

# First United Methodist Church January, 2025



## *Pastor's Pen*

Now we live into the wondrous gift of Emmanuel, God with us, at the beginning of this New Year. I begin with expressing my gratitude for God's grace, and the great gift of all of you in my life. Your words of encouragement, the cards, the gifts, the ministries of care that we share with our community and families are amazing and life affirming.

May we all look to Jesus for direction and guidance to find what is good and right for our life journey in 2025. We don't know what is ahead but we do know that there will be a warmth in our hearts and a quiet voice giving us encouraging direction.

It is a time to step out and stretch ourselves beyond our current limits and explore something new and exciting, and a little bit scary. Something that will take more than ourselves and will need Jesus to accomplish it.

It is also a time to reflect on what has gone before celebrating what is working well, and speaking to what has not worked and gracefully letting go.

Please share your thoughts and ideas for new ministries and activities that can help us connect to celebrate God in our midst. One idea shared with me that I'm getting excited about is to have a community ministry of 'painting with the pastor.'

May we live into God's great gift of Jesus Christ in ways that build our community!

Peace, Love, and Blessings,

Pastor Scott Tyler

January, 2025

	1
Pastor's Pen	
	2
That's A Bright Idea	
Thrift Shop News	
	3
Birthdays and Anniversaries	
Special Days	
From the Sexton's Broom	
Lay Readers' Schedule	
Ticonderoga Food Pantry	
Fair Update	
	4
Calendar	
Thank you!!!	



## Now That's A Bright Idea

Now the rush of the Christmas season is over we start to think about our coming year. At our January meeting we will work on our budget for 2025. (No, it can't be. It was just turning 2000!)

New parking lot lights are here. With the promotion from National Grid, the cost was very reasonable. It's way too cold to install them right now but when a thaw comes along, Tom Detric has offered the use of his bucket truck, it should be an easy install.

We are still investigating the replacement of the walls/windows in the downstairs. The thrift shop had the air quality tests done and they came back that it is safe to breathe the air even with the old rugs still in place. Now that the bushes have been cut back it is obvious that the walls are all in bad shape. We will be discussing it at our next meeting.

As always, Trustees meetings are open, and anyone interested is welcome to attend. If you have some ideas, we want to hear from you.

As always if you see something that needs attention, contact Donnie or myself and we'll do our best to "get 'r done"! (Or at least put it on the list)

Bill Westervelt, Chair

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## Thrift Shop News

The holiday rush was very evident at the Thrift Shop in December. Our volunteers getting the shop re-organized for the new year. We open again on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

In 2024, we were able to support the Church, Clergy Association, Ticonderoga backpack and school lunch programs, the Homeless Fund, among others with monthly contributions. We were also able to financially support the nursing home Christmas gift project.

*The Thrift Shop thanks you for your continued support, and wishes you many blessings in the coming year.*

### **Thrift Shop Committee Members:**

Margot Anello, Committee Chairperson

Jeanne Thatcher, Treasurer

Jeanne B. Thatcher, Trustees Representative

Margot Anello, Wanita Blanchard, Lynn Brigan,

Marsha LaPointe, Betty Messier, Leona Simpson,

Sandra Sprague, Pam Thorne, Sandra Trepanier,

Jeannine Wright

and Rev. Scott Tyler

## Thrift Shop Saturday Volunteers

4	CLOSED
11	Margot, Wanita, Jeanne
17	Pam, Jeannine, Sandy S.
25	Roxanne & ????

# Happy Birthday

Jeannine Wright January 4  
 Mary Thompson January 4  
 MaryLou Greenough January 11  
 Pam Thorne January 11  
 Marsha LaPointe January 18  
 Bill Westervelt January 24

# Family Corner

## Happy Anniversary

Glen & MaryLou Greenough January 15  
 Bob & Claire Bartlett January 26

**Community Dinner**  
 Will return in March



Epiphany  
 January 5

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
 Day  
 January 20

## The Ticonderoga Food Pantry

Thank you all for your continued support of the Ticonderoga Food Pantry.

**Hours of operation:**  
**Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 11am-Noon.**

## From the Sexton's Broom

As I write this from my couch at home we are a day removed from Christmas Eve, and only a little over a week left in 2024.

Nate and I just want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

*Peace to All.*

Donnie.  
 Sexton extraordinaire.

I would like to thank the people that help with the Christmas fair I couldn't do it without all you.

Joe & Roger Sawyer, Samantha & Michael Ledger, Fred Vranderburg, Kathey Liddell, Sandy Sprague, Margaret Beuerlein, Joan Pulling, Sandy Trepanier, Susan Guido, Jeannie Write, Margot Anello, Pam Throne, Jeanne Thatcher, Joan Viault, Sue Landers, Joan Charboneau, Judy Woard, Carl Potter, Ann Westervelt, Betty Rettig, Mary Lou Greenough, Sue Fahey, Joyce Cooper, Bridget Simpson, Donnie Norton, Thrift shop, all the people that donated.

We had a great time and a great turn out. The total was \$5,099.65. Again, thank you everyone.

-- Lynn Sawyer  
 Chair of the Fair

January	Readers
5	Jeanne Thatcher
12	Bob Bartlett
19	Bill Westervelt
26	Louise Goodwin

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January</h1>			1 Happy New Year!	2 10:00 Worship Meeting	3	4 Thrift Shop Closed!!
			5 9:00 Worship, Communion	6	7 Sexton Appreciation Day	8
12 9:00 Worship, Communion	13 6:30 Trustees	14	15	16	17 Sexton Appreciation Day	18 9-2 Thrift Shop
19 9:00 Worship, Communion Fellowship Coffee	20 6:30 Ad Council	21	22 Bridget away for a long Teen Weekend.	23	24	25 9-2 Thrift Shop
26 9:00 Worship, Communion	27	28 7:00 Champlain Valley Chorale Resumes	29	30	31	

### New Member Classes:

Please contact Pastor Scott Tyler at 585-7995 if you are interested in joining the church as a new member.

Bridget and Donnie wish to thank the entire congregation for their gifts this year.

It is a great pleasure to support this faith family, both in the office and through care of the building. This faith family is very active and we are happy to do what we can as you carry your faith beyond the Sanctuary and into the world.