

Every four years, several momentous events occur in the same year: we have a presidential election in the United States, the world witnesses a summer Olympics...and delegates gather for the General Conference of the United Methodist Church. The General Conference is the only body that can speak for the entire denomination. The two-week gathering, occurring May 10-20 in Portland, Oregon meets to worship, to evaluate current ministries and to set priorities, revise the church law book, *The Book of Discipline*, adopt a budget, debate the church's stance on contemporary topics of faith and practice and make connections across cultures and ministries in an increasingly global church. It is little known in the USA that over 40% of this year's delegates to General Conference will be from countries outside the United States. It is estimated in the next decade that the number of United Methodists outside the U.S. will surpass the number within the U.S. These numbers reflect the UMCs growth in places like Africa, Eastern Europe and southeast Asia while overall membership in the United States continues to decline.

I asked Bonnie Ives Marden, a layperson chairing the New England delegation this quadrennium, about some of the major issues coming before the General Conference. She indicated that a great deal of time will be used to consider how the United Methodist Church can more accurately reflect the breathtaking diversity of a denomination that spans the globe. A digital hymnal resource, a global *Book of Discipline* that addresses the reality of churches in different countries, greater flexibility for annual conferences and local churches to organize themselves in ways that will promote effective ministry in their own contexts and funding ministry needs (for example, seminaries) in areas of growth will all be considered when United Methodists gather in Portland, OR. As usual there will be proposals to make changes in the church's position on a variety of cultural, ecological, social, political and economic issues. There will be a concerted effort at the General Conference "encouraging us to listen more, to accept diversity, and stay together as we figure out where God is leading us...[using] resources for rational and respectful dialogue so that any changes can be constructive in a global context and that we will seek to do no harm." Other issues include a spending plan reflecting an increase of 1.4% over 4 years. These funds enable ministry ranging from educating pastors to curriculum development, from communication and worship resources to global missions and the work of the bishops. Major changes to the ordination process and to education requirements—especially for licensed local pastors—will also be considered along with a raft of positions from members, churches and agencies.

You may ask, what can I possibly do about General Conference, which will take place over 3000 miles from Caribou? I would suggest the following:

1. pray...for delegates (New England delegates are listed at <http://www.neumc.org/newsdetail/1389953>), for the bishops who preside, for the organizers of the conference, for the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in the process and that God's will be done.
2. Educate yourself about the issues before the 2016 General Conference (see <http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2016> online)
3. consider engaging one of those representing New England on a topic of interest to you
4. watch some of the proceedings online during the General Conference....typically you can watch times of worship, mission presentations and debate of legislation on the floor of the conference.
5. Ponder the significance of being part of a denomination that is both local and global and that sees that we are indeed interconnected as children of God on this planet we call Earth.

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](mailto:graymemorial@outlook.com)*

*Date: May 2016  
Church Office: 498-2103  
**Website:** <http://www.bgmumc.com>*

Greetings from the Church Office!

It's time to start planning for our Vacation Bible School July 11 - 15. Later in this Newsletter is a flyer which reflects the various volunteer opportunities. If you are willing to be a leader or helper in a specific area all week and even for a few days, please let us know! All volunteers are asked to attend a planning meeting on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

Please remember to notify the Church Office if you move or change phone numbers. It is important to keep the records updated. I hope to create a new church directory soon, as the 2013 Photo Directory is really outdated.

Until next month.....

Bobbi Pelletier  
Church Secretary

**The Worship Committee is asking everyone to ....**



**Sunday - May 15<sup>th</sup>!**



April Prayer Concerns

Prayer Concerns: Debbie & Lu Sharp, Judi McKee, Florence Gallagher, Darlene & Voscarr Nelder, Liz & Joe Labute, Dale Marsh, James & Rita Chamberland, Nita Moir, Peggy Bell, Barbara Sperry, Bonnie Hayward, Susan & Richard Clark, Robin Reed, Mary Roberts, Reg & Arlene Ward, Rev. Tim Wilcox, Scott Curry, Nancy Leavitt, Madison Necevski, Stacy Michaud, Gary & Marilyn Langley, Leila Robertson, Doris Jeffery, Paul Dale, Doug Brown, Esther Page, Reta Haley, Vicki Jean Madore, Cindy Powers

On Family Death: The family of Dorothy Peterson; family of Eric Thibodeau; family of Gerard Belanger; family of Glenda Smith; family of Voscarr Nelder; family of Fred Fletcher

Other: Prayers of joy to have Jeff Ward worshipping with us on April 3<sup>rd</sup>; all who serve in harm's way; Israel & Palestine; residents of MVH and Nursing homes; children with learning disabilities; Neal Genz and all who travel; Alaina's mother as she travels to Maine; Dawn & Cassie Westman - safe return from Florida

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!

Darlene Nelder called the church office on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> and passed on the following message:

Darlene and her family appreciate so much the congregation and others who attended Vos's funeral. Also, Margaret, Del & those ladies who prepared food for all. I am living in Falmouth in a wonderful residence near my family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.  
Love, Darlene

REMINDERS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LITURGIST</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>COUNTER</u>	<u>COFFEE FELLOWSHIP</u>
May 1	Richard Clark	Debbie Nichols & Penny Shaw	Ruth Ross	UMW & Jennie Lyon
May 8	Margaret Cyr	Diane McDonough & Jeannette Belyea	Ruth Ross	Evangelism Committee
May 15	David DeMerchant	Shirley Bowman & Doris Jeffery	Ruthann Weeks	Community Service Comm.
May 22	Bob Ellinwood	Josselyn & Adam Langworthy	Ruthann Weeks	Worship Committee
May 29	Diane Fitzpatrick	Barbara & Dale Dee	Ruthann Weeks	<b>No Volunteers!</b>

Usher Coordinator: Bob Thompson

Evangelism Greeters: May 1-Betty Branscom; May 8-Ruth Ross; May 15-Mary Ouellette;  
May 22-Ruthann Weeks; May 29-Samuella Manages

Communion Stewardess: Ruthann Weeks

Acolytes: May 1-Darrell Adams & Friedrich Wilcox; May 8-Alden Wilcox & Matthew Smith;  
May 15-Lauren Craig & Mari Witmer; May 22- Miles Collier & Caleb Brown; May 29-Alden Wilcox & Matthew Smith

Child Care Volunteers: May 1-Jennifer Craig; May 8-Diane Fitzpatrick; May 15-Meagan Irving;  
May 22-Diana Locke; May 29-Samuella Manages

**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!

# \* \* May Birthdays & Anniversaries \* \*

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

Remember your birthday & anniversary by a special offering each year.



1	Nathan Wells	14	Genevieve Barnum, Darlene Nelder
2	Jeannette Belyea, Thomas Bentum, Donald DeMerchant, Heidi Manter	15	Ryan Washington
4	Mariah Mockler	16	Linda Pangburn
5	Beth Greenier	17	Vincent Bell, Lu Sharp, Denise Witmer
6	Joe Botterill	18	RJ Nichols
7	Matthew Smith	19	Annette Staples, Mari Witmer
8	Robert Buchanan, Judson Drake, Donald & Ronald Nadeau	20	Ashley Bell, Meagan Irving, Josselyn Langworthy
9	Allen-Michael Bennett, Peggy Nichols, Michele Sterner	21	Debbie Nichols, Glen Warner
10	Kyle Alden	22	Gary Doody
11	Gerald Drake	23	Jacob & Justin Walton
13	Ralph Ferguson	24	Kiele Rife, Shirley Sutherland
		28	Richard Clark, Isaac Okulski, Edie Shea
		29	Mary Lou Brown, Douglas Lombard, Althea Wilcox
		31	Linda Richards, Bonnie Topping



10	Katie & Josh Cyr	24	Gail & Bruce Hagelstein
15	Becky & Jason Rife	25	Judi & Louis Greenier
20	Mary & Ed Ouellette	27	Katie & Whitney Smith, Annette & Craig Staples

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.



**STEWARDSHIP/  
FINANCE  
COMMITTEE**

Worship Attendance and General Fund Offerings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Operating Fund Offering</u>
April 3	106	\$4,170.04
April 10	112	\$3,577.00
April 17	106	\$3,452.00
April 24	87	\$3,363.00

\*\*\*\*\*

Needed to meet 2016 Budget: \$3,764.09 weekly

Capital Account Seed Money:

We continue to receive donations each week for the "Capital Account Seed Money" account and as of April 25<sup>th</sup>, the balance is \$20,700.45. In April, we received several "extra" donations to reduce the unpaid "debt" to this account: UMW donated \$400, Jennie Lyon Circle donated \$200 and Finance & Stewardship Committee donated \$522 from their Italian Dinner proceeds; remaining debt balance is \$1,583.86! We encourage other groups who have funds or are planning future events to donate some of their proceeds to further reduce this "debt".

Changes to 2013 Pictorial Directory:

Cole, Pearl: new address – c/o Raymond Porter, 366 High Meadow Rd., Perham ME 04766

Ordway, Julie: new address – 2 Buttonwood Street, So. Portland ME 04106



Saturday, May 14 – Rummage & Bake Sale sponsored by UMW & Jennie Lyon Circle, 9am-2pm

Friday, July 1 – UMW Pie Sale, 9am-until sold out!

Monday-Friday, July 11-15 – SonQuest Rainforest Vacation Bible School; 9am-noon (registration opens at 8:30am)

\*\*\*\*\*

UMW sub-committee for the cookbook project has met and is now soliciting for recipes. Our initial deadline for submitting recipes is May 1, 2016, but we continue to accept them after that date. See the recipe form on page 14 of this Newsletter! Make sure you submit your favorite family recipes!



## WORSHIP SERVICES!

Women's History Month - The Worship Committee selected four women from Gray Memorial UMC to honor during the month of March. Margaret Cyr was to present Bessie Gray on March 27<sup>th</sup>, but she was unable to do it that day. On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, she presented the following:

I have to admit before I start that I didn't really know anything about Bessie Gray other than the fact this church is named for her. The information I am going to impart is based on the book "Ladies First" written by Phil Turner. It is in the form of a diary and so I have chosen to pick from that and the little information I could find on the Internet.

Bessie Beatrice Raworth was born on March 31, 1873 in Port Elgin, N. B. She had 2 brothers and a sister. Around 1889 she met a young man by the name of James Gray, a tailor in the town who had plans to go on to college. Quoting from "Ladies First", Bessie says "I am not going to college – that's for men but I'm not going to live the life of a spinster either. Ever since I became a Christian and had my sins washed away, I had thought and dreamed that if God wanted me to go to some place like the wilds of Africa then I would do all that I could to be ready. So I'm going to help in every way I can at the church and study my Bible every living day."

I think after reading the diary and other information I found, that is exactly what she chose to do. She married James Gray in 1892 and when he became a licensed preacher she supported and played an important part in his ministry. They started their married life in Amherst, N. B. where James pastored the church there. He was accepted at the Boston Theology School in 1897 and they moved to Hyde Park where they started classes for the church and unchurched.

In 1899, James asked the District Superintendent for an appointment in Maine and in May, the young couple were on their way to Cushing ME. Bessie joined the WCTU and played the pump organ at the church. That same year they were transferred to Rockport where their meager belongings barely filled the large parsonage they moved into. While there, Bessie taught Sunday School and also taught a botany course to some young girls. She also played the pipe organ (which is on the New England list of historical pipe organs). In 1905 they moved to Boothbay Harbor and in 1907 they moved to Hartland. Through these moves, Bessie continued to help out as she could.

In 1910, James was transferred to Caribou where they stayed until 1915 when they again moved and were transferred to Rockland. James was made District Superintendent of the conference in 1918 and they moved into their new home on Grove Street in Bangor, Bessie's last move as she passed away in October of that year.

While in Caribou, Bessie became a member of the Ansel G. Taylor Women's Relief Corp # 97 Grand Army of the Republic and that group was instrumental in the campaign to erect the statue at Monument Park and again she joined the WCTU. Her church activities included teaching Sunday School, being a member of the Ladies Aid, directing the Christmas play, giving testimonies in various settings, teaching a group of unchurched children on the New Sweden Road in Woodland, and leading the singing at many of the evangelistic meetings.

Again quoting from "Ladies First", this passage tells of her love for the people of Caribou, as she leaves Caribou in 1915: "We are going to Rockland. I will be near the sea. I am in hopes that the sea air will put me back on my feet. I have been half an invalid all my days in Caribou. Yet I loved the people and as soon as I could gather my strength I did all I could to help James bring more souls to the knowledge of Jesus Christ."

Bessie was ill most of her married life, but she remained strong in her religious beliefs and took seriously her marriage vows to help and support her husband. Bessie Gray was a good wife, friend, and teacher. In 1919 the Fourth Quarterly Conference of the People's Methodist Episcopal Church approved the changing of its name to the Bessie Gray Memorial Church.

As you go down to the fellowship hall you will see a picture of Bessie Gray above the stairs.

By Margaret Cyr



Kathleen Forbes talks to the children about “Love” during the Children’s Time on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

OTHER “KODAK MOMENTS”



Collage of pictures taken March 30<sup>th</sup> at the State Senate session that Rev. Tim and Alden Wilcox attended!  
 Rev. Tim gave the invocation and Alden was an honorary page.  
 (provided by Peter Edgecomb)



Florence Gallagher invited us to attend her mini-concert at the Maine Veterans' Home on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>! It was well attended, Florence had a great time and we all sang along with her on many of the pieces. Margaret Cyr accompanied Florence on the piano! (photos by Pat Dobson)



## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES April 21, 2016

**ATTENDEES:** Diane McDonough (Chair), Debbie Barnes, Margaret Cyr, Judi Greenier, Lee Frost, Bill Thomas, Shirley Bowman, and Bobbi Pelletier

The meeting came to order in the church kitchen with Diane McDonough saying a brief prayer followed by the Council voting to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed and published. Next, Diane called for committee reports as follows:

**CLUSTER:** Bill stated the Cluster met on April 7<sup>th</sup>. The Treasurer requested that the Cluster added \$57 from their treasury to the \$193 received from the Cluster Lenten service in Limestone to send a check of \$250 to Mechuwana. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to do this.

**Social Action Award** - Please continue thinking about possible recipients for 2016. Applications are available from Leona and need to be returned by October 1.



District Lay Servants Committee – Advanced Lay Servant Classes are available online at [www.beadisciple.com](http://www.beadisciple.com) . Pastor Stephen is working on offering an Advanced Course at some point in the near future.

District Ministry Team – A welcome service is planned for the new District Superintendent on October 15<sup>th</sup> at Old Town UMC. Please send church directory pictures to Kelly in preparation of the new District Superintendent.

Portage and Mapleton – Leona was in contact with Pat regarding our connection and responsibility toward the church in Portage. To date, she has not received a reply. For our purposes, this matter is on hold for the moment.

The Bishop has appointed John DeFelice to the Mapleton church, and he will be starting July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Cluster Youth Activities – A Youth Rally was held on March 12<sup>th</sup>, and another will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> (6pm) to May 1 (noon) for Senior High Youth at Camp Mechuwana.

**June 4, 2016 at 1:00pm -Farewell service for the Rev. Dr. Pat MacHugh at Orono UMC.**

Next Meeting – Thursday, September 1, 2016 at 11:00 am.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Judy reports that our church is responsible for providing volunteer help at the **Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry** during the month of May on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you can spare a couple of hours during the morning, please contact Judi Greenier. Your help will be greatly appreciated. She also reported that the Ecumenical Spaghetti Supper raised about \$3500 for the Food Pantry.

The committee will be hosting Coffee Fellowship on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**EDUCATION:** Meeting held April 17<sup>th</sup>, attendees: Reverend Tim, Steve, Michele, Pat, Norma, Roberta, & Mary. March minutes were read and accepted.

New Business:

Sunday School -

- Michele informed us that Diane will not be teaching in the fall so we will be looking for a Pre-K-1 teacher.
- On Sunday the 6/12 the S.S. children will be having a short trivia game to share what they have learned this year.

Superintendent Report -

- The Paint & Sip activity was a success. Eighteen children attended, had a great time, and brought home a beautiful painting they created.

VBS -

- The theme is Sun Quest Rainforest and it will be held 7/11-7/15 from 9:00-11:30.
- There will be a planning meeting on 5/11 at 6:30 for all participating.

Reverend Tim Time -

- There are five children interested in attending Camp Mechuwana and the Education Committee have agreed to offer a full scholarship for each child.

Next Meeting: May 29th

Coffee Fellowship - July 3rd, Oct. 2

Minutes submitted by: Mary Theriault

**EVANGELISM AND PUBLICITY:** No Report

**FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP:** Shirley Bowman reported that Regular Offerings for March amounted to \$13,823.82 with additional funds for birthday (\$64), sale of suncatchers, Misc. (\$50.50), and Easter Offering (\$487), bringing that amount to \$14,425.32. We had \$131.60 in Reimbursements and \$1,274.50 in Special Funds for Church Use. Special Funds Not for Church Use were \$68 for One Great Hour of Sharing and \$367.88 for Holy Week – Caribou Ministerial Association, bringing the total offering to \$16,267.30.

Bobbi Pelletier reported the following Checkbook figures for March:

Beginning Balance	3,294.09
2015 Operating Income	14,425.32
Interest	.51
Less EFT fee	(17.25)
Less Expenses	(13,252.79)
Ending Balance	4,449.88

- The Capital Account Seed Money showed a previous balance of \$18,676.63. March deposits amounted to \$474.82. There were no expenditures in March so the total balance at month's end was \$19,151.45.
- At the end of March we were one month ahead in Mission Shares.
- Our Dead River balance for the church was \$3,812.42 and for the Parsonage \$752.06.
- Debbie Barnes reported March Budget figures as follows: Target \$48,933.13; Tithes & Offerings \$43,792.51; Total Expenses \$47,937.48; Unpaid expenses \$0.00. The average attendance in March was 116. The average attendance for the year to date is 103.
- The Finance Committee set up a work schedule to prepare and host the Italian supper on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The committee voted to donate half of the proceeds to the Capital Account Seed Money Debt, and half to the church's Operating Fund.
- Debbie will also be contacting Committee Chairs to set up a schedule to hand in auditing material for 2015. The audit will be done by Gordon Buzza from Grant Memorial UMC,

**HISTORY AND RECORDS:** No Report

**MEMORIALS:** No Report

**SPRC:** On March 24<sup>th</sup> there was a special meeting called to interview a candidate for the position of child care. Rev. Tim Wilcox, Dave Belyea, Bruce Fitzpatrick, and Bill Thomas interviewed, and then awarded the position to Emma Belyea with the stipulation that until the end of May, termination could end by either party without cause.

The committee met on April 14 with Rev. Tim Wilcox, Bruce Fitzpatrick, and Bill Thomas in attendance. The main point of discussion was a request from Linda Richards on using a temporary back up for janitorial services in case of sickness. It was decided that there are too many issues concerning employment and workmen's compensation to do this. Furthermore, a volunteer could do any basic cleaning that needed to be done. It was agreed to have the council review this and see if further action is requested. The Council did review this at our meeting and supported their decision.

Rev. Tim will be taking some time away and Pastor Chris Dare will be covering for pastoral duties. The Council also discussed the issue of not having a designated person available to open and close the church for special occasions such as weddings. There will be several weddings this summer, so it is important to have something in place before these events occur.

**TRUSTEES:** The Local Accounts Balances as of March 22, 2016 are as follows:

Organ Fund	\$4086.10
Clock Account	\$ 526.57
Steeple Maintenance Fund	\$ 1004.17
Heating System Fund	\$7073.49
Holding Account	\$3271.55
BOT Checking Account	\$ 85.81
Trustees CD	\$10,053.40

- The new pillars around the portico will be primed and painted by Roy Alden and David Wakana as soon as weather permits.
- The cement block wall facing Prospect Street, if found to be as sound as thought, may be completed by filling the damaged blocks with some type of heavy grout (non-shrink type) and may require veneer wall as well. This would avoid having to tear up part of the basement wall in the Sunday School area. Dave Belyea is researching this option.
- There will be a switch added to the library which will turn the sound system on and off eliminating a need to enter the office to do so, thus maintaining the security of the sound system. Trustees voted to pay the cost of the switch system. New shelving for the office will be floor mounted and movable should the room be used for different purposes in the future.
- The Trustees voted to replace the furnace in the parsonage with a new oil furnace and have the chimney lined at a cost of \$5965. The work will be done by Dead River. They had the best bid and are our heating fuel supplier. The old boiler was heating at 40-45% and beyond repair. The cost will be paid from the trustee heating system fund.
- Friedrich and Alden have been hired by the Trustees to rake the lawn and do spring outside clean up around the church.
- The computer in the library has been replaced. This cost is being covered by donations. Thanks to Bob Thompson for organizing this.
- We are planning to do repairs to stop the leaks in the back wall under the stairs later this summer.
- A new microwave and hood has been purchased for the parsonage and will be installed in May.

**UMM:** The GMUMC Men's Club met on April 16. Those attending were Louis Greenier, Del Ramey, Ken Peters, Ivan Shaw, Bob Ellinwood, Dave DeMerchant, and guest speaker, Will Barnum. Will stated that the Fire Protection Commission was started in 1891 and 60 % of their budget was from forest tax. He talked about some of his duties, compliance with timber harvest and fire suppression. He talked about recent fires in Weston, Bar Harbor, and southern Maine. 95% of the fires they deal with are started by people, whether accidentally or stupidity. Fires are their core mission and have had a fire that burned 385,000 acres. Permits are required for any/all fires except for cooking or warming fires.

- The minutes of the February 2016 meeting were disseminated. It was moved and second to accept the minutes. Motion carried.
- Ken Peters reported that the checking account has a balance of \$781.59. It was moved and second that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Motion carried.
- No members of the Nominating Committee were present so the item was tabled until next meeting.
- The new issue of the UMM Magazine is in for anyone to read.
- A discussion was had on the items in the shed to be put out for the City Wide Yard Sale. The old computer equipment was discussed and a possible fund-raiser of this type on equipment. Louis will check this out and get back.

Our next meeting will be on May 21, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the church dining room.

**UMW:** Last meeting was Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

- Discussed our plans for our next event – Rummage and Bake Sale on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Donations for the Rummage Sale will be taken the week of May 9-13 from 9am to noon. Jennie Lyon will sponsor the Bake Sale and accept items on Friday or Saturday morning.
- Our Cookbook Committee has been meeting every two weeks and recipes are coming in gradually – we need to have at least 100 recipes and we might have already met that goal! We've selected many of the cookbook features already and hope to finalize those pieces as we begin to create the final product. We have not decided as yet what we will do with the proceeds – ideas anyone?
- Several UMW members are helping to provide a lunch for the Confirmation Classes. There are two dates open - May 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> if anyone is interested in volunteering.
- We donated \$400 from the proceeds of our Ham Dinner to the Capital Account Seed Money debt.

Jennie Lyon Circle: Potluck lunch and meeting held Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. The group voted to donate \$200 towards the Capital Account Seed Money debt.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: New yarn was ordered and received. We have a lot of new shawls and baby blankets (with matching hats now!) ready to be blessed. Will discuss with Diane and Rev. Tim on the best date for dedication.

Next UMW meeting – Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**WORSHIP:** Margaret Cyr reported the following:

May Sundays

May 8	Ascension Sunday/Mother's Day
15	Pentecost Sunday (Everyone is encouraged to wear something red)
22	Heritage Sunday/Trinity Sunday/Peace with Justice Sunday
29	Memorial Sunday

We discussed feedback on the Lenten season, Holy Week, and Easter. A lot of positive comments and ideas for the next year were shared.

We are purchasing 2 new banners – One for funerals and one for the summer months.

There are some parament sets that we do not use anymore, and they are presently taking up space in the parament closet. Margaret spoke with a gentleman at Kanel Brothers (who have made the last few sets of paraments we have purchased) about how to store them properly. He suggested that we display them in a special area of the church. Margaret mentioned that perhaps we could use one of the cabinets in the dining room where other church artifacts are stored, and then we could easily bring them out for a special display on Heritage Sunday. The Council fully supported that idea.

**PASTOR'S TIME:** Rev. Tim submitted the following report:

All my current classes are headed toward their conclusions at various times in May/beginning of June. Plans are or will soon be made for Pentecost (May 15--everyone wear your red!), Heritage Sunday (May 22), the confirmation class trip to the Caribou Assembly of God (late May), a new member Sunday (late May), Children's Sunday (June 5), graduates' Sunday (June 12), Confirmation Sunday (June 19), and a baptism (June 26).

I currently have a request in to the district superintendent for a special church conference for the purpose of voting on nominations for the coming year. I have suggested a date in mid-late May. The committee's work is about 2/3 complete as of this writing.

The May sermon series will be "Why I am (still) a United Methodist?" A summer calendar for where I will be and when is in development. Several of the Wilcox family are constructing raised beds on the parsonage grounds. These will become gardens with a variety of vegetables, fruits and flowers.

The Northern Maine District Leadership Academy will be held in Houlton on May 7. I will be leading one of the workshops on teaching Companions in Christ. Several other workshops on topics ranging from worship to Christian education to missions to finance will be offered along with a keynote speaker. Brochures on this are in the Narthex.

The next Council meeting will be May 19th.  
Minutes recorded and prepared by Diane McDonough

\*\*\*\*\*

There will be a special Church Conference for the purpose of acting on proposed nominations from the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee. This Church Conference will be incorporated into worship on May 22 using the "worshipful work" model and will include recognitions of those serving in the past year. All members of the church may participate in the discussion and voting on the nominations. This will only comprise 5 to no more than 10 minutes of worship and will also dovetail with the other emphases for the day, Heritage Sunday and a recognition of the 200th anniversary of both the death of Francis Asbury and birth of sister denomination, the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Worship Committee offers a big thank you to all of those who donated to the purchase of the digital piano. Already it has been used for background music during coffee fellowship and on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, it was used during the Italian Supper. Diana Rauch has made a beautiful cover for it and we thank her for that!

\*\*\*\*\*

## CARIBOU CHORAL SOCIETY'S SPRING CONCERTS

The Caribou Choral Society will be presenting its 39<sup>th</sup> annual spring concerts "*We are the Music Makers*" on **Friday, May 13, 7:00pm** at St. Mary's Church in Presque Isle and on **Saturday, May 14, 7:00pm** at Holy Rosary Church in Caribou. All are welcome and encouraged to bring along a friend.

\*\*\*\*\*

UMW COOKBOOK RECIPE SUBMISSION

(PLEASE PRINT)

Category (check one):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soups & Salads          | <input type="checkbox"/> Breads & Rolls  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Main Dishes             | <input type="checkbox"/> Cookies & Candy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable & Side Dishes | <input type="checkbox"/> Desserts        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appetizer & Beverages   | <input type="checkbox"/> This & That     |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Recipe from: \_\_\_\_\_ (if from someone else)

Title of Recipe: \_\_\_\_\_

Ingredients:

Directions (use reverse side if more room is needed):

Return to Church and place in specially marked box in the Narthex!

Mail to: GMUMC UMW, PO Box 69, Caribou ME 04736

**DEADLINE – MAY 1, 2016!**

## Vacation Bible School Volunteers

July 11 to 15, 2016

Here's a great opportunity to reach out to children in our community! Vacation Bible School has lots of ways for you to volunteer to reach children. Please fill out the form below and let us know what you would like to do. Call Rev. Tim, Michele Sterner or Denise Witmer to find out more about a particular position or volunteer area. Our first volunteer meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Organizing Leaders Needed**

Co-Directors/MCs:

(Michele Sterner & Denise Witmer)

Music Leader (Denise Witmer)

Arts & Crafts Leader

Daily Snacks Leader

Games Leader

Bible Teacher (pre-school)

Bible Teacher (first & second grade)

Bible Teacher (third & fourth grade)

Bible Teacher (fifth & sixth grade)

Skits Leader

Decorations

Registration (Bobbi Pelletier)

Technical/Sound Person

Publicity Coordinator (Bobbi Pelletier)



We need volunteer helpers starting in seventh grade on up to help in all the areas above even if it is just for a day. Leadership positions can also be split if the task needs to be divided by responsibility or time during the week. We will need group leaders to simply take each grouping of children from one activity to another.

-----  
**Sign-up Form (tear off and turn in)**

I would like to serve as a leader in: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be a helper in the area(s) of: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you would like us to know:

## LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MAY!!!

Sunday	01	8:45am 10:00am 12:00pm	Sunday School Worship - Sixth Sunday of Easter Confirmation Class in Pat Dobson's Classroom
Monday	02	1:00pm 6:30pm	Disciple III Bible Study Class Disciple III Bible Study Class
Tuesday	03	6:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting in Library "Terrific Tuesdays Ministry" with Michele Nominations & Leadership Committee Meeting at Church
Wednesday	04	9:30am 6:00pm 6:30pm	UMW Cookbook Committee Meeting at Church Handbell Choir Practice Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	05	6-7pm 6:30pm	Girl Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Worship Committee Meeting in Chapel
Saturday	07	8:30-9:30am	Moms in Prayer Meeting in Library

Sunday	08	8:30am 8:45am 10:00am	GMUMC 101 Class Sunday School Worship - Seventh Sunday of Easter; Ascension Sunday; Mother's Day
Monday	09	1:00pm 6:30pm	Disciple III Bible Study Class Disciple III Bible Study Class
Tuesday	10	9:30am 10:30am 6:00pm	UMW Meeting at Church Evangelism Committee Meeting at Church Caribou Ecumenical Food Pantry Meeting at Pantry
Wednesday	11	12:00pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm	Jennie Lyon Circle Potluck Luncheon & Meeting Handbell Choir Practice Senior Choir Practice Crown of Maine Quilters at Grant Memorial UMC, Presque Isle Vacation Bible School Volunteer Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Thursday	12	6-7pm 6:30pm	Girl Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen SPRC Meeting at Church
Friday	13	7:00pm	Caribou Choral Society Concert, St. Mary's, Presque Isle
Saturday	14	8:30-9:30am 7:00pm	Moms in Prayer Meeting in Library Caribou Choral Society Concert, Holy Rosary, Caribou

Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday.  
We ask everyone to wear red that day when  
they come to Worship!





## LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MAY!!! (Continued)

Sunday	15	8:30am	GMUMC 101 Class
		10:00am	Worship - Pentecost Sunday
		12:00pm	Confirmation Class in Pat Dobson's Classroom
Monday	16	1:00pm	Disciple III Bible Study Class
		6:30pm	Disciple III Bible Study Class
Tuesday	17	1:00pm	Alzheimer Support Group in Fellowship Hall
		6:00pm	Trustee Meeting at Church
Wednesday	18	6:00pm	Handbell Choir Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	19	6-7pm	Girl Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
		6:00pm	Finance/Stewardship Committee Meeting in Chapel
		6:30pm	Church Council Meeting in Chapel
Saturday	21	8:30am	UMM Breakfast & Meeting in Fellowship Hall
		10:30am	UMW Fellowship Tea at Grant Memorial, Presque Isle; Theme: "Go Green"; donations accepted for the Central Aroostook Humane Society
		8:30-9:30am	Moms in Prayer Meeting in Library

Sunday	22	8:30am	GMUMC 101 Class
		8:45am	Sunday School
		10:00am	Worship - Trinity Sunday; Peace with Justice Sunday (Special Offering); Heritage Sunday (honor new 50-year members); <b>Church Conference during Worship to act on nominations</b>
		12:00pm	Confirmation Class in Pat Dobson's Classroom
Monday	23	1:00pm	Disciple III Bible Study Class (LAST CLASS)
		6:30pm	Disciple III Bible Study Class (LAST CLASS)
Tuesday	24	6:30pm	"Terrific Tuesdays Ministry" with Michele
Wednesday	25	6:00pm	Handbell Choir Practice
		6:30pm	Senior Choir Practice
Thursday	26	6-7pm	Girl Scout Troop in Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
Saturday	28	8:30-9:30am	Moms in Prayer Meeting in Library

Sunday	29	10:00am	Worship - Memorial Sunday
		11:30am	Education Committee Meeting in Library
Monday	30	FEDERAL HOLIDAY - MEMORIAL DAY - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	



**Memorial  
Day**  
*Never Forget  
Ever Honor*