



# First United Methodist Church

## January, 2026

### *From the Pastor's Pen*



Traditionally Methodists would welcome the New Year through the Wesleyan Covenant Renewal Service. The paragraph below is part of John Wesley's invitation to recommit ourselves to Christ.

*Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.*

I encourage each of you to take your faith seriously! Make time each day to be still with God and simply be.

My family and I thank you very much for your supportive prayers and generosity. You are an immense Blessing!

I encourage all of you to take up again something that has given you joy. Too often we have become too busy and set aside activities that truly feed our souls. Rediscover these things and nurture your soul and connection with God!

I pray that all of our travels be safe and we return renewed.

Peace, Love, and Blessings,  
Pastor Scott Tyler

From the office:

Pastor Scott, Donnie, and Bridget would like to thank the congregation for their generous Christmas gifts. We sometimes joke about forming a union, getting matching shirts, and going on strike with signs that say WE ARE HAPPY! Our work for your faith family enriches us and supports us and our families. We wish you all a very peaceful and Happy New Year.

*~All of us*

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## Now That's A Bright Idea

Your Trustees met on December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will go forward, meeting quarterly rather than monthly.

We welcome Leona Simpson as our newest member!

We reviewed this past year and are planning for next year. Things that still need to be looked at or taken care of in the new year include the handrails at the Altar, Parking lot lights, and finding new contractor for our air conditioners (Paul Coop who has installed and serviced us for many years has retired) and a contractor for window and wall replacement on the lower level.

A project completed this year was the replacement of the window treatment in fellowship hall. Scott did the research, and he and Zyleen installed. Thank them when you see them.

The budget for 2026 was presented and approved. I can go over it with anyone interested. Just let me know and I will be glad to review it with you.

Jim Beatty who has helped out with Community Dinners for the past year, requested that we ok his listing our kitchen for his catering service. This seems moot as Jim has taken a position in Stowe VT. He was a great help and we wish him well.

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

Bill Westervelt, Chair



## From the Sexton's Broom

Happy New Year!

As I write this, we are saying goodbye to 2025 and hello to 2026! Hope that everyone had a very Merry & Blessed Christmas!

2026 promises to be another busy year here at Ti FUMC. A lot of activities going on as we leave our holiday season behind. Snow removal and cleanup will be a constant and ongoing battle, as will sweeping and moping sand and salt. Trash and recycle removal is always a challenge on a snowy and icy sidewalk and parking lot.

The Trustees purchased a new ice and snow mat for the Fellowship Hall vestibule. Hopefully, this will alleviate some of the slipping and sliding problems that were reported at the December Community Diner.

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

Donnie  
Sexton extraordinaire





## Happy Birthday



Jeannine Wright	January 4
Mary Thompson	January 4
MaryLou Greenough	January 11
Pam Thorne	January 11
Marsha LaPointe	January 18
Leslie Anderson	January 23
Bill Westervelt	January 24
Beverly Sann	January 29

## Family Corner

### Happy Anniversary

Mike & Hilda Forand  
January 1

Glen & MaryLou Greenough  
January 15

Bob & Claire Bartlett  
January 26

Thank you to all who participated in Tiny Tim. All tags were returned, and gifts were delivered.

Gifts of money were greatly appreciated, and used for water-proof gloves.

-Ann Westervelt



January 1 New Year's Day

January 4 Epiphany Sunday

January 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



*First United Methodist Church*

\_\_\_\_ Yes. I would like to make a pledge of  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Per **year, month, or week**  
for 2026. (circle a time-frame, please)

\_\_\_\_ I am making my donations online using the QR  
code for smart phone donations

\_\_\_\_ No. I am unable to make a pledge at this  
time.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you again for your response!

### Sunday Volunteers

January	Flowers	Readers
4		Sue Fahey
11		Ann Westervelt
18		Donnie Norton
25		Bob Bartlett

# Thrift Shop News

December was a busy time at the shop. Sales were very good, and customers were pleased with the abundance of Christmas items they found this year. Whatever items are left will be on sale for a brief time after Christmas.

As we look back over the past year, we feel a great sense of satisfaction. The shop is thriving, and continues to support the Church, Clergy Association, the Ticonderoga Backpack Program, the Homeless Fund, and the Food Pantry with monthly contributions. Many other donations are made for special causes through the year. In addition, our

customers continue to praise our shop, its contents, and our dedicated volunteers.

The Thrift Shop Committee thanks you for your continued support, and wishes you many blessings in the coming year.

## Thrift Shop Committee Members:

Margot Anello, Committee Chairperson

Jeanne Thatcher, Treasurer

Jeanne B. Thatcher, Trustees

Representative

Margot Anello, Wanita Blanchard,

Lynn Brigan, Marsha LaPointe,

Betty Messier, Leona Simpson,

Sandra Sprague, Pam Thorne,

Sandra Trepanier, Jeannine Wright

and Rev. Scott Tyler



## It is Budget Time in the church office!

Nearly \$3,000.00 from special collections was forwarded to UNYAC on your behalf. WOW!

With prices all over the place, many routine expenses are fluctuating, so any opportunity to economize is being considered. Never hesitate to raise your concerns and suggestions.

Please clip this area and return it to the church in the collection or drop it by the office. You may also email the office any response you wish to share regarding your potential pledge for 2026.

January, 2026

## Thrift Shop Volunteers

Saturday (9-2pm)

3	Deb B., Linda, Susan
10	Jeannine, Pam, Margot
17	Jeanne/Margot, Sandy S., Wanita
24	Joan, Ann, Deb B., Linda
31	Roxanne, June, Betty M.



Painting with  
the Pastor  
Watch for dates  
in January!

## The Ticonderoga Food Pantry

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

### Hours of operation:

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 11am-Noon.**



## Free Community Dinner

**January 11**

**4:30-6:00**

**Shepherd's Pie, sides,  
& desserts**

If you have a food allergy,  
please notify us



**Gardening at the First United  
Methodist Church**

**Spring is coming!!!**

Ok, winter just started,  
but spring WILL come!



## Need an activity?

Here are a few of the main Committees of the church. Feel free to get an update to the office including current members and chairs. Maybe we have people looking for ways to be involved!

These areas all need people taking part.

Kitchen

Ad Council

Thrift Shop (see page 4)

Missions

SPPRC

Finance

Church Fair

High Tea

Trustees



Also:

Reading at Services

Lighting Candles

Helping with Communion

## Book Club

**Jan. 5 at 5:00 at  
Ann Westervelt's house**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January				1  10:00 Worship Meeting	2	3  9-2 Thrift Shop
4  9:00 Worship, Communion	5  5:00 Book Club	6	7	8	9	10  9-2 Thrift Shop
11  9:00 Worship, Communion  4:30-6pm Free Community Dinner	12  6:30 Trustees	13	14	15	16	17  9-2 Thrift Shop
18  9:00 Worship, Communion  Fellowship Coffee	19  6:30 Ad Council	20	21	22	23	24  9-2 Thrift Shop
25  9:00 Worship, Communion	26	27	28	29	30	31  9-2 Thrift Shop

Coming in February:  
Ash Wednesday- February 18

### New Member Classes:

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