



FIRST  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WEDNESDAY  
EVENING  
7:00 PM  
HYMN 515  
REVEREND DR. MARY



FUMC October 2020  
**BEACON**





Dear Friends,

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. Psalm 33:22

Hope is God's gift to us because of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God's own Son, through whom we have been given life. When we hope, our hearts and minds believe that something good will happen in a situation or circumstance.

My hope is that we will continue to persevere through this pandemic believing that God has given scientists and the medical profession ways to find a vaccine, but practicing safety by wearing masks, social distancing, and washing our hands often. I also hope that the message of "Black Lives Matter" reaches many people and awakens them to the divisiveness of racism. Another hope is that, when we move out of pandemic mode, we will continue to work for kindness, caring, and justice in this world, beginning with ourselves. My hopes could go on and on, but I also realize that in the midst of those hopes there is a call to action.

The Bible repeatedly tells us how we are to behave, speak and act as followers of Jesus. Galatians 3:22-23 reads, "... The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things." My hope is in the lives of so many faithful followers of Christ who strive to receive the Spirit's gifts and live them.

Thanks to many of you who are witnesses to your faith! Thanks for who you are!  
Thanks be to God.

Blessings, Rev. Deb



**Please keep sending your pledges and donations.**

As we head into colder weather and the need for more electricity and fuel, the church’s expenses will increase, too. Many of you have been faithful in your financial giving, and we appreciate your generosity. Keep up the good work! If anyone else can give, or give more, please help us out! Thank you!

**Farewell to our Secretary**

We bid farewell to our secretary, Maureen Denyou who has made the decision to move on to another opportunity. We appreciate the year that she was with us and wish her well. The SPRC is in the process of deciding what the next steps are to hire someone, but in the meantime, we are grateful to Sue Sarosiek for taking on those duties.

**Annual Conference ZOOM Session**

Saturday, October 17, the Annual Conference will meet via ZOOM. We have important items on the agenda, and we ask your prayers as we meet with Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar presiding. Rev. Deb and John VanReenen are delegates and will provide summaries of the events.

**Trunk or Treat**

On October 30, we are invited to participate in a Trunk or Treat Halloween event at St. Mark’s UMC in Kittery and the Eliot, ME UMC. If children would like to go in costume and do their Trick or Treats there, they are welcome. Or, if someone wants to be part of it, dress in costume, bring your goodies to give out, and join in the fun! Rev. Deb will announce the times for each church’s Trunk or Treat as the date is closer.

**Blessing of the Pets**

St. Mark’s UMC in Kittery has invited us to participate in a Blessing of the Pets in their parking lot on Sunday, October 11 at 12:00 noon. If you would like to have your pet blessed, just go to St. Mark’s, 60 Government Street, Kittery, ME with the pet you want blessed.

**Bible Study Opportunity**

We have been invited to participate in Bible studies that are being offered by the Eliot, ME UMC. Anyone who is interested in joining one of their on-line Bible studies is welcome to check out their web site where there are several Bible studies being offered, as well as an Advent study coming up in November. The link is there, and the books they are using are listed. All the books can be ordered on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or downloaded as an e-book through Amazon or Cokesbury. The web site for Eliot is [eliotumc.org](https://www.eliotumc.org) and the link to the Bible study is there. Just click on the link and introduce yourself when the meeting pops up.





Pumpkin arrival has been delayed due to FEMA restrictions on drivers and will arrive on 10/3, at 9:00 am.

It will look and run quite differently with a COVID-19 safety plan created by Sue Sarosiek and I and approved by the Portsmouth Health Dept.

Here is the proposed plan:

- Everyone will wear a mask/cloth face covering, use hand sanitizer at the entrance station and maintain social distancing in the Patch.
- The new pallet lay-out will make social distancing easier.
- The check-out waiting line will have orange lines that are 6-ft. apart.
- The check-out booth will be in a new position where a cashier will handle payments inside the booth and 1-2 people measuring pumpkins will be outside the booth.
- Weekends and Columbus Day, check-out will be at both windows.
- Pie Baking will still happen in our kitchen on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. until about 2 p.m. Pies will be cooled, put into labeled baggies and kept on the counter for customers to pick up.

Clean-up will be on Sunday, 11/1 from 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Visit our church website at [fumcportsmouth.com](http://fumcportsmouth.com) and under the tab Pumpkin Patch 2020 you will find live links for signing up to help or text/call at (603) 749-4169 or email at [portsmouthpumpkinpatch@gmail.com](mailto:portsmouthpumpkinpatch@gmail.com).

Love and Hugs, 😊 Sue Richards, Pumpkin Patch Coordinator







## **WORK HAS BEGUN!**

If you've driven by the church you will see that we are working on our 107+ year old iconic church stone facade. We want to be sure we continue our presence and commitment to making things better not only in the community but around the world for generations to come.

Want to help support us in making it happen?...give us a call or send us your donation gift to the address below.

By the time you read this the Pumpkin Patch will be up and running and we appreciate all you have done to make it such an integral part of the season and our church family tradition...Thank you to Sue Richards, Dave Richards, Sue Sarosiek, Steve Scott, Steve Langs, Carol and Dave Bovee for getting the patch ready for the unloading.

Be sure to check out the photo gallery on our website for progress updates!







# AND THE WORK IS HAPPENING INSIDE TOO!

Thanks to the team of volunteers who we are incredibly grateful for the entire educational wing has been cleaned, painted, new fixtures, and new flooring put down.

Heartfelt thanks go out to:

## PAINTING DREAM TEAM:

Dave and Sue Richards,  
Sue Sarosiek  
Susan and John Battye  
Nancy Chesser

## FLOORING DREAM TEAM:

Dave Richards  
Steve Langs  
Carol Bovee















# PRAYER LIST

Andi & her husband

Marlo Hanson

Jeanne Westcott

Jim Slater

Amelia and Michelle

Barbara Glidden

Gil Stebbins

John

Danny Westbrook

Dan Strange

Bobbie Noble

Judy Doyon

Kathy and James

Rev. Charles Hartman

Rev. Deb & Family

Those who have lost loved ones to COVID-19

Those in nursing and assisted living care

Our Denomination

Our Church Family





# OUR FAMILY

## WHO CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH



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

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

Marion Collishaw  
50 Old Colony Way  
Scituate MA 02066

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

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

Barbara Clement  
Riverside Rest Home  
276 County Farm Rd #304  
Dover, NH 03820  
[bic10925@gmail.com](mailto:bic10925@gmail.com)

Barbara Glidden  
188 Jones Ave #101  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

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



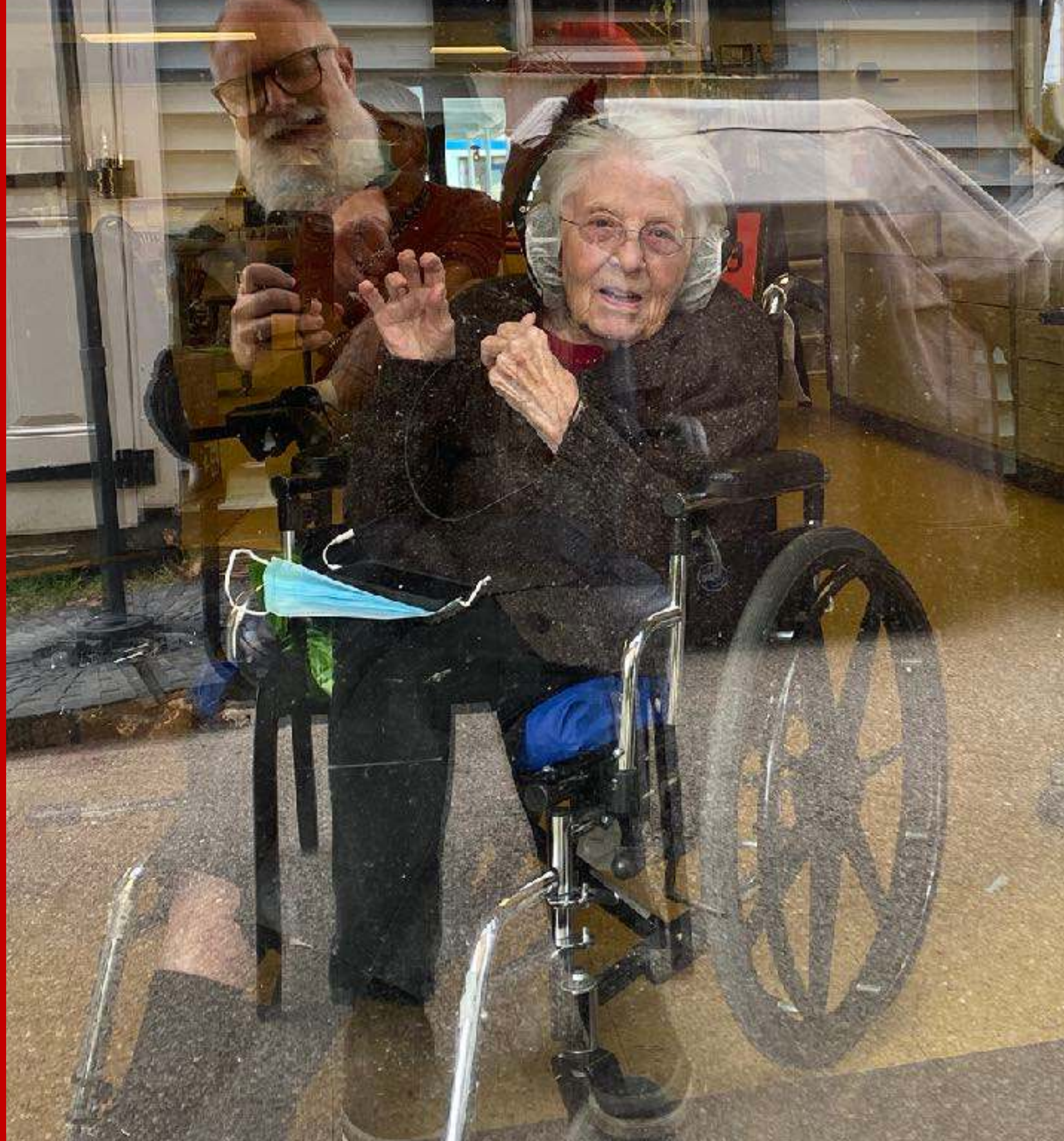
# LOOK WHO IS TURNING 95 YEARS YOUNG!!!

Barbara Clement's birthday is October 9th and I would like to ask a favor from all of you...let's **SHOWER HER WITH BIRTHDAY CARDS**. This will let her know that we are not only thinking of her but celebrating with her even though we can't be together. Thanks for making her day even more special!

Below is her address for the **CARDS** that will need to be mailed this week.

Thanks everyone!

Barbara Clement  
Riverside Rest Home  
276 County Farm Rd #304  
Dover, NH 03820  
[bic10925@gmail.com](mailto:bic10925@gmail.com)







## October

- 3 Rosie Buswell
  - 4 Russell Bunting IV
  - 4 Carol Hopley
  - 5 Dennis Veilleux
  - 7 Scott Stevens
  - 7 Matthew Allen
  - 8 Karen Sarosiek ~ Adoption Day
  - 9 Barbara Clement
  - 9 Craig Richards
  - 10 James Slater
  - 10 Phyllis Thompson
  - 10 Dave Atkinson
  - 12 Cynthia Drake
  - 15 William Gardei
  - 16 Kendra Gordillo
  - 18 Carol Bovee
  - 19 Joseph Stanley
  - 21 Barbara Glidden
  - 27 Rev. Deb Hanson
  - 28 Ruth Lewis
  - 29 Russel Bunting III
- 
- 7 Al & Jan Cansdale
  - 8 Steve & Karin Scott
  - 19 Brian & Amy Newbury







# COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATES

## KIDS FIRST PROGRAM

Fall is just around the corner and socks (men's size) will be needed. A total of 51 Backpacks have been distributed with your help, and more packs ready to be filled. Please drop off donations on Wednesdays between 10:00 - 2:00 pm. If a different time is needed, please call the office (603-436-6038) and leave a message. If you'd like to make a monetary donation for supplies, please make a check out to FUMC, with Kids First in the memo section. FUMC continues to meet the challenge during this pandemic time to support making a difference in our community.







## **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  
Granite 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 - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson**

**Check out our website at [www.fumcportsmouth.com](http://www.fumcportsmouth.com)  
Like and Follow Us On:**

