Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church

Mailing Address: Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church PO Box 393 Blowing Rock, NC 28605

Church Office 828 295-7675



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Dear Rumple Family,

I am still having a hard time believing that Advent begins on Sunday. I love this season of the year because of all the beautiful lights and decorations that we see all around us. I also love this season of waiting and preparation that we share in worship. I was reading one of my worship resources this week and wanted to share these with you, "The season of Advent, a season of waiting, is designed to cultivate our awareness of God's actions—past, present, and future. In Advent we hear the prophecies of the Messiah's coming as addressed to us—people who wait for the second coming. In Advent we heighten our anticipation for the ultimate fulfillment of all Old Testament promises, when the wolf will lie down with the lamb, death will be swallowed up, and every tear will be wiped away. In this way Advent highlights for us the larger story of God's redemptive plan." (The Worship Sourcebook, p 427.)

While this "most wonderful time of the year" is that for many, as your pastor I know it is not wonderful for everyone. This year, in conjunction with our brothers and sisters of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, we will host an Advent Service of Hope and Remembrance, on Wednesday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. This service will provide a space for us to recognize that this is a hard time for many folks- especially those who grieve the loss of a loved one, a broken relationship, or the continued brokenness in our world. With prayer, Scripture, and music we will offer time for folks to share their hurt and sorrow during this season. I hope you will come and bring a friend who might find a service like this comforting and healing as well.

In this season of watching and waiting, we have so much to be grateful for and so much to anticipate. I look forward to making this advent journey with you- whether you are here in the High Country or off the mountain for the winter- and to celebrating the greatest gift we have ever received, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Your Pastor,

Kathy

P.S. As we look toward the new year there is a lot to celebrate at Rumple. The Session adopted a balanced budget for 2018- with increased funding for missions and programs. A new board is being formed for Blowing Rock CARES and the Missions Committee is planning a special event in early 2018 in conjunction with St. Mary's and the Presbyterian-Episcopal Campus Ministry at ASU. The youth are planning a mission trip to Charlotte in February and to do hurricane relief in summer 2018. All the church buildings are all up-fitted with working *wifi* now which will allow for all kinds of technology for teaching, learning, and more. I am looking forward to 2018 at Rumple!

Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church

SLATE and STONE

December 2017

Called to Worship 👯 Empowered to Serve A Mission Church Bringing Members In, Sending Disciples Out

Rumple Youth

Under the leadership of our Youth Intern, Cassidy Nooner and the Youth Committee, our Middle and High School youth are active participants in the life of Rumple Church. We welcome members and friends to any and all of our meetings, retreats and conferences. Contact Cassidy Nooner at youth@rumplechurch.org to stay connected!

What's happening in December?

Sunday December 3—Combined Youth at the Youth Cottage

5:00 - 5:30 - Dinner 5:00 – 6:30 Middle AND High School Youth

Saturday December 9—Sunday December 10 Youth Lock-In

Meet at the youth cottage at 2pm on Saturday. Greg will provide pizzas for dinner on Friday. We will clean the youth cottage, clear out a classroom upstairs, clean out the Rumple Van, make sugar cookies in the manse, play a game of underground church, and spend the night in the youth cottage. We will also play Dirty Santa—everyone bring a \$10 gift to exchange. The youth will need to bring a sleeping bag and/or an air mattress, appropriate PJs, personal hygiene products, and clothes for Sunday.

Save these dates:

CROSS Urban Plunge - Date: February 9-11, 2018

Cost: \$100 per person We need a \$25 payment by December 1st and a second payment by December 13th. Please let Cassidy know if your youth is going by November 30th.

Montreat - Date: July 22-28

Cost: \$265 per person (if we pay by January 20th) OR \$275 per person (if we pay by February 20th) We need a \$25 payment by December 1st and a second payment by December 13th. Please let Cassidy know if your youth is going ASAP. We need a house mom/house dad for this trip.

Rumple Sweatshirts for Sale The Youth Group is selling Rumple Sweatshirts for \$8.00 each. Please see any youth member or church staff to get your sweatshirt. Most sizes are available.

Stay connected with Rumple! Like us on Facebook, visit our website

www.rumplechurch.org, Follow the youth on Instagram, #rumpleyouth, and add your email to our weekly e-newsletter





First Sunday of Advent, December 3

9:30 Church Tour 9:30 Reformation Sunday School 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Communion and Confirmation

Second Sunday of Advent, December 10

9:30 Reformation Sunday School 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Christmas Cantata offered by the choir 12:00 Christmas Lunch

Wednesday December 13

6:00 Holiday Service of Hope and Remembrance

Third Sunday of Advent, December 17

9:30 Reformation Sunday School 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship - Children's choir sings

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 24 Christmas Joy Offering will be received

9:30 Reformation Sunday School 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship - Baptism of Lilly Kaye Stanley

Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24

5:00 Christmas Eve Worship (child friendly) Childcare for infants and toddlers. 7:00 Christmas Eve Worship (Candlelight and Communion)

Online Advent Devotionals, from Pittsburgh Seminary, one of the seminaries of the PC (USA) will be coming to your email inbox this Advent. Please be sure the church has your email address if you would like to receive these each morning, office@rumplechurch.org. In addition, some Advent devotional books are available in the church office for \$14 and some small Advent devotionals are available there for no charge. Please pick one up if you prefer a printed devotional.

Advent and Christmas 2017

Rumple Presbyterían Church

And a little child shall lead them" isaiah 11:6

Church Office Hours Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

828-295-7675 www.rumplechurch.org

Sunday Services 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship

CHURCH LEADERS & STAFF

Clerk of Session: Mary Lentz Class of 2017 Audrey Gurkin Brenda Lentz Bill Thorn

Class of 2018 Barbara Julien Danny Kirkland Mary Lentz Mike Rhyne

Class of 2019 Davis Hankins Misty Mayfield Kim Rogers Cullie Tarleton

CHURCH STAFF Kathy Beach, Pastor pastor@rumplechurch.org David McCollum, Director of Music directorofmusic@rumplechurch.org Hazel Smithey, Secretary office@rumplechurch.org Eric Luke, Accompanist accompanist@rumplechurch.org Cassidy Nooner, Youth Intern cassidyn15@gmail.com Heather Sigmon, Custodian Claire Denness, Nursery Attendant Kelly Ginsberg, Nursery Attendant

The deadline for ordering poinsettias has been extended to December 4. Rumple will display the traditional poinsettias in the sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. There are forms in the friendship pads and on the display case in the reception area for you to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, or you may make a donation to WeCan.

Does Rumple have your email? Would you like to receive the weekly email updates from Rumple and other special announcements? Send your email address to Hazel at office@rumplechurch.org and we'll make sure you are added to our email list

The Rumple Church Tour is back! Sunday, December 3, at 9:30 join Jane Rogers and Adele Dunbar for a tour and tales of Rumple. The group will gather in the office reception area and tour all of Rumple's facilities while learning stories of the history of the congregation and information about current ministries and mission. The tour will begin with coffee and goodies provided by the Welcome Team. The tour is open to all visitors and curious members.

Alternative Christmas Gift Ideas at Rumple

The Missions Committee is selling Hospitality House Cookbooks and the Youth have hand-made Christmas ornaments for sale. Get some great Christmas gifts and support local missions and youth mission trips and retreats in 2018

There will be no Slate and Stone mailed by January 1. Slate and Stone will be abbreviated for January and arrive in homes around January 8 or 9.

All fall Rumple has been celebrating its **Treasures New and Old**.

This theme, taken from Matthew 13, focused our attention on 130 years of ministry and mission in the High Country and the great future that God has planned for Rumple. The Stewardship Committee is thrilled to report that the response has been fantastic! As of November 28, Rumple has received 87 estimates of giving totaling \$247,085. This represents the highest number of givers and the highest total amount pledged since 2014. This generous support of Rumple enabled the Session to adopt a balanced budget for 2018, at their November 27 meeting. The 2018 budget includes increased funding for missions and for ministry programs. Thanks be to God!



ness. Alex has been an elder and a deacon in the Presbyterian Church (USA.) He is interested in nature conservation, local history and culture, and old time music. Anne has serves as a Sunday School and bible teacher in previous churches. She also served as mayor pro-tem of Lenoir. Anne loves trout fishing and Cajun accordion and fiddle playing.

Thank you to Elders in the Class of 2017

One of the many blessings at Rumple is the incredible willingness of so many members and friends to share of their time and talents with the church. I continue to be amazed at the gifts that you each offer and your generosity with your time when it comes to Rumple- from folding bulletins to changing lightbulbs to working in the church gardens to caring for little ones in the nursery to accompanying the youth on retreats. Rumple is truly blessed!

I wanted to make a special shout out to three folks, though, the elders in the class or 2017: Audrey Gurkin, Brenda Lentz, and Bill Thorn. These three agreed to be among the spiritual leaders of this church during a time of transition. During their three years of service they have had at least four, maybe more, moderators of the Session (pastor or interim pastor.) They have helped to lead Rumple through both transition, change, and quite a few challenges.

One of the great aspects of our Presbyterian way, in my opinion, is that we truly try to abide by what Presbyterian means- we are ruled (led) by our elders. The Session is a team, trying together to discern God's will for the church in any given situation. Audrey, Brenda, and Bill have been a part of that discernment and spiritual leadership for three years- which is a huge commitment. We thank them for their service on church committees too: Fellowship (Audrey), Worship (Brenda), and Properties (Bill). If you see these folks around Rumple, please join me in thanking them for their three years of leadership and service at Rumple. Kathu





Bill Thorn

Audrey Gurkin



Welcome New Members

Alex and Anne Bernhardt come to Rumple church from the presbytery of Western North Carolina. They are lifelong Presbyterians and long-term residents of Lenoir, who also have a home here in Blowing Rock. They have spent their working careers (and they are not fully retired yet) in the furniture and design busi-



Brenda Lentz

Rumple on a Mission

Grace upon grace, God of light that cannot be overcome and life that never ends, we pray this Christmas to welcome the Prince of Peace, not just with "Silent Night," but with joy, to and for the world.....Make us, like Mary, God-bearers, willing to say "yes" to whatever you ask of us. Make us, like the shepherds, eager evangelists filled with praise and wonder. Make us, like Joseph, open to divine plans that are nothing like the ones we had envisioned for ourselves. Make us, like the wise men, ready to give to Christ the best that we have to offer. Use us to proclaim the Word made flesh in ways that make the incarnation evident to all creation. - Prayer by Jill Duffield, Presbyterian Outlook

Rumple on a Mission in December is supporting Rumple's Angel Tree and Elderberry outreach ministries. These ministry projects help area elderly, children and families have a joyous and blessed Christmas!

The Angel Tree, with the names, ages, and clothing sizes of children needing our help, is displayed in the church lobby. We hope you will choose an angel, purchase and wrap gifts, and return the gifts to the office beside Kathy's study or upstairs in classroom # 4 by Sunday, December 10 so that they can be distributed to families. You will also have the opportunity to buy a food/grocery gift card for a family. Please be sure to sign your name and phone number on the clipboards in the lobby beside the name and number of the child and/or family you choose. Any questions about this ministry may be directed to Susan Suddreth at 263-0821, or Teresa Lentz at 295-3276.

Circle 4 and Kim Kincaid are leading the **Elderberry** project this year. Local elderly identified by the Hunger and Health Coalition will receive grocery gift certificates, stockings, and other gifts. Thanks to many generous donors and shoppers, Elderberry is well underway this year. If you would like to be involved in this ministry, please email Kim Kincaid: kimkincaid@charter.net

We also continue our monthly food collections for Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. is a food bank that helps provide basic non-perishable food to families and individuals in Watauga County. The Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. food pantry is open for clients on Mondays from 9 am to 1 pm right here at Rumple. The **December items of need for Blowing** Rock C.A.R.E.S. are fruit in natural juice, pinto beans, toilet paper, and feminine products. Please bring your items throughout the month of December and leave them in the shopping cart in the church lobby.

Thanks to all who helped with the Thanksgiving food deliveries! Rumple members and friends teamed up with Blowing Rock CARES to feed 11 families (54 people), with children at Blowing Rock School, for Thanksgiving and the Thanksgiving break. Thank you to Tracy Markland who coordinated this event for Rumple Missions and for the over 25 folks who volunteered to help, shop, pack, deliver, and help at church with meals that were picked up.

...and a sincere THANK YOU to this generous congregation for the wonderful support in 2017 for Rumple Missions: From Wine to Water, Habitat for Humanity, Hurricane relief efforts, and dinners at Hospitality House (just to name a few!), Rumple shared the Good News in word and deed. We look forward to continuing our work together in 2018!

Rumple at Work

The Session of Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church consists of our pastor as moderator and eleven ruling elders, elected by the congregation. They meet monthly on the fourth Monday at 5:30. If you have items for the session, please see Kathy Beach, Session Moderator.

Rumple Presbyterian Session Digest November 2017 Stated Session Minute Highlights

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Kathy Beach.

Cullie Tarleton gave the devotion on our "HEARTS". Our hearts being open vessels for the many things we carry in our lives LOVE, HATE, JOY, ANGER. Reminding us that God looks on the inside of each heart. He left us to answer the question "what is He seeing in us?" Remembering that God truly knows the real us.

The minutes were approved by a motion by Brenda and second by Mike Rhyne. This motion passed.

Committee Reports -

CONGREGATIONAL CARE -- Barbara Julien reported on a meeting Mary Lentz and she attended on EMERGENCY PLAN TEMPLATE FOR FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS. Danny Kirkland, Bill Thorn, Mary Lentz and Barbara Julien will meet to study the information and report back to the session in December.

FINANCE - Cullie Tarleton gave the good news of the number of pledges received. The Finance Committee has just finished the 2018 budget. He also gave the good news that it is a very good possibility that we will end the year, for the first time in several years, in the BLACK.

MISSIONS - Misty Mayfield - reported on the CARES food program being housed in RUMPLE.

PERSONNEL – Mike Rhyne made the motion concerning the Christmas Bonus for the employees. The motion passed with a motion by Bill Thorn seconded by Danny Kirkland.

PROPERTIES - Bill Thorn reported on work completed during previous months New beeper system in nursery

- . Playground up-graded to state standards
- . Wi-fi in entire church
- . New phone system.

OLD BUSINESS -

. Confirmation Class to meet with Session on December 3rd at 10:30 in minister's study . Approval of Building Use Policy with motion by Bill Thorn seconded by Barbara Julien.

NEW BUSINESS -

. 2018 Budget proposal approved with likely amendment as more pledges are received. . Rev. Beach reported on dates she will be away, after Christmas, for continuing education.

NEXT MEETING - December 10th

Rev. Beach closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Lentz

Kathy has a **Pastoral Relations Committee** (PRC) to which the Session has given their blessing. Mary Lentz (clerk of session), Ann Rhyne, Mike Steele, and Cullie Tarleton (active elder) have agreed to serve on this committee. Kathy meets with them regularly to get and give feedback and to share ideas. They are her direct communication pipeline. The church directory has the most up-to-date contact information for each of them if you have a thanks or a concern.

Around Rumple

Presbyterian Women Circle News and Meetings Moderator Linda Mauldin 295-3327

Circle I will meet Monday December 3 at 6:00 in the Rumple House. Teresa Lentz 295-3276

Circle II meets the second Monday of each month at 2pm in the home of Mary Lentz 295-7289.

Circle III meets the third Monday of each month May-October at 10:30 in the Rumple House or a member's home. Jean Baskin 295-0901

Circle IV will meet Wednesday December 6, 10-12 noon in the Rumple House to wrap gifts for the Elderberry Tree project and on Saturday December 9 will deliver gifts to Hunger & Health Coalition and have a Christmas party for the Elderberry Tree project. Please call Kim Kincaid 295-6421 if you have questions.

Circle V meets the first Wednesday of each month April-December at the Rumple House. Members gather at 9:30 for fellowship and refreshments and the meetings starts at 10:00. Kathy Earley 263-0255.

December BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Ashlyn Steele
- 3 Rene Cuthill
- 3 Molly Bowden
- 4 Recie Craig 4 Lillon Henline
- 12 Gus Newton 13 Winnie Gee
- 14 Betty Coffey 16 Patti Curtis
- 17 Linda Liesegang 20 Charles Gurkin
- 23 Janice Carter 23 Natalie Holshouser 27 Kenton McCollum
- 28 Cris Jones 29 Beau Stanley
- 31 Melissa Tausche



Go Sing It on the Mountain

"Go Sing It on the Mountain," is the title of the Christmas Cantata that the choir, along with instrumentalists will present during the 11:00 am worship service on **December 10, 2017**. The new cantata by North Carolina based composer, Pepper Choplin, features traditional Christmas Carols along with some original settings of the timeless birth narrative. Employing a highly inventive mixture of mountain melodies, folk hymns, spirituals, familiar carols, and original music that is sure to surprise and delight, "Go Sing It on the Mountain" proclaims the good news from the prophet Isaiah's proclamation, "Comfort, O comfort my people!" to the final exuberant celebration: "Joy to the world! Christ is born!" You might even see an old-time band with Guitars, Mandolin, Banjo and Double Bass. Mark your calendars, December 10th, for "Go Sing It on the Mountain."



Second Sunday Christmas Lunch December 10 immediately following worship. This is the Sunday the choir will lead us with their Christmas Cantata so lunch will be a great way to thank them! And the youth will make Christmas cookies to decorate during lunch for everyone to enjoy. Ham will be provided by the Fellowship Committee-please bring a side dish or salad to share.



Winter Salt Shakers 2018

"Salt Shakers" is a group of members and friends that gather monthly, February through May, to enjoy a meal and fellowship at a member's home. A leader will be assigned to each dinner and will host the first dinner in February. The leader will provide the main entrée and each person attending can bring a dish to share. It is a great way to enjoy good food, meet new friends, and see old friends for dinner and wonderful fellowship. Sign-up will be through **December**. Participants will be assigned to a group with a group leader that will host the first meeting in February. Forms are available in the friendship pads in the sanctuary and in the

office reception area. Please contact Marion Thorn at marionthorn@bellsouth.net or call Hazel in the church office.

High Tea at the Rumple House

Friday January 5, 2018, 2:00pm to 4:00pm Dress up and treat yourself and your loved one to an afternoon of High Tea featuring assorted teas and goodies all while benefiting Water for Life. For more information call 828-292-0035. Tickets are limited at \$25 per person. Makes a great stocking stuffer or Christmas Gift.



Holiday Service of Hope and Remembrance **Wednesday December 13** at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. For many people, this holiday season is not joyful but a sad and lonely time. In this service of prayers and special music, all those who find this season hard are invited to come and be reminded of the comfort and presence of God. We will celebrate the light of Christ that shines brighter than any darkness. This service is open to anyone so please invite friends and neighbors too.

Interested in growing as a disciple? Would you enjoy a small group bible study? Do you want to dig deeper into the history of the Protestant Reformation? Why not join an Adult Sunday School class at Rumple this December? The Men's Class does traditional bible study with discussions led by class members and meets in Rumple House. The Women's Class does the same traditional bible study and meets in the Library. The Discoverers Class is reading and discussing Max Lucado's Because of Bethlehem book and meets in Rumple House. Reformation 500 is being taught by Don Saunders and meets upstairs in the Education building in the Adult Class Room. Books for this class are available in the church office for \$15.

Around Rumple





Concerns and Cares

Rumple members Drew Dunn, recovering from surgery; Jerry Hutchens, recovering from detached retina; Roger Broeker, recovering from a fall in FL; Liz Hodge, Camille Suttle, Erin Tobin, Darby Teander, Bill and Pat Magruder, Patty Alexander, Brenda Lentz, Natasha Schoonover, candidate for ordained ministry

Family and friends of Rumple Phil Gurkin, brother of Charles; Carolyn Nelson's sister Joyce Rodriguez; Evan Adair's mother; Stanley Coffey, son of Betty Coffey, Phyllis Foster, friend of Wes Thompson, Nathan Miller Jacobs, cousin of Evan Adair; the people and Presbyterian churches in Puerto Rico; Ellen and Al Smith and their mission in Russia

We grieve with Mike and Ann Rhyne in the death of Mike's mother, Harriet, on November 29 in Charlotte

Notes of Thanks from Mary Ann Baggstrom for your prayers, cards and concern during the death of her brother, and the prayers for her great-granddaughter, Calliope, who is home from the hospital and doing well.

Thank you Rumple members for the many cards and prayers on the recent death of his father. And a special thank you to the Care Committee for the nice shawl and blessings. Rumple Church's kindness is most appreciated and we are glad to be a part of the church family. Charlie Sellers

Please contact Hazel in the church office if you have other prayer concerns to add.

If you go to the hospital and would like the church office to know, please remember to call or ask the hospital to call the church office. Your name and hospitalization is not shared with the congregation unless you give permission.

Congregational Care If you or someone you know in the congregation would like a visit, please share this information with Kathy, an Elder, or contact the Church Office.

Large Print Hymnals and Assistive Listening devices for worship are available in the narthex. If you would like to use a "Sound Mate" while in worship, please see Kent Leonard (at the soundboard) or an usher for assistance

Missed Worship? There are audio CD's available of each worship service and they can be found in the library if you would like to check one out.

There is a **Medical Supply Loaner Closet** in the Rumple House with medical supplies to be used by anyone as needed.

Communion is served monthly during worship. If you or someone you know would like to have communion at home because of illness or mobility challenges, please call the church office. The next date elders will be taking home communion is December 3.

Office hours for Kathy are: Monday—Wednesday 9-5 Thursday morning, sermon writing, Thursday afternoon, visiting



Decei	December 2017		at Rumple	ACU—Adult Classr PS—Pastor's Study	ACU—Adult Classroom Upstairs PS—Pastor's Study	L—Library RH—Rumple House FH—Fellowship Hall
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 First Sunday of Advent	4	5	9	7	8	9
9:30 Church I our (pastor's office) 9:30 Reformation Class (ACU)			10-12 Circle 4 Gift Wrap (RH)			Circle 4 deliver gifts
9:45 Sunday School			TT:UU STATT MIG (L) 2:30 KICKS/Fusion (KMC)			2:00 Youth Lock-In (YC)
5:00-6:30 Combined Youth (YC)			5:45 Christian Ed Committee (L) 7:00 Sanctuary Choir		weaaing Kenearsai	3:30 Wedding
10 Second Sunday of Advent	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 Reformation Class (ACU) 9:45 Sunday School			11:00 Staff Mtg (L)	10:30 Prayer Shawl (RH)		
11:00 Worship—Cantata			2:30 KICKS/Fusion (KMC)	(· · · · ·		
12:00 Christmas Lunch (FH) 5:30 Session Party (Manse)	4:30 Missions Committee (L)		6:00 Hope and Remembrance Worship			
			7:00 Sanctuary Choir			
17 Third Sunday of Advent	18	19	20-	21	22	23
9:30 Reformation Class (ACU) 9:45 Sunday School			11:00 Staff Mtg (L)			
11:00 Worship	4:00 Finance Comm (L)					
4:00-5:30 Middle School Youth 5:00-6:30 High School Youth			7:00 Sanctuary Choir Party			
24 Fourth Sunday of Advent	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30 Relormation Class (ACU) 9:45 Sunday School	Merry Christmas	Church office closed				
11:00 Worship 5:00 Christmas Eve Worship	Church office closed					
7:00 Christmas Eve Worship— Communion						
31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6
	Happy New Year church office closed					