
BEHIND THE CAROLS

December 29, 2019

We Gather for Worship

Prelude & Entrance of Christ's Light

Gratitude Moments

***Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 150)

L: Come, let us sing to the Lord;

P: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

L: Let us come into the divine presence with thanksgiving;

P: Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

L: It is good to give you thanks, O Holy God;

P: To sing praises to your name, O Most High;

L: to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

P: and your faithfulness by night,

L: to the music of the lute and harp,

P: to the melody of the lyre.

L: For you, O God, have made us glad by your work;

P: At the works of your hands we sing for joy.

***Hymn** "He is Born"

UMH #228

A Time for the Child in all of Us

Ministry of Music

Prayer (unison)

Holy, Creating, Creative God, we sing from the depths of our sorrow. We sing from the abundance of our joy. We sing in voices separate and unique. We sing with one voice as your body. May the words of our mouths, whether in speech or song, and the meditations of our hearts, whether in prose or poetry, be pleasing in your sight. Amen.

Sung Response "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

UMH #204

We Proclaim the Word

Reading the Word Psalm 98:1, 4-9

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message "BEHIND THE CAROLS"

Carols - #230 vs 1,4, #239 vs 1,4, #251 vs 1,3, #217 vs 1,3, #238 vs 1,4

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology** (unison)

UMH #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication** (unison)

Lord, with the action of this offering we tell your story: how you have dealt generously with us, how you have met our needs, how you have heard our prayers, how your goodness is from everlasting to everlasting. Bless these offerings which are given in the name of Christ. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" vs. 1,4

UMH #220

***Choral Benediction** (Congregation encircles the Sanctuary)

May the Lord, gracious God bless and keep you forever. Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor. Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, mighty God bless and keep you forever.

***Pastor's Charge**

Postlude

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

TFWS = The Faith We Sing UMH = United Methodist Hymnal

Large print bulletins are available from the greeters



UPCOMING EVENTS



PRAYER LIST

1/1 - Happy New Years...today is the day to start that next step in your FAITH journey 2020

1/2 - Rev. Deb resumes regular office hours

Starting 1/2 - Rev. Deb will begin having lunch at Heberts every Thursday, at about 12:15 pm and is inviting anyone who would like to join her for fellowship and conversation to come and bring a friend. This is a way of being out in the Portsmouth community and being more visible, as well as connecting with a long-established business in the area. If the weather is bad, it will be cancelled.

1/7 - Finance Trustee meeting at 6 pm, at the parsonage

1/10 - Superintendency Dinner

1/14 - The Church Council meeting will be held at at 6:00 pm

1/18 - Visioning committee meeting at 11:30 am to be held at Kevin Fickenscher's home

Sundays - Church Service starts at 10 a.m. Sunday School is right after the children's sermon and we look forward to catching up with you during coffee hour after the worship service...see you there

Everyday - Be a Prayer Warrior and lift up the world and it's people in prayer

Sometime this week - write a note, card or visit one of our family members who are either living in assisted living, nursing care or homebound

2020 Flower chart - is posted in the Narthex. You can bring your own arrangement or have the church order them at a cost of \$25 to you. This is a great way to honor, remember, thank or let someone know they are appreciated

January Beacon - has been emailed to everyone on our email list with a few that require hard copies out on the front table.

Dan Strange
Bobbie Noble
Steve & Jeanne Westcott
All those living in assisted
living, nursing care or
homebound

Judy Doyon
Rev. Charles Hartman
Janice Hellenga Family
Our Denomination
Our Church Family



WORSHIP TEAM

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson
Pastor's Assistant - David Richards
Liturgist - Sue Richards
Lay Leader - Susan Sarosiek
Acolyte - Marilyn Stebbins
Director of Music - Bevan Bloemendaal

Greeters - Sue Lange
Ushers - Ken & Jenya Westbrook
Sound Tech - Sue Sarosiek
Worship Service Tech - Steve Scott
Photographer - Dave Atkinson
Sunday School - Rosie Buswell and
Aerial Sillanpaa

COMMUNION SUNDAY PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Team is made up of individuals who know the power of prayer and will be stationed near the communion rail to offer prayers of healing for yourself or someone you know needing to be lifted up in prayer after you have received the elements. January's Prayer Team is David and Sue Richards.



THINGS TO KNOW

Welcome from Rev. Deb -

Welcome! Whether you are joining us for worship for the first time or after many years of attending here at First UMC, we want you to know that you are welcome!

We are an inclusive community that invites everyone to be part of our church fellowship. Thank you for being here, and we hope that you have had a meaningful experience of worshiping our God so you leave this place feeling that you have been blessed to be a blessing. Please join us again!

New Address -

Congratulations to Rev. Deb and Dave who moved into their new home at Wesley by the Sea after Christmas. Their new address is: Deb Hanson & Dave Atkinson, 47 Dorfield Lane - PO Box 1363, Wells, ME 04090. Their home phone is available in the church office. Please use that if you have a need to reach Rev. Deb when she isn't in the office.

Blessings Bank -

The donations collected from the Blessings Bank at the beginning of each church service is going toward helping a school in Cameroon. Our Sunday school kids have a connection with the school and our donations provide them with supplies and the ability to keep educating the children. Thank you for sharing your blessings!

Coffee Hour -

Come join us for coffee, snacks and fellowship directly after the church service in Sanborn Hall. We'd love to catch up.



WITH THANKS

Thank you from Rev. Deb -

Thank you for your generous gifts at Christmas. Your encouragement, trust, and support are also gifts that I cherish. It is my privilege to be your Pastor. May God continue to bless our work together.

Thank you from Bevan -

Making a joyful noise at FUMC gives me such joy. The opportunity to be a storyteller through music is a gift that I am grateful you allow me to share each Sunday. Your generosity through spoken words, thumbs up, hugs and winks are all incredibly appreciated. Thank you once again for your generous Christmas gift. Love, Bevan

Thank you from Maureen -

I wanted to thank everyone for their generous Christmas gift. Since I've started here at FUMC I am amazed and grateful for all that the congregation has done to make me feel welcome and a part of FUMC. I hope the new year will allow me to meet those I haven't yet met and for the ones I have, to know you better. Let me know if I can in some way make your time with FUMC better and I will try my very best to help. Thank you

To our Sunday School Teachers -

Thank you to the following people who served as Sunday school teachers this year: Dave Atkinson, Rosie Buswell, Dave Richards, Sue Richards, Kaya Sarosiek, Aerial Sillanpaa, and all those who pitched in to help on short term projects. We appreciate your gifts and faith you have shared to teach our children the wonderful stories of the Bible.

To our Committees -

As we begin a new year, we are grateful for all who have served and continue to serve on all our committees. Their work helps us to keep the mission and ministry of the church on track as well as keeping us faithful in our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. Welcome to those who are coming onto committees and assuming new roles. For a complete list, please see your Church Conference annual report.



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.



New England Annual Conference Tri-State District

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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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

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