

The Messenger

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

Web Page: 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

Let It Go and Trust the Journey



A few years ago, on Christmas Day, I watched the 3D musical Frozen. The most popular song from this movie is “Let It Go.” I sang, “Let it go, let it go! Can’t hold it back anymore. Let it go, let it go...” over and over again for many days. As I prepare to say goodbye to 2020 and welcome to 2021, I’m consciously letting go of things and situations that don’t invigorate me.

The child who was born in Bethlehem endured suffering throughout his life. Yet, he also overcame death itself. Jesus Christ came to teach us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Without self-love, it’s unlikely that we’ll be able to truly love others. I seek to embrace self-compassion in 2021. I believe that self-love and self-compassion will help us overcome the traumatic circumstances we’ve likely faced during this current global crisis and pandemic.

Each new year, we walk into the unknown. Our inability to know exactly what the future holds for us can be a cause of anxiety and fear. Yet, instead of swimming upstream against the flow, we can choose to trust in God—the One who holds our future. The anxiety that comes with worrying about the future is at times overwhelming; therefore, as we begin a new journey into a new year, let's put our faith in our redeemer by letting go and letting God.

Because we serve an Omnipotent God, we can face tomorrow—beginning today. Thus, let's affirm the words of the award-winning author L. R. Knost who states, "Life is amazing. And then it's awful. And then it's amazing again. In between the amazing and the awful, it's ordinary and mundane and routine. Breathe in the amazing, hold on through the awful, and relax and exhale during the ordinary. That's just living a heartbreaking, soul-healing, amazing, awful, ordinary life. And it's breathtakingly beautiful." This New Year, may we embrace the belief that our Creator can do everything but fail!

In Christ - Rev. Geisa Matos



I would like to thank this church for the amazing Christmas gift we received during the Christmas Eve service. Your great generosity has added joy to our Holiday celebration!

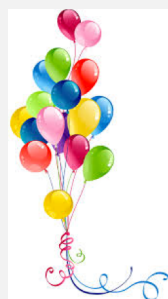
Have a blessed New Year,
Pastor Geisa, Geila, and Anisha.

I want to say 'Thank you' to my church family for my Christmas "gift" envelope. I am so blessed and grateful to be a member of this church and your friendship and caring means the world to me.

Thank you again.
Bonnie

January Birthdays

4	Dave James
5	Patricia Gigliotti
6	Kevin O'Leary
8	Cheryl Monaghan
9	Carol Lazzaro
11	Caitlin McGowan
12	Debbie Lowe
13	Tom Barry
13	Connor Robert Lambert
15	Ernest Sahlin
16	David Gigliotti
16	Brittany Scerra
17	Karen Mayo
18	Leyalyn Jisun Grenfell-Lee
20	Dennis Sherman
24	Brad Connor
25	Doug Wolfe
25	George Austin
26	Christine Crue
28	Mary Collins
31	Vicki Peterson



January Anniversaries

4	Steve & Ada Arenstrup
8	Skip & Karen Wetherell
11	Rick & Diana Andrews
29	Ken and Cookie Lizotte



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift!
It has been a difficult year,

but I am grateful that I have been able to serve the church throughout the pandemic through music.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year. I pray that the Church Choirs will be able to come together in 2021 and resume making music soon!

Regards,
Lisa Schliker – Music Director

Prayer Concerns

- For all humanity during this pandemic and for all who have suffered losses.
- Barbara R's husband Rob and daughter Dawn; for improved health
- Mary C. and others in need of healing and peace.
- Becky's husband Bob; home recovering.
- For Bonnie's son-in-law; diagnosed with COVID.
- Carol S., for Raymond
- Jo's sister Patty's son Adam; recovering from surgery.
- Judy D. and family mourning Bob's passing.
- For Bonnie's grandson Ian.
- A friend grieving the loss of the family pet.
- For those who struggle with addictions; prayers for their recovery journey.



February Newsletter Deadline

All news articles for the February Newsletter are due Monday, January 25. Please send all articles to me at: lpattynvb@yahoo.com. Early submissions are always welcome!

Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor