

The Parish Friend

A Newsletter of the Plainville United Methodist Church

November – December, 2020

“The Church at the Heart of the Community with the Community at Heart.”

FROM THE PASTOR

In 1863 while the Civil War was raging, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be celebrated on November 26th of that year, which was the last Thursday of the month. Lincoln was inspired by a series of editorials written by Sarah Josepha Hale. He also wanted to celebrate the Union victory at Gettysburg which was the turning point of the war. In his proclamation, he asked all Americans to ask God to, “commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife” and to “heal the wounds of the nation.”

Like everything else about the year 2020, this Thanksgiving will be different. Our desire to be together with family is frustrated by the need to protect one other, especially the elderly and those most vulnerable. Our situation forces us to rethink Thanksgiving: that it is more than turkey with all the trimmings, and more than football games. It is a time to take stock, to count what blessings we have, to open our hearts to those less fortunate, and most of all, put our trust in God's amazing grace, which "hath brought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home."

Be well,
Pastor Stuart



Happy Thanksgiving!

Deadline to submit news and information for the January/February issue of *The Parish Friend* is 12noon on Monday, 12/14/20.

PUMC Saturday To-Go SUPPERS 2020- 2021

Interested in helping out with this new take-out format for suppers? Please reach out to Donna Brown or the church office. November 14th – Clam Cakes & Chowder
January 9, 2021 – Chicken Pot Pie
All Suppers are Take-Out style – pick-up from the parking lot between 4:30-5:30pm. \$12.00 each and include dessert. Must call to pre-order by the Thursday the week of the meal by 12noon by calling or sending an email to the church office.



CHURCH MEETINGS

TRUSTEES meet at 7:00pm on Mondays, November 9th and December 14th, via Zoom online.

CHURCH COUNCIL meets in the Pastor's Study at 7:15pm on Mondays, November 16th and December 21st, via Zoom online.



EMAIL ADDRESS REQUEST

Do you have an Email address you would share with the Church? It would save the Church a considerable amount of money on paper, ink, envelopes, postage and time if we could send your newsletter by Email. If you have an Email address, please consider sharing it with us, by sending us an email at: plainvilleumc@verizon.net *Many thanks!*

Plainville United Methodist Church
16 East Bacon Street Plainville, MA 02762

Phone 508-695-9587 Website www.plainvilleumc.net
Email plainvilleumc@verizon.net

Church office Hours:

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

Rev. Stuart Tucker, Pastor

Peter J. Williams, Pianist Kathy Trowbridge, Church Secretary



CUSTODIAN WANTED

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 or

Plainville UM Church

16 E. Bacon St.

Plainville, MA 02762

ATT: Custodian Position



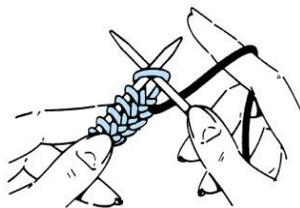
PRAYER LETTER MINISTRY

Since we can't meet and sign prayer letters, Sue Haines has printed post cards – similar to the look of the prayer letters. Sue, along with Grace Simmons and

Eileen Newell, have been sending these cards out to people on our weekly prayer list and to people who need prayers. Each week Pastor Stuart includes them in his weekly "virtual prayer" on the PUMC Facebook page. Many thanks to Sue, Grace and Eileen for assuring the Prayer Letters continue. If anyone has a prayer concern, please call the Church Office at 508-695-9587 or send an email and the message will be passed along.

ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR

Please continue creating those crafts for the Fair at home throughout the year. Anything for the Handmades table, Christmas ornaments, even masks to hand out are all needed for next year's Fair.



A NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

I know we all long for the pre-COVID days when Sunday mornings meant attending church service, singing hymns and fellowship with friends. Joyfully placing weekly tithes in the offering plate may not be missed as much by faithful church-goers, but it certain was, AND IS, key to having an on-going church ministry. As revenue from special events like the yard sale, vendor fair and the church fair have disappeared this year, we are thankful for the restart of monthly suppers to help our ailing church coffers. We are especially thankful for church members who have continued to stay current with their financial pledge.

While the "new normal" means new ways of conducting Sunday services, the "old normal" of paying church bills and staff has been on-going throughout the pandemic. We continue to need your help to do this. If you are able, we ask that you continue to make every attempt to stay current with your financial pledge payments to the church. Even if you cannot attend Sunday service, pledges can be mailed to the church, dropped off during regular office hours, or placed in the mail slot next to the Spring Street entrance door. Payments can also be made by PayPal or credit card by following the "Donate" link on our PUMC website (although this method is not preferred since PayPal fees are deducted from amounts donated in this way). Whatever method you choose to keep sending in your pledges, tithes and offerings will be greatly appreciated!

Be well, and may God keep you safe in this new normal and throughout the holiday season.

Tom Simon, PUMC Treasurer





THANKSGIVING TURKEY BASKETS

This year the Living Bread Food Pantry will be handing out turkey baskets to our registered Plainville residents on **Sunday, November 22 at 11:00 a.m.** We will set this up like we currently handle our pantry now by using a drive through method and our

takeout windows. A few volunteers may be needed to hand out turkeys and baskets. We are looking for donations to help fill up our baskets. We can use **large foil roaster pans, canned pumpkin, evaporated milk, canned yams, green beans, corn, fried onion rings, cream of mushroom soup, turkey broth, pumpkin flavored desserts and boxed brownies.**

This week pantry workers will start collecting names of families that need Thanksgiving Turkey Baskets, you can register by signing up on Wednesdays during Pantry distribution from 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. You may also call the church at 508-208-6013 prior to Thursday, November 20 to be put on the list. If you would like a Thanksgiving Turkey Basket, please leave your name and phone number so we can confirm you and register you if needed. If you are interested in knowing more, or want to lend a hand, please let Becca Simon know by leaving a message at the church or send an email to PlainvilleUMC@Verizon.net.



FOOD NEEDS

We are currently in need of spaghetti sauce, canned vegetables, canned fruit, packaged rice sides, boxed potatoes and toilet paper.

Food Pantry
Donations Needed

There is a list of ideas for healthy food donations on the church website. You can drop off food anytime at the church in our new donation shed in the parking lot thanks to Adam Gousie who built it for his Eagle Scout badge. If you are shopping at Stop and Shop in Plainville, you can drop off food in our green bin near the doors of the store.

MONETARY DONATIONS

If you would like to donate money, you can send a check to the "Living Bread Food Pantry" in care of

the Plainville United Methodist Church at 16 East Bacon Street in Plainville, or drop off in our mail slot at the Spring Street door. You may also donate to the Pantry by using PayPal on our website at Plainvilleumc@verizon.net

FOOD SUPPLY

Currently, there are no plans for food drives in our community. The Lion's Fall Festival was cancelled this year so we will not have a table there. Please keep the donations coming. We belong to the Greater Boston Food Bank where we can purchase food at a greatly reduced price. We order 1,500 pounds of food once a month. Your monetary donations help enable us to purchase food from the GBFB, making sure that no one in the Plainville area will go hungry. To continue to help, we need your support.

Help is Needed the 2nd 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 12:30 pm. We have a hand truck and carts to help unload and get the boxes of food into the pantry. This takes us about an hour to unload. 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 – November 11 & December 9.

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

If you would like to join us on Facebook, look for our group page at **Living Bread Food Pantry – Plainville MA.**

PayPal

PayPal is now available to use on our website for one-time donations to the Church such as for special projects or even to supplement the general budget. You may use PayPal to set up recurring donations to the church or for the Living Bread Food Pantry.

Please Note: PayPal is not for use for your regular weekly/monthly offerings or Tithes unless you have no other way to get them to us.

THE LIVING BREAD FOOD PANTRY
Plainville UM Church
16 E. Bacon St. Plainville, MA 02762
2020-2021 NEEDS LIST

- Rice (plain brown or white, and mixes - Pilaf, etc),
- Boxed Potatoes (instant mashed, scalloped, etc.),
- Canned Veggies - Peas, Corn, Carrots, Green Beans
- Boxed meals such as Hamburger Helper, Mac-n-Cheese, Taco Kits
- Canned fruit packed in 100% juice,
- Healthy Cereals – Corn Flakes, Rice Krispies, Chex, Life, Total, Wheaties, Cheerios, Oatmeal Packets and Canisters.
- Canned Tuna (in water) and Chicken,
- Peanut Butter and Jam/Jelly/Fluff
- Hearty Soups, Chili, Canned Ravioli,
- Pasta and Spaghetti Sauces, including Alfredo
- Coffee – Tea – instant powdered creamers.

These miscellaneous items also come in handy...

- Laundry Detergent,
- Dish Soap (hand wash type),
- Disposable Razors,
- Toothbrushes, Tooth Paste,
- Bars of Bath Soap,
- Shampoo and Hair Conditioner,
- Deodorants, Feminine Care Products,
- Monetary Donations made payable to
“The Living Bread Food Pantry”.

ITEMS FOR THE TURKEY BASKETS

- Large foil roaster pans
- Canned pumpkin
- Evaporated milk
- Canned yams, green beans, corn
- French fried onion rings in a can
- Cream of mushroom soup
- Turkey broth
- Canned Turkey Gravy or packets
- Stuffing for Turkey – boxed or bagged
- Cranberry Sauce – jellied or whole berry
- Pumpkin flavored dessert mixes
- Boxed brownie mixes

You can donate any non-perishable foods by dropping them off at the church – on Wednesday mornings between 8:30am – 9:30am – go to parking lot door, or look for the new shed in the parking lot or by leaving them in the green bin at the Plainville Stop-n-Shop. Monetary Donations can be brought to church on Sundays, during office hours, or mailed to us at the church, marked “ATTENTION: FOOD PANTRY”. Please make Pantry checks payable to: *“The Living Bread Food Pantry”*.

We thank you for remembering those less fortunate during this holiday season.

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