



# Union Church of Belgrade Lakes

## United Methodist Church

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## Union Rider September, 2018 Newsletter



### FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOR LUNCHEON

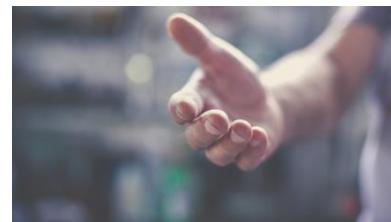
**Soups, sandwiches,  
desserts and  
more!**

**Thursday, September 13, 2018  
from 11:30 to 1pm.**



We will have a  
game of Trivia

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



### Jesus Reached Out

Read: [Matthew 14:22–33](#) |

Bible in a Year: [Psalms 97–99; Romans 16](#)

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. [Matthew 14:31](#)

Sometimes life gets busy—classes are hard, work is exhausting, the bathroom needs to be cleaned, and a coffee date is on the day's schedule. It gets to the point where I force myself to read the Bible for a few minutes a day and tell myself I'll spend more time with God next week. But it doesn't take long before I'm distracted, drowning in the day's tasks, and forget to ask God for help of any kind.

When Peter was walking on water toward Jesus, he quickly became distracted by the wind and waves. Like me, he began to sink (Matthew 14:29–30). But as soon as Peter cried out, "immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him" (vv. 30–31).

I often feel as if I have to make it up to God after being so busy and distracted that I lose sight of Him. But that's not how God works. As soon as we turn to Him for help, Jesus reaches out without hesitation.

When we're unsettled by the chaos of life, it's easy to forget that God is standing in the middle of the storm with us. Jesus asked Peter, "Why did you doubt?" (v. 31). No matter what we're going through, He is there. He is here. Next to us at that moment, in this moment, ready to reach out and rescue us.

*Lord, help me to turn to You in the midst of my busyness and life's distractions. Thank You for always being here, ready to catch me.*

**God is waiting for us to turn to Him so He can reach out and help.**

By [Julie Schwab](#) |

### INSIGHT

The fear-filled disciples who saw Jesus walking on the lake cried out, "It's a ghost!" (Matthew 14:26). But then they worshipfully acknowledged, "Truly you are the Son of God" (v. 33). In between the collective voices of the disciples, we hear the voices of Jesus and Peter. Following the words of Jesus in verse 27, Peter spoke, "Lord, if it's you . . . tell me to come to you on the water" (v. 28). At first glance it's easy to interpret Peter's "if" as implying uncertainty. An alternate rendering of the word *if* is *since*. Given Peter's actions, it seems to me that this translation makes sense. When Jesus is the one directing us, doubt can yield to confidence.

Arthur Jackson

**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 8/26/18: \$2,093**

**Our December 31st Goal  
is \$2,500**

**Thank you for helping us  
exceed this!**



**Following Worship, keep a watchful eye out for the big screen TV slide presentation that highlights this ministry**

**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

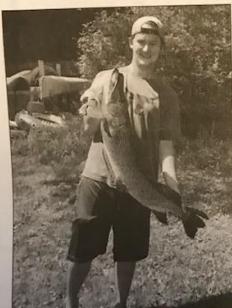
Community Garden

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 Last Great Catch!



John Edwards age 18 caught this 40 inch pike in August trolling on Great Pond with his dad. It broke the net. This is Johns second trophy freshwater fish. He caught a 38 inch steelhead in Oregon on a fly.



Large Mouth Bass, 22", 7 1/2 lbs, caught by Tom Burnell, summer resident on Great Pond, North Bay.

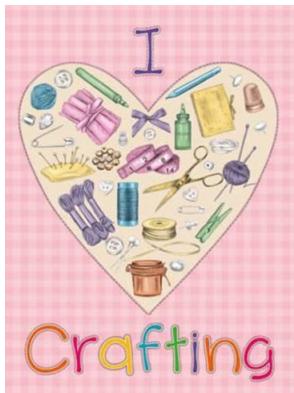
Tom Burnell,  
with a BIG  
Fish Story!!  
Large  
Mouth Bass, 22", 7 1/2  
lbs, caught on  
Great Pond,  
North  
Bay.



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

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

#### United Methodist's Women's Group Craft Day at Bobbi's



September 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 4 Lunch will be Provided All Welcome! Come have a fun time together making crafts for the Harvest Festival. Please let Bobbi know you will be attending so she can prepare for lunch.

Her address is:  
17 Rock Garden Estates, Belgrade  
Phone: 495-2470

- September 29<sup>th</sup> Foliage Trip and Luncheon
- November 17<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Program and Community Food Drive
- December 9<sup>th</sup> Christmas Trip to the Victoria House (Portland)

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

#### Meetings at a Glance: September 2018



**Worship Committee:** September 4<sup>th</sup>

**Prayer Shawl:** 9/10 and 9/24 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Finance Committee:** 9/25 @ 6:30

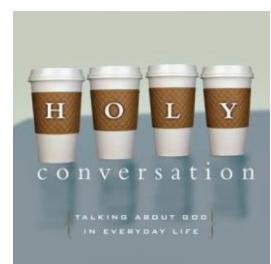


2018

CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS

**Harvest Festival  
(Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>)**

**Christmas Stroll  
(Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>)**



#### Wednesday Conversation Study and Reflection.

##### **Our weekly Bible Study**

**Session** uses 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

Beginning Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> through October 31st; from 11 a.m. to Noon we will follow the missionary trail of Apostle Paul through the sites of the early first century church. As we learn of Paul's life and message may we be guided to hear our own gospel call. A donation of \$15 for the book and DVD would help offset the costs; but not necessary. Please join us.



#### **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 Good Shepherd Food Bank**

With a gift of \$500 during September we will support this work that provides food to local food banks throughout Maine. "Feeding families living with food insecurity makes an impact that goes beyond a nutritious meal."

**The Belgrade Rome Food Pantry** with special monthly "Wish List" donations; January through August 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.

ministry, we are collaborating to be a means of God's grace.

Many thanks to those that provided donations for this meal, and transported them to 155 Hospital

Street, Augusta on Tuesday, August 19, 2018; Sharron Burnell, Joy Intriago and Kathy. We had several containers of chicken salad, potato salad, cole slaw; hot dog rolls, salad & dressing and a huge tub of ice cream...



Our next time of service and delivery will be on Tuesday, September 18, 2018.

Give us your thoughts on what the meal should consist of and let's try and get as great of a response as we did in August!

Won't you please join us and drop off your donations

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



## Bread Of Life Ministries

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+



## Union Church Memorial Garden

New Memorial Stone to be installed in the months ahead.

In preparation for the installation of our next Memorial Stone, plans are underway to open suitable space among the plantings on the

southside of the garden walkway. This new Memorial Stone will be used for those interred on the southside of the garden and for new memorial inscriptions of remembrance. The new Memorial Stone will generally resemble the large double-faced stone on the northside as to basic shape and inscription layout.

This project will be funded by several means, including funds from the Memorial Garden operating account and a pledge to assist from the Endowment Committee. As with prior Memorial Stone installations, there may be those who would like to make a gift donation towards the purchase and installation of this new Memorial Stone.

These are three giving options if made by August 31st that would both support this project towards a timely completion and the Memorial Garden operations:

- \$1,000 will purchase an interment lot with perpetual care and engraving for one. This could be designated for either the northside or the southside section. Engraving will be done on the Memorial Stone consistent with lot choice (north or southside).
- \$1,000 will purchase a memorial inscription of remembrance of one name with dates on the new southside Memorial Stone. This will also provide for a gift towards the new stone purchase and installation.
- Heartfelt gifts of any amount towards the purchase and installation of the new Memorial Stone are graciously welcomed.

This \$5,000 project will be greatly supported by new purchases and gifts and in this way alleviates the use of other financial sources keeping these available for other future ministries and work.

Each of these purchases and gifts towards this project will be remembered by name in our new Memorial Garden Remembrance Book. Please contact the church office with questions or for further arrangements towards giving methods. Church Office contact: 1-207-495-3599 or email: [unionchurch@myfairpoint.net](mailto:unionchurch@myfairpoint.net)



*Please prayerfully consider your legacy and pledge response today...*

**As a congregation, we are preparing to provide a Legacy of hope and joy for those coming along.**

**Stewardship Campaign for our 2019 Ministry**

Our 2019 financial goal is to fully fund our ministries through pledges and offerings. **To fully fund our 2019 ministries including the operation and upkeep of our ministry facility we anticipate a need for \$172,943. Of this amount, we need to receive approximately \$120,000 in pledges for 2019.**

**August 26th, 2018 Update**

*Thank you for your participation and prayers!*

**Current Results:** 18 Pledges, with 3 new pledges, and 8 with increases over last year; these total \$32,950.

With your support, we are well on our way towards our ministry

**Goals:** 1. 56 pledges,  
2. Including 5 new pledges,  
3. Totaling \$120,000

*Do you need a pledge card? Xtras are placed on the organ and we have plenty in the office...*

## EAGER STEWARDSHIP

By Rev. Herb Taylor

My older brother could get my younger brother and I to respond, to do just about anything. He was seven years older than me, eight older than John, and we were eager to please. He would say something like, I'll time you to see how long it takes to get me a brownie from the kitchen, a ball outside, pretty much anything, and boom we'd be off running. We were eager to respond, we loved the challenge. Children, in general are just plain eager - give them a challenge and they'll go for it - we adults analyze, diagnose, calculate. We lose that sense of eagerness - when's the last time you were eager?

There are many things I could encourage you to be eager about, but in this short article, I am focusing on a call for eagerness in stewardship, especially in the way a church talks about Stewardship. Eagerness, I believe, is essential for ministry and Paul saw it as a part of God's calling...and in his letter to the Corinthians, praised the churches of Macedonia for their eagerness (*2 Corinthians 8:1-8, 12-15*), especially with respect to their giving. This early church wasn't doing analysis of what was or wasn't appropriate, they stepped up and "overflowed in a wealth of generosity ...begged for the privilege of sharing in ministry," not because they were irrational or crazy - but simply because, as it says, "they gave themselves first to the Lord," and it just makes sense if you first give yourself, all other giving is easy! Mark Twain, when he was asked once about the reason for his success replied, "I was born excited." Like Twain, and the Macedonians, hopefully we feel excited, eager to respond to the gift of life by responding to the giver of life with all we got. This is what stewardship is all about and how a stewardship campaign in the church should be communicated.

Taking on life with a joy and an eagerness to give back to God is central to the ministry we share in together. Stewardship is like a bridge which connects our faith to our actions. It is about believing with God all things are possible. Not only within this church, but within

our everyday lives - "Don't be afraid" Jesus calls out to us. Don't be afraid to prioritize your life, your resources and your time in a way that reflects your faith. Don't be afraid to take that step of faith in your giving that reflects your eagerness to serve.

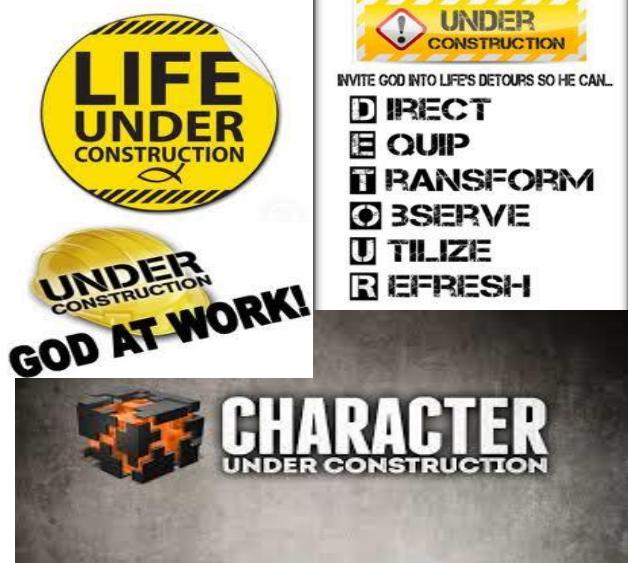
In the church, we should not be afraid to talk about money with boldness and eagerness. As a pastor, in the churches I have served, I have attempted to ensure that every Stewardship Campaign is joyful, invitational, and filled with enthusiasm. It is important for church leaders to reflect on whether you are sharing an eagerness about stewardship, both personally and for the congregation. The scriptures are clear that the call to stewardship is a blessed gift for us, not a task we should be resigned to perform. Therefore, inviting someone to take a step up in their giving is not a labor but a love offering to that person. It invites them into eagerness in their journey of faith.



### See You Next Summer; Stay in Touch Over the Winter Months

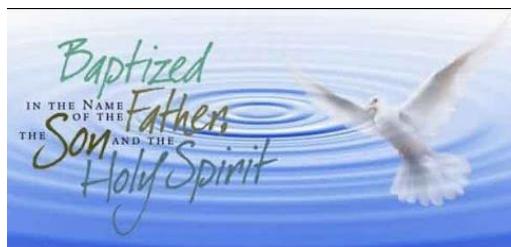
It is so hard to believe that most all of our Summer Folks have headed back to their Winter Homes. We have so

enjoyed our fellowship time with you over the summer. We pray that your travels are safe and will keep you and your families in our prayers over the Winter. We will keep in touch through our emails/calls and Newsletters. Please call or contact us if you would like any prayer request during our Worship Services. We look forward to seeing you again in June.



*Our Sunday Worship Themes in September coincide with the construction we see on Main Street. "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*

– Isaiah 43:19



On August 26<sup>th</sup> Carla Dee Chaput daughter of Marilyn and Pete Chaput was baptized. Mom Marilyn, Aunt Carol and Friend Bill shared in this special service with her.



Carla joins 5 others that have been baptized this year including; Calvin Broadhead, Rory O'Connor, Mia, Xander and Dad, Jeff Boutin



Summer has flown by and now it is that time of year again when plans are getting underway for Union Church's annual Harvest Festival. It is the big draw in town; many folks have already asked about our event and are looking forward to attending again this year!

Octoberfest is on October 6, 2018 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be thinking about ways you can help out - many hands needed! Lots of volunteers needed to make this a success again this year. Hoping that each and every one of you will come join us in the fun and fellowship as we share in our preparations. It is a great way to connect with old friends, meet new friends and get incorporated into the life of the church and community.

We will be meeting right after the 9:30 service on Sunday, September 9th. We will establish sub-committees at that time and enlist people to help in the different areas.

**ALL ARE WELCOME to come to this meeting and subsequent meetings thereafter. New ideas are always entertained, so put on your thinking caps. ALL ARE WELCOME to Volunteer your talents in preparing for the event and working on the day of the event.**

It truly is a very fun day and you get to work with your Church Family and meet all the town folk that come take part in this special event.

In the meantime; save the date, start canning, crafting, woodworking, picking out your recipes for baked goods and items for our freezer (soups, entrees, etc.).

Go through and identify which jewelry items and/or Christmas decorations you no

longer want to keep, we will have tables for those items. If you know any shopkeepers; see if they would be willing to donate something to our Silent Auction. Look for "really good" things in your attic or basement that you can donate to the auction, or make something using your special talents. Please contact Kathy Gerard (Chair) at [kakoala5@gmail.com](mailto:kakoala5@gmail.com) or Carol Johnson at [caroljohnson@allstate.com](mailto:caroljohnson@allstate.com) (Chair of Silent Auction) if you have any comments/questions/ideas and would like to step up and volunteer.



### **Thank you and God Bless!**



Back-to-School Blessing

Learning is a gift from God.

As we begin this new school year, we give thanks that God has given us the ability to learn many things in many ways.

Loving God, sometimes a new school year seems exciting or scary or both.

Help us remember to show our thanks for your gifts of learning by doing our best every day.

We ask that you bless our schools, teachers, classmates and friends.

We ask that you bless those who prepare our lunches, those who drive us to school, and those who keep our schools clean and safe.

We ask God's blessing on this new school year, that it may be a time when we appreciate and fully use God's gift of learning.

Amen.



**New England Conference**  
The United Methodist Church

*Greetings Faithful Ones!* Following is an update of disaster recovery needs in our jurisdiction (covering 9 conferences) and training available in our conference. If your church or several churches in your area would like to schedule a United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) or Connecting Neighbors (disaster prep for individuals, churches and communities) training, see my contact information below and let me know what church(es), including town(s) and state you are from and how many may be interested.

**Conferences Near to New England (Part of the Northeast Jurisdiction, NEJ, of The United Methodist Church) Need ERT & Long-Term Recovery Volunteers**

**Eastern PA is calling for help from the rest of the NEJ**

The Schuylkill County area of Pennsylvania experienced its second bout of flooding in a month. Pennsylvania VOAD is organizing crisis clean-up on 250 homes in Eastern PA. Eastern PA Disaster Response Coordinator Bob Simcox says that the United Methodist response is focused on 20 homes in the area around Tremont, Pine Grove, and Port Carbon. The NEJ shower trailer is being moved into position there to serve teams in the next two weeks. **Bob is requesting both early response (ERT) and long-term**

**recovery teams from around the Northeast Jurisdiction to help with the response beginning immediately.** St. John UMC in Tremont, PA will be the host site and are allowing use of their kitchen for incoming teams. Those who can help should contact the Onsite Coordinator - **Suzanne Schach** at [jsb@epix.net](mailto:jsb@epix.net) or (570) 294-3748. Teams should also notify their own [Conference Disaster Response Coordinators](#) and/or Early Response Team Coordinators if they plan to mobilize.

Further questions can be directed to Bob Simcox at [drc@epaumc.org](mailto:drc@epaumc.org) (610) 427-0470.

### **West Virginia needs rebuild teams**

The end of June 2016 saw 8 to 10 inches of rain fall in a 12-hour period in West Virginia with a resulting flash flood that caused 23 deaths and destroyed 5,000 homes. Individual disaster assistance grants for affected homeowners, renters and businesses were approved from FEMA for residents of 12 counties. The United Methodist Church is still helping rebuild homes and lives. Each team/individual is asked to fill out the [attached form](#) and send back to the Disaster Response Team. After your form is received you will be contacted and scheduled for a time and location of service. Forms should be submitted to: Rev. Dave Stilgenbauer at [revdaves@yahoo.com](mailto:revdaves@yahoo.com) Questions? Email him or call (304) 210-6938.

### **Other Conferences in the NEJ that may need help & DO need prayers**

**Upper New York Conference** is working a response to the flooding in the Finger Lakes area (Seneca and Keuka Lakes particularly). The **Susquehanna Conference** is working on the flooding in the Hershey area, as well. **Greater New Jersey Conference** has mobilized ERTs in the area around Brick, NJ. **We are waiting for confirmation that teams from outside their conferences** are needed Union Church of Belgrade Lakes

or invited to help, but all of these conferences could use our prayers!!

The **Baltimore-Washington Conference** is NOT asking for teams from outside their conference, only for prayers, as they continue to work with Frederick and Washington County officials, and State of MD Dept of Human Services to coordinate cleanup for 28 families affected by the May floods.

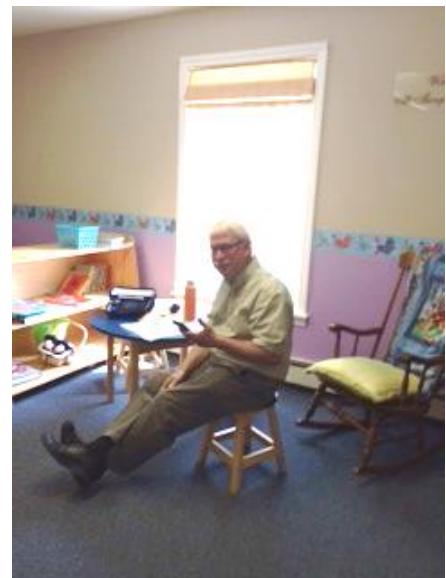
Thank you for all of your work to make Christ's love visible to the world! Questions? Contact me and watch the [Disaster Response pages](#) of the conference website for updates. If you serve, please let me know and send photos and a small description of your work to share with other conference churches.

If you want to attend ERT training, a [Sept 15<sup>th</sup> class registration](#) is open now in Plymouth, MA.

Prayers & Peace be with you,  
Barbara Burnside, Conference Disaster Response & Mission Coordinator  
[baburnside@neumc.org](mailto:baburnside@neumc.org)  
978-682-8055, ext 135

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Pastor Joe in Time Out in the Nursey While Josh from Expenet trying to resurrect his computer; which did NOT happen...



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...