

# The Parish Friend

A Newsletter of the Plainville United Methodist Church

May/June 2021

*"The church at the heart of the community with the community at heart."*

## From the Pastor

In her book We Need to Talk, Celeste Headlee tells the story of Xernona Clayton. In 1965 Xernona moved to Atlanta to work for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, led at the time by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. She worked with community leaders of the city, which included a grand dragon of the Klu Klux Klan, Calvin Craig. Although they never agreed on anything an unlikely friendship developed over time. Xernona did not try to change Calvin's mind. As Dr. King told her, "You've got to change a man's heart before you can change his behavior."

Ultimately Calvin announced that he was leaving the Klan and pledged to work for unity between the races. When people are willing to listen to and learn from each other incredible things can happen. The divisions that existed in 1965 still endure today. During the Easter season we are reminded that Jesus died and rose again for everyone, regardless of race or creed or politics. As Christians it is our duty to treat people of all kinds with reverence, knowing Christ died for them.

*Pastor Stuart*

**JULY/AUGUST PARISH FRIEND DEADLINE TO  
SUBMIT INFO IS: Monday, June 21, 2021.**

Plainville United Methodist Church

16 East Bacon Street Plainville, MA 02762

Phone 508-695-9587 Website [www.plainvilleumc.net](http://www.plainvilleumc.net)

Email [plainvilleumc@verizon.net](mailto:plainvilleumc@verizon.net)

### Church office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday 9:00am – 12Noon  
and Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm

*Rev. Stuart Tucker, Pastor*

*Kathy Trowbridge, Church Secretary*



## HAM & BEAN TO-GO SUPPER

**May 8, 2021**

Featuring Baked Ham, Homemade "Boston Baked" Beans, Potato Salad and Dessert. This Supper will be "To-Go" style. Must pre-order by 12noon on Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> by calling or sending an email to the church office. To-Go Suppers cost \$12.00 each. Pick up from the church parking lot on Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> between 4:30-5:30pm.

**All To-Go suppers are \$12.00 each.**

**Call the Church Office for reservations**

**508-695-9587 or send an email to**

**[plainvilleumc@verizon.net](mailto:plainvilleumc@verizon.net).**

## SAVE THE DATE AND SAVE YOUR STUFF!

We are planning our **Spring Fling Yard Sale for Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 2 pm** (dependent only on potential COVID restrictions). Due to



the expanded use of the Bowmar Hall by the Food Pantry, we are asking that your yard sale donations be dropped off at the church **only during regular church office hours that week (M & W 9am – 11:30am), or anytime on Thursday June 3<sup>rd</sup> or Friday June 4<sup>th</sup>.**

If you can help out the day of the yard sale (even for an hour or two) or with sorting/pricing donations on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>, please contact Tom Simon at 508-643-1238 or send an email to [rymnsimon@comcast.net](mailto:rymnsimon@comcast.net).

## PUMC CHURCH MEETINGS

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Mondays, May 17<sup>th</sup> and June 21<sup>st</sup>  
at 7:15 p.m. via Zoom.

### TRUSTEE MEETINGS

**\*NOTE: NEW MEETING DAY\***  
Tuesdays, May 11<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Here are the ways you, your friends and family can join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 9:00am:



- on your computer you may join us on Facebook Live on our Facebook page, PumcPlainvilleMA.
- You may join us by either computer or by phone via Zoom. See **\*new\*** instructions below.
- You may listen from the parking lot through a speaker system
- You may listen on your car radio in the parking lot by tuning to **530 AM** on your radio.

Here is a **\*new\*** link for joining in worship via Zoom:  
*Stuart Tucker is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.*

Topic: Plainville Sunday Worship

Time: This is a recurring meeting - Meet anytime

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76163082763?pwd=TEhrMDNhTjE1RjVSeHZUVEdWdmY2dzO9>

Meeting ID: 761 6308 2763 Passcode: 16ebacon

## MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS 2021

We are offering to deliver Mother's Day flowers to your home or that of a PUMC church friend or member who lives close by the church. See order form in this issue. Orders are due on May 3<sup>rd</sup> (**No late orders, please! This date is the latest we can place our order**). **Please see the BRIGHT GREEN page for the order form. Feel free to phone in your order.**



The Plainville United Methodist Church is seeking a Part-Time Custodian: 5-8 Hours per Week.

Duties would include cleaning and sanitizing several areas of the church building including multiple restrooms, Sanctuary and meeting areas, as well as vacuuming, emptying trash, washing floors, seasonal weekly mowing and shoveling snow prior to 9am weekdays and Sundays, along with other duties as assigned.

Interested applicants should have experience cleaning and sanitizing large buildings, have good time management skills and should reply with a resume including three references to:

[Plainvilleumc@verizon.net](mailto:Plainvilleumc@verizon.net) or  
Plainville UM Church  
16 E. Bacon St.  
Plainville, MA 02762  
ATT: Custodian Position



## PARISH NEWS



*Received on 04/09/2021*

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful surprise to receive the HUGE Easter Lily from the Congregation. It is beautiful! – too beautiful not to share with all the residents, so I put it in the front lobby for all to enjoy.

Again, thank you,  
Rev David Hill

*Received on 04/14/2021*

Thank you so much for your thoughtful prayer cards that you have been sending since my knee replacement surgery in late March. They are very much appreciated. When I attended services at PUMC, I always signed the prayer letters but didn't realize how much they could mean to the recipient until I began receiving the prayer postcards myself. This is a wonderful ministry and a wonderful church! I miss seeing everyone and look forward to being able to return to volunteering in the pantry once again soon.

Thanks again for your thoughtfulness,  
Pat Rabinowitz



## FROM THE LIVING BREAD FOOD PANTRY

### PANTRY UPDATES

Have you seen the hearts around Plainville? They are popping up everywhere!! The Plainville Athletic League is hosting a

fundraiser for the Living Bread Food Pantry. Their "PAL Cares a Ton; Plainville has Heart" fundraiser has sold over 700 hearts so far and plan to continue until June. If you would like to purchase a heart for your yard, contact the Plainville Athletic League online at [Palonline.org](http://Palonline.org). They require a \$5 donations per sign. Check out their Facebook page to see updates on the fundraiser. They announce where they are selling hearts so you can buy them in person. There is also a map of Plainville which shows where the hearts are located around town. The need for food has increased by about 40 percent since the beginning of the pandemic. The pantry volunteers have been working hard to make more bags, date more food and hand out food to more families. We are continuing with our drive-through method by using our parking lot and two drive-through windows where we hand out the bags.

Usually at this time of the year, we announce when the Post Office "Stamp Out Hunger" campaign will be running. However, we are waiting for official word if the food drive will occur this year due to the pandemic. I will be calling the local Post Office in a couple weeks to see if they have decided to run their yearly food drive. Keep your fingers crossed because this usually brings in a lot of nonperishable food. I will post the information on our church's website and our Pantry FaceBook page if they are able to hold the drive this year.

For Easter, the pantry handed out hams and Stop & Shop gift cards to our clients. Everyone was most appreciative. This month the pantry will be handing out extra small bags of cleaning supplies for Spring cleaning. For Mother's Day we are planning to hand out extra bags with items especially for women. We are currently looking for donations of feminine toiletries, feminine hygiene products, moisturizers, and small perfumes.

### OUR WORK CONTINUES

In order to continue our work of feeding all who need food in Plainville, we will need even more donations of food this year. 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 registry 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 & Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 12 Noon. Please use the Spring Street door which is closest to the office when making monetary or Gift Card donations. If you would like to mail a check, please write it out to "Living Bread Food Pantry" and send 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). If you have any questions regarding the Pantry, feel free to call the church office at 508-695-9587.

### CURRENT ITEMS WE ARE IN NEED OF ARE...

**Non-perishable foods** such as beans, hearty soups, spaghetti sauce, coffee, canned vegetables, canned fruit and healthy snacks.

**Toiletries** such as bars of bath soap, shampoo & hair conditioner, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste & toothbrush, deodorant for men & women, disposable razors, shaving cream, Q-tips, lip balm, hand & body lotions

**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.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP...

Please consider holding a food drive in May or June by involving your neighborhood, office, relatives, etc. to help us keep up with the higher demand for food.

Thanks so much for all your donations and support. We couldn't feed people without your continued and generous support. Thank you to all of 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 goes hungry.

Faithfully,  
Becca Simon, Pantry Coordinator



## CHURCH HISTORY

### *A Few Days in the Life of Mrs. Mary Bennett Burton*

Thinking that May celebrates Mother's Day and June celebrates the 128<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first church service in our "new" church building in June 1893, it is appropriate to remember Mrs.

Mary Bennett Burton, the guiding force in establishing the Methodist church in Plainville. We've all heard the story of how "Grandma" Burton (as she was sometimes called), went, with the newly appointed minister, Rev. S. T. Westhaver, house to house with her lantern to invite folks to a church service in the Town Hall. This story will be a little different and more personal.

Mary's great-great grandson, John Atkinson, photocopied 2 of Mary's diaries, for the years 1907 and 1912, and donated copies for our church archives. As a background, Mary and her husband, Albert W. Burton lived in the big house on the NE corner of Spring and School Sts., and one block from the church. (Her husband and her father were 2 of the partners of the Plainville Stock Company.) Their son, A. Edward Burton and his family lived in the house on the NW corner of School and Pleasant Sts. Their daughter, Bernice, and her husband, Clarence Hatch, and her family lived nearby.

The entries in Mary's diary for the year 1907 detail daily activities such as general housework, washing and ironing, and much cooking and baking. She was also very close to and involved with her family, such as tending to her grandchildren and caring about their families. There was much visiting of friends and family and Mary named each visitor. She also included events of the day, including the weather and temperature, which makes for interesting reading.

Mary was a religious woman and entered occasional quotations from the Bible, and noted things to be thankful for each day. Mary was very involved in the activities of the church. She mentioned the meetings and the attendees of the "Helping Hand" circle, (a women's group that held church suppers on a Thursday night, made aprons to sell, and organized sales for the church.) There apparently was a kitchen in the basement of the church because the women would prepare some of the foods there and the suppers were held in the basement. She was on a committee (that seems much like our Church Council) because the Minister (Mr. George Bailey) would summon her for a meeting or two. Mary also cared for the Communion Service and mentioned polishing it and carrying it to the church for Sunday service.

A few note-worthy entries:

*Sat. January 5, 1907 – Mrs. Moore came in to pay Pa (her husband) \$250 debt for parsonage.*

*Sun. Jan. 6 Pastor was pleased to see such a full house. S.S. (Sunday School) more than usual.*  
*Sat. Jan. 19 Mr. Bailey has a bad cold, telephoned to Mr. Breen, he thought Mr. Barry would preach.*  
*Wed. Jan. 30 Pared a peck of turnips for "Ye Old Time" dinner tomorrow. Mrs. John Coombs boils them.*  
*Thurs. Jan.31 temp 2° fine and cold. Quite cold but pretty good walking for our Boiled Dinner at church.*  
*Fri. Feb 3 Communion – a very good sermon (by) Rev. The Spirit and the Bride say come, etc. Mr. & Mrs. Bemis taken in by letter. Wm. offered Invitation. Wish many more would accept. Did not go this evening, so icy.*  
*Thurs. Feb 7 We had a roll call at church this evening. Had a very pleasant time, free supper-chicken salad. Mr. Bailey called in Mr. Howland for remarks. Mr. W. Maintien, Mr. Brown. I think everyone enjoyed it.*  
*Sun. Feb. 10 snowing. Thought at first could not go to church but bundled up and went and was very good. The Presiding elder Dr. Gilbraith was there. He gave an **excellent** sermon. Zach 4: 6*

*Fri. Feb. 22 (Her daughter, Linnie, was in charge of a "Washington and Naval" party at the church. Some wore costumes.)The Washington Party was a great success. Fed about 135, meat, had 50 lbs., 2 pecks potatoes, 160 rolls, cabbage for salad 15 lbs., 5 lbs. butter, Coffee 2 lbs. I baked 6 qts. beans, used 8 qts. Milk, 8 heads lettuce. A fine time.*

Mary's entries record the happenings in a small town and a small church. One entry mentions the pews were too cold so she went home. Another entry mentions gas lights. *Sun. Sept.8, 1907 (evening) ...went to church, something was the matter with the gas, it went out, and all the light we had was **my lantern** (the famous lantern?), sang and dismissed.*

One last entry in the back : *Dec 15, 1907 debt on parsonage 2650.*

When we can meet at the church again, the notebooks will be in the Cate room for you to look through and enjoy.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

April 21, 2021 - Noting Member Milestones of 50 years or more – here are the Members who joined in 1971 or before...



1943	Dick Woodward	1959	Roberta Doherty
1949	Natalie Rammel	1960	Cheryl Brederson
1950	Marilyn Benker	1960	Lois Mathurin
1950	Patricia Brodka	1961	Bill Clarke
1950	Les Negus	1961	Grace Simmons
1953	Allen Breen	1961	Nancy Clarke
1954	Barbara Negus	1963	Susan Haines
1956	Marcia Pariseau	1963	Gail Nicolas