

# Rinn Newsletter 1/8/26-1/14/26

## From the Minister's Mac

### “The New Year”

I want to be excited about this new year. I am trying to stay positive and expect the best. Every new year holds new possibilities, new opportunities, new lessons, new relationships — every new year is full of promise if we remain open to it. I truly believe that.

But things happen in life that can dampen our spirits and extinguish our hope. People in our faith community and throughout the world are dealing with some pretty heavy stuff — death, anger, pain, sorrow, and violence. These things exist in our world and ripple towards us. The ripples grow bigger and bigger, flowing into the consciousness of each of us and flooding our lives as we go about the work of the Christian community, comforting, praying for, and loving one another with everything we've got.

But sometimes, it can be overwhelming.

Jesus knew he would be leaving his disciples in a cruel world that hated them. He told his disciples that the world hated them because of him and that they hated him without cause. He said he was leaving, but that there would be an Advocate with them, so they wouldn't be alone. He told them to take courage. Then he prayed a beautiful, heartfelt prayer, found only in John 17:1-26. He prayed “not only on behalf of these [his disciples] but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one.” That's us! Jesus was praying for each of us, so that we would not become discouraged in a hateful world. For Jesus, that meant being united through him. It meant remembering that we are connected with other believers who also faced overwhelming events, just as we are connected with believers who will come after us and face God alone knows what.

I write today as I have written before: Do not lose hope! Remember that you are the beloved of God. Remain united as the body of Christ, united as one in Christ. Remember Jesus said, “If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand (Mark 3:24-25).”

Together, we can find comfort, courage, and the hope to continue spreading the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to all who will listen. Together, we can continue to comfort, care for, and love one another with everything we've got.

I pray that you remember the words from our Christmas celebration that are so meaningful in these dark times: “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” As the body of Christ, you are the light now, my friends, connected to Christ through generations of believers. You are the hope for a better year, a year full of possibilities and promise. May it be so.

See you in church,  
Lin

**“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness  
but will have the light of life.’” John 8:12**

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## **“All Church Celebration”**

Sunday 1/25, after worship —All Church Celebration and potluck— a little business, a lot of fun, some great food, and the burning of the mortgage!

Food assignments by the first letter of your last name:

**A-H –main dish**

**I-R-dessert**

**S-Z– side dish**

If you are unable to bring your assigned dish just bring what you can or just bring Yourself! There is always lots of food and fellowship so come join the fun!

## ~ Rinn Worship Service ~

**In Person and Livestreamed on Facebook**

**January 11, 2026 ~ 9:30am**

Scripture & Message

January 11, 2026

Matthew 3:13-17

“Becoming One”

Livestreamed on Facebook:

To access our Facebook page, click [HERE](#).

To follow along with the service, the Order of Worship is  
on the church [website](#)

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## Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 8:00 am

We are currently studying Adam Hamilton's Making Sense of the Bible and Karen Armstrong's A History of God. Please join us for engaging conversations each Sunday. All are welcome!

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## Go Fund Me for Merinn Mae Purcell

Aleta Purcell's (donut lady if you don't know who this is) 5 year old granddaughter was tragically run over on New Year's Eve while in South Carolina. A go fund me page has been started in memory of her. It tells about her. If you would like to donate but don't want to go on the gofundme site you are welcome to give something to Aleta to give to her son and family.

\*\*\*Merinn's dad drove by Rinn Church and liked it and spelled her name after Rinn.

<https://gofund.me/769c8568e>

# Update on Noah's Community Outreach

Looking forward - for remaining backpacks, we need:

- \*toothpaste
- \*toothbrushes
- \*gloves for men
- \*boxers for men
- \*and - backpacks! If you go to thrift stores, take a look. Last year ALL our backpacks came from thrift stores, and we need to re-stock.

Thanks so much to all who donate, stuff, carry, and pray over this project. We also really appreciate the grant funding from Rinn UMC that helps move this project forward. Justin estimates we will be able to distribute about 75 backpacks this year!

Betsy

[bfoushee@hotmail.com](mailto:bfoushee@hotmail.com)



## “Brunch Bunch” Bible Study

**Wednesdays**

Breakfast at Doug's Diner( hwy 66) at 8:45 a.m.

Study at Bev Ramsey's house at 10:30 a.m.

Join us weekly for breakfast and a discussion of our faith.



## Movie Night at Rinn

Please join us every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each Month at 7:00pm.  
January 8th and January 22nd 2026.

If you have any questions,  
Please contact Shelly Anderson.

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## Refreshments After Worship

January 11th-Marsha

January 18th

January 25th-Potluck-All Church Celebration

Please consider signing up for a date.

The sign-up board is in the narthex at the

welcome table. **Note that you don't need to provide a full spread that can double as brunch for everyone in the church; some cookies, along with one or two options for those trying to cut down on sweets, is sufficient.**

If you have any questions, or need to change your date, please feel free to call or text Mary Margaret at 573-368-1390 or call the church office at 303-776-1578 (Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-noon)



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## This Week at Rinn

For more upcoming events, see our online calendar [HERE](#).

### Wednesday 1/14

9:00am Brunch Bunch Breakfast at Doug's Diner

10:30am Bible Study at Bev Ramsey's House

7:00pm Cowboy Fellowship

### Thursday 1/15

7:00pm Ad Council Meeting

### Friday 1/16

7:00pm New Hope AA

### Saturday 1/17

9:00am UMW Meeting

### Sunday 1/18

8:00am Adult Bible Study

8:15am Men's Koffee Klub

9:30am Worship Service

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# In Our Prayers

## **COMFORT**

- For all who are grieving.
- For those affected by floods and fires.
- For those in war torn areas.
- for all those awaiting surgery and healing for those recovering from surgery.
- Travel mercies for all who are on the road this month.
- For Annie prayers for her and her family on the passing of her sister.
- Brian asks prayers of healing and comfort for his son Tony, who is undergoing tests.
- For the family of Rev. Bob Link who passed away last month.
- Prayers for our friend Aleta Purcell and her son and daughter-in-law, Tanner and Amanda Purcell, on the death of their daughter Merinn.

## **HEALING**

- Healing for fractured families.
- Healing and comfort for all those awaiting results from tests.
- Kaye asks for prayers of healing for her daughter who is having back surgery.
- Linda asks prayers of healing for Terry's mom, who fell and fractured her pelvis.
- Paula asks prayers for her sister who has pancreatic cancer, and pray that God takes cancer out of this world altogether.
- For those struggling with depression
- For Wayne's Aunt Linda. She was doing better but now is not. Prayers for her, for the family and for the hospice team.

## **THANKSGIVING**

- Thanks for those who provide care for and work at homes for the elderly.
- Joy of new babies in our families.
- Prayers of thanksgiving for continued sobriety for those in our community who are working that out every day.

Marsha gives thanks to the choir for the beautiful music and to Rhonda for leading the choir.

- Thanks for all the Kids Hope volunteers.
- Patsy gives thanks for Ruthie, her first great-grandchild and a new generation in the family.
- Annie gives thanks for answered prayer regarding her living situation.
- Thanks for this church and our church family.

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If anyone needs to be taken off or added to this list please fill out the form on the back of this sheet, or email the church office at [Info@rinnumc.org](mailto:Info@rinnumc.org).

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## January Birthdays

4 Lynne Diaz  
8 Daniel Smith  
11 Dan Smith  
13 Janice Bachmann  
14 Myrna Gould  
16 Michelle Sterkel  
19 Samuel Goetze

21 Rusty Goetze  
21 Sue Oliver  
23 Paula Clapp  
24 Dan Perry  
25 Jan Nelson  
26 Brendan Stewart  
28 Beverly Ramsey

## Happy January Anniversary To...

21 Ron & Eileen Hinkle (1962)  
29 Wayne Vinson & Suzanne  
Gallagher (2011)

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## Rinn United Methodist Church Leadership

The Administrative Council meets on the third Thursday of every month. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our leaders who keep your church running smoothly are listed below:

Chair of Church Council: Janice Bachman  
Lay Leader: Bonnie Clark  
United Methodist Women: Sharon Goldade  
Treasurer: Sue Mercer  
Finance Secretary: Steve Sterkel  
Finance Chair: Janice Bachmann  
Nominations: Rev. Lin Cheek  
Worship Committee: Betsy Foushee  
Office Manager: Julie Stirm  
Audio/Visual Tech Chair: Wayne Vinson  
SPR Chair: Janice Bachmann  
Members: Eric Presnall, Linda Rinn,  
Scott Lawrence, Diana Murray, Dave Boyd,  
Brian Cheek, Mike Carr.