

# ***The Messenger***

*News and Information for the First United Methodist Church, Hudson, MA  
April 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:** Rick Andrews, the DiMare family

## **Malawi Fundraiser Update!**

Thanks to everyone who made the Corned Beef and Cabbage Fundraiser for Bridges to Malawi on March 6th, such a huge success. Over \$5000.00 was collected; this was enough to provide the needed oxygen concentrators and with monies left over, because of everyone's generosity, it will now be possible to put money towards water chlorination to prevent dysentery and cholera.

The VERY chilly day was made more enjoyable by the presence of two goats! Ada has friends with goats, the "goat ladies" as they are known, and they were brought in to "assist" Dr. Brian as he elaborated on some of the other ways the people of Malawi survive. Goat milk is an important staple in the Malawian food source. The photo was filled with wonderful shots of the people and some of their daily activities.

Dr. Brian has said several times how grateful he is to you all and thanks everyone for supporting this very important mission work.



## A Word from Our Pastor...

### “From Lent to Easter: Now What?”

For about a year, we waited for vaccines that could help us deal with the COVID-19 virus. While the virus continues to affect our lives, there is so much hope as more and more people are receiving COVID-19 vaccines! As we transition from the Lenten season to the Easter season, we are invited to seek signs of hope and resurrection and to do so with intentionality. This is a practice of faith that enables us to receive the Holy Spirit anew! It is with the help of the Holy Spirit that we are empowered to be witnesses of the Risen Savior.

The Risen Savior invites us to open our eyes to see the numerous signs of resurrection taking place all around us. These signs can be perceived in the beauty of the spring time—a time in which plants that appeared to be dead are coming back to life! Jesus invites us to open our ears to hear God’s voice calling us by name and telling us, *“Come alive, for things that appeared to be dead in your life are being resurrected. Come alive, for the problems and the evil you face in this world do not have the last word.”* Now it is time to rise up in faith and serve our Risen Savior with our words and our deeds. Now it is time to live with a victorious spirit despite the vicissitudes of life—for the Risen Lord promised that he would never leave us alone. As he promised, the Holy Spirit is with us today and always. As one of my favorites hymns affirms:



*Because He lives I can face tomorrow  
Because He lives all fear is gone  
Because I know He holds the future  
And life is worth the living  
Just because He lives\**

In Christ,  
Rev. Geisa Matos

\*“Because He Lives” from the United Methodist Hymnal #364.  
Authors: Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither

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## Red Prayer Shawls needed for Pentecost, May 23rd

We’re hoping to have knitted or crocheted **RED** prayer shawls available for people to take home or that they can pick up prior to Pentecost Sunday. Any pattern will do but the size should be 2’ x 4’. For more info call Bonnie at: 978-562-2932



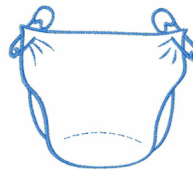
## April's Mission, Opportunity and Outreach (M.O.O.)

This month we are asking our church family to consider helping with donations for First Concern Pregnancy and Resource Center in Marlboro.

As their mission statement says; First Concern exists to empower individuals to make informed choices and to extend help in situations where the beginning of new life has brought hardship or confusion instead of joy. Our mission is to confidentially provide honest, accurate and complete information that will help people make good choices about pregnancy, abortion and sexual behavior.

First Concern Pregnancy Resource Center is a non-profit organization offering counseling, parent education, and life-affirming support. All is provided free because of community support. The following list of items would be greatly appreciated by those using the Center, several whom are teens.

- Diapers
- Baby food
- Formula
- Infant clothes
- Blankets



Your donations will help equip new parents to-be and those already with a new baby, with clothing and other essential items, the cost of which often burden the parents with more expenses than they may have been prepared for. You may drop off items at the church during daytime hours. If writing a check to please make it out to “FUMC” with “First Concern” on the Subject line. Thank you for your support.

### April Birthdays

9	Alan Peterson
14	Kaly Kendrick
15	Carol Stacey
15	Kevin Dunnell
17	Audrey Burney
22	Dennis Gour
22	Rick Hartford
25	Becky Berube
28	Jim McGowan
29	Justin Brown
30	Shawna Jean Sniffin

### April Anniversaries

1	Joan & John Vincent
19	John & Bonnie DeRusha
24	Rosanne & Cliff Roberts



## **Annual Electronic Recycle Day**

**Saturday, April 10th 9:00am – 2:00pm**

While doing Spring cleaning, if you have anything electronic (appliances, computer related items, anything with a plug....) bring it to the church parking lot. It will be taken away, recycled and put to use elsewhere.

This is the time you can also get rid of that old bicycle that you no longer want to hold onto; broken or rideable, bring it in. It will be fixed and donated to someone who may not have the means to purchase a new bike.

There's a small fee collected when you donate items and FUMC receives a portion of what's collected.

## **Hudson Spring Market at Hudson Town Hall**

FUMC's Famous Pies  
and

Hand Pies

April 17<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>  
11am – 2pm

## **Broken Chairlift**

We recently discovered that the chairlift to Lamson Hall is broken and not repairable. Please pray as we work on replacing it. If interested in helping to defray the cost contact:

Treasurer Barbara Moore 508-380-4899  
Or Bob Scerra 508-864-6657



## **POP UP TENT SALE AT THE CHURCH (during e-cycle drop off) Saturday, April 10th 10am – 2pm**

**Susan's Chili & Corn Muffins and  
Barbara's Chicken Salad**



## **GEISA'S GOING AWAY GET TOGETHER**

**JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> (after church)**

## **FUMC Annual Yard Sale June 12**

Call the office or send an e-mail to Bonnie to Sign up for a table at our Annual Yard Sale (outside only, no rain date). Table space will be \$10.00 Think of all that "stuff" you have laying around that has served its purpose and now you can make a little spare cash by selling it!

## **May Newsletter Deadline**

All news articles for the May Newsletter are due **Monday, April 26**. Please send all articles to me at: [lpatttonvb@yahoo.com](mailto:lpatttonvb@yahoo.com). Early submissions are always welcome!  
Lisa Schliker – Newsletter Editor

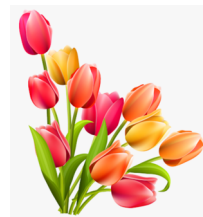
## **From our SMOC partners for Christmas gift giving to needy families:**

Dear Sponsors,

I am writing to thank you for all your gift donations that you so generously donated this year for our families.

Though this year was a bit different, it was a huge success for all our families. All your efforts and creativity helped to put a smile on so many who were struggling to just put food on their table. I apologize for this late delay in getting this out to you. I was out for some time and just trying to get settled and get all the children back in school. We do appreciate all you do. I am grateful and humbled by the outreach and generosity at holiday time.

We all hope 2021 is a better year for all. Wishing you all a safe and healthy year and look forward to hopefully getting our program back to somewhat “normal” and seeing you all for the holiday season. Enjoy the warm weather ahead.



### ***Easter Flowers 2021***

#### **Given by:**

Ada Arenstrup  
Diana & Rick Andrew  
Mario & Christine DiMare (5)  
  
Margarita Merriman  
Barbara Moore  
Rita Nanartowich (2)  
Susan & Jim Niro (2)  
Bob Scerra (2)  
Dennis & Pam Sherman (3)  
Sue Yeaton

#### **In Memory of:**

Departed Loved Ones  
Our Departed Loved Ones  
Ann DiMare, Fred Elliott, Samuel DiMare, Joseph DiMare and  
Donna Aldrin  
Houston Merriman  
Ralph, Alice, Arthur and Janice Moore  
Dick Nanartowich, John & Anna Veo  
Frank & Marie Orcutt, Mary Periera  
Deceased of the Baldelli and the Scerra Families  
Chris & Grace Georges, Jack Kennedy and those lost to Covid  
Jerry Yeaton, Jr.

#### **Given by:**

Ada Arenstrup  
Rick & Diana Andrews  
Christine DiMare  
The DiMare Family  
Bonnie Elman  
Jennifer Hossack  
Dennis & Pam Sherman (2)

#### **In Honor of:**

Our Church Family  
Our families & Church Family  
My Loving Husband, Mario  
Our Children and Grand Children  
Our Families  
Richard and Rosemary  
Blanche Sherman and Essential Workers

