



God's Promise

has no
expiration
date

First United Methodist Church
September 16, 2018 10 AM

We Gather for Worship

Prelude & Entrance of Christ's Light

***Call to Worship** (unison):

L: As Abraham welcomed the three strangers passing by,

P: So we welcome all into this space.

L: As Christ declared that the kingdom of God belongs to children,

P: We especially welcome all children of God into our lives.

L: As God has welcomed us,

P: We extend that welcome to all today.

L: Welcome one another.

P: Welcome! We are so glad to be together to worship our God today!

***Hymn:** "It's Me, O Lord" UMH #352

A Time for the Child in All of Us

Prayer (unison):

Wonderful, surprising God, you bring us hope when we are discouraged, peace when we are anxious, and joy when we are least expecting it. Help us, now, to rest in your presence. Be our welcome Guest not only here but everywhere we go this week.

Show us how to receive all that you have to offer us. May we remain open even to what seems too incredible to be true, for with you, so much more is possible than we even imagine. We pray this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Sung Response: "Lead Me, Lord" UMH #473

Ministry of Music

We Proclaim the Word

Reading the Word: Genesis 18:1-15

L: The Word of God for the People of God

P: Thanks be to God.

Message: "Too Good to Be True" Rev. Deb Hanson

We Respond to God's Word

***Hymn:** "Seek Ye First" UMH #405

Joys and Concerns

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 in 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:** (*Please join in singing the following*) UMH #95

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

***Prayer of Dedication** (unison):

Generous God, we share what we have because we wish to serve you with the best we have to offer. Bless our tithes and offerings that they may become a bountiful feast for all who need to be filled with good things. Open our eyes to see the strangers you call us to welcome. Empower us to receive them as you do, with radically inclusive hospitality. May we recognize and delight in the gifts they share with us. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn:** "You are Mine" TFWS #2218

***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*

Large print bulletins are available from the greeters



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 worshipping our God so you leave this place feeling that you have been blessed to be a blessing. Please join us again!

Rev. Deb Hanson



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

The Rev. Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop
The Rev. James McPhee, District Superintendent

Our Sunday Worship Team

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson

Pastor's Assistant - David Richards

Liturgist - Dave Atkinson Lay Leader - Susan Sarosiek

Director of Music - Bevan Bloemendaal ~ Pianist - PaulaJ Jacobson

Acolyte - Jan Cansdale

Greeters - Marilyn Stebbins ~ Mike & Anne Coffey

Ushers -Ken & Jenya Westbrook ~ John & Cathy VanReenen

Sunday School - Aerial Doubleday Sillanpaa & Karen Sarosiek

Sound Tech Sue Sarosiek ~ Worship Service Tech - Dianne Crisp

Photographer - Dave Atkinson

Secretary - PaulaJ Jacobson

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Joette McKenzie Malia Broe Rev. Sue Ellery

Rev. Bill Gardei Gerry Royer

Trudy Parkhurst Barbara Millar Cynthia Drake

Barbara Glidden Marion Collishaw Sue Goodhue

Kim Hishop Hunter Pinkley Sylvia Bartlett BrianThompson

Our church family

Those in rehab and care facilities



Please place your loose change donations in the baskets at the front of the pews for the Outreach project UMCOR Puerto Rico Disaster Fund Thank you!



You're invited...

**Adoption Party
Honoring Liam & Georgia
Saturday September 22
1-4 PM Sanborn Hall**

Join us for coffee and fellowship after the church service this morning!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Right after "a time for the child in all of us"

Student Addresses

As our students begin another exciting year of learning please keep them in your prayers and drop them a line to let them know you're thinking of them!

Scott Stevens
3836 Blvd Edouard Monpetit
Montreal Canada H3T 1K9

Carson Crisp
1946 Campus Drive
Hyde Park NY 12538

TJ Scott
NU Box 1387
158 Harmon Drive
Northfield, VT 05663

- Pumpkin Delivery 9/29
- Golf Tournament 10/19
- Pumpkin Delivery 10/20
- Laity Sunday 10/21
- Turkey Dinner 11/3
- Bell Bazaar 11/17
- Church Conference 11/19

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

if you can be anyting be

KIND

**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.

Be sure to
"check in" on our Facebook
page this morning!

And check out all the
updates on our church
website
www.fumcportsmouth.com



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PASTOR - REV. DR. DEBRA J. HANSON**

Check out our website at www.fumcportsmouth.com
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