

The Parish Friend

A Newsletter of the Plainville United Methodist Church

November – December 2021

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

FROM THE PASTOR

The autumn colors are reaching their peak in our part of New England. So, when through the woods and forest glades I wander, the words of naturalist/photographer John Muir come to mind.

He said of hiking, *“I don’t like either the word or the thing. People ought to saunter in the mountains—not hike! Do you know the origin of the word ‘saunter?’ It’s a beautiful word. Away back in the Middle Ages people used to go on pilgrimages to the Holy Land, and when people in the villages through which they passed asked where they were going, they would reply, ‘A la Sainte terre,’ ‘To the Holy Land.’ And so they became known as sainte-terres or saunterers. Now these mountains are our Holy Land, and we ought to saunter through them reverently, not ‘hike’ through them.”*

We should all take time to be holy and find a trail to saunter through.

Pastor Stuart



The Deadline to submit news and information for the January/February issue of *The Parish Friend* is 12noon on Monday, 12/13/21.

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

Community Worship, Sundays at 9 am.

Rev. Stuart Tucker, Pastor

Steve Haunschild, Pianist Kathy Trowbridge – Secretary

CHURCH SUPPERS TO-GO

November – *No Supper* – Visit our Fair on Friday, Nov 5th from 12noon – 7pm for our famous Clam Cakes & Chowder!



December – *No Supper*

January 8, 2022 Chicken Pot Pie

February 12, 2022 Baked Ham w/ Homemade Mac-n-Cheese

March 12, 2022 Lasagna

April 9, 2022 Swedish Meatballs

May 14, 2022 Oven Roasted Chicken

All Suppers include dessert. \$12.00 ea.

No dine in – Take out only. Pick up curbside in the church parking lot between 4:30-5:30pm. MUST pre-order by 12Noon the Thursday prior to the supper date by calling 508 699 7168 or by email to plainvilleumc@verizon.net

CHURCH MEETINGS

TRUSTEES meet at 7:00pm in the Cate Room on Tuesdays, November 9th and December 14th.

CHURCH COUNCIL meets in the Cate Room at 7:00pm on Mondays, November 15th and December 20th.

PRAYER LETTER MINISTRY We are seeking a few more folks to be Prayer Letter Stewards. If interested, please see Grace Simmons or Susan Haines and shadow them for a Sunday or two. Please contact the Church Office if you volunteer to serve in this ministry so we can add you to the rotating, monthly schedule.

GREETERS & COUNTERS We are seeking a few more volunteers to greet folks as they enter worship on Sunday mornings. This would include saying “good morning!”, handing out bulletins and collecting the morning’s offerings. Training is available – simply shadow anyone serving in this position any Sunday morning. Please contact the Church Office if you volunteer to serve in this ministry so we can add you to the rotating schedule. The goal is to have 6 to 8 more volunteers so that everyone serves only once every other month. We need you! **COUNTERS** – this position is a bit more involved. Please speak with Tom Simon or Susan Haines if you’re interested in serving in this capacity.

ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR
Friday (ONLY), November 5th
from 12 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 6th starting at 9am. We need your help 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 Becca Simon 508-643-1238 or Jill Seaberg 508-699-0591 for further information.

Jill Benker-Seaberg,
Annual Country Fair Co-Chairman

CHURCH "SIDEWALK SWINGER" SIGN

Help is needed to set up the Sidewalk Swinger sign which advertises our suppers out on the front lawn at the church. Once a month (only about 7x per year) you will need to set up the letters on the sign and put it outside in front of the church. Not usually needed June – September. More than one person can volunteer. Please let Becca Simon know if you are interested in helping with the sign. Please call Becca at 508-643-1238.



Help is Needed the 2nd Wednesday of each month, year 'round, to help us unload the truck from the Greater Boston Food Bank – right here in our parking lot. The truck arrives around 12:30pm. We have dolly carts to help unload and get the foods into the pantry. This takes an hour or less most times to do. Feel free to bring a friend, teenager or neighbor with you to lend a hand. Please call Becca Simon at 508-643-1238 if you can lend a hand.

Next Dates – November 10th and December 8th. Together, with your help, we **DO** make a difference! We are "the church at the heart of the community with the community at heart." **THANK YOU!**



FROM OUR CHURCH HISTORIAN...

November is the month for PUMC's Stewardship Campaign; looking back on past campaigns, a memorable one was the "PONY EXPRESS RUN", organized

by the Finance Committee. *The Pony Express is coming to our church,* reads an insert in the Sunday bulletin for early November 1989, for the financial campaign for 1990.

The program was organized with such "handles" as General Manager (Dave Swanson, Chair of the Finance Committee), with a Station Agent, Trail Bosses, and Route Riders. The Trail Bosses were given a "saddle bag", made of heavy brown paper with a pouch for the stewardship materials and a list of the church membership and friends, divided into local areas. The Trail Boss would deliver their Saddle Bag to the first name on their list – that person would make a pledge, put the Estimate of Giving card in a sealed envelope and then, as a Route Rider, would deliver the Saddle Bag to the next name on the list. The Trail Boss would check occasionally to see how the "mail" was going along and then collect the Saddle Bag at the end of its run.

On Appreciation Sunday which was held two weeks later, another flyer was inserted in the bulletin, "The Pony express is a success thanks to you! Rejoice and give thanks!!" A Certificate of Appreciation was given to some of the workers; the Trail Bosses received one signed by Pastor David Hill and General Manager Dave Swanson.

The PONY EXPRESS RUN was used successfully for several years. A slightly different approach was made in 1992 for the 1993 financial campaign. A "Chuck Wagon Pot Luck Supper" was held at the church. After the meal, there was a program of entertainment and an explanation of the church goals and needs for the coming year. All present had the opportunity to make their pledge commitment for 1993. For people who could not attend, they could make their pledge in church on Sundays in November.

For the History Archives, there are samples of the bulletin inserts, a Certificate of Appreciation to a Trail Boss and a photo of 3 Trail Bosses, with their Saddle Bags; Elna Fawcett, Barbara Negus, and Grace Simmons.

It was a fun RUN and a different approach to stewardship and fund-raising!

Faithfully submitted by,
Grace Simmons,
Local PUMC Church Historian

FROM THE LIVING BREAD FOOD PANTRY



PANTRY UPDATES

The Pantry will be handing out turkey baskets with the “fixings” to Plainville residents in need on **Sunday, November 21st from 11am – 12:30pm**. Pantry clients must sign up for a turkey basket by

driving through the Food Pantry on Wednesday evenings or by calling the church office at 508-695-9587.



We will need donations of items for our Turkey baskets such as: 15-20lb turkeys, stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin or pumpkin pie mix, evaporated milk, turkey broth, canned yams, and canned corn, brownie mix, 1-2lb box of granulated sugar.

We will need help with handing out our baskets (Sunday, Nov 21st from 11am – 12:30pm) and with assembling the baskets a few days prior. If you are interested in knowing more, or want to lend a hand, please let Becca Simon know by calling her at 508-643-1238.

OUR WORK CONTINUES

In order to continue our work of feeding all who need food in Plainville, we consistently need donations of food.

A list of foods to donate is on the church website under “Food Pantry” Please continue to donate during the upcoming months when most donations drop off significantly. It is very easy to donate now by placing your items into our donation shed located in the parking lot near the back door of the church. You can drop off your non-perishable foods anytime by driving (or walking) into the parking lot when it’s convenient for you. We check the shed frequently and remove donations regularly. You may also donate non-perishable food by using the green bin located at the Plainville Stop & Shop. Frequently Stop & Shop will have items at the end of the register which can be purchased for donation into the bin.

FOR MONETARY OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS

Our Church Secretary is in the office on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 12 Noon. Please use the Spring Street door which is closest to the office when making a monetary or Gift Card donation. If you would like to mail a check, please write it out to “Living Bread Food Pantry” and send it to the Plainville United Methodist Church, 16 East Bacon Street, Plainville, MA 02762. The Pantry has a PayPal Account on the church website at www.PlainvilleUMC.net. You may also donate to the Pantry using PayPal. If you have any questions regarding the Pantry, feel free to call the church office at 508-695-9587.

CURRENT ITEMS WE ARE IN NEED OF ARE...

Non-perishable foods such as Spaghetti-o’s, beans, hearty soups, spaghetti sauce, coffee, canned vegetables, canned fruit (in 100% juice) and healthy snacks.

Toiletries such as bars of bath soap, shampoo & hair conditioner, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste & toothbrushes, deodorant for men & women, disposable razors, shaving cream, Q-tips, lip balm, hand & body lotions, Gold Bond powders.

Household items such as liquid dish soap (for washing dishes), dishwasher detergents, paper towels, 2-ply toilet paper, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, kitchen sponges, tissues.

HOW YOU CAN HELP...

Please know that your donations of fresh fruits and vegetables are always welcome. When you find a great sale in the stores, think of the Pantry!

****PLEASE NOTE** - We can only accept perishable foods on Wednesdays – between 8am – 10:30am is preferred, however, our Church Secretary is in the office until 12 Noon and pantry volunteers are back in the pantry around 4:30pm on Wednesdays. Please don’t leave fresh produce, anything requiring refrigeration or freezing, in the Pantry shed out in the parking lot.

THANK YOU!

Thanks so much for all your donations and support. We couldn’t feed people without your continued and generous support. Thank you to all our hard-working volunteers who are faithful to their work at the pantry. It takes many hands to keep our pantry running. Together, donors - and volunteers, we are making sure that no one in Plainville ever goes hungry.

Faithfully,
Becca Simon, Pantry Coordinator

Fall & Winter Food Collection –2021
to benefit The Living Bread Food Pantry
16 East Bacon Street Plainville, MA

Suggested Items to donate include:

BREAKFAST ITEMS Breakfast Bars, Cereal Bars, Granola Bars, Carnation Instant Breakfast (packets), Ensure or Glucerna Shakes. **Oatmeal** - flavored Packets, including “LOW SUGAR” and Cans of Plain oats. **GLUTEN FREE HOT & COLD CEREALS** are always welcome.

LUNCH ITEMS Peanut Butter, Jellies and Jams, Marshmallow Fluff, Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Spaghetti O’s, Canned Ravioli and Beef-a-Roni, Chili, Hearty Soups especially with Beans.

BEVERAGES Canned Coffee, Lemonade Mix (powdered), Iced Tea Mix : non- sweetened, sweetened and sugar-free. Kool Aid drink mix: non- sweetened and sweetened. Non-refrigerated Juices – family sz bottles and individual juice boxes. Non-refrigerated Parmalat Milk (in the canned milk aisle) family sz cartons and individual “juice box” sizes – White or Chocolate.

FRUIT - all packed in 100% Juice Individual Fruit cups, Canned fruit, Applesauce – jars and individual cups.

CONDIMENTS Mayo, Mustard, Ketchup, Relish, Olives, Pickles, BBQ Sauce, Teryaki Sauce. Salad Dressings – especially Ranch and Italian.

SNACKS Little Debbie’s Snacks, Graham Crackers, Cookies, Microwave popcorn, Cheeze-It Crackers, Ritz Crackers, Wheat Thins, Triscuits, Goldfish Crackers, etc., Healthy Fruit Snacks & Trail mixes, dried fruits. **GLUTEN FREE SNACKS, CRACKERS & COOKIES** are greatly appreciated. Individually bagged, and Family Sized = Chips, Pretzels, Popcorn, etc., Pudding Mixes and individual cups (*non-refrigerated*), Jello Mixes and individual cups (*non-refrigerated*).

SUPPER ITEMS Boxed Mac-n-Cheese, Hamburger Helper (for Ground Beef, Chicken or Tuna), Pasta and Sauces including alfredo sauce, Pasta Salad Kits, Baked Beans, Sloppy Joe Sauce, Taco Kits, Boxed Instant Potatoes & Mixes (Cheesy, Scalloped, etc), Rice – white/brown, Rice mixes such as: Rice Pilaf, Zatterain’s mixes, Uncle Ben’s mixes, etc. **Especially need Canned Veggies.**

HOLIDAY FOODS Boxed or bagged Stuffing, Canned Cranberry Sauce – whole berry and jellied, Canned Pineapple, Canned Green Beans, Peas, Potatoes, Carrots and Yams - larger and reg sized cans, Gravy, French Fried Onions, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Canned Apple Pie filling, Canned Pumpkin, Boxed Pie Crust mix, Cans of Evaporated Milk, Instant Mashed Potatoes.

MONETARY DONATIONS are greatly appreciated to help us buy fresh foods for the Thanksgiving baskets and helps us buy food from the Greater Boston Food bank at pennies on the dollar, stretching your donations.

Mail checks to the church at 16 E. Bacon St., Plainville, MA 02762, ATTENTION: Pantry.

Or drop off to the Spring Street door on M & W 9am – 12noon and FRI 9am – 1pm.

The Living Bread Food Pantry helps to feed over 60 families every week, year ‘round.

Your support is strongly needed and greatly appreciated. Thank you for feeding the hungry in our community.