

The Parish Friend

A Newsletter of the Plainville United Methodist Church

November – December 2022

“The church at the heart of the community with the community at heart.”

FROM THE PASTOR

In the 1964 Methodist Hymnal, the service for receiving new members begins, “Dearly beloved, the Church is of God, and will be preserved to the end of time...” Like for all congregations everywhere, the last two and a half years of a worldwide pandemic have put these words to the test. Looking back, we can rejoice that Plainville UMC has not only endured; we have grown and adapted with the changing times.

Throughout this year we have been able to worship in person. In addition, we now have a growing virtual congregation via Facebook. And those who choose may stay in the parking lot and listen to the service live on their car radios.

The Living Bread Food Pantry continues to serve fifty to sixty households every week, thanks to the amazing support received from church members, our neighbors and the community.

Our various other ministries and activities, such as the prayer letters, the church suppers, and the Country Fair are all thriving thanks to our members’ gifts of time, energy and talents.

All this is to say that God’s promise to preserve the church has been proven once again. Now we are asking for your help so that the mission, outreach and fellowship of Plainville UMC can continue as strong as ever this coming year. Please prayerfully consider your financial support for our church’s ministry for 2023 and make a pledge.

Please complete the enclosed pledge card, place it in the enclosed envelope and join us on **Consecration Sunday, November 20th at 9:00am**. If you cannot attend, please mail your pledge or drop it by the church.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Stuart Tucker

Plainville United Methodist Church
16 East Bacon Street, Plainville, MA 02762
www.plainvilleumc.net plainvilleumc@verizon.net
Phone: 508-695-9587

Worship on Sundays at 9:00am

Rev. Stuart Tucker, Pastor Steve Haunschild, Pianist
Kathy Trowbridge, Secretary

CHURCH SUPPERS TO-GO

November – Visit our Country Fair –
Friday, Nov. 4th from 11am – 7pm

December 10, 2022 Chicken
Broccoli Alfredo

January 14, 2023 Lasagna

February 11, 2023 Ham with Homemade Mac-n-Cheese

March 11, 2023 Chicken Pot Pie

April 18, 2023 Swedish Meatballs

May 13, 2023 Oven Roasted Chicken



All Suppers include dessert. \$14.00 each
No Dine-in - Pick-up Curbside in the parking lot
between 4:30pm – 5:30pm

MUST pre-order by 12Noon the Thursday prior
to the supper date by calling 508-695-9587
or send an email to plainvilleumc@verizon.net

CHURCH MEETINGS

TRUSTEES together with **CHURCH COUNCIL** ,
will meet in the Cate Room at 7:15pm on
Mondays, November 21st and December 19th .

ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR

Friday (**ONLY**), November 4th
from 11am to 7pm

In addition to jewelry, handmades
and gifts, the Fair is in need of **Baked
Goods, Cookies, Pies, Breads, Jams, Jellies, Pickles, etc.**
We also need workers during the Fair. **We will need
help cleaning up on Saturday, Nov 5th starting at 9am.**

We need your help and your donations to have a
successful Fair and we are grateful for all our church
family does to be *the church at the heart of the
community with the community at heart!* Here’s to
another 100 years of our Country Fair! Feel free to
contact Jill Seaberg 508-699-0591 or Nancy Richardson
at 508-699-5649 for further information.

Jill Benker-Seaberg,

Annual Country Fair Co-Chairman

All who wish to help with the Fair are most Welcome!

**NOTE: A Fair wrap-up meeting will be held in late
November or early December. All who worked at the
Fair are welcome to attend and add their input.**



**The Deadline to submit news and information for
the Jan/Feb issue of *The Parish Friend* Newsletter
is 12noon on Friday, 12/16/22.**

OUR NEWSLETTER The price of 1st Class Stamps is going **up to .63 cents each** as of January 1, 2023. Did you know that our newsletter is available via email? If you wish to help conserve on the cost for paper, ink and postage for the Church and have the newsletter available to you on your computer, please let us know by sending us an email at plainvilleumc@verizon.net. Thank you.



PayPal

PayPal is available to use on our website for one-time donations to the Church such as for Capital Fund projects or even to supplement the general budget. You may use PayPal to set up recurring donations for the Living Bread Food Pantry.

Please Remember: PayPal is **not** for use for your regular weekly/monthly offerings or Tithes, please.

SERVING YOUR CHURCH

At our Annual Charge Conference, Tuesday, November 1st, we will be looking for folks to serve the church in several capacities. Positions available “may” include – Trustees; Staff, Parish Relations; Prayer Letter Stewards; Liturgists who read scripture during worship; Sunday morning Greeters and Counters, Fall/Spring outdoor clean up crew, Advent Candle lighters, Advent/Special Sunday Readers and so much more. If you are interested in serving your church in any way, please speak with Pastor Stuart or call the church office to be directed to someone informed about the area of service you’re interested in.

PARISH NEWS



Thank you so much for the prayer letter sent in Alan Hopkins’ memory. The family so appreciated your kindness during this time of sorrow.

Sincerely,
The Hopkins Family

I humbly thank you for your prayers and lovely prayer letter. It warms my heart to know the goodness and kindness that surrounds us all. The world is a better place because of your thoughtfulness.

Love,
Margie McGrath



FROM THE LIVING BREAD FOOD PANTRY

THANKSGIVING TURKEY BASKETS

It’s that time of the year again!!

Once again, the Pantry will be handing out Thanksgiving turkey baskets to Plainville residents in need. These baskets will include all the fixings for a Thanksgiving meal and a frozen turkey. Baskets will be distributed using a drive-through format in the church parking lot on Sunday, November 20 from 11 am to 12 noon. Signups for the baskets will be happening on Wednesday, October 26 and Wednesday, November 2 as part of the normal Pantry distribution (5:30 pm to 6:45 pm). If there are extenuating circumstances, registered clients of the Pantry can sign up for a basket by calling the church office at 508-695-9587 between October 26 and November 2.

DONATIONS FOR TURKEY BASKETS

We are very thankful to have been able to get a lot of the items for the turkey baskets at reduced prices through the Greater Boston Food Bank. However, we are still in need of:

- Bags or boxes of stuffing
- Cans or jars of turkey gravy
- Cans or cartons of chicken broth
- Boxes of quick bread mixes in cranberry or pumpkin flavors

Any donations of these items that you can make **before November 7** would be greatly appreciated.

VOLUNTEERING TO HELP WITH TURKEY BASKETS

If you have wanted to help out in the Food Pantry but haven’t wanted to make an ongoing commitment, or if you’ve been wondering how volunteering at the Food Pantry works, or if you’re just never available on Wednesdays, helping out with Turkey Baskets is a great way to get a brief taste of what we do on a weekly basis. We will be doing most of the bag assembly for the Turkey Baskets on **Friday, November 18 between 10 am and 2 pm. On Sunday morning, Nov 20th, final assembly will start at 10 am (please do not come any earlier), and distribution will start at 11 am. Only adults (older than high school age) can help with distribution.** Whether you have made Turkey Baskets for the last 20 years, or you didn’t even know Turkey Baskets were a thing until 20 seconds

ago, we would love to have your help! If you would like to help out on either day (or both!), please contact Kathy Parker (kap0405@gmail.com) and let her know you're planning to be there. Even if you can only help for an hour, we would greatly appreciate it. *Many hands make light work!*

PANTRY DONATION UPDATES

Thank you so much to all of you who have donated items in response to the list in the last newsletter. Thanks to your donations, we have been able to start providing a variety of personal hygiene items on request. This is clearly meeting a need. We are also starting to supply paper towels and toilet paper on request; any donations of these items would be greatly appreciated as we seem to give these items out as fast as we get them.

We continue to appreciate donations of cereal, boxed potatoes, and boxes or bags of flavored rice or Minute rice, as these things are difficult to get from the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB).

Additionally, this month we are in need of some other items that we were not able to order from the Food Bank because we had the opportunity to get things from GBFB for the turkey baskets (*there is a weight limit on how much we can order each month*).

The following would be particularly helpful for the months of November and December:

- Pasta and pasta sauce
- Hearty soups and chilis

Please remember that donations of household items and non-perishable food can be left in the shed in the parking lot 24/7. You can also leave donations in the bin at the front of the store (near the registers) in the Plainville Stop and Shop.

PANTRY VOLUNTEER UPDATES

A super big thank you to all of our tireless volunteers! We would still really appreciate it if one person with a pickup truck would be willing to join our Wednesday morning team to collect donations from area stores. We also would still really appreciate anyone who could join our team to unload the GBFB truck on the second Wednesday of each month; the truck comes sometime between 11:30a and 12:30p, and I can text a ten minute warning. Depending on how many people we have, it can take between 15 and 30 minutes of moving 15-30 pound cases of food to empty the truck.

Please call the church office if you can help. Thanks for considering!

THANK YOU

As we come into the holiday season, it is a great time to think about how much we have to be thankful for. I am thankful for the great team of volunteers who work together week in and week out to serve those in Plainville struggling with food insecurity and other financial challenges. I'm thankful for all of the many ways that the church supports the Pantry, and especially for the outstanding contributions of Kathy Trowbridge. I'm thankful for all of the many area organizations who have contributed to the work of the Pantry; the Rotary, St. Martha's, the Jackson and Wood Schools, a number of KP clubs and organizations, and the Plainville Public Library are just some of the groups that have given to the Pantry in the last two months. And I'm thankful for the generosity of so many here in Plainville who donate to the Food Pantry individually. The donation shed needs to be emptied almost daily, and the bin at Stop and Shop is emptied several times a week. We are a small town, but our residents have really big hearts. And for that I am very thankful!

Faithfully,
Sherri Minch, Co - Coordinator

More Winter Foods that are always in need:

Canned Beef or Chicken Stew

Peanut Butter

Jam/Jellies/Fluff

Canned fruit – *esp in 100% juice*

Apple Sauce – *jars and individual cups*

Mac-n-Cheese

Boxed Potatoes – *Scalloped, Cheese-y, and instant potatoes, too.*

Flavored Rice – *sm. boxed or pouches work best – flavored such as Spanish, Chicken, beef, Pilaf.*

White or Brown Rice – *sm boxes or pouches work better than the larger bags.*

Canned or Pouches of Tuna

Canned Chicken

Cereals – Hot or Cold

Spaghetti-O's with meatballs or franks

Canned Beef Ravioli

Thank you for helping our neighbors in need this winter season.