



First United Methodist Church

March, 2024

Happy Leap Day!



As I write, March is roaring in with high winds damaging roofs including the hospital next door. I am so glad our Trustees are so forward thinking that all the church roofs are heavy duty and wind resistant.

Lent is a season of change, dying to sins and growing to God. Jesus teaches us that the pain of loss is transformed into new life in God's loving light.

On a personal note March 7th is my parent's 60th wedding anniversary and I marvel at that, while at the same time anticipating that in God's timing they will soon go home to be in God's embrace.

We have services planned for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter. I hope to be here celebrating with you but may instead be in North Carolina witnessing my parent's passing and celebrating their lives. In all circumstances we know that God will be present and will bless us.

May we experience together the ministry, mentoring, life, death, and resurrection love of Jesus Christ!

Peace, Love, and Blessings,

Pastor Scott Tyler



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Now That's A Bright Idea

Our next meeting will be on March 11th at 6:30. As always it is an open meeting and if you have ideas or concerns, you are welcome to come.

A quiet February has seen no emergencies or breakdowns in our church building. In fact, we have been starting the snow blower just to keep the engine exercised.

We are closely monitoring our investments during this volatile year. We have sold some stock and will be reviewing everything more closely than normal as the year progresses.

We are again having problems with Orkin, our pest control company. We are investigating the possibility of saving money and obtaining the traps and spray directly through the internet.

Some discussion was held on the placement of the Communion rail. The front half was removed for the chorale concert. It was decided that it would be left off as it showed off Christmas flowers and flowers given for Sunday services. It is now planned to be put back after the spring chorale concert in May. If you have strong feelings one way or the other, make them known to the Worship committee.

As always if you see something that needs attention, contact Donnie, Pastor Scott or myself and we'll do our best to "get 'r' done"! (Or at least put it on the list)

Bill Westervelt, Chair

New Member Classes:

Please contact Pastor Scott Tyler at 585-7995 if you are interested in joining the church as a new member.

From the Sexton's Broom

As I write this to beat the deadline, I am on a much needed vacation. Didn't go anywhere, or do anything special, just needed some time to unwind and relax.

Looks like March will come in like a lamb, mild temperatures and NO snow! I will take it.

Later, this month and into April, I will try to get a start on spring cleaning. I will be relying on Nate to help me with heavy stuff, and we may have some help from outside sources. As Pastor Scott has some possibilities in the works.

Maybe Bill and I get daring and put the snowblower away? Or do we play it safe and wait until April?

As always, if you see anything that requires my attention, please let me know.



Donnie.
Sexton extraordinaire.

Book Club

Monday, March 4 at 5:00
At Ann Westervelt's house
The Measure of a Man
by Sidney Poitier

Happy Birthday

Jim Charboneau	March 8
Jim Pulling	March 9
Jerry Cooper	March 13
Ann Westervelt	March 16
Joe Michela	March 21
Margot Anello	March 22
Joe Sawyer	March 24
Taylor Bolton	March 27
Marjorie Hurlburt	March 29

Community Dinner March 3 at 4:30

Turkey & dumplings, green salad
Veggies & Desserts
Dine in or Take out

Spring Clocks
forward!
March 10



Sunday Volunteers

March	Readers
3	Bill Westervelt
10	Jeanne Thatcher
17	Louise Goodwin
24	Bob Bartlett
31	Donnie Norton

March, 2024

Family Corner



Holy Week

March 24 Palm Sunday

March 28 Maundy Thursday

Join us at 5:30 for a light supper service

March 29 Good Friday

Sanctuary will be open for prayer

March 31 Easter Sunday



Easter Flowers

You are invited to share flowers for the Altar on Easter. Please remember that Pastor Scott is VERY allergic to lilies.

Garden flowers, store bought flowers, houseplants. . . Share what makes you think of Easter, and bring them home after the service. Any flowers left will be used the following Sunday, as possible. Beyond that, anything could happen.

Notes for the bulletin about flowers to honor family and friends need to be to me by March 27, please! Notes on my desk, notes via email, messages on the office phone . . . Whatever works for you!



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Thrift Shop News

It may not be spring yet by the calendar, but our volunteers have been working overtime stocking bright, cheery spring clothing and other items. The shop is decorated and ready for Easter – stop in and maybe you'll find that special item to help you celebrate!

We have been thrilled to have Betty Rettig helping us out on sorting days for the last couple of weeks.

We continue to accept donations on Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon. If you've been doing some spring cleaning lately, now's the time to bring in your sale-able clothing and/or housewares.

Thrift Shop Committee Members:

Margot Anello, Committee Chairperson

Jeanne Thatcher, Treasurer

Jeanne B. Thatcher, Trustees Representative

Margot Anello, Wanita Blanchard, Lynn Brigan, Betty Messier, Leona Simpson, Sandra Sprague, Pam Thorne, Sandra Trepanier, Jeannine Wright and Rev. Scott Tyler



Special prayers for Stephanie Frazier who blessed the Thrift Shop as a leading volunteer for many years. We will miss her greatly!

Gardening at the First United Methodist Church. . . .



. . . Coming soon!

Space may be available in the Community Garden for anyone who would like to try some gardening. Please contact Betty Rettig by way of the office.

Volunteers are needed to help maintain the Memorial Gardens at church. Please let Bridget, Sandy Sprague or Betty know of your interest.



Thrift Shop Volunteers

Saturday (9-2pm)

2	Deb, Roxanne, Sandy S.
9	Pam, Margot, Jeannine
16	June, Jeanne, ???
23	Ann W., Judy W., Joan C.
30	CLOSED for Easter weekend

The Ticonderoga Food Pantry

Thank you all for your continued support of the Ticonderoga Food Pantry.

Hours of operation:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:
11am-Noon.

February 2024 is looking to be busiest month the pantry has had in years, likely around 100 households in February. With grocery prices so high, it's not surprising. We have 25% more customers than last year, and a shocking 65% more than two years ago !!

In January the pantry rescued 7,000 pounds of food from Walmart !! But we also must buy more, mostly from the Regional Food Bank down near Albany, and from other places, spending more than \$5,000 just in February. This is a higher rate of spending than just a few months ago. THANK YOU for your donations !! Please keep them coming !! Your help is more important than ever.

The important thing is that the truly needy of Ticonderoga and Putnam have a place to go to if they are short on food. No one should have to go hungry.

Helping Refugees in Gaza

Recently, FUMC's mission committee sent a contribution to the United Methodist Church to the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) of the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC). DSPR was founded in 1948 by an ecumenical group of local and international Christians.

Since October 7, 2023, a DSPR major service base has been its health clinic in Rafah. The small clinic has been receiving some 400 people daily. As of January, Rafah's population had grown from 250,000 people to 1.3 million in three months. DSPR reports: "The needs are beyond belief, the resources are limited and hard to find, and the teams on the ground are exhausted working in extremely unsafe and hard conditions, but determined to serve this noble mission." DSPR also has provided other services including health education, psychological first aid, hygiene kits, Christmas food parcels, mental health interventions like organized play and venting activities for refugee children, single-serve cartons of milk to children, and cash gifts to families in need.

If you want to contribute to this work, leave a check written to First United Methodist Church in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Put a note on or with the check that your gift is designated for Advance #14908A, DSPR MECC. UMCOR and DSPR are humanitarian partners. Alternatively, you can designate UMCOR International Disaster Response and specify DSPR, MECC, or, more broadly, Israel/Palestine.

Nancy A. Carter
Mission committee chairperson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March</h1>					1	2
						9-2 Thrift Shop
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00 Worship, Communion 4:30-6pm Free Community Dinner	Sexton Appreciation Day	7:00 pm Champlain Valley Chorale	1:00 Bible Study 	10:00 Worship Meeting	Sexton Appreciation Day	9-2 Thrift Shop
10 UMCOR Sunday	11	12	13	14	15	16
Clocks change!!! 9:00 Worship, Communion 	6:30 Trustees	7:00 pm Champlain Valley Chorale	9:30 Missions 1:00 Bible Study 	Pi Day. 3.14		9-2 Thrift Shop
	Bridget in Maryland this weekend					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00 Worship, Communion Fellowship Coffee after service	6:30 Ad Council	7:00 pm Champlain Valley Chorale	1:00 Bible Study 	Sexton Appreciation Day		9-2 Thrift Shop
24 Palm Sunday	25	26	27	28 Maundy Thursday	29	30
9:00 Worship, Communion	Sexton Appreciation Day	7:00 pm Champlain Valley Chorale	1:00 Bible Study 	5:30 Maundy Thursday soup dinner and service	Good Friday- Sanctuary open for quiet prayer.	9-2 Thrift Shop
31 Easter	1045 Wicker Street Ticonderoga, NY 12883 Church Phone: 518 585-7995 Email: timethodist@gmail.com					Website: www.tifumc.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/tifumc Editor: Bridget M.M. Simpson, MBA