

The Parish Friend

A Newsletter of the Plainville United Methodist Church

~ SPECIAL ISSUE - June, 2017 ~

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

An Introductory Letter from Reverend Stuart Tucker

Dear Members and Friends of Plainville UMC,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I am very much looking forward to being part of the mission and ministry of Plainville United Methodist Church beginning in July. I thought it would be appropriate to share some basic information about me.

I am a retired member of the North Carolina Annual Conference. I earned my seminary degree from Duke Divinity School in 1977. I was ordained that same year in California, which is where I am from. During my clergy career I served churches of various sizes in Illinois, Indiana, and North Carolina. In 2004 I became the assistant pastor of Carter Memorial UMC in Needham under private contract, and served there until July of last year.

My wife Karen is also ordained in the United Methodist Church and is Professor of Worship at Boston University School of Theology. We have one son, Benjamin, who is married to Gina, a Canadian. They are the proud parents of our granddaughter, Evelyn Mae, who was born just a few weeks ago. I will be in California getting acquainted with her in late June and early July, so my first Sunday at Plainville will be July 9.

Karen and I live in Walpole with our two Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Morgan and Seren. We do a lot of training with them in agility, dog therapy, herding, nose work, obedience, and tracking. I also enjoy gardening and baking bread.

I am grateful to Bishop Devahdar and the cabinet for giving me this opportunity to serve. I wish to thank Pastor Jim for generously giving his time to help me understand the history and current ministry of Plainville UMC. It is my hope and prayer that in the coming days we may all grow closer to the Lord as we journey together.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Stuart

PENTECOST WORSHIP – Sunday, June 4th Join with other Methodist congregations as we worship together at 11am at the John Wesley AME Zion church, corner of Grove and Broad Streets in North Attleboro. Holy Communion will be served.

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and the United Methodist Church have common ties that can be traced back to the Wesley Chapel on John Street in New York City, well before the American Revolution. In those early days, blacks and whites worshiped together as Methodists. But after American independence racial harmony deteriorated to the point where, in 1796, certain black leaders had no choice but to leave to form their own church, which grew into the AME Zion denomination.

In recent years the two denominations have made efforts to rediscover their common roots. The North Attleboro gathering of Methodists on Pentecost is a part of a growing desire for unity within the Methodist Connection. Non-Methodists are certainly welcome to attend. Invite a friend to join you.



A Farewell Gathering for Pastor Jim and his family will be held on **Sunday, June 18th – 2:00pm**. This will be Pastor Jim's last service with us. Pastor Jim will begin his new preaching appointment in Exeter, New Hampshire on July 1st. We wish him many blessings in New

Hampshire and warmly thank him for his time and gifts shared with us here at Plainville United Methodist. Please be sure to join us in Worship and at the farewell Gathering Today!

A Supper Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 13th at 7:00pm to review the Suppers held last year and to plan Suppers for the coming year. Anyone who wishes to work on one or more Suppers is welcome to attend.

The Deadline to submit news and information for the July/August issue of *The Parish Friend* is 12noon on Monday, 06/19/17.



Our 125th Anniversary Celebrations

Things are “heating” up for our **125th Anniversary Celebration** as we approach summer.

Sunday, June 11th will be the **Junior Choir Reunion**, for ALL former Jr. Choir members. Did you sing with Joan Clarke or Sherri (Garrity) Czepiel as your choir director, or maybe with Bea Cate or Geneva Schaeffer as the director?? PLEASE join us on June 11th at 9:00am for a song and time after the service to meet and reminisce with friends.

PHOTOS There will be an opportunity to have your picture taken on **Sunday June 11th** following Worship. Eric Blair has a great camera and a tripod and has offered to take pictures for an informal Photo directory. The last Pictorial directory was done in 2000. We ask that each person write a short info about themselves (such as connection to this church, how long attending, etc.) and our church secretary, Kathy Trowbridge, will compile the info with the pictures into a scrapbook-type book. This will help Rev. Tucker to put names with faces and will be a wonderful memento of our 125 year celebration.

Saturday, July 8th (Please note date change)
Strawberry and Ice Cream Social at 2:00pm in Bowmar Hall. Come meet our new pastor, Rev. Stuart Tucker and his wife, Rev. Karen B. Westerfield Tucker and enjoy some Strawberries and Ice Cream.

Saturday, August 12th Progressive Mystery Ride and Dinner. Lots of fun!!

Saturday, September 16th Fall Picnic at Joan and Bill Clarke's.

Sunday, October 22nd (Please note date change)
Homecoming Anniversary Celebration Service,

being held on the same date as the cornerstone was laid (Oct. 21-22) 125 years ago. We have learned that Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar will join us for morning worship and a reception.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY GLASS MUGS We have special anniversary mugs for sale @ \$10 each. Proceeds will buy Methodist grave marker medallions for the three Methodist ministers who served PUMC, and are buried in the Plainville Cemetery. You may purchase a cup after Worship any Sunday – See Eileen Newell.

Our New Pastor

Rev. Stuart Tucker has been appointed to PUMC, beginning in July. He and his wife live in Walpole. He will serve as our ½ time minister. Rev. Tucker's first service with us will be **July 9th**. We are planning his welcoming reception on **Saturday, July 8th during the Strawberry and ice Cream Social beginning at 2pm.** We look forward to his ministry and extend a warm, friendly welcome to him and his wife, Rev. Karen B. Westerfield Tucker, in the light and love of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



We look forward to seeing you at all of these 125th Anniversary Events, the Farewell for Pastor Jim, and the reception for Pastor Tucker and his wife, as well as every Sunday morning for Worship. *Please join us!*

Watch *The Parish Friend* for more news and information on our 125th Anniversary Year!

Plainville United Methodist Church
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Community Worship, Sundays at 9 am.

Rev. James A. Blair, Pastor
Peter J. Williams – Pianist
Kathy Trowbridge – Church Secretary