



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 Pastor's Email: unionpastor@myfairpoint.net

Website: unionchurchmaine.org

Union Rider

July, 2018 Newsletter



Land donation prompts plan for new village park in Belgrade

BY [BETTY ADAMS](#) STAFF WRITER

Phyllis and Lynn Matson stand beside a wooded buffer zone between their home and Long Pond in Rome in this Oct. 21, 2012, file photo. The Matsons, who were honored with a LakeSmart award at the time, have donated property for a public park on a triangle of land between Route 27 and West Road in Belgrade. *Staff file photo by David Leaming*

BELGRADE — One of the entrances to Belgrade Lakes Village could have a new look next year thanks to the generosity of Lynn and Phyllis Matson of Rome, who donated property and land for a public park on a triangle of land between Route 27 and West Road.

Lynn and Phyllis Matson, who retired to the Belgrade area full time in 2010, bought the land at 1203 West Road several years ago and

recently donated it to the Friends of Belgrade Lakes Village.

The couple also promised to provide the funding to create a welcoming park, including a gazebo, through donations to the Friends group.

The proposal is to build the 20-foot diameter gazebo and a stone wall seat this summer and complete other landscaping in the fall. Then it would be ready for dedication next year when the state road reconstruction project and related improvements are scheduled for completion.



FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOR LUNCHEON

Soups, sandwiches, desserts and more!

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

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



By Chip Ingram
Living on the
Edge

How to Replace Worry With Peace

The world today is loud. The distractions are limitless. The to-do list is long. But when the unexpected is added to the challenges of the everyday, it can be overwhelming. A cancer diagnosis ... a job loss ... a natural disaster. When circumstances seem out of our control, that's when fear, anxiety, and worry can begin to consume us. So how can we find peace in the midst of it all?

- **Choose Faith:** You will never be able to rid yourself of anxiety simply by telling yourself to be less anxious. In fact, what we say and what we feel are often misaligned. So the answer is to choose faith. Choose to trust that God is a "very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). Rest in the promise that you are not alone because He has promised: "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5, NIV).
- **Ask for His Help:** God is with us, but it's important to actually ask for His help. When you sense your emotions taking a plunge, reach out to Him. Many of us are reluctant to ask for help because we do not want to bother anyone. But we must remember that God is not "just anyone," and He is not "bothered" by us. He knows our needs and is more than able to meet them. In fact, Hebrews 4:16 teaches us to "draw near with confidence to the throne of grace" so that "we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." So if mercy and grace seem in short supply for you today, draw near to Him and ask for help.

- **Pray Consistently:** Want a lasting remedy for your symptom of anxiety? The Bible teaches that prayer is the answer. In Philippians 4:6–7, it says: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, make your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, it will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Seeking God in prayer is not just an emergency lifeline. When we make it a priority to pray "in everything," we can be anxious "for nothing."
- **Rest in His Love:** 1 John 4:18 tells us, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear." We must never allow fear to have the final word in our lives. God's perfect love for us will never fail, so when we rest in that truth, we can navigate the storms of this life without fear.

No matter what you are facing today, you can experience peace through the power of God. Claim that promise today and send worry packing.

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 6/24/18: \$1,525
Our June 30th Goal was
\$1,250;
Thank you for helping us
exceed this!**



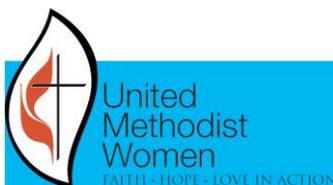
United Methodist Economic Ministry Program Include:

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

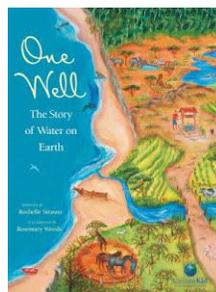
Next Meeting: YARD SALE JULY 28th

**Come to our next Event
All Welcome!**

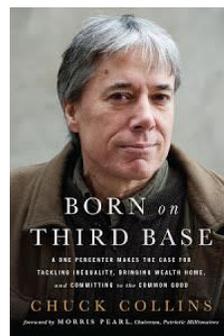


United Methodist Women's Monthly Meeting Book Club

Below is a brief description of all the books they will be reading for each month through August 18th. 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.



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.



Meetings: A Month At A Glance

July 2018

Prayer Shawl: 7/9 and 7/23 @ 6:30 p.m.

NOTE: Change in Time

Finance: 7/24 @ 6:30

Church Council: Sunday, July 29 @ 10:45

NOTE: Change in DATE



2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 4th (Wednesday)

UMW Yard Sale (Saturday, July 21st)

Harvest Festival (Saturday, October 6th)

Christmas Stroll (Saturday, December 1st)

Wednesday Conversation, Study and Reflection.

We resumed our weekly Bible Study June 6th

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.

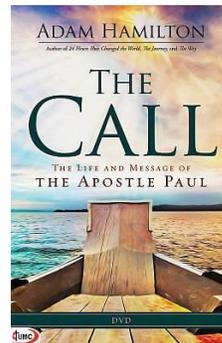


All are Welcome to Join Us; Bring A Bible, A Friend and a Smile!

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!

Fall Bible Study

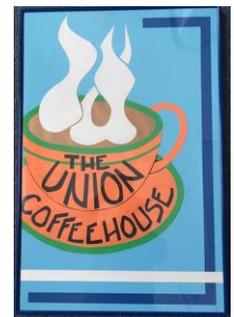


The Call by Adam Hamilton

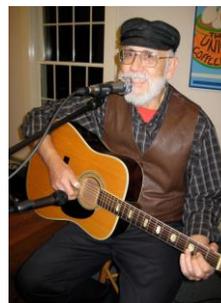
We will hold these on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to Noon.

Watch for dates and more information to come.

**Union Coffeehouse
Presents
The Bill Berlinghoff
In July**



The **Union Coffeehouse** is proud to present **Bill Berlinghoff**



Saturday, July 14, 7 PM

– Bill is central Maine's consummate folk singer and a favorite here at the Union Coffeehouse where he returns for his eleventh headlining appearance.

He has played to enthusiastic audiences around the US and throughout Maine and he is always a pleasure

to hear. His guitar and banjo playing are a fine complement to the traditional and original 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! .

Refreshments will be available courtesy of the Union Church Bakers Corps. A \$5.00 donation is requested. If you have any questions, please see Don Petersen. Hope to see you there!

Respectfully Submitted, Don Petersen



YARD AND GARDEN NEEDS For UMEM

The Salem, Maine site of the United Methodist Economic Ministry has extensive grounds which include a large garden for growing fresh vegetables for the food cupboard and a small campground next to the bunkhouse for the RVs of some mission team members. The acreage requires a fair amount of mowing. It would save the ministry a great deal of money if they had a good riding mower, and even more, if it had a snow blower attachment.

Please consider donating your older machine if you are in the market for a new one.

Additionally, the ministry would like to expand its garden in order to provide more fresh produce for the UMEM food pantry.

Here is a list of things that are needed for the garden this year:

- Fertilizer, 50pounds
- Vegetable seeds-peas, carrots, beets, green beans, swiss chard, winter squash, radish, etc.
- Onion sets, seed potatoes
- Herb plants, other started veggies
- Organic insecticides, like Safer Soap
- Compost, 50 pounds or more
- Mulch Also needed are hoses and timers, sprinklers.

We also would like to have some Raised Beds. It helps us control some plantings that tend to spread and take over. If any handy person would like to build some raised bed boxes, we can use them: 4x8s and 4x4s Please contact the UMEM if you have items to donate.

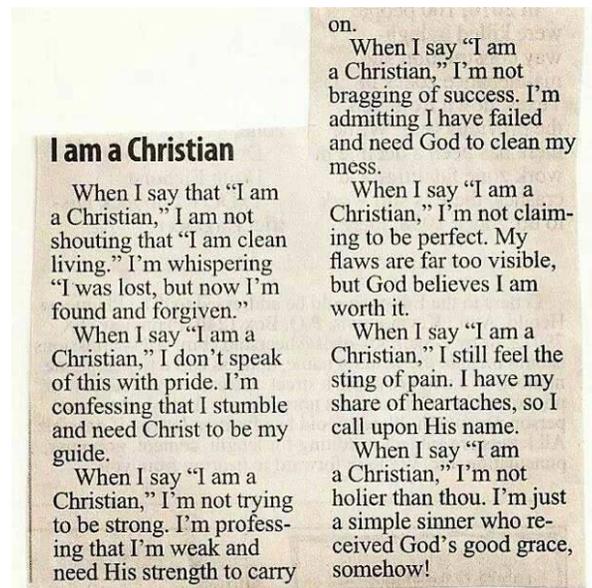
The Ministry can be reached:

Email: umem@tdstelme.net

Phone: (207) 678-2611

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

United Methodist Economic Ministry, 1458 Salem Rd (RT 142), Salem Township, ME 2049 207-678-2611





Tax Education Programs

July 26th @
6 p.m.

Our **Endowment and Finance Committees** will be hosting an informative meeting along with support from Gary Melville of the United Methodist. He will outline the new tax code rules, regulations and filing requirements and how it will affect your IRAs, 401Ks and planned giving contributions to charitable organizations and/or your local church. How your mortgage interest and property tax deductions might be impacted, etc. This program will be open to our church family as well as those within our community.

A Second program will be set up with Joy Intriago hosting explaining the new tax code rules, regulations, etc. and how they affect you in your personal life. More information to follow.

ALL WELCOME!

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important program.

More detailed information to come...

Thank you; Gary, Cliff, Tony, Gary and Joy, for your participation with this event



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Educational Programs for Senior Citizens

Union Church will be hosting a series of summer-fall, free, community-wide, educational programs intended primarily for seniors focused on issues facing those of us in or approaching our golden years. The first discussion session in the series will provide an update on the new 2018 tax and Medicaid law. Find out just how the new law, with all of the myriad changes that have been introduced, will affect you! What does the new tax act mean for senior citizens? Begin an approach focused on planning for the long-term health care and how best to spend your retirement income wisely.

This first session will take place at Union Church at 6:00 pm on Tuesday evening, July 31.

Subsequent programs will grapple with the following issues:

- Choosing where to live; is aging in place right for you or your loved one?
- Differences among independent, assisted, and nursing care facilities.
- Info regarding programs and resources available for seniors in our community and state.
- How caregivers approach these life-changing assignments.
- How to stay safe in your own home.
- The role of technology in assisting and enhancing the care of a senior or a loved one.
- How a geriatrician can assist the wellbeing of seniors.
- How the role of exercise is more than just physical.
- The impact of isolation and how and why socialization is of utmost importance.

- A life review: what is it? Is it for me or my loved one?

Other issues related to financial matters will also be discussed, such as:

- Avoiding probate
- How to protect your assets from nursing homes
- Avoiding or minimizing capital gains tax
- Keeping control of your IRA or 401(k)
- Managing your Required Minimum Distribution to advantage.

Details about future program topics, dates, and speakers will be forthcoming. Qualified, objective speakers will be invited to inform, enlighten, and engage you in discussion.

Plan to attend the free inaugural program to **hear Joy Meason Intriago, CPA address The Impact of the New Tax Code on Tuesday, July 31 at 6:00 pm at Union Church in Belgrade Lakes.** Refreshments will be served.



Our Mission Ministries

Through the year in this Newsletter we highlight our mission projects and programs where we serve God through Christlike compassion, mercy and transformation; reaching out, lifting up, building up. ***Here is a listing of some of the ways so far during 2018 you contributed to missions through your support received in our weekly worship offerings, pledges and special giving.***

The Belgrade Rome Food Pantry with special monthly "Wish List" donations; January through May we've been fillin' our shopping cart. - Many thanks.

Ever notice the sign at the **Belgrade Ball Park? \$150 during April** supports this local youth program and shares our active presence in the community in Christ's service.

Maine Justice Foundation, Augusta, Maine. With a gift of **\$500 in March** we supported this work that serves the LGBT, gay community those of whom are among the poor and vulnerable among us, facing issues of employment and housing discrimination, domestic violence, homelessness. In this manner we extend our church Welcoming Statement into the community beyond our own worship doors.

Messalonskee High School -Each year their empty Bowls project supports our local Food cupboards and the Food Cupboard at the High School we contributed **\$50 towards this in March.** In June we look to provide leadership and participation in their Baccalaureate program for new graduates.

United Methodist Economic Ministry in Salem Township (UMEM); Weekly Joys and Celebrations contributions, **\$741.00.** 2018 begins our two-year **Global Mission Initiative** here in Maine our annual goal is \$2,500.

We have ordered Pints and Quarts of Maple Syrup again this year for your Summer enjoyment and purchasing. With Fair Trade pricing 100% of the purchase price goes to assist their ministry programs that transform lives in here in Maine; \$600

Bread of Life Shelter and Meal Programs, Augusta. Through the year, each month we provide a Tuesday evening meal for the residence there. It's been a blessing to meet folks there and see how this ministry gives them both shelter and a boost to what is next as they move forwards in life by God's grace. With a gift of **\$500 in February** we equip there program there.

Maine Adaptive Sports received \$50 during February as an affirmation of their annual Ski-A-Thon that supports programs that empower

adaptive athletes towards a healthy, active and rewarding life.

Neighbors Driving Neighbors, this local ministry program serving to help folks who would be otherwise home bound is supported with our **\$500 gift in January** and through the engagement of those offering to serve as drivers, and part of the programs leadership

Winthrop, Maine: United Methodist Camp Mechuwana. Scholarship support of campers in the amount of \$500. This donation was sent on May 15th. The year-round camp and youth programs happening there transforms lives of children and youth.



NEW MEMBER CLASSES COMING IN JULY!

July 8th 11-12:30
July 15th 11-12:30
July 22nd 11-12:30
(Make Up Class)



Are you a member of our congregation and would like to know more about the United Methodist Church? Or are you perhaps interested in joining the church membership? Here is your chance to participate in this shared learning opportunity.

For those attending that may later choose to become a member of the church our Service of Membership will be held on
Sunday, July 29th



FRIENDSHIP HALL WORSHIP AREA

OPEN AND AVAILABLE

Missionaries of Hospitality and Welcome...

will serve to host all who attend and participate in our new 9:30 a.m. Friendship Worship experience. This is held in Friendship Hall adjacent to our main sanctuary worship area.

Please pray for those that will be newly attending, those hosting, and those feeling the sort of change in all this.

We pray that together we will experience the joy we have found, share the love we know and offer the hope we live. Our mission and ministry reaches out in the local community, regionally and globally for God's glory – Pastor Joe

4th of July Parade

What will our float look like this year?? Who wants to plan and be part of participating in this community event. Pastor Joe is thinking about the theme Reaching out in Service. **Decorating activities will be begin @ 1 p.m.** There is room for 8 folks on the float! Please let Jim Webster know if you will be participating!



Thank you!





Bread Of Life Ministries

Cooks, Cookies, Casseroles and more...

Our ministry with those residing at the Bread of Life Shelter has become an opportunity for a fulfillment of our membership vows;

To serve Christ through the ministries of the church, with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

While others take lead in this 30 year+ ministry, we are collaborating to be a means of God's grace.

Many thanks to those that provided meals, and transported them to 155 Hospital Street, Augusta on Tuesday, June 19, 2018; Sharron Burnell, Joy Intriago and Kat.

Our next time of service and delivery will be on Tuesday, July 17, 2018. Sharron Burnell made a suggestion that we propose a menu of: Baked Bean (canned); hot dogs, cole slaw or salad, corn bread or biscuits and dessert. Won't you please join us and drop off your donations. If you would like to bring your items and join in preparing it for delivery; please join us at Church @ 3:30; we will get dinner warmed up and ready to go.

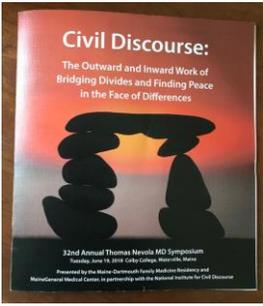
There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for those wanting to designate their participation in this ministry. Thank you!



An Announcement:

Following an earlier conversation with Staff Parish Relations Committee, during our worship services on June 24th, Pastor Joe announced his intention to retire from pastoral ministry at the **end of June 2019, next year**. The hope of announcing this now is to enjoy the opportunity for summer conversations with the many that particularly join us for worship during July and August.

Pastor Joe said; "During this coming year of ministry together I look to continue ministry together with the same joy and enthusiasm we have been experiencing together." As to learning how to do retirement, he expects to have some good examples to follow from many of us here. During this coming year of transition, we will look to preparing for and welcoming well our new pastor. Staff Parish Relations committee will be working with our United Methodist District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Karen Munson in preparation of receiving our new pastor in July 1, 2019. For now, may our prayers and work continue with our ministries; local, regional and global and for our transition preparations.



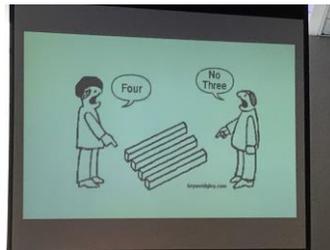
Listening to one another so as to understand the other.

Maine Legislature

Roger Katz, R-Augusta, represents Maine Senate District 15. Matthew Pouliot, R-Augusta, represents House District 86.

We have reached across the aisle to get know our colleagues, improve our communication, build bipartisan relationships, and find ways to work together. We did this with the help of the nonpartisan **National Institute for Civil Discourse** and the Maine Development Foundation. The two groups have partnered to sponsor workshops for lawmakers to sit down together behind closed doors, listen to each other, and learn more about our backgrounds and priorities.

All of us — Republicans, Democrats and independents — have welcomed the institute’s facilitators to Augusta for these workshops. It shouldn’t be so innovative, but the fact is that lawmakers have taken a groundbreaking step to try to build a functional, focused legislature where we can collaborate and get things done.



We’ve now had more than 100 legislators go through these trainings — that’s more than half of all lawmakers in the State House.

We don’t expect to agree on every issue. And we aren’t going to completely reverse our political beliefs.

But all of us have worked hard to build the right conditions for compromise, because all of us believe that progress for Maine is both important and possible.

<https://bangordailynews.com/2018/04/15/opinion/contributors/how-maine-legislators-are-coming-together-to-bring-civility-to-augusta/>

US Congress

WASHINGTON, DC—Feb 2, 2018, Congresswoman Joyce Beatty (D-OH-03) and Congressman Steve Stivers (R-OH-15) recently announced the creation of the Congressional Civility and Respect Caucus. Beatty and Stivers formed the Caucus to encourage all Members of Congress to act with civility and respect in their political discourse. To join the Caucus, each member must have a partner from the other side of the aisle.

“Although Congressman Stivers and I hold entirely different political beliefs, we respect one another and are committed to finding opportunities to work together,” Beatty said. “Unfortunately, our bipartisan relationship in Congress is the exception rather the rule.” Beatty continued, “That is exactly why we are launching the Congressional Civility and Respect Caucus. Steve and I both know the value of civility, respect and open dialogue, and we urge our fellow Members of Congress to do the same.”

“Joyce and I don’t always agree on how to solve the issues facing our nation, but we find common ground where we can. More importantly, when we do disagree, we don’t vilify one another,” Stivers said. “I am proud to call her both a colleague and a friend, and I believe that we have an excellent model of bipartisanship, civility, and respect that Congress and the rest of the country could learn from. This is about more than just a Caucus, this about creating a movement to show you can disagree without being disagreeable in government.” <https://beatty.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-beatty-and-stivers-announce-launch-of-the-congressional-civility>



Please join us for a lovely, lakeside dinner on Long Pond. Graciously hosted by Eveyln Fowler and Joseph Pulitano, this is dinner with a purpose. A \$35/person, tax deductible donation will go in its entirety to the Belgrade/Rome Special Needs Food Pantry. Space is limited.

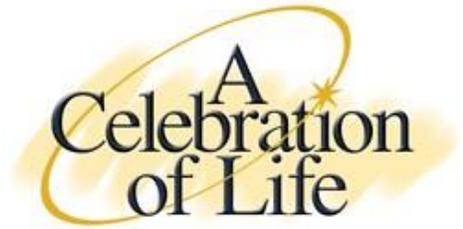


**ROME/BELGRADE FOOD PANTRY
FUNDRAISING DINNER
Saturday, July 28th
@ 6 p .m.**

We all know that the Food Pantry serves a desperate need in our community for families in Belgrade and in Rome. The pantry also supplies snacks to children attending Belgrade Central School, and holiday baskets at Christmas. There is no denying the need. As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, donations made to the Food Pantry are tax deductible. What better way to support this important community need than donating a **minimum of \$35 per person** to attend a wonderful **dinner on Long Pond at the home of Evelyn Fowler & Joseph Pulitano, at 6:00 pm on Saturday, July 28!**

All proceeds will go in their entirety to the Belgrade/Rome Special Needs Food Pantry.

Reservations are required as seating is limited to 40 persons. **To make a reservation** that will benefit this worthy cause, **call 207 495-2022.**



**CELEBRATION OF LIFE
(MEMORIAL SERVICE)
FOR TOM CRABIEL**

FRIDAY, JULY 12TH @ 11 A.M.

Please come join Colleen and their family as they hold this special service. There will be a light luncheon and time to share stories and remember a life lived to the fullest immediately after in Friendship Hall. All Welcome!



*Please pray for
the following
Within Our
United
Methodist
Church District
Family*

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar

Rev. Dr. Karen Munson, DS

July 1

- Highland Ave UMC
- John Street UMC
- Kingfield UMC
- Lisbon UMC
- Mercer UMC

July 8

- Monmouth United Church
- New Harbor UMC
- New Sharon UMC
- North Pownal UMC
- North Searsport UMC

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...