



Spiritual Harvest

April 2020

Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors

Trumansburg UMC

Location:

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Message Ministry:
(607) 387-8202

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Office hrs: Tues. & Thurs.
Noon-3 PM

Sunday Worship Services
10:15 a.m.
9:00 am Adult Sunday
School



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Reflections on the Journey

As I collect impressions of the past few weeks, it is the fifth week of Lent and the traditional 'wilderness journey' seems far too real this year! Huddled at our safe distances, we are each and all grieving in various ways for the losses of familiar and needed elements of life, including the traditional patterns of hope that attend this mucky season of early spring.

It may seem like adding 'insult to injury' that being deprived of our 'go-to' comforts and supports, we're being asked to travel in relative solitude or engage in new ways of connecting that just about none of us would have chosen. Yes, even your interim pastor. And still, by grace, we persevere!

At the same time, we must acknowledge our very human feelings and experiences, our lostness, anxiety and even frustration. This journey through the wilderness is not to be constrained by calendar deadlines or human discomforts. It is viral and wild. We grieve and pray, and will come together again in God's time!

Through the Spirit who holds us in one great heart, I invite you to embrace this journey in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to come! We may not yet know the date of our Easter celebration, yet there will be a glorious day on which we will gather again in the sanctuary and join our voices together once again.

In the meantime, may we hold each other well— in prayer, in phone conversations, emails and virtual meetings, in simple acts of kindness however measured. Recalling our beloved Hymn of Promise, "In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed an apple tree...in the cold and snow of winter, there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until it's season, something only God can see."

Let's watch together for signs of God's love and buds of beauty in this wilderness shared!

Natalie

COLOR VERSION OF *Spiritual Harvest* IS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.TRUMANSBURGUMC.ORG



Special dates

- Holy Week, *April 5-12, 2020*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *April 5, 2020*
- Maundy Thursday, *April 9, 2020*
- Good Friday, *April 10, 2020*
- Easter Sunday, *April 12, 2020*
- Administrative Professionals Day, *April 22, 2020*

The TUMC is responsible for the T-burg Food Pantry for the next two months.

April 13, April, 27, and May 11

11:30 – 12:30 and 5:15 – 6:00

The TUMC volunteer sheet can be found on the TUMC [website](#). Please contact Carol Grove if you wish to be added to the list: carolgrove6115@gmail.com.

For as long as we are allowed; for as long as we have volunteers; for as long as we have food; the Trumansburg Food Pantry is open and following its normal schedule. For last-minute changes, you may visit [Facebook](#) or call the Emergency Hotline (607-387-8260). Safety Precautions are in Place; rubber gloves, pre-bagging, social distancing, outside pick-up.



Editor's Note: The above items that are underlined are links that can be accessed on the web version of the newsletter.



As I reflect back on February 8 and the memorial service for Betty McKnight, I say "Thank you!" So many of you did so much to support me on the day that we remembered Betty. I tried to catch up with some people to express my gratitude for your help and support, but I know that many of you quietly worked hard in the background, and no one expected special acknowledgement. Several people made desserts and set up coffee, tea, and punch, and two people came out in a snowstorm to set up tables and chairs for Betty's reception! Other people gave their gifts of music and their expertise with program design. Most of all, so many of you came to the church on a cold day in February to remember and honor Betty, and to support me in my personal grief. I thank you so very, very much.

Cheryl Hine

What are some of our church family doing these days with all their “inside” time?

Kathy C.

I've been getting out in nature and taking walks. I am also working on my deck, cleaning it, before I stain it.



Loretta R.

Things to do: Dust your window sills and look out each window and make a list of 5 or more things you see. When you're done, be thankful! You might have to wash the window to see out!

Play games on your computer--or whatever—to keep your brain sane. We're in this for the long haul!

I'm reading a book, “The Great Influenza,” by John M. Barry. It's about the pandemic of 1918. I don't recommend it. It is heavy reading. I just finished reading two books: “The Preacher's Daughter” by Lyn Cote and “Always in Her Heart” by Marta Perry. Both are paperbacks, nice stories, and very easy reading. I would recommend them in view of our present situation of confinement.

A fun thing to do is watch the Red-tailed Hawks. Visit [Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology](#) web page for more to watch. Go for a walk.

Mary J.

I too am cooking – but old favorites!

I got up late this a.m. and had a phone call from Margie telling me to look out the window at a “card” out there. I looked out while talking to her and there near the road/end of driveway was a chalk painting in big letters facing the house so I could read it that said, “HAPPY SPRING!” with two rows of flowers below that. What a sweet thing to find in your driveway. ... just expressions of love, etc. What fun and how touching! So, if anyone else wakes up to messages in their driveways, it may be Margie and Jeff, the carriers of hope and love and fun!

Judy & Pete J.

Pete and I are doing well. Unfortunately, being told I have to stay home makes me want to bake more desserts, pie, cake etc. So far, good judgment has held that back, since neither Pete or I need desserts, except on rare occasions. I do a lot of reading, more than I have done in a long time. I am starting to walk more with a new boot that was I just got. Hopefully it will help heal my broken ankle. Pete is busy always doing more things in and out of the house and cooking lots of meals. He is a very good cook. These times do bring about a feeling of strangeness and isolation. Thank goodness for phones, computers, TV, that keep us in touch with the rest of the world. We pray each day for good health and wellness for our church family and those who surround us in daily living and for all those dealing with this pandemic for our safety and wellness.

I am also very grateful for a full freezer and saved meals. Wishing good health for each of us.

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Ellen & "Marvelous"

Today I looked through my 2007 Church Family Cookbook for new recipes because I feel like I am in a rut with my meal planning. Tonight I am going to try Dottie Manheim's Creamy White Chili. I also have my eye on a recipe by Florence Fox. Now that brings back happy memories! I wonder if your church cookbook looks as well used as mine! Keep the faith and send out these loving thoughts in this time of uncertainty.

Trudy V.

We are doing pretty well, helping out watching grand kids, they are helping with new puppy. The kids and I wrote cards to a nursing home two days in a row, it was great and they were very proud of the letters and drawings. They got home work from school so worked on that too! Helping Mom and making any trip to store count!! We are Blessed and know it!!!

Francine

I WAS practicing for all my upcoming musical assignments, but one by one they are being cancelled. So back to jewelry. I made two necklaces and matching earrings. I'm also getting really good at crossword puzzles. I've always been a voracious reader, so I'm relaxing with good books. Stay well everyone.

Sylvia M.

I've been cleaning, reading a whole lot, watching the birds on the feeder that Jack keeps full. have tried a couple of recipes that I cut out of the paper, haven't felt cabin fever yet. Lots of yarn in my attic. I may do a jig saw puzzle. Stay well, everyone. This too shall pass. Read Philippians 4. Contentment in what ever circumstances we find ourselves, as St. Paul did.

Bev Close

My Mom always said it had to snow 3 times on the Pussywillows before Spring was here to stay. It is snowing like crazy on my Pussywillow.....that's ONE. However, no guarantee goes with that. If it takes more than 3, take it up with my Mother.

Notes from the Editor....

This will be brief as I don't have a lot of space left. The child photo contest (answers to the last issue were 1. Francine; 2. Sue McCormick; and 3. Marge Lener) was scratched from this issue in order to make it a compact issue. We want to keep in touch during this difficult time as best we can. Things right now seem to be ever changing. I have set up voice mail on the church office phone and have access to church email online. I plan to check the church messages and email daily and I will also pick up mail at least once per week. It gives me something else to do besides cleaning, more cleaning/sanitizing, and reading which I do love and have gone through a couple books already.

My wish for you all is that you stay happy, safe and healthy and hope that this gets better quickly! Remember in this difficult time, it's not the time to lean away from God but to lean toward him. From him we will find comfort, strength and courage to continue on and come out the other side even stronger. Until next time when I hope the sun is shining on a healing world.....

Judi

A Note from the Trustees...

Parsonage Update by Cal Organ

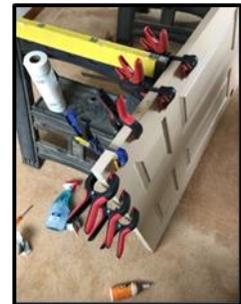
Since we last “spoke”, the oak backsplashes (what were they thinking??) on the vanity and secondary counter in the master bath have been removed and replaced with tile to match the countertops. Additionally, the vanity was refreshed with some stain and polyurethane. Lighting in the master bath has also been revamped.



All of the old cabinets, countertops and oak backsplashes were removed from the kitchen. Brian Elder and his team spent a full day and two partial days removing and repositioning the soffit, sheet rocking and spackling, and installing a vent for the new stove fan (the old one recirculated air back into the kitchen and Jeff said it would regularly set off the smoke alarm).

Following their work, painting of the kitchen was completed.

All of the inside doors are hollow core, and almost all of them were delaminating, i.e., the thin “skins” on the front and back of the doors were coming unglued – some worse than others. All but three of the doors were taken off the hinges, all hardware was removed, skins were re-glued, and the doors were completely repainted and rehung. Several doors have been fitted with doorstops to prevent damage to the walls and/or the doors. The hardware on the two sets of bifold doors (kitchen and master bedroom) was in pretty sad shape, including common nails being used as hinge pins. All hinges, some of the pivot pins and the laundry room track have all been replaced.



I took advantage of the spring-like weather and washed all windows, inside and out, and pruned several bushes that were making use of the front walk difficult.



The hardwood floor in the dining room has been re-sanded and refinished with several coats of polyurethane. The stairs have also been re-sanded and will also be refinished later on. New window coverings have also been installed in the master bath, all bedrooms and all rooms downstairs.

Installers from Warehouse Carpet Outlet arrived on February 10th to begin what was supposed to be several days work on new flooring. Prior to their arrival, all kitchen floor molding and all doors in affected areas were removed to facilitate laying tile in the kitchen and carpeting in the living room, master bedroom and family room. Floor covering was completed in one day by a very experienced 3 man crew.

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Our newly ordered cabinets arrived on February 25th, and waited patiently in the garage for their time on the schedule. Lee Mitterer helped move all of the cabinets upstairs for installation – he had also helped move the old cabinets down to the garage after they were “uninstalled”, so he was familiar with the weight and the route. On Saturday morning, March 14th, Peter Cooke installed the 12 new cabinets in the kitchen.



I feel we are now coming down the home stretch. Woohoo! Just in time for golf season!! Thanks to all who have lent a hand or offered a word of encouragement. Once again, I will extend the same offer I did last month: If you are in the neighborhood (and there is a car in the driveway) feel free to stop by for a tour.

We still need to pay the Bills...

Submitted by Judi Eastburn, on behalf of Finance Committee

Something we might forget, and some of us almost forgot about, is that even though worship has been cancelled until further notice due to the Coronavirus, we do still have to pay our monthly bills so if you are able, would you please send in your weekly, monthly, bimonthly offerings towards your pledge and/or your donation to the church office. Please continue to note in your notations if your donation is for the Capital Campaign. You can send your checks to: Trumansburg United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 628, 80 E. Main Street, Trumansburg, NY; or if you have a key to the church you can put your money in the Financial Secretaries Box outside the office (if you leave cash, be sure you place it in an envelope with your name on it so you will get credit). We appreciate your willingness to continue your regular giving in this difficult time and if you should be having problems due to lost income from closures or any other reason, we certainly understand.

Quick Update from SPPRC...

Submitted by Peter Cooke

I have had discussions with our District Superintendent, Jeff McDowell, about what we hope for in regard to our new pastor. There have been no decisions made, yet. He is thinking that we should have a full-time minister, and is aware of the financial situation in our church. We should find out about our new appointment by April.

Editor's Note: You may have also heard, Beth Organ, our Administrative Assistant has stepped down to take a full-time position at Kinneys. We will be hiring for that as soon as we are able, the job description is published on our web site under the Info tab. A big thanks to Beth for all she has done for us. We wish you much luck in the future and will see you at Kinneys!

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Please check the calendar for April on our web site or check with your committee chair for meeting dates/times



Altar Guild Rep for April: Eileen Collins
Alt. Kay Cooke

How beautiful
are the feet of those who
preach the good news!"

ROMANS 10:15, ESV

