Union Church of Belgrade Lakes
United Methodist Church

Worship Services Sundays at 8:00am and 9:30am
67 Main Street Belgrade Lakes, Maine
www.unionchurchmaine.org

Union Rider October 2026

Harvest Festival

Union Church of Belgrade Lakes
Saturday, Oct 10 10am-3pm

Autumn Cafe with brats & hot dogs

Handmade Crafts Home-Baked Goodies

Harvest Kitchen Soups

Famous Silent Auction
online at Bidding Owl

See inside for more fall dates & info!

Union Church of Belgrade Lakes is at
67 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, Maine.

Church Office Phone: 207-495-3599
Website: www.unionchurchmaine.org
Office: unionchurchmaine@gmail.com
Pastor: unionchurchumcbelgrade@gmail.com

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

Worship

8:00am Contemplative Service
9:30am Traditional Service w/ Music & Choir
All are welcome ~ please join us!

Many thanks to Larry Mingledorff for taking photos of Union Church, as arranged by Bill & Cindy Anderson.

Rev. Kathleen's Office Hours:
9am-noon, Monday through Thursday

Call, text, or email for an appointment.
Church Office: 207-495-3599
unionchurchumcbelgrade@gmail.com

Friday is Sabbath Day.

Christina is in the Church Office as Admin Support on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Recurring Meetings

- **2 pm Sundays:** AA Meeting
- **1 pm 2nd & 4th Mondays:** Knitting Group
- **3rd Tuesdays:** Bread of Life Supper
- **9:45 am Wednesdays:** Bible Study
- **6:30 pm Wednesdays:** Choir Rehearsal
- **6:00pm Thursdays:** AA Meeting

Bible Study News

Our Fall Bible Study is based on the book *Jesus' Vision for Your One Wild and Precious Life*, by Mike Graves. Drop-ins, visitors, and new members are always welcome.

Wednesdays 9:45 - 11am

October Events

Oct 10th 10am-3pm	Harvest Festival
Oct 21st 6:30pm	Choir Returns
Oct 22 8am	Tai Chi
Oct 24th 1pm	Church Conference
Oct 25th 11:30am	Pumpkin Carving
Oct 29 8am	Tai Chi
Oct 27th 6pm	Church Potluck
Oct 31st 4:30-7pm	Trick-or-treat

Find (and share!) Union Church news & events and Pastor Kathleen's livestreamed sermons on Facebook.

Joy of Sharing

2026 Joys and Celebrations Offerings go to Belgrade-Rome Food Pantry

Donations Total as of 9/29/2026: $2055.

Food Pantry Donations Needed:

Cooking Oil
Paper Towels
Egg Noodles

Bring donations to the church and place them in the grocery cart in Friendship Hall. Thanks!

Bread Of Life Ministries

Next Homeless Shelter Dinner is October 20th

Each month we bring a main dish, sides, bread, milk, cheese, and dessert for the 50+/- residents of the Augusta homeless shelter. Sign-up sheets for donations are in Friendship Hall. We need food at the church by 4 pm on the day of the dinner. Thanks to LaLa Cooper for prepping the food for transport and to Paul Lenfest, Ken and Betty for delivering the food to the shelter to be enjoyed by families, adults, and veterans housed there.

Bread of Life serves anywhere from 100 to 150 sit-down/take-home meals per day for breakfast and lunch, as well as providing housing for individuals in emergent situations. Their work creates a foundation for stability, dignity, and hope.

Cooperative Parish News

The Lakes Region Cooperative Parish from North Vienna UMC, Trinity UMC in Farmington, and Union Church gathered on October 4th for fellowship. Folks assembled forty UMCOR hygiene kits which were blessed. Five kits went to each church and twenty-five will be dispersed by UMCOR during disaster relief and recovery. Thank you to everyone who donated items for the hygiene kits and those who came to put them together.

Get Involved at Union Church

Here's a handy list of opportunities to support the work of Union Church - find more details throughout this newsletter!

- Bring candy for trick-or-treating and/or help hand it out
- Make purchases for the holiday gift basket: turkey stuffing, canned corn & beans
- Bring food for the Bread of Life supper
- Volunteer to set up, staff, or clean up for the Harvest Fest
- Make a donation to the food pantry
- Set up or clean up after the church potluck

Thank you to the gardeners who keep the grounds so beautiful!

Harvest Festival 2026

October 10th is right around the corner! This is our largest fundraiser of the year and we are asking for your help.

The Silent Auction is live….with a few more items being added so keep checking in and watching your bids. When you find something you REALLY want, make sure to use the AUTOBID option to keep from getting closed off by another bidder!

This year we are adding a QR code to make it even easier to find on line!

The auction closes on Sunday, October 18th at 6PM sharp!

Find the auction online at https://new.biddingowl.com/unionchurch

Christina will be in the office Thursday morning from 9:15-1pm and set-up is Friday at 10AM. Of course, you can drop things off at other times using your access code. Anything for the yard sale should be left in the back of the sanctuary; other items can be left on the tables that are all set up in Friendship Hall.

Just a reminder we have frozen soups, baked goods, candy and fudge, jams and jellies, crafts, jewelry and second-time around holiday items. AND the yard sale – please no clothes or books or large electronic items.

Everything needs to be gone by the end of Saturday.

Let's make a splash again this year with our biggest event ever. It's not just about the proceeds, but the community we are, the community we serve & the community we love!

Tai Chi Chuan Class

Come join us for an introduction to the Yang Style of Tai Chi Chuan. Classes will be held on Thursdays October 22, 29 and November 5 in Fellowship Hall at 8am and will be taught by Kevin Webb. **A signup sheet is posted in Fellowship Hall**. Cost is by donation. This an introduction for beginners and will focus on entry level practices for those who would like to explore Tai Chi Chuan for the first time.

Kitchen Update

A huge and sincere thank you to all who gifted one (or some) of the items needed for our new kitchen. There were many Amazon boxes to be unpacked and items to be put away! It was like Christmas! Unfortunately, your name was not left with the gift for a personal thank you. So, please know your gift is appreciated and will go to good use. Now the challenge will be to keep our pristine kitchen neat & tidy!

Mission & Outreach Update October 2026

We had a short meeting in September planning events for the fall, winter, and spring. There will be a churchwide potluck supper on Tuesday, October 27th at 6pm. This event will "christen our kitchen" with the usage of "real" plates, utensils, and glasses (assuming they arrive on time!). Dessert will be provided as well as coffee, tea, water, and lemonade. IF this supper is well attended, we hope to have monthly gatherings of the congregation for fellowship – with food! We are also planning special events, one per month, beginning in January and ending in April. These events will reach out to the community. Stay tuned!

The holiday baskets for the Food Pantry will again be organized by Union Church. We will be responsible for the turkey stuffing and canned vegetables (green beans and corn). You may begin bringing these items now – they will be set aside for the December distribution of the baskets. Walmart has a good turkey stuffing box mix for $0.97! The shelves will empty soon with Thanksgiving in sight, so let's begin early! We'll need 100 boxes of stuffing and many, many cans of green beans and corn.

Thank you to everyone who contributed photographs! If you have photos or information to submit for the November newsletter, please send to Christina at unionchurchmaine@gmail.com!

Church Conference

This is our annual meeting with our District Superintendent Rev. Arlene Tully. Trinity UMC of Farmington (part of our cooperative parish) will be joining us at Union Church 1-2:30 on Saturday October 24. Each committee has reports due ASAP. Christina emailed info to the committee chairs. If you have questions, reach out to Pastor Kathleen