

Bangor First United Methodist Church
703 Essex Street , Bangor Maine



Cross Talk

March, 2020

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First

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The United
Methodist
Church

OPEN MINDS
OPEN HEARTS
OPEN DOORS

A note from our Pastor....

~Consider This~

The chore of shoveling has kept us busy this winter, although certainly not as much heaving of the snow in past years. As of mid-February, much of eastern Maine had only witnessed less than 40" of snow, which is well below our normal snow amount. Mind you, March and April are still snow months here in the Pine Tree State, so don't put away your shovels yet!,

Perhaps you've noticed that our shoveling duties have been made easier as of late by the strength of the sun. You see, compared to earlier this winter season the rays of the sun are more direct in the Northern Hemisphere, meaning the sun is much more effective in melting snow from around our homes. In addition, by the end of February we gained over two hours of daylight each day which also helps to shrink our snow banks. Yes indeed folks, we're heading toward spring (such as it is for we "Mainers.")

Over the past several weeks I have felt blessed to witness simple, wonderful, warm acts of ministry around our church and our community. Cards have been sent to remind those who are healing that they are being thought of and prayed for. Funds have been donated to assist the church in helping people in our community as they struggle to purchase fuel oil, food and medicine. Sunday school teachers have invested their time and care into the lives of young minds and hearts as children look to us to learn about God. Others are offering their talents in the areas of music, refreshments, visitation, administration and building maintenance, all aimed at *ministering* as we seek to make God's presence meaningful and relevant to people within and outside of our church family. Like the rays of the sun melting away ice and snow, such ministry offered by you and others associated with our church serves to melt ice covered hearts and minds as they come to a new understanding of God's offering of warming love, mercy and grace through the church.

Before too long crocuses will begin to pop in our church garden and at many homes around town, all made possible by the warming rays of the sun. As we continue our journey through Lent and toward Easter, let us continue to be about the work to which we've been called as we offer the warmth of God's presence through the ministries of our church family. Amen?

Pastor Steve

This 'N That...

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP GROUPS FOR MARCH

March 1: Sue White, Linda Thrush, Linda Folsom, Miriam Lucy

March 8: Linda Morris, Tammy Mason, Ernie & Fran Savoy

March 15: Gregg Stewart, Ann Marie Boudreau, Barbara Wais

March 22: Bradley & Anne Porter, Michael & Rachel Downs

March 29: Covered dish meal...*Kitchen helpers needed*



STUDY OF THE CREEDS

Dr. Jeff Fister will lead a study on the creeds of worship on Sunday mornings at 9:15.

Sessions begin on March 1 and meet each Sunday through March 29.

Come and learn the meaning behind the words we recite.

UMW

Saturday, Maarch 14

9:30 am

Program:

Bangor Street Pastors

Come join us!

Focus on Our Church Family

Glenn Mower

Glenn is a quiet worker amongst us. He has labored tirelessly over the years to oversee our church building through his work on the Trustees and the Finance Committees. He perhaps is best known as one of our "lead ushers" passing out bulletins and attendance booklets most Sundays. He is one of our Cub Scout liaisons. Glenn also serves the Bangor community as an active member and leader of numerous civic organizations. Thanks Glenn for all you do to help keep our church maintained and to help the service run smoothly. You are such a blessing to our church! God Bless!

Judy Hastings

From lending her melodious voice to the choir each Sunday to running her legs off at the annual All Church Yard Sale, Judy Hastings is a woman on a mission. An active member of the United Methodist Women and Faith Linking in Action she works to support the missions of our church all year long. Judy demonstrates her faith in her actions. We are so very fortunate to have Judy working amongst us! She is an example of perseverance and hard work and these qualities show in the success of the work she does. Thank you Judy for all you do for FUMC! We are so blessed to have your life as an example of service! God Bless!

Piburn Circle meets on the third Thursday of the month at 1:00. All ladies of the church are invited to attend. The March program will be presented by Julie & Dale Brownie and is entitled... *An Adventure Down Under* which chronicles their recent trip to Australia.

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.

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

For more information please speak with Sue White.

COMMUNITY MEALS FOR MARCH

MARCH MEALS

March 5: Chef's Choice

March 12: Chef's Choice

March 19: Chef's Choice

March 27: Chef's Choice

**Meals are subject to change
due to unforeseen circumstances*



MARCH NEEDS

We are still in need of 4 people to pick up food from Good Shepherd Food Bank in August, October, November and December.. If you can cover one of these months please give the office a call at 945-9567.

GRATITUDE ATTITUDE....St Patrick & Others

If you're "wearing the green" on March 17th you may be Irish or you may just love St. Patrick's Day! (And watch out if you're not wearing green as you might get a pinch!)



St. Patrick is a patron saint of Ireland. Born in the late 4th century he was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He spent six bleak years there as a herdsman, during which time he turned to his faith for strength and comfort. He had a dream one night that a ship was awaiting his escape and upon escaping found passage on that ship to his homeland, Britain. In later years he felt a call to return to the Ireland to help the people there, but ignored the call for a long time because he doubted his abilities and felt his lack of education a hinderance to his ability to help. Once he did muster the courage to return to Ireland his spirit was renewed and he went about baptizing and confirming people in the Christian faith. He was humble to a fault and thankful that he could bring people to God. By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches and schools. One of the symbols of St. Patrick is the shamrock, Ireland's national flower. The three sections of the shamrock represent the Holy Trinity....Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Today we can study the lives of saints and others who lived long ago and read about the sacrifices they made in the name of Christ, changing for the better, the lives of those around them. Humble and loving, they carried the message of Christ tirelessly. But we don't just have to look to the past to find examples of those who humbly work to bring the message of Christ's love to others. They reside amongst us today. We find them working at the Community meal, or handing out warm socks and mittens in a Bangor park on a cold winter's day. We find them sitting in committee meetings working to bring better bus service and child care to those in the community who need it. We come across them in shelters that take in the homeless and provide warm beds and a hot meal on a daily basis. They are in hospitals and nursing homes, providing comfort to those who are living their last days. We find them providing beautiful, uplifting music that lends so much to a church service, or find them giving sermons to congregations who need to quell their doubts and uncertainties. These loving, humble folks, although not officially Saints, these workers for Christ do similar work....They are the hands and feet of Jesus. And for all of them I am grateful! MCS

NEWS FROM.....



And **MEMORY JOGGERS**



My Friend's Place and Memory Joggers themes for March are Triples, Buttons, St. Pat's Day, Pop-Pop, Favorite Photos. March Winds, Luck of the Irish, Rain, Games, Favorite Pets, Friday the 13th, Balloons, Waffles Day.

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

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Tuesday program.

If interested, 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



FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS FOR THIS MONTH

- Canned fruit
- Peanut butter
- Canned meat
- Hamburger Helper or Rice-a-Roni
- Toilet paper

Thanks!

Dave & Peg Swett would like to thank everyone for their love and support over the past months. They feel so blessed by your prayers, cards, rides, food, "Peg sitting" and so much more. Everyone has let the sun shine in the lives of the Sweets.

We love you all!

Peg & Dave

Meetings / Events at Bangor First UMC



Meetings: **March 3:** Birch Hill group
March 14 UMW at 9:30
March 10: FLIA Childcare Comm at 6:00
March 19: Piburn at 1:00 Evangelism Committee; 2:40
March 24: Ad Council at 7:00

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)
Free Community Meal every Thursday from 4-6
DCOM March 30-April 1
Study of the Creeds: Sundays March 1-29

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 Phyllis G.
 Family of Judi C.
 Sandra B.
 Dorothy & Henry S.
 Peg & David S.
 Philip F.
 Bill P.
 Bob & Jackie L.
 Matthew M.
 Family of Marguerite B.
 Marion G.

Geneva I.
 Mariam G
 Paul S.
 Eliana B.
 Family of Galen C.
 Jean H.
 David H.
 Kathie M.
 Phyllis G.
 Sylvia W.
 Family of Rheta J.
 The homeless & hungry
 The Bangor Street Pas-



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)



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4 Vicki Kolenik	5 Mary Harlan	6	7 Chris Cronan
8	9	10 Nicholas Cowperthwaite	11	12	13 William Christensen	14
15	16 Peter Haskins	17 Mark Boulier	18 Sue Croce	19	20 Sylvia Wright	21 Bob Laflamme
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Sue White
29	30 Shirley Ginn Bob Commeau Lexi Swett	31			31 <i>Happy Birth- day To you .. God Bless you and keep you the whole year through!</i>	

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 MARCH 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>	
1	Dale Brownie
8	Julie Brownie
15	Roz Fisher
22	Gary Shaffer
29	John Haskell

<u>Trustees</u>	
1	Andrew Croce
8	Marybeth Allen
15	Steve Earle
22	Bob Walls
29	Gregg Stewart

<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>	
1	Danny & Louise Hatch
8	Bob & Tammy Worcester
15	Jane & Charles Weston
22	Jim & Jane Sinclair
29	Hillson & Sally Beal

<u>Essex Street Door</u>	
1	Deedra Dapice
8	Skippy Valentine
15	Beth Khory
22	Barbara Wing
29	Charlotte Witham

<u>Back Door</u>	
1	Mary Harlan
8	Lorena Fenlason
15	Gary & Jane Shaffer
22	Rolfe Flood
29	Sylvia Moore

	Newsletter Deadline	Worship Schedule
	<p>Deadline for information for the April newsletter is March 16.</p> <p>Information may be submitted in written form, via email or by phone.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pathways to God 8:30</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Traditional Worship Service: 10:30</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Christian Ed for children at 10:45 (2nd-4th Sundays) through September-June ...</i></p>



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 Creeds study 9:30 Worship Committee 10:30 Worship 10:45 Christian Ed	2 1:00 Bible study 2:00 Solstice service 4:00 DKG 6:00: Toymakers	3 9:00 Yoga 5:30 Birch Hill group 6:00 BCC	4 2:00 Caregiver Support group 6:00 Scouts 7:00 Choir	5 9:00 Yoga 4:00 Community Meal	6	7 11:00 AA
8 8:30 Pathways 9:15 Creeds study 9:15 Choir rehearsal 10:30 Worship 10:45 Christian Ed	9 1:00 Bible study 6:00: Toymakers 6:00: FAIR	10 9:00 Yoga 6:00 BCC 6:00 FLIA Child-care Committee @ 6:00	11 6:00 Scouts 7:00 Choir 2:00 MFP Caregiver support group 7:00 Choir	12 9:00 Yoga 4:00 Community Meal	13	14 11:00 AA 9:30 UMW
15 8:30 Pathways 9:15 Creeds study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Christian Ed	16 1:00 Bible study 6:00: Toymakers 6:00: FAIR	17 9:00 Yoga 6:00 BCC	18 6:00 Scouts 7:00 Choir	19 9:00 Yoga 1:00 Piburn & Evangelism committee 3:00 EAAA food distribution	20	21 11:00 AA
22 8:30 Pathways 9:15 Creeds study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Christian Ed	23 12:00 KEENAGERS 1:00 Bible study 6:00 Toymakers 6:00 FAIR	24 9:00: Yoga 7:00 Ad Council 6:00 BCC	25 6:00 Scouts 7:00 Choir 2:00 MFP Caregiver support	26 9:00: Yoga Community Meal	27	28 AA 11:00 Fireside room in use at 1-4 HEART HEALTHY BEAN SUPPER 5-6
29 8:30 Pathways 9:15 Creeds study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Christian Ed	30 9:00 DCOM 1:00 Bible study 6:00: Toymakers 6:00: FAIR	31 9:00 DCOM 9:00: Yoga 6:00 BCC	April 1 9:00 DCOM 7:00 Choir			