

We are all part
of God's patch

Jesus
helps us
grow

SUNDAY SCHOOL





FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR BOB

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

What a Rally Day to kick off our Children's Church 2024-2025 school season. The church sanctuary and hall were so nicely decorated by Stephanie Labadie. But the most heartwarming for me was to have 16 children in church at the same time. They had so many great questions for me during Children's time. We didn't get to all the questions, but I will finish answering them this coming Sunday, October 6th. I want to thank Dave Richards and Stephanie Labadie for being co-coordinators of our Children's Church program. You make a great team and know that your hard work and efforts do not go unnoticed. I also again want to thank all those that have decided to teach our children. Remember we are part of the Village that will help our children to grow hearing all the stories of Jesus.

If you see this character in our Pumpkin Patch...please come and take a picture with him and buy your pumpkins while you are there. I think this Mascot needs a name so let's have a contest to see who comes up with the winning name. As a congregation we will vote on the names submitted. All submissions need to be given to either Sue Richards or

Pastor Bob by Saturday, October 12th. The winning name will win a prize package that is "Everything Pumpkin!" So get your thinking caps on and let's have some fun. Our Mascot so needs a name. See you at the patch...Our Mascot will be there Wednesday, October 2nd from 3:30pm - 6:30pm for pictures. Come on down to the FUMC Pumpkin Patch.

I want to give a big shout out to Sue Richards for coordinating the Pumpkin Patch each year. You know how we can show our appreciation for all that she does...Sign Up to help in the Patch. Sign up online or sign up at the church. Get involved! Thank you to all of you that are helping out in some way.

Looking Ahead:

- Friday, October 6th...We celebrate the Life of Ruth Griffin @10:00am.
- Sunday, October 13th we will be having one baptism and receiving new members to FUMC during worship @10:00am.
- Saturday, October 19th our second shipment of pumpkins arrive. Your help to unload will be greatly appreciated. I believe it is 10:30am but our fearless leader, Sue Richards, will tell us if it is different.
- November 3rd is All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate all those who have gone home to the Lord.
- November 24th will be our Commitment Sunday. This is when we offer what our financial gifts will be for 2025 to God through FUMC.
- Advent begins on Sunday, December 1, 2024.
- Thursday, December 5th will be our Church Conference with DS Jackie Brannen. The business portion will be at 6:30pm but I thought we might have a potluck supper at 5:30pm before conducting our church business. If you don't like to drive at night, let me know. I will find a way to get you to church.
- Sunday, December 22nd will be our Children's Christmas pageant. There might be a flavoring of adults participating in the pageant. Sharon Stewart will be our Director of the pageant so if she heads towards you with a clipboard...well, just say yes, I'd love to be a barnyard animal. 😊

I am considering some other things during the Advent/Christmas season so stay tuned. In the meantime...See you in church! I do miss you when you are not there 😊.

Grace and Peace
Pastor Bob

God speaks to you through His personal love letter, the Bible.



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER:

It is truly remarkable how reading God's word draws people closer to Him as He speaks through the Scriptures. The Holy Spirit reaches out to connect with us even before we fully receive the Spirit in our hearts. Through the conviction of Scripture, we will often discover a need we may not have previously recognized, drawing us closer to God. Enjoy getting closer to Him!

October 6, 2024

Job 1:1; 2:1-10

Psalms 26, Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

October 13, 2024

Job 23:1-9

Psalms 22:1-15, Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

October 20, 2024

Job 38:1-7 [34-41]

Psalms 104:1-9, 24, 35c,

Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

October 27, 2024

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Psalms 34:1-8 [19-22]

Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAYS 10am



FIRST UMC LIFE

September 29th - Church School Rally Sunday

September 28th - Pumpkin Patch Delivery



September 15th - Who do you say I am?

September 14th - Trustees Work Day



September 8th - Can you see & hear me now?

September 1st - The Matter of Heart



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAYS
10am



FIRST UMC LIFE

MAINE

VERMONT

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MASSACHUSETTS

CONNECTICUT

RHODE ISLAND



2024 Days on the Districts

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton

Bishop's Day on the Granite District

October 6, 2024

St. John's United Methodist Church
28 Cataract Ave., Dover, NH 03820

Please mark your calendar and join us in extending a warm welcome to Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton as he begins his assignment as the Resident Bishop of the New Hope Area, which includes the New England and New York conferences.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet and greet Bishop Bickerton and learn about his vision for our district and for the New England Conference. Clergy should make every attempt to attend and encourage their congregations to join.

Tentative schedule:

- 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Meet with district Clergy/Lay Supply
- 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Dine with all (church members and clergy)
- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Introduction and worship (all)

Registration and further details will be shared soon.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAYS 10am



FIRST UMC LIFE

WINTER IS COMING!

We are looking for donations of gloves for our winter packs serving those in need...can you help?

share the
gloves
donations needed
for warm hands
and hearts.

new men's & women's mittens or gloves
can be dropped off at the church office!



CHURCH YARD SALE

CHURCH YARD SALE THANK YOU

The YARD SALE held in August could not have been accomplished without the help of: Donald Twombly, Sue Lange, Rosie Buswell, Sue Richards, Sue Sarosiek, Michelle Verrill, the I Got Bridged team and all those who generously provided the donations - the church general fund is now \$1686.00 healthier.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAYS 10am



FIRST UMC LIFE

WHY BE DIGITAL DISCIPLES?

- Builds relationships and reaches new visitors
- Spreads the message of God's love
- Shares our Church's message
- Builds community and connections
- Grows our church physically and spiritually
- Facilitates prayer and support
- Recruits volunteers and collaborations

YOU CAN HELP BY: SHARING - VISITING - INVITING - PROMOTING - LIKING OUR POSTS AND WEBSITE

OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	LITURGIST	ACOLYTES	BELL RINGERS Ring at 9:55	GREETERS & USHERS	FACEBOOK LIVE	WORSHIP TECH	SOUND TECH	COFFEE HOUR
Oct 6	Sharon Stewart	Marin	Labadie's	Yvonne Griffin Marilyn Stebbins	Suzanne Olbricht	Steve Scott	Sue Sarosiek	Cynthia Drake Yvonne Griffin
Oct 13	Jan Berry	Dominic	Rosie & Will	Jan Cansdale Ai Cansdale	Suzanne Olbricht	Steve Scott	Sue Sarosiek	Yvonne Griffin Sue Lange Mary Gable
Oct 20	John VanReenen	Maria	Arcadipane's	Anne Coffey Mike Coffey	Sue Richards	Sue Richards	Sue Sarosiek	Jan Berry Melanie Lindgren
Oct 27	Marilyn Stebbins	Daphne	Sillarpaai's	John VanReenen Cathy VanReenen	Sue Richards	Steve Scott	Sue Sarosiek	Rosanne Groff Rosie Buswell

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAYS
10am



FIRST UMC LIFE

A FAVORITE RECIPE FROM SUZANNE OLBRICHT



Blueberry Oatmeal Bars

Oven: 350

Pan: 8 x 8 inches. Grease and line with parchment paper with a bit of an overhang on each side.

Crust and crumbles - Mix together:

1 cup all purpose flour

1 1/2 cup rolled oats (I used Red Mill)

2/3 cup granulated sugar

2/3 cup melted butter (cooled slightly)

Press 2/3 of the mixture in the bottom of the pan. Set aside 1/3 (about 2/3 cup packed) for the crumbles.

Blueberry filling - Mix together:

2 cups blueberries (fresh or frozen) (I used wild Maine blueberries)

1/4 cup sugar

2 tsp cornstarch

1 T lemon juice

Zest of 1 large lemon

Pour the blueberry mixture over the crust.

Then crumble the remaining oatmeal mixture over the blueberries. Gently press the crumbles into the blueberries so they stick

*We are all
made of stories*

We would love to hear yours!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

PUMPKIN PATCH 2024

Our lawn is now full of beautiful pumpkins and gourds!

As you can see below, we have lots of volunteer opportunities for most ages and physical abilities. We continue to need a whole lot more help than our congregation can provide! Please share this with your family, friends, and on social media. You can sign up online @ <https://signup.com/go/ZcKdLWb>, texting or calling me at (603) 749-4169 or email me at mksrichards@comcast.net. As always, any amount of help is greatly appreciated! Thanks for your continued support. Love and hugs, Sue Richards - Grateful Pumpkin Patch Coordinator



Pumpkin Patch Needs Lots of Volunteers!

Daily through Thursday, Oct. 31:

-Help finalize customer purchases in the Booth. An experienced person will show you how easy and fun it is and how happy our customers are!

-Bring in homemade goodies (cookies, bars, whoopie pies, fudge, etc.) to sell. Please have them ready for sale in plastic wrap or baggies. (Cookies and bars sell for \$1.00.)

Every Tuesday and Friday in Oct. from 9 AM - Noonish: Come help bake pies to sell. No experience needed!


Saturday, Oct. 19 from 10:30 AM until early afternoon: Come help move pumpkins and gourds from cardboard bins onto pallets; move small pumpkins and gourds from cardboard boxes onto pallets; finalize customer purchases in the Booth; and/or bring in homemade goodies (cookies, bars, whoopie pies, fudge, etc.) to sell.

NEW!! Sunday, November 3 at 11:30 AM: All Pumpkin Patch volunteers (church and community) are invited to a yummy THANK YOU lunch for helping continue this vital FUNdraiser! **Signup is needed to ensure enough food is prepared.** Then if you have time at 12:30 PM, we'd love some help putting things away.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



I GOT BRIDGED - TIME 4 JOY



**I Got Bridged
Presents
TIME 4
JOY**

**2024 Time4Joy
Comedy Night, Live & Silent Auction**

Starring Rafi Gonzalez and Jim McCue
Join us for an evening of Food, Fun and Fellowship



Scan here for Tickets

\$55 in advance
\$65 at the door

📍 First United Methodist Church 129 Miller Ave
"The Pumpkin Patch Church"
Portsmouth, NH 03801

📅 11/9/2024 🕒 6:00 - 8:30 PM 🚪 Doors Open 5:30 PM

All proceeds go to helping those in need on the Seacoast 501(c)(3) Tax ID # 03-1647108

CHURCH FAMILY *Update*

**THANK YOU MARILYN STEBBINS FOR YOUR
CONSISTENT CALLS AND CARDS TO OUR
CHURCH FAMILY WHO ARE UNABLE TO BE
WITH US REGULARLY.**

AN UPDATE FROM KEN AND JENYA...

Ken and Jenya Westbrook send their love to all their friends at FUMC and miss everyone very much. They are sad that they are unable to be in church but are both in good spirits with Jenya still doing her daily walks. They love the phone calls and cards that brighten their day!

**Address - 20 Islington St. #402 - Portsmouth, NH 03801
Phone - 603.749.6426**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



**YOU'RE INVITED!
TO A
COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE
OF THE
JOSHUA HOUSE EXPANSION PROJECT**

**MEET THE GSD CONSTRUCTION PRIMARIES,
GET A FIRST HAND LOOK AT THE CHANGES,
AND TELL US WHAT YOU THINK.**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024
4:00 - 7:00 PM
480 BREAKFAST HILL ROAD, GREENLAND, NH**

**IT'S STARTING TO GET CHILLY SO ENJOY A VARIETY OF CHILI
AND OTHER LIGHT REFRESHMENTS,
TOUR THE NEW & EXISTING FACILITIES
& SUPPORT SEACOAST FAMILY PROMISE SERVING LOCAL FAMILIES WITH
CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.**

RSVP IS REQUIRED!

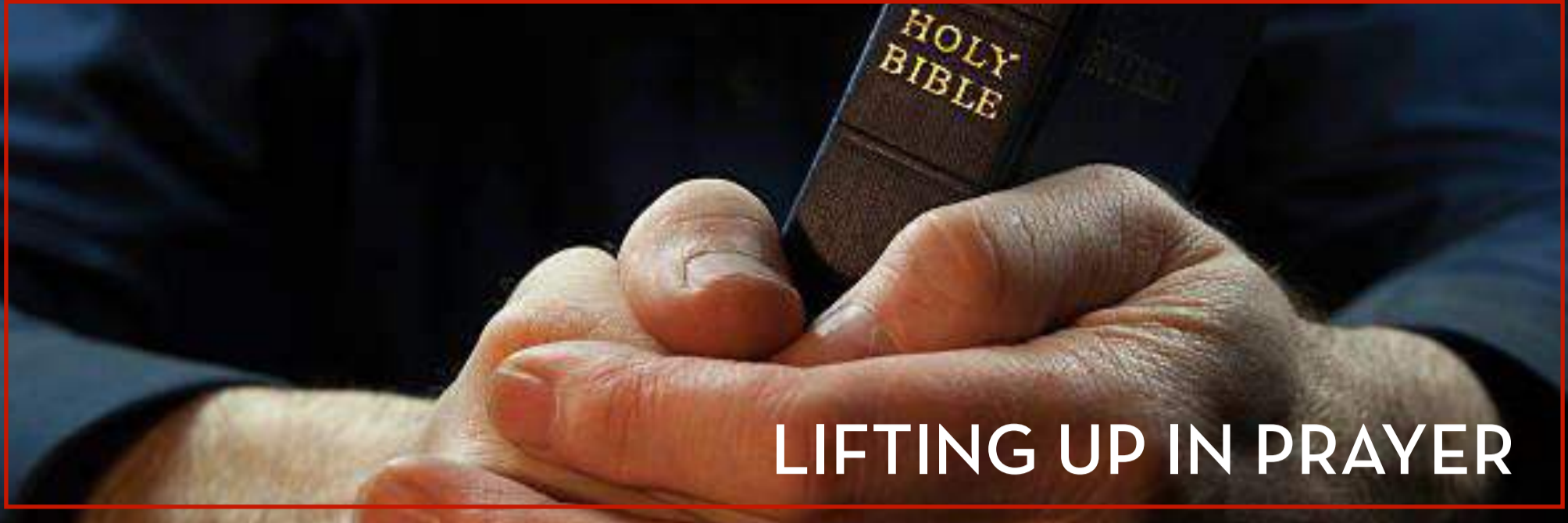
WWW.SEACOASTFAMILYPROMISE.ORG

SPONSORED BY

Beth Israel Lahey Health 
Exeter Hospital

**SCAN HERE
TO RSVP**





LIFTING UP IN PRAYER



CARING FOR EACH OTHER

At our core, we are a FAMILY. We recognize that some members may not be able to attend church regularly or participate in activities at First UMC. They are always in our thoughts, and prayers, cards, calls, or visits are always appreciated.

We also lift up in prayer the names that have been shared with us, asking that God wrap them in His loving embrace as they face their own challenges.

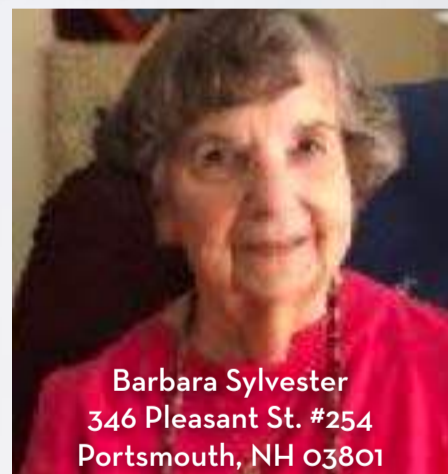
The Family of Ruth Griffin, Aunt Carol, Charles, Justin, Bill McClain and Family, Leo, Mark, Anna, Rochelle, AJ, Marsha, Tim, Elliott, Dan, Peter, Joanne, Simon, The Family of Glenn Cyr, Andy, Erica, Steve, Linda, Stephen, Sheila, Mike, Emma, Rachel, Aerial, Mary, Jeannie, Richards Family, Steve, Carl, Norah, Those seeking employment, Our country, and Our Church



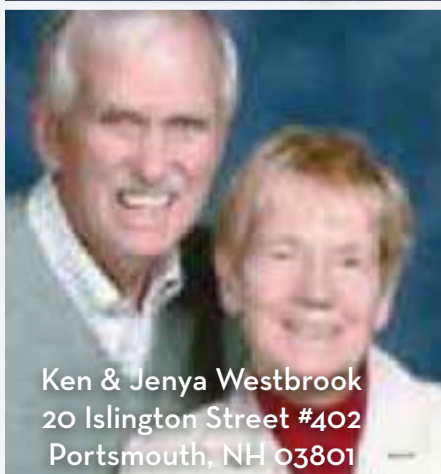
Jim Slater
75 State Street
Portland, ME 04101



Barbara Glidden
188 Jones Ave #101
Portsmouth, NH 03801



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



Ken & Jenya Westbrook
20 Islington Street #402
Portsmouth, NH 03801



Celebration of Life

RUTH L. GRIFFIN - October 4th - 10am



REST IN PEACE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

RUTH L. GRIFFIN

July 9, 1925 - August 10, 2024

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE TO BE HELD AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - PORTSMOUTH
OCTOBER 4TH AT 10AM**

Glen Cyr - October 11th - 6:30pm



Glen Cyr
3/3/54 - 9/10/24

CELEBRATION OF LIFE
Friday - October 11th at 6:30pm
First United Methodist Church
Portsmouth, NH

Hazel Randi - October 12th - 10am



Hazel Randi
[Suzi Q and for some Nutski]
5/19/43 - 8/12/24

CELEBRATION OF LIFE
Saturday - October 12th at 10am
First United Methodist Church
Portsmouth, NH



UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Get a card in the mail or send a quick text or instant messenger to wish these church family members a day filled with love, laughter and lots of cake!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Rosie Buswell**
- 8 Kaya Sarosiek**
~Adoption Day
- 9 Grayson Sillanpaa**
- 10 James Slater**
- 12 Cynthia Drake**
- 16 Sue Lange**
- 18 Carol Bovee**
- 21 Barbara Glidden**

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Al & Jan Cansdale**
- 8 Steve & Karin Scott**



**WOMEN'S
MINISTRY**

WOMEN OF FIRST UMC...

If there is enough interest, I'm thinking of starting a women's group. Please let me know if you are interested and we will have a meeting to discuss day, time and content of meetings. Let me know after church or email me at stew18@comcast.net

Sharon Stewart



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our First UMC Annual Conference will be held on Thursday, December 5th at 6:30pm. We will be having a potluck dinner...more details will be shared soon.



ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

CHURCH COFFEE HOUR

Every Sunday after church we spend time catching up with each other and getting to know the visitors that day. It is a time of great fellowship and witness...have you signed up to help keep this important outreach going? See Yvonne Griffin for more details and donations are graciously accepted.



COFFEE HOUR



First UMC is a Reconciling Congregation dedicated to worshiping, learning, and serving with ALL people embracing Jesus Christ's message of love and acceptance.

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.

You can learn more about us by using your camera on your phone and this QR code

