

# The Parish Friend

A Newsletter of the Plainville United Methodist Church

September - October 2024

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

## Where Can You Help?

There are many relatively small functions that are done to keep our church running. We could use people for as little as 1 hour per month up to whatever you would like to offer. All of these ‘positions’ are voluntary and the more people who are willing to pitch in, the smaller the tasks may seem. Some of the positions are currently covered (at least until the next charge conference). But for information, the items/positions we have are:

- 1) Read Scriptures during the Sunday Service (You can sign up to do this once per month, or every-other month, or just as a fill-in). The schedule can be arranged to accommodate any volunteers.

- 2) Prepare and send Prayer Letters – This is generally scheduled for a volunteer to do a month of Sundays at a time. It’s not a lot of work and can easily be taught to anyone who would like to help out. It basically entails layout out the prayer letters Sunday morning then addressing and mailing them when you have time after church.

- 3) Facebook maintenance - Set up the Tablet and set-up the “Facebook Live” post during Church Services. Create/Maintain Facebook Events for special happenings ie: Suppers, fairs, special services.

- 4) Greeter - hand out bulletins, take count of attendees

- 5) Closer? - verify that sanctuary lights, A/C, & sound system are off, windows closed, etc when the Service is over.

- 6) Counters – Count, record and deposit weekly tithes and offerings

- 7) Fair/Yard Sale – If/When these are held, lots of people are needed, we accept anyone’s help for a couple of hours or the whole time of the event. Also additional help needed for set-up and clean up. (Again, the more people willing to help, the smaller each task can seem)

- 8) Suppers – Do you have a “signature meal”? Would you like/be able to cook for 40 or so? We have 8 or 9 Suppers in a standard year, each supper is “Planned” by a different cook/planner. Other than the main cook/planner, others help is needed for each supper serving out the food into the take-out containers or providing a dessert.

- 9) Visitation Committee - Take some time to go and visit church members or friends who are in a hospital or shut-in.

- 10) WebMaster/ PC Support – Maintain our webpage and supply other PC Support as needed.

Other Functions to consider: committees or positions are presented at our annual charge conference and voted for the next year/term(s). Each committee should have 3 or more members and members are elected/appointed or approved each year at the annual charge conference for the next year beginning that January.

- 11) Membership Committee – Keeps track of number of church members, records births, Baptisms, Confirmations, Deaths and transfers

- 12) Financial Secretary – Orders the envelopes, Keeps track of the giving and supplies statements quarterly.

- 13) Local Church Historian

- 14) SPPRC (Staff Pastor-Parrish Relations Committee) – Committee “in charge” of the church paid-staff; Musician, Secretary, Sexton, and Pastor. Liaison between the Pastor and the congregation.

- 15) Trustees – This committee is in charge of church property. Planning for and overseeing that needed maintenance is done.

- 16) Lay-Member-to Conference – A member from our congregation who will attend the Regional “Annual Conference” and represent our church voting on the articles brought up, etc and reporting back to the church.

- 17) Food Pantry/Jesus Fund – The Jesus Fund was established so that the church is able to help community members in need. The Food Pantry is an extension of the Jesus Fund. There is help needed each week verifying the expiration dates on donated foods and helping to put food away as well as making up bags for distribution.

- 18) The Church Council (or Administrative Council) is made up of the chairperson or representative of each of the committees. They meet once per month and verify and approve any expenses and assure that the work of the church is running as smoothly as possible. There are 3 Council positions other than committee heads that are elected or appointed each year: The Chair of this council, Church Treasurer, Council Secretary.

*Eileen Newell*, Chair, Church Council



### From the Pastor...

"...whatever one sows, that will he also reap." Galatians 6:7

September is just one week away. Although summer is not through with us yet the days are getting shorter. The nights are cooler. My elm and locust trees are starting to drop leaves. Our friends with gardens are trying to give away their surplus tomatoes and cucumbers. Autumn will soon be upon us.

Last year I invested a lot of time and sweat planting a flower bed of hydrangeas. All this summer I have enjoyed seeing their huge blooms every time I stepped outside. But honestly there are other parts of my yard which I neglected. The results are predictable: an interesting variety of random weeds.

The harvest season is an invitation to reflect on our spiritual lives. This year what have you invested yourself in and what has been the result? We choose whether or not to put time and effort into nourishing family connections, cultivating new friendships, weeding out bad habits, and growing spiritually. Take some time this day and reflect on what areas you want to invest yourself in this coming season.

See you in church,  
*Pastor Stuart*

### CHURCH SUPPERS TO-GO

- October 12, 2024 Pot Roast
- November 8, 2024 COUNTRY FAIR  
11am – 7pm featuring Clam Cakes & Chowder... *and more!*
- No December Supper*
- January 11, 2025 Chicken Pot Pie
- February 8, 2025 Lasagna
- March 8, 2025 Meatloaf
- April 12, 2025 Swedish Meatballs
- May 10, 2025 American Chop Suey
- June 14, 2025 Oven Roasted Chicken

All Suppers include dessert  
\$15.00each

No Dine-in – Pick up curbside in the parking lot  
between 4:30-5:30pm.

**MUST** pre-order by 12noon on the Thursday prior  
to the supper date by calling 508 695 9587  
or send an email to: plainvilleumc@verizon.net.



### CHURCH MEETINGS CHURCH COUNCIL & TRUSTEES

Meet at 7:00pm in the Cate  
Room on Mondays,  
September 16<sup>th</sup> and  
October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**The Deadline to submit news and information for  
the Nov/Dec issue of *The Parish Friend*  
is 12noon on Friday, 10/25/2024.**

Plainville United Methodist Church  
16 East Bacon Street, Plainville, MA 02762  
www.plainvilleumc.net plainvilleumc@verizon.net  
Phone: 508-695-9587

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

*Rev. Stuart Tucker, Pastor*

*Steve Haunschild, Pianist    Kathy Trowbridge – Secretary*



## 2024 Country Fair

**November 8<sup>th</sup> 11am to 7pm**

Hi Folks!

Our annual Church **COUNTRY FAIR** will be held on  
**Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, from 11am to 7pm.**

The Fair needs **YOU**. Please volunteer as soon as possible. A number of people are needed to help at the Country Fair. **PLEASE**. Your time and your donations will ensure the success of our Church's largest fund raiser. The Country Fair will have a Silent Auction, a Jewelry table, Handmades, Books, Antiques, Baked Goods and of course our Famous Snack Bar featuring Clam Cakes and Chowder. Please start those handmade creations, collect some books to donate, think of items to bake, rummage through that jewelry box, donate an antique, create a basket for the silent auction, give a small donation and think about how **YOU** can help with the Fair's success.

•In the month of October we will have a freezer available at the Church for baked goods for the Fair. If you can bake cookies, small breads, fudge, cupcakes etc. for the Fair, it would certainly be appreciated!

•The next Fair committee meetings will be Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, October 7<sup>th</sup> and last one before the Fair, October 28<sup>th</sup> to assemble the baskets for the silent auction. All meetings are at 7pm at the Church.

•Set-up for the Fair will begin on Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> after Church and finish the remaining areas on Wednesday night November 6<sup>th</sup> after Food Pantry around 7pm. *Please Help!*

•Clean-up will be on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> starting at 9am.

Please contact Jill or Nancy or leave a message on the answering machine at Church (508-695-9587) with any questions, comments, or to volunteer.

Thank-you!!

*Jill Seaberg & Nancy Richardson*

## FROM THE LIVING BREAD FOOD PANTRY

### SEEKING ADULT VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for a few Adult Volunteers to lend a hand on Wednesday evenings on a rotating schedule. If interested, please contact Jerry Haines at 508 954 3274.

**FOOD DRIVES** There are no Food Drives in the foreseeable future that we are aware of. The Summer months tend to be the lowest months for food donations. Therefore, we ask that you consider holding a Food Drive or encouraging friends and family to give monetary donations to help support the Pantry. Monetary donations may be sent to: The Living Bread Food Pantry, 16 E. Bacon St., Plainville, MA 02762. Please make checks payable to: Living Bread Food Pantry.

If your neighborhood, Pool club, Campground, or workplace is interested in running a Food drive, please contact the Church office for more information and a list of suggested items to donate.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS** We're looking for Adult volunteers to help wash and clean the pantry – floors, doors, windows, curtains, and wash the refrigerators and freezers inside and out, periodically throughout the year. If interested in lending a hand with any of these projects, contact Bethany at 508 446 5414.

### CURRENT ITEMS IN NEED...

See a *Buy 1 Get 1 Free Sale* at the stores? Consider donating the free item to the Pantry – especially if it is a non-perishable food (any and all), personal hygiene items such as deodorant, shampoo and hair conditioner, bars of bath soap or Gold Bond powders, or household items such as dish washing liquid, small bottles of liquid laundry detergent or tissues. Non-perishable foods and household or hygiene items may be dropped off in the shed in the parking lot. The shed is checked regularly and all items brought inside quickly.

**Please remember that fresh foods** (such as fruits and veggies from your gardens) **cannot be dropped off in the shed**. Please bring those items in on Wednesday mornings between 8-10am, downstairs in Bowmar Hall where a Pantry Volunteer can assist you.

### GBFB FOOD DELIVERY 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 food into the pantry. Most of the time, this takes an hour or less to do. Feel free to bring a friend or neighbor with you to lend a hand. Please call Bethany at 508-446-5414 or Jerry at 508 954 3274 if you can lend a hand.

**Next Dates – September 11<sup>th</sup> and October 9<sup>th</sup>.**

*Bethany Cloutier*, Pantry Co-Coordinator

## September – October Food Collection –2024

### The Living Bread Food Pantry

A Mission of the Plainville United Methodist Church

16 East Bacon Street Plainville, MA

**BREAKFAST ITEMS** Hot & Cold Cereals, Complete Pancake Mix, Maple Syrup, Cereal Bars.

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

**BEVERAGES** Canned Coffee, 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 (including No-Sugar added) – jars and individual cups. Dried Fruits and Real Fruit Leathers.

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

**SNACKS** Graham Crackers, All varieties of Crackers in boxes or individually packaged. Healthy Fruit Snacks & Trail mixes, dried fruits and nuts. Pudding Mixes and individual cups (*non-refrigerated*), Jello Mixes and individual cups (*non-refrigerated*). Individually bagged, and Family Sized = Chips, Pretzels, Popcorn, etc.

**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 (Mashed, Cheesy, Scalloped, etc), Rice – sm bx or pouches of white/brown. Rice mixes such as: Pilaf, Spanish, etc., Canned Veggies – all types.

**ALL TOILETRIES** - 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.

**ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS** may be dropped off in the white shed in the parking lot, 24/7. The shed is checked, and the items are brought inside, several times a day.

***Please don't leave any fresh foods in the shed or foods that require freezing or refrigeration.***

***Please bring fresh fruits and veggies to the Pantry on Wednesday mornings between 8-10am.***

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

**Make Checks payable to: LB Food Pantry**

**Mail to:** PUMC, 16 E. Bacon St., Plainville, MA 02762, ATTENTION: *LB Food 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 60 families every week, year 'round.*

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