



September 12, 2021

Rockport United Methodist Church
3301 Wooster Road, Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Church Phone: 440-331-9433

Church Email: office@rockportumc.org

Rev. Don Kraps: sparknod@yahoo.com

Rev. Don Kraps Phone: 440-391-9823

Website: www.rockportumc.org

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

10:00 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (People's response in **bold**.)

Leader: In the midst of meaninglessness,

People: You call us to meaning, O God.

Leader: In the midst of divisiveness,

People: You call us to community through Christ.

Leader: Out of our brokenness,

People: You call us to wholeness and new life in the Spirit.

Leader: In praise and thanksgiving, let us worship God.

HYMN

“For the Healing of the Nations”

UMH 428, insert

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-9 NIV

4 The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. 5 The Sovereign Lord has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away. 6 I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. 7 Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. 8 He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! 9 It is the Sovereign Lord who helps me. Who will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

THE CHILDREN'S TIME TO LEAD US

PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERN

UNISON PRAYER

We thank you, O God, within and beyond us, for linking our lives in so many ways, making a chain of hope and compassion long enough and strong enough to circle the globe. When we walk hand in hand, when we work side by side, the impossible becomes the next challenge before us, and we know we can do what we dared not attempt. May mountains of misery melt with your word of concern that we put into action, and may there never again be despair or denial of your saving grace as we pray the prayer Jesus Taught the Disciples.

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN

“Jesu, Jesu”

UMH 432, insert

OFFERTORY

(Place your offering in the treasure chest at the back of the church, mail in your giving or go to the GIVE tab on the website:rockportumc.org)

SERMON

“Stand By Each Other”

Rev. Don Kraps

HYMN

“Let There Be Peace On Earth”

UMH 431, insert

UNISON BENEDICTION

Life is too short and too hard to try to make it alone. But thanks be to God, we aren't alone. God will never ever forsake us or leave us. And God has placed us here in this community of faith, surrounded by brothers and sisters who love us and care for us, brothers and sisters of faith, on whom we can fully rely when times get tough. So let us go forth as people of faith who know from where their help comes. Amen.

POSTLUDE

SERVING THE LORD AT ROCKPORT

Pastor

Rev. Don Kraps

Director of Christian Education/Youth

Kira Cimino Holchin

Lay Leader

Jim Spallino

Music Director/Organist

Susan Shick

Church Office Administrator

Sara Chapman

Lector

Kira Cimino Holchin

Sound/Video

Scott Holchin

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021

8:30-9:00am - Early Morning Service

10:00am - Outdoor Worship & Live Streamed

3:30-5:30pm – Youth Group Start Up Family POTLUCK

Monday, Sept. 13, 2021

7:00pm – Strategic Planning

Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021

6:30pm– Men's Group POTLUCK

Friday, September 17, 2021

9:45am – Al-Anon

Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021

8:30-9:00am - Early Morning Service

9:15-9:45am – Opening Committee

10:00am - Outdoor Worship & Live Streamed

5-7:00pm– Youth Group Alumni Gathering

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Pam Schmidbauer, The Family of Connie Clyde, Karen, Helen Miller, Ron, The Family of Dan Rosette, Mary Jane Keeler, Vickie Smilanich , Betty Jones, Pearl Biscotti, Dan Rice, Vicki Moenich, Erna Guia , Keel Arlia, Vicki Moenich, Sara, Norma Golladay, Joyce, Stan P., Lynn Burris, Mary Mainwaring, Douglas MacMillan, Bill Bowers, Donny Nally, Katie Patton, Dennis, Jan Tietje and those serving our country!

ROCKPORT UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CHOIR RESUMES SOON! Greetings in Christ! We are excited our Rockport Choir will be starting once again very soon. Those who love to express their faith through singing make-up our choir. No auditions. Our choir's offerings are a regular part of the Sunday worship service. Rehearsals will be Tuesday evenings at 6:45pm, under the direction of Susan Shick. We present traditional and contemporary choral songs and hymns. Soloists and instrumentalists have many opportunities to enhance the musical offerings of our choir. Please contact: Susan Shick , Rockport UMC Music Director/Organist, ershick@prodigy.net, 440-331-5718

HELLO COLLEGE STUDENTS (AND PARENTS!) We are hoping to gather college addresses of all of our college students. From time to time we like to correspond with them! Please send your address (or your child's) to the church office by calling or emailing, or send to Kira Holchin! office@rockportumc.org education@rockportumc.org

MEN'S GROUP: The Rockport Men's Group will meet on Thursday, September 16th at 6:30 pm at the church for a potluck dinner. There will be a great meal, time for face-to-face fellowship and a guest speaker. Come and enjoy this special time together!

LAY LEADERSHIP / NOMINATING & STEWARDSHIP: We are looking for a few folks to be on the Lay Leadership/Nominating committee. This committee recruits, trains, nurtures, and supports lay leadership at Rockport. They assist the Church Council with assessing and recommending changes in leadership needs. Also, we are looking for someone to spearhead our Stewardship Campaign for 2022. If you are interested in being on either of these committees, please talk with Pastor Don.

NEW OFFICE HOURS BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER: New office hours will be Tuesdays, 11-4pm, Wednesdays, 10-4pm, and Friday, 10-3pm. Also, Rev. Don's office hours will remain: Tuesdays, 11-1pm and Thursdays, 11-1pm. Rev. Don's contact info. Is: sparknod@yahoo.com, 440-391-9823.

WORSHIP WILL REMAIN OUTDOORS! In lieu of the COVID uncertainties and Rockport's beautiful outdoor space we will remain outdoors as long as we can and as long as weather permits. The time will also remain at 10am. Please dress accordingly.

RECOMMENDATIONS: As a reminder, due to the COVID uncertainties with the Delta Variance, and in the spirit of caring for each other (especially the immunocompromised and our unvaccinated kids), Rockport's leadership has prayerfully decided to reinstate that all people, vaccinated or not, wear masks INDOORS and SOCIALLY DISTANCE.

ROCKPORT YOUTH GROUP ALUMNI! Sunday, September 19th – 5 to 7 p.m.

We are gettin' the gang back together! We haven't met since Covid shut us down! FOOD AND FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP! Come and have some dinner together, and conversation. WOOHOO! Can't wait to catch up! Friends are always welcome!

CONFIRMATION AT ROCKPORT 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR: If you have a youth in 7th or 8th grade this school year, please let us know if you are interested in becoming a part of our Confirmation class! There will be a parent and youth meeting sometime in September, and the Confirmation year will kick off in October! Contact

Kira or the church office to sign up!