



Rustburg United Methodist Church

IN HIS SERVICE – August 2025



“For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory:
no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.” Psalm 84:11

Flowers / Sunset / Flowers / Rainbow / Flowers. Billy Arthur



“But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you;
or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you.

Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this?

In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.” Job 12:7-10

Great Blue Heron / Cat & Dog / Deer / Butterfly. Donna & Lisa Cameron

Not Just Filling Pews: 5 Ps of Community & Congregation

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." - John 13:35

Lay Leader Pam and Pastor Brooks have been attending a seminar with pastors on how to better reach people in the community and to meet congregational needs. She's preparing a report to the District so if you have any church/mission-related feedback, PLEASE be sure to let her know.

1. **PLACE** – Understanding Geography

Recognizing and embracing unique characteristics of the church's location is essential in creating connections and pathways for community engagement within the community. Churches in rural areas have different needs and challenges than those in urban areas and vice versa. Studying demographics and trends can help churches better reach out to the community.

2. **PEOPLE** – Demographics and Psychographics

Why do people go to this church? How can we better meet their needs? Beliefs, lifestyle choices, and attitudes along with the recognition of age, gender, income levels, family structure, and education all weave a tapestry of faith. Understanding what motivates congregants on a deeper level allows the church to better meet their needs and foster stronger ties within both the congregation and the Christian community at large.

3. **PAIN POINTS** – What are peoples struggles?

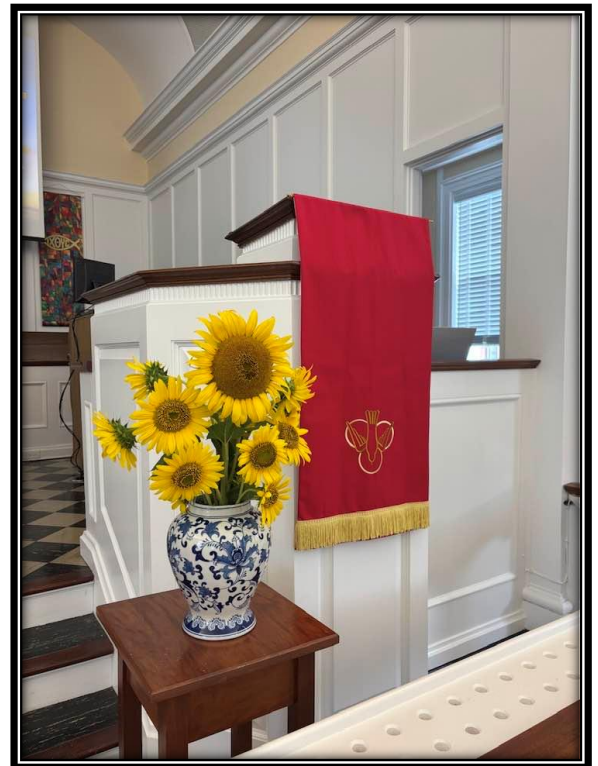
...and how can we help? Everyone needs assistance at some point, be it personal life, community issues, or spiritual growth. Communication and outreach programs that acknowledge and address both congregational and community needs can foster environments where members feel valued and understood.

4. **PASSIONS AND INTERESTS** – What motivates members?

Every individual in the congregation has unique passions and interests that shape their lifestyle (missions, arts, learning etc.). Taking the time to understand members' interests not only engages but also empowers them to take part actively in church decisions and events, making all of us more connected to the Christian community.

5. **PURSUIITS** – Understanding Aspirations

Church members often come equipped with personal ambitions and spiritual goals. Understanding these pursuits can inform ministry programs and outreach strategies. Whether it involves enhancing prayer life, seeking community service opportunities, or growing in faith, recognizing these goals helps tailor church activities to better serve God and God's people.



"Sunflowers in the Sanctuary," Pam Booth.

Understanding the church's community and the people in it is not merely a checklist item; it's a continual journey that requires feedback, analysis, and adaptation. By delving into geographical insights, demographic and psychographic understanding, recognizing pain points, exploring passions, and acknowledging pursuits, the church can create a rich community that thrives together in God's love.

- Adapted from "The Ultimate Guide to Understanding Your Church Target Audience," by Tyler Harden. Firm Foundations Marketing, Inc. October 2, 2024.



We packed the ark and headed to the Campbell Public Library End-of-Summer Finale. It was hot but our faithful volunteers manned the tents for a great experience on Saturday. Thank you to our volunteers and visitors to our tents.

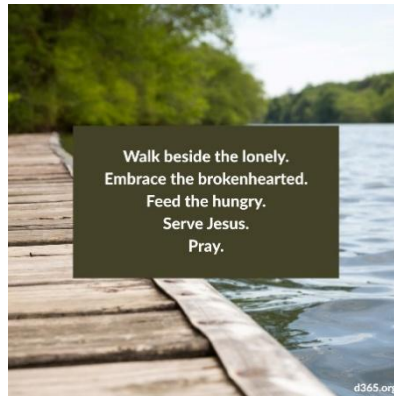
 RUSTBURG UMC

DRIVE-THRU FOOD PANTRY

SATURDAY AUGUST 9TH 9:30 - 11 AM

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

“I love ❤️ our Community!” Volunteers abound! Neighbors served!
What a blessing to continue this ministry! THANK YOU for your support and service.



Special “THANK YOU!” to Mimi’s Cookie Jar for the overwhelming donation. Thank you also to Rustburg Ruritan Farmer’s Market for the vendor opportunities they provide.

WANTED



Acolytes for the months of: August,
September, October, November, & December.

Please contact the Church Office if you’d like to
be considered on a monthly or back-up basis!

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTHY VETERANS

AUGUST Mission & Noisy Offering

“The National Center for Healthy Veterans serves at-risk veterans, who we call Patriots, who are willing to invest nine months at Valor Farm for a ‘reset and restart.’

NCHV expects them to commit to change, be willing to work toward re-optimizing their daily performance, and to restore family and other relationships. Our Veterans live, learn, work, and train in a rural farm environment.”



Life at Valor Farm

The nine-month residential program at the NCHV veterans rehabilitation center is a golden opportunity to “**get unstuck**,” to move past trauma and transition challenges into a lifetime of personal and professional contribution and success. More than other mental health or suicide prevention programs for veterans, NCHV treats the whole person; body, mind and soul. After orientation and assessment, Valor Farm “Patriots” move through three 12 week “trimesters” which sequentially focus on **resilience**, **trauma recovery**, and **career preparation**. Concurrently Patriots take electives based on personal needs and interests — equine therapy, financial literacy, family relationships, topical Bible studies, nutrition, sleep management, pain management, and many others.

Assisted by mentors, **each NCHV Patriot constructs a Personal Development Plan** which tracks individual goals and progress. The desired outcomes from community living, dignified work, technical training, and overall wellness culture include successful professional transition, healthy work-life balance, wholesome family relationships, expanded inner resources including a relevant faith, positive contribution to society, and service as a mentor to others.



During their time at Valor Farm, **Patriots live in individual tiny homes within a Patriot Community Village**. Each village consists of 20 tiny homes and a Village Community Center where Patriots cook and share meals, enjoy fitness and recreational activities, participate in classes and special events, and grow stronger together.

- [National Center for Healthy Veterans](#)

United Women in Faith

This month we'll be meeting at [Napoli's](#) in Rustburg at 11:30 AM on Wed. August 13th for food and fellowship. *Please RSVP to Donna Cameron by Wed. August 6th if you plan to attend.*

Next Meeting: August 13, 2025, 11:30 AM @ Napoli's



Love in Christ;
Donna Cameron | President of UWF



Magnolia Ladies

Happy Summer Ladies! Magnolias decided to take a break for the month of July & August. We will pick back up in September. Event will be announced soon! For the month of October there will be no official event, however we would love to have as much participation in the Fall Festival as possible! Helping hands are always needed for this very popular Community event! November we will

have our Friendsgiving and December our annual Christmas Cookie Exchange.

All these details will be in the September newsletter! But for now, enjoy what is left of summer! Fall will be here before we know it!

Prayer & Praise

Led by Rev. Dr. C.R. Brooks

Wednesdays in August

6 – 6:30 PM

RUMC Sanctuary

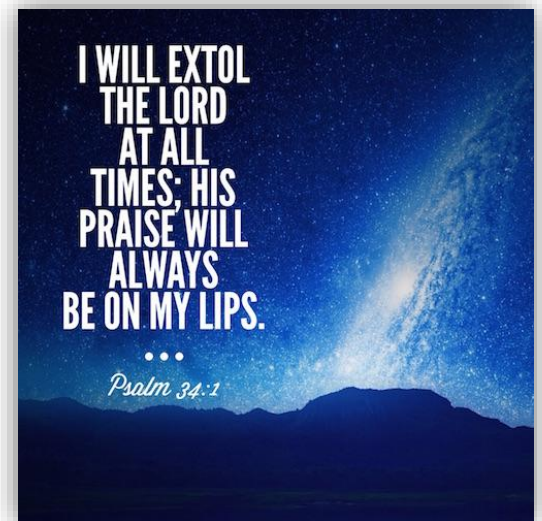
In [Acts 16](#) Paul and Silas literally and physically broke the chains that held them.

Prayer and Praise is thirty minutes set aside each week of Pentecost for praying, singing & giving glory to God. It is a mid-week call to prayer to have community prayer and praise.

You can join in while others pray, sing and read scripture or sit silently.

You may stop and stay or even just drop by a few minutes on your way to an appointment.

Prayer is the universal church's call for God to use us for God's will, as God did Paul & Silas.



Summer Corn Salad



Ingredients

6 ears corn, husked and cleaned
3 large tomatoes, diced
1 large onion, diced
¼ cup chopped fresh basil
¼ cup olive oil
2 tablespoons white vinegar
salt and pepper to taste

Directions

Gather the ingredients. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook corn in boiling water for 7 to 10 minutes, or until desired tenderness. Drain, cool, and cut kernels off the cob with a sharp knife. Toss corn, tomatoes, onion, basil, oil, vinegar, salt, and pepper in a large bowl; chill until serving.

Cucumber Salad



Ingredients

1 cup water
½ cup distilled white vinegar
¼ cup vegetable oil
¼ cup sugar
1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, or to taste
3 cucumbers, peeled and sliced ¼-inch thick
3 tomatoes, cut into wedges
1 onion, sliced and separated into rings

Directions

Gather all ingredients. Whisk water, vinegar, oil, sugar, salt, and pepper together in a large bowl until smooth. Cover bowl with plastic wrap; refrigerate for at least 2 hours for best flavor results.

AUGUST 2025

Save the date

Sun. 08/03 **Communion**
Tues. 08/05 **Communications**, 6 PM
Care Portal, 6:30 PM
Wed. 08/06 **Prayer & Praise w/ Rev. Brooks**, 6 PM
Thurs. 08/07 **Staff Meeting**, 6 PM
Sat. 08/09 **Food Pantry**, 9:30-11 AM
Sun. 08/10 **Men's Breakfast**, 8:30 AM
Administrative Board, following Worship
Wed. 08/13 **United Women in Faith @ Napoli's**, 11:30 AM
Thurs. 08/14 **Handbells**, 6 PM | **Choir**, 7 PM
Sun. 08/24 **Noisy Offering/Mission Moment**: National Center
for Healthy Veterans
Mon. 08/25 **Deadline for September Newsletter**
Sun. 08/31 **Labor Day Sunday**



Wed. August 6,13,20,27: **Prayer & Praise w/ Rev. Brooks in RUMC Sanctuary**, 6-6:30 PM
Thurs. August 14,21,28: **Handbell Rehearsals**, 6 PM
Choir Rehearsals, 7 PM



RUMC Building Projects



Dear Church,

The Admin. Board has decided to go ahead and get the **Upstairs** onto a painter's schedule this Summer/Fall. The electrical wiring to get the HVAC Unit up and safely running may need to happen first as it's still pretty hot up there!

No new numbers on the **Grounds Project**, but we're still a little over halfway in having the funds for it: ~\$25,000 of the needed \$45,000. We are hoping to get started this summer as scheduling allows.

Many, many thanks to all contributors.

Lisa Cameron, Communications



2025 Ushers

August: Michael Metcalf & Ricky Pillow
September: Jerry Booth & Marvin Tweedy
October: Jimmy Cyrus & Donnie Hamlett
November: Robert Bailey & Jimmy Jewell
December: Michael Metcalf & Ricky Pillow

August Greeters

03 Pat Merryman
 10 Jeff & Kelly Gladden
 17 Cheryl and Rick Pillow
 24 Frances, Presley & Aaron Wiley
 31 Shirley & Homer Phillips



RUMC Contact Info:

Acolytes: Cheryl Martin
Care & Share: Shirley Phillips
Children's Church: Shannon Hall
Greeters: Betty Cyrus
Nursery: Mary Bailey
Ushers: Jerry Booth



August Sunday School

- Donna & Sarah Hamlett
- Alice Watson
- David Hawkins

07 Lou Tweedy
 15 Pam Cowart,
 Donna Hamlett
 21 Sam Hall
 22 Cooper J. Brest
 23 Alice Watson
 25 Justin Merryman,
 Jennifer Johnson
 26 David Phillips
 29 Bill Torrence



01 G.W. & Sharon Nolley
 05 Jacob & Morgan Watson
 06, 1983 Bruce & Donna Cameron
 13 Ed & Alice Watson
 14, 1982 Clif & Lou Tweedy
 17 Steve & Mary Bailey

Church Closers for August:

Robert and Lisa Bailey

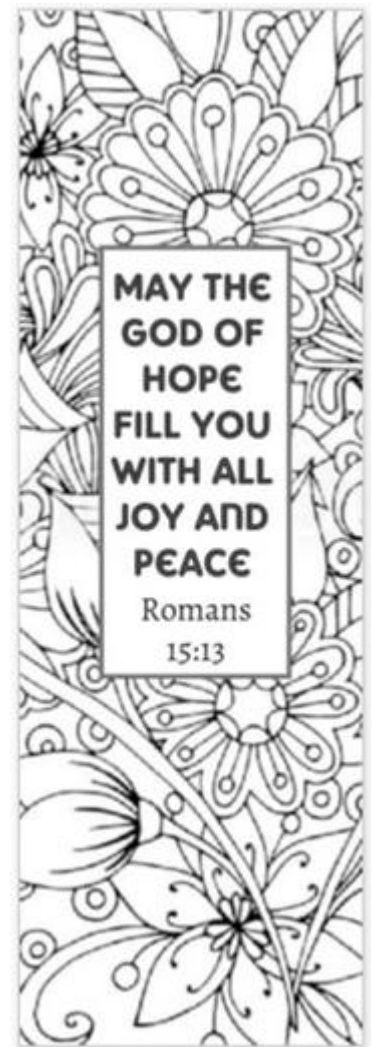


Prayer Requests: Shirley Hiser's family (Barbara Austin's sister), Marvin Ledbetter's family and friends, Cindy and Danny Torrence, Walter and Emily Carwile, Rev. Jim and Sheila Galford, Danny DeJarnette, Bill Torrence, Mason "Bo" Clark, Kathleen (Jon) Bagby, Pastor Sung and family, Jackie Robinson (church custodian) sister. Susan Cascone (Sharon Nolley), Melvin Coates, Buster Frazier, Mary and Daughter Judy, Atha Bailey, Helen Booth, Pam and Dennis Cowart, Kenneth Grubbs, Joyce Rush, Jill & Greg Coleman, Marguerite Eimer, Betty McClung, May Nolley, Tammy Fielder, Frank Merryman, Mary Alice Preston, Tina Shaver, Marsha Henderson, and Bangladeshi families.

JESUS' APPOINTED DISCIPLES

E T V N I T O L A E Z E H T N O M I S X H I A K
 G A M X K X C R Z T S I P U M Q D K K T F D T Y
 T O A E M Z E J W E M O L O H T R A B W O G T Y
 O R O A C X V A L N A K Y B S D E P X R U J T Z
 I R Q I A N X M L A K Q U L N S I G H K A P S L
 R M R E F H X E S O B C Y Z Z L E T K B Q G O F
 A R H S A Q H S W I L F D V L Y G N J I K L G H
 C E W N G X T S H I M U I I S O F C I F W J R D
 S D R F I K X O A W Z O H E A O T N R E L K Q N
 I N V X T C B N M M G P N N O N R P U O K Y F S
 S U U M K I X O F A W L R P U B B C X G D D L J
 A H B I X Y J F G T W X Y O E M I P Z A I V G V
 D T J G N L Z A U T Z Y S H D T U D C O N H P C
 U F L Q R Y V L W H V W U E G Q E I C G U O K Q
 J O Y R A T O P P E G Y E G G R L R L J Y G X H
 W N A W Y Z K H O W B R D W W P T H R Y W O L G
 K O P A R T Z A K J A B D Y W M O A I Q D Y K D
 R S I M U H Q E N D L A A Y Y W L C B A E N O J
 Z S G V Z O Y U L S Q N H D E K U F U J K G U X
 E E T M C M S S H H A J T R C N E I V J O U R N
 A M Y J E A S N Z F N B D F U Z F O H C R I K J
 F A J K M S F Y R X V N H M H B R I M R J T B Y
 L J P G F I W F U E A T N H O J D V P G S T A Q
 R M R P B O P E W H U R Q G O X B T N Q P D Z Y

James son of Alphaeus	James son of Thunder	Simon the Zealot
Judas Iscariot	Simon Peter	Bartholomew
Thaddeus	Phillip	Matthew
Thomas	Andrew	John





**Rustburg UMC, P.O. Box 336
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Office Hours: 11 AM to 2 PM; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Rev. C. R. Brooks, Ph.D.

Phone (cell): 434-895-6032 | Email: revcrbrooks@aol.com
Lay Leadership Team: Pam Booth, Ben Coates, Annette Patrick
Music Director: Alice Watson
Administrative Assistant: Cheryl Martin
Communications Coordinator: Lisa Cameron

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for
the transformation of the world.

Our Vision: To be disciples of Jesus Christ who are
lifelong learners who influence others to serve.

Visit our **church website** at www.rustburgumc.org

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www.facebook.com/RustburgUnitedMethodistChurch