

THE LIGHT SHINES
IN THE DARKNESS,
AND THE DARKNESS
HAS NOT OVERCOME IT.

JOHN 1:5



SEPTEMBER 2022
FIRST UMC BEACON



First UMC Family and Friends,
There is a pastor named Pastor Rev. Taehoo Lee who ministers in Philadelphia. After graduating from the seminary, the Pastor felt God was calling him to the street, not the church. He started living in a neighborhood called North Central of Philadelphia, considered one of the most dangerous areas in Philadelphia. The streets were always full of drugs, guns, and violence. People around the Pastor said he wouldn't last long there because it was considered a hopeless town. Many people have done many projects to change this town but to no avail. There were a lot of churches, but they didn't seem to change the neighborhood.

At first, the locals said they suspected he was a police officer in disguise. Because even though there were many churches there, there were no pastors who actually lived in the neighborhood.

The first thing that Pastor started to do when he started living in that neighborhood was none other than cleaning the streets. In a neighborhood that was always full of trash, the Pastor just got up every morning and started sweeping the streets with the broom. And the Pastor began to bring pretty flowerpots one by one on the road. People wondered how these things could possibly change this area. The Pastor's work seemed to have nothing to do with the various problems of the street. However, the Pastor did not give up and brought tiny flower pots to the front of the house one by one and watered them.

But something amazing happened. Flowers began to bloom, and the scent of flowers began to bloom on the deserted and gloomy streets. Then people started to come to the scary road where no one came. And people who had stayed at home because they were afraid of the street started to come out one by one. As the streets became more crowded, the drug trade that had taken place in the street began to disappear. And there was less and less violence. Then children's dreams began to grow here.

The deserted street became a place where volunteers from all over the country came in summer to hold a camp for local children together. The children opened their eyes to the world outside the street. Children may not have the opportunity to go outside of town, but the world has come to them. The darkness that never seemed to go away was lifted by the small obedience of one man who had hope in the Lord.

So is our calling. We see a lot of problems we can't seem to solve. But today, we rejoice in the Lord's perfect love for us and plant small light. The tiny seeds of faith planted in gratitude for the grace of the Lord who loved us will never disappear. What flower will we plant today in our lives and our neighborhood? And where should the flower be planted?

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it." (Gospel of John 1)

Blessings

Rev. Daniel Chung Ho Lee

SEPTEMBER 19TH

WELCOME
BACK
SUNDAY

**RECEPTION FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICE
TO WELCOME REV. CHUNG HO AND JINAH LEE**



CHURCH LEADERSHIP JULY REPORT OUTS

SPRC

SPRC continues to remain in communication as a means to create a positive transition for Rev. Lee. Rev. Lee and members of SPRC keep an open dialogue to maintain opportunity for consistent awareness of needs and ways to increase relationships with church attendees. Members of SPRC also continue to meet with York/Ogunquit SPRC to continue open conversation in regards to planning and collaboration.

An Indeed ad was placed for a Sexton. Some applicants have responded and interviews will be held in the coming weeks.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine

MUSIC AND MARKETING

Not much has changed since the last month...we continue to do all things possible in ensuring the First UMC family and friends are being communicated to through Sunday worship service and special music and through social media, website, Beacon and Sunday emails.

If there are suggestions on new opportunities please do speak up. It has been a time of transition not only with our new Pastor Rev. Chung Ho but also the summer time loss of some of the congregation with vacations, time out on the water and family activities.

There were more compliments than usual on the August Beacon with all the leadership reports...the congregation craves for that sense of transparency and seeing the church at work other than their time on Sunday mornings.

FACILITIES

Sacramone Electric was at church on 7/26/22, to finish the light in the Planet Rangers Closet (old room where paint was stored). John S can now call for inspection. He couldn't legally hook back up the outside power source as it had NO grounding. This is the source we had him disconnect in order for bathroom windows to be installed as power source was attached to old windows. The day he comes back for the inspection he will work with inspector to determine a new outside power source. This power source is for the outside sign.

Painting of Sanborn Hall (outside) will begin the week of 8/27/22.

COMMUNITY

The August Hope to Joy Group had 65 attendees. Rev ChungHo Lee was also in attendance! The next meeting is 9/3/22, and all are invited.

Glenn, our neighbor, has volunteered to shampoo the Vestry carpet after Planet Rangers finishes summer camp.



Pumpkin Patch

Believe it or not, Pumpkin Patch starts on September 24th!

Set-Up will be on Sat., 9/17 at 11 a.m. Volunteers are needed to move pallets, put up signs, get the Booth ready, etc.

Pumpkin Unloading Parties: Full trucks are scheduled to arrive on Saturdays 9/24 and 10/16! Starting at 10:30, the crowd of volunteers are needed to remove the pumpkins from bins and place on pallets.

Booth Shifts: Our greatest need is having 2 volunteers on each 2-3 hour shift cashing customers out. We're open 7 days a week from 9/24-10/31 (Saturdays and Sundays from 10:30 a.m.- 6:30 p.m., Weekdays from 12:30-6:30 p.m.

Pie Baking: A few more volunteers are needed on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 8:30 a.m.-Noon. On-the-job training is provided and it's a lot of fun!

Any amount of volunteer time is greatly appreciated in order to continue having this beloved FUNdraiser!

Contact Sue Richards for more information. Text/Call: 603-749-4169; Email: mksrichards@comcast.net





**A NEW COAT
OF PAINT!**





HARD TO BELIEVE HUH!

Last year First UMC made 100+ cold weather packs that were provided to folks who needed them to stay warm in what seems like the endless winter months here in New England. We will continue this program and just wanted to remind everyone that we can always use “NEW” socks, gloves, scarves, mittens and hats. If you are a knitter or know anyone that is and they love donating their crafts to...we would be a grateful recipient. Any donations can be brought to the office on Wednesdays from 10-2pm.



HMMMM HMMMM GOOD!

The PIE ANGELS have made such an impression in the tummies of our community for special occasions and will be back creating their magic soon.

The “frozen” pie option has done incredibly well and we will be looking to increase the availability BUT....can only make that happen with the help of some new PIE ANGELS!

We have lost some of the existing team members due to declining health and Sue Richards could really use your help...**can you help?**...lots of fun, laughter and wonderful conversation happens too!

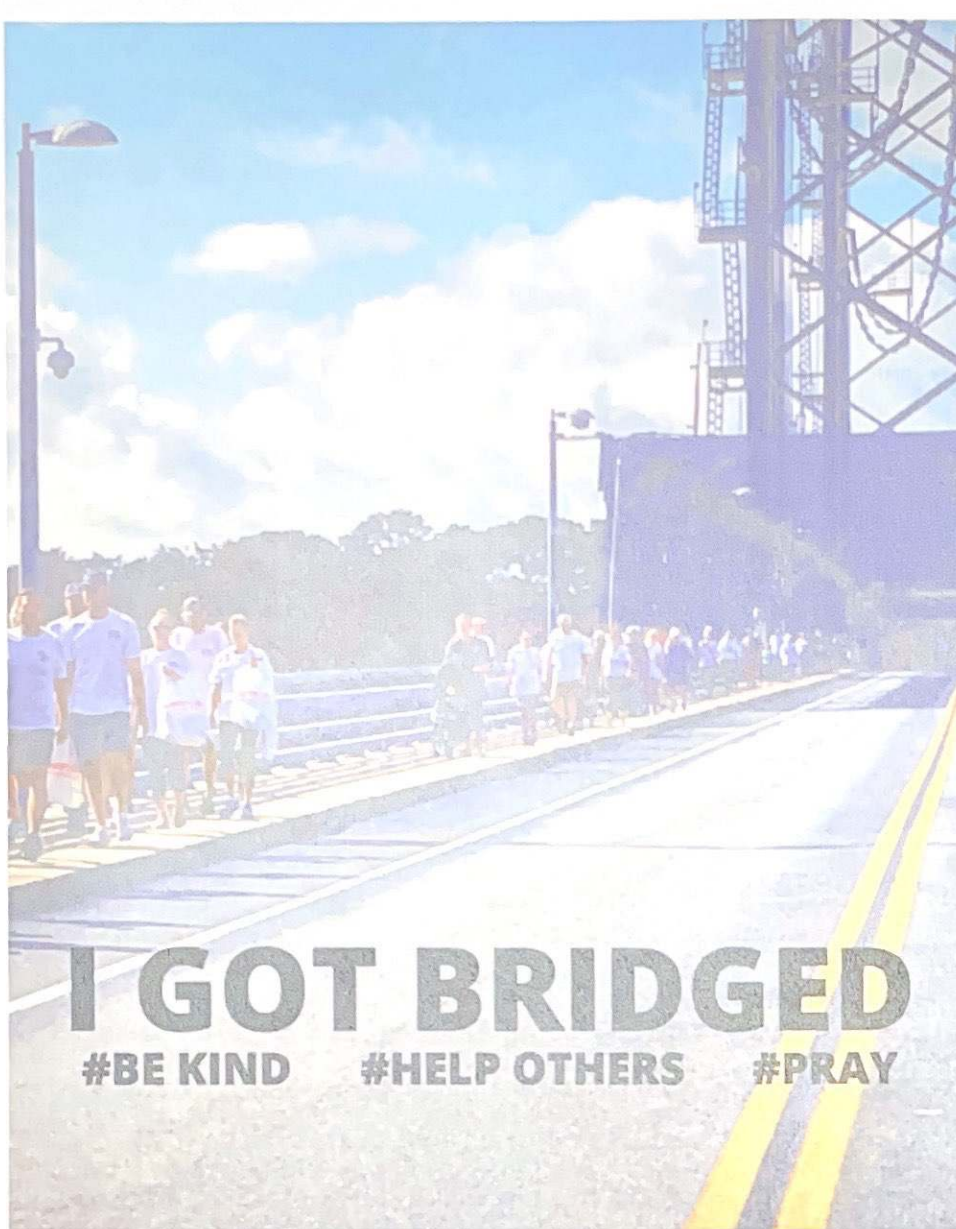
See Sue R. For more details please.



I Got Bridged fundraiser at
Flat Bread Pizza in Portsmouth on
Wednesday 8/31, 5- 9 pm.
Portion of food sales is donated to
I Got Bridged.



HOPE TO JOY GROUP MONTHLY SATURDAY MEETING



Bridging the Gap for People in Need on the Seacoast

Through a network of volunteers, sponsors and contributors, our aim is to seek out and help those in need on the Seacoast.

Everyone is fighting a battle and by helping others, we take the focus off ourselves.

Do **you** or someone **you know** need help? Please reach out to us by visiting our website, igotbridged.com, or giving us a call 866-BRIDGED (866-274-3433).



Volunteer Opportunities

- Shovel the Seacoast
- Grocery Shopping
- Lawn Care
- Bridgemobile Drivers
- Bridge-A-Thon
- Administrative Work

Events

- "Time 4 Joy" Comedy Night
 - March 31 2022
- Market Square Day
 - June 11 2022
- Bridge-A-Thon
 - September 11 2022
- Community Dinner Nights

Thank you to our sponsors for helping make this possible. **Interested in becoming a sponsor? Please reach out!**

Follow us on Facebook and
Instagram!

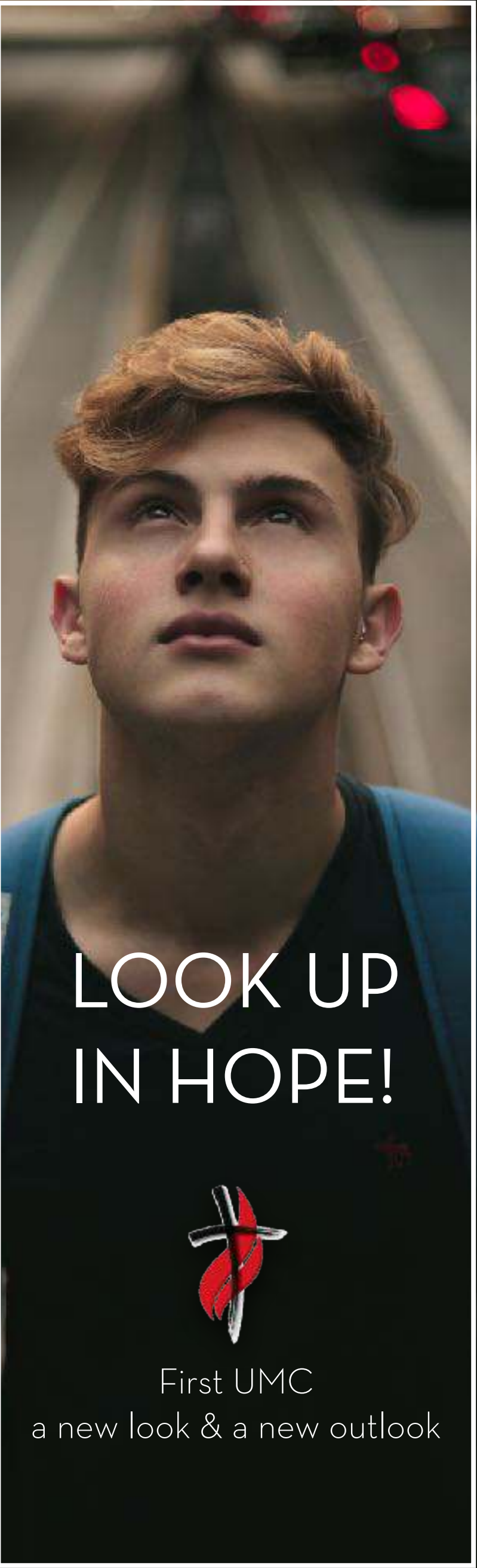


@igotbridged



FUMC PORTSMOUTH A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

We, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, are dedicated in worshipping, learning, and serving with all people as we embrace Jesus Christ's message of love and acceptance. As a United Methodist Church we stand fully behind the statement "Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors". We celebrate our diversity and invite all persons regardless of age, gender, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, physical or mental ability into full membership and participation in the life of this community of faith.



LOOK UP
IN HOPE!



First UMC
a new look & a new outlook

Our New Purpose



"TRANSFORM LIVES"

There is strength in numbers. We believe in collaborating and through the power of kindness, compassion, empathy and action we will equip our community with knowledge, resources and opportunities to make positive transformations.

"UNCONDITIONAL INCLUSION"

We will meet NO ordinary people in our lives as everyone has something amazing to offer. Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy.



"To transform lives through unconditional inclusion, empowering actions to make a difference."



"EMPOWERING ACTIONS"

With our clear purpose we will shift from telling everyone what to do or doing nothing at all, to empowering others to join the movement and take ownership in making greatness happen.

"MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

Believing that what we do matters and will make a difference in people's lives. We don't have to save the world in one stroke but we can make a difference one person at a time.



A tall, cylindrical birthday cake is the central focus. It is covered in white frosting and decorated with light blue icing drips that run down its sides. The top of the cake is adorned with a row of white frosting swirls. A black 'HAPPY' topper is placed on top. The cake sits on a red, circular cake stand. In the background, two party hats are visible: a light blue one on the left and a yellow one on the right with the word 'Happy' written on it in black cursive. The entire scene is set against a plain white background.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Nancy Chesser
7 PennySue Orr
13 Veronica Bennett
22 Walter Laux
24 James Batten
27 Kellie Langs
27 Janice Bakula
29 Dianne Crisp

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

6 Kellie & Steve Langs
14 David & Carol Bovee



**Our First UMC family member
Ken Young passed away on August 30th.**

**He will be missed and celebrated by so
many as a kind and gentle friend
especially to Lilly!**

**Calling hours are Sunday - September 4th
from 6-8 pm at the JVerne Funeral Home.**

**Celebration of life service will be held
September 5th at 10:30 am in the
sanctuary with reception to follow.**



Slater, Jim
75 State Street
Portland, ME 04101



Marion Collishaw
50 Old Colony Way
Scituate MA 02066

OUR FAMILY

WHO CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH

A card or a quick visit can make a big difference in someone's day!



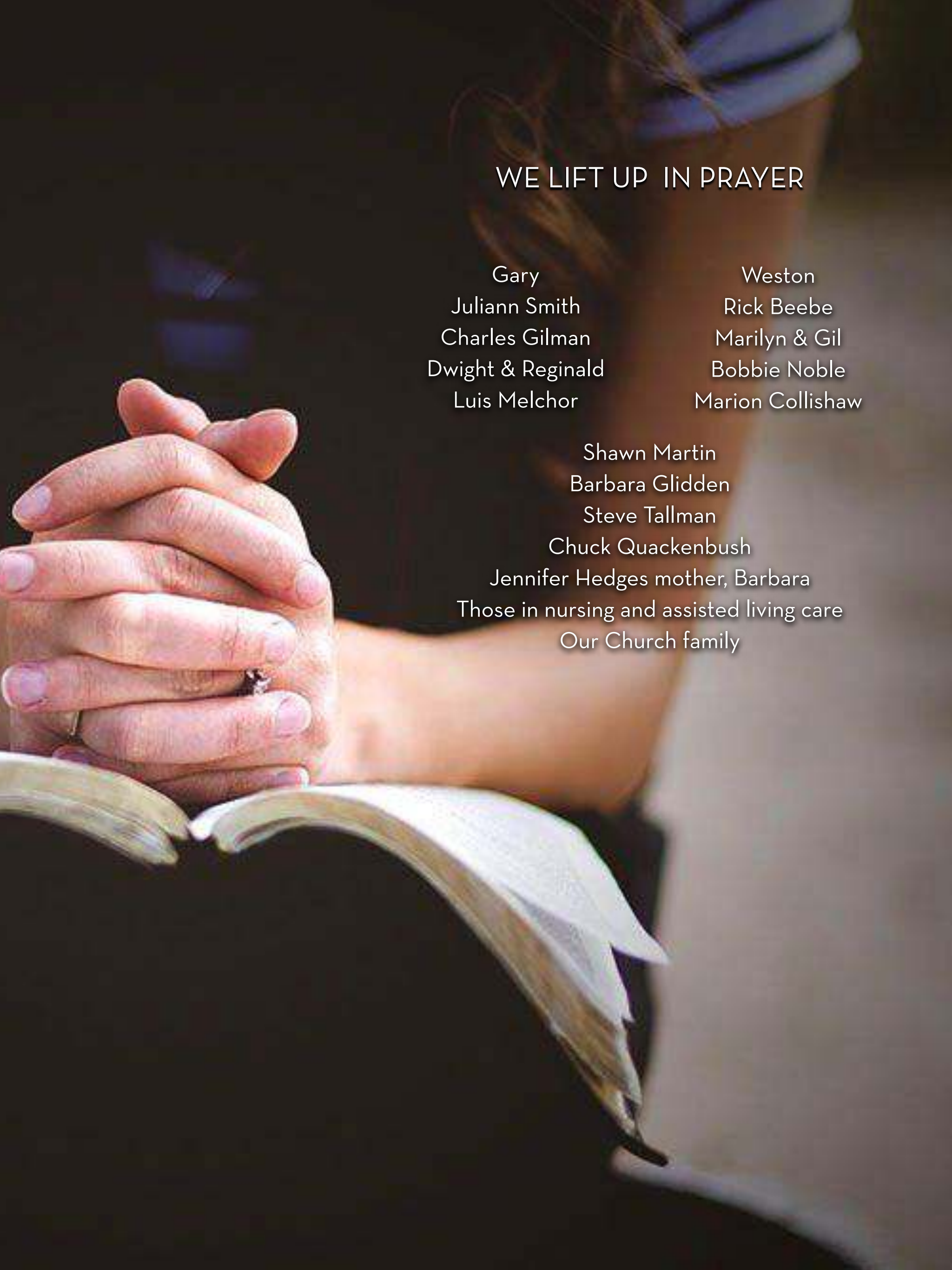
Barbara Glidden
188 Jones Ave #101
Portsmouth, NH 03801



Gil Stebbins
9 Lewis Road, #104-2
Kittery, ME. 03904



Barbara Sylvester
346 Pleasant St. #254
Portsmouth, NH 03801



WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

The Family of Ken Young

Juliann Smith

Charles Gilman

Dwight & Reginald

Rick Beebe

Marilyn & Gil

Bobbie Noble

Marion Collishaw

Barbara Glidden

Steve Tallman

Jennifer Hedges mother, Barbara

Those in nursing and assisted living care

Our Church family



HOPE

BUILDING

COMMUNITY FAITHRAISER

**LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP US KEEP
HOPE ALIVE IN THE COMMUNITY**

**DONATE @ FUMCPORTSMOUTH.COM
#BUILDINGHOPE**

4 WAYS TO GIVE, DONATE & TITHE



BY MAIL
First UMC
129 Miller Ave
Portsmouth, NH
03801



ONLINE
fumcportsmouth.com
"GIVE" button



IN PERSON
First UMC
129 Miller Ave
Portsmouth, NH
03801
Wednesday's 10-2pm



QR code
Point your phone camera
on the QR code to the
left to view the online
PayPal donation page



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAYS
10am



LOOK UP!

Not just as a reflection of how far we've come,
but a sign as an act of hope for a brighter tomorrow.
Join us as we re-open our doors
with a new and fresh look and outlook.