



Red Hook United Methodist *Chimes*

Summer Time!

August 2020

Oh man, this has been a hot summer. Hot and dry. So much so that it's been a challenge to keep the flowers watered and happy. Maybe the only blessing to come along with COVID-19 has been the fact that we haven't been able to have Services in church during these blasting hot days.

Now, we *are* back in church just in time for the beautiful fall days. Our first in-person Service was August 16, 2020, and it was so good to be together with all of you who were able to attend these first services during this difficult time.

We are following all of the safety and disinfecting protocols required by the Bishop and Conference. The building had been professionally cleaned and disinfected before our first Service back and going forward, a group of our congregation has volunteered to take turns cleaning and disinfecting the church after each Service. If you would like to be a part of this important team, let Lois Chenkus know and she will include you in the team.

If you have been by the church lately you will notice the painting and repair on the East side of the building. What an improvement to the sight of our beautiful and historic church.

I know that some will not feel ready to attend in-person services yet and that is alright. The services will continue to be video recorded and posted on You Tube so we can be together in this virtual way until you all are comfortable in physical group settings again. I will continue to try to improve the audio quality of those recordings. There is no question that church will be different for a while but we will embrace this reality and pray for a resolution to our present challenges that extend way beyond COVID-19.

In His Peace, Pastor Steve

RED HOOK UMC HEALING & PRAYER MINISTRY



Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Dear Friends,

It is with great excitement that I write this welcome back note to you as we are preparing our first Healing & Prayer Service since COVID -19 brought everything to halt. We could not have imagined at that time we would be asked to stop meeting together, no more hugs and no more physical touch.

After a few weeks went by and prayerfully asking how our prayer team could stay in touch in a meaningful way we were introduced to Zoom and it opened up a whole new way to meet and still share, study and pray for each other and also allowed for us to invite our prayer teams from outside our area to join us as well.

We are truly grateful and blessed to be able to meet in person on September 12, 10:00 am, at Red Hook UMC. We will continue to work with the Holy Spirit as we find new creative ways to pray with meaningful touch for people and still keep our distance. Look forward to seeing you all again.

Blessings & much love,

*Pastor Nan,
Director of Healing & Prayer Ministry*

RED HOOK UMC HEALING & PRAYER SERVICE



**We believe in the healing love and power of Jesus Christ.
We listen, love and pray for all who come seeking healing
in body, mind and spirit. The healing comes from the Holy Spirit
and not from ourselves. Since we are not counselors, we count on
God's Wonderful Counselor to continue our Lords work through us.**

MONTHLY PUBLIC HEALING & PRAYER SERVICE

**Saturday, September 12
10:00 a.m.**

**Speaker: Joan Murray
"My Gift"**

**Special Music: Julianna O'Leary
"King of the World" by Natalie Grant**

SOAKING PRAYER

Monday, September 14 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Soaking Prayer is soaking in His presence (no water is involved). Come and relax quietly while scripture is read and music plays in the background. The prayer team will come and pray over you in silence for your concerns.

Location: 4 Church Street, Red Hook, NY

Contact: Pastor Nan Ernst, Director of Healing & Prayer Ministry 914-689-6116

RED HOOK UMC HEALING & PRAYER SERVICE



JOAN MURRAY

Joan was raised in a Christian family by her forever optimistic Mother and hardworking, coal miner Father in Central Pennsylvania. She dedicated her life to Christ at an early age, was in time drawn to John Wesley's teachings and Methodism for the teachings about love doing good for the kingdom of God.

After high school graduation, she moved to Niagara Falls where she met her late husband, Bill, who became her prayer and worship partner. They were blessed with two daughters, Lori and Kristi. Joan felt fortunate to be a stay-home mom. Their third child, a son Bill Jr., joined their family after they moved to Poughkeepsie in 1967 where Bill worked at IBM. They joined the Poughkeepsie Methodist Church where she served on many committees.

In 1975 they moved to Red Hook. Joan again became active in the Methodist Church, her passions have always been feeding the poor, teaching, working with young people and mission work, especially with the United Methodist Women and Days4Girls.

In 1986 she received her Associates degree from Dutchess Community College, sharing her graduation ceremonies with her daughter, Kristi, who graduated the same day.

On November 8, 2007, when Bill was called home to be with the Lord, Joan found great comfort in her faith in God, and friends and family. God also continued to use her in church and mission projects.

Joan retired after 23 years working at Ferncliff Nursing Home as a Nurse's Aide, An accounting clerk, and then as assistant to the human Resources Director. Retirement allowed her to help care for her two remarkable grandsons, Tanner and Skyler, Lori and Joe's sons. Joan finds great joy in family events with Lori, Joe, and their sons, Kristi and David, Bill Jr., and her sister, Debbie. She loves camping and traveling with her family to visit Bill in New Orleans.

She is currently President of Red Hook UMW, Communications coordinator for NY/CT District, UMW, a certified Lay Servant and serves as a Prayer Minister for the Healing and Prayer Ministry. She plans to continue to serve God passionately in any area that she is needed and only God knows that plan. (Jeremiah 29:11)



from the **Food Pantry**

Janice Williams

The Food Pantry continues to be open every Sunday, 12 to 2pm. In order to keep our clients and volunteers safe, we are distributing prepacked bags outside by the playground. This is a huge change from our previous process of client choice. It also requires more volunteers and more food. But this church knows how to step up to the challenge! Volunteers continue to be there every Sunday, come rain or shine. Saturdays, we are often there pre-bagging dairy, meat, produce, and non-perishables to be ready for the next day.

Our early morning trips to Hannaford have also doubled. We are now there every Thursday and Sunday mornings for flowers, meat, bread, and produce. Couldn't do it without the dedicated crew of Betty, Ken, Joan, Gloria, Lori, and Janice. Then we have the Panera crew of Joan and Betty, picking up that bread every Saturday night. And don't forget Roger, who is at the church every Tuesday to meet the truck from Long Table Harvest for fresh produce. They are a wonder!

The Regional Food Bank food deliveries have also doubled to twice a month in order to meet the demands. We really appreciate our dedicated truck crew of Phil, Dave, and Hop! And ALL the church and community family to unload the truck. These people can put away 2500 pounds of food in a flash.

This community knows how to step up to a challenge. The donations of food, money, and volunteers has been extraordinary. Food donations continue to pour in from local churches and businesses. We have received grants from Dutchess Responds, United Way, Stewarts, and local associations in addition to monetary donations from family and community to fulfill this vital mission.

Thank you to Lyceum Theatre for its weekly delivery of the best popcorn around!

It is a joy to share with new and returning clients each week. And a joy to work with such a dedicated gang of volunteers! Janice, Pastor Steve, Pastor Nan, Dee, Cathy, Rob, Roxanne, Jenn, Sandy, Phyllis, Dave, Randi, Harry.

A special Thank You to Jenn for keeping us all organized and keeping me sane.

Upcoming Food Deliveries:
September 1 and 15

October 6 and 20

November 3



Clients Served

Month of:	Number of			
	Families	Children	Seniors	Adults
Jan-20	126	93	48	186
Feb-20	137	93	68	207
Mar-20	208	114	91	313
Apr-20	256	214	105	432
May-20	251	172	103	400
Jun-20	173	118	87	253
Jul-20	153	88	62	203
Aug-20	169	89	84	263 (month to date)



Pastor Steve, Jenn and lots of popcorn donated by the Lyceum Theater

from the **United Methodist Women**

Joan Murray and Kristi Colburn

The UMW has not been able to have a meeting. We are keeping in touch with each other. Our prayer partners are changed about every six weeks. We continue to support each other with calls and notes by mail. We are looking forward to having a picnic in the near future.

Prayer chain

Our prayer chain has been very active this summer. We are updating the prayer chain callers so if you like to be added to the prayer chain, please call Betty Tabor at 758-9011 or Joan Murray 758-5189. If you would like to have a request added to the prayer chain, please contact Betty, Joan, or Pastor Steve. You only need be as specific as you wish, and all requests for prayer are confidential. There is great power in prayer and it is one way that we can help each other.

All of us at Red Hook UMC send our sincere condolences to the family of Joyce Riffenburg. Joyce was a member of UMC before moving to Cape Cod. We were honored to have heard her beautiful singing voice in the church choir. She was active in all of the church's programs. She will be missed by her daughters, Cindy and Debbie and their families and us.

- Joan Murray

Bright Green RH UMC Shirts

Have you ever wondered why members of the Red Hook UMC wear those bright green shirts? Have you taken the time to read them? There's a method and a message in the purchase and wearing of these shirts.



Joan Murray presenting a donation to the Tivoli Fire Department after a fire destroyed their firehouse last summer

The Red Hook United Methodist Women were instrumental in the design and purchasing of the T-shirts. The idea was presented at a UMW meeting by Phyllis Moore. As a group, we decided

on the color and design. Yes, we chose this fluorescent color, so we can be spotted easily. On the front of the T-Shirts, we identify that we are from the RHUMC and display the UM Cross and Flame. On the back, it reads, "Let God's light shine through the actions of the people! We want people to see us as we are spreading God's love to others by our actions."

We have had extra T-shirts for sale: Please contact Janice Williams or Joan Murray, Red Hook UMW's President and Treasurer.



- Kristi Colburn

from the **Music and Worship Committee**

Rev. Barbara Melzer

The following was excerpted from meeting of August 18, 2020 minutes, attended by Pastor Steve, Pastor Nan and Rev. Barbara

You Tube services over the past months were reviewed. Most people who watched appreciated the services and the format was true to our actual services. The feedback from a number of watchers was positive. Filming the actual services will continue as a number of folks are not ready to come back yet.

Communion will be back as soon as the ordered communion materials that have received; packaged materials will eliminate physical contact until it is safe to do otherwise. Pastor Steve hopes to have communion twice a month.

The actual services in the sanctuary began on August 16th with 19 in attendance. The protocols were followed: face masks for all, a sign in sheet (needed in case of necessary contact for spread of covid) and spaced seating. It went very well. There is a lock box at the rear of the sanctuary for deposit of pledges.

Training of the ushers/cleaners took place the week prior to the first service: there will be three ushers each week who will also disinfect the sanctuary after the service (10 people volunteered for this role). The D.S. suggested that the services be kept shorter and only one hymn per service.

Pastor Steve is trying to get more volunteer readers for the services. He is also doing private meetings with those who wish pastoral counseling.

Pastor Nan had Rhinebeck sites sanitized and will begin the Healing ministry there in September. Current continuing education for healing ministers is being held by Zoom with limited in person meetings with masks and social distancing. Participants have been trained in disinfection of the meeting areas after their day in ministry.

Future services at Red Hook include the first Sunday in November, All Saints Day (with family pictures displayed); and the Thanksgiving service on November 22.

from the **Treasurer/Finance Chair**

Pat Bowman

A quick note from the one who spends the money!

I know that so many of you do so much for the Church and the Community. Thanks to you all for your financial support. With your contributions, we have been able to meet all of our current expenses, chip away at our apportionments and even pay the Pastor! Most important...we have been able to keep the missions of the Church intact and moving forward. Truly, you have all helped our Church shine brightly in the Community as the light has been dimmer than usual.

Many thanks to all who give so freely of their time to keep the Church grounds looking nice. From the lawns to the shrubs to the beautiful garden...it looks great!

We will all get through this together as our faith guides us. Thank you.

The Value of Signs

When anticipating the reopening of Holy Cow safely, we put our heads together to come up with signs to inform customers of our rules (all this just to simply get an ice cream cone!) So, we got custom-made signs to explain it all—no credit cards, where to stand for social distancing, mandatory masks, new hours, etc. After weeks of frustration having to repeat the sign rules, we realized we forgot the most important sign:

Please Read the Signs!

Hoping all are well and safe and looking forward to worshipping safely together again!



from the **Finance Secretary**_____

Jennifer Van Voorhis

Thank you for consistently sending in your tithes to the church at 4 Church St, Red Hook, NY 12571 or also some have sent to me at 2 Orlich Road, Red Hook, NY 12571. Thank you for the increase offerings you have made and are making to RHUMC. Your offerings, of your time, of your God-given talents, and of your money, help support all that we do at RHUMC. Red Hook United Methodist Church could do nothing without the faithful offerings of its members.

We are on track!! The Pledged amount for 2020 is \$60,660 and at the halfway mark (July 2020) we have received \$31,473.33 in pledged tithes. This does not include members that did not wish to fill out a pledge card last year and any additional donations in the plate.

from the **Choir Director/Organist**_____

Julianna O'Leary

This time last year, the choir was selecting music for the Fall season; we even were thinking about Christmas! It was a good and happy time listing to stories about past years and discussing repeating former successes. With rehearsals only one evening a week and a quick run-through on Sunday mornings, it could be challenging. Yet, we got to perform some of the anthems of the past, and they were wonderful!

I've met a lot of amazing people at RH UMC. Love of God and each other is evident everywhere you look. There are no kings or queens...there are only very good people, working together to do what needs to be done.

With all that is happening, I believe that God is smiling and giving us strength to carry on...and so we will praise God with our songs once again.



from **Church Street Nursery School**

Kristi Colburn

As many are aware, the Church Street Nursery School (CSNS) has been closed since March due to the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. After much discussion at the August CSNS board meeting, it was decided that the nursery school would delay their September opening. A re-opening date has not been determined due to many factors. The primary concern is to keep the children and staff safe while following the Department of Health and NYAC COVID-19 regulations. This was NOT an easy decision made by the CSNS Board. Please pray for the leaders, children, and parents of the CSNS. We miss the joyful sounds of the children in our midst.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the CSNS, please contact Ashley Bolde, CSNS Program Director at 758-6282, Patty Bowman or Kristi Colburn, (RHUMC representatives).



**Member's
Thought**

Jesus Around Us – Matthew 25:31-46

Moses said. “Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land”

- Deuteronomy 15:11

Jesus’ words in Matthew 25 remind me of the importance of caring for needs of those around me. This passage helps me to remember that Christ lives around us, and although we cannot see him face –to –face, we can see him in the faces of others. And we can reflect Christ’s love through our actions. Every day, we have the opportunity to reach out to those in need and show them God’s love. Christ wants us to be God’s hands to touch them, God’s ears to listen to their cries, and God’s heart to love them.

What a privilege it is to be able to give food to those who are hungry, to visit those who are sick or imprisoned, or to pray with and encourage those who feel discouraged! We can be answers to the prayers of those in need. God trusts that we will attend to the cries of others. The excess that we have is someone’s portion, placed in our hands by God. Let us give it willingly.

- Jennifer Van Voorhis

Learn more about Red Hook Responds!

<http://www.redhookresponds.org/>

Resources available for a variety of needs!

https://www.redhookresponds.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RHR-Community-Resource-Listing-05_07.pdf

**Red Hook Hardscrabble Day
September 12 10am – 4pm**

See <https://www.historicredhook.org/upcoming-events/hardscrabbleonline> for more information.

This event will be on line and they are looking for submissions.



A note came to the office this week:

Margarethe Muller (Gretel)

wished to have her address and phone shared

Carolina Gardens

1020 N. Congress Street #104

York, SC. 29745

803-684-0183

United Methodist Church Connections

Listed below are important links to the RHUMC, NY/CT District, NYAC, and the UM Communications websites and contact information.

Red Hook United Methodist Church Information

Pastor Stephen Ernst

Email: Pastor.stephen.ernst@gmail.com Phone: 914-329-7597

RH UMC Website: <http://redhook.umchurches.org/>

Email: redhookumc@umchurches.org Church Office Phone: 845-758-6283

RH UMC's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RedHookUnitedMethodistChurch/>

RH UMC Administrative Council

Chairperson	Lois Chenkus
Secretary	Tracy Dedrick (on a medical leave)
Trustee President	Mark Chenkus
Finance Chair/Treasurer	Pat Bowman
Finance Secretary	Jennifer Van Voorhis
Membership	Jennifer Van Voorhis, Chair
Worship and Music	Reverend Barbara Melzer, Chair
United Methodist Women	Joan Murray, President
Nursery School Board	Patty Bowman and Kristi Colburn, RH UMC reps.
Staff Parish Relations	Kim Thomson, Chair
Food Pantry/Weavers	Janice Williams, Team Leader
Lay Leader	Joan Murray
Annual Conference	Lois Chenkus, Lay Member
Pastor	Pastor Stephen Ernst

New York/Connecticut District

Website: <https://www.nyac.com/NYCT>

NY/CT's Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/nyctdistrict>

New York Annual Conference

Website: <https://www.nyac.com/>

Newsletter link: <https://www.nyac.com/vision>

NYAC's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/New-York-Annual-Conference-of-The-United-Methodist-Church-108337652524556/>

United Methodist Communications:

Website: <http://www.umcom.org/>

Weekly newsletter: A newsletter for leaders in every area of ministry

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Our Pastor and Our Entire Congregation.
All of the NYAC staff and Cabinet.
Our Ministry and Churches around the World.
The Sick and those who continue to care for them.
Those who give their lives for our Country and
who protect us every day.
All people, animals, and communities of the world
as God created them.

THOSE OF SPECIAL CONCERN AT THIS TIME:

Gail Bamford, John Bamford, Donna Marie Blanche, Jean Bleibtrey,
Carol Boeck, Ken Bonal, Fred Brammer and family,
Brian (volunteer in food pantry), Pete Buhler, Gabriella and Gavin Butz,
Lorraine DeCarolis, Terri & John Doyle, Tracie Dedrick, Deborah Dunkle,
Kay Egan, Nan Ernst, Beth Finn, Kay George, Pastor Paul and Gloria Gingrich,
Melissa and Myriam Godwin, Mike Goodrich, Irene Harrison,
David Heller, Haley Hines, Donald Hunt, Ron Jones, Phyllis Keeler,
Nicole Lewellyn, Kathy Lunger, Maria Martins, Julien: pray for sweet sleep,
Sofia Anna Morgan, 15 yr. old, autistic and diagnosed with schizophrenia,
Cynthia Morrison and her sister Cathy, David Muller, Caleb & Grady Nelson,
Carl Pack, Annalise Padley, Pine Haven Rehabilitation Center,
The family of Eric Ramsey on his passing, Gene R. for continued healing,
The Resnick family, the family of Joyce Riffenburg, Randall Stewart,
Kathy Stoppenbach, Diane Tanzosch,
Tom Tierney and family on the passing of his wife Linda Tierney,
Nancy Titus, Reverend Eric Titus, Skip Tremper, Ruth VanVliet,
Taylor Van Voorhis, Tony and Charlotte Vellake,
Mary Lou Williams, and Louise, Susie, Mary Beth, Bill and Rich

**IN CHRIST'S NAME, WE PRAY.
AMEN.**

**Contact our Office with all prayer requests and changes
845-758-6283, redhookumc@umcchurches.org**