

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Saranac Lake, NY 12983

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MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Heart:

Lent Season

Welcome to the season of Lent! Lent season is when many Christians spend time in contemplative soul searching. The season of Lent has developed into a personal venture for individuals to realign their relationship with God aspiring to live a more consecrated spiritual life. Lent is a period of forty days or approximately six weeks leading up to Easter day. All Sundays within this time frame are omitted within the forty days of Lent, and Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season. Lent also shadows the start of Jesus' ministry leading up to Holy Week which reflects the beginning of the end of Jesus' ministry on earth before his betrayal and crucifixion, and ending on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. Throughout the whole season of lent acts of penitence has played a significant role in many denominations. Some churches use as a penitence exercise the practice of fasting. It was through Fasting that the idea of Lent was derived when Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness fasting and was tempted with various human inclinations, but was able to resist them. Many Christians continue to carry on the custom of fasting by abstaining from various luxuries. Additionally, deeds of charity toward the poor and other spiritual disciplines are brought into focus to enrich one's spiritual endeavors and growth.

Lent season is an opportune time to get reacquainted with the spiritual disciplines within the Christian faith. I would like to encourage all of our members to use this season to engage in contemplation and self-reflection pondering over various sayings and events of Jesus' life. Challenge yourself to explore one of the spiritual disciplines of the Christian faith during this time.

Here are some suggestions that may help you experience a meaningful Lent season. Select one out of the six spiritual disciplines that I have arranged to speak on during our worship services. The six spiritual disciplines includes; prayer, fasting, meditation, scripture study, service, and confession. There are other spiritual disciplines that are not mentioned here and they are just as enriching. Next, do a personal study using a Bible, Concordance, and a Bible Dictionary or a Religious Encyclopedia to learn as much as you can about the discipline that interests you. It is good to discuss your findings on the subject with your pastor or with someone who is familiar with the teachings and context of Scripture. When you have gathered enough information to feel confident in the validity of the subject arrange a set time during Lent to regularly practice your chosen spiritual discipline. Next, keep a journal of your activities and reflect upon any significant moments as you engage in your practice. It is always good when embarking upon any new endeavor to start simple and small like a seed. Allow yourself to grow into the practice if it is something that is not quite familiar to you. Ask God for insight and wisdom as you study and practice - have faith. As your pastor I extend an open door to anyone who wishes to discuss any of these spiritual disciplines. Exploring the spiritual disciplines could open new doors of understanding of the Christian faith and its power in your life. Happy Lent season!

Grace and love,

Pastor Wilbert

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CALLS AND EMAILS!

I am sorry for the mix up in the March Birthdays in the February issue of the Newsletter. Who (over 21) really wants two birthdays in one year? I believe, all is corrected in this issue. If you see anything that needs changing or would like to make any additions, PLEASE don't hesitate to contact me by email, phone or mail. All information may be found on the front cover. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Claudia Wamsganz

FROM OUR TRUSTEE CHAIR – Marilyn Gillespie

Those of you who have braved this winter's cold weather may have noticed that two of the chandeliers in the Sanctuary were not lighting. You may also have noticed the scaffolding in the rear of the sanctuary that was being used to access the lights and determine the source of the problem. Elwin Hall and Jim Halla, both members of the Board of Trustees, spent some time working on the problem.

What was found? Over the years, we have had many leaks in the roof above the back doors into the sanctuary. The junction box for the wiring was in the same area and had also been exposed to the water. The wires had fused to the conduit and they had to cut open that 'pipe' to use the 'old' wires to pull 'new' wires into place. For the time being, the lights work. When the weather gets warmer, the repairs will be completed and the walls repaired.

This is just one more reason why we need to complete replacing the slate on the rest of the roof.

CORNED BEEF and CABBAGE DINNER

Our church is sponsoring a corned beef and cabbage dinner on March 15, 2014 to raise money to assist with the fuel bill. We are asking for volunteers to help make this project a success. The dinner will be from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM. There will be handouts at the back of the sanctuary of needed items and monetary donations are always appreciated. We need volunteers to work on the day of the dinner, please contact Marlene Martin 572-2075 or Barbara Halla 354-5147 with your availability.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2014

RUMMAGE SALE DATES FOR 2014

Monday through Wednesday for Set up--April 28, 29, 30
Thursday, Friday and Saturday for the Sale--May 1 & 2 from 9am to 7pm
Saturday May 3 from 9am to noon.

FALL SALE

Monday through Wednesday for Set-up--September 22, 23, 24
Thursday, Friday and Saturday for the Sale--September 25 & 26 from 9am to 7pm
Saturday September 27 from 9am to noon

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN YARD SALE FOR 2014

Set-up will be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
July 21, 22, 23, 24
Sale will be Friday July 25 from 9am to 4pm
Saturday July 26 from 9am to 3pm

PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH 2014 LECTIONARY

March 2

Exodus 23:12-18
Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

March 9

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

March 16

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

March 23

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

March 30

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Food for the Mind and Soul -

Daily reading of a short meditation with scripture keeps us focused on God throughout the week and is an extension of the Sunday worship service. Two meditation booklets are available at the front entrance of the church. They are "The Upper Room" and "Our Daily Bread."

First United Methodist Church
SUNDAY WORSHIP
Sunday 8:30am Contemporary Service
Coffee and Fellowship 9:20 am
10:00 am Traditional Service
10:00 am **Sunday School**
ALL ARE WELCOME

Easter Flowers

Please let us know if you intend to have flowers in Honor or in Memory of a Loved One. You may fill out the form below for our information and drop it in the offering plate or mail it or you can call the church office at 891-3473.

Number of plants at \$9.00 each _____

Checks may be put in the offering plate or

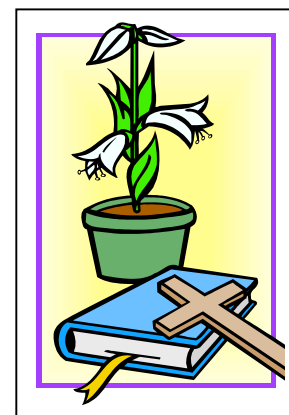
*Mailed to: First United Methodist Church
63 Church St.*

Saranac Lake, NY 12983

Your name: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____



Payable to: FUMC Marked: Easter Flowers

MARCH BIRTHDAY

- 2 Hailey Dell
Jon Leavitt
- 3 Logan Ploof
Angie James
- 4 Brandon Clark
- 5 Linda Charette
Eugene Wood
- 6 Margaret Turnbull 99 yrs.
- 7 Bruce Barnard
Clemos Tanzini
- 8 Minnie Beguin
Evie Hunt
Dillon Wilson
- 10 Aiden Hesseltine
- 11 Mathew Martin
- 13 Soo Hanley
- 15 John Santy
- 18 Barb Halla
- 18 Jim Griebisch
- 21 Marlene Martin
- 22 Christine Leavitt
- 23 Nicole Sells
- 25 Joe Pickreign, Jr.
- 26 Rachel Hannon
- 29 Kerry King
Eva Stinson
- 30 Paula D'Ambrisi
Samuel Stringer
- 31 Marshall Moore

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

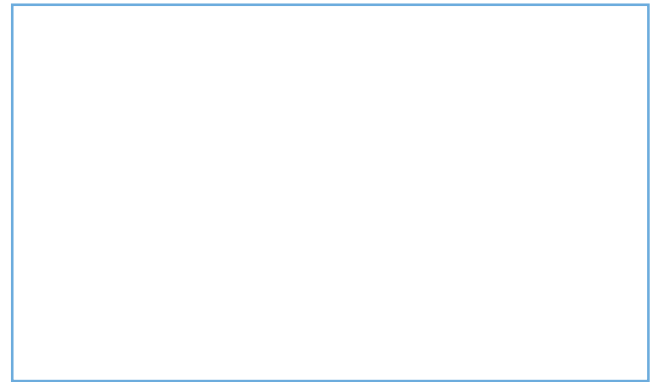
- 2 Mary Sue Dalton
- 3 Ruth Mader
- 5 Richard Lawrence
Scott Leavitt
Joe Fisher
- 6 Louise Harris
- 7 Austin Barry
- 9 Virginia Daniels
Merry Watters
- 12 Diane Kelting
- 14 Bob Donaldson, Sr.
Howard R. Myatt, Jr.
- 15 Megan White
- 16 Joe Pickreign, III
Jeannette Sheppard
- 17 Eileen Leavitt
Robert Smith
- 18 Jacob Heverly
- 25 Lucas Donaldson
- 27 Arthur Besio
- 30 Devon Bandru
Trevor Fravor

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Grant & Cindy Besio
- 2 Joe & Shirley Pickreign 54 Yrs.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

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**For Those Of You Who Are
Receiving This By Mail**

**PLEASE HELP US BY
GIVING US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

The best way would be to send an
email to Claudia at:

firstumcsl@centralny.twcbc.com

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE
*Sat.	Mar. 01 08, X 22,29	9:30 – 10:30 am	Zumba - weekly	Fellowship Hall
*Sun.	Mar. 02, 09,16,23,30	3:00 – 4:00 pm	Zumba - weekly	Fellowship Hall
*Mon.	Mar. 03, 10,17,24,31	5:00 – 6:00pm	Zumba - weekly	Fellowship Hall
Tues.	Mar. 04	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Troop 4026 & 4275	Elevator Room
Wed.	Mar. 05 (Ash Wed.)	5:00-6:00 pm	Community Supper	Fellowship Hall
*Thur.	Mar, 06, 13,20,27	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tues.	Mar. 11	6:00 – 8:00 pm	GS Troop 4275	Elevator Room
Wed.	Mar. 12	5:00-6:00 pm	Community Supper	Fellowship Hall
Thurs.	Mar. 13	6:30 pm	UMW Meet all women welcome	Lounge
Sat.	Mar. 15	8:00am	Men's Breakfast all men welcome	Fellowship Hall
Sat.	Mar. 15	4:00 – 7:00 pm	Corned beef and Cabbage Dinner	Fellowship Hall
Sun.	Mar. 16	6:00 pm	Charge Conference with District Superintendent	Fellowship Hall
Mon.	Mar. 17	7:00 pm	Church Council	Tellers Room
Tues.	Mar. 18	6:00 – 7:30 pm	Troop 4117	Heidi Rich Room
Tues.	Mar. 18	6:00-8:00 pm	GS Troop 4026 & 4275	Elevator Room
Wed.	Mar. 19	5:00-6:00pm	Community Supper	Fellowship Hall
Thurs.	Mar. 20		*Newsletter Article Deadline – please get them in. Thank you.	
Sun.	Mar. 23	1:00 pm	Peggy Lynn Recording	
Mon.	Mar. 24	7:00 pm	Trustees Committee	Tellers Room
Tues.	Mar. 25	6:00-8:00 pm	GS Troop 4026 & 4275	Elevator Room
Wed.	Mar. 27	5:00-6:00 pm	Community Supper	Fellowship Hall

Every Wednesday 7:00 pm AA Heidi Rich Room