



Please set Sunday, March 15 aside in your calendar.

Got it? Read on for why this date is important for the future of our congregation.

I have personally found it interesting to read about the history of the Peoples Methodist Episcopal Church and its successors which we now know as the Gray Memorial United Methodist Church. There are events that have had major impacts on the congregation such as the building - two times the congregation has decided to build a church. There are events and legends that make me smile and wonder: horse races on Sweden Street, anyone, or the ghost of Bessie Gray? One can imagine how the fire in the 1970s or our exploding boiler in 2018 could have turned out differently. Youth groups, musicians and church suppers are but a few of the groups that have made an impact on the people who have come through our doors. Pastors, teachers and ministry leaders have brought forth the grace of God for generations, frequently adapting the methods to the times (did you know some people now tweet thoughts from sermons). When the history for 2020 is written what will it say? We have an opportunity to be part of a Possibilities Study. Through this process we will intentionally consider our strengths, assets, community, history and ministry as we decide our future and the next steps that we as a congregation would like to take. The Church Council has arranged for the Rev. Rick McKinley, New England Conference director of Congregational Development to lead us in this Possibilities Study. We will build the day around worship, lunch and a workshop in the afternoon with Rick. More details will be forthcoming but we wanted you to have advance notice of this date. This process has the best effect when we can gather the largest possible portion of the congregation. We hope you will join us for this day.....**March 15**.....it IS in your calendar, right?

Grace and peace,
Rev. Tim



Caribou Clock

Publisher - Gray Memorial United Methodist Church
2 Prospect Street, P. O. Box 69
Caribou ME 04736
E-mail: graymemorial@outlook.com

Date: February 2020

Church Office: 498-2103
Website: <http://www.bgmumc.com>

Greetings from the Church Office!

My vacation to Aruba last week was amazing! I traveled there with nearly 40 people – all family and friends (I also made many new friends too!). The weather was warm and sunny every day and the beaches with the beautiful white sand were stunning! I recommend this island getaway (known as “The Happy Island”) to everyone. You won’t regret it!

Beginning next Monday, February 3rd, the church office hours will be 9-2 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On Tuesday and Thursdays from 9 to 3, I will be at the Caribou VFW preparing FREE 2019 tax returns along with a group of other AARP Tax-Aide volunteers. I encourage you to come see us to get your tax returns prepared. Maine is still offering a refund for many people even if they did not have taxes withheld – come and have us take a look for you!

Please help me meet deadlines by submitting things for the Newsletter when due. It is very difficult to “pull it all together” at the last minute and create a quality product. **For our next Newsletter, all input must be submitted by Friday, February 21st!**

Until next month.....

Bobbi Pelletier
Church Secretary



January Prayer Joys and Concerns

Prayer Concerns: Debbie & Lu Sharp, Darlene Nelder, Sheila Belyea, Dave & Marcia DeMerchant, Emily Stuart, Robin Stuart, James Stuart, Phyllis Sykes, Leona Michaud, Keith Drew, Glen Tagget, Janie Lidey, Ruth Ross, Debra Gauvin Smith, Bob Cyr, Meagan Lombard, Pat Dobson, Elmer & Lizzie Glick, Martha Dunn, Ethelyn Langley, Theresa Wunderlick, Carter & JoJo Strother, Ken Peters, Jason Peterson

On Family Death: Family of Janie Lidey; family of Dawn Findlen

Other: None

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>
Feb 2	Tamara Wilcox	Bill Thomas & Louis Leavitt	Joelene Boucher	SPRC
Feb 9	Mary Lou Brown	Bruce & Diane Fitzpatrick	Joelene Boucher	Trustees
Feb 16	Dean Rauch	Althea Wilcox & Alden Wilcox	Joelene Boucher	Memorials Committee
Feb 23	Bobbi Pelletier	Shirley Bowman & Diane McDonough	Shirley Bowman	Worship Committee

February Usher Coordinator: Conrad Walton

February Communion Stewardesses: Debbie Barnes

Organist/Pianist: Feb 2-Margaret Cyr; Feb 9-& Feb 16-Mary Lou Brown; Feb 23-Judi Greenier

Acolytes: Feb 2-Althea Wilcox & Alden Wilcox; Feb 9-Neal Genz; Feb 16-Richard Clark; Feb 23-Ken Peters

Child Care Volunteers: Feb 2-Meagan Irving; Feb 9-Roberta Walton; Feb 16-Debbie Barnes; Feb 23-Diane Fitzpatrick

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!

* * February Birthdays & Anniversaries * *

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

Remember your birthday & anniversary by making a special offering!



- | | | | |
|----|---|----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Vince Bell, Deneane Bentum, Miles Collier,
Judi Greenier, Carl Soderberg | 14 | Avon Brown, Sirena Cyr |
| 2 | Joanne Smith | 15 | Whitney Smith |
| 3 | Lisa Chase | 16 | Dale DeMerchant, Jeff Irving |
| 5 | Austin Branscom, Gerry Willard | 18 | Nova Cyr, Barb Dee, Cassie Westman |
| 12 | Robert Locke | 19 | Winnie Bentum, Kelly Wardwell |
| 13 | Jennifer Barker, Ryan Branscom, Jennifer Craig,
Page Espling, Kathy Snow | 20 | Gary Merritt |
| | | 25 | Diane McDonough |



12 Patricia & Darrell Adams

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>	
Jan 5	54	\$6,003.00	
Jan 12	12	\$1,630.20	(snow storm)
Jan 19	48	\$2,880.10	(bad weather)
Jan 26	44	\$1,496.00	(bad weather)

Needed to meet 2020 Budget: \$4,427.15 weekly

“Growing in Faith” Capital Campaign Account (previously known as “Capital Account Seed Money”):

As we begin to receive the Growing in Faith donations, we will report the balance in the account each month. As of January 26th, the balance in the account is \$44,839.81. (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.)

Photo Directory Changes (February 2020 Newsletter changes):

Greenier, Adam & Beth: Address change - 485 Allen Road, Pownal ME 04069

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



Alden Wilcox & Friedrich Wilcox were acolytes on Sunday, January 5th.

Other Kodak Moments!

Jan 5 – Birthday & Anniversary Cake!



January 25 - UMM's Guest Speaker: Steve Wipperman, Maine Forest Service Arson Investigator



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 you can make arrangements to have your tithes and offerings withdrawn from you account on a regular basis, thus ensuring your donations are received even when/if you are unable to attend church. Please contact Tamara Wilcox for additional information.



The Worship Committee will continue to sponsor our project to provide school supplies, clothing and hygiene items to local school children. All donations that were received as of Dec 22nd were given to our school point-of-contact in time to distribute for Christmas!

The boxes are in the Library again - we will accept donations until Sunday, March 22nd. 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 Worship Committee is seeking volunteers to serve as Usher Coordinators for the months of April, October and December!

If you are willing to serve, please speak with Neal Genz!

During Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, February 23rd, we will celebrate "Mardi Gras" with special decorations and a "King Cake" with a hidden baby inside! The baby symbolizes luck and prosperity to whoever finds it in his/her slice of **cake**. That lucky person is also responsible for purchasing next year's **cake**!



***Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Dinner***



Shrove Tuesday (known in some countries as pancake Tuesday) is a day in February preceding Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent), which is celebrated by consuming pancakes. The word shrove is a form of the English word, shrive, which means to obtain absolution for one's sins by way of Confession and doing penance. The UMM will host a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on February 25th beginning at 5:00pm. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for children and \$20 for families. Tickets will be on sale beginning February 2nd before and after Worship and in the Church Office. You can also purchase your tickets at the door! This dinner is open to the public so bring some friends and enjoy an evening of fellowship and a great meal with Del Ramey's pancakes and Dave Belyea's homemade baked beans.



Rev. Tim will offer "Ashes on the Go" on Wednesday, February 26th from 7:00am - 8:30am. Just meet him under the church canopy by the front doors on your way to work!

Ash Wednesday Prayer Vigil - February 26th:
30 minute slots from 6am - 6pm in the chapel.
We take a 30 minute break at noon to have an
Ash Wednesday Service in the sanctuary.
Starting February 9th, a sign-up poster will be
available.



**IT IS TAX SEASON AGAIN!!!! BOBBI PELLETIER VOLUNTEERS WITH OTHER
AARP MEMBERS TO PROVIDE FREE TAX PREPARATION
AT THE CARIBOU VFW ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 9AM TO 2PM
Thank you to Rev. Tim and SPRC for allowing this schedule variation:**

Beginning Monday, February 3rd, the church office hours are changing.

The office will be closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays until April 14th.

The office hours will be Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9am - 2pm.

Regular office hours (Mon-Fri, 9am-noon) will resume on Wednesday, April 15th.

Additional Information from Rev. Tim:

Benevolence Fund Changes

The Church Council has made a change for 2020 in how we fund the Benevolence Fund, also known as the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This ministry has previously been funded primarily through a budget line item. This year we are raising these funds by special offerings. We will have this opportunity during occasional Sundays throughout the year. Monies are for members of the congregation or community with modest short-term, acute or emergency needs such as food, fuel and transportation.

Education Events

Won't You Be My Neighbor, Sunday February 2, 2020 in Houlton from 12:30pm-5:00pm.

Kevin Johnson from the Board of Discipleship is coming to Maine to lead us in a workshop on reaching out to young children and families and what to offer them when they arrive at our churches. See Rev. Tim ASAP if you are interested in attending or carpooling.

Anti-Racism training, Feb. 22nd at Lincoln UMC from 9am to 3pm. This is mandatory quadrennial training for everyone with an appointment. Laity in leadership are encouraged to attend. See Rev. Tim if interested in attending.

MANDATED REPORTER TRAINING

Everyone who is in the position of pastor in a church is required to complete mandated reporter training once every four years. If you are in need of training here is a list of dates and times that training is available.

The Bangor location is 262 Harlow St and the Dover-Foxcroft location is 50 North St.

Monday, February 3rd, 12 noon to 2pm, both locations

Wednesday, February 12th, 6pm - 8pm, both locations

Thursday, March 5th, 6pm - 8pm, both locations

Thursday, March 12th, 11am - 1pm, both locations.

All classes are free. Contact Rev. Tim if you would like to travel to one of these events.

If you would like to have a class at your church for all of your Sunday school teachers and people in leadership positions, call or e-mail Reeni Cipullo at 974-2479 or mcipullo@penquis.org

Living Well with Chronic Pain

Living Well with Chronic Pain is focused on helping participants manage their chronic pain and symptoms, is taught by trained community members, many of whom have chronic pain themselves. This Living Well workshop series is one of the many classes included in our Healthy Living for ME

Through this program, originally developed by Stanford University and support by the Healthy Living for ME, participants will discover skills and strategies that will allow them or someone they care for, to manage symptoms, gain confidence and motivation to deal with challenges of living with chronic pain.



The tools you need to take back control



CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
1-23-20

ATTENDEES: Roy Alden (Chair), Claire Hodgkins, Rev. Tim Wilcox, Tamara Wilcox, Ruthann Weeks, Melonie Carlson, Judson Drake, and Josselyn Langworthy

Roy Alden called the meeting to order in the church kitchen at 6:40 PM. Rev. Tim said a brief prayer. Roy decided to get right to business and Rev. Tim offered up the nomination of Josselyn Langworthy to attend as Lay member to the Annual Conference (June 11-13, 2020). The council moved to accept her nomination.

There was a very short discussion on the "Big Breakup" of the UMC which will probably happen in May. It is still not completely clear on how the details will emerge or how it will affect our church specifically as yet.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP: There are corrections for October through December as follows:

OCTOBER: Regular Offerings: \$13,690.68; Other Sources of Operating Income: \$40.00; Total October Operating Income: \$13,730.68; YTD: \$146,355.05; Special Funds for Church Use: \$2,765.50; Special Funds not for church use: \$177.00; Reimbursements: \$9.00; Total October Income: \$16,682.18.

NOVEMBER: Regular Offerings: \$22,565.00; Add Other Sources of Operating Funds for Total \$22,845.00; Special Funds for Church Use: \$832.41; Special Funds Not for Church use: \$35.00; Total Income for November: \$23,720.41; YTD: \$189,080.73

DECEMBER INCOME FIGURES: Regular Offerings: \$20,627.40; other sources of Operating Income:

Christmas	\$440.00
Thanksgiving Dinner	\$305.00
Mission Shares	\$9,829.00
Total Operating Funds	\$31,201.40
Reimbursements	\$8.39
Special Funds for Church Use:	\$11,775.25
Special Funds not for Church Use:	\$35.00
Total December Income:	\$43,020.04

The Checkbook figures are as follows:

Beginning Balance	(\$42.10)
2019 Operating Income	31,201.40
Interest	5.62
Less EFT fee	(27.37)
Less expenses	(30,858.07)
Ending Balance	279.48

Memorial Garden Investment Fund: \$25,000.00 invested on 6/29/17; Investment cost: \$1,073.78; December 31, 2019 value: \$27,365.76.

Capital Account Seed Money: Previous Balance \$42,171.57; Deposits \$2,671.24; Spent: \$4,400.00; 12/31/19 Balance: \$40,442.81 (Furnace fund= \$32,828.00).

Program expenditures for December: \$801.13

Trustee Expenditures for December: \$4,183.43

SPRC Expenditures for December: \$10,364.80

New England Conference Expenditures for December: \$15,508.71 (Mission Shares paid in full for 2019)

Total Expenditures for December 2019: \$30,858.07

Dead River Bills also include Propane deliveries.

Account balances: Church = (\$2,060.43); Parsonage = (\$526.59)

Weekly average needed for 2019: \$4,246.45

2019 YTD Review

December: Target: \$220,815.26; Tithes & Offerings: \$201,576.45; Total Expenses: \$212,236.30; No unpaid bills.

December Average Attendance: 67 YTD Average Attendance 74.

Judson Drake reported he had received \$74,000.00 before the Growing in Faith Campaign began. The campaign yielded pledges of \$123,988.00 which is far beyond his wildest dreams. The Council is so grateful to all who have pledged to grow our faith.

Judson Drake, Rev. Tim, Claire Hodgkins, and Roy Alden have volunteered to form a sub-committee to prepare the way for Rick McKinley's March 5 and March 15, 2020 visitation for a learning opportunity for our church congregation. Informational letters will be sent to the Congregation in advance of the visitation. Roy also suggested prayer groups to support the program.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM. The next meeting will be Feb. 27, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted by Claire Hodgkins, Secretary

EDUCATION: No report.

MEMORIALS: No report.

REPORTS SUBMITTED PRIOR TO MEETING

CLUSTER:

The meeting came to order at 9:20 am with the following in attendance. Victor Han, Sandra Bartley, HyungYong Choi, Tim Wilcox, Cheryl Stratton and Paula Lilley. Pastor Choi offered devotions using Genesis 39.

Treasurer's Report

Paula gave the treasurer's report. There is currently \$823.33 in the check book. \$400.28 was collected at the Cluster Thanksgiving service. That amount was dedicated to the Celebrating Families initiative. It was agreed to transfer the money for Celebrating Families to the Limestone Church to be dispersed from there when needed. A check for \$100 was given to the Cluster from the Presque Isle Pastors Discretionary fund for use by the cluster as needed.

Thanksgiving Service

The Thanksgiving service held in Presque Isle was deemed a success with good attendance. The Discipleship Award was well received. The service and fellowship time after were given positive ratings.

Blue Christmas

The Blue Christmas service received mixed review. It was a meaningful service with good music. However, attendance was very low. Tim is willing to help with the service again next year but we need to look at way to try to increase attendance.

Gray Memorial Water Damage

Pastor Tim reported that Gray Memorial is back worshipping in their sanctuary after the water damage. Much cleanup has been done but there is on-going work still in progress. He thanked all who came from various churches to help and for the many prayers.

Festival of Trees

Pastor Cheryl reported that the Festival of Trees was a great success again this year. \$105,000 was raised from the event. She received a thank you from the person who won the tree, a person with young family who loved all the gifts that were part of our tree. We were asked to participate again next year.

Celebrating Families

Pastor Cheryl showed a video from the Celebrating Families initiative. She has attended a collaborative meeting about the project.

Susan Collins' office is going to write a grant for the program.

Cheryl asked that a subgroup be formed in the cluster to work on Celebrating Families. Pastor Han volunteered. If there are others in the cluster who would be interested they may join the subgroup

More money needs to be raised for the initial training. Cheryl suggested the possibility of a golf tournament to raise some more funds. She would like the names of people who would be in a position to help with that event. A silent auction was also suggested to help with the funds.

She hopes that we can be in a position to bring the program here in early autumn. She will reach out soon to police departments and school counselors to let them know this program will become available.

Pulpit Exchange

January 19th is Christian Unity Sunday. It was suggested and accepted that we have a pulpit exchange on that Sunday. The 4 pastors present are all able to participate. Pastor Victor will send out an email to all cluster pastors to ask about participation. He will make the arrangement for the exchanges.

Joys and Concerns

Several joys and concerns were raised. Pastor Han offered prayers for those joys and concerns expressed.
(End of Cluster Report)

UMM:

1. Call to order and opening prayer:

- Meeting was called to order at 0830 by V.P. Louis Greenier. Members present were: Louis Greenier, Dave Belyea, Richard Clark, Bill Thomas, Dale Sharp, Neal Genz, Del Ramey, Ralph Ferguson, Bruce Fitzpatrick, Rev. Tim Wilcox, and Judson Drake. Opening Prayer was led by Richard Clark. One guest joined us – Robbie Irving.
- Meeting was adjourned at 0830 for Del's famous pancakes, ham, scrambled eggs, fruit, juice and coffee.

2. Program: After breakfast we reconvened at 0900 for our program presented by Robbie Irving, one of the owners of Irving Farms. Robbie is a 6th generation Irving in this farming operation. He gave us a short history of his family's farming activities beginning with the original settler John ca 1860. Today Robbie and his uncle Scott and Jeff raise 950 ac. of table stock potatoes for the fresh market as well as operate a fleet of 15 trucks and run a marketing business. He also talked about their high-tech high volume packing facility that can load over 6 trailer loads a day; and the new Caribou russet potato variety that is fast becoming one of their main varieties. A very interesting presentation of a very successful business in our back yard

3. Prelate's message: Prelate Richard Clark read a passage from Luke Ch. 11, v. 5 – 7; and Mathew Ch. 22, vs 1-3 and 8-14. The message was about many are called – few are chosen. He related his personal experience with a middle of the night call to come to church to help deal with flooding from the sprinkler failure.

4. Old Business:

- **Secretary's Report:** the November 23rd meeting minutes were accepted as written.
- **Treasurer's Report:** not available. It was noted we spent \$ 150.00 for the kitchen stove and \$ 70.00 for the ladies breakfast. Checkbook balance as of today is \$ 806.91
- Discussed Christmas tree sales. Final results not in yet, but there are 60+ trees left unsold. A boy scout troop project will pick up the leftovers on Jan. 4th.
- Final results not in yet and deliver to the TCL mulch project
- The UMM sponsored the "Tree of Lights" and by December 22nd, a total of 136 bulbs for a total of \$670.00. These funds will help them with future UMM projects

5. New Business:

- Speaker planned for next meeting will be Steve Wipperman, Maine Forest Service Arson Investigator - Judson will contact him.
- Discussed our current funds balance. Consensus was we should look at a project or program to contribute some toward. It was noted that Gray Memorial is behind \$10,000 on our 2019 mission shares

6. Other Business:

- Judson gave us a briefing on the insurance adjuster visit this week. Damage was well documented and reduced significantly by fast reaction of the Trustees, volunteers, and contractors!
- Next meeting will be on January 25th.
- Meeting adjourned at 1040

SPRC: The SPRC held a regular monthly meeting on Thursday, January 9 with six members and Rev. Tim in attendance. Rev. Tim opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes were approved. A report of the church council adjustments to the SPRC budget lines was given. Liaison reports were made. The church school staff submitted issues with an attendance sheet placement and television placements, citing a lack of communication prior to placement of these items in the Sunday school rooms. Margaret Cyr attended to put forth to the committee her concerns about music availability for Sunday morning services, citing that she would like to be able to provide music however other commitments may interfere without much advance notice. Other music providers may not be available on or prepared on short notice for Sundays and therefore pre-recorded music may be necessary in the coming weeks and months. The committee then continued with a concern from the Worship committee about who is providing child care during Sunday services and the qualifications held by these persons. Not knowing when the last background checks had been done, the committee decided it was time again to run background checks on all staff members for whom checks are required. Rev. Tim reported that he would be away the week of the February school vacation so the committee is to locate someone to provide a sermon on February 16. He also reported on visits made, and on upcoming events including a pulpit exchange on Sunday, January 19 when he will preach in Hodgdon and Daniel Jackson from the United Parish Church in Fort Fairfield will preach at Gray Memorial.

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM: The Angel Tree gifts and monetary donations were picked-up the week before Christmas. Very grateful! Requested that next year we be given gift options for each child. The committee will also require people to sing for their “angel ornaments” next year as there were a couple tags not returned this year.

WORSHIP:

Our last meeting was on Friday, January 3, 2020. The following was discussed:

Mission Project donations, as well as all gift/monetary donations for the Angel Tree” were picked up by the School Point-of-Contact the week before Christmas. She was very grateful for the church’s on-going support.

Asked for volunteers to meet on Thursday, January 9th at 10:00am to remove all the Advent decorations.

Blue Christmas Service on Monday, December 16th at the Caribou Assembly of God Church – poor attendance, but service was very uplifting

Christmas Eve Service – low attendance, but very nice service!

Richard Clark finished reading the book “How to Start a New Service” and passed it on to Diane Fitzpatrick; once she finishes, the group (Rev. Tim, Bobbi, Richard & Diane) will meet to discuss what to do next

Christmas plants – people can take them home

January 5 – Epiphany Sunday; children will add the final “characters” to the nativity scene (Wise Men)

January 12 – Baptism of the Lord Sunday; will move baptismal font to in front of the railing so people can dip their fingers in as a remembrance of their own baptism

January 19 – Human Relations Day; decided to ask Ruthann Weeks to speak briefly about the significance of the Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry to the local communities that it serves; also announce that we will accept a free will offering on February 2nd – “Souper Bowl” Sunday that will be donated to the Food Pantry!

February 9 – Scouting Sunday; waiting for confirmation from Dave Belyea that Scouts will attend and participate in the service

February 26 – Ash Wednesday; Rev. Tim will have “Ashes on the Go” from 7-8:30am. Contact Aroostook Republican for an article? Claire – advertising? Alaina – Facebook post?

Rev. Tim was not able to record Advent Radio Spots this year due to the flooding incident at the church. Plan to do them leading up to Easter.

March 1 – Lent begins! Talked a little about March being Women’s History Month – some ideas: significant women in the bible? Significant women in Methodism? Our church? Will discuss again in February.

April dates:

April 5 –Palm Sunday; April 6-10 – Holy Week Noon Services; April 12 – Easter Sunday (Neal Genz will contact Golf Course about a Sunrise Service)

Status of usher coordinators for 2020 – Neal has volunteers for Jan, Feb, Mar, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep & Nov. Need volunteers for Apr, May, Oct, & Dec. Rev. Tim will make announcements during Worship Services.

We had a discussion about Child Care volunteers and this matter will be discussed with SPRC at their next meeting.

Margaret Cyr suggested we consider purchasing blue Advent paraments so we can switch them with the current purple ones some years.

Rev. Tim told us the Aroostook Cluster selected January 19th for a Pulpit Exchange.

Neal noted that he would bring up to UMM the possibility of having a Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper (Feb 25th).

Next meeting – Friday, February 14th at 9:30am.

TRUSTEES:

Treasurer's Report: Judi passed out a copy of the treasurer's report and each item was noted with explanation/discussion on some of them. Judson indicated which bills paid would be covered by insurance. Del made a motion that the report be accepted, Tamara seconded. Passed. We have received \$650 from Grant Memorial to go toward restoration.

OLD BUSINESS

Judson read his letter to the trustees thanking them for their quick action in helping in the mop up of the recent "Christmas flood" and beginning the work that he has continued to finish via his Lazarus plan to physically get our church back to normal - and better.

Emergency lighting. The present emergency lighting in the fellowship hall stays on just long enough to allow church occupants to get out of the building, but not nearly long enough to allow for any activity. There are no emergency lights in the sanctuary. Judson will install larger batteries in the present lighting.

Sprinkler malfunction. Our insurance company, Church Insurance, will "go after" the sprinkler system for the malfunction. The system is new and had been inspected in 2019.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Judson will put three copies of an operation booklet throughout the church. He will have a prototype for the board to discuss at the next meeting. Example: what to do and who to call if the sprinkler system malfunctions.

Upper Parking Lot. The occupants of the apartment building across Prospect St. and their "visitors" are using the upper church parking lot. This makes it difficult for the lot to be plowed, and the Wilcox family and Judson are continually picking up garbage, some of which indicates illegal activity. Judson suggests that we have an additional sign(s) made: No parking after 9:00pm. Vehicle will be towed. The cost is about \$39.00 per sign. The police have been notified and will enforce. Beaulieu's will tow. The cost of retrieving a vehicle is \$50. A motion was made to purchase and put up signs by Louis, seconded by Wendy. Passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Dry out. The main body of the church is dry. The attic is dry.

Attic insulation. A 2" foam envelop barrier has been put down in the attic. The "denim" insulation discussed at last meeting proved to be too expensive. More insulation will be added tomorrow by Insulators Unlimited. They will also do an energy audit in the near future. There is no more snow in the valleys on the church roof. There is, however, ice on the parsonage roof. The insulation, or lack thereof, there needs to be addressed.

Light boxes. Underwood has put in insulated light boxes.

LED lighting. The first leg of the new lighting in the sanctuary has been completed. The lights in the ceiling are obviously brighter. The altar cross is so bright that Judson is sure the folks in the space station can see it – which should be a great comfort to them. He will install a dimmer.

Breaker box and wall switches. Both will be installed soon. (Underwood works in the church when they are not needed at the new school.) We have received an anonymous \$10,000 donation to help pay for the electrical work. The trustees may have to come up with \$1,000.

Old wiring. The tangle and mess of old wiring, some of which went nowhere, has been pulled out. Judson's Do Not Burn list has been completed.

Church office copy machine. The machine, donated by Bob Thompson, is about ten years old. The rollers have been replaced several times at considerable cost. Office Depot (aka Office Max) is the supplier and repair source. Judson is going to meet with them, looking at new machines and also at their leasing program.

Parsonage range. The parsonage range is malfunctioning. It is a Frigidaire manufactured by Whirlpool and sold by Lowe's. The repairman comes from Bangor. The range was donated by a parishioner. Price \$450. Judson suggested that if the repair is ½ or more of the price of the range that we look at purchasing a new range with a 10-year warranty. Del made the motion, Louis seconded. Passed.

Ladies Powder Room. The title of this bathroom-to-be was changed to the Upstairs Unisex Restroom. \$4,000 has been received by an anonymous donor to make the storage closet by the library entrance into a restroom. Some of our parishioners have indicated that getting down the stairs to the restrooms near the fellowship hall is a problem.

New cushions. Also for the benefit of our older parishioners – new back and seat cushions in memory foam for the back two pews. (It was suggested that these be put in the front two pews.)

Elevator. The elevator continues to be cranky and sometimes non-functioning. Judson has visions of a new elevator – in the future.

Capital Campaign. Del and others on the board continue to be asked about the 10% tithe of the capital campaign money to be given to the Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry. Some parishioners (and board members) are against it. This tithe was decided at the first leadership meeting with Bradley Call as a common practice during a capital campaign. The 18 members at that meeting (an open meeting) voted on giving to the Food Pantry. The problem is not especially the pantry being the recipient but that the tithe should not be part of the campaign. It was, however, indicated in the brochure passed out to all and in Will Barnum's presentation. Some, evidently, did not notice the 10% part of the campaign. The trustees did not come to a conclusion. It was noted that the campaign was successful without being “pushy.” A suggestion that campaign monies received and progress in church repairs paid for with that money might be included in the church bulletin and/or newsletter.

Sound studio. Judson is looking ahead to the future and would like to build a state-of-the-art recording station in the balcony so that the Sunday service could be recorded and sent over radio to shut-ins. This might even be used for streaming to lap tops loaned to such homes. There has already been money promised for this project. It would not cost the church. An informal vote was taken and all trustees like the idea.

Bells and chimes on tour. Tamara asked for permission to take the bells and chimes to Newport Vermont the last Saturday in April. There was some discussion about insurance coverage. The instruments are covered. Louis made a motion that Tamara have that permission, Del seconded. Passed.

Council Chair Roy Alden suggested that Judson make a list of jobs and give a short presentation to the Congregation so that they will be in the loop.

Trustees are responsible for refreshments at fellowship hour on February 9th.

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FEBRUARY 2020!!!!

Sunday	02	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany; "Souper Bowl Sunday" free will offering for Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry
Wednesday	05	9:30am	Companions in Christ Class
		1-3:30pm	"Living Well with Chronic Pain" Class in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	06	9:00am	Aroostook Cluster Meeting in Mars Hill
<hr/>			
Sunday	09	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany; Scouting Sunday
		11:30am	Education Committee Meeting in Library
Wednesday	12	9:30am	Companions in Christ Class
		1-3:30pm	"Living Well with Chronic Pain" Class in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	13	6:30pm	SPRC Meeting in Kitchen
Friday	14	9:30am	Worship Committee Meeting in Kitchen (note date change)

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

Sunday	16	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany; Richard Clark is preaching
Monday	17	<u>FEDERAL HOLIDAY - PRESIDENTS' DAY - CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED</u>	
Tuesday	18	10:00am	<u>DEADLINE FOR COMMITTEE REPORTS TO CLAIRE & OFFICE</u>
		1:00pm	Caregivers Group in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
		6:00pm	Trustees Meeting in Kitchen
Wednesday	19	9:30am	Companions in Christ Class
		1-3:30pm	"Living Well with Chronic Pain" Class in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	20	6:00pm	Finance/Stewardship Committee Meeting in Kitchen
		6:30pm	Church Council Meeting in Kitchen
Friday	21	10:00am	<u>DEADLINE FOR ALL NEWSLETTER INPUT!!!!</u>
Saturday	22	8:00am	UMM Breakfast & Meeting in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen

Sunday	23	9:00am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Transfiguration Sunday
Tuesday	25	5:00pm	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper sponsored by UMM
Wednesday	26	6am-6pm	Ash Wednesday Prayer Vigil in Chapel
		7:00-8:30am	"Ashes on the Go" with Rev. Tim
		12:00pm	Ash Wednesday - Noon Service
		1-3:30pm	"Living Well with Chronic Pain" Class in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
		6:00pm	Handbell Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice