

Rinn Newsletter 12/18/25-12/22/25

From the Minister's Mac

"The Uncreased Prayer"

A long time ago, at another church, a young liturgist stepped up proudly to read the Advent Candle litany. She read very well and with great confidence, but she made one little mistake that has stuck in my head, for which I am ever so grateful. The words from 1st Thessalonians read, "pray without ceasing," but she accidentally said, "pray without creasing."

The young reader corrected herself quickly enough, but I have to say, her first version carried a new theological punch. Pray without creasing. Don't let those worry lines invade your prayer. Don't crinkle that forehead. Don't knit those eyebrows or wrinkle that nose. Pray without creasing. Don't pucker or pout those lips, just pray without creasing!

Now, I take those words to heart as I pray. With a deep breath, I relax the muscles in my face and shoulders, and lift up my thanks to God. Not a list of petitions for those in my church, not a plea for world peace, just a heartfelt prayer of thanks, unclenched, unfurrowed, uncreased.

There is a time when we need to pray hard and put everything we've got into it. Sometimes, we can't help it. But there is also a time to give to God a pure prayer of gratitude from a trusting and worry-free heart, a time to pray without creasing. May you find such a time in this season of Advent.

See you in church,

Lin

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

~ Rinn Worship Service ~

**In Person and Livestreamed on Facebook
December 21, 2025 ~ 9:30am**

**Scripture
Isaiah 7:10-14/Matthew 1:18-25**

**Message
“Isaiah & Joseph: A Prophet and a Dreamer”**

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](#)

Holiday Church Office Hours

The office will be closed December 24th, 25th, 30th, 31st and January 1st for the Christmas Holiday. There will not be a newsletter the week of December 30th. Thank you for this time off and have a blessed Holiday Season!

Cookie Making at Rinn!



Can't get enough Christmas cookies? Have holiday baking fever? **It's not too late! Saturday, December 20, from 9-noon**, join us in the Rinn fellowship hall & kitchen for decorating and baking some cookies. Dough, cookie cutters, and decorations will be provided. You bring the creative energy and we will bake up some Christmas fun!

Contact -Betsy Foushee .

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

Although we feel like Advent is almost gone — and it is! — there's still a lot of celebrating to do before, during, and after Christmas:

Saturday 12/20, 9am-noon —Christmas Cookie making at Rinn!

Sunday 12/21, 9:30am service —Special Music from bagpiper Blaine Lee

Wednesday 12/24, 7pm service —Lessons, Carols, Candles and a variety of music

Sunday 12/28, 9:30am service —Short message and Hymn Sing

Sunday 1/4, 9:30am service —Epiphany! Our last Sunday of the Christmas season

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



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



“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.

Looking for an Apartment?

Debby Thompson has an apartment for rent in her house. If you're looking for a place or know someone who might be, call Debby at 970-980-4086 for more information!

Refreshments After Worship

December 21st-Janice

December 28th-Paula Clapp

January 4th-Terry & Karen

January 11th

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)



This Week at Rinn

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

Wednesday 12/24

7:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Thursday 12/25

Merry Christmas!

Friday 12/26

7:00pm New Hope AA

Sunday 12/28

8:00am Adult Bible Study

8:15am Men's Koffee Klub

9:30am Worship Service

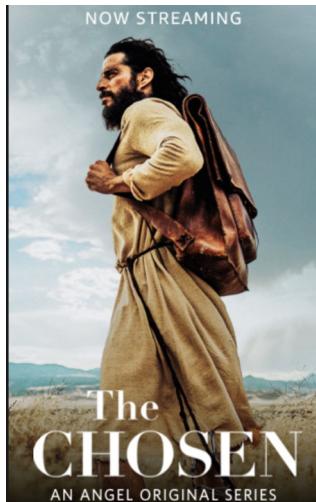
Can You Help Donate to Carbon Valley Help Center?



We are still asking for your support for Carbon Valley Help Center by bringing anything non-perishable. Here are suggestions from the Help Center. Pasta, Rice, Tomato Products, Peanut Butter, Canned Meats, Canned Vegetables and



Fruits, Dry or Canned Beans, Cereal, Mac & Cheese, Canned Soup. Please place items in the black bin in the narthex. Thank you so much for your help!



Movie Night at Rinn

Please join us for Movie Night at Rinn! We will meet 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.

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!

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 Rae Ann's grandson who is traveling abroad, and for all out on the road in treacherous weather.
- For Sharon G. and her family on the loss of her brother Dan.
- Kati asks travel mercies for her family.
- For Annie prayers for her and her family on the passing of her sister.
- Anneke asks for prayers for her daughter and all those who are affected by the floods.
- Brian asks prayers of healing and comfort for his son Tony, who is undergoing tests.

HEALING

- Healing for fractured families.
- Healing and comfort for all those awaiting results from tests .
- Healing for Rusty's sister, who was in a bicycle accident
- Healing for Diana suffering from bronchitis.
- 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

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.
- Kermit gives thanks for the joy of reconciling with his sons. He also asks prayers for those in recovery with whom he works.
- Ashley gives prayers of thanks that she off paper.
- We give thanks for healing that has taken place for Vi, who is home recovering from surgery after a fall, and for Denise and Michelle who were both in church after their surgeries.
- Thanksgiving for seeing Annie again.
- Marsha gives thanks to the choir for the beautiful music and to Rhonda for leading the choir.
- Scott gives thanks for the healing that is already happening for his rash!

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.

December Birthdays



1 Brian Cheek
2 Cody Johnson
9 Janice Hunt
10 Kay Northrop
13 Gene Creech
15 Addison Mann
15 Russ Fox

15 Patsy Schmidt
17 Aleta Purcell
20 Marsha Wood
21 Linda Boyd
22 Charlie Baum
26 Charlene Russell
27 Mary Stoothoff
31 Dave Boyd

Happy December Anniversary To...

4 Alvin & Helen Underhill-Woznick (2021)

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: Shelly Anderson
Lay Leader: Bonnie Clark
United Methodist Women: Sharon Goldade
Treasurer: Sue Mercer
Finance Secretary: Steve Sterkel
Nominations: Rev. Lin Cheek
Worship Committee: Betsy Foushee
Members: Janice Bachman, Eric Presnall, Rusty Goetz, Linda Rinn