UMW Mission Focus: Cereal. Mark "First Light" and place in the green mission bins.

Habitat for Humanity: Monthly opportunities to serve. Join the team next on **Saturday, Mar. 31.** Contact Clint Bruess, cbruess@bsc.edu to join.

Christian's Place/Nauvoo: Food distribution is the third Saturday of each month. The next day to serve is **April 21, from 10:00 AM to noon.** Meet at Nauvoo UMC.

Oak Mountain Missions: Urgent need for men who can work in the warehouse on **Tuesdays, 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM.** Call 685-5757 to volunteer.

View 20+ other opportunities on the RUMC website.

Mission Moment—Great Day of Service

*We want to thank all of those who gave of their time and talents on the recent **Great Day of Service!** Boy Scouts cooked and served breakfast and helped spread 900 bales of pine straw in order to spruce up our church campus prior to Easter. Girl Scouts helped with projects on the Day School playground. Volunteers helped pressure wash walkways, trim shrubs and limbs, replace ceiling tiles, repair worn chairs, and other improvement projects. Please contact Stuart Garrette if you are interested in helping with local church projects that may come up during the year (stuartg@riverchaseumc.org).*

Sympathy

*The church staff and congregation would like to offer our deepest sympathy to Bob and Melinda Ruckman and family on the death of Bob's father, **Charles Ruckman**; to the friends and family of **Janice Mahoney**, sister of Marjorie Scorey.*

Altar Flowers

*The flowers on the altar are in memory of **Joe and Barbara Hullar**, given by Paul and Debbie Ward; and in loving memory of **Charles W. Tubbs**, given by Bill, Susan, Dana, and Lauren Tubbs.*

*The rosebud on the altar is in honor of **Reagan Finley Hood**, new baby of Austin and Kim Hood.*

Stewardship Report

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|---|--------------------|
| Mission & Ministry Budget 2018 | \$3,357,710 |
| Budget Needed Weekly | \$64,571 |
| Budget Received (Mar 11) | \$57,928 |
| Over/(Under) | \$(6,644) |
| Total Worship (Mar 11) | 1521 |

Remember RUMC in your will.

**March 18, 2018
9:45 and 11:00 AM**

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

Dr. Jim Savage
Senior Pastor
397-3013

Jim.Savage@umcna.org
Jims@riverchaseumc.org

Rev. Clay Farrington
Pastor
987-9348

Rev. Wesley Savage
Pastor
397-3004

Rev. Nancy Harper
Pastor
397-3003

Rev. John Ray
Pastor

Lanie Sweeney
Adult Ministries
397-3012

Dr. Jeff Reynolds
Minister of Music

Kathy Wallace, Pianist

Walt Rogers, Organist

Cheryl Beckham
Nursery Director
823-7100

Seth Moon
Youth Ministry
397-3006

Brittany Krietemeyer
Youth Ministry

LaRonda Corrin
Recreation Ministry &
Calendar/Room Scheduling
987-5290

Natalie Moon
Worship Arts
397-3005

David McGarr
Communications Director
397-3019

Mary Anne Levet
Business Administrator
397-3002

Cindy Buchanan
Administrative Assistant
397-0933

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

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

A Service for the Worship of God

Fifth Sunday of Lent

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 *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name* arr. Raney
Acolytes: 11:00 Connor Sanders and Rooks Black

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

Invocation (9:45) Rev. Clay Farrington
(11:00) Rev. John Ray

*A Litany of Confession

Leader: Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If any want to follow Me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake will find it." (Matthew 16:24)

People: Lord, we confess that the cross You call us to bear is often heavy and cumbersome. Give us strength to follow You with cheerful hearts.

Leader: The message of the Cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18)

People: Lord, we confess that we forget the power of Your wondrous Cross. Help us remember the transforming power of Your Cross for our own salvation.

Leader: May I never boast of anything except the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (Galatians 6:14)

All: Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

*Hymn of Assurance and Pardon 298
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross HAMBURG

IF I BE LIFTED UP

*Greeting of Friends and Guests Dr. Jim Savage

Children's Church (11:00) For children 3-5 years old in Room S207.

Music for Meditation *Lenten Fantasia* J. Krug
Riverchase Chancel Ringers

Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (in unison) Rev. Wes Savage

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.

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

Receiving of Our Tithes, Offerings, and Attendance

Offertory *If I Be Lifted Up* Blankenship

*If I be lifted up, I'll draw all men to Me,
even so, I live to set the sinner free;
today as long ago, and for eternity, if I be lifted up,
I'll draw all men to Me.*

*Congregational Response (sung) CRUCIFER

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore His sacred name.**

BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS

Scripture Lesson (Pew Bible 130) John 12:27-32
This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon *Is Being Lifted Up a Good Thing?* Dr. Jim Savage
Study Scriptures: John 12:33-50; Mark 8:31-36

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

*Hymn 297 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* ST. CHRISTOPHER

*Lenten Benediction

May the cross of Christ guide us these forty days of Lent that we might be better servants for the Kingdom of God, following the example of Jesus who journeyed to Jerusalem's cross for us. Amen.

Postlude *Fanfare* Lemmens

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

- Purchase an **Easter Lily** (for the Sanctuary Easter Services) **TODAY** in the Narthex.
- **Blood Drive:** Today from 9 AM-2 PM across from the Nursery Desk, Room 168.
- **Join us today** at noon for a light lunch in Riverchase B to discuss **church travel opportunities** for 2019 and 2020. Possibilities include South America, Antarctica, and the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany.
- **Friendship Circle:** March 19, 9:45 AM, in the Fireside Room. Our speaker will be Lisa McClung from Galleria Woods.
- **Singles Impact Ministry:** Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 PM, in the Riverchase Room. *Building a Life with God*, Chapter 6. RUMC will be preparing the meal: breakfast casseroles, hash brown casserole, biscuits, fruit, and desserts. *We now meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays only.*
- **Thursday morning Women's Bible Study** is taking a break March 22 & 29. We will resume April 5 studying *The Lord's Prayer* until May 24.
- **We are searching for a new Children's Minister.** Send resumes to Rev. Clay Farrington, ClayF@riverchaseumc.org.
- Are **you** looking for a new **VOLUNTEER** opportunity? RUMC has immediate openings in the following areas. Please contact the leaders or access the website noted in parenthesis if you can help.
 - Ushers – Tom Douglass, 979-5371
 - Greeters – Gary Mummert, 980-8111 or Jeff Reynolds, 987-4030
 - Easter Faith Walk & Egg Hunt helpers on March 31, 10:00-12:30 (www.riverchaseumc.org/egghunt)Also, if you have an area you would like to volunteer that is not listed above, please contact Nancy Harper at 987-4030!

Coming Soon

- **Easter Egg Hunt and Faith Walk:** Saturday, March 31 at 10:00 AM. Volunteers are still needed. Contact KristiR@riverchaseumc.org or sign up online.
- **Palm Sunday:** Children's Palm Processional in each traditional service.
- **Day Trippers:** Tuesday, March 27. We leave the upper parking lot at 9:15 AM and head to the American Village in Montevallo for the Tulip Festival (if tulips are still blooming). We will enjoy lunch at Olive Garden or Joe's Italian in Alabaster and return to RUMC around 3 PM. Cost: \$9 plus \$1.50 per tulip and your lunch. Make your reservation by calling the church 987-4030 by Thursday, March 22 at noon.

We have completed our study of **Life's Healing Choices**, and are ready to launch our weekly **Celebrate Recovery Meetings!** If you're interested in spiritual growth or working on your Hurts, Habits, and Hang-ups, please join us. Each Tuesday we have supper from 6-6:30 in the Fireside Room, followed by worship and our meeting. We are also happy to announce a community partnership with Grace Baptist and Riverchase Community Church who will help us with both leadership and service.

Holy Week & Easter

- **Weekday Services, March 26-30:** At noon in the Sanctuary, daily lunch at 12:30 in the Riverchase Room.
- **Holy Thursday Service:** March 29, at 7:00 PM, in the Sanctuary.
- **Good Friday:** March 30, at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary, with Chamber Choir and Orchestra.
- **Saturday Easter Worship:** March 31, at 7:00 PM, in the Sanctuary. This service will be identical to our Easter Sunday Services.
- **Easter Sunday:** April 1. All traditional services will be identical; Contemporary Easter service is at 11:00 AM in The Well. **No Adult** Sunday school classes will meet; we will have Children's Church during all 3 services.
- **Easter Sunrise Service** 6:30 AM at Riverchase Country Club, with Rev. Clay Farrington preaching.

Wednesday Dinner

Wednesday Night Dinner Menu, March 21: Chicken tetrazzini, salad, roll, and desserts. Adults \$7, children \$3.50. Credit cards accepted. Make reservations by marking the Friendship Pad or calling 987-4030 by noon Monday.