

A MESSAGE UPDATE FROM YOUR AD COUNCIL for May 2020

The Ad Council met on Monday May 5th 5:30-7:00 pm. Following CDC and other Covid 19 guidelines the meeting was conducted via the Zoom platform.

Ad Council chair, Betty Austin offered a prayer and called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm Pastor Rick offered a leadership development exercise that focused on spiritual formation and the importance of practicing the Means of Grace.

Feed Skowhegan Meal Program

Pastor Jen updated the council about ongoing ministries and outreach programs. If you are not aware, Centenary has had the privilege of hosting the weekly “Feed Skowhegan” meal program. This is taking place in partnership with *KVCAP and Somerset Public Health* and community volunteers. Since Tuesday, March 24th a small group of volunteers have gathered each week to provide a healthy dinner free of charge. Folks are alerted to the day, time, and menu through our on-line Facebook page. Folks can just call the church @ 207-474-3915 and leave their name and the number of meals. Pick up times are 5:00 to 6:30 pm Tuesday evenings. People drive up under the awning and someone is waiting to greet them and give them their meals. A limited delivery service is also provided.

Meal stats:

- Between March 24-May 5th approximately 1900 meals have been served.
- Meals have been prepared for Skowhegan, Hartland, and North Anson.
- The program has received \$950.00 in mailed in donations
- Another \$1,295.00 was raised through a Facebook Go-Fund me page
- We have received approximately \$400.00 in funds to cover the cost of the gas for stove.
- 100’s of cookies and baked goods have been donated by the Boy Scout leaders, members of the Federated Church, our CUMC small group ministry members, and the community at large.
- A special thank you goes to Linda Rairdon for helping with meal prep and clean up, Kevin Tansey for packing the meals for delivery, and Janice and John Malek for meal delivery.
- The meals will continue each Tuesday through the end of May.
- ****THANKS TO ALL FOR ALL THE SUPPORT******

Further COVID 19 UPDATES

- Community Baby Shower scheduled for May 30th has been postponed.
- The UMC Youth Choir scheduled to visit us in June has cancelled their trip.
- Our Annual Conference usually scheduled over several days in June in Manchester, N.H. has been rescheduled for one day virtual conference in October. More information to follow.

501c3 Update

Pastor Jen has also begun her work on developing a 501c3 for the Clothes Closet and other future ministries. She recently submitted a grant for \$5,000 to the office of Congregational Church Development and the Together for Tomorrow campaign. This grant would fund the set up and help sustain the Community Café initiative that would run concurrently on days when the Clothes Closet is open. The café would be a place for the community to gather for fellowship, the use of free wi-fi, a place for folks to get warm in the winter while also enjoying a free cup of coffee and snack. We should receive word on the grant approval by June 2020 and funds released for use as early as July 2020.

Pastor Jen and Kevin Reed recently held a conference call meeting with Chamber of Commerce chair, Jason Gaynes to discuss the necessary first steps in developing a 501c3. We first need to discern our mission and vision, come up with a name for the non -profit, create a board of directors and hold our first meeting.

Again, this 501c3 would be overseen by the church and would need to follow our mission and the executive director also being the church pastor.

Jason has agreed to work with us as we move forward in the endeavor.

Pastor Rick has obtained a church developer, Neil Moseley to work with us as well.

The Ad Council also discussed the new guidelines offered by the Bishop and Extended Cabinet as to how we will relaunch/reopen the church. We will not be reopening until after May 31st. The NE Annual Conference will determine the opening date for all the churches in New England.

On the local church level, a “Relaunch Team” made up of CUMC Trustees, Amy Rouse-Clothes Closet Director, and Pastor Jen will be meeting this week (Week of May 11) to develop a set of protocols that will be followed when our facility does reopen to the public-for worship, facility use by outside groups and the Clothes Closet.

During the business/administrative part of the meeting the following was reported.

Minutes from February 24th were accepted as written.

Trustees:

Gene Rouse shared:

Windstorm damaged roof on parsonage \$ 6001.00.

Bids to repair the ridge roll on church have been requested.

John Malek would like to organize 2 Church Yard Cleanups:

Wednesday May 6th 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Wednesday, May 13th 10AM to 1200 Noon bring tools.

The awning will also be power washed.

Finance:

Church finance things to know:

- We miss having regular Sunday services. Understandably, our collections are behind.

- Many people are still finding a way to share their pledges and offerings by mail – Thank You
- The church has some unexpected expenses, namely the parsonage rental property needs a \$6,000 roof repair. However, Hear the Good News: The Men’s group has graciously agreed to pay for the roof repairs from the Men’s account. This account is typically funded by Saturday suppers. After the repairs, the account will still have \$4,000 left in it.
- As you would expect, in this economy, our endowment investments have seen some turbulence. Since January 1st, our funds have dropped in value by \$5,000. As things get back to normal, we’ll see our investments come back.
- The admin board, trustees and finance committee realize our church will not rely solely on plate collections in the future. Here’s the new ways we’ll be working to bridge the gap:
 - Parsonage Rental – We’ve made several significant repairs and many smaller ones that now makes that a viable rental property. We’re looking forward to seeing a steady income from that investment very soon.
 - Church Office Space rental – The church has finished the painting and cosmetic work to be ready for new office space renters. We’re looking forward to the state re-opening for business and having new tenants renting the office space.
 - Work continues creating a 501c3 so we’re eligible for grants outside the UMC. These grants will help cover the cost of running the clothes closet and other ministries. Once running, the 501c3 will be the sustaining means for many of our ongoing, and yet to be discovered, ministries.
- Finally, never think your offering is unappreciated. Your gift is used to provide comfort right here in our community, state, nation and the world. It costs a lot to operate a church, but what are the costs if we didn’t:
 - Have a mission to provide free clothes?
 - Work with area agencies to provide 2,000 free meals to families in need?
 - Provide a safe space for At Risk Parents and those with Substance use disorders?

The Ad Council asks that you join them in prayer for our ministry together.

THE 2020 CUMC LEADERSHIP ROSTER

AD COUNCIL / FINANCE

Chair: Betty Austin (2020)
Lay Leader: Betty Austin **Mentoring Kevin Tansey**
SPRC: Janice Malek
Trustees: Gene Rouse
Treasurer: Skip Young
Fin. Sec: Toni Jo Blaisdell
Sec: Amy Rouse
Young Adult:
Ex Officio: Shirley Whittemore

**COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS
RELATIONS
& LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Chair: Pastor(s)Rick McKinley/Jen Reed by BOD
LL: Betty Austin **mentoring Kevin Tansey**
Kevin Tansey

2020

Jim Arsenault

2021

Bonnie Young

2022

Darcy Lyons

TRUSTEES

Chair: Gene Rouse
LL: Betty Austin mentoring-**Kevin Tansey**

2020

Gene Rouse
Darcy Lyons

2021

Wanda Hemmond

2022

Skip Young
Jim Arsenault
John Malek

STAFF PARISH

COMMITTEE

Chair: Janice Malek
LL: Betty Austin mentoring-

2020

Janice Malek
Sydney Dunbar

2021

Al Quimby

2022

Corinne Dunton

CENTENARY UMC- Ministry Plan

Pastoral Team

Rev. Rick McKinley (Coordinating /Preaching Pastor) while continuing as Congregational Developer

- Preach 32 to 36 Sundays a year
- Oversee worship planning and design
- Work with the “Community Pastor”

Community Pastor (20 - 24 hours) Pastoral role within and beyond the walls of the church

- community engagement - at least 50% of the time most weeks (6 - 7 hours)
- network with other organizations in the area
- increase number of partners using building to increase revenue. Possibilities: preschool, college campus satellite, job training, parent skill training, healthy living
- asset based community development: networking people in the community with skills and abilities to use them for good of community
- apprentice lay people to participate in this work
- develop service opportunities for congregation
- administration and pastoral care, new visitor follow-up (1 - 2 hours)
- preach 12 - 15 Sundays a year
- programming oversight (help organize primarily lay led opportunities for spiritual growth & development) 1- 2 hours
- meet weekly with lead pastor: 1 - 2 hours (coaching, sermon series development, strategic planning, etc.)

Congregation

- full contact discipleship
- leads spiritual growth activities (Bible studies, small groups, prayer groups, home visitation)
- helps develop service activities with Director of Community Engagement
- participates in worship design/leading with preaching pastor
- develops and implements strong ministry of hospitality
- works with Community Pastor in various engagement efforts
- administrative leadership (committees, etc)