



He is
RISEN



THE BEACON
APRIL 2018



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

How quickly we will forget the wintry blasts and cold snow. The seasons change and we move into the warmth and new life of Spring.

The new life of Jesus' resurrection sustains us through all seasons, all kinds of weather, all travails of life.

Seek His strength, live His words, share the joy of His message. "Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that hath no end." The Day of Resurrection!" vs 4

Blessings,
Betsy

"Song of March" by Patricia L. Cisco

With winter's footprints in the past,
and snows begin to melt at last,
with longer days and shorter nights,
the wayward winds of March take flight,

four winds she holds within her grip,
then hurls them from her fingertip,
her wooly, fleecy clouds of white,
she sets in skies of blue delight,

her wild bouts of gusty breeze,
roars through valleys, hills and trees,
that high pitch whistling song she sings,
awakens earth and flowering things,
she tears a hole in heavens sky,
so sun can shine and rain can cry,
she gently calms as spring draws near,
as blooming daffodils appear,

she welcomes April showers in,
then gathers up her dwindling winds,
now her long journey home begins,

knowing she'll be back this way,
upon a cold late winter's day,
when nights grow short,
and days grow long,

Listen for her whistling song!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**2 Paula Jacobson
5 Amanda Veilleux
6 Kathy Brown
9 Angie Dewhurst
15 Abigail Veilleux
16 William Parsons
16 Ruth Tuttle
17 Brian Newbury
21 Dale Smith
22 Austen Kirk
23 Susan Walker
26 Sara Reed**

**2 Jim & Evelyn New
24 David & Kathy Brown
25 Jim & Gail Sanders
26 Tim & Penny Sue Orr**



IN OUR PRAYERS...

Family & friends of Bea Randall
Family & friends of Mary Merrill
Family & friends of Martin McGough

Ken Westbrook	Sue Goodhue
Jan Cansdale	Arlene Johnson
Ruth Tuttle	Dorothy Steinmetz
Myrt Moore	Kim Hishop
Gail Guarini	Steven Dietz
Richard Mullikin	Austin
Sylvia Bartlett	Juanita
Mary Merrill	Andrea
Brian Thompson	

Those in rehab and care facilities



Every Sunday we enjoy having fresh flowers that have been given in memory, honor or celebration of someone special to you or the church family. Please sign up on the Flower Chart in the narthex.




Yom Hashoah HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

You are cordially invited to attend Temple Israel's Yom Hashoah program on April 8, 2018 at 3:00PM

Cantor Shira Nafshi will conduct the observance in Temple Israel Portsmouth's historic Sanctuary at 200 State Street, and guest speaker Professor John Sturtz of Keene State College will talk on "Lessons of the Holocaust: What and How to Teach Our Communities." The program will be followed by coffee and refreshments in the Levenson Social Hall, where visitors can also tour an exhibit of Holocaust-related materials.

This event is free and open to the public; all are welcome. Please feel free to contact me for more information.

Heather Tomlinson
Administrative Director
Temple Israel Portsmouth
200 State Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Tel: 603-436-5301 x 10
Email: templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org



FIRST ANNUAL MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT **MONDAY, JUNE 18TH** **PEASE GOLF COURSE - PROTSMOUTH, NH**

7:30 breakfast & registration - 9:00 shotgun start
4 person scramble, raffles, longest drive & closest -to-pin,
\$10K putting contest & hole-in-one [\$20K on #9]
Cart, continental breakfast & lunch included - \$125 per player
See John or Cathy VanReenen for more info

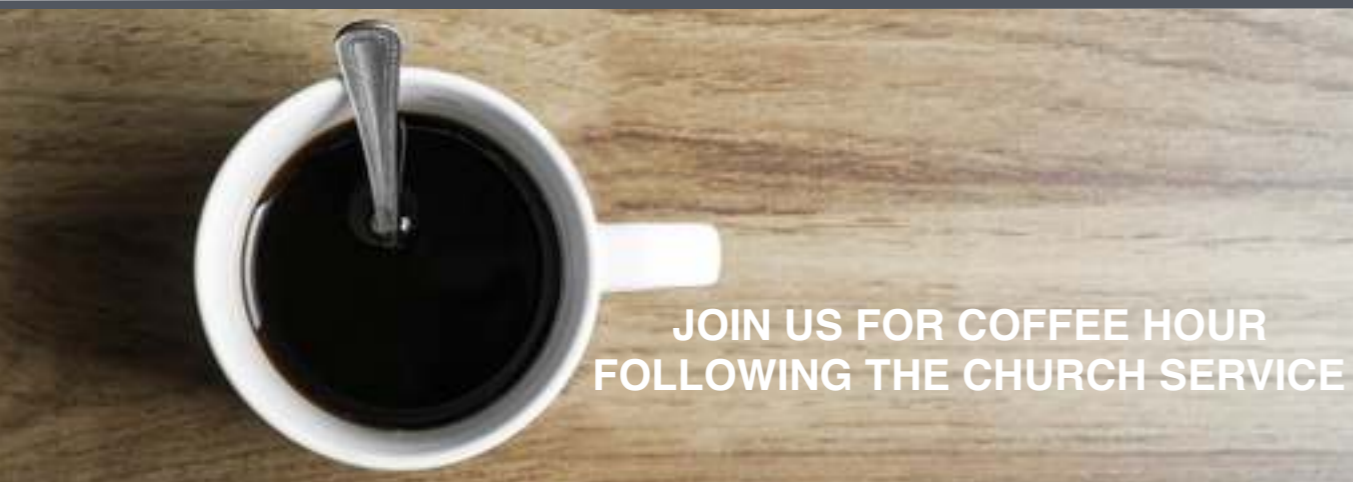


**Jams and jellies are still available
for sale in Sanborn Hall**

**Remember to recycle and return
your empty jars.**



Thank you to my church family for all the prayers, cards, phone calls and flowers during my illness this winter.
 Love and blessings,
 Barbara Slater



JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR
 FOLLOWING THE CHURCH SERVICE



The quiet offering baskets at the front of each aisle in the sanctuary are for donations to the hurricane relief bucket program through UMCOR.



WEBSITE
<http://fumcportsmouth.com>

INSTAGRAM
www.instagram.com/fumcportsmouthnh129/

FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/fumc.church.376

YOUTUBE
FUMC PORTSMOUTH

**FUMC PORTSMOUTH A
 RECONCILING CONGREGATION**

We, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, are dedicated to worshiping, 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.





CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry for Academic Pursuits, Leadership Ability, Christian Character, and Active Membership in the United Methodist Church has recognized Karen Sarosiek. Congratulations Karen on this incredible achievement.



LAY LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Thank you to Dave Richards and Sue Sarosiek for their continued dedication to the Lay Ministry. We are blessed to have them as part of our church leadership.

David completed renewal of the Advanced Lay Ministry Class, and continues as Certified Lay Servant in the New England Conference. Sue completed renewal of Basic Lay Ministry Class, and continues as a Local Church Lay Servant in the New England Conference.

Both classes were held for 3 Saturdays, from 9 - 2:30, at Thornton Heights United Methodist Church in South Portland, ME.



HEIFER INTERNATIONAL RECOGNIZES FUMC "BE THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS" CAMPAIGN THAT CONTRIBUTED TO GIVING HEALTHY ANIMALS TO FAMILIES IN NEED. THANK YOU CONGREGATION!

HATCH HOPE THIS EASTER



IN HONOR & MEMORY OF LOVED ONES
this Easter you have donated 23 flocks of
chicks. Through the Heifer International
program you have made a difference for the
communities and families across the world.
Thank you!

IN HONOR & MEMORY OF:

Gil & Marilyn Stebbins
Dad Yager & Mother Stebbins

Kenneth Young, Jr
Flora Young

Jim & Barbara Slater
Family Members and Friends

Jennifer Berry
Dorothy & Leslie Fillmore

Barbara Clement
Michelle Prince

Linda Reiber
Frances Vanen Bosch

Yvonne Griffin
The Griffin Grandkids

PennySue Orr
Peter & Sue Newbury

Griffin's half Acre
John K

Donna and Ralph Littlefield
Our Parents

Mike & Anne Coffey
Roger & Polly Tucker

The Langs Family
John T. "Papa" O'Connell

Barbara Millar
Jim Millar

Ken & Jenya Westbrook
Our Mothers

Rosie Buswell
Gary Buswell & Cheryl Nelson

Stevens & Jacobson Family
Louise & Robert Jacobson
& Russ Stevens

Gayle Gardei
Camilla Stuart, Ethel Mundy
& Louise Jacobson

Al & Janice Cansdale
Herbert Gilman, John Cansdale,
Elaine Cansdale,
David Gilman, Florence Sprague

Susanne Olbricht & Kevin Fickenscher
Ben & Agnes Olbricht, Orville
& Jetta Kiel, Mel & Craig Fickenscher

George Bennett
John & Beatrice Bennett
& Thomas Bennett

Jessie Bennett
Earlie & Grace Sills, Thomas
& Nellie McPhatter

David & Sue Richards
Jane Richards & Gertrude Parkhurst

Susan Sarosiek
Bevan Bloemendaal

Cynthia Drake
Ernest Drake

Peace Circle Members
past Peace Circle Members

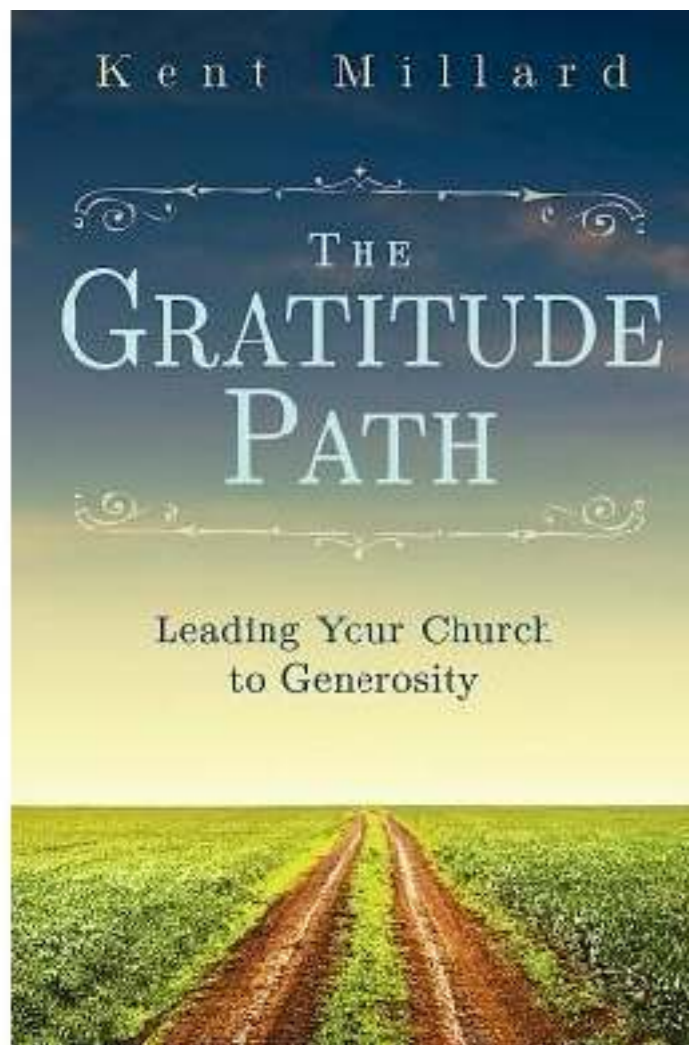
Evelyn New
My Siblings

Jim & Barbara Slater
Family members & friends

Connie & Bill Parsons
Howard & Ruth Latham,
William & Marylyn Parsons

Dear congregation,

As I reflect on my years of involvement with FUMC Trustees along with my four years heading up the Finance Committee, the only part of my work that I haven't enjoyed much is that of asking the congregation for money. Last fall the Finance Committee, with the support of Church Council decided to delay the normal Stewardship (Pledge) Drive, moving it to the spring. Well, spring has now arrived. We have a plan and the great thing about our plan is that I don't have to ask for money. We won't be holding up the 2018 budget from the pulpit and asking for your contributions to make sure we can pay our bills, meet payroll and satisfy what it takes to keep the church doors open through the rest of 2018.



What we will be doing is relying on a special book and the stewardship program found within that book, entitled the Gratitude Path, written by Kent Millard. We will look within the church and within our own religious lives at First Church for those things that we are grateful for. We want to promote the philosophy that we are part of a great situation in this wonderful congregation here in the greatest town in New England, and we have so much for which to be thankful.

Through our new Visioning Program which is opening our eyes, putting smiles on our faces and creating a great deal of enthusiasm, we see new potential for church growth and an infusion of young members. We are really on the verge of something great here and the positive feelings are building each and every week. We have so many faithful, hardworking and loving friends and members that really want to make our time together in doing God's work enjoyable and productive. Surely the direction we have chosen for FUMC will find favor with God.

So here is where we are: Certainly you should know that we have a budget and a plan. We would be remiss in not having those things in place as responsible leaders of this church. If you want to review that information, see me in church.

Going forward I will ask each and every one of you to answer the question "What is the Lord doing in your life in our church?" Translation; what do you and I as a part of the congregation of First Church have to be grateful for, are we excited about the church's growth into the future and what are we willing to commit to in order to see those wonderful things come to fruition?

Please join me in worship during the Sundays of April 15, 22 and 29 along with a very special Gratitude Sunday on May 6. To complete the day the church will provide a special catered meal and celebration following worship on May 6. Please don't miss this event. Be a part of our new adventure building for the church's future.

Respectfully submitted,

John VanReenen
Finance Committee Chairperson

community OUTREACH

BACKPACK MINISTRY/ END 68 HOURS OF HUNGER

This program continues to thrive and our 6th school year is now on the backstretch and we are already starting to think about next school year and what we can do to make the program even more successful and give it even more outreach into the community. My co-coordinator has been meeting with school officials to determine what could be improved or changed in order to get more children/parents to take advantage of the program and they came up with some good ideas we are going to implement for next school year.

We are currently serving 67 children total from all 6 Portsmouth schools. We continue to get amazing support from other churches and our community volunteers. I get emails from folks regularly asking how they can get involved and volunteer. God is good!

If you would like to get involved in this ministry or learn more about it, please contact me directly at jen_b76@yahoo.com or 603-801-3886.

Blessings,

Jen Berry, Backpack Ministry Coordinator

SEACOAST FAMILY PROMISE

SFP is going stronger than ever. We currently have (4) families in the program – 3 of which are new from our last rotation, which means families once again have transitioned successfully from this program into stable housing. If you would like to volunteer, we have opportunities available to help with prepping the Sunday school rooms for family arrival, cleaning them up when it's over the next week, dinner crew for Friday night and we could always use new overnight volunteers. Many of the current volunteers in this program have been doing it all 12 years, so some fresh volunteers would be appreciated. This program definitely changes lives forever and I am proud that our church is a part of it, along with 20+ other congregations in the Seacoast NH area. If you think you might like to help and experience the joy of changing people's lives, please contact

Jen Berry, Coordinator

Contact information: jen_b76@yahoo.com or 603-801-3886.

FUMC PORTSMOUTH A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

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APRIL 2018 - SUNDAY WORSHIP TEAM SCHEDULE

DATE	LITURGIST	GREETERS	USHERS	ACOLYTE
4/1/18	DAVE RICHARDS	NARTHEX ENTRANCE - DIANNE CRISP	LEFT AISLE [ORGAN] - ANNE AND MIKE COFFEY RIGHT AISLE [BAPTISM FONT] - KEN AND JENYA WESTBROOK	KAREN SAROSIEK
4/8/18	STEVE SCOTT	NARTHEX ENTRANCE - PAUL WEBBER	LEFT AISLE [ORGAN] - SUE RICHARDS & DIANNE CRISP RIGHT AISLE [BAPTISM FONT] - JAN & AL CANSDALE	JENYA WESTBROOK
4/15/18	John VanReenen	NARTHEX ENTRANCE - YVONNE GRIFFIN	LEFT AISLE [ORGAN] - ANNE & MIKE COFFEY RIGHT AISLE [BAPTISM FONT] - YVONNE GRIFFIN & SUE RICHARDS	SUE RICHARDS
4/22/18	KEVIN FICKENSCHER	NARTHEX ENTRANCE - MARILYN STEBBINS	LEFT AISLE [ORGAN] - KEN YOUNG & KEN WESTBROOK RIGHT AISLE [BAPTISM FONT] - AL & JAN CANSDALE	MARILYN STEBBINS
4/29/18	YVONNE GRIFFIN	NARTHEX ENTRANCE - PAUL WEBBER	LEFT AISLE [ORGAN] - NANCY CHESSEY & ART MUNSON RIGHT AISLE [BAPTISM FONT] - KATHY & JOHN VANREENEN	PENNYSUE ORR

NOTE - IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO MEET THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE PLEASE LET PAULA KNOW IMMEDIATELY SO WE CAN SCHEDULE SOMEONE ELSE.

APRIL 2017

<div>1</div> <div>HAPPY EASTER</div> <div>6 AM Sunrise</div> <div>10:00AM Worship</div> <div>11:15 Coffee</div>	<div>2</div> <div>6:15 PM Finance Mtg</div>	<div>3</div> <div>7:00 PM NA</div>	<div>4</div> <div>10 AM AA</div>	<div>5</div> <div>7:30 PM AA</div>	<div>6</div> <div>8 PM AA</div>	<div>7</div> <div>1:00 PM AA</div>
<div>8</div>	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div> <div>9:30 AM Peace Circle</div> <div>6 PM Council</div> <div>7:00 PM NA</div>	<div>11</div> <div>10 AM AA</div>	<div>12</div> <div>7:30 PM AA</div>	<div>13</div> <div>8 PM AA</div>	<div>14</div> <div>1:00 PM AA</div>
<div>15</div> <div>10:00AM Worship</div> <div>11:15 Coffee</div>	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div> <div>7:00 PM NA</div>	<div>18</div> <div>10 AM AA</div>	<div>19</div> <div>7:30 PM AA</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8 PM AA</div>	<div>21</div> <div>1:00 PM AA</div>
<div>22</div> <div>10:00AM Worship</div> <div>11:15 Coffee</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div> <div>7:00 PM NA</div>	<div>25</div> <div>10 AM AA</div>	<div>26</div> <div>7:30 PM AA</div>	<div>27</div> <div>8 PM AA</div>	<div>28</div> <div>1:00 PM AA</div>
<div>29</div> <div>10 AM Worship</div> <div>11:15 Coffee</div>	<div>30</div> <div>6 PM Trustees</div>	<div>7:00 PM NA</div>	<div>10 AM AA</div>	<div>7:30 PM AA</div>	<div>8 PM AA</div>	<div>1:00 PM AA</div>