



## Monthly Updates – December, 2022

### **Advent Series - The Light Breaks In:**

December 4: Second Sunday in Advent: **JOY** - Luke 2:1-20

December 11: Third Sunday in Advent: **LOVE** - Luke 22:54-62, John 21:15-19

December 18: Fourth Sunday in Advent: **PEACE** - 1 Kings 19:1-14

December 24: Christmas Eve: **JESUS** - Matthew 2:1-12

December 25: Christmas Day: **CHRIST** - Isaiah 9:2-7



Sunday worship services Sunday worship services will be live on our You Tube channel at 10:00am. Our in-person worship service is also at 10:00am. We offer Kids on the Rock (our children's program) for babies through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Herman's Boy in December:** Pastor Bill will be taking a break from Herman's Boy meet-ups in December.

**KOTR Christmas Singing:** Don't miss this fun Sunday morning on December 4!

**Uccello's Fundraiser:** Student Ministries want to invite RRC and friends to Uccello's in downtown Rockford on December 5 from 4pm to 8pm where 15% will be donated for the mission trip next summer. Please take a flyer from the Info Table, or print one from Sunday morning resources email, to take with you.

**KOTR Movie Nite:** On Friday, December 9, The Grinch will be shown. Bring friends, blankets, check out the concessions! Doors open at 6pm, movie starts at 6:30pm.

**Women's Winter Bible Study:** Join us for the winter edition of Women's Bible Study. An 8-week session continuing the Book of Mark will be every Tuesday at 7pm, from January 31 through March 21. There is no cost to participate. To sign up, stop by the Info Table in January or register online at <https://forms.gle/Dpvfcg8oievMW49L8>. We would love to see you there! With any questions, contact Allyssa Thompson at [allyssat@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:allyssat@riverrockcommunity.com).

### **Women's Book Club:**

The next meeting date for Women's Book Club will be December 10, 9:30am at Marlene's Carriage House. The book being discussed is "My Name is Mahtob" by Mahtob Mahmoody. For more information, contact Alyce VandeLune at [atvande@yahoo.com](mailto:atvande@yahoo.com).

### **Hand2Hand Ministries:**

River Rock is partnering with Hand2Hand Ministries this school year to provide food to students over the weekends who are in need. Our partner schools are North Rockford Middle School and Meadow Ridge Elementary. If you are interested in serving once per month at one of these schools, contact Jen Denouden at [jen.denouden@gmail.com](mailto:jen.denouden@gmail.com).

### **North Kent Connect Senior Pantry Volunteer Opportunity:**

North Kent Connect has asked River Rock to help support their monthly Senior Pantry by supplying coffee and refreshments to those who attend. We are looking for volunteers who might have interest in serving in this way on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 10am- Noon. If you are interested in signing up or learning more, contact Mary Hulst at [mimijean1949@gmail.com](mailto:mimijean1949@gmail.com).

**River Rock Online Directory:** River Rock has an online directory available for anyone who is active in our database! To access the directory, simply go to this link: <https://engage.suran.com/riverrock>. You will need to set up a username and login if you do not currently use this link to give online. Once you have set up an account, you will find a link for "Groups" under the drop down. Here you will find the online directory. If you have any questions or issues, please contact [shelleyp@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:shelleyp@riverrockcommunity.com).

**Adults:** If you are interested in joining a Real Life Group (small group), contact Brian at [briane@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:briane@riverrockcommunity.com).

**Kids On The Rock:** We offer in-person Kids on the Rock during the service for Babies-5<sup>th</sup> grade. KOTR would love your help on Sunday mornings in our Babies-Preschool and K-5 KOTR program. To volunteer for either Babies-Preschool or K-5, please contact Lisa Nyenhuis at [lisan@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:lisan@riverrockcommunity.com). We do ask that you fill out a background check on an annual basis.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Do you have an interest in knitting or crocheting? River Rock has a Prayer Shawl/Blanket Ministry that provides comfort to those going through a difficult time or transition. All skill levels are welcome! With any questions, contact Mary Hulst at [mimijean1949@gmail.com](mailto:mimijean1949@gmail.com).

**Church Assistance Program with Pine Rest:** River Rock partners with Pine Rest to offer a Church Assistance Program (CAP). CAP offers free, confidential counseling with expert clinicians to you and your household members. There is no co-pay or out-of-pocket cost; just make sure to identify yourself as a CAP member. Call 616.455.6210 to get connected.

**Do you have a prayer request?** Email it to [Prayer@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:Prayer@riverrockcommunity.com) and the prayer team will receive it and lift your request up.

**Prayer and Care Email** - do you want to pray for our community more deeply? Sign up to receive the Care and Prayer Email by sending an email to [prayer@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:prayer@riverrockcommunity.com).

**Upcoming Communion and Benevolence Offering Dates:** The next dates will be in January, 2023.

**Next Steps at River Rock Church:** Have you checked out the Next Steps document that is available each week? Next Steps is a resource you can use in a small group, with a family, on your own, or with a friend. It includes an overall idea for the week, and some follow up questions from the Sunday message. Look for it to be emailed to you each week in our Sunday Morning Resources as well as available at the Info Table!

### **River Rock Caring Communities**

The purpose of the caring communities is to encourage, to be known and feel cared for, and to share the Radical Love that God has lavished on us as we live Real Life. Hopes are that Council members will:

- Connect once/twice a year
- Care for each other in times of need
- Lift needs in prayer

Do you have any needs, prayer concerns, or praise to share? We'd love to hear from you! Contact your Caring Community Council member listed below.

#### Groups/Council Members

Care Group 1	Michelle Norquist	A-B	<a href="mailto:Dmquist@hotmail.com">Dmquist@hotmail.com</a>
Care Group 2	Jana Kim	C-G	<a href="mailto:jaja24601@sbcglobal.net">jaja24601@sbcglobal.net</a>
Care Group 3	Scott Robinson	H-Ki	<a href="mailto:buck1015@hotmail.com">buck1015@hotmail.com</a>
Care Group 4	Larry Hulst	Ko-Mi	<a href="mailto:lhulst.lhc@gmail.com">lhulst.lhc@gmail.com</a>
Care Group 5	David Jaeger	Mo-Ri	<a href="mailto:dajaeger@charter.net">dajaeger@charter.net</a>
Care Group 6	Patti Kenyon	Rob-T	<a href="mailto:jimpattik@charter.net">jimpattik@charter.net</a>
Care Group 7	Justin Behm	U-Z	<a href="mailto:justin.behm@gmail.com">justin.behm@gmail.com</a>

#### **River Rock Board Contacts:**

##### **Elders:**

Jared Gunderson (Board Chair) (616) 560-5159, [jargund@gmail.com](mailto:jargund@gmail.com)  
Larry Hulst (616) 822-0409, [lhulst.lhc@gmail.com](mailto:lhulst.lhc@gmail.com)  
Michelle Norquist (616) 204-3866, [Dmquist@hotmail.com](mailto:Dmquist@hotmail.com)  
Scott Robinson (616) 862-6435, [buck1015@hotmail.com](mailto:buck1015@hotmail.com)  
Jim Stull (Elder Chair), (616) 292-4794, [jstull@scottchristopherhomes.com](mailto:jstull@scottchristopherhomes.com)  
Katy Spengler (Clerk) (616) 443-6278, [kt.praygnorth@gmail.com](mailto:kt.praygnorth@gmail.com)

##### **Deacons:**

Justin Behm (Deacon Chair) (616) 443-1385, [justin.behm@gmail.com](mailto:justin.behm@gmail.com)  
John Broersma (616) 822-9308, [broersma.john@gmail.com](mailto:broersma.john@gmail.com)  
Mary Jo Brill (616) 332-6539, [mjbrill91@gmail.com](mailto:mjbrill91@gmail.com)  
David Jaeger (616) 433-8030, [dajaeger@charter.net](mailto:dajaeger@charter.net)  
Patti Kenyon (616) 328-1933, [jimpattik@charter.net](mailto:jimpattik@charter.net)  
Jana Kim (616) 648-1434, [jaja24601@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jaja24601@sbcglobal.net)

##### **Staff Contacts:**

Pastor Bill Flavin (Lead Pastor), [Billf@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:Billf@riverrockcommunity.com) (414) 491-5131,  
Allyssa Thompson (Worship Director), [Allyssat@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:Allyssat@riverrockcommunity.com) (616) 295-7508  
Brian Ellis, (Next Gen Pastor), [briane@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:briane@riverrockcommunity.com) (616) 481-9843  
Bethany Mattingly (Connect), [connect@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:connect@riverrockcommunity.com)  
Cody Miedema (Intern), [codym@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:codym@riverrockcommunity.com)  
Lisa Nyenhuis (Children's Ministry Director), [Lisan@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:Lisan@riverrockcommunity.com) (616) 446-2864  
Shelley Plambeck (Accounting), [Shelleyp@riverrockcommunity.com](mailto:Shelleyp@riverrockcommunity.com) (616) 262-6931

**Mission News: Int'l** - Nicaragua: Our partners, The VanZoest family/Resonate Global Mission sends greetings! There is great hope in His kingdom growing efforts as they ask for prayer/provision in seeking 22/23 teachers /faculty. They include RRC in recommending candidates for this ministry. Please refer interested folks to the following email address: [www.nca.edu.ni/teach](mailto:www.nca.edu.ni/teach)

**Mission News: Local** - 50,000 Alpha Grand Rapids Diaper Challenge! An ask has been made to His churches to donate diapers for GR babies. Gift any size, any brand, bring to the church for final delivery. Bringing the littles to His kingdom via diapers; imagine that! Questions: see Patti Kenyon

**Degage Ministries** is collecting items to provide clients with a dignified way to purchase for their needs. Please add to the box thru Dec. 9 to help this ministry.

**Benevolence:** If you or someone you know needs support, please notify the Deacons. We can assist in many ways.

You can give your **gifts** online through our website <https://riverrockcommunity.com/give/> by text (1-616-727-0611) or mail to River Rock Church, 6060 Belding Road, Rockford, MI 49341.

