

Dear Church Family,

1 Thessalonians 5:17 exhorts us to "Pray continually." In a world filled with loneliness, fear, confusion, illness and uncertainty, prayer is the antidote for anxiety. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus" (Phillippians 4:6-7)

This time in our history is filled to the brim with anxiety. We truly need to calm our minds, bodies and souls. We can do this through prayer. I am asking that at **10:15 every single day** each one of us stops and prays with great intention. Our church family will be praying together at the same time. How beautiful! Knowing that we are all praying at the same moment will cause us to discover a sense of calm and a feeling of unity with each other. We are created with a need to be connected with each other. Prayer is a powerful way to connect.

Sometimes you don't realize how much you love something until it's lost. Being unable to attend church has enhanced my love for our church family. There are so many things I miss: smiles, hugs, handshakes, singing, music, peace, inspiring sermons, conversations, sharing a cup of coffee, the comfort of belonging to a community, encouragement and praying. What do you miss?

Our church has been a spiritual home through many challenging times in its over 200 year history. The RUCC congregation has continued to support our church through many decades. When possible, we must continue to respond to our responsibilities. Be prayerful in that while we are not together in our church building, we still have many financial responsibilities. Please, please continue to support our church through your weekly offering. You can mail it in, drop it off at the church office, use Vanco, or pay electronically through your bank.

Please continue the gracious acts of reaching out to each other through calls, e-mails and cards. I'll be praying with you at 10:15.

God is still speaking,

Dawn Schilling

