

FOURTH SUNDAY IN

LENT

THE REVERSE
LENT CHALLENGE

DON'T GIVE SOMETHING UP.
TAKE SOMETHING ON!

CHALLENGE #4
"HELP A STRANGER"

Prelude & Entrance of Christ's Light

Gathering Prayer

*Call to Worship

Psalm 51

L: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

P: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

L: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

P: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Let us glorify God!

*Hymn

"This Is A Day Of New Beginnings"

#383

*Prayer of Praise and Adoration

O God, who fashioned the covenant and sealed it with the promise of life everlasting, we praise you for mercies that are boundless and sure. Your ways are just, your grace is unending. You have sent us the Christ in whom lies your promise that all things will be made new. We come before your throne of grace with the assurance that you will meet us as we call on your name. Hear us now as we give our oblations and be pleased with our efforts, as we respond to Christ's call.

*Gloria Patri #71

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Special Music - Chris Laux & Bevan Bloemendaal Duet

Time For The Child - Sue Richards

Joys and Concerns

[please lift up the first names of those who you would like the church family to pray for]

Pastoral Prayer, Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn "I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light"

#206

Gospel Reading

John 12: 20-33

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

P: **Thanks be to God.**

Morning Message "Spreading The Story" - Bevan Bloemendaal

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above the heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

"A Charge To Keep I Have"

#413

*Choral Benediction (The 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.

Benediction

Postlude

*Stand if you are able

Large print bulletins are available from the greeters



GREETINGS FROM REV. BETSY

The door of inclusive fellowship in FUMC is wide and always stands open.

A warm welcome is extended to all. One is never a stranger here, for whoever names the name of Christ is at home in this church.

May today's message bring you strength and comfort.



TODAY !

10:00 WORSHIP
11:00 COFFEE HOUR

NEXT SUNDAY

10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE



SUNDAY WORSHIP TEAM

Pastor - Rev. Betsy Webber

Pastoral Assistant - David Richards

Lay Leader - Susan Sarosiek

Liturgist - Suzanne Olbricht

Director of Music - Bevan Bloemendaal

Pianist - PaulaJ Jacobson

Greeters - Suzanne Olbricht & Kevin Fickenscher

Ushers - Sue Richards, Dianne Crisp,
Karen Sarosiek & Jan Cansdale

Acolyte - Jenya Westbrook

Secretary - PaulaJ Jacobson

Sound Technician -Sue Sarosiek

MONDAY 6:00 Finance Mtg	TUESDAY 6:00 Church Council 7:00 NA	WEDNESDAY 10 AM AA	THURSDAY 8:30 AM AA 7:30 PM AA
FRIDAY 8:00 AA	SATURDAY 1:00 AA	MAKE IT A GREAT WEEK!	



Barbara Johns
Ruth Tuttle
Barbara Millar
Sylvia Bartlett
Arlene Johnson
Sue Goodhue
Mary Merrill
Brian Thompson

Dorothy Steinmetz
Kim Hishop
Adele Westbrook
Steven Dietz
Austin
Juanita
Andrea
Mryt Moore

Those in rehab and care facilities



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



JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING THE SERVICE



We had yet another wonderful week with our Seacoast Families and I wanted to thank all who helped set up, were overnights hosts, cooked meals, are doing laundry and for all your support through prayers and donations of this community outreach program.

I am truly grateful!

Jen Berry



CHURCH TRUSTEES UPDATE

Church Family,

We are having some remodeling work done in the Randall Room. The Fire Dept. has 'strongly suggested' that the wooden paneling be removed and replaced with sheetrock.

The little 'kitchenette' at the far end of the room, is quite outdated and not very functional. We will be removing that 'separating' wall, the old cabinets as well as insulating the two exterior walls prior to hanging new sheetrock. The handyman we hired will be performing all of this work, getting the room ready to paint. He also will be re-installing the 'track' for the hung ceiling panels. We may want to think about buying new panels (this is not within the scope of the handyman's contract.) The tile floor needs some attention also. The trustees are hoping we can clean them easier than replacing.

We are also working on the needed masonry repairs, most of you know we had some of the concrete lentils fail this winter. That work we hope to start in April. We do have a quote from a roofing contractor who specializes in slate roofs lined up to do some repairs.

We also took down the stage curtain (it has lived a long and useful life but sadly that has come to an end) , how does it look without it? We do have a gently used stage curtain (thank you St. James Church) that may be installed in the near future.

GET IN THE SOCIAL SWING

START FOLLOWING US TODAY!



WEBSITE

<http://fumcportsmouth.com>

INSTAGRAM

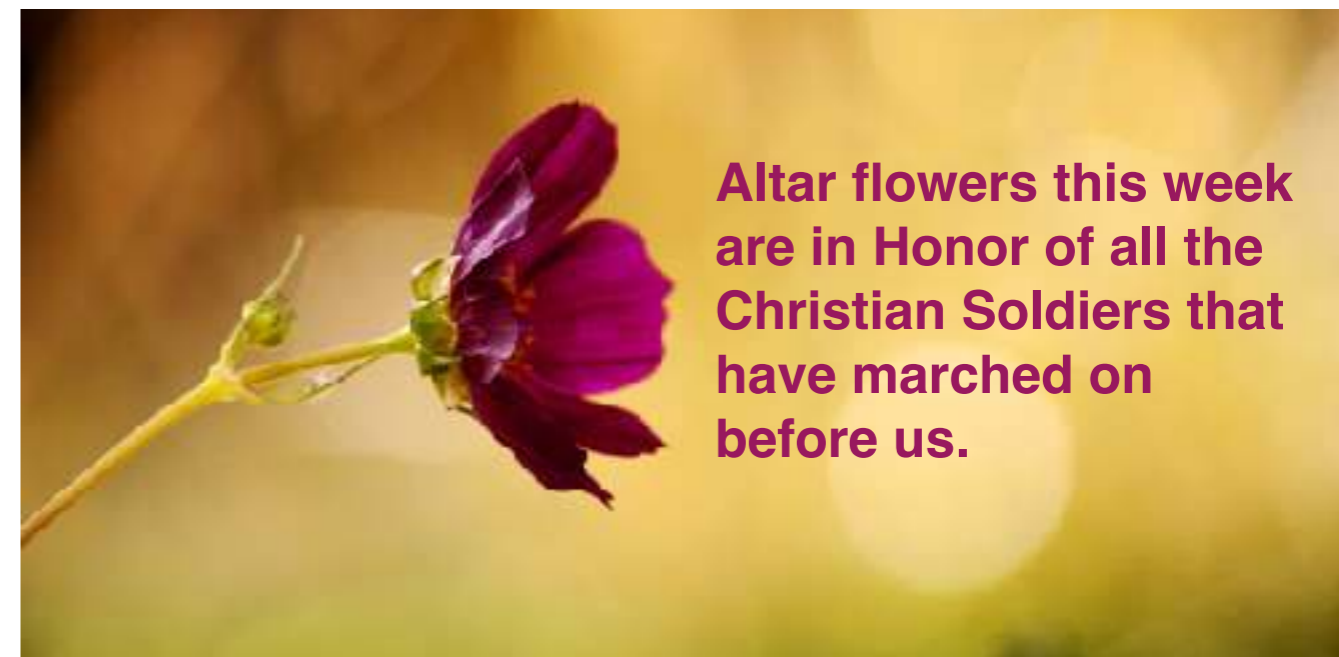
www.instagram.com/fumcportsmouthnh129/

YOUTUBE

FUMC PORTSMOUTH

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/fumc.church.376



Altar flowers this week are in Honor of all the Christian Soldiers that have marched on before us.

**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.

**THIS WEEK'S REVERSE LENT CHALLENGE IS:
"HELP A STRANGER"**

While out and about, make it your mission to help a stranger. Open doors, carry packages, help load grocery bags in their car, grab change out your pocket when someone else is struggling to find theirs, pay for a drink or meal, let someone go in front of you in line or while driving. Simply do one kind gesture each day for a stranger this week.

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