



# Union Church of Belgrade Lakes

United Methodist Church

Location: 67 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, Maine

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 133, Belgrade Lakes, Maine 04918

Phone: 207-495-3599

Church Email: [unionchurch@myfairpoint.net](mailto:unionchurch@myfairpoint.net) Pastor's Email: [unionpastor@myfairpoint.net](mailto:unionpastor@myfairpoint.net)

Website: [unionchurchmaine.org](http://unionchurchmaine.org)

## Union Rider April, 2018 Newsletter



**FRIENDS AND  
NEIGHBOR  
LUNCHEON**

**Soups,  
sandwiches,  
desserts and more!**

**Thursday, April 12, 2018  
from 11:30 to 1pm.**

**Come Join in the fellowship with our  
friends throughout the community.**



**Trivia is now back!**



**Look and Be Quiet**

Read: [Luke 23:44–49](#) |

Bible in a Year: [Judges 4–6](#); [Luke 4:31–44](#)

Look around and see. Is any suffering like my suffering...[Lamentations 1:12](#)

In the song “Look at Him,” Mexican composer Rubén Sotelo describes Jesus at the cross. He invites us to look at Jesus and be quiet, because there is really nothing to say before the type of love Jesus demonstrated at the cross. By faith we can imagine the scene described in the Gospels. We can imagine the cross and the blood, the nails, and the pain. When Jesus breathed His last, those who “had gathered to witness this sight . . . beat their breasts and went away” (Luke 23:48). Others “stood at a distance, watching these things” (v. 49). They looked and were quiet. Only one spoke, a centurion, who said, “Surely this was a righteous man” (v. 47).

## Look at the cross and worship.

Songs and poems have been written to describe this great love. Many years before, Jeremiah wrote about Jerusalem's pain after its devastation. "Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?" (Lamentations 1:12). He was asking people to look and see; he thought there was no greater suffering than Jerusalem's. However, has there been any suffering like Jesus's suffering?

All of us are passing by the road of the cross. Will we look and see His love? This Easter, when words and poems are not enough to express our gratitude and describe God's love, let us take a moment to ponder Jesus's death; and in the quietness of our hearts, may we whisper to Him our deepest devotion.

*Dear Jesus, as I look at Your cross, I have no words to express my gratitude for Your perfect sacrifice. But I thank You for Your love.*

## Look at the cross and worship

By Keila Ochoa

### INSIGHT

Can you imagine being personally responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus? Luke tells us the Roman centurion saw something that led him to conclude that he had just overseen the execution of an innocent man (Luke 23:47). Matthew adds that as the officer and his soldiers felt the earth shake violently under their feet they became terrified at the thought that they had just executed "the Son of God" (Matthew 27:54). In their world, Caesar was known as the son of God. But these Roman soldiers suddenly realized the emperor they answered to was nothing like Jesus. Entrusted with all power and authority in heaven and on earth, His death revealed the loving heart of His Father. Imagine being the centurion reading what the apostle Paul later wrote to followers of Jesus in Rome. By this time, Jesus's death was being proclaimed as good news to everyone (Romans 1:15-17). Paul described Jesus's suffering and death as evidence of the God who continues to groan with us in our wrongs against Him, one another, and ourselves (Romans 8). Can we see ourselves kneeling with this Roman officer in grateful worship?

Mart DeHaan

## Our 2018/2019 Global Mission Initiative is happening right in our backyard with the United Methodist Economic Ministry in Salem Township, Maine

<https://www.umeconomicministry.com/>

**Joys & Celebrations Total  
As of 3/25/18: \$385.05**

***This amount has been sent along from our hearts to their hands.***

### Their Programs Include:

Salem & Solon Thrift Shops  
Salem, Solon and Howland  
Food Cupboards  
Maple Syrup  
Backpacks and Sneakers  
Emergency Heating  
Assistance  
Fire Victims Assistance  
Warming Center (Jan – April)  
Prom Shop  
Christmas Shoppe  
Community Garden



Summer mission groups provide home repair, accessibility ramps and winter weatherization with efficient windows and doors.

Their vision is to support healthy communities that adapt to the changing environment in the region. They are providing both educational and material support towards self sufficiency in this region of severe economic challenge.

With dignity and grace, they are working to build sustainable communities.

Monthly we will provide updates to the various programs of their ministries.

---



The United Methodist Women-UMW-will be providing their outline for their 2018 activities soon.

Their regular meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 9AM to 10:30AM in Friendship Hall

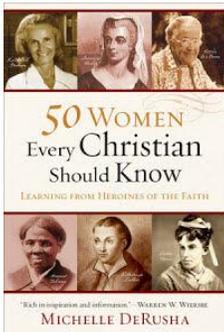
Next Meeting: April 21st

Come to our next Event All Welcome!



United Methodist Women's Monthly Meeting Book Club

Below is a brief description of all the books they will be reading for each month through June 16th. If you would like a copy of any of these books; they are located in the Church Library. Or you can read them on your Kindle.

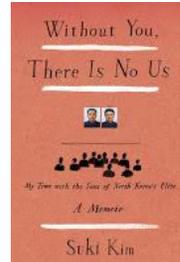


April - 50 Christian Women Every Christian Should Know (Michelle DeRusha):

Throughout history, countless women have boldly stepped out in faith and courage, leaving their indelible mark on those around them and on the

Kingdom of God. Michelle DeRusha brings into focus 50 incredible women of faith — from Catherine of Siena to Susanna Wesley; Harriet

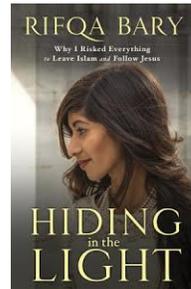
Tubman and Corrie ten Boom, bringing the lives of these admirable women to life with engaging narrative as a reminder that we are not alone, the battles we face today are not new and God is always with us during the struggle.



May – Without You There is No Us (Suki Kim):

In 2011, all universities in North Korea were shut down for an entire year, and except for the 270 students at the all-male Pyongyang University of

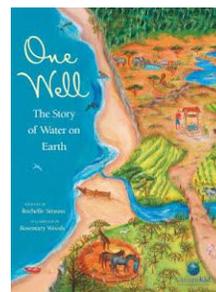
Science and Technology, all students were sent to construction fields. Suki Kim accepted a job teaching English at Pyongyang, and over the next six months, she ate three meals a day with her young charges, while struggling to teach them to write and care - fully telling them about the world beyond their borders, always aware that the more they knew, the more they risked.



June – Hiding in the Light (Rifqa Bary):

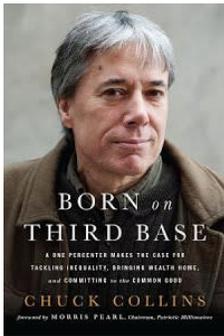
Growing up in a devout Muslim home, Rifqa Bary obediently followed the rituals of Islam. Hiding in the Light is her story of her remarkable spiritual journey from Islam to Christianity.

It is also the story of a young girl who, hearing Jesus' call, made life-changing sacrifices to follow — and who inspires us to do the same.



July – One Well; The Story of Water on Earth (Rochelle Strauss):

One Well is a richly illustrated and timely book about our water and its source. Its call to action shows how every one of us has the power to conserve and protect the global well.



**August– Born on Third Base (Chuck Collins)** - With the soul of a storyteller and the heart of an agitator, inequality expert Chuck Collins upends our assumptions about America’s deep wealth divide — a divide that, for the first time in recent history, locks the nation’s youth

into a future defined by their class and wealth at birth, limits our ability to address crises like climate change, and creates a world that no one, not even the rich, will ultimately want to live in. In Born on Third Base, Collins calls for an end to class war, busts the myths that define our views of rich and poor and offers bold new solutions for bridging the economic divide and reengaging the wealthy in rebuilding communities for a resilient future.



**2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**We will be holding a special meeting (Date to be determined) to discuss – strategize how we might come up with more events or not; tweak the ones we hold every year and give everyone the opportunity to bring their ideas to the table. Watch for the date to be announced.**

*Be Inspired!*

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



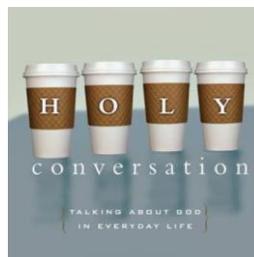
**Meetings: A Month At A Glance**

**April 2018**

**Prayer Shawl:** 4/9 and 4/23 @ 1:00 p.m.

**Staff Parish Relations:** 4/16 @ 6 p.m.

**Mission & Outreach:** Either 4/10 or 4/17  
Confirmation Will be Emailed



**Wednesday Conversation, Study and Reflection.**

*We will resume holding these sacred times on March*

**28<sup>th</sup> after our Season of Lent Bible Study** using our Upper Room Booklets to pick up a bit of scripture and consider it for our days of living in Jesus’ Way.

**Classes are held on Wednesdays 11 to noon**

We continue to have several joining in our discussion each week; please consider taking time out to enjoy this wonderful conversation.



All are Welcome to Join Us; Bring A Bible, A Friend and a Smile!

Did you Know?? That these Upper Room Daily Devotional Guides are “Free” for you... Your donation of a \$1 provides a copy “Free” for another! Thank you, your friend Grace!



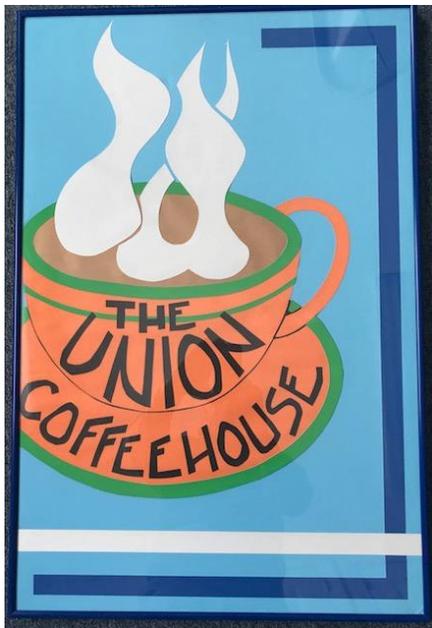


Beginning in 2018

The Maine Department of Transportation will begin Road

Construction through Belgrade Lakes, Main Street. The widening of the road and the scope of the related construction as this relates to our Front Yard, Walkways, Planting, Signage, Lighting was highlighted at the **Church Council** meeting held on **November 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Cliff Reeves suggested that you local photographers take pictures from beginning to end to share that could be added to our monthly Newsletter so that folks who are away can see all that is happening during this road project. Please send your photos to [unionchurch@myfairpoint.net](mailto:unionchurch@myfairpoint.net)



### Union Coffeehouse Names 2018 Headliners

The Union Coffeehouse at the Union Church of Belgrade Lakes is getting geared

up for the summer of 2018. We have a terrific lineup of featured musicians to keep you entertained while you are enjoying the warm weather here in Belgrade Lakes:



**Saturday, May 12** - Our featured entertainers to kick off the summer concert series will be

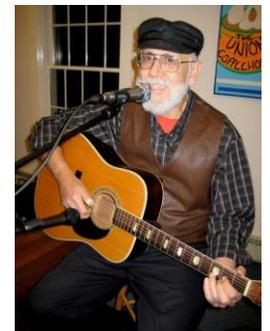
**Ellen and John Gawler**, two of Maine's premier upbeat, good-time performers. They will lift your spirits and put the tap back into your recently thawed toes. Be sure to mark your calendars to ensure that you will be in the audience for this reinvigorating, uplifting celebration of the arrival of warmer weather.



**Saturday, June 9** - The Union Coffeehouse is proud to welcome back **The Racket Factory** bringing their lively, feel-

good music to Belgrade Lakes. The Racket Factory is five musicians who blend their instruments and their voices to create a fun evening of folk songs, country tunes, and old-timey instrumentals. Stop in and let The Racket Factory put a smile on your face and some spring in your step!

**Saturday, July 14** - The Mid-Summer Concert at the Union Coffeehouse will feature **Bill Berlinghoff** who has played to enthusiastic audiences throughout Maine and is always a pleasure to hear.



His guitar and banjo playing are a fine complement to the traditional folk songs that he does so well. Combine that music with the entertaining stories he tells and you have all the ingredients for a wonderful evening!



**Saturday,  
August 11 -**  
The final Union  
Coffeehouse of  
the 2018  
summer  
season will

feature the delightful music of **Simons and Goodwin**. The tight-knit harmonies of Renee Goodwin and Bob Simons have made them one of our favorite headliners at the Coffeehouse. Central Maine's favorite folk-singing duo performs both original and traditional folk and popular songs complemented by Bob's intricate guitar accompaniment. There is a warmth that comes through their songs and it makes you feel like you're listening to old friends.

Please show your support for this wonderful Union Church community outreach program by coming to the Union Coffeehouse concerts and bringing your friends. The concerts always start at 7 PM in Friendship Hall and the featured performers start the show. As always, there will be wonderful baked goods, and fresh coffee, tea, and lemonade for you to enjoy while you listen to the music. And don't forget the serendipitous group of performers who show up for the Open Mic time following the featured performers. Please direct any questions about the programs to Don Petersen. We look forward to seeing you there.

Respectfully Submitted, Don Petersen

---



The Belgrade Health Center will be presenting a 6 week program to educate attendees in a way of Living Well for Better Health.

This program is geared toward caregivers who provide for those with chronic health issues.

This is open to anyone in the community. It will run from 4/19 through 5/24, Thursday nights from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Watch for more information.

---



### [United Methodist Economic Ministry](#)

Volunteer in Mission Team Needed in Western Maine February 2018 The United Methodist Economic Ministry (UMEM) in Salem Maine is looking for a team of volunteers to assist with improving an area of the ministry's property that is often used as an emergency shelter. UMEM serves the people of Western Maine with the food banks, thrift shops, and home repair services. The team is needed this summer and can schedule their stay at the UMEM on any of the available dates. UMEM has a wide range of accommodations for

visiting teams including: a bunkhouse with a capacity for 22, a large kitchen and dining area, 3 RV sites, and unlimited space for tents. The emergency shelter “apartment” is used to provide a family, or individual, in crisis with temporary shelter. In just the last two years the apartment has provided emergency shelter to a homeless couple, and a pregnant mom with two kids. The project to improve the apartment includes demolition and rebuilding of a moisture damaged wall, the installation of new windows, access modifications, and several smaller repairs. The volunteer mission team that the ministry needs would be willing to donate their time and resources to making improvements to the apartment at the Salem, ME ministry headquarters. Skills can vary, but basic carpentry skills would be beneficial. If you feel called to head to the mountains of Western Maine with a team of volunteers that want to make a difference, contact the Staff at UMEM Salem: Phone 207-678-2611, or email [umem@tdstelme.net](mailto:umem@tdstelme.net) . The ministry staff will be happy to answer your questions and assist you with planning for your team. We hope to see you in the mountains of Maine this summer. Visit the UMEM website at <https://www.umeconomicministry.com/> for more information.



### **Mechuwana’s Adult Special Needs Camp seeks male volunteers**

Adult male counselors are needed for the Adult Special Needs week July 9-14, 2018 at Camp Mechuwana in Winthrop, ME. It is a fun and active week that includes the usual camping activities: swimming, boating, kickball and basketball, arts and crafts, worship and music, campfires and more. Join us for an amazing week with an incredible group of campers and staff as we enjoy a week of camp together. For more information contact Pastor Dan or Martha Ames at [pastordfames@yahoo.com](mailto:pastordfames@yahoo.com) or [martha.ames@yahoo.com](mailto:martha.ames@yahoo.com)



On Scout Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, Boy Scout Troop 453 participated in our Worship Service. In

attendance were Scout Master, Mark Foxwell, Assistant Scout Master, Julie McKenney, Scouts: Lucas Lenfest, Pierce Foxwell and Zachary McKenney. Congratulations Scouts on your accomplishment this year. Many thanks to the Scout leadership that equips and inspire this program.



## Augusta Homeless Shelter plans \$420K expansion

The shelter run by Bread of Life Ministries is slated to undergo a \$420,000 expansion, adding more room to its emergency overnight shelter and its veterans shelter as well as space for more bedrooms, an office and storage space.

AUGUSTA, Maine — A homeless shelter in Augusta, Maine is planning to expand to accommodate more people in need. The Kennebec Journal [reports](#) the nonprofit Bread of Life Ministries hopes to expand both its emergency overnight shelter and its veterans shelter. Shelter officials say the \$420,000 project will include space for more bedrooms, an office and storage space. Bread of Life Ministries Executive Director John Richardson says the shelter has turned away families in recent years because of space issues. Richardson hopes the renovations provide a more comfortable experience for those staying at the shelter. Shelter officials say they received \$165,000 from local resident Constance Merriam, who died in 2016. The shelter will raise the remaining funds.

number of persons visiting the food pantry monthly have been increasing. The Board met recently to review those items that are essential and those that may be considered less essential, as well as those provided by the government on a regular basis and those available at Good Shepherd. The focus will be on insuring that the shelves are stocked with all of the essential items. Conversely, certain items, such as cake mixes and frosting, were considered to be 'non essential' food items and will no longer be **purchased** for distribution. However, if those items are donated, they will still be made available to clients. Likewise, certain items, most notably, soaps and detergents, paper towels and bath tissues, all of which are necessary items, are not provided by the government and are not available at Good Shepherd. It is these items that the food pantry is keenly in need of receiving through donations. The president of the food pantry, Marylou Butterfield, has put together a 'wish list' of items that the food pantry is requesting in donations. It consists of items not readily available or provided by the government or at Good Shepherd.

***Wish List: Dish Detergent, Laundry Detergent, Toilet Paper, Soap, Toothbrushes/Toothpaste, Hearty Soups, Canned Hash, Canned Pasta, Canned Tuna, Baked Beans, Cake Mix & Frosting***

Food insecurity remains a significant problem in Maine and throughout the USA despite the fact that the USA has sufficient resources to feed all of its inhabitants. Your continued support of the Belgrade Rome Special Needs Food Pantry is essential and much appreciated. Thank you for providing assistance to our neighbors in need.

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> if our Food Pantry Sunday. Please when bringing gifts for the pantry; first consider their wish list items (see above)



## **BELGRADE/ROME FOOD PANTRY DONATION "WISH LIST"** **As of February 2018**

The local food pantry has recently revised its list of available items for distribution. The number of families and the total



## Upcoming Baptisms

Mia and Xander Boutin, children of Jeffrey and Jessica Boutin will be baptized on Sunday, April 2018.

Calvin Broadhead, grandson of Jane and Bill Shontell will be baptized in July.

We are grateful to Jean Reeves who makes these lovely Baptism Cloths to use during these special services.



In honor of author Ann Weems' transition from life to life.

### **When You Hear of My Demise** by Ann Weems

When you hear of my demise  
Don't believe a word of it!  
Our God is the God of the living  
And I am living still!  
If it were not so  
He would have told us!

Don't believe a word of it!  
And whatever you do  
Please please, please  
Don't eulogize me!

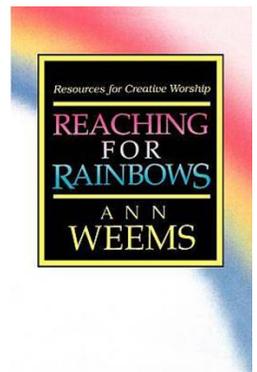
Gather instead for worship!  
To celebrate God  
Who gives each of us Life Abundant!

Turn mourning into morning  
Turn tears into laughter!  
Turn sadness into joy!  
Turn somberness into celebration!

Remembering that Jesus is  
The way, the truth, the life.  
Gather to celebrate life with scripture and  
prayer  
With jazz band with choirs, with pipers with  
dancing

Follow with faithfulness the life you  
have been given!

I left this earth in Alleluias  
Dancing with the angels of life  
Among the stars of God.  
[When you hear of my demise  
Don't believe a word of it!]



Union Church of Belgrade Lakes  
United Methodist Church  
67 Main Street  
P.O. Box 133  
Belgrade Lakes, Maine 04918

**Our Mission** is to live our experience of God's love  
in all that we say and do...

**Our Vision** is to be a growing spiritual faith community in the manner of  
Christ, where all are welcome and cared for...