

The Scroll

Newsletter of
Union Church of Proctor

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Check out the full color version of the Scroll on line at the web address above...lots more about the church there, too!

May 2020

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.” 2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4

It is hard to imagine that we would ever be in such a pickle. But here we are! Isolated in our homes, running low on toilet paper (not really – although I did hear on the News tonight that we were using more TP because we were not going to work or going out and using OPTP (other people’s toilet paper)).

So here what has to happen:

- YouTube videos can have you doing many things...use your imagination
- Read a book
- Write a book
- Listen to music and sing loudly and dance (I myself sang an entire opera by Vivaldi) Figgy-roe!
- TV – Netflix, Prime Video, all the channels that have shows about veterinarians, wildlife shows

- Sesame Street and finally learn your ABCs
- Call a family member or a friend – call someone from the Church directory to make sure they are OK, call yourself and tell you how wonderful you are.
- Paint a room, a picture, paint your wagon
- Take a walk – twice a day (once walking forward and then backwards, carefully)
- Take a car ride, anywhere as long as you leave the driveway
- In our neighborhood, we have the road marked off with spots 9 feet apart and we bring chairs and libation and food out and sit and talk – wonderful time
- Log into **Textweek.com**, pick a Bible passage and read what different people say about it!

Most importantly, remember you are loved by God and the people around you. And while these times are scary & nerve-racking, we will get through this. It is important that we keep our social distancing, drink plenty of water and eat regularly – how else are you going to use up the 50 rolls of TP you have?

And another thing...lay off the TV news. Find one time-slot (Channel 3 has a great 1-hour update at Noon, with intelligent people talking and people calling in with questions and they get answered by caring people) and tune in. Too much of the same bad news or even just the same news can wear you down!

Be kind to yourself and others and we will be OK. Bless you all and you are, indeed, a beloved child of God.

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

JOHN 14:27

Rev Johnny Sanborn



WORSHIPPING TOGETHER WHEN WE CAN'T BE TOGETHER

The COVID-19 Pandemic has kept us away from each other and in “Stay Home, Stay Safe” mode for a few weeks now. But thanks to our Music Director, Eddie Wilkin’s, technology know-how and Rev. Sanborn’s willingness to try new things, we were able to worship together on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and (as of this writing) on Sunday, April 19 through a Zoom Meeting.

For those of us joining via our online devices, it was a lot like the old “Romper Room” TV show when the teacher held up a magic mirror and declared she saw “Bobby and Susie and Betty and Sam.” As various friends and members of Union Church came online to worship together,

someone would say, “Is that Glenn up in Maine?” or “My goodness, it’s the Allenbys over in NH!” or “Well, hello, Lon & Betty down in Texas!”

It was also great to “see” local folks we’ve missed in church; and we greeted new people, too, - colleagues from work, members of service groups we belong to, long-distance family members. Some of our “regulars” joined us by phone, no doubt chuckling as they heard mention of dogs passing through rooms or comments about on-screen background photos ranging from “That must be Bill’s new yacht!” (not!) or “Looks like the Bergquists are living in the tropics!” (also, not!).

This sense of community is important to all of us as human beings and as a church. When we worship together, whether in our homes or in our beautiful sanctuary, feelings of peace and hope come to us through prayer and music, through scripture and the insight of Rev. John’s “Message,” through sharing Communion together and through a renewed commitment to “go forth” (however and whenever we can!) to do good in the world.

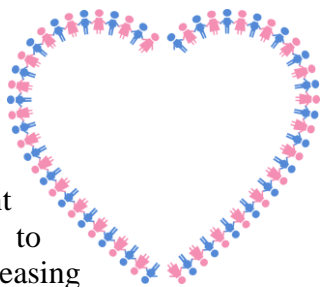
Many thanks to Eddie, to Rev. Sanborn, and to music soloist, Tom, for these wonderful, alternative worship opportunities. They have brought us laughter, maybe a few tears, and, most importantly, they have brought us together in these trying times. Bless you all!



THE CHURCH MOUSE

I’m sorry to report that the mouse is still quarantined and hasn’t been able to hear any news. The church buildings have been very, very quiet for the past few weeks. He misses you all and hopes that everyone can gather again soon.

REACHING OUT



The beginning of Lent this year happened to coincide with the increasing threat of the coronavirus. The Outreach Committee felt it was a good time to be thinking about the needs of families affected by the fallout of the resulting stress and strain. Wanting to act locally, we decided to dedicate this year's Lenten Offering to the NewStory Center. We are pleased to report that your generous gifts enabled us to send \$1200 to the Center to support their programs.

With schools and many workplaces closed, we decided to send an additional donation of

\$700.00 to the Pittsford-Proctor Food Shelf. We also brought them an over-flowing basket of non-perishable foods donated by the congregation in the weeks before the Pandemic. Thank you for your generosity on both counts!

Lastly, we haven't forgotten our friends at Dismas House. While we can no longer share a meal around a table with them due to the Pandemic restrictions, we are still providing a "soup to nuts" dinner on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Our dedicated church volunteers are now delivering the home-cooked meals to the Dismas House porch for pickup. Pizza nights are on hold at The Open Door Mission, but we'll be ready to return to our regular "date" there on the 4th Saturday of each month as soon as the Mission is ready for us.

May



At the time of publication, all church activities listed below, including gathering for Morning Worship Services, are pending the lifting of the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" guidelines. Check the church website or call the church office for updates. In the meantime, enjoy the unfolding of Spring, be well, and we hope we can be together soon!

- 3 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 6 Dinner Prep. And Meal Sharing at the Rutland Dismas House, 5:15 p.m.
- 10 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 17 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 20 Articles & info due for June Scroll
- 23 Pizza Dinner Prep. and Meal Sharing at the Open Door Mission, 5:15 p.m.
- 24 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 31 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.

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5 Church Street
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Non-Profit Organization
Postage Paid at Proctor
VT 05765 Permit #7

Address Service Requested

May Birthdays



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Mavis Larson | 18 Bob Argentero |
| 2 Jerry Sanborn | 20 Dillon Metcalfe |
| 5 Emily St. Peter | 21 Cathy Canty |
| 8 Chris Keyser | Anne Proctor |
| Jody Sanderson | Dan Varney |
| 9 Molly Sanderson | 22 Shaun Blanchard |
| 10 Ariana Malutich | 23 Robert Webster |
| Robert Stein | 27 Pam Ojala |
| 11 Becca Patch | Jacob Tomlinson |
| Jake Smith | 28 Lon Schneider |
| 13 Brooke Kimball | 30 Joyce Longley |
| 14 Renzo Palmerini | Jacob Tomlinson |