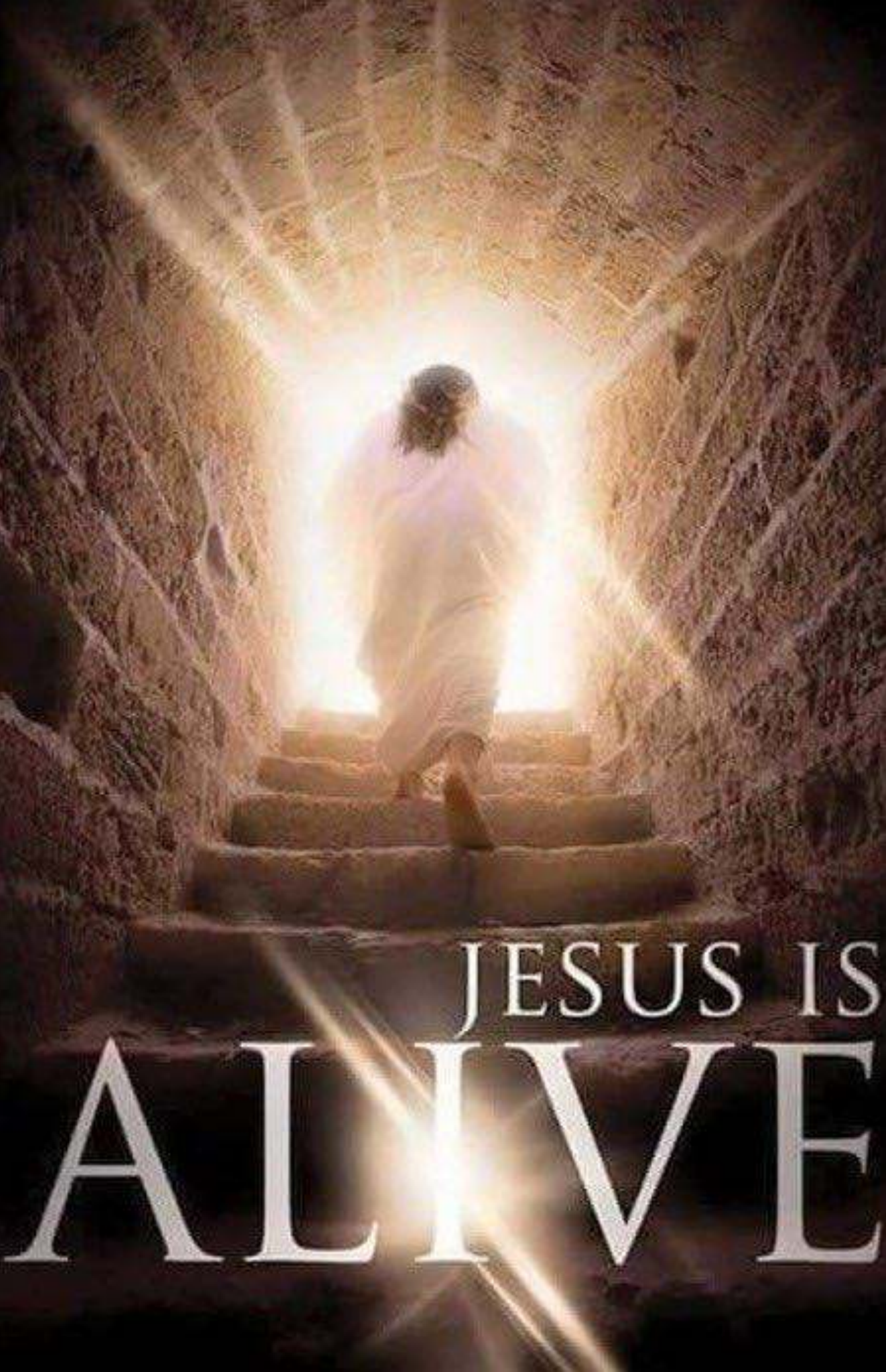




RISEN





Dear Friends,

“After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothes white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and become like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, he has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him. This is my message for you”. So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.”

This is the message of Easter. This is the reason we exist as a church. This is our message for others that we speak, act and live in our world. We are in an unprecedented time as we face the coronavirus that has spread so quickly around the world. As you know, we are practicing social distancing, washing our hands more frequently, being safe by staying home as much as possible, and looking for the light at the end of the tunnel. Maybe some of us feel like we are in a tomb right now, but there is light as we move forward; there is hope; there is the promise of renewal and restoration. Even in this challenging time, we can offer love, care, concern, and support to others. I see that happening with our congregation, on the news, in the social media, and other places. Let us continue to live as Easter People! I have shared one of my favorite paintings of Easter morning...see how Jesus is walking from the tomb and into the light! HE IS RISEN!

Blessing, Rev Deb



**Everyday** - Be a Prayer Warrior and lift up the world and its people in prayer.

**To the Congregation** - Have you thanked someone today?...put a smile on someone's face by letting them know you are grateful for what they do. If you can be anything today – be kind.

**Thanks** - To everyone for your patience during this time. The coronavirus has affected all of us in some way and therefore it was very heartwarming to see people reach out to help others in our community, everything from volunteering to donations to the food banks. Thank you to everyone for thinking of others during these challenging times.

**Thanks** - A special thanks to Cathy Steinmetz, our cleaning lady, for all that she does and is doing to help keep the church as clean as possible by doing many things from wiping down door knobs to replacing all the soap in the building with antibacterial soap.

**Special Prayers** - To all of the health care providers and essential businesses who are working around the clock to prepare and respond to the needs of the public.

**BE GRATEFUL FOR  
SMALL THINGS,  
BIG THINGS,  
AND EVERYTHING  
IN BETWEEN.**

---



# PRAYER LIST

Sue Ellery

Jim Slater

Sillanpaa Family

Gayle Gardei

Dan Strange

Bobbie Noble

Judy Doyon

Alvord Family

Rev. Charles Hartman

Joe, Penny Sue's nephew

Emily for the Fernandez Family

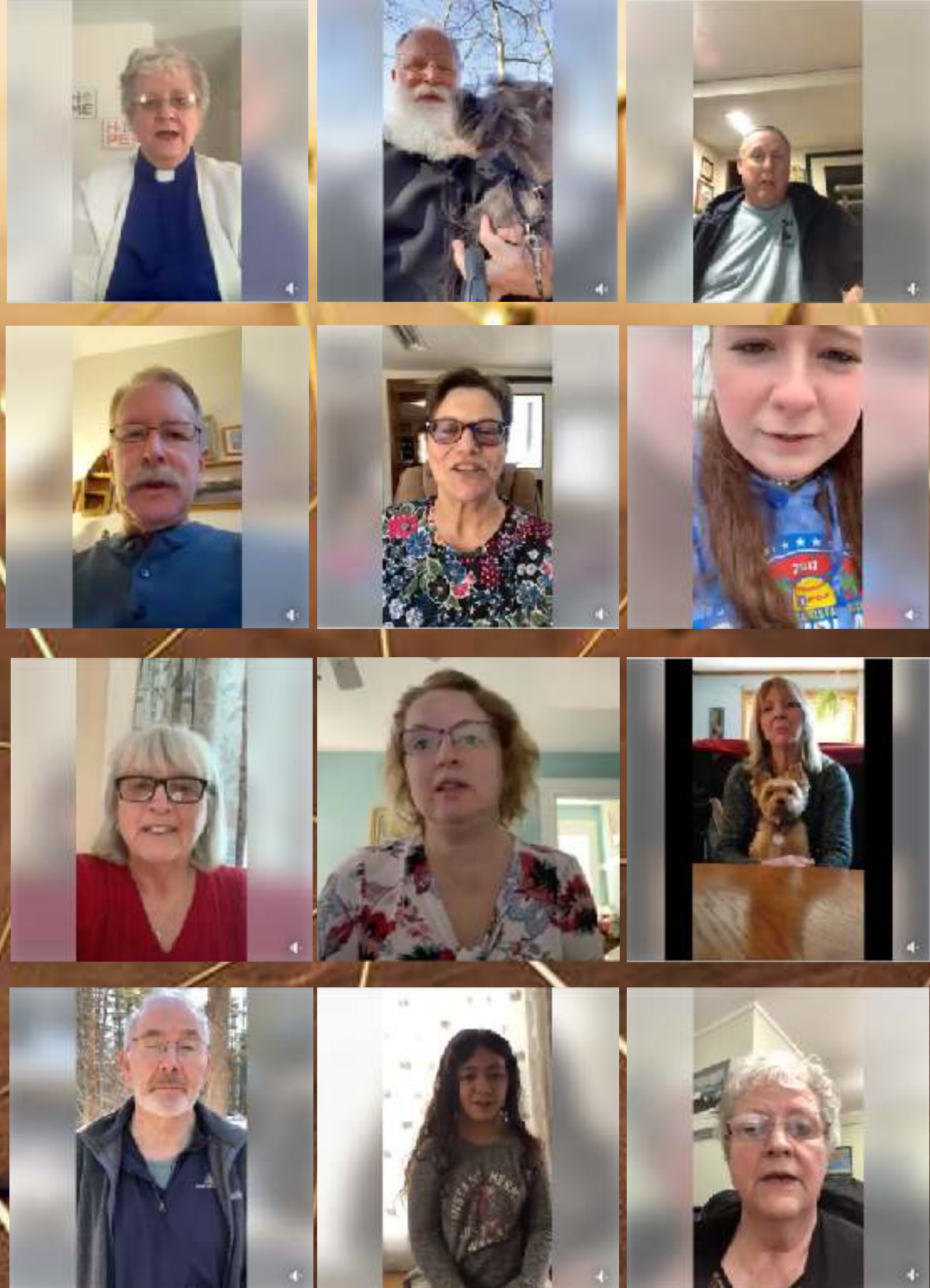
Our Denomination

Our Church Family



# STAYING CONNECTED

Thank you to everyone who has been and will be part of the Daily Devotion & Update being sent out on a daily basis. We are a family, a community of believers who know that with God's grace we will get through these challenging times together.





# THINGS TO KNOW

COVID-19

## Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses like COVID-19 and flu.

### What are the symptoms?



Fever



Cough



Shortness of Breath

### How is it prevented?



Wash hands often



Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands



Avoid contact with sick people



Stay home while you are sick; avoid others



Cover mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces





# OUR FAMILY

## WHO CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH

Sometime this week you might consider a call, email and of course a prayer for our family members living in assisted living, nursing care or are homebound.

Gayle Gardei  
2 Victoria Ct. #219  
York, ME 03909

James New  
9 Lewis Road  
Rm#104  
Kittery, ME 03904

Barbara Millar  
220 State Road, #110  
Kittery, ME 03904  
207.703.0440

Gil Stebbins  
143 Rogers Rd #105  
Kittery, ME 03904  
207.807.6675

Woodie Lange  
346 Pleasant St.#101  
Portsmouth, NH  
03801

Rev Bill Gardei  
Durgin Pines  
9 Lewis Road #127  
Kittery, ME 03904

Barbara Clement  
Riverside Rest Home  
276 County Farm Rd #304  
Dover, NH 03830  
[bic10925@gmail.com](mailto:bic10925@gmail.com)

Marion Collishaw  
50 Old Colony Way  
Scituate MA 02066

Barbara Glidden  
188 Jones Ave  
#101  
Portsmouth, NH  
03801

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



# April Birthdays

5 Amanda Veilleux  
6 Kathy Brown  
9 Angie Dewhurst  
15 Abigail Veilleux  
16 William Parsons  
17 Brian Newbury  
21 Dale Smith  
22 Austen Kirk  
23 Gil Stebbins  
26 Sara Reed  
27 Marilyn Stebbin

# April Anniversaries

2 Jim & Evelyn New  
24 David & Kathy Brown  
25 Jim & Gail Sanders



Photo credit - Dave Atkinson





# KIDS FIRST

Last month, Kids First was introduced and we thank you for your loving and generous support. With the increased emergency placements happening within the Seacoast area and the willingness of the FUMC family to meet this challenge is making an incredible difference in our community.

We are in need of new, neutral color twin bed sheet sets and/or new twin blankets. Please drop off donations in the basket in the office. Here is a complete list of needed items:

Deodorant	Notebook & Pen
Dry Shampoo	Baby Wipes
Toothbrush & Toothpaste	Chapstick
Hairbrush	Small First Aid Kits
Hand Towels	

If you'd like to make a monetary donation for supplies, please make check out to FUMC, with Kids First in the memo section. If you have any questions please ask any church council member. Thanks again for your help.





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

**END 68 HOURS OF HUNGER** is a private, not-for-profit, effort to confront the approximately 68 hours of hunger that some school children experience between the free lunch on Friday and the free breakfast they receive on Monday from their school. Food insecurity affects 1 in 5 children in the US today and is a serious problem that has to be addressed.

End 68 Hour of Hunger provides bags of food containing 7 simple meals each week during the school year and the children take them home and eat the food over the weekend. Volunteers pack the bags on Thursday nights and they are delivered to the schools on Friday morning. First UMC is the home base for the Portsmouth, NH program now in our 10th school year serving 100 children a week from all 6 Portsmouth schools and the BirchTree Center in Newington, NH. If you would like to get involved in this ministry or learn more about it, please contact Jen directly at [jen\\_b76@yahoo.com](mailto:jen_b76@yahoo.com) or visit the End 68 Hours of Hunger website.

**SEACOAST FAMILY PROMISE** mission is to empower families with children experiencing homelessness to achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response. The program is made up of a network of congregations in the Seacoast, NH area and a day center in Exeter, NH.

Many families have transitioned successfully from this program into stable housing and remained in stable housing since its inception in 2003. First UMC hosts the families 5-6 weeks a year. If you would like to volunteer, we have opportunities available to help with prepping the Sunday school rooms for family arrival, cleaning after departure, dinner crew for Friday night and overnight volunteers. We welcome new volunteers as many of the current volunteers have been part of this great outreach for all 16 years. This program definitely changes lives forever and we are proud that our church is a part of it, along with the 20+ other Seacoast congregations. If you think you might like to help and experience the joy of changing people's lives please contact Jen at [jen\\_b76@yahoo.com](mailto:jen_b76@yahoo.com) or visit Seacoast Family Promise website.





## **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.



**New England Annual Conference**  
**Tri-State District**

The Rev. Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop  
The Rev. Taesung Kang, District Superintendent

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

129 Miller Avenue - Portsmouth, NH 03801

Office Phone 603-436-6038 [office@fumcportsmouth.net](mailto:office@fumcportsmouth.net)

Pastor office hours - Tuesday and Thursday 9 am - 12 pm

[call to ensure availability]

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson

Check out our website at [www.fumcportsmouth.com](http://www.fumcportsmouth.com)

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