

# The Parish Friend

A Newsletter of the Plainville United Methodist Church

January – February 2022

*“The church at the heart of the community with the community at heart.”*

## FROM THE PASTOR



The beginning of a new year is always an occasion for hope. New possibilities and new challenges await us. Many people take on New Year's resolutions. I confess I have never been good at making or keeping these.

For instance, every year I resolve to prepare my tax returns early, and every year I wind up procrastinating. I am frustrated with myself. Yet in the end I manage to file my returns before time runs out.

As redeemed children of God we are often frustrated with ourselves. We have given our lives to Christ, yet we know we experience temptation. Our thoughts wander. We fail to love as Christ loved. We fail to forgive those who sin against us. The good news is that in Christ we are no longer slaves to sin. John Wesley reminded his followers of the words of the Apostle Paul, that God will not allow us to be tempted beyond our power to resist. Indeed in him we are more than conquerors. True, sin remains in the heart of the redeemed person, but it no longer reigns.

### *A Note of Thanks...*

I wish to thank everyone in the congregation for their expressions of love and support this Christmas season. God is good, and he was very good to me when he allowed me to be part of this congregation.

*Pastor Stuart*

## CHURCH SUPPERS TO-GO

January 8, 2022 Chicken Pot Pie

February 12, 2022 Baked Ham w/  
Homemade Mac-n-Cheese

March 12, 2022 Lasagna

April 9, 2022 Swedish Meatballs

May 14, 2022 Oven Roasted Chicken

All Suppers include dessert. \$12.00 ea.



**No dine in – Take out only.** Pick up curbside in the church parking lot between 4:30-5:30pm.

**MUST pre-order** by 12Noon the Thursday prior to the supper date by calling 508 699 7168 or by email to [plainvilleumc@verizon.net](mailto:plainvilleumc@verizon.net)

## CHURCH MEETINGS

**TRUSTEES** meet at 7:00pm in the Cate Room on Tuesdays, January 11<sup>th</sup> and February 8<sup>th</sup>.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** meets in the Cate Room at 7:15pm on Mondays, January 17<sup>th</sup> and February 21<sup>st</sup>.

**PRAYER LETTER MINISTRY** We are seeking a few more folks to be Prayer Letter Stewards. If interested, please see Grace Simmons or Susan Haines and shadow them for a Sunday or two. Please contact the Church Office if you volunteer to serve in this ministry so we can add you to the rotating, monthly schedule.

**GREETERS & COUNTERS** We are seeking a few more volunteers to greet folks as they enter worship on Sunday mornings. This would include saying “good morning!”, handing out bulletins and collecting the morning's offerings. Training is available – simply shadow anyone serving in this position any Sunday morning. Please contact the Church Office if you volunteer to serve in this ministry so we can add you to the rotating schedule. The goal is to have 6 to 8 more volunteers so that everyone serves only once every other month. *We need you!*

**COUNTERS** – this position is a bit more involved. Please speak with Tom Simon or Susan Haines if you're interested in serving in this capacity.

**The Deadline to submit news and information for the March/April issue of *The Parish Friend* is 12noon on Friday, 02/18/22.**

Plainville United Methodist Church  
16 East Bacon Street, Plainville, MA 02762  
[www.plainvilleumc.net](http://www.plainvilleumc.net) [plainvilleumc@verizon.net](mailto:plainvilleumc@verizon.net)  
Phone: 508-695-9587

**Community Worship, Sundays at 9 am.**

*Rev. Stuart Tucker, Pastor*

*Steve Haunschuld, Pianist    Kathy Trowbridge – Secretary*

## UPDATE - ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR - November 2021

We had a very successful Church Fair on Friday, November 5, 2021.

**We made a total of \$6200.00 in just one day!**



Thank-you to **ALL** who helped in so many ways. Thank-you to those of you who baked; cooked; called people; hung signs; lugged books, and carried tables. Thank-you to those of you who knitted, detangled jewelry; created bows and made sandwiches. Thank-you to those of you who set-up and cleaned-up. Thank-you to those who counted money and shopped for supplies. Thank-you for all your donations. Thanks again for all your hard work.

The Fair committee will begin meeting on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Church to continue planning for the 2022 Fair. Stay tuned.

### **THANKS TO ALL!!!**

*Jill Benker-Seaberg,*  
Annual Country Fair Co-Chairman

## CHURCH "SIDEWALK SWINGER" SIGN

Help is needed to set up the Sidewalk Swinger sign which advertises our suppers out on the front lawn at the church. Once a month (only about 7x per year) you will need to set up the letters on the sign and put it outside in front of the church. Not usually needed June – September. More than one person can volunteer. Please let Becca Simon know if you are interested in helping with the sign. Please call Becca at 508-643-1238.



## PARISH NEWS



*Received on 12/13/2021*

Dear Rev Tucker,

The Family of Joseph McGrath sincerely thanks PUMC for the thoughtful prayer letter we received. Joe would be honored for your prayers. He was a great brother, father and Grandfather and will be missed by all of us. Special thanks to Grace Simmons for remembering us in this difficult time.

Sincerely,  
Gerry & Marge McGrath

## FROM THE LIVING BREAD FOOD PANTRY



### 2021 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The Living Bread Food Pantry had a very busy year in 2021. The number of clients remained high during last winter, decreased a little for the summer, then rose again during the holidays this year. The Pantry volunteers have been working a lot to keep up with making at least 150 bags per week to hand out to approximately 50 families currently. They are also busy handing out foods that are donated from Target, Walmart, Entemanns/Freihofer Outlet, Panera Bread, Cumberland Farms, Trader Joe's and during the summer months, White Barn Farm in Wrentham. Pantry volunteers have handed out extra donations such as toiletries, hand sanitizers, chocolate bars, olive oil, trail mix, extra cereals and much more which were donated by local stores and schools. For most holidays, the Pantry hands out Stop & Shop gift cards to enable families to purchase a special meat and other holiday fixin's. In September, Volunteers handed out backpacks donated by the Lions Club. In November, they handed out 80 turkey baskets - complete with a turkey. For Christmas, they handed out Christmas stockings full of small necessities and treats donated by the Lawton family, Christmas cookies donated by "Caring with Cookies", and warm mitten gifts donated by the Wrentham Country Store. Our volunteers have dated food, organized food, cleaned up food and handed out food. Throughout the year the Pantry continued to use our drive-through service to keep everyone outside and safe. During the winter the volunteers are working outside on Wednesday nights with our spot light and outdoor heater turned on. This year we have grown by a few more new volunteers and also a few students working for their service hours.

The Pantry has been very blessed this year with a lot of donations that have been placed in our outdoor donation shed. We also received very generous monetary donations from organizations and individuals during the year and throughout the holiday season. The Plainville Athletic League (PAL) held an amazing drive this summer earning \$16,500 through their "Plainville Has Heart" program. With all of these generous donations, the Pantry has been able to purchase a new, larger freezer, the turkeys and fixin's for 80 Thanksgiving turkey baskets, Stop & Shop gift cards and food which we order from the Greater Boston Food Bank, often costing pennies on the dollar so your monetary donations stretch even further.

In this new year, 2022, we need to plan ahead so we can continue to take care of anyone in Plainville who finds themselves in need. Last year we were unable to have our annual Pantry meeting due to the pandemic. This year we plan to have the meeting sometime in February

or March (TBD). At these meetings, volunteers get to know each other a little better and plan the type of volunteer jobs that are needed to run and improve the Pantry. Some of those tasks include... someone to set up the outdoor, portable swinger sign, update our social media, and several other small jobs to keep everything working smoothly.

## OUR WORK CONTINUES

In order to continue our work of feeding all who need food in Plainville, we consistently need donations of food. A list of foods to donate is on the church website under "Food Pantry" Please continue to donate during the upcoming months when most donations drop off significantly. It is very easy to donate now by placing your items into our donation shed located in the parking lot near the back door of the church. You can drop off your non-perishable foods anytime by driving (or walking) into the parking lot when it's convenient for you. We check the shed frequently and remove donations regularly. You may also donate non-perishable food by using the green bin located at the Plainville Stop & Shop. Frequently Stop & Shop will have items at the end of the register which can be purchased for donation into the bin.

## FOR MONETARY OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Our Church Secretary is in the office on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 12 Noon. Please use the Spring Street door which is closest to the office when making a monetary or Gift Card donation. If you would like to mail a check, please write it out to "Living Bread Food Pantry" and send it to the Plainville United Methodist Church, 16 East Bacon Street, Plainville, MA 02762. The Pantry has a PayPal Account on the church website at [www.PlainvilleUMC.net](http://www.PlainvilleUMC.net). You may also donate to the Pantry using PayPal. If you have any questions regarding the Pantry, feel free to call the church office at 508-695-9587.

## CURRENT ITEMS IN GREAT NEED...

### NON-PERISHABLE FOODS – ESPECIALLY...

**Canned or Boxed Potatoes, Canned Fruit (in 100% juice is preferable), Spaghetti-o's w/ meatballs or franks, Canned Meat Ravioli, Beans, Hearty Soups esp w/ beans, Spaghetti Sauce (tomato & Alfredo), Canned Coffee, Canned Vegetables, and Healthy Snacks (dried fruits, trail mixes, individual fruit cup, 100% fruit leather, and un-sweetened applesauce).**

**ALL TOILETRIES ARE NEEDED** - such as bars of bath soap, shampoo & hair conditioner, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste & toothbrushes, deodorant for men & women, disposable razors, shaving cream, Q-tips, lip balm, hand & body lotions, Gold Bond powders.

**ALL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ARE WELCOME** such as liquid dish soap (for washing dishes), dishwasher detergents, paper towels, 2-ply toilet paper, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, kitchen sponges, tissues.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP...

Please know that your donations of fresh fruits and vegetables are always welcome. When you find a great sale in the stores, think of the Pantry!

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE** - We can only accept perishable (Fresh or frozen items) foods on Wednesdays – between 8am – 10:30am is preferred, however, our Church Secretary is in the office until 12 Noon and pantry volunteers are back in the pantry around 4:30pm on Wednesdays. Please don't leave fresh produce, anything requiring refrigeration or freezing, in the Pantry shed out in the parking lot.

## THANK YOU!

Thanks so much for all your donations and support. We couldn't feed people without your continued and generous support. Thank you to all our hard-working volunteers who are faithful to their work at the pantry. It takes many hands to keep our pantry running. Together, donors and volunteers, we are making sure that no one in Plainville ever goes hungry.

Faithfully,  
Becca Simon, Pantry Coordinator



**Help is Needed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, year 'round**, to help us unload the truck from the Greater Boston Food Bank – right here in our parking lot. The truck arrives around 12:30pm. We have dolly carts to help unload and get the foods into the pantry. This takes an hour or less most times to do. Feel free to bring a friend, teenager or neighbor with you to lend a hand. Please call Becca Simon at 508-643-1238 if you can lend a hand.

**Next Dates – January 12<sup>th</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup>.**

Together, with your help, we **DO** make a difference! We are "the church at the heart of the community with the community at heart." **THANK YOU!**

**Winter Food Collection –2022 to benefit The Living Bread Food Pantry**  
**16 East Bacon Street Plainville, MA**

*Items we are in greater need of right now are highlighted in **BOLD**.*

**BREAKFAST ITEMS** Breakfast Bars, Cereal Bars, Granola Bars, **Carnation Instant Breakfast (packets)**, Ensure or Glucerna Shakes. Oatmeal - flavored Packets, including “LOW SUGAR” and Cans of Plain oats. ***GLUTEN FREE HOT & COLD CEREALS*** are always welcome.

**LUNCH ITEMS** Peanut Butter, Jellies and Jams, Marshmallow Fluff, Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Spaghetti O’s - esp w/ meatballs, Canned Ravioli and Beef-a-Roni, Canned Chili, Hearty Soups especially with Beans.

**BEVERAGES** Canned Coffee, Lemonade Mix (powdered), Iced Tea Mix : non- sweetened, sweetened and sugar-free. Kool Aid drink mix: non- sweetened and sweetened.

**Non-refrigerated Juices – family sz bottles and individual juice boxes.**

**Non-refrigerated Parmalat Milk (in the canned milk aisle) family sz cartons and individual “juice box” sizes – White or Chocolate.**

**FRUIT - all packed in 100% Juice** Individual Fruit cups, Canned fruit, Applesauce – jars and individual cups.

**CONDIMENTS** Mayo, Mustard, Ketchup, Relish, Olives, Pickles, BBQ Sauce, Teryaki Sauce. Salad Dressings – especially Ranch and Italian.

**SNACKS** Little Debbie’s Snacks, Graham Crackers, Cookies, Microwave popcorn, Cheeze-It Crackers, Ritz Crackers, Wheat Thins, Triscuits, Goldfish Crackers, etc., **Healthy Fruit Snacks & Trail mixes, dried fruits.** ***GLUTEN FREE SNACKS, CRACKERS & COOKIES*** are greatly appreciated. Individually bagged, and Family Sized = Chips, Pretzels, Popcorn, etc., Pudding Mixes and individual cups (*non-refrigerated*), Jello Mixes and individual cups (*non-refrigerated*).

**SUPPER ITEMS** Boxed Mac-n-Cheese, Hamburger Helper (for Ground Beef, Chicken or Tuna), Pasta and **Sauces including alfredo sauce**, Pasta Salad Kits, **Baked Beans**, Sloppy Joe Sauce, Taco Kits, **Boxed Instant Potatoes & Mixes (Cheesy, Scalloped, etc)**, Rice – white/brown, **Rice mixes such as: Rice Pilaf, Zatterain’s mixes, Uncle Ben’s mixes, etc.**

***\*\*Especially need Canned Veggies – all types\*\****

**ALL TOILETRIES ARE NEEDED** - such as bars of bath soap, shampoo & hair conditioner, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste & toothbrushes, deodorant for men & women, disposable razors, shaving cream, Q-tips, lip balm, hand & body lotions, Gold Bond powders.

**Household items** such as liquid dish soap (for washing dishes), dishwasher detergents, paper towels, 2-ply toilet paper, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, kitchen sponges, tissues.

**Monetary donations** are greatly appreciated to help us buy food from the Greater Boston Food bank at pennies on the dollar, stretching your donations.

**Mail checks** to the church at 16 E. Bacon St., Plainville, MA 02762, ATTENTION: Pantry.

**Or drop off** to the Spring Street door on M & W 9am – 12noon and FRI 9am – 1pm.

*The Living Bread Food Pantry helps to feed over 50 families every week, year ‘round.*

*Your support is strongly needed and greatly appreciated. Thank you for feeding the hungry in our community.*