



THE FIRST CHURCH IN BELFAST, UCC

*An Open
and Affirming Congregation*

Week of April 15 – April 22, 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*

Council – meets next today at 11:30 in the library.

Pastors Vacation – Pastors Kate & Joel will be gone April 18 for a Boundary Training event in Wiscasset and then on vacation starting April 19 and returning May 3.

HELP WANTED! Feel as though you have a passion for participating in serving communion to your fellow congregants? A workshop will be held to guide you through the significance of communion and serving the bread and juice. Please speak to any deacon, Roger Haynes, Richard Fiske, Linda and Dick Smith or Pam Burrows; we'd love to have you join the communion team.

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 caretaking 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). Volunteers are needed as greeters for those who've participated in the Walk for Mother Earth and children's activities helpers during the picnic on Saturday, April 21st. Donations of baked goods are also welcome for this event. Please see Judy Williams if you'd like to volunteer or contribute baked goods. Thank you.

Sunrise Association Spring Meeting: The spring meeting of the Sunrise Association takes place on May 5, 2018 at 9 a.m. at Seaside United Church of Christ in Northeast Harbor. The program for the day will be "*Sanctuary in our Sanctuaries*" and a vote on the Proposed By-Law change.

Donations of Things to Church – FYI – Occasionally people want to bring something into the church to share with everyone and that is a kind and generous thing. However, for the safety of all and for practical purposes, anything that is brought into the church, needs to be cleared through the church office before being put out. This includes posters for the bulletin boards, as well as flyers or other information to be distributed to the public, or anything that someone wants to share. If you have something you wish to donate to the church, please talk to Nancy in the church office and she and Pastor Joel can make a decision on whether it is appropriate to be put out, or if there is a question, will be brought before the Church Council for approval. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

When you Walk – please take a bag and pick up pine cones for our wreath project!

Readings for next Sunday – Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 Jn 3:16-24; Jn 10:11-18.

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

"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	15	8:30 am 10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal Worship Council
Monday	Apr	16	6:30 pm	NA
Tuesday	Apr	17	5:30 pm	Welcoming Team – Manley's
Wednesday	Apr	18	4:30 pm	House Church
Saturday	Apr	21	8:00 am 10:00 am	All Day Rental- Fellowship Hall Circle of Presence
Sunday	Apr	22	8:30 am 10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal Worship

The First Church in Belfast, United Church of Christ

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First Church website: www.firstchurchinbelfast.org Contact: webmaster@firstchurchinbelfast.org

Facebook: [firstchurchinbelfastUCC](https://www.facebook.com/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