

# ***The Messenger***

*News and Information for the First United Methodist Church, Hudson, MA  
February 2021*

## ***Join us this Sunday!***

### **Current Schedule:**

**11:00am - In-Person / Online** Worship Service

*Our Online Worship services are broadcast on YouTube.*

Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9:30am – 1:30pm

Church Phone: 978-562-2932

Email Church Office:

[bonnie@hudsonfumc.org](mailto:bonnie@hudsonfumc.org)

Web Page: [www.hudsonfumc.org](http://www.hudsonfumc.org)

## ***Staff Leaders 2021:***

**Pastor:** Geisa Y. Matos

**Music Director:** Lisa Schliker

**Organist:** Margarita Merriman

**Administrator:** Bonnie Elman

**Newsletter Editor:** Lisa Schliker

**Sexton:** Mario DiMare

**Nursery Care:** Kerry Mason

**Spiritual Lay Leader:** Barbara Robinson

**Lay Leader:** Ada Arenstrup

**TV Ministry:** Bob Collins and

Rick Andrews

## **“Super Bowl” Chili and Corn Muffins at First United Methodist Church of Hudson**

On **Saturday, February 6th**, from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm we will be serving Chili and Corn Muffins “To Go” in our parking lot. You don’t want to miss out on our FAMOUS Homemade Chili by SUSAN! If you’ve had our chili at a past Hudson Pumpkin Fest, you know how good it is! Now you can enjoy it again while watching the Super Bowl. Pick up a container or two and be ready to watch your favorite team win on Sunday!

Quarts of Chili - \$12.00 each

Jumbo Corn Muffins - \$1.00 each

Drive up and your container(s) will be brought out to your car. Please wear your masks.



## **March Newsletter Deadline**

All news articles for the March Newsletter are due Monday, February 22. Please send all articles to me at: [lpattovb@yahoo.com](mailto:lpattovb@yahoo.com). Early submissions are always welcome!

Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor

## A Word from the Pastor – A Call to Love



The Lenten Season is quickly approaching! During this season, we are invited to remember that Jesus lived among us to teach us God's unconditional love of all people. The best way to improve our relationship with Jesus is to improve our relationships with one another. In our age of globalization, we must acknowledge that our neighbors go beyond those who look like us or with whom we share similar political and theological views. Jesus even calls on us to love our enemies, and that is not an easy task.

Our society is very divided, and the church reflects our society. How can we walk together toward the cross under such circumstances? This question has no easy answers, but we can begin by putting our personal agendas aside and genuinely listening to each other. Attentive listening is an essential part of healthy communication. Thomas Merton, an American Trappist monk and theologian, rightly said, "The deepest level of communication is not communication, but communion. It is wordless. It is beyond words. It is beyond speech. It is beyond concept. Not that we discover a new unity, but we discover an old unity. My dear brothers and sisters, we are already one. But we imagine we are not. And what we have to recover is our original unity. What we have to be, is what we are."

During this season of Lent, may we repent for our sins of pride and self-righteousness. May we rediscover the divine love that binds us all together and may our self-interest die so we can live! - Rev. Geisa Y. Matos

## Bible Study

You are invited to participate in a New England Conference-wide Bible study for Lent. This study, titled "**Roll Down, Justice**," was written by the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR). The study will be led by Rev. Megan Stowe, Commonwealth West District Superintendent. Using biblical passages and Mark Miller's amazing hymns, this study will offer guidance to us as Christians and as United Methodists on how to be an anti-racist and inclusive church. The study is part of the Conference and Commonwealth West District's renewed commitment to engage in anti-racism work that was reinforced by the 2020 discovery of KKK materials in the historic cornerstone of the former Fairlawn Methodist Episcopal Church.

This study will take place on Sundays at 7pm, between February 14, 2021 through Sunday, March 21, 2021. Visit this website for more information including a link to register:

<https://www.neumc.org/eventdetail/14965583?month=2&year=2021&day=1&display=m>

## Important Announcement...

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Last Sunday, I announced that I have been appointed to a new church and would like to share the following letter from our district superintendent. (See below). I am praying for all of you during this time of transition.



In Christ,

Pastor Geisa.

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Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar intends to appoint Rev. Geisa Matos to the West Chelmsford United Methodist Church effective July 1, 2021 subject to fulfilling all the requirements needed for a successful transition by the pastor and the respective churches affected by the appointment.

The appointment will be finalized at the 2021 Annual Conference Session of the New England Conference.

The SPRC will be working with our District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe, on discerning our next pastor. Please be in prayer during this process.

Blessings,  
Megan  
Rev. Megan Stowe  
District Superintendent  
Commonwealth West District



**Lent Begins  
Wednesday,  
February 17**



## February Birthdays

2	Don Eastman
7	Ron Paskavitz
14	Jean Luther
16	Cheryl O'Leary
19	G. Mike Kauffman
20	Lynn Kerner
23	Katie Krasinski
25	Joan Vincent
25	Bob Berube
27	Katie Dunnell
29	Keaghan O'Leary

## February Anniversaries

14	Trina (Elman) & John Zompetti
14	Christine & Mario DiMare
24	Allen & Laurie Brown



## February Outreach – Discretionary Fund

This month we will be helping to support our Discretionary Fund. Your donations help us to serve the needy in the Hudson community and during these exceptionally difficult times for some families, we ask that you consider writing a check out to FUMC with “Discretionary Fund” on the Memo line. Thank you for your support.

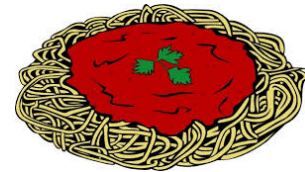
## Prayer List

- Darlene's friend Kathy as she faces lung surgery.
- Bob S.'s sister Kathleen diagnosed with thyroid cancer.
- Dennis' mother.
- Christine; health concerns.
- Bonnie's grandson Ian.
- Social justice advocates, refugees and immigrants in general, global peace and the healing of the earth.
- For students, parents, teachers, administrators, church leaders, for those that are firing against COVID-19 (patients, doctors, researchers etc.).
- For our country, its leaders and our church.



## February Friendship Dinner To Go

Saturday, February 27th  
PICK UP 4pm  
SPAGHETTI!



**Friday Night Live!** - This will be a fun, contemporary praise/worship time. It will take place once a month on the last Friday of the month to start. It will take place remotely on Zoom and Facebook live. If any youth, families, or individuals would like to participate by singing / performing a song or share a faith message in the future please reach out to Stacey Hartford.

## Caregivers Meetings Feb. 1st and Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Our meetings are open to all who are caring for someone who needs help on a continuing basis. We meet on the First and Third Monday of each month, from 11am to 12pm. Join us in Lamson Hall. The church has recognized a yearning in the community for a place to gather, intended for those in the position of being a caregiver and who need to be with others going through difficult times caring for their loved ones.

Our purpose is to establish a safe, quiet setting for those who are feeling the weight that often accompanies caregiving. Caregivers often feel alone/isolated and unique. We can't solve problems or change a situation but we will offer support by encouraging each other to not feel

weak or selfish or unloving because of our thoughts. Sometimes we even find humor and laugh with each other. This, too, is healing for caregivers.



Come talk about your concerns and feelings with those who know what you are going through. We will not be judgmental; only attentive and compassionate. The meetings are open to anyone who is a caregiver and may be feeling isolated by their situation. Come to as few or as many of our meetings as you like. You may come just to listen but over time, we hope you'll feel free to speak. There are no dues or fees to think about, just come and be with us for an hour or so.

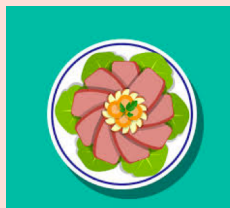
### **March Outreach Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner To Go**

**Saturday, March 6th 4pm pick up**

This dinner to benefit MALAWI program  
Make Checks payable to FUMC... Malawi  
on memo line

You can reserve dinner  
by calling Bonnie at the  
church office:

978-562-2932 between  
10am and 2pm Mon-Fri



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Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

Pick-Up 4pm

