



THE FIRST CHURCH IN BELFAST, UCC

*An Open
and Affirming Congregation*

Week of October 8 – October 15, 2017

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 & Roger Haynes*

House Church will meet at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, Oct 11 at Cathie Jorgensen's home..

500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation Study - Pastor Joel will lead a study using "A Study Guide for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation" developed by the Stillspeaking Writer's Group of the United Church of Christ. This is a very important topic for those interested in our own history and background as a community of faith. If you have an interest in being part of this study of 4 or 5 sessions, please talk to Pastor Joel. Dates and times have not yet been set.

Celebrating Sukkot: Since the Sunday School is studying the Old Testament we are celebrating the Jewish festival of harvest and home. As you leave the sanctuary today please visit our Sukkah next to the front walk. There will be a treat for you to enjoy.

Calling All Bell Ringers - Steve Weston, music director of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Belfast, would like to start a bell choir, which could offer bell choir music to both the First Church as well as the UU Church. No previous bell ringing experience is necessary. Steve hopes to begin rehearsing in October. Rehearsals would be about one hour a week. If you are interested in participating, please communicate with John Cameron.

Tree of Warmth - The First Church in Belfast is again hosting its annual **Tree of Warmth project** this winter. Local knitters are welcome to join us at Bell the Cat each Monday afternoon from 4:30 to 6:00 PM to knit socks, hats, mittens and scarves for the project. We hang these items on Belfast's Christmas tree with a note inviting community members to take what they need. We also accept new or gently used purchased items and they, along with donations of yarn, can be dropped off in the parlor from now until Christmas. Help us keep our community warm this winter! Donate to **The Tree of Warmth**. For further information, please see Judy Williams or Vicki Keller.

Boar's Head Madrigal Dinner – In the past, First Church put on this event during Epiphany in January. We are exploring the possibility of celebrating it this year if we have enough people for actors. This event will need about 30 people (adults and older children) as actors and singers. Please see either Pastor Joel or Beth Haynes if you are interested.

Holiday Love Light Tree - Please take time to view the newly planted live tree in front of the church, which has been donated by our Pastors Joel and Kate. The tree, which they have generously donated, is the cornerstone of our new HOLIDAY LOVE LIGHTS project. Also, please thank Larry and Sharon Jones for their assistance in planting the tree. The purpose of the project is to remember a loved one during the holidays. A light can be bought for \$5 or a string of lights can be purchased for \$25. Deadline for buying LOVE LIGHTS is November 19th and checks can be made out to The First Church Love Lights. A tree lighting service to dedicate the lights will be held on Sunday, December 3rd at 5:00 pm at the First Church in Belfast. Forms to purchase the HOLIDAY LOVE LIGHTS can be found on the church web site, <http://www.firstchurchinbelfast.org/>.

Chestnuts Are Ready: Chestnuts are ready to be picked up. Please continue to gather acorns and pine cones and save peach pits. You may leave them in open bags in the downstairs kitchen if you are not able to leave them upstairs in the workroom. All of these items are essential for the wreath project. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE !! Christmas Fair, Saturday, November 11. Talk to Gretchen Daly if you would like to volunteer.

Readings for next Sunday – Ex 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 or Isa 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Phil 4:1-9; Matt 22:1-14.

The Sunrise Association has invited us to pray each week for a sister church. This week we hold up in our prayers The First Church in Belfast, 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	Oct	8	8:30 am 10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal Worship RE
			2:00 pm	Maskers Show "On Golden Pond"
Monday	Oct	9	6:30 pm	NA
Tuesday	Oct	10	4:30 pm	Diaconate
Wednesday	Oct	11	5:00 pm	House Church – C. Jorgensen's
Thursday	Oct	12	3:30 pm	Eight O'Clock Club – paint pine cones
Friday	Oct	13	7:00 pm	Maskers Show
Saturday	Oct	14	7:00 pm	Maskers Show
Sunday	Oct	15	8:30 am 10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal Worship Council
			2:00 pm	Maskers Show

The First Church in Belfast, United Church of Christ

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First Church website: www.firstchurchinbelfast.org

Contact: webmaster@firstchurchinbelfast.org

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: 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

AZTV 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 with our God."