



Throughout my ministry, I have preached that the church is not a building or a physical space but rather the people (it is unfortunate that our English word for church means both). At the same time I have found particular places over the years to have for me a deeply spiritual dimension: the woods behind my house when I was growing up, the church where Tamara and I were married, and Camp Mechuwana among them. Perhaps you have those places where you feel particularly close to God or where the Holy Spirit feels particularly alive to you. Gray Memorial UMC has become another one of those places for me. A part of this feeling is a number of the relationships that I have as part of this place. Part of it is the worship space itself. Never have I attended or served a church

(and there have been a lot of them!) as beautiful as this one. The combination of the windows, the woodwork, the architecture including the clock tower, the interior design based on the Akron Plan and the organ combine together in an unforgettable way. Several of you have described to me your own enjoyment of the space. So, it was interesting to me to learn that a decade ago a task group looked at several options for the congregation. These included staying in the present location and renovating, building a new structure on our current site, or leaving for a different site and either building or buying an existing building. While opinion wasn't unanimous, the largest group of people wanted to remain in the present building and renovate and repair it. At the time, a 3 phase capital campaign was adopted. The first phase was renovating the clock tower and repairing the church and parsonage exterior. The second phase was to include constructing an addition to house a combination of office space, classrooms and storage. The final phase was to include renovation and updating the interior of the church. The first phase of the campaign and most of its related work was done between 2010 and 2014.

As many of you know, our current Trustees have spent many hours developing a priority list of projects needing attention (more information will be forthcoming or you can ask a Trustee for more details), focused on safety, structural repairs and completing some exterior work begun at the last capital campaign. They have proposed, in essence, doing what was to have been the original phase 3 now due to the critical nature of several items such as fire safety or addressing structural needs while they are manageable. The Church Council approved their request in June and arrangements have been made with the Rev. Dr. Bradley Call to lead us in our campaign much as you did in the phase 1 campaign. Those of you who were at the Church Conference meeting on September 15 will remember that there were some questions about the timing of having a capital campaign now given some other present needs in the life of the congregation. After an intensive set of meetings including the Trustees (who still overall saw a need for the campaign while acknowledging other issues needing attention), church leaders, the Finance Committee and the Church Council, the overall consensus was that the campaign should go forward while efforts to address other needs in the church would also go forward. If you are among those with questions, you might wonder on what basis we could move forward with a campaign. I have questions myself which is fairly common for me. Here are some of the faith elements that have helped me:

- Remembering that angels in scripture frequently say, "Fear not." There is much fear in the air, whether about world events, an aging congregation or change itself. Allowing fear to dictate our decisions rather than the grace of Christ is usually paralyzing or destructive.
- Giving is meant to be invitational and proportional. There are both individuals waiting for an opportunity to make a gift to the church while, at any given time, there always people not in a position to make a gift. An invitation provides each person with an *opportunity* to give.
- Our campaign is designed to be combined with the operating budget campaign with the possibility of a mission component. In short we have an opportunity to address our finances in a comprehensive way. My experience is also that people usually give for capital projects from different resources and in a different way than they do funds for the regular operating budget.
- From a stewardship standpoint, the campaign includes elements that will set up many components of our building for a generation—in some cases for most of the century. Other elements, such as LED lights or moving toward greater energy efficiency will mean it will cost less to operate the church. And, by continuing the work begun a decade ago, the church will build upon its decision made then to base our ministry on the present space.

We will be running our campaign between now and the beginning of December. You will be receiving more information in the coming weeks and there will be some special elements in worship. I encourage you to pray for the church—especially in how God is calling us to be the church and to consider how you can be part of our campaign efforts. The campaign, called "Growing in Faith" is primarily about growing in faith as a congregation in several different ways. In many ways the money is secondary. That is, it will flow from the spiritual elements of the campaign. If you have questions or ideas about anything here, do contact me or a member of the Trustees or campaign team.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Tim



Caribou Clock

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Church Office: 498-2103
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Greetings from the Church Office!

Please continue to pray for Kathleen Forbes and send her cards of encouragement (mail to her home - 953 Fort Fairfield Road, Caribou)!

Here is Friedrich Wilcox's mailing and email address: 5477 Bates College, 65 Campus Avenue, Lewiston ME 04240. fwilcox@bates.edu I am sure he'd love to hear from us!

For any committee/group who decides to reschedule their meetings from the "typical" dates listed on the "Usual times for meetings" schedule, please notify the Church Office so all bulleting and Newsletter calendars are accurate. Thank you!

It is that time of year again - my annual vacation trip to see family in Massachusetts and Florida! I will be away from Tuesday, October 15th through Wednesday, October 23rd. Josselyn Langworthy will cover the Church Office (Thank you!).

Please help me by meeting deadlines for submitting things for the Newsletter. It is very difficult to "pull it all together" at the last minute and create a quality product. **For October, that deadline is Thursday, October 24th at 10:00am!**

Until next month.....

Bobbi Pelletier
Church Secretary



September Prayer Joys and Concerns

Prayer Concerns: Debbie & Lu Sharp, Reta Haley, Sheila Belyea, Dave & Marcia DeMerchant, Kathleen Forbes, Janie Lidey, Phyllis Sykes, Emily Stuart, Robin Stuart, James Stuart, Leona Michaud, Keith Drew, Glen Tagget, Herman Wright, Ken Peters, Debra Gauvin Smith, Rodney & RJ Nichols, Alice Pillsbury, Gary & Marilyn Langley, Romeo Bouchard, Monique Bouchard, Glenice Kelley, Warren Dobson, Judson Drake, George Peters Jr., Betty Albair

On Family Death: Family of Nancy Leavitt; family of Craig Harmon; family of Gloria Martin; family of Barbara Van Kirk; family of Hope Dougherty; family of Terry Boddy; family of Cecile Chapman; family of Judy Blackstone; family of Helen Anderson

Other: Abaco Bahamas (Hurricane Dorian damage); Erika Carlson & mom - safe travels & good outcome as they leave Monday for Boston (medical appoints & tests)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PROVIDE A MAILING ADDRESS FOR PEOPLE OR FAMILIES YOU PUT ON THE PRAYER LIST SO WE CAN SEND THEM A NOTE FROM REV. TIM. WE OFTEN HEAR FROM RECIPIENTS ON HOW TOUCHED THEY ARE THAT WE OFFERED PRAYERS FOR THEM!

REMINDERS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LITURGIST</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>COUNTER</u>	<u>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP **</u>
Oct 6	Alden Wilcox	Penny Shaw & Sally Carde	Diane Fitzpatrick	Education Committee
Oct 13	Althea Wilcox	Diana Locke & David Wakana	Mary Ouellette	Missions & Evangelism
Oct 20	Tamara Wilcox	Debbie Nichols & Brenda Curtis	Mary Ouellette	Finance/Stewardship
Oct 27	Mary Lou Brown	Carol Norsworthy & Shirley Bowman	Joelene Boucher	Worship Committee

**** Starting in September 2019, Coffee Fellowship will have food only on the first Sunday of each month. For all other Sundays, Committees are only responsible for providing drinks (hot & cold).**

October Usher Coordinator: Ralph Ferguson

October Communion Stewardess: Sue White

Organist/Pianist: Oct 6& 13-Margaret Cyr; Oct 20 & 27 – Mary Lou Brown

Acolytes: Oct 6-Althea Wilcox & Alden Wilcox; Oct 14-Neal Genz; Oct 20-Conrad Walton; Oct 27-Richard Clark

Child Care Volunteers: Oct 6-Debbie Barnes; Oct 13-Duska Franklin; Oct 20-Meagan Irving; Oct 27-Roberta Walton

Each individual or committee is responsible to make arrangements for changes to these various calendars.

Please contact the church office if any changes to these lists are made so the weekly bulletins are correct!

* * October Birthdays & Anniversaries * *

Birthdays and Anniversaries are celebrated on the first Sunday during Coffee Fellowship.

Remember your birthday & anniversary by making a special offering!



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|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | John Griffeth | 17 | Gary Silsbee |
| 2 | Penelope Alden, Jordan Franklin | 18 | Phyllis Anderson |
| 3 | Marjie Edgecomb, Amy Wischmann | 19 | Nancy Lister |
| 4 | Betheny Anderson | 20 | Rodney Nichols |
| 5 | Vivian Bell, Kamryn Irving, Loreli Locke,
Millie Pangburn | 21 | Jay Bullard, Trent Chandler |
| 8 | Lou Leavitt, Maisie Sayers | 24 | Meaghan Lombard |
| 9 | Scott Branscom | 26 | Kathryn Bell, Joelene Boucher,
Denise Levesque |
| 11 | Kristen McBreairty | 27 | Roland Thibodeau |
| 12 | Jean Kessler | 28 | Barb Brehm |
| 13 | Ivan Shaw, Mary Theriault | 29 | Kim Mayne, MacKenna Smith |
| 15 | Leland Frost, Sheila Norsworthy | 30 | Arieann Davenport, Dustin Nichols,
Dean Rauch, Ruthann Weeks |
| 16 | Pat Dobson, Samantha Greenier, Dale Sharp | 31 | Bill Thomas |



- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 4 | Amy & Jamey Reitmeyer | 13 | Heather & Trent Chandler |
| 8 | Ruth & Emmett Ross | 14 | Tabitha & Brian Doody |
| 28 Lu & Dale Sharp | | | |

If your name or the name of someone in the Gray Memorial Family does not appear on this list and you would like to add it, please contact the church office, 498-2103.

Corrections are ALWAYS appreciated!!! If you know someone whose last name has changed, please let Bobbi know so she can update the database.



Finance &
Stewardship
Committee

Worship Attendance and General Fund Offerings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Operating Fund Offering</u>
Sep 1	82	\$3,621.00
Sep 8	78	\$5,401.00
Sep 15	66	\$3,027.00
Sep 22	70	\$7,590.00
Sep 29	72	\$1,752.00

Needed to meet 2019 Budget: \$4,246.45 weekly		

Capital Account Seed Money (CASM):

We continue to receive donations for the "Capital Account Seed Money" account each month. As of September 29th, the balance in the CASM account is \$40,991.71. (Of that amount, the "furnace replacement donations" total \$32,828.00. All donations made for the "Furnace Replacement" will be held in this account until needed.)

As we embark on our next Capital Campaign (Growing in Faith), donations will continue to be deposited into this account and reported.

Photo Directory Changes (October 2019 Newsletter changes):

Craig, Ashleigh – New address (at college!): 117 University Plaza Youngstown, OH 44502

Furtek, Ryan – New address: 72 Downes Street, Calais ME 04619

Penny, Eloise – New address: Woodlands Senior Living, 147 West River Road, Waterville ME 04901

White, Susan – New address: 72 Pioneer Avenue, Caribou ME 04736

Wilcox, Friedrich – New address & email: 5477 Bates College, 65 Campus Avenue, Lewiston ME 04240;
fwilcox@bates.edu

Pictures from Our Worship Services!!
(photos by Dale Sharp, unless otherwise noted)



August 25th - Kathleen Forbes blessed all the children and youth's school backpacks!



September 1st - Del Ramey, accompanied by Margaret Cyr, provided "Special Music". Thank you!

September 8th - Several pictures of "Dan Shall In Concert"!
Thank you Dan (and Linda) for your musical ministry!





September 15th - Beautiful flowers from the Celebration of Life Service for Nancy Leavitt on September 14th.



Sep 15th - Rev. Tim and the children during the "Time for Children & Youth"



September 22 - Judi Greenier accompanied Mary Lou Brown who provided "Special Music" and the congregation sang "Love Is a Circle" with her!

Other Kodak Moments!



Sep 1 - Birthday/Anniversary Cake during Coffee Fellowship



Library Bulletin Board Display - Prayer Shawl Ministry celebrating 15 years! (samples of the various patterns used)



Would you like to receive the weekly email newsletter summarizing events at worship and upcoming events? Also, special bulletins, notices of changes of events, etc.? Send an email to the church office or call 498-2103 so we can add you to the email list!

You can make a contribution to our church through a mobile app!

To get started, download GivePlus Church for free from the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find and download the app today. Then, you can easily make donations directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.

You can also choose to donate as a guest or set up an account that allows you to securely and conveniently schedule recurring donations and manage and review your giving history.

We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry! Thanks for your support!

Please note that many congregation members pay their donations to the church through their banks directly to the church. Therefore, they may not pass in offering envelopes each week. This is a very convenient way to make your tithes/offerings to the church on a regular basis even when you are away for winter months!

Mission Project

The Worship Committee is again sponsoring a school-year project to provide school supplies, clothing and hygiene items to local school children. There are specific boxes in the Library and we started accepting donations on Sunday, August 11th. Our first donation date is as of Sunday, October 13th.

Please consider helping our local school children with these much needed items. The school personnel were thrilled with all that was donated last year! Thank you!



The Missions & Evangelism Committee is sponsoring their annual "Cookie Booth" at the Caribou Arts & Craft Show on Saturday/Sunday October 20th and 21st from 10am to 4pm each day!

This is our 20th year!

We encourage those willing to bake cookies and volunteer to work the booth complete the bulletin inserts over the next several weeks. Or you can call the church office to let us know if you wish to bake or volunteer at the booth! We appreciate all the support we receive for this annual event!



The UMM decided on Saturday, September 28th that they will sponsor this year's Harvest Supper on October 26th. Look for more details regarding sign-up for volunteers and meal item donations in the coming weeks!

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OCTOBER 2019!!!!

Tuesday	01	5:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry Potluck Dinner & Meeting in Kitchen
Wednesday	02	9:30am	Companions in Christ Preview Meeting
		5:30-7pm	Bible Study Class in Fellowship Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	03	9:30am	Aroostook Cluster Meeting in Mars Hill
		5-7:30pm	Foster Parents Support Group Meeting in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
Friday	04	9:30am	Worship Committee Meeting in Kitchen
Sunday	06	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost; World Communion Sunday (special offering)
		11:30am	Education Committee Meeting in Library
Monday	07	6-8pm	Girl Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
Tuesday	08	11:30am-2pm	Day Home Extension Group (reserved by Betty Branscom)
		6:00pm	Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry Board Meeting at Pantry
Wednesday	09	12:00pm	Jennie Lyon Circle Potluck Luncheon & Meeting
		5:30-7pm	Bible Study Class in Fellowship Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Sunday	13	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
		11:30am	Missions & Evangelism Committee Meeting in Library (discuss Cookie Booth)
Monday	14	<u>FEDERAL HOLIDAY - COLUMBUS DAY - CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED</u>	
Tuesday	15	1:00pm	Caregivers Support Group in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
		6:00pm	Trustees Meeting in Kitchen
Wednesday	16	9:30am	Companions in Christ Class
		5:30-7pm	Bible Study Class in Fellowship Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	17	6:30pm	SPRC Meeting in Kitchen (note date change)
Saturday	19	1-2:30pm	Brownie Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
Sunday	20	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost; Laity Sunday
Monday	21	10:00am	<u>DEADLINE FOR COMMITTEE/GROUP REPORTS TO CLAIRE & OFFICE</u>
		6-8pm	Girl Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
Wednesday	23	9:30am	Companions in Christ Class
		5:30-7pm	Bible Study Class in Fellowship Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	24	10:00am	<u>DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER INPUT</u>
		6:00pm	Finance/Stewardship Committee Meeting in Kitchen (note date change)
		6:30pm	Church Council Meeting in Kitchen (note date change)
Saturday	26	8:00am	UMM Breakfast & Meeting in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
		TBD	Annual Harvest Supper
Sunday	27	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost; Reformation Sunday
Monday	28	6-8pm	Girl Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
Wednesday	30	9:30am	Companions in Christ Class
		5:30-7pm	Bible Study Class in Fellowship Hall
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice