

Bangor First United Methodist Church
703 Essex Street , Bangor Maine



Cross Talk

NOVEMBER 2020

For Information...

Phone: 207-945-9567

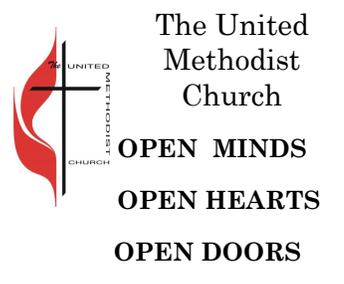
Email:
bangorfirstumc@gmail.com

Website:
www.fumcbangor.org
(Sermon podcasts available)

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Bangor
First

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A note from our Pastor Steve Smith.....

It's amazing how kid's games have changed in just the last several years. Visit our house and you will find kids from 7 to 17 years old playing animated games such as *mine craft*, *angry bird* or *race penguin* on their I-pads. Yet, with all the technology available to them, some of their favorite games are the good old standards some of us older folks grew-up with, like Sorry, Battleship and Candyland.

One favorite game around our house is the centuries-old "hide and go seek." Not long ago, after some of the crew decided to start over in the midst of a hide and seek game, I shouted out for all to hear "Ollie-Ollie in-come-free!" One of the younger grandkids scrunched-up her face and asked, "What in the world does that mean?" I explained to her it meant that everyone in hiding had to come back to the home base to start over, but her question prompted me to check on the origin of the phrase. Here's what I found out: The game hide and seek dates back to at least the late 1500's, and this phrase telling everyone to return to home base has changed over time, and is actually different according to where you live. For example, in some parts of the world the phrase is "Ollie-Ollie oxen-free," while in other areas the phrase is "All's out, come in free" (with other variations used.)

It is not known exactly when and where this phrase began, but it is thought that the original phrase may have been "all's in, all's in, in-come free," and that the "all's-in" somehow morphed to the boy's name "Ollie" at some point. Whatever the origin, shouting this phrase for all to hear offers an invitation for them to leave their hiding places and gather at home base.

This Sunday we will once again gather for church, online and in-person. If you have not joined us recently on a Sunday morning, please consider this newsletter a personal "Ollie-Ollie, in-come-free" from me. Let's all take a break from our busy homes, workplaces, and any other spots where we may be "hiding-out" so that we may all gather together on Sunday morning at our "home base." Our Sunday mornings together bring wonderful opportunities to share experiences of fellowship, prayer and scripture as we journey through the ups and downs of life together. Sure hope you can join us Sunday mornings at 10:30 (online on Facebook Live and in-person,) Wednesday evenings at 7pm (Zoom,) Sunday mornings at 8:30 (Zoom,) and Monday afternoons at 1pm (in-person) for fellowship and study. I also invite families to watch our "B.L.A.S.T!" online Sunday school each week, posted on our website (www.fumcbangor.org.) Devotionals are being sent-out via email each Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. Let's stay in touch!

Pastor Steve

This 'N That...

WORLD THANK OFFERING

Just a reminder to our UMW members that we will be accepting World Thank Offering boxes or checks to

Julie Brownie by November 7th.

You are welcome to drop your box off in the office during office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 8-12 and Thursday from 8-1-:30.

If you would rather send a check to UMW instead of dropping the box off you can send it in care of Julie Brownie to:

United Methodist Women
703 Essex Street
Bangor ME 04401

ALL CHURCH FAIR

Although our Fair has been postponed this November, keep those preparations going for the Fair! Can jams and jellies, pickles, and relishes. Work on craft items and Christmas decorations, gather things for baskets and box up White Elephant things!

Whenever fair time comes, we will be more than ready!

Congratulations



to Melody and Matt Murphy on the birth of a daughter Aurelia Eilene Murphy. Aurelia joins her brother Liam and is the granddaughter of Morita Tapley and great-granddaughter of Jackie Tapley.

Admin Council

7:00 pm

November 17

Via Zoom

Current Office Hours

Tuesday & Wednesday

8-12

Thursday 8-10:30



Grow Your Faith at FUMC...

-Monday Bible Study meets at the church at 1:00

-Wednesday Book/Bible Study group meets at 7pm via Zoom

-8:30 Sunday Spirituals (discussion group)

-Online devotionals Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays via email

-Sunday school online group BLAST and Zoom Sunday School once a month

-In person and online Sunday morning worship at 10:30

We are a busy church and we welcome your participation!

This 'N That...

Focus on Our Church Family

Neil & Jan Ashton

Neil & Jan Ashton are tireless workers here at FUMC. Neil sings in the choir and serves as a member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. He has also, in the absence of our pastor, given some timely and inspiring sermons. Jan helps out whenever needed whether it be at the Church Fair or supporting someone in need through a greeting on Sunday morning to making a phone call. A retired nurse, she knows a lot about caring for others! Neil and Jan are always willing to step up do what is needed to help our church grow and to make it a welcoming place. Thanks Neil and Jan for your work amongst us. We are inspired by your dedication, caring, and willingness to do whatever is necessary to share God's love with others. God Bless you both!

Skippy Valentine

Want something done here at FUMC? Call Skippy! She can give a great children's message, repot a plant, give new life to the church garden, plan a program for My Friend's Place, organize any space cluttered or otherwise, get reluctant people moving on long overdue projects, look at things with a fresh perspective, find things that need repair and make sure they are fixed, work with children in Sunday school.... the list goes on and on! She is always busy, always caring and always cheerful! We are so blessed to have Skippy in our congregation. Her thoughtful caring is welcomed and appreciated. Thanks Skippy for sharing your Christian love with us each and every day and for keeping us all on our toes working together to make FUMC a more welcoming and safe place. God Bless!



Our Sunday School children can now access, through our church website (www.funbangor.org) an adventure time called **BLAST** (Bible Learning Adventure Station Time)

This 10-15 minute session is on our website throughout the week. There are Bible verses, science experiments, fun and surprises and the children receive a challenge on which to work each week.

Beginning **November 8th** there will be a Zoom Sunday School session once a month on Sunday evenings from 6-6:30. This will be a fellowship and learning time and there will be surprise guests from time to time. This will also be the time to check in on how the challenges are coming.

So, while the kids won't be together in person there are opportunities for lots of fun and learning on the website each week and on Zoom once a month. We hope your children will join us and invite their friends and neighbors to join in too! They will have a BLAST!



QR code for smart phones that will take you directly to the FUMC electronic donation page.

COMMUNITY MEALS FOR NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER MEALS

The Community Meal is closed until further notice.



NOVEMBER NEEDS

Once we return to serving meals we will need three folks to pick up the food at the Good Shepherd Food Bank on a monthly basis. Watch for announcements regarding need.

GRATITUDE ATTITUDE... Being Thankful

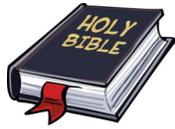
The dictionary defines *thankful* as *being grateful*. How appropriate to our continuing conversation on gratitude! At this time of year we always take time to give thanks for all that we have received. My suggestion has been and continues to be to take time each day to give thanks. It is an attitude of gratitude to cultivate all year long!

I wanted to believe the stories that my students and I used to read about how the native tribes and the European settlers used to help and support each other were accurate. How they taught and learned from each other. How they sat down to a harvest feast together. We talked a lot about what makes a good friend so my students and I wanted them to be kind and caring to each other. We knew the times were very difficult and expected them to help and support one another. The story as depicted for my third graders was according to some scholars ambiguous and we did learn, as we did our research that the Pilgrims and other European explorers who came before them weren't always the best kind of friends.

There can be found in historical accountings many stories about the "real" life of those people who arrived to the "New World" so many years ago. Included in those accounts are the arrival of the indigenous people many years before the European explorers. These people were fought against, had to make unwanted alliances for their own safety from other indigenous groups, and a few were taken by European explorers back to Europe as slaves who were later brought back home. When the Pilgrims arrived they were surprised to find that two members of the native tribe actually spoke English, a great benefit to them in that first year of hardship. We also know that the indigenous people were eventually "relocated".

We also have the personal accounts of two of the Pilgrims who were there in that first year. Their accounts are quite similar to what we think of as their first Thanksgiving. They were thankful for surviving the horrific winter and the terrible sickness that left only a few well enough to care for all the others. Some had to stay on their ship and the men stayed in the one shelter they were able to build prior to the harsh winter. Many of the supplies they had brought with them had been used up quickly or were spoiled during the trip. They were however able to grow and harvest a few crops, the forest was teeming with animals including wild turkeys that could be harvested, and there were native berries and gourds that could be gathered. The indigenous people did join them for one day of celebration and brought along several deer for the feast.

Fast forward to today our lives should seem so much easier. Most of us have warm homes, plenty of food, and access to health services to keep us well. But like the Pilgrims we face challenges. The indigenous people amongst us still struggle for recognition. People live in poverty, some are homeless or are unable to receive the medical care they need. Like the Pilgrims we still need to take care of one another, work diligently and stay strong all the while being thankful to God for all his blessings to us... Being thankful is being grateful!



**BIBLE STUDY
DEVOTIONAL GROUP**

Wednesday evenings from
7-8 on Zoom



**FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS
FOR THIS MONTH**

Canned fruit

Peanut butter

Canned meat

Hamburger Helper or Rice-a-Roni

Toilet paper

Or whatever you can donate!

FOOD COLLECTION AT FUMC

You are welcome to drop off donated food items at the back door of the church on **Thursdays from 10-1:00 or on Sunday mornings.**

The food will be collected and dropped off at the Food Cupboard which continues to experience huge demands. Also checks are gladly accepted and can be sent to:

**Ecumenical Food Cupboard
PO Box 1106**

THANK YOU....to everyone who contributed in any way to our RAISE THE ROOF campaign!

Our roof will be receiving a much needed replacement during the month of November thanks to the *overwhelming support* of so many folks.

We appreciate all you have done during the months of the ongoing pandemic to support the operation of our church and in addition you have also been so generous in your giving for this important project. Through your giving we were able to raise over \$50,000.00! That is amazing and we are so grateful for your giving! God Bless you all!



NEWS FROM.....



And **MEMORY JOGGERS**

November themes for My Friend's Place are, Jack Frost, Fall Baskets, In the Woods, Gratefulness, and Pumpkin Pie.

We will be closed November 11 for Veterans Day, and November 25 and 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

According to our license agreement with DHHS, we conducted our semi-annual volunteer training in October. Most of the training centered around what MFP is doing to keep volunteers, staff, and participants safe during this difficult time. I am happy to report that we had fourteen volunteers participate. Six of those, who are not currently volunteering are hoping to return in the spring when we anticipate a larger census.

Our current total census is ten. We are opened Wednesdays for Memory Joggers and Fridays for My Friend's Place.

MFP Board of Directors also met in October, and I am very pleased to announce we now have a full board of 12 members. We had a lot to discuss from, the effect of COVID-19 on our finances, new program plans for the future to, FUMC "raise the roof" campaign.

As we are getting ready to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday this year, please keep in mind that even though it may not be a normal day, we have much to be thankful for.

Please keep our folks in your prayers.

Blessings,



Dottie England, Director

Prayer Requests and Joys at FUMC



Prayer Requests

Mary Jane T.
 Karen C.
 Sandra B.
 Wayne G. Sr.
 Dorothy & Henry S.
 Peg & David S.
 Philip F.
 Bill P.
 Bob & Jackie L.
 Family of Frank M.
 Marion G.
 Geneva I.
 Mariam G
 Jessie S.
 Eliana B.
 Jean H.
 David H.
 Family of Sylvia W.
 Sherry R.
 Family of Carrie D.
 Wayne G-H
 Marty & family (sister of Linda T.)

Marilyn W.
 Family of John S.
 Mike St. O
 Rolfe F.
 David G-H
 Darlene S.
 Charlotte W.
 Janice & Joe, friends of Jeff & Jill
 Pastor Steve and all who are serving
 The homeless & hungry
 Small business owners
 All those who have lost loved ones due to the pandemic
 Health Care Workers
 Food store workers
 Essential Services workers
 Teachers & Administrators
 Students

JOYS

- Health
- The love and support of others
- New beginnings & new babies
- Birthdays
- The beauty of fall
- John Haskell who brings us wonderful music each week
- For Wayne who has been keeping the church extra clean!
- For the support of our congregation
- Weekly devotionals from our pastor
- Healthcare workers
- Teachers & students
- Our church family

Into your hands Heavenly Father we entrust these people who are in need of your healing touch, the 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.

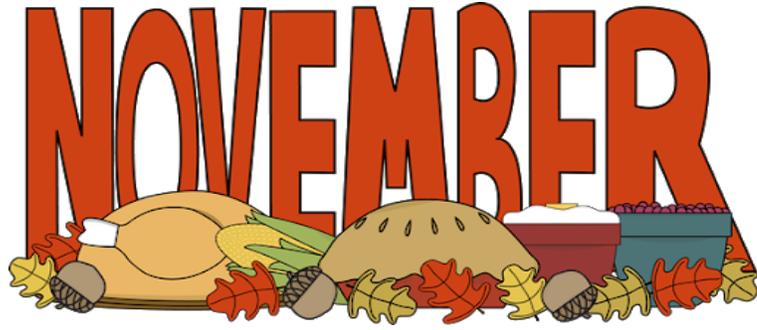
Watch over all those who are in need. Help them to feel that you are always near them and know that all they need do is look to YOU for comfort and for strength.

And Thank You Lord for the days of joy and for always being ahead of, beside and behind us.

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)



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2 Clyde Pelkey	3 Rick Sayles Judy Pelkey	4	5	6	7
8 Eva Benson	9	10 Page Chaloult	11 Amy Nye Marcie Coffin	12 Don Parsley	13 Andy Moody	14
15	16 Patti Wright	17 Aaron Weston	18	19	20 Marybeth Allen	21
22 Karen Ritz-Perkins	23	24	25	26 Morgan Downs	27 Darlene Shortt	28
29	30	27			<i>Happy Birthday 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 November, 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>
To Be announced
3
10
17
24
31

<u>Trustees</u>
To Be announced
3
10
17
24
31

<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>
To Be announced
3
10
17
24
31

<u>Essex Street Door</u>
To Be announced
3
10
17
24
31

<u>Back Door</u>
To Be announced
3
10
17
24
31

	Newsletter Deadline	Worship Schedule
 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>God is so giving, and so loving. Give thanks to God for ALL you have and will continue to receive!</i></p>	<p>Deadline for information for the November newsletter is October 19.</p> <p>Information may be submitted in written form, via email or by phone.</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>



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 All Saints Sunday	2 DKG at 4:30 Brownie group at 5:30	3 Office open 8-12	4 Office open 8-12 Bible study Scouts	5 Office open 8-10:30	6 Email devotional from Pastor Steve	7 Beans 'n Fixin's bean carry out 4-6
8 Worship	9 Devotional from Pastor Steve Brownie group at 5:30	10 Office open 8-12	11 Office open 8-12 Bible study Scouts	12 Office open 8-10:30	13 Email devotional from Pastor Steve	14
15 Worship in church at 10:30 or on Facebook live	16 Email devotional from Pastor Steve Brownie group at 5:30	17 Office open 8-12 Ad Council 7 pm via Zoom	18 Office open 8-12 Bible study Scouts SPRC	19 Office open 8-10:30	20 Email devotional from Pastor Steve	21
22 Worship in church at 10:30 or on Facebook live	23 Email devotional from Pastor Steve Brownie group at 5:30	24 Office open 8-12	25 Office open 8-12 Bible study		27 Email devotional from Pastor Steve Office closed	28
29 Worship in church at 10:30 or on Facebook live	30 Email devotional from Pastor Steve Brownie group at 5:30					31