



Faith United Methodist Church March, 2023



Dear Faith Family and Friends;



In my experience, the United Methodist Church does not make much of St. Patrick's Day, and I'm not entirely sure why. However, when we think of Saint Patrick's Day, the March holiday conjures up images of green beer, the green river in Chicago, loud parades, shamrock decorations, and Irish soda bread. A fun and eventful holiday for some. An annoying and potentially dangerous holiday for others and, indeed, a headache for those trying to ensure that everyone is safe.

So, with all that said, why do we only acknowledge this day? Who was St. Patrick anyway? Is there any message for the church in this? Well, for those of you who may not know the history of St Patrick or Patricius as he signed his letters, he was born in 386 to a wealthy Christian family in Britain. When he was 16 years old, he was captured by Irish raiders and taken to Ireland. While there, he realized Christianity was real, God was present, and he embraced his family's faith tradition.

After continuing to work as a sheep herder for a miserable six years, he heard a voice (which he would later share was God) telling him to escape where he was and return home. He eventually found a ship waiting to take him back to Britain, and a few weeks later, he was reunited with his family. Once home, he decided to dedicate his life to becoming a priest. However, a few years into ministry, Patrick felt God speaking to him again, and within a short time became a missionary to Ireland. While there, he brought many to the faith, possibly (as legend states) by using the shamrock to explain the three persons of the Trinity.

Now, I share this story of Saint Patrick for two important reasons. First, I believe it's important to know why we acknowledge days like St. Patrick's Day and pause to remember such Saints who made a difference. And second, I think Saint Patrick was a beautiful example and reminder for us of when life becomes unexpectedly complicated and takes unpredictable turns, and we end up in places that we never anticipated, that God is still with us, speaks to us, guides us, and journeys with us throughout all our days.

Therefore, as we embrace St. Patrick's Day this year, let us remember St. Patrick and his journey, and trust that no matter where we go or what we do, if we remain open to God, God will deliver – and that's no blarney!



Card-Making Class

March 10th, at 10:00 am

Don't you just love it when you get a handmade card in the mail?! You are invited to a card class in the Fellowship Hall of the church, taught by Joanne Milloy.

These classes will held the 2nd Friday of each month. We meet, have a good time, talking and making beautiful cards.

There is no set cost for this event; you decide what to give. The money is used to defray the cost of supplies. Prep for the class takes some time, so please pre-register by calling or emailing the church office. Neighbors, friends, family, and even men are welcome!



Bible Study on Zoom

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 pm

There are some perks to having Bible study on Zoom at night when weather can be iffy. The facilitators/teachers (Joanne and Peter Milloy) send out the questions to be discussed before we meet. If you'd like to see what it's all about, let the office know so that you'll be sent the Zoom link. If you're more of a listener than a talker, that's all right. We appreciate talkers and listeners.



RURAL MISSIONS BENEFIT CONCERT



**COMING: FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2023
TO FAITH UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

**191 Montcalm Street,
Chicopee, MA
7:00 – 9:00 PM**

OLD COUNTRY ROAD
**ALL proceeds to benefit Faith UMC's
mission team's March mission trip to
South Carolina.**

Admission: Free-Will Offering

**Coffee, soft drinks and
desserts will be
available**





The Book Club met for a fun afternoon of High Tea and a lively discussion of the book *Spare* by Prince Harry. It was a departure from our usual Monday night time since it was a holiday. Good time was had by all!



Book Club

March 20th at 6:30 pm

at the home of Joan Forgie.

We will be discussing Abbi Waxman's book *Adult Assembly Required*, about a young woman who arrives in Los Angeles determined to start over and discovers she doesn't need to leave everything behind after all.

New members are always welcome!



**PLEASE HOLD THESE PEOPLE
IN PRAYER:**

Lynn Riopelli
Sally Latham
Emily Labrecque
Kay Taylor
Bill Valley
Janet's Sister Laverne
Nancy Dahlquist
Michelle Riether & Family
Phoenix
Sylvia & Arlie Burns
Andrew Burns
Susan Wright
Connie Harris
Ryan & Maloah McCarron
Janet Lavoie & Family
Roberta Green
Shari—Garceau's daughter
Tim O'Donnell
Kathy Washburn
Artur Pawlowski
Our Church
People of Ukraine
People of Turkey & Syria

**Folks to Visit/Call/Send
Card**

Barbara Atherton—Home
Janice DeFlumere—Home
Nancy Burke—Home
Mary Buss—Bear Mt. Rehab
Eunice Bock—home



Time to
Spring Ahead



**Set your clocks
FORWARD
one hour starting
March 12th**

MARCH



**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVER-
SARIES**

3/1—Sylvia Burns

3/22—Jack Valley

3/5—Merrilee Riopelli

3/26—Tom Forgie

3/5—Sarah Burke

3/30—Beth Marshall

3/7—Alan Riopelli

3/31—Lorrie Ludwin

3/16—Michelle Riether

3/31—Virginia Longo

3/19 - Jan Maszta

3/20—Mike Adelman

3/21—Eunice Bock 101 yrs.



3/25—Peter and Joanne Milloy



A Prayer for Openness

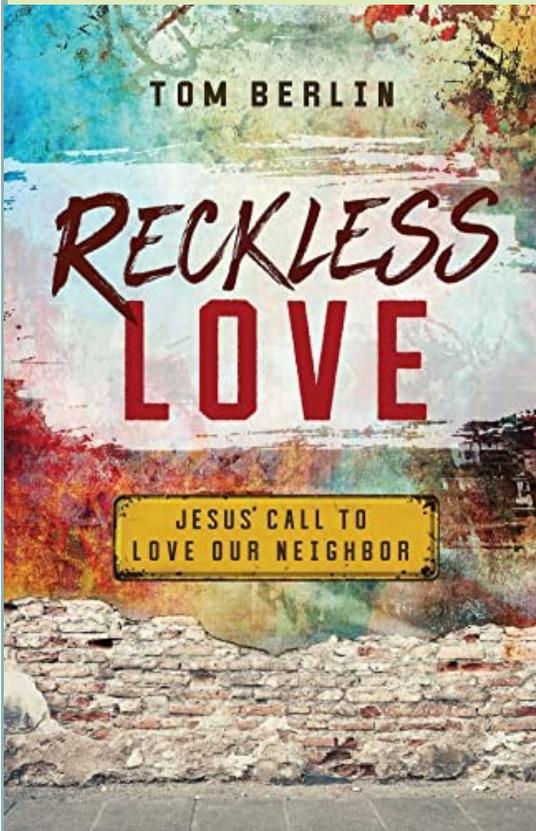
Open my mind to remember your presence

Open my mouth to speak your wisdom

Open my heart to extend your love

Open my hands to serve you generously

Open my whole being to you



How did Jesus teach the Greatest Commandment to his disciples? In his latest book *Reckless Love*, author and United Methodist Pastor Tom Berlin writes that Jesus taught them to love neighbor first as a way to love God more deeply. In his exploration of Jesus' teaching and travels with his disciples, Berlin suggests that Jesus teaches us how to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength by showing us how to love our neighbor. While many hope to learn to be better family, friends, leaders, and neighbors by finding a deeper relationship with God, what if becoming a better neighbor leads you to that deeper love of God? In *Reckless Love*, you will be invited to consider your life, and learn how loving the

people around you will completely renew your faith and give you a new experience of loving God.

Join us on Tuesday nights at 7 pm for an “hourish” for 6 weeks

(2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4) All are welcome!



Holy Week

April 2, 2023	Palm Sunday Worship Service 10 am
April 6, 2023	Maundy Thursday
April 7, 2023	Good Friday
April 9, 2023	Easter Sunrise Service 6 am Joy Jackson's Home
April 9, 2023	Easter Worship Service 10 am @ Faith UMC

Liturgists

3/5—Jordan Skibel
3/12—Ferne Garceau
3/19—Mike Adelman
3/26—Ron Jackson

Counters

3/6—Sallie Adelman & Susan Cassidy
3/13—Joan Forgie & Joy Jackson
3/20—Sallie Adelman & Susan Cassidy
3/27—Joan Forgie & Joy Jackson



Greeters

3/5—Sallie Adelman
3/12—Rich Pearson
3/19—Joy Jackson
3/26—Joan Forgie



Rev. Dr. Kate Galop
kgalop@gmail.com
(508) 737-9656
Pastor's office hours by appointment
Office (413) 533-6093

Roger LaCross—Organist
Sondra Spence: Lay Servant Minister
Mike Adelman : Lay Servant Minister
Merrilee Riopelli : Administrative Asst.

Church Office Hours
Tues., Wed., Thurs., and Friday
8:30 am—1:30 pm
www.chicopeeumc.org
Email : office@chicopeeumc.org



Add To Your Collection!

SHOP NOW

[RADA Fundraiser](#)

Follow the above link to order your cutlery From **Rada** your purchase supports the church.



We will be collecting bottles and cans again.

Please bring your CLEAN cans and bottles to the designated area.

ALL Proceeds will go to help finance our Military Appreciation Day in May



NEW FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

AmazonSmile is closed down February 20, 2023. To help you replace the void they're leaving, iGive is **doubling down on donations - at least 2X what AmazonSmile gave at over 2,000 stores.** To their credit, they taught the world that every purchase can help Faith United Methodist Church (Chicopee, MA) in a way iGive never could. But if you don't **act fast**, changing links on your website and informing donors, you're going to lose out.

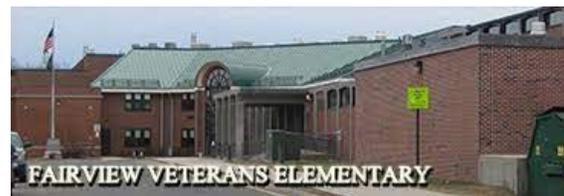
You have only a month to keep the donations from shopping flowing uninterrupted. By replacing AmazonSmile links on your website with your iGive joinLink (<https://www.iGive.com/FaithUnitedMethodistChurchChicopeeMA>), your supporters will be reminded that over 2,000 great stores (like [Walmart](#), and [Chewy](#), and [Expedia](#)) can help them make a difference.





Jesus said to visit the sick, care for the widow, the refugee, the orphan, for by doing so, you do so to him.

- Make time to visit people, give them a call, write a card.**
- Listen or sit in silence**
- If they're too tired to talk, tell them something about what is going on in your life.**
- Thank them for spending time with you & tell them that the church continues to hold them in prayer.**





FORTY DAYS – FORTY ITEMS

This year for each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet that you no longer wear or need and put it into a trash bag.

At the end of the 40 days, donate these items to the SHED in our parking lot so that they can be shared with someone who can really use them! Remember we only take textiles, shoes, and belts. If you live in Chicopee bring us your **PINK BAGS**

