



Cross



Talk

January, 2020

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First

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A note from our Pastor....

What do the following words have in common: blessing, auctions, replaced and departed? If you rearrange the letters in each word, you can create a different word (blessings=glibness, auctions=cautions, replaced=parceled, departed=predated.)

Here's another one: scared. Rearrange just two letters in this word to create a new word: sacred. These two words look very similar, yet they carry with them very different meanings. To be scared is to be fearful and frightened, emotions often experienced when learning of distressing and scary situations.

Our personal journeys include scary moments, which may cause us to be uncertain as to what the future may bring. In stark contrast, the word sacred is associated with feelings of peace, holiness, reverence and security.

One of the many things I love and appreciate about our church family is that in our moments together, whether on Sunday mornings or during one of our small groups during the week, we are able to transform scared to sacred. To change the actual words, we just have to rearrange a couple of letters. In the same way, by offering a sacred space when we gather by offering loving fellowship along with reminders of God's great grace and faithfulness, we are able to transform the scared to sacred.

I treasure our time together, and consider it sacred. I am thankful for the beautiful sanctuary where we gather weekly, and consider it sacred space. I am blessed by witnessing transformative ministry offered by our church family, and consider the people that make it happen sacred.

What will the New Year bring? While you and I may be making plans, we don't know everything that will come our way in 2020. Yet whatever may come, whether great joy or moments that may cause us distress, we will be in relationship with the One who transforms scared to sacred. For that reason (and many others) I am truly looking forward to our time together in the year ahead. Hope you are too!

~Sharing Scripture~

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39)



The United
Methodist
Church

OPEN MINDS

OPEN HEARTS

OPEN DOORS

This 'N That...



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP GROUPS FOR JANUARY

January 5: Bob & Marybeth Allen, Rachel Wilson

January 12: David & Baerbel Pelkey, Judy Pelkey, Wayne Griffeth-Hurst

January 19: Andy & Diane Moody Barbara Wing, Linda Folsom

January 26: Jim & Jane Sinclair, Charlotte Witham



Thanks to everyone who worked to make our Advent season so very special. The musicians, the Worship Committee and Pastors Steve and Jeff. Our hearts were warmed and our spirits lifted.

UMW meets Saturday,
January 18 at 9:30.

All women of the church are welcome!

Focus on Our Church Family

Peg & Dave Swett

Peggy & Dave Swett have been members of Bangor First United Methodist Church for many years. Both have been involved in many aspects of the church. David came to FUMC as the church organist from the Pine Street church and continued as organist in the "new" church. He is currently a choir member and our church historian. Peg has been a long time choir member, currently serves as Co-Lay Leader and has been a long time member of the United Methodist Women, currently serving the local group as president. Peg has served at the UMW District, Conference and national levels as well. David & Peg have also been very involved in the life of the Methodist Camp at Mechuwana. These two powerhouses are examples of giving your life to Christ and being His hands here on Earth. God Bless you both as you continue to set an example for us all!

Linda Morris

Talk about a power house, Linda is it! Always busy as a bee, she is a faithful and dedicated member of FUMC. She recently retired as a long time volunteer (18 years) at My Friends' Place (she will be greatly missed there), is chair of the Worship Committee, and leads Piburn Circle. She coordinates receptions for funerals and other events here at our church. Her outgoing personality and caring concern make her a person to whom people are drawn. She meets and greets folks on Sunday and gets to know folks easily and quickly. She is definitely a Bangor First United Methodist Church ambassador of "Good Will & Love". God Bless you Linda for all you have done and continue to do for our church. You are indispensable!

KEENAGERS

This special group for the "young at heart" meets throughout the year for lunch, fun, fellowship and learning. A delicious meal is provided at a cost of \$6.00 with a few exceptions.

The group meets the fourth Monday of the month and always welcomes new participants.

For more information please speak with Sue White.

Thanks!

Sue White would like to thank everyone for their calls, cards and prayers following the passing of her sister Louise Melton.

Each and every one was very much

COMMUNITY MEALS FOR JANUARY

JANUARY MEALS

January 2: Closed

January 9: Chef's Choice

January 16: Chef's Choice

January 23: Chef's Choice

January 30: Chef's Choice



JANUARY NEEDS

Desserts are needed for each meal throughout November.

Desserts can be dropped off in the kitchen on Wednesday or before 2:00 on Thursday.

**Meals are subject to change due to*



Please be sure to update your changes in phone numbers and address with the office.



Thanks!

The staff would like to thank everyone for all the cards, gifts, and Christmas greetings you sent their way this year. We are blessed to work here!

GRATITUDE ATTITUDE

Another NEW YEAR is here and the beginning of another decade. (I was startled when I realized how many decades I've seen come and go!) Are you making resolutions for the New Year? Resolutions are not products of the modern age. In fact, the Babylonians are said to have been the first to make resolutions some 4,000 years ago. Similar practice occurred in ancient Rome, after the reform-minded emperor Julius Caesar tinkered with the calendar and established January 1 as the beginning of the new year circa 46 B.C.. For early Christians, the new year became the occasion for thinking about one's past mistakes and resolving to do and be better in the future. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, around 1740, created a Covenant Renewal Service usually held on New Year's Eve or New Year's Day. These meetings (also known as Watch Night services) included scriptures and hymn singing and became an alternative to the more raucous celebrations normally held.

Today our resolutions are generally of a secular nature: improving our health, improving finances or job skills, furthering our education or improving our grades, spending less time on social media and more time in direct communication with family and friends. But some resolutions also include less egocentric goals like... volunteerism, giving more to charity, being kinder, helping others and studying the Bible and praying more. Whatever your resolutions, just keep working on them. Success rates for keeping resolutions for more than a few months is not very good. About 80% of those who set resolutions fail to meet them.

As you think about what your resolutions will be perhaps setting a gratitude resolution would be a great start. Be thankful in every moment, good and bad, be grateful for the positives and trust God to help with everything else! Start by being grateful for those around you everyday, for those who sit beside you in the pew on Sunday, those who make the worship service meaningful for you, who visit you in your home, give you a call or send you a card. Let's make this year one of reflection and connection in gratitude!



NEWS FROM.....

And **MEMORY JOGGERS**

My Friend's Place and Memory Joggers themes for January are: Snowmen, Sevens, Superstitions, Penguins, Chicken of the Day, Winter Weather, Covered Bridges, Snowy Days, Warming Up, Chinese New Year, Sleds, Winter Wonderland, The Mighty Mitten.

Music entertainment for January will be piano and song with Kay Eames, Music with Nostalgia, and music and song with Zella Harmon on her guitar.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Tuesday program while Skippy Valentine is away in January and February. If you can help us out during this trying time, please see or call me at 945-0122. Our hours are Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

www.myfriendsplaceprogram.com

Blessings,

Dottie England, Director



BLESSINGS TO YOU AND
YOURS IN 2020!



**FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS FOR
THIS MONTH**

PASTA & SAUCE

CANNED FRUIT

CANNED MEATS

MAC & CHEESE

SOUP

TOILET PAPER

HELP NEEDED

Sunday School is always looking for teachers for the next session which runs from December 8-February 23

If you can help by teaching or assisting, please speak with Nancy Isaacs.

January Meetings / Events at Bangor First UMC



Meetings:

Jan. 18: UMW at 9:30

Jan. 14: FLIA Childcare Comm

Jan. 16: Piburn at 1:00
Evangelism Committee; 2:40

Jan 28: Ad Council; 7:00

Jan. 7: Birch Hill group

Events/Services:

Sunday at 8:30 Pathways to God group (Bible / book studies)

Christian Education for Children 10:45

Sunday worship at 10:30

Choir rehearsal Wednesdays at 7:00 (Sept –June)

Hand bell rehearsal TBA

Free Community Meal every Thursday from 4-6

Meal closed until January 9

Ongoing Group Meetings

Bible Study Meets again in Sept. at 1:00 on Mondays

Food Addicts in Recovery meet each Monday at 6:30

Bangor Community Chorus rehearses every Tuesday at 6:00 (Sept-May)

Toymakers meet each Monday evening at 6:00

Cub Scouts meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 (Sept-June)

Delta Kappa Gamma meets monthly (Sept–June) on the first Monday.

AA Saturdays at 11:00 am

Alex

Karen C.

Family of Leona S.

Phyllis G.

Sandra B.

Dorothy & Henry S.

Peg & David S.

Philip F.

Bill P.

Bob & Jackie L.

Matthew M.

Family of Marguerite B.

Barry P

Marion G.

Geneva I.

Mariam G

Paul S.

Eliana B.

Henry & Dorothy

Jean H.

David H.

Kathie M.

Phyllis G.

Sylvia W.

The homeless & hungry

The Bangor Street Pastors



Prayer Requests

Into your hands Heavenly Father we entrust these people who are in need of your healing touch, knowledge of your presence, and your comfort.

Sustain them in good days and bad. Help them to feel your loving presence with them during every difficulty, for you are always there ahead of any circumstance.

Watch over all those who are in need. Help them to feel that you are always near them and know that all they need do is look to YOU for comfort and for strength.

In Your loving name we pray. Amen

Don't you know? Haven't you heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth. He doesn't grow tired or weary. His understanding is beyond human reach, giving power to the tired and reviving the exhausted. Youths will become tired and weary, young men will certainly stumble; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will fly up on wings like eagles; they will run and not be tired; they will walk and not be weary.

Isaiah 40: 28-30 (Common English Bible)



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Sun**Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri****Sat**

	<i>Happy Birthday To you .. God Bless you and keep you the whole year through!</i>		1	2	3 Makayla Sennett	4
5 Donna Gravely Pat Woodbury	6	7 Julie Antworth Michael Har- rington	8	9 John Kolenik	10	11
12	13 Linda Folsom Priscilla Soucie	14 Nancy Soucy	15	16 Judy Hastings	17 Daphne Tardif	18
19 Scott Smith	20 Helen Willey Anne Porter Aiden Clarke	21	22	23 Lorena Fenlason	24 Miles Tardif	25 Dottie Warren Heather Roberts Cooper Nye
26 Rolfe Flood	27 Jessie Stanhope	28	29 Phyllis Goss Elizabeth Downs	30	31	

If you don't find your name on the birthday calendar it is because the office doesn't have the information. If you would like to be included on the Birthday Calendar just let the office know the month and day. (We don't need the year unless you want to share it!)

Worship Assistants for JANUARY 2020

***If you are unable to cover the date for which you are scheduled please arrange for a substitute or call the person who contacted you or give the office a call.

<u>Readers</u>	
5	Geoff Dapice
12	Darlene Shortt
19	Glenn Mower
26	Bob Worcester

<u>Trustees</u>	
5	Gregg Stewart
12	David Pelkey
19	Andrew Croce
26	Marybeth Allen


<u>Media</u>	
Geoff Dapice	
Wayne Griffeth-Hurst	
<u>Sound</u>	
Jim Burkhart	
Dale Brownie	

Greeters for the 10:30 am Traditional Worship

<u>Sanctuary Door</u>	
5	Dick & Rosemary Leonard
12	Ernie & Fran Savoy
19	Bob & Tammy Worcester
26	Charlotte Witham

<u>Essex Street Door</u>	
5	Darlene Shortt
12	Barbara Wing
19	Linda Folsom
26	Barbara Warner

<u>Back Door</u>	
5	Donna Leland
12	Rolfe Flood
19	Linda Thrush
26	Gary & Jane Shaffer

	Newsletter Deadline	Worship Schedule
 <p style="text-align: center;">God Bless you in this New Year!</p>	<p>Deadline for information for the February newsletter is January 17.</p> <p>Information may be submitted in written form,</p>	<p><i>Pathways to God 8:30</i></p> <p><i>Traditional Worship Service: 10:30</i></p> <p><i>Christian Ed for children at 10:45 (2nd-4th Sundays) through September-June ...</i></p> <p><i>Children's Christian Fellowship:</i></p>



Bangor First United Methodist Church Calendar for.... January, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Church closed Happy 2020! Memory Joggers Closed 6:00 Scouts	2 9:00 Yoga 4:00 Community Meal	3 10:00 My Friend's Place	4 11:00 AA
5 8:30 Pathways 9:15 Choir rehearsal 9:30 Worship Committee 10:30 Worship	6 1:00 Bible study 6:00: Toymakers 6:00: FAIR 6:00: FLIA	7 9:00 Yoga 10:00: My Friend's Place 5:30: Birch Hill group 6:00 BCC	8 10:00 Memory Joggers 6:00 Scouts 5:30 SPRC 7:00 Choir 2:00 MFP Care-giver support group	9 9:00 Yoga 4:00 Community Meal	10 10:00 My Friend's Place	11 11:00 Buzzell Funeral & reception 11:00 AA
12 8:30 Pathways 10:30 Worship	13 1:00 Bible study 6:00: Toymakers 6:00: FAIR	14 9:00 Yoga 10:00: My Friend's Place 6:00 FLIA Child-care and Jobs Committee `	15 10:00 Memory Joggers 6:00 Scouts 7:00 Choir	16 9:00 Yoga 1:00 Piburn Evangelism committee 3:00 EAAA food distribution 4:00 C. Meal	17 10:00 My Friend's Place	18 11:00 AA 9:30 UMW
19 8:30 Pathways 10:30 Worship 10:45 Christian Ed	20 Church closed MLK Day 1:00 Bible study 6:00 Toymakers 6:00 FAIR	21 9:00: Yoga 10:00: My Friend's Place	22 10:00 Memory Joggers 6:00 Scouts 7:00 Choir 2:00 MFP Care-giver support	23 9:00: Yoga Community Meal	24 10:00 My Friend's Place	25 AA 11:00
26 8:30 Pathways 10:30 Worship	27 12:00 KEENAGERS 1:00 Bible study 6:00: Toymakers 6:00: FAIR	28 9:00: Yoga 10:00: My Friend's Place 7:00 Ad Council	29 10:00 Memory Joggers 6:00 Scouts 7:00 Choir	30 9:00 Yoga 4:00 Community Meal	31 My Friend's Place	