



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

Important Information >>>

Pastor Tim's Phone
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December 9- January 13, 2021 NEWSLETTER

Ipswich United Church of Christ

Upcoming Events

January

31: Annual Meeting

February

10: Council Meeting at 5:00

17: Ash Wednesday at 5:30

Lent Services will continue
each Wednesday at 5:30pm

**ANNUAL
MEETING
UPDATE!!**

Change of Meeting date to
JANUARY 31, 2021
after worship.

Mission of the Month >>>

**Visiting or Sending Cards
To Shut ins and Nursing
Home Residents**

Prayer of the Month

Dear God, thank You for the gift of peace. Help me trust You
more each day.

Amen

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world
gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

"The Gift of Peace"

Do you know what it means to be peaceful? People are "at peace" when they
are not afraid. That doesn't mean everything is easy for them. It just means
they trust God to take care of them!

Jesus knows it's sometimes hard to feel peaceful. That's why He offers us His
peace. Next time you feel scared, ask Jesus to give you His gift of peace. He is
always with you! He wants to comfort you and give you everything you need.

Thought of the Month

Why do you think God wants you to feel peaceful?

Veggies Tales: God Knows Me

Article II of our Constitution >>>

Statement of Faith

This church shall worship God as revealed in scripture; celebrate the
sacraments of communion and baptism; develop fellowship and unity
with this church and with the church the world over; give loving
service toward humanity, and work toward justice, equality and peace
in our community and the world.

Council Minutes >>>

Ipswich United Church of Christ Council met on January 13, 2021 @ 5:00pm. Those present: Pastor Tim Fugman, Moderator Twila Thorstenson, Valette Horst, Donna Brockel, Joan Torrence, Deanne Hoyle, Margaret Nelson, Emily Volk, Lance Perrion, Carol Pond and Judy Steen. Twila called the meeting to order and Pastor led us in prayer.

The minutes of the December 9 meeting were approved as printed.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer: By Carol

Financial Secretary: by Deanne

Balance 12-01-20	\$	Corrected Nov. Report: Donations & Offerings	\$
Plate, pledges, don.		Interest earned	-
Greenery Dep.		Total November Deposits	\$
Missions/Christ. Fund-		December 2020 Donations & Offerings	\$
Reimbursement		Greenery Sales	\$
Int. earned		Christmas Fund	\$
Disbursements		Reimbursement	\$
Greenery exp. _____		Interest Earned	\$
Balance 12-31-20	\$	Window Project Contributions	\$
		Total December Deposits	\$

Memorial Report: by Judy

Checking account remains at \$

Savings balance 12-1-20 is \$.

December ending balance is \$.

THANK YOU TO ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT DURING THIS COVID19 PANIC.

Margaret made a motion to approve the Financial Reports, Valette seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Diaconate: Communion was served to 32 on December 20, 2020. Next communion is January 17, 2021.

Trustee: Trustees met and discussed fund raising ideas for our stained-glass window restoration. There are adult coloring books available in the narthex for sale of \$20 each. The fund-raising goal is \$. We have collected about \$ to date. Deanne made a motion to begin the process to get our church on the historic list. There are several options for grants by doing this. Carol seconded. Motion carried. Lance also reported that the furnace that heats the basement of the church is old and unrepairable. An estimate was received from Diamond S Heating & Cooling (Lonnie Steen) to get a new one installed. Deanne motioned to go ahead with the new furnace, Joan seconded. Motion carried.

Missions: The mission for January is food and paper products for our local food pantry. Our local pantry is ALWAYS accepting donations. Pancake mix that only requires water mixture and syrup are favorites along with paper towels, toilet paper, paper plates. The mission for February is visiting neighbors and shut ins. If this can't be done in person, please consider a phone call or mailing a note or card. These uncertain times are hard for everyone. A note can change a person's whole day/week/month!!

Christian Education, Women's Fellowship, Men's Fellowship, Search Committee: No reports. Carol made a motion to approve the committee reports, Donna seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor Report: Pastor asked about Ash Wednesday and Lent services. It was decided to have Ash Wednesday Service on February 17 @ 5:30. Lent services will continue each Wednesday at 5:30pm.

Old Business: Judy and Valette are on the nominating committee and gave a report of still looking for volunteers for committees.

New Business: After discussion, Valette made a motion to change **the Annual Meeting date to January 31, 2021**. Carol seconded. Motion carried. This will be held immediately following worship and there will be no meal following the meeting. Please plan to attend.

After discussion regarding numbers of people as Church Officers and Committee members, Deanne made a motion to change the number of Diaconates from 5 to 3 members; Mission Committee from 3 to 2; and change Pastor/Parish Relations Committee to 2 people—One appointed by the Council and one appointed by the Minister. Lance seconded. Motion carried. This will be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting for approval.

In conjunction with the above motion, Lance made a motion to change the committee voting numbers in the constitution to: 2 members of the Diaconate and Trustee Committees attend & vote at Council meetings. It is currently at 3 with 5 members on each committee. This will be presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting for approval. Joan seconded. Motion carried.

Watch your bulletins, newsletter, & emails for possible Souper Bowl activities!

Next Council meeting is February 10, 2021 @ 5:00pm.

ANNUAL MEETING IS CHANGED TO JANUARY 31, 2021 FOLLOWING WORSHIP. THERE WILL BE NO MEAL AFTERWARDS.

Twila adjourned the meeting

Judy Steen, Church Secretary

The Stained-Glass Windows Project >>>

The Stained-Glass Window Restoration Fundraiser is Ongoing!!

Trustees are looking into grants available to help meet our \$50,000 goal.

They also have coloring books for the young at heart available in the narthex for \$20.

Constitution Changes to be presented at Annual Meeting >>>

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Pastor Tim's Tidbits >>>

So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all,
and especially for those of the family of faith. Galatians 6:10

NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

It has been said that "opportunity knocks but once" but there are several axioms that have been developed over the years. One is; "Even when opportunity knocks a man still has to get up off his seat and open the door". Another is: "Some say opportunity knocks only once, that is not true. Opportunity knocks all the time, but you have to be ready for it. If the chance comes, you must have the equipment to take advantage of it." Yet another is; "Opportunities comes from knocking on doors until they open." I like that one.

The truth is that each second of each day brings a new opportunity... a new opportunity to thank someone, a new opportunity for prayer, a new opportunity to improve some part of our lives. Most of the time we just seem to go with the status quo... leaving things as they are, living life as we've lived it for years, no change.

Unfortunately, living the status quo gives us little opportunity to grow. And often, probably always, we need to grow... spiritually, socially, personally. And also, unfortunately, opportunities keep passing us by.

Our New Year's celebration has been a time for New Year's resolutions... an opportunity to make conscious decisions which can change our lives... for the better.

I have a few ideas for us to contemplate (maybe even ponder). 1) - How about reading the Bible more? Just put the Bible on your nightstand and read a verse (maybe even... a *chapter*) before you go to sleep. And/or 2) - How about attending church just a bit more often? Just set your alarm for 8:30 am Sundays and you will have an hour and a half to eat and get ready and get to church. That shouldn't be too bad, should it? 3) - How about putting just a little bit more in the offering plate? I'd be willing to bet that you wouldn't miss it, and combined with other faithful gifts we could share God's love and the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ more abundantly in the community and around the world

Another opportunity will arise on Sunday, January 31 (note the new date). This is the date of our Annual Meeting. At our annual meeting we review the year past, share dreams and visions and plans for 2021, and dedicate ourselves to the faithful work and witness necessary to meet our dreams and goals. As always, we plan for an uplifting meeting, one in which we focus on making our church an instrument for glorifying God, learning more about Jesus and opening ourselves to the power of God's Holy Spirit.

Our church, *your* church, Ipswich UCC, even in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, stands ready and willing and able to provide opportunities for your faith growth in whatever areas there is a felt need. We pray that the New Year will reveal to you unlimited opportunities for us, our church and our community.

Grace and peace and Happy New Year.

Pastor Tim

2021 Church Directory >>>

2021 Our Family and Friends Church Directory

Next Month I would like to start working on updating our family and friends Church Directory. If you are not in our church directory, and/or not receiving emails, please email the church ipswichucc@gmail.com and Emily Volk will get you entered in.

If you are new to the church: please include in your email: names of everyone in your family, email, phone numbers, anniversary, and birthdays!!

If you have updated any of your information, please send an email, if you haven't done so already.
Thank You

Birthdays>>>

9: Taylor Mauer, Trevin Maurer
11: Brantley Steen, Jada Saucedo
12: Ashley Ptacek, Andrea Beitelspacher
13: Bailey Pitz, Jan Kilber, David Coisman
16: Cathy Jorgenson
18: Ruby Bosanko,
20: Emmy Ptacek
22: Jonathan Volk, Piper Rose
25: Carson Gramm
26: Melvin Roesch
27: Dylan McQuarie

Greeters/Ushers >>>

Signup is available in the back pew!!
Volunteers are greatly appreciated.

Acolytes >>>

Greeters will cover at this time.

Liturgist Readers >>>

7: Kim Kanable
14: Margaret Nelson
21: Jerry Brooks
28: Valette Horst

Anniversaries>>>

11- Jerry and Peggy Brooks
14- Jeromy and Tracy Loken

If you cannot greet or read, please find a replacement and let Emily Volk know. If you cannot find someone, please contact me and I will gladly help you. Thank You

Please Let Us Know >>>

If you are not getting the e-mails or know of someone not receiving the emails that we are sending out from the church, please contact Emily Volk or contact me and I will add them/you to the mailing list. Emily 605-216-1234 or eabvolk_6411@hotmail.com

Thank You



February 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 6:00 Youth Group 6:30 Youth Activities	4	5	6
7 10:00 Worship	8	9	10 5:00 Council Meeting 6:00 Youth Group 6:30 Youth Activities	11	12	13
14 10:00 Worship	15	16	17 5:30 Ash Wednesday Lent Service 6:00 Youth Group 6:30 Youth Activities and	18	19	20
21 10:00 Worship	22	23	24 5:30 Lent Service 6:00 Youth Group 6:30 Youth Activities	25	26	27
28 10:00 Worship	29	30	31 5:30 Lent Service 6:00 Youth Group 6:30 Youth Activities			

Look for announcement in the bulletin/email/online for details of Souper Bowl Sunday!!