

The Messenger

*News and Information for the First United Methodist Church, Hudson, MA
July 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: Kim Gold

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: The DiMare family

August Newsletter Deadline

All news articles for the August Newsletter are due Monday, July 26.

Please send all articles to me at: lpattovb@yahoo.com. Early submissions are always welcome!

Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor



A word from our Music Director...



The past year and a half has certainly been a challenging one for the Music Ministry at FUMC due to the Pandemic. I am so glad that members of the FUMC Chancel choir could come together during the months of April through June to share their voices with the church. I want to thank our Organist Margarita for her dedication to the church. We are so blessed with her talent!

I will be taking the summer off (this is something I always did Pre-COVID), but I am looking forward to coming back in September. Be watching for Chancel and Bell Choir rehearsal announcements in August! Both choirs are open to anyone interested in joining. There are no auditions for either group. Just a love for music! Feel free to reach out to me for more information!

Lisa Schliker – FUMC Music Director

From Pastor Kim Gold

Greetings Siblings in Christ,

My Uncle Joe would often say at the end of a visit, “Well Gotta go. Places to meet and people to be.” It was his humorous twisting of the more common phrase, “Places to be and people to meet”. It was his cue to conclude our visits. As funny as my uncle thought he was, I feel there is some wisdom in those few words for us all.

We certainly are people with places to go and people with people to meet. As I am currently surrounded by a mountain of cardboard boxes and used bubble-pac, I am very tempted to jump in my car and go and meet you to avoid the unpacking task. I can’t wait to meet you, get to know and share our stories. Who we are and what makes each other tick. Yes, “Places to go and people to meet” may not have a better meaning than leaving the mess of moving and coming to meet you. But there is more to it than escaping what surrounds me for an opportunity to be introduced.

This is where those words from my uncle come to mind again. “Places to meet and people to be”, tells me there is much more to our anticipated journey together. Jesus’ Great Commission from The Gospel of Matthew 28:19-20 “Go and make disciples of all the nations. Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And Surely I’ll be with you till the end of the age.”

When Jesus said, “Go”, he meant it, it wasn’t a reason to get away but a reason and call to encounter. And to encounter for the Kingdom of God. To teach while we learn about each other, to encourage and expand the understanding and relationship to God as Maker Savior and Spirit. For the building of the Kingdom of God here on earth through the examples of the love of Christ.

So, yes, Uncle Joe was right, but this is not our warning sign that we are ending. No, we are at our beginning. As we begin this journey together let’s remind ourselves that we are not just meeting each other, I am not just coming to Hudson FUMC, We are together will **Meet The Place** that Christ commanded The church in the world. And we will **BE THE PEOPLE** who Christ commanded to love all people as Christ loves us.

So, let’s go and be together.

Your excited and humble Sister in Christ,
Pastor Kim

Editor’s Note: Kim has asked that everyone, through whatever channels you use to communicate with her, to please indicate "Hudson" in the Subject area. This will make things a bit less confusing for her to try to distinguish which church she is hearing from, us or Marlboro.

July Birthdays

1	Rick Andrews
2	Lindsay Jordan
2	Lisa Scerra
4	Sarah DiMare
6	Ken Lizotte
7	Deb Kauffman
7	Brad MacCulloch
14	Shanelle Butler
14	Cindy DeRuyter
14	Barbara Robinson
15	Jim Dunnell
30	David Laskey
31	Rita Nanartowich

July Anniversaries

13	Vicki & Alan Peterson
23	Jack & Kathy Kittredge



Prayer Joys and Concerns

- We welcome and celebrate our new pastor, Kim Gold.
- Congratulations to all June graduates.
- Celebrating the marriage of Rick & Diana's daughter, Michelle.
- Gratitude from the Gour's on finding a new apartment for August move.
- Barbara R.'s granddaughter recovering from surgery.
- Deb K.; suffered a broken shoulder.
- Continued prayers of healing and comfort for Mary C. for Bob.
- For Ian and his struggles.
- Jim & Susan's neighbor who passed away recently.
- Alan P., home and resting.



In preparation for our new pastor, we're creating a "**Welcome Basket**" with items you think will help familiarize Pastor Kim with her new church family and the Hudson area.

Examples of items include restaurant or store gift cards/certificates, Cumby's gas cards, maps or books of the area, favorite hair salons, doctors, dentists, etc.

Please have items to the church office BY Saturday, July 3rd.

GRASS

I AM CONSTANTLY TRYING TO CONTROL THE GROWTH OF GRASS. I AM ALWAYS CUTTING, PRUNING, TRYING TO CONTROL ITS DIRECTION. AS PERSISTANT AS I AM, HOWEVER, IT CONTINUES TO GROW AS IT CHOOSES. IT IS FED WITH WATER EVERY TIME IT RAINS. IT IS INCUBATED EVERY TIME THE SUN SHINES. WINTER SNOW IS ITS FERTILIZER. AT TIMES IT LIES DORMANT SEEMINGLY STUNTED, NO LONGER GROWING. I DIG IT UP, TURN IT OVER, PLOW IT UNDER, BUT IN ITS PERSISTANCE IT CONTINUES TO GROW. JUST WHEN IV'E OVERDONE IT AND IT NOW APPEARS DEAD, IT SPRINGS UPWARD AND ONCE MORE I CUT AND PRUNE.

ADMIST ITS LIFE, UNDESIRABLE RELATIVES INTERFERE. THEY SPRING FORTH ... GRAB GRASS, DANDOLIONS, AND WEEDS. SIDE BY SIDE THEY GROW. AND ONCE MORE, I TRY TO DESTROY THEM. BUT LIKE THE GRASS THEY ARE VERY PERSISTANT AND CONTINUE TO GROW BY THE SAME LIFE SOURCES GIVEN THE GRASS.

AS I COMPARE THIS LIFE FORM WITH MYSELF FOR A MOMENT, I REALIZE THAT THE SAME SOURCES; WATER, SUN, FOOD, ETC. ALSO SUSTAIN ME. BUT I CAN REASON AND KNOW MY TRUE LIFE SOURCE, GOD. I AM CONSTANTLY FACED WITH FORCES THAT TRY TO STUNT MY GROWTH AND CONTROL MY DIRECTION. AS I GROW CLOSER TO THE SOURCE, I ENCOUNTER UNDERSIRABLE INTERFERENCES; PRIDE, ENVY, FEAR, ETC. I EXIST IN THE SAME ENVIROMENT WHERE EVIL FORCES ARE LIVING AMONGST ME. I SOMETIMES BECOME DORMANT. BUT THE SAME SOURCES AS THOSE WHICH BECKONS THE GRASS TO GROW UPWARD IS CONSTANTLY CALLING ME TO DO THE SAME.

I ,TOO, CAN START OVER AGAIN, GROWING UPWARD TOWARD MY SOURCE, GOD. JESUS CHRIST CONSTANTLY WATERS ME, FEEDS ME AND NOURISHES ME . HE EVEN WEEDS OUT THE INTERFERENCES. IN THE STILLNESS I CAN FEEL HIM WORKING WITHIN ME. I CAN TAKE COMFORT IN KNOWING THAT HE NOT ONLY PRUNES AND DIRECTS, BUT HE CONTROLS. ONLY IN HIS CONTROL CAN I EXPERIENCE A PEACE ... A PEACE THAT PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING. IT IS THAT PEACE THAT I CONTINUE TO GROW ... IN THE DIRECTION ACCORDING TO HIS WILL.

By Barbara Robinson