



## THE FIRST CHURCH IN BELFAST, UCC

*An Open  
and Affirming Congregation*

**Week of April 8 – April 15, 2018**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A warm and loving welcome is extended to all who worship among us this morning. If you are a **visitor**, please sign the guest book in the narthex, fill out a pew card if you'd like and put it in the offering box. Then join us for coffee and light refreshments in the parlor after the service. We are happy to have you with us!

**A Prayer List is available as you enter the Sanctuary. Please feel free to place on that list any joy or concern you may have. These will be read (as they are written) before the prayer time.**

**If you are hospitalized or you know of a member of our congregation who is hospitalized, please let Pastor Joel or Pastor Kate know.**

**Head Usher:** *Gary Grant*

**Deacons of the Month:** *Pam Burrows and Linda Smith*

**Religious Education - Lenten Prayer Partners Celebration** - We will celebrate the end of Lent together today after worship by making sundaes together. We will start our Project Learning Tree Grant activities next Sunday, April 15.

**History of First Church** – “The History of The First Church in Belfast, 1818-2018” will be the topic of a presentation given by Megan Pinette, Belfast Historical Society President, on Saturday, April 14 at 1:00 pm in the church sanctuary. The great event of 1818 was the raising of the meeting-house in June of that year and the dedication, which was held on November 15. Words written in 1968 for the sesquicentennial celebrations still ring true today,” We turn to the past, a century and a half into the past, to the year 1818, not simply to recall and honor the memory of those who founded First Church upon a rock, but to seek and gain increased strength to meet the needs of today and to guide us into the future.” Please join us in celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building of our sanctuary and enjoy learning about the people and events important to its history. This program is free and open to the public.

**Council** – meets next Sunday, April 15 at 11:30 in the library.

**Earth Day Event** - A Walk for Mother Earth is planned from Sears Island to the Belfast Common, on Saturday, April 21. Participants are welcome to walk, or bicycle for all or part of this ten-mile journey, and planned stops along the route ( at 1, 3, and 5 miles) will allow for both shuttling and parking so everyone can participate. People can walk the final mile by joining us on the east end of the footbridge around 2 pm. Gather at the causeway leading to Sears Island at 8:00 am for an opening circle that will include acknowledging the ancestral territory of the Wabanaki people and their care taking of this land and waters The march will make its way to the Belfast footbridge and along the Harbor walk, to the Belfast Common to enjoy the park, the Phineas Parkhurst Quimby Labyrinth, and a community picnic (BYO). Co-sponsors of this event include the Peace and Justice Group of Waldo County, The First Church in Belfast UCC, The Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition, Friends of Belfast Parks, Maine Chapter Sierra Club, Veterans for Peace Jim Harney Chapter 003 and the Green Sanctuary Committee of the UU Church Belfast.

**Readings for next Sunday** – Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 Jn 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48.

**The Sunrise Association** has invited us to pray each week for a sister church. This week we hold up in our prayers Whitneyville Congregational Church.

**"What's that kid doing?"** - Our children need our support, acceptance and encouragement as they grow in their ability to fully participate in worship according to their own unique abilities and experiences. Some may have a shorter attention span, may need activities to help them quietly attend to the service, may need to physically move their bodies, some may

only attend for part of our opening. As a welcoming congregation, we honor the path each child takes, at their own pace, to becoming a full participant in worship.

If you would like a visit or more information about the church, please call the church office at 338-2282.

**Children** are always welcome at First Church during the church service. There is **nursery care**, with an attendant, available for infants to preschoolers (through the door to the right of the pulpit area) during the service. There are rocking chairs available in the narthex for those with very little ones and a diaper changing station in the ADA rest room in the Parish House. Also, children and youth in grades K-12 are welcome to attend Sunday School class after the Young People's message.

### THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Today	Apr	8	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
			10:00 am	Worship/ New Member Sunday
			11:30 am	Lenten Prayer Partners Celebration
Monday	Apr	9	6:30 pm	NA
Tuesday	Apr	10	10:00 am	Tall Pines Worship
			10:00 am	Food Cupboard Board
			2:00 pm	CPPC
			4:30 pm	Diaconate
Wednesday	Apr	11	4:30 pm	House Church
Thursday	Apr	12	3:30 pm	Eight O'Clock Club
Friday	Apr	13	3:30 pm	200 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mtg.
Saturday	Apr	14	1:00 pm	History of First Church- Megan Pinette
Sunday	Apr	15	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
			10:00 am	Worship
			11:30 am	Council
			11:30 am	RE – Project Learning Tree Grant

#### The First Church in Belfast, United Church of Christ

8 Court Street, Belfast, Maine 04915 Ph: 207-338-2282

office@firstchurchinbelfast.org joelfirstchurchinbelfast@gmail.com katewinters@live.com

First Church website: [www.firstchurchinbelfast.org](http://www.firstchurchinbelfast.org) Contact: [webmaster@firstchurchinbelfast.org](mailto:webmaster@firstchurchinbelfast.org)

Facebook: firstchurchinbelfastUCC

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm.

Office Administrator: Nancy Brown

Religious Education Director: Beth Haynes Nursery Attendant: Brenda Warman

Organist/Choir Director: John Cameron

Custodial Staff: Allen Eldridge Sexton: Rowena Lisa

Treasurer: Chair Trustees, Todd Hall Financial Secretary: Nancy Rice

Moderator: Jane Grant Co-Clerks: Linda Smith & Nancy Brown

Webmaster: Jim Kuffert Videographer: Kathleen Kearns

Pastors: Rev. Joel Krueger and Rev. Dr. Kate Winters

Ministers: All the people

#### BCTV Broadcast on Time-Warner Cable Channel 2

*Belfast: Sun 9:30 am & 6:00 pm, Mon 10:00 am, Thurs 2:00 pm; Fri 6:00 am, Sat 5:30 pm*

*Searsport: Saturdays at 6:00pm, Sundays 9:00am & 6:00pm and Mondays 9:00am.*

*Church services can also be viewed through our website.*

*"Like" us on Facebook!*

#### The First Church Welcoming Statement

We, the people of the First Church in Belfast, United Church of Christ, declare ourselves to be a gathered body of Christians, ever open to the voice of the Still Speaking God. In the spirit of those who worshipped here before us for over 200 years, we strive to witness God's love and

Jesus' example in the wider community. To that end, we engage and support all people, whoever they may be and wherever they are on their spiritual journey, in worship, fellowship and service. We intentionally and joyfully welcome people of every race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, physical and mental ability, socio-economic situation and faith background into the full life, ministry, sacraments and leadership of this church. We celebrate and support family in all its diverse forms and recognize and bless all loving and committed relationships. Together, we will strive, in the words of the prophet Micah, "to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly