

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!



November 2020

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11

Things are certainly changing and perhaps our initial response is "not for the better." But things change all the time and we work through the changes no matter how hard it is...it is what we do as earthlings...we have change and adapt to all the changes or we move backwards. We must adapt because, despite our best efforts, things will change again.

So, what is the most important thing we have to remember to do as we work through the changes to right the ship again?...we have to make sure that people – all people – are taken care of in their basic needs. We must protect people from those forces that seek to push the poor among us to the margins of life.

In the travels with Jesus, it is what Jesus has against some of the Pharisees – they bend the

Law to fit their thoughts and think they are better than the lowest of the low. But Jesus tells them, and us, that it is those people we must take care of. As a society we are judged on how we take care of people -the old, the infirmed, the down-trodden. They are 'the least of us' and Jesus tells us that what we do to them, we do to Jesus.

There are way-too-many noisy 'Christians' who tell us of their faith and then proceed to NOT do as Jesus would do or what Jesus would ask of us. It is time for real Christians to accept the Jesus code, put their politics aside and work for the benefit of all Americans. We should be a shining star for the rest of the world; instead, we are a hot mess. Let us change that way of life and it will be a change we can support!

"You cannot swim for new horizons until you have courage to lose sight of the shore."
— William Faulkner

Rev John Sanborn



WORSHIP AT UNION CHURCH OF PROCTOR

We have exciting news! Union Church dipped our communal toe in the water on October 18 and tried a hybrid worship service. What does that mean? It means that we are now offering worship on Sundays both online and in person in the Sanctuary. By the time you read this we will have had a couple of weeks to work out the technology. As with everything else during this pandemic, we will all need to be flexible and patient as gathering in person is complicated and circumstances can change quickly. So...how will this look for you?

Sunday Worship Attendance Guidelines:

We will be following recommendations by VOSHA, and by order of the Governor of Vermont, that all activities held in the church building will require;

- **Reservations will be required** for all those planning to attend. Please make your reservation by emailing the church at unionchurchproctor@gmail.com or calling the church at 802-459-3624. Please know that we are limited to 24 total
- **Entrance will be by the lower parking lot entrance only:** use the stairs or elevator (one family group at a time) to access the sanctuary
- proper mask wearing (covering mouth and nose) will be observed at all times
- 6-foot social distancing will be observed; -seating will be in marked pews only
- no singing (either choral or congregational); there will be no hymnals

or Bibles in the pews (but you can bring your own)

- no formal fellowship time after church
- **each person attending must be able to answer “NO” to the VOSHA COVID-19 pre-screening questions.**

Those questions are:

- “Have you traveled to an area with a known local or interstate spread of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?”;
 - yes no
- “Have you, or anyone in your family, come into close contact (within 6 feet) with someone who has a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the past 14 days?”;
 - yes no
- “Do you currently have a fever (temperature greater than 100.4 F or 38.0 C) OR symptoms of lower respiratory illness such as cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, or chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell in the past 14 days?”;
 - yes no
- “Are you unable or unwilling to wear a cloth mask as recommended by CDC and the Vermont State Department of Health?”
 - yes no

You will be asked to sign and date the questionnaire and provide your telephone number before entering the sanctuary each time you attend a service. Grab a clean pen to sign, then leave it in the “used” container. If you answer “yes” to any of the above questions, you should not attend in-person worship. We invite you to continue to stream our Sunday morning service via Zoom.



We will continue to live-stream our Sunday morning worship services via Zoom for those who, for any reason, cannot join us for in-person worship. Please use the Zoom link provided each week via email.

Re-opening the sanctuary for worship will be an evolving adventure. There may be bumps, but they are just new challenges in our effort to provide meaningful worship experiences for all. So, please be flexible and kind to each other, knowing that we all want the same outcome: the ability to worship together, safely, in the place we love.



(Crossword answers on the next page)

THE CHURCH MOUSE



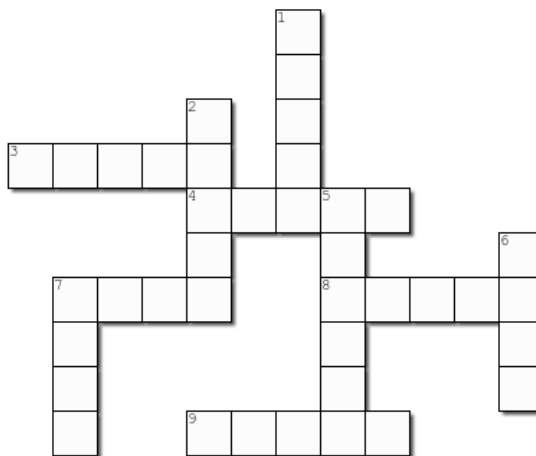
A short report this month. There is not much new going on around here EXCEPT that there were people in church on October 18th! I was so excited to see people attending a service. It was called a hybrid service although I'm not quite sure what that means. There was no singing going on as there were no Hymnals at the pews, only what Eddie provided and we did get to see others for a change instead of what you can see from your computer from home. Hopefully this will change in the not too distant future. I really miss everyone.

A special happy birthday to both of our "super seniors," Ruth Partridge and Faith Sagi. 103 and 98 respectively! They've both been members and good friends of Union Church for most of their many years. Happy day ladies!!

As usual God Bless everyone and I hope next year will be a better time for all.

Worshipping with Care

Complete the crossword puzzle to check your "Sunday Attendance Guidelines" knowledge!



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

- 3. Email or call ahead to reserve your _____
- 4. VT safety and health group
- 7. Number of people allowed in the church: one score plus _____
- 8. (Bring your own) 'Good Book'
- 9. Sanitize those ____!

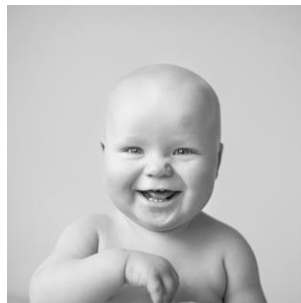
Down

- 1. Face coverings
- 2. Stay home if you have one of these
- 5. In person and online way to worship
- 6. Maintain your space! Sit at the ends of the _____
- 7. Keep a distance of six of these between you

November Readers



1	Janet Yager
8	Glenn Giles
15	Ellen Sutherland
22	Jean Noren
29	Kim Metcalfe



CHRISTIAN ONE LINERS

- Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses was a basket case.
- Some people are kind, polite, and sweet until you try to sit in their pews.
- Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.
- It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.
- The good Lord didn't create anything without purpose, but mosquitos come close.
- When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.
- People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.
- Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your door forever.
- Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.
- God Himself does not propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?
- Some minds are like concrete; thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.
- Peace starts with a smile,

- We are called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.
- Be ye fishers of men. You catch them – He'll clean them.
- Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous,
- Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.
- Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church.
- Forbidden fruits create many jams.
- God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.
- God grades on the cross, not the curve.
- God loves everyone, but probably prefers "fruits of the spirit" over "religious nuts!"
- God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
- He who angers you, controls you!
- Prayer: Don't give God instructions – just report for duty!
- The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.
- The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.
- We don't change the message; the message changes us.

~As I type these (given to me by another church member years ago), I can't help but think of Jean Bacceti, who always has a good one liner. Feel better, Jean!



Crossword Answers:

<u>Across</u>	<u>Down</u>
3. Space (or Place!)	1. Masks
6. VOSHA	2. Fever
7. Four	4. Hybrid
8. Bible	5. Pews
9. Hands	6. Feet



- 1 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary (reservation only)
& Zoom
- 8 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary (reservation only)
& Zoom
- 15 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary (reservation only)
& Zoom
- 20 Articles & info due for December (really?!?) Scroll
- 22 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary (reservation only)
& Zoom
- 29 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary (reservation only)
& Zoom

Union Church of Proctor
5 Church Street
Proctor, VT 05765

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Address Service Requested



- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 4 Kylie Pilcher | 18 Annika Heintz |
| 5 Ruth Partridge | 19 Dylan Pilcher |
| 6 George Pilcher | 20 Ray Ault |
| 7 Kris Finnigan | Sam Logan |
| 9 Vicky Lynn Brown | Faith Sagi |
| 11 Sarah Sheldrick | 22 Steve Allenby |
| 12 Madison Fetterolf | Mark Chapin |
| 13 Jackie Fetterolf | Elsie Valach |
| 14 Stacy Kent | 25 Nicole Valach |
| 17 Tom Doty | 27 Sam Tilden |