



THE UNION SPIRIT

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
105 PLEASANT STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MA 02333

DECEMBER 2016

From the Pastor...

Here we go again. The holiday season is upon us. The parties, the feasts, the buying, and the visiting are upon us once again. This is a time when people gain weight, drink too much, and have strokes and heart attacks at alarming rates.

As your pastor, I pray that you don't get caught up in all the holiday craziness. Please don't spend money that you don't have. Please don't overindulge. Please keep your center during this time.

I have a strategy to maintain your wits during the holidays. I know it's a cliché, but put the Christ back in Christmas. Do you know there are only two places in the Bible that tell the story of Jesus' birth? I challenge you to find them and read the stories. The two stories are different in a lot of ways. For example, only one of the birth narratives has the Magi in it.

If you read, meditate, and pray, your holiday season will be the joyful time that it deserves to be.

Blessings,
Pastor Jim



From the Missions Committee....



Heifer International

We have been talking about the Heifer Project for several months with the Sunday school children and with their supportive adults. We are happy to report the effort has yielded over \$400 (and money is still coming in) from the dimes in a bottle and the passing of the basket collection on November 20th. Now, we have the happy task of selecting which beast or fowl, bunny or bee we will select to donate to a family in need. It will be a helpful step, may be even a lifesaving step, for one of our world neighbors. We are very grateful for your attention and support throughout the year for Heifer and for all of the Mission programs.

Mission Committee:

MaryJane Coakley

Donna Driscoll

Lenore Christensen

Lu Post

Kim Wilburn



**WE
NEED
YOU**

Nominations Committee...

Help Wanted!

The Nominations Committee is seeking church members for openings on many committees come Annual Meeting in January. Please see Kathy Charlebois or Jeff Driscoll if you are interested in joining a committee or would like more information on what a particular committee does...

Thank You!



Christian Education

While we are few in numbers, we are strong in the Lord! Our smaller group will participate in Lesson and Carols on December 18th. If you have not registered your son or daughter, please see Emily for a new form.

Finance & Stewardship



There's still time to do your pledge for next year if you haven't already done so! We would like them in ASAP though, the sooner the better so we can build the budget for next year! If you need a new pledge card you can find them in the vestry, narthex or let Laurie know and she will get one for you! Thank you!!



TO ALL COMMITTEES...
First draft of the budgets is due NOW!! Please get it to Laurie ASAP!!
THANK YOU!!!

Trustees



With the winter months upon us please watch out for slippery areas around the church.

If you see a particularly bad area please let the trustees' know. Also please remember to shut off all lights and lock all doors before leaving.

The Trustee of the month for December is Gary Martin.

Thank you!

Trustees: Dick Gleason, Michael Mason, Scott Poulin, Gary Martin & Vern Post

If you'd like to take a look at our Timeline that we created for the History night that we had at the church please click on the link below!

[Union Church's Timeline](#)



Ladies Christmas Luncheon

(it's free!)

Wednesday, December 14th at noon at Union Church

Soup - Sandwich - ? Santa ?

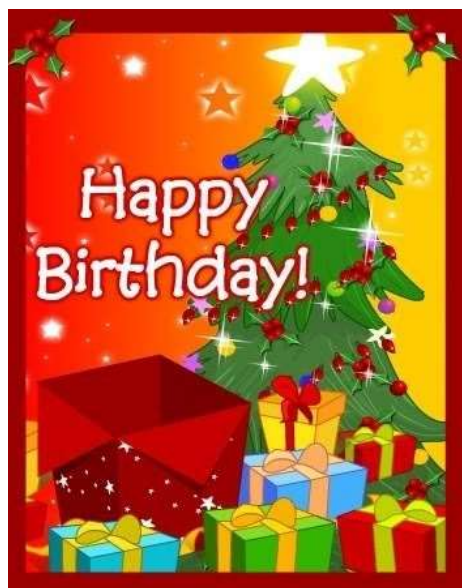
Bring a friend! Enjoy food, conversation & laughter!

Please let us know if you can attend...

Lenore Christensen 508-378-3022

Pat Martin 508-584-7514

Lu Post 508-345-7347



Celebrating December Birthdays

- 6 - Kathy Talbot's Birthday
- 14 - Kathy Charlebois' Birthday
- 31 - Kim Wilburn's Birthday

If you would like to add and of your family members birthdays and anniversaries to the newsletter just email the office
(office@uccofeb.org)

or put a note in Laurie's mailbox and provide these dates for your family.

Thank you!!

Any changes or additions to this calendar
please see Laurie.

You can email her at office@uccofeb.org,
call 508-378-2874 or leave a note in her mailbox.
Thank you!

December 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Silent Meditation – 6:30 pm	2 Office Hours 9-1 pm	3
4 Worship & Sunday School – 10:00 am O & A Session 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Bell Rehearsal – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm AA – 6:00 pm	5 Office Hours 9-1 pm Boy Scouts – 7:00 pm	6 Trustee Mtg – 7:15 pm Bible Study – 1:30 pm Girl Scouts – 6:00 pm	7 Office Hours 9-12 pm Food Pantry Delivery - 10 am Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 pm AA – 7 pm	8 Silent Meditation – 6:30 pm Boy Scout Committee Mtg – 7 pm	9 Office Hours 9-1 pm	10
11 Worship & Sunday School – 10:00 am Bell Rehearsal – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm AA – 6:00 pm	12 Office Hours 9-1 pm Boy Scouts – 7:00 pm	13 Bible Study – 1:30 pm Girl Scouts – 6:00 pm	14 Office Hours 9-12 pm Food Pantry – 12:30 – 2:00 pm AA – 7 pm Finance Mtg – 7:15 pm Deacon Mtg – 7:15 pm	15 Silent Meditation – 6:30 pm Boy Scout Planning Mtg – 7 pm	16 Office Hours 9-1 pm	17
18 Worship – 10:00 am Lessons & Carols Bell Rehearsal – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm AA – 6:00 pm	19 Office Hours 9-1 pm Boy Scouts – 7:00 pm	20 Bible Study – 1:30 pm Girl Scouts – 6:00 pm	21 Office Hours 9-11 am Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 pm AA – 7 pm	22 Silent Meditation – 6:30 pm	23 Office Hours 9-1 pm	24
25 Merry Christmas!! Worship & Sunday School – 10:00 am AA – 6:00 pm	26 Office Hours 9-1 pm Boy Scouts – 7:00 pm Exec. Mtg – 7:15 pm @ the Mitcheson's	27 Bible Study – 1:30 pm Girl Scouts – 6:00 pm	28 Office Hours 9-12 pm MainSpring Meal AA – 7 pm	29	30 Office Hours 9-1 pm	31 Food Pantry – 9:30 am– 11:00 am

