

THE MESSENGER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Bruce T. Arbour, Pastor

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APRIL 2022

Dear Members & Friends,

“Time to Invite”

We have made invitation cards for our Easter Service. We need your help to get them out to our community.

We will pass out cards starting Sunday April 3rd.

“Time to Come Home”

Thankfully COVID restrictions have been lifted and we are back to worshipping in person. While we greatly appreciate the opportunity to stay connected via Facebook Live, there is nothing like gathering in person for worship and fellowship. We will be expanding this celebration of in-person worship with a grand entry into the newly updated sanctuary on Palm Sunday as we remember Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem. Come and join in the march into a new day in the life of our church.



Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday- Gather in Fellowship Hall for the processional into the sanctuary as we sing our loud hosannas.

Processional starts at 10am

Holy Thursday - We will gather around the communion table as we remember the Lord’s Last Supper. **The service will take place at 7pm in the sanctuary.**

Good Friday - We will gather for a special service to remember Jesus’ journey to the cross. The service includes Tenebrae candle light service and journey to the foot of the cross. **The service will take place at 7pm in the sanctuary.**

Easter Sunday - Celebrating of the Risen Lord in music, word, and communion. This service will be followed by an **Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Church School.**

Yours, in Christ
Rev. Bruce Arbour, Pastor



Special Thanks for Volunteers

The work that was completed in the sanctuary, removing the platforms and kneeling rails and step, and moving the cross, was made possible by a great team of volunteers. *Rob Draper, Peter Carne, Liz and Evan Moulton, Kate Phelon, Marion Roberts, Lee St. Onge, David and Megan Wegiel, Tink and Ann Hartdegen.*

This team not only made this project financially possible by saving us thousands in labor costs, they also were blessed with a time of fellowship.

We would also like to recognize & THANK the team that gathered to do yard work on March 26th.

United Rakes Of Methodists: *Tracy, Curtis, Peter, Lee, Tink, Merilyn, Kevin V., Vi, and Ann.* **If you missed this opportunity you can jump right in and on ANY day you are available play with plants or pull some weeds.**



The group will gather again on Saturday, April 9th. 11:15 AM for another round of yard and garden care.



SOUP KITCHEN MINISTRY

The Westfield Soup Kitchen is located on the corner of 101 Meadow Street & White Street in Westfield. Entrance is through White Street.

A small but dedicated staff, with the help of many volunteers, local churches, businesses and civic agencies provide a nutritious evening meal to approximately 70 needy people in our community 6 days a week.

Our church provides that meal on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Our next meal will be on Friday, April 15
See Mary Levesque for more information



FUMC CHOIR

Music Director: *Benjiman Durfee* **Choir Members:** *Mary Eileen Casey, Ann Hartdegen, Julie Pike, Debra Michaud, Merilyn Thomas, Cynthia Hartdegen, Kevin Vance*

“How does it work when we need a new pastor?”

When a pastor moves on either because of retirement or a new appointment by the Bishop, the local church prepares for the next step. We share the profile of our church with the Bishop’s Cabinet on which the District Superintendent is a part of. Rev. Megan Stowe (our District Superintendent) works with our information and the available pastor, in a prayerful process with the Cabinet, to determine our next pastor.

Once that person is found they are offered the appointment and given 24 hours to respond. Once they accept the call to serve, the District Superintendent calls our **One Committee** to meet with the new pastor. It is an opportunity for the new pastor and the committee to meet and talk about the ministry at First UMC. After this meeting, if there are no missional reasons why this appointment shouldn’t take place, an announcement is made in church. All new appointments begin on July 1st, after the bishop announces the appointment as being made at Annual Conference.

As you can see this is a complicated process and your prayers for the Bishop’s Cabinet, our District Superintendent, and the church leadership is always appreciated. Because we have moved to quarter time the appointment of a pastor takes place later in the spring.

FUMC FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S

STEWARDSHIP REPORT AS OF February 28, 2022

Number of givers: 44
Amount pledged through Feb. 28, 2022: \$10,910.25
Amount given: \$ 9,825.00
Amount **under**: **-\$ 1,085.25**

21 People have met their pledge through Feb. 28, 2022


Amount Pledged: \$ 5,677.25
Amount Given: \$ 8,682.00
Amount: **over**: **\$ 3,004.75**

23 People have paid less than their pledge through Feb. 28, 2022

Amount Pledged: \$ 5,233.00
Amount Given: \$ 1,143.00
Amount **under**: **-\$ 4,090.00**

Non-Pledge giving through February 28, 2022 = \$1,650.00

Thank you all for your gifts to FUMC!



Our condolences go out to the Family of Clay Martinell. Clay passed away on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at the age of 60. Clay was the wife of Peggy Martinell, son of Vi Martinell and brother & brother-in-law to Tracy & Peter Carne.



*Dear friends,
The Martinell/Carne family wishes to thank you for the thoughts, prayers, cards, emails, and calls we have received after the passing of our son, brother, and uncle Clay.
With much love, Vi, Tracy and family*

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10AM IN-PERSON SERVICE & FACEBOOK LIVE WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15AM CHURCH SCHOOL	4	5 7:30am Bible Study	6	7	8 12noon: FINANCE COMMITTEE – Stephen Ministry Room	9 11:15AM YARD CLEAN UP...EVERYONE INVITED TO COME & HELP OUT!
10 – PALM SUNDAY 10AM IN-PERSON SERVICE & FACEBOOK LIVE WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15AM CHURCH SCHOOL	11	12 7:30am Bible Study	13	14 7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE IN-PERSON & FACEBOOK LIVE UMCWESTFIELD.ORG	15 FUMC AT SOUP KITCHEN 7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE IN-PERSON & FACEBOOK LIVE UMCWESTFIELD.ORG	16
17 EASTER SUNDAY 10AM IN-PERSON SERVICE & FACEBOOK LIVE WORSHIP SERVICE	19 PATRIOTS' DAY Office closed 	19 7:30am Bible Study	20 MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM 6:30PM – Stephen Ministry Learning Center & via ZOOM	21	22	23
24 10AM IN-PERSON SERVICE & FACEBOOK LIVE WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15AM CHURCH SCHOOL	26	26 7:30am Bible Study	27	28	29	30



First United Methodist Church

“OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS”

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Patriot's (or Patriots' Day)

Patriot's Day (or **Patriots' Day**) commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775. These two significant skirmishes, which resulted in the colonists defeating the British, marked the first step toward American independence. **Patriot's Day** is annually held on the third Monday of April.

It **should** not be confused with **Patriot Day**, held on September 11 to mark the anniversary of terrorist attacks in the USA in 2001.

PASTOR
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
CHURCH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT
NURSERY DIRECTOR
SEXTON
MESSENGER EDITOR
TREASURER
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

REV. BRUCE T. ARBOUR
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BENJIMAN DURFEE
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