

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Mrs. Clarice Cameron	3368 Fenton Ave	Bronx, NY 10466
Mrs. Jean Campbell		
Ms. Carlotta Eller	90 Ringgold Street #S302	Peekskill, NY 10566
Ms. Delores Luckett	125 South 13 <sup>th</sup> Ave #1B	Mt. Vernon, NY 10550
Ms. Violet Wilburn	87 High Street #6K	Yonkers, NY 10703

### SCRIPTURE READINGS for December 18<sup>th</sup> (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, Year C)

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Adult Bible Study	Sun. 9:15am
Choir Rehearsal	Sun. 9:30AM & after worship
Sunday School	Sun. 9:30am
Youth Explosion Teen Meeting	Sun. after worship
Bible Study	Tue. 10:30am
Senior Computer Classes	Tue. 6:30pm
United Methodist Men	January 3, 2017 @ 7:00pm
Wednesday's Word	Wed. 3:00pm
Evening Bible Study	Wed. 6:30pm & 7:45pm
United Methodist Women	*TBA- December, 2016
Prayer Ministry	Sat. 9:00 am

## ONGOING EVENTS

**Daughters of Esther**  
**Sparkle Project**  
**Youth Explosion - Friday Fun Night!**  
(\*1<sup>st</sup> & Last Friday of the Month)

\*AAH- African American Hymnal

\*UMH- United Methodist Hymnal

\*W&S- Worship & Song

\*ZSS- Zion Still Sings

†Please stand if able (latecomers may be seated).

We WELCOME our guests and pray that this service is a blessing to you. If our Pastor can be of service to you, call (914) 632-2166 or e-mail: [umcnewrochelle@gmail.com](mailto:umcnewrochelle@gmail.com).



**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 11, 2016 – 10:30AM**

**Reverend Michelle E. Lewis**  
*Pastor*

*New Rochelle United Methodist Church is a Diverse Community  
uplifting each other with love, prayer, faith, and service  
to transform lives through Jesus Christ.*

**1200 North Avenue, New Rochelle, New York 10804 (914) 632-2166**  
**EMAIL: [umcnewrochelle@gmail.com](mailto:umcnewrochelle@gmail.com) WEBSITE: [newrochelleumc.org](http://newrochelleumc.org)**  
**In the event of an emergency: contact (929) 266-3775 to reach the pastor**



## United People Living In Faith to Transform

You are invited to prepare for worship by praying at the altar or in your seat  
- Please silence cell phones -

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### ENTER TO WORSHIP

GATHERING	Drumming	
†PROCESSIONAL HYMN	<i>“Come Thy Fount of Every Blessing”</i>	UMH 400
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES		
WELCOME/GREETINGS		
PRAISE AND WORSHIP		
(See Page 4)	<i>“Welcome”</i>	W&S 3152
(See Page 6)	<i>“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”</i>	UMH 89

†CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The Lord is Coming to his temple.  
**ALL: We watch and wait for his coming.**  
ONE: Prepare the way of the Lord!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

READER 1: We light this candle as a symbol of God’s love for us and our love for one another.

READER 2: The Lord rejoices over us with gladness, and renews us in his love.  
He exults over us with singing and turns our shame to praise.

**ALL: Come Lord Jesus, come!**

PRAYER (Centering Silence)

**Oh God who comes to turn our mourning into dancing. We confess that we need to repent. Forgive us for not always trusting your word, especially in those times**

### *An Invitation to a Blue Christmas Service*

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died; it may be a time that has always been difficult.

Many are experiencing the anguish of broken relationships, unemployment, ill health, isolation - all these can make someone feel very alone in the midst of the celebrating.

For these reasons, New Rochelle United Methodist Church will offer a special “Blue Christmas Service” on **Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 7:00pm.** Come out, and join with us in sharing and hearing prayers and scripture that acknowledge that God’s presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle – and that God’s Word comes to shine light into our darkness. Everyone is welcome.

**SENIOR COMPUTER CLASS:** The next session is scheduled for **December 20, 2016.**

**APPORTIONMENTS:**

Please be prayerful about giving at least \$50 each month above your tithes. This will help us to meet our monthly apportionment and insurance obligations while meeting all other expenses of the church. Thank you.

*-Finance Team*

**BIBLE STUDY: Streaming Every Wednesday Evening!**

There are two options for Bible Study. Both take place on Wednesday night. One is at 6:30 and the other begins at 7:45. **The 7:45 study will also be live streamed.** Live streaming is via the app/web platform *Periscope*. We are NRUMC Bible Study.

**FRIDAY FUN NIGHT: First & Last Friday! 7pm - 9pm**

Join the Youth Explosion Youth Group for a night of Christian Fun, including: food, games, bible study and more! For info call **(917) 202-2763**

**DISASTER RELIEF: NRUMC IS A Drop-Off Location**

We are a drop off location for cleaning supplies for those affected by natural disasters. Please see posted donation lists to see how you can help.

NRUMC's Mission Committee is collecting the essential health kit materials to provide aid to the many tragically impacted by natural disasters and other critical events. **Kits are \$12ea.**

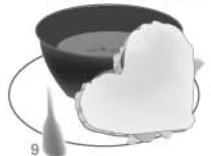
**HOSPITALITY:**

Volunteers are needed to make the food and fellowship after worship a successful event. To help with after church refreshments please see Eunice Gooding or Janine Dodd; we are asking for your support. Sign-up sheets are posted in the parlor and near the entrance to the church office. Please sign up to bring healthy food in support of this time of sharing.

**SUBMISSIONS:**

Please remember to submit all announcements to the church office in writing by Tuesday at **11am** to be approved for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin.

**YOUTH OUTREACH:**



Every second Sunday, the Youth Explosion youth group will be making soup and sandwiches to be served to the less fortunate. See Carla Moseley Director for donation suggestions or ways to participate.

when we have been afraid. We pray for all those who have no joy and struggle to experience your joy in their lives, especially during this season when we wait expectantly for the coming of your Son. We pray for hope for the hopeless, love for those who feel unloved; and we pray for joy for all those living in sadness. We welcome your Holy Spirit to illumine our own lives with just a portion of the hope, love, and joy we ask for others. We pray all these things in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**THE PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE**

(In response to the words "Lord in your mercy..." all should respond, "Hear our prayer.")

PRAYER REPOSE *"Glory Be to the Father"* UMH 70

**FOR THE YOUNG & YOUNG AT HEART**

**+PASSING THE PEACE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS p.8

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10 [NRSV p.663]

SCRIPTURE LESSON James 5:7-10 [NRSV p.231]

CHOIR SELECTION *"O Happy Day!"*

+GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 11:2-11 [NRSV p.11]  
&  
Luke 1:47-55 [NRSV p.57]

SERMON *"Finding Joy in Uncertain Times"* Rev. Michelle E. Lewis

SONG *"Jesus You're the Center of My Joy"* ZSS 174  
(See Insert)

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**+DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**

praise God all creatures here below  
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
 Praise God the source of all our gifts  
 Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts  
 Praise the spirit, holy spirit,  
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

OFFERATORY PRAYER

Almighty God, thank you for the surprising ways that you bring salvation. You faithfully keep your covenant promises to Abraham and Sarah and their descendants. With Mary, we express deep gratitude for your help at unexpected turns in our lives. Give each of us a humble heart to serve you willingly and joyfully. Use these offerings to assist people who struggle with doubt or physical needs through the ministries of our church. We pray in your holy name. Amen. (Luke 1)

†BENEDICTION

†CHORAL BENEDICTION "The Threefold Amen"

POSTLUDE "I've Got the Joy" AAH 622  
 (See Page 7)

DEPART TO SERVE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: "World Thanks Offering":**

Today, the UMW is asking for donations toward "World Thanks Offering." It is an opportunity for individuals to respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission carried on through the United Methodist Women's national office in the United States and around the world.

**TRAINING SESSIONS HAVE BEGUN: Attention Liturgists & Lay Speakers**

Pastor's Training for liturgists and lay speakers will be held on the following dates: 12/8; 12/13; 1/31, and 2/21/17. Sessions will begin promptly at 7:00pm. \*Beginning January 2017, only those who have participated will be liturgists in worship. Anyone planning to attend on 12/13: please see pastor to schedule another time.

**"FRIENDS OF KAREN" Holiday Wish List:** *Supporting critically ill children and their families.* Brand new toys will be collected for children with compromised immune systems. Please see Adrian Harewood; the deadline for gift donations is **today, December 11, 2016.**

**UMW POTLUCK CHRISTMAS GATHERING:**

On Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parlor, the United Methodist Women will be having our Potluck Christmas Gathering. Women of all ages are welcome.

**CAROLING AT ST. JOHN'S RIVERSIDE HOSPITAL: December 17, 2016 - 3pm to 5pm**

Let's spread the love of Christ this holiday season!  
 We will meet at the church at 2:00pm



**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:**



If you would like to have poinsettias placed at the altar for the Christmas Service, please place the request slip (rear bulletin or located at the entrance to the Sanctuary) in the offering baskets. You may see Alma Jordan with any additional questions.

**HOLIDAY BLESSINGS:**

The United Methodist Women are still accepting donations of canned/non-perishable goods on behalf of our local families this season of giving. Please search your hearts and cabinets as you are able, and help the UMW bless the sick and shut-in, as well as others in need this holiday season. See Alma Jordan or Andrea Harewood for information: donations will be received in the Narthex just outside the doors to the Sanctuary.

# I'VE GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY 622

...and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.

1 Peter 1:8

1. I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
 2. I've got the peace that pass-eth un-der-stand-ing,  
 3. I've got the love of Je-sus, love of Je-sus,  
 4. For there is there-fore now no con-dem-na-tion,

Down in my heart, Down in my heart, Down in my heart;

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
 I've got the peace that pass-eth un-der-stand-ing,  
 I've got the love of Je-sus, love of Je-sus,  
 For there is there-fore now no con-dem-na-tion,

Down in my heart, Down in my heart to stay.

# 3152

# Welcome

1. Let's walk to-gether for a while and  
 2. Let's talk to-gether of a time when  
 3. Let's dream to-gether of the day when

ask where we be-gin— to build a world where  
 we will share a feast,— where pride and pow-er  
 earth and heaven are one,— a ci-tiy built of

love can grow and hope can en-ter in,— to  
 kneel to serve the lone-ly and the least,— and  
 love and light, the new Je-ru-sa-lem,— where our

be the hands of heal-ing and to  
 joy will set the ta-ble as we  
 mourn-ing turns to danc-ing, ev-ery

## Refrain

plant the seed of peace,— sing-ing wel-come,  
 join our hands to pray,— sing-ing wel-come,  
 crea-ture lifts its voice,— cry-ing wel-come,

wel-come to this place. You're in-vit-ed to

come and know God's grace. All are wel-come the



love of God to share \_\_\_\_\_ 'cause all of us are wel-come here; \_  
 \_ all are wel-come in this place. \_\_\_\_\_

Center of My Joy

*And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement. (Romans 5:11 KJV)*

Je-sus, you're the cen-ter of my joy,

all that's good and per-fect comes from you. \_\_\_\_\_

You're the heart of my con-tent-ment, hope for all I do, \_

Je - sus, you're the cen - ter of my joy.

WORDS: Gloria Gaither

MUSIC: Richard Smallwood, William Gaither, arr. by Mark A. Miller

CENTER OF MY JOY

Irregular

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