

# - Rochester United Methodist Church

January 4, 2009

Rev. Alta Smith, Interim Pastor

“Epiphany: The 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas, the traditional time of the arrival of the wise men from the East. Epiphany: a sudden manifestation of the essence or meaning of something.” Google

**Welcome and Announcements** (Please take a few moments to fill out a prayer request card for your joys and concerns. These will be collected during the Celebration in Song and handed to the pastor before our prayer time.)

## Passing the Peace

### Celebration in Song

**Invocation:** unison prayer

**Darkness descends earlier. Winds rattle bare trees. Winter landscapes push us to the hearth-to the warmth of a blazing fire, to the depths of a thoughtful heart. There in the interior, in the midst of shadows and worries, you have placed your Word like a lamp, your Spirit like a bright star, your Truth like a crescent moon. Every darkness is punctured by light. God of the day and of the night, God of winter darkness, we praise you for your Epiphany lights. In the name of Jesus, the Light of the world. Amen.**

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns:** As each person speaks of their joy or concern, the pastor will say, “Lord” and the congregation will respond: **“Hear our prayer:”**

### *Pastoral Prayer*

#### *The Lord’s Prayer*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer response:

#349

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.

## Sharing our Gifts, our Tithes, and our Offerings

### *Offertory*

### *Doxology\**

Hymnal # 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

### *Prayer of Dedication\**

**As the wise men brought their gifts to the Holy Child to honor him, so we bring these gifts to honor you this day, Most Holy God. Please take these our gift and multiply them in order that many people will receive your blessings and your hope through the ministry of this congregation. Amen.**

### Children’s Time

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### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

page 690

Matthew 2:1-12

page 2

May the words of my mouth **and the meditations of our collective hearts be acceptable in your sight our creator, redeemer and sustainer. Amen**

**Sermon** “Have you seen the star?” Rev. Alta Smith, Interim Pastor

### A Sharing of Holy Communion

Hymn:

“*We Three Kings*”

Hymnal #254

### Benediction

The light of God surrounds us,  
The love of God enfolds us,  
The power of God protects us,  
The presence of God watches over us.  
Wherever we are, God is,  
And all is well.

An asterisk (\*) indicates you should stand if you are able.

**Child Care** is available during the worship service.

During our worship service there is a quiet room (cry room) available for any parent and child. It has audio and a window looking into the sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you have any questions.

This Sunday

Next Sunday

Liturgist: Bruce Baldwin

Greeter: Mary L. Jensen

Janet Weaver

Coffee Hour: June Gelvin

**Prayer & Concerns:** Sandra Forland- Elsie Cone, Marie Kitchens – All others in need of prayer.

Food Cart Items needed for Christmas Baskets are: Margarine, whole canned corn, turkey or chicken gravy, stuffing mix, chicken broth, evaporated milk, sweet potatoes & yams, onions, canned fruit & jello.

A message from Stephen Ministries

An Empty, Aching Hole –and Memories

Someone you love has died, and the world is darker.

At a time like this, you need a caring, concerned friend to listen to you and be with you. A Stephen Minister would like to be that friend.

Your Stephen Minister offers a listening ear and a caring heart in this time of grief.

At times like these, it is very important to have someone who cares. Our congregation has trained 7 lay people, Stephen Ministers, who offer a ministry of Christian caring here at RUMC. Contact Brett DeMond, Lonnie Crumley or Rev. Alta for more information.

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Rochester United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 78  
Rochester, WA 98579

360-273-5000  
[rumc@reachone.com](mailto:rumc@reachone.com)



## This weeks RUMC events calendar (**Monthly Calendar** in Friendly Caller)

### Sunday

9:45 am J.A.M. Club and Adult Sunday School

11:00 am Morning Worship Service

### Monday

7:00 pm NA Meeting

### Tuesday

10:30 am Exercise Class

2:00 pm SonShine Friends

5:00 pm Serve Team meeting

6:00 pm Trustee Meeting

6:30 pm SPR Meeting

6:30 pm Ad Board Meeting

### Wednesday

10:30 am Exercise Class

5:00 pm Song Team Practice

6:00 pm Choir Practice

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Meeting

### Thursday

6:00 pm Yoga Class

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## Upcoming Events

Rescheduled Women's luncheon at Rev. Alta Smith's home on January 7 at noon. Her address is 718 G Street. There will be a \$2.00 gift exchange. There is a sign up sheet if you are planning to attend.

Please help with the last of the clothes that needed to be clean for the Community Closet that are located in the fireside room. Please take a bag and bring back. Thanks