



THE FIRST CHURCH IN BELFAST, UCC

*An Open
and Affirming Congregation*

Week of May 13 – May 20, 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: *Roger Haynes and Pat Kaplan*

Flowers are in celebration of Ann Winters' birthday and all mothers on this day from Kate and Joel.

Pentecost Sunday – Next week, May 20th, is *Pentecost*, the day we celebrate the coming of God's Spirit upon the disciples and what is commonly referred to as the "*birthday of the Church!*" So, we encourage everyone to wear red, the color for this special day, and come ready to celebrate God's Spirit!

Poor People's Campaign: Some of our members are planning to go to Augusta tomorrow, Monday, May 14 to support the folks taking part in the poor people's campaign. If you are interested in going or want more information, please talk to one of the pastors.

Painting Days! – The workers have removed all the old pipes from the old heating system and are planning to put in the new system in June. So, we need lots of volunteers to help patch and paint the walls so it is all ready for them. Dates for working are: **Saturday, May 19th – 8:00 am – noon, Tuesday, May 22nd – 5:00-7:00 pm, Wednesday, May 23rd – 5:00-7:00 pm, Thursday, May 24th – 5:00-7:00 pm.** Sign up sheets are in the parlor. Talk to Todd Hall if you have any questions and if you can't make any of these times but want to come and work, let him know when you can come and we'll make that happen.

Pentecost May 20 - Children in second grade will be receiving study Bibles on this day. All children will be taking part in the benediction and other parts of the service. Come and congratulate them for "moving" up in their Christian studies.

Take A Friend For A Walk: Also on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, the Religious Education Team is encouraging people to take a friend for a walk. We will be walking along the Harbor Walk and the Rail Trail. There is no special distance - everyone will pick how far they want to go. Bring a bike if you would rather pedal instead of walk. We will "pray" for good weather that day. Bring a snack to eat along the way or pick up lunch before you go. We will head out after church

Announcement about announcements! At last meeting, the Diaconate discussed the long announcements at the beginning of the service and it was decided to go back to our former practices. First, if you have an announcement for the bulletin, it should get to Nancy by Wednesday afternoon. Second, if you absolutely need a verbal announcement, then it should be written down and given to the Deacon who is giving announcements. Thank you for your cooperation.

Syria Relief - First Church is now holding its annual Syria Relief Clothing Drive. Please bring gently-used clothing, sheets, towels, etc. to the church parlor during the month of May. On Saturday, June 2nd, we will pack up and deliver all donated items to Maine Syria Relief, based in Camden. Your help is always appreciated. Thank you, The Missions Team.

June Messenger – Please submit articles and news for The Messenger to the church office no later than Tues., May 22.

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

Readings for next Sunday – Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Rom 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; Jn 15:26-27; 16:4b-15.

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

"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	May	13	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
			10:00 am	Worship
			11:30 am	RE
Monday	May	14	6:30 pm	NA
Wednesday	May	16	4:30	House Church @ C. Jorgensen's
			6-8 pm	Maskers Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall
Saturday	May	19	All Day	All Roads Music Festival – sanctuary
			8-noon	Paint –touch up where radiators used to be
			2:00 pm	Wreath Project Team Mtg.-Library
Sunday	May	20	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
			10:00 am	Worship
				Take a Walk With a Friend

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