



## THE FIRST CHURCH IN BELFAST, UCC

*An Open  
and Affirming Congregation*

Week of November 5 – November 12, 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:** *Linda & Dick Smith*

**House Church** – meets on Wednesday, November 8 at 4:30 pm at Cathie Jorgensen's home.

**THE CHRISTMAS FAIR** is this Sat., Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please donate as you are able: baked goods, books, holiday decorations, jewelry, handmade items for the craft table, plants and related items, and better new or gently used items for the Silent Auction. Committees are invited to create theme baskets for the Silent Auction. Please be sure to attend the fair as a customer as well. Lunch will include Don's Famous Fish Chowder.

**Advent Vespers Choir** – Singers are needed for the Advent Vespers on Dec. 3. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 6:30 pm and Sundays at 8:30 am (optional). Come sing with us!

**Reformation Study** – Did last week's *Reformation Reunion* make you curious about our church history? If so, you may be interested in coming to this study of the Reformation and how it still impacts us today. On 3 Wednesdays, Nov. 8, 15, and 29, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, in the church parlor, Pastor Joel will use video presentations and a study guide to lead us. All are welcome!

**Christmas Pot Luck Dinner** - Where are you having Christmas dinner this year? If you participated in last year's potluck, or if you didn't attend but heard what a great time we had and would like to join us this year, just let me know! We will eat about noon/early afternoon; the ham will be provided! The more the merrier, but please express your interest to me. Thank you, Pam Burrows, 338.6771.

**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.

**Waldo County Triad** is collecting new or gently used, clean coats, sweaters, hats, scarves, snow pants, gloves, and in particular blankets for those in need, through November 13. There are 2 donation boxes at First Church. All items donated will be distributed at no cost to people in need in Waldo County. .

**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. The sign up sheet is in the parlor. Children do not need to sign up but can take part.

**November Messenger** is available for pick up on table between sanctuary and parlor.

**Chestnuts, acorns, peach pits** – still needed. Please continue to collect & save for our wreath project.

**Readings for next Sunday** – Josh 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7 or Wisdom of Sol 6:12-15 or Amos 5:18-24; Wisdom of Sol 6:17-20 or Psalm 70; 1 Thess 4:13-18; Matt 25:1-13.

**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	Nov	5	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
			10:00 am	Worship/Communion (children will help serve)
			11:30 am	Acolyte Training
Monday	Nov	6	6:30 pm	NA
Tuesday	Nov	7	9:00 am	Re-entry workers to help set up for Christmas Fair
Wednesday	Nov	8	10:00 am	Harbor Hill Worship
			4:30 pm	House Church
Thursday	Nov	9	3:30 pm	Eight O'Clock Club – paint pine cones
			6:30 pm	Advent Vespers rehearsal
Friday	Nov	10		Set Up Christmas Fair
Saturday	Nov	11	8 am-1 pm	Christmas Fair
Sunday	Nov	12	8:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
			10:00 am	Worship
			11:30 am	RE

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

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

#### 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."