

THE FIRST CHURCH IN BELFAST, UCC

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Week of November 14, 2021 - November 21, 2021

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 like and put it in the offering box.

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 know of a member of our congregation who is, please let Pastors Kate or Joel know.

Ushers: *Gary Grant & Roger Haynes*

Deacons of the Month: *Sarah Garbe & Cathie Jorgensen*

Official Notice of All Church Annual Meeting

All members of The First Church in Belfast, UCC are invited to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 21 immediately following worship in the sanctuary.

Business to be approved is the 2022 Budget and the 2022 Slate of Officers.

A Zoom link will be sent out for those unable or not wishing to attend this meeting in person,

Co-Clerks: Nancy Brown and Linda Smith

Protocol— Due to the recent uptick in Covid-19 cases in Waldo County we are asking that *everyone* who comes to worship **wear a mask** and safe distance from others. Please be respectful of one another's distance as we come together again.

Today is Veterans Sunday - Today we celebrate our veterans. Take some time before and after worship to look at the pictures placed on the window sills and find out who this person is/was and where and when they served. This is a special time for us to remember and express our gratitude to those who have given themselves for our country and who have sought to protect and uphold the ideals we share, the ideals of freedom, liberty and justice for all.

Today is also Education Sunday - Today we will also give Bibles to our 3rd and 4th graders. After worship, on the front deck of the church, Pastors Kate & Joel will hand out new Study Bibles to our young students. This is an important step in the life of each of these students as they now will begin to read and learn the scriptures from their *own* Bibles. Please join us after worship as we encourage and support them in this step of their faith development.

Make Your Own Wreath/Christmas Mini-Fair - Saturday, Nov. 20, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Come decorate your own wreaths, buy some scones and coffee, cookies, pies, take-out some fish or corn chowder or grilled lunch. Check out the Christmas table and craft goods. Please bring your own bags to carry all your purchases in! Due to Covid-19 restrictions all events will be held outdoors in the rear parking lot of the church, at the corner of Spring and Court Streets. Please wear your masks and observe social distancing!

Wreath Project Update: Please save *peach pits* and collect *pinecones* for the wreath project. Cones that are somewhat round are particularly good for wreath decorating. Peach pits and bags of cones can be left in the downstairs kitchen. We will be starting work on wreaths on Nov. 21-24, then after Thanksgiving, Nov. 26-Dec. 4. Talk to Vicki Keller if you would like to learn how to decorate wreaths and be part of this amazing and historic First Church project.

Holiday Love Lights—The Love Lights for our tree are on sale now through Nov. 19! Please remember a loved one with this Christmas tradition. Names will be read at the Love Light ceremony at First Church on November 28th at 5 pm. Love Light order forms are available at the First Church office. For more information, please call 207-338-2282.

Pledge Forms— The Stewardship letters have been sent out! Please get your pledge forms returned to the church as soon as possible. Thank you!

Cookie Makers and Packers: Pastor Kate will be coordinating the Cookie sales for the Christmas Mini-Fair but she will need some helpers. If you can bake some cookies, please let Heather in the office know how many and what kind of cookies you will be baking

and then have them to the church on **Friday, Nov. 19 by 9:00 am**, when Pastor Kate, Beth Haynes, Beth Place and Heather will be packing them up. Let's add a little more *sweetness* to the Christmas Fair!

Interested in Membership? - We are planning to bring some new members into the church in January. If you are interested, please speak to one of our pastors.

READINGS for next Sunday –2 Sam. 23:1-7 or Daniel 7:9-10; and Ps. 132:1-12(13-18) or Ps. 93; Rev. 1:4b-8; and John 18:33-37.

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday	Nov 14	10:00 am	Worship/ <i>Veterans Remembrance & Education Sunday</i>
		11:30 am	RE Meeting/ <i>Parlor</i>
Tuesday	Nov 16	12-2:00 pm	GBAM/ <i>Parlor</i>
		4:00 pm	Trustees/ <i>Library</i>
Friday	Nov 19	9-11:00 am	Cookie packing/ <i>Kitchen</i>
		12-4:00 pm	Bridge Group/ <i>Parlor</i>
Saturday	Nov 20	7:00 am	Wreath order arrives/ <i>Parking lot</i>
		9am-2 pm	Make Your Own Wreath/Christmas Mini-Fair/ <i>Parking lot</i>
Sunday	Nov 21	10:00 am	Worship/Reign of Christ/Thanksgiving Sunday
		11:30 am	Annual Meeting/ <i>Sanctuary</i>

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, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Office Administrator and Custodian: Heather Wren

Religious Education Director: Beth Haynes Nursery Attendant: Brenda Warman

Music Director: Amy Kericsmar

Treasurer: Chair Trustees, Todd Hall Financial Secretary: Joan Mills

Moderator: Kenn Ortmann 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 Spectrum Cable Channel 2

Belfast: Sun 10:00 am & 6:00 pm; Searsport: Sundays 9:00am & 6:00pm and Mondays 9:00am

~~*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, wherever 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."