



# The Link

between the home and St. Luke's United Methodist Church

63 East Broadway, Derry NH 03038 [stlukesumcnh.org](http://stlukesumcnh.org)  
603-434-4767

March 2020  
Volume 55, Issue 1

## Special Interest Articles:

- UMW Meeting
- Community Café
- Lenten food Drive
- Finance Committee News
- Charlie Zahm Concert

## United Methodist Women

The UMW will have their first meeting of 2020 on Sunday, March 22nd after coffee hour. We will be planning our activities for the upcoming year. Bring your ideas, creativity and enthusiasm! All women are welcome for an afternoon of fun and fellowship! Hope to see you there!  
Sally Spencer

## Lenten Food Drive

Our Lenten Food Drive to benefit the First Baptist Church Community Food Pantry is on. We will accept non-perishable food donations now through Easter Sunday. In 2019, the FBCC Pantry helped over 1,400 local families - that's over 3,100 individuals - and half of them were kids and seniors.

Right now, the pantry can really use cereal, baked beans, and mac & cheese. We are challenged to 'give' up one food item per day during the 40 days of Lent. Remember: a can a day, for 40 days, helps to keep the hunger away!

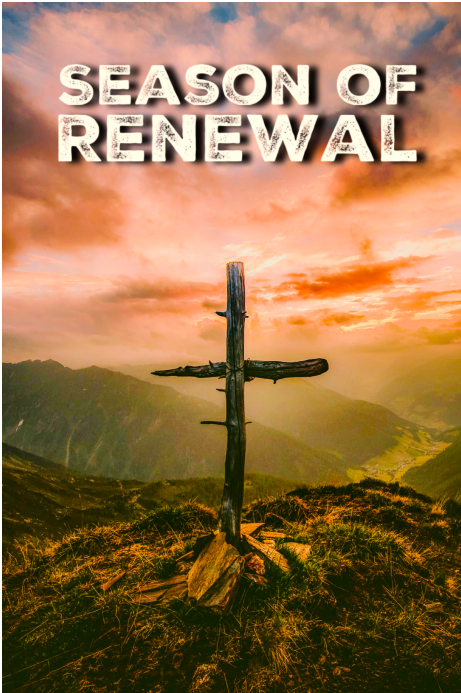
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## Community Café – March 21st

Our next Community Café will be Saturday, March 21st **at 5:00pm**. We will be serving tacos and all the fixings! Come enjoy some good food and fellowship! There will be a sign-up sheet for salads, sides and desserts.





## The Pastor's Letter

### *Psalm 42:2*

*My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.*

*When can I go and meet with God?*

Lent in Latin is *Quadragesima* meaning 'Fortieth.' During these forty days we have an opportunity to open up ourselves to our Lord in a deeper sense. It is a time for renewal. Renewal of our minds, hearts, and soul. Some people take this time to fast and in prayers. Others spend it with Lenten devotion and reflection. All of these are ways where we can all be renewed. One may ask, "Why only do these during Lent?" Lent is described traditionally as lasting for forty days, it is to commemorate Jesus fasting in the desert for forty days in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and

Luke. Jesus proved that the power of the Word of God is our defense in facing temptations of this world. Temptations are never easy to deal with. It is always enticing, alluring and so appealing. But no matter how irresistible temptations are - we are reminded to rely on the Word of God just like what Jesus did in the wilderness. Matthew 4: 1-11, He did not turn the stone into bread, he did not test God and He declared to worship God alone. Imagine yourself for forty days reflecting upon all your needs. Your need as a mother, father, grandparents, daughter, son, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, and a friend. I would imagine this could be so overwhelming. We have so many needs personally and yet there are other needs that concerns us.

For many years of doing pastoral ministry, there are times that I have put aside my own personal needs. But there is one thing that I will never set aside, the need to be inspired and renewed through the Word of God. So I invite all of you to take this time to let yourself be open as the Word of God is revealed to you - by reading the Bible, by prayer, by fasting, by praising God, by joining your faith community in missions or just allow yourself to engage in healthy and meaning conversations about your Lenten journey with others. We need a renewal of heart and mind. We need to rejuvenate ourselves as Christians. As Jesus prepared for His Galilean ministry, He needed the forty days of fasting and prayers. It was not an easy earthly ministry for Him, but it was all worth it! It was Jesus' sacrifice by which God saves humanity from sin and death.

In this Season of Lent, may you all take the time to answer God's invitation, "Return to me with your whole heart" (Joel 2:12). Come to our God inspired and renewed!

In Christ I serve,

*Pastor Nory Vedan Leachon*

*Continued on Page 3*

## Holy Week Services

### April 10, 2020 - Good Friday Services

1. Salem, NH Good Friday Walk Way of the Cross starting at Saints Mary and Joseph Parish at 9:00am. Second Station at Pleasant Street UMC/
2. Ecumenical Derry Way of The Cross starts at 1:00pm at First Parish Congregational Church and ends at Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church (more information to follow).
3. Joint Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm with Pleasant Street UMC at 8 Pleasant St. Salem NH 03079

### April 12, 2020 Easter Services

1. Easter Sunrise Service at Campbell's Scottish Highlands Golf Course (Time TBA)
2. Easter Sunday Service at Pleasant Street UMC at 9:00am
3. Easter Sunday Service at St. Luke's UMC at 11:00am



## **CHARLIE ZAHM CONCERT APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>**

### **GET YOUR TICKETS NOW**

Charlie Zahm will be returning to St. Luke's on Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. This year, Charlie brings his salute to the great Scottish American Regiment, the 79th New York! A musical journey through the history of the famed regiment of Scots and Scottish Americans. The night continues with many great songs from our military's gallant song book, original songs by Charlie and others to round out a wonderful evening in tribute to our awesome active duty military and our wonderful veterans. Proceeds from this concert will be donated to "The Wounded Warrior Project".

Tickets are available online at: [www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com) or from Bruce during coffee hour after Sunday services.



**Songs of the 79th NY Regiment**  
*The Cameron Highlanders*  
*In tribute to our active military and veterans*  
*Performed by:*  
**Charlie Zahm**

**Friday April 3, 2020 7:30 pm**  
**St. Luke's United Methodist Church**  
**63 East Broadway**  
**Derry, NH**

Tickets \$15 Available at [BrownPaperTickets.com](http://BrownPaperTickets.com)  
or at the door (cash or check at door)

More Info: [CameronBrosNH@GMail.com](mailto:CameronBrosNH@GMail.com)

Proceeds will benefit: 

**14th ANNUAL FLEA MARKET  
ST. LUKE'S UMC**

**Saturday, May 2, 2020  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Rain or Shine-held indoors

A variety of items & treasures will be available  
Complimentary coffee/tea

LOCATION:  
63 East Broadway, Derry, NH  
Parking Available Across Street  
Handicap Accessible

**\*\*\*All St. Luke's members please come out and help us with the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Flea Market! You can help by: setting up during the week before the Flea Market on April 27<sup>th</sup> to May 1st at 6pm, donating items to be sold, or working during the Flea Market on Saturday, May 2nd. Please join the Finance Committee in making this another successful fundraising event.**

Please see Tammy Craft to sign up or call 437-2635, email: [atcraft@comcast.net](mailto:atcraft@comcast.net).

**Don't forget to start getting together all the wonderful  
items you want to donate.  
Remember what you don't want  
might be a treasure for someone else!**

**\*\*\*Please do not donate large furniture or TVs or clothes**

## Finance Committee News

### STEWARDSHIP NEWS

We have completed our annual stewardship drive for 2020. We received a total of 12 giving unit (married couples or single persons) pledges for 2020. The total pledged was \$41,892. For comparison, here is a list of the pledges for the last 5 years:

- **2016 16 pledges = \$51,260**
- **2017 14 pledges = \$41,350**
- **2018 16 pledges = \$40,600**
- **2019 14 pledges = \$42,435**
- **2020 12 pledges = \$41,892**

Based on last year's records, \$11,320.00 can be expected for the coming year from persons who have established giving patterns but did not fill out cards (9 giving units).

This gives a grand total of \$53,212.00 in anticipated income for the next 12 months.

For comparison our budget for 2020 is \$98,033. Our actual expenses for 2019 were \$87,525. This indicates a budget shortfall between \$34,000 and \$45,000.

As you can see this is a significant projected shortfall. As a result, the Finance Committee is focusing on additional fund-raising activities. These activities will probably not make up that shortfall, but every little bit helps.

So, the Finance committee asks for your continued prayers as we look to provide good stewardship for our church. On the bright side, we have been on this path before as you can see from the previous year pledges. We have ultimately met our obligations and continued the mission of St. Luke's UMC and we will strive to do so again in 2020.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. We will continue to update you throughout the year on our stewardship progress.

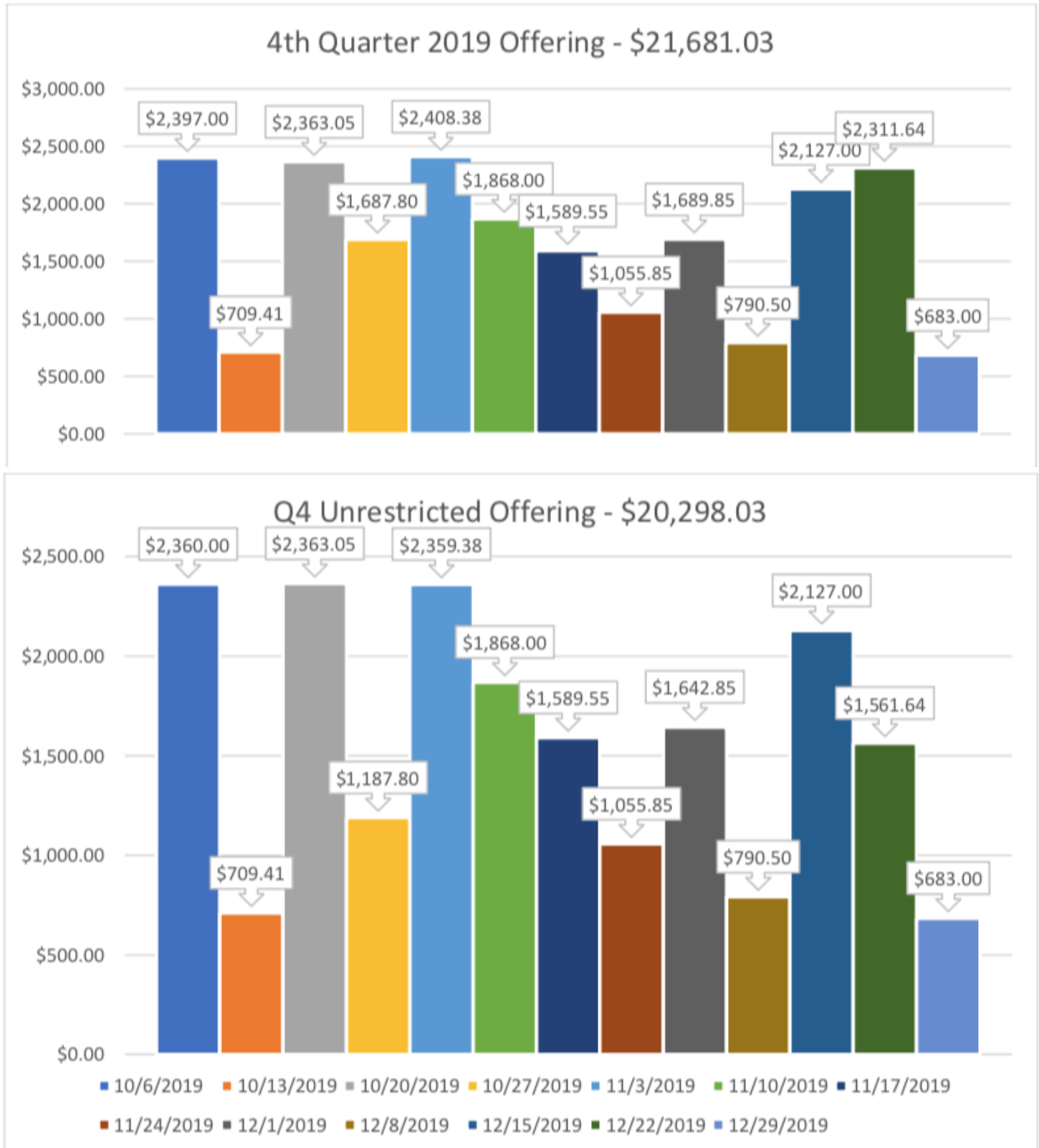
Drew Dilks

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

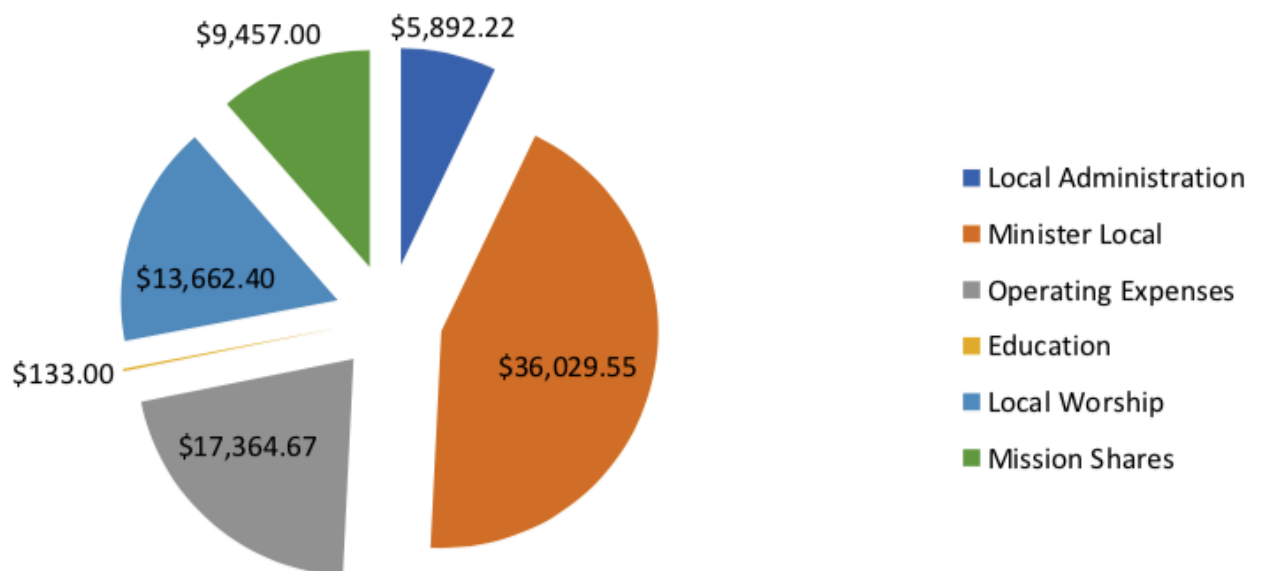
Our fourth quarter offering was \$21,681.03 of which \$20,298.03 was unrestricted. A bar chart showing our offerings for the fourth quarter is outlined below.



The total unrestricted offering for the year was \$83,001.64. The total giving for 2019 was \$88,363.64.

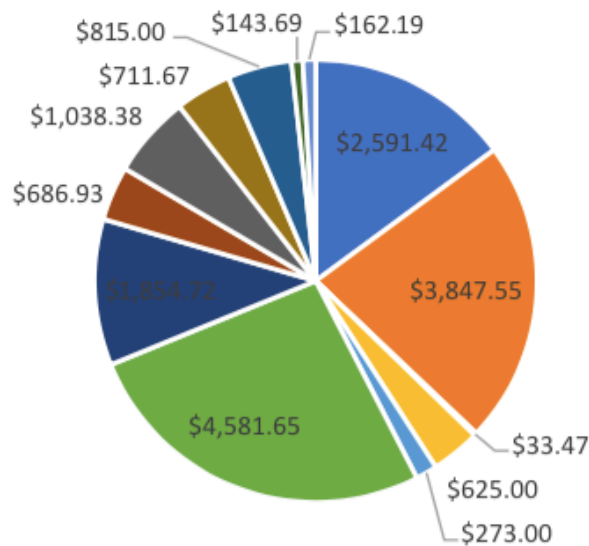
St Luke's Expenses for 2019 totaled \$87,525.55. Our budget for 2019 was set at \$93,525. We were able to come in under our budget by approximately \$6,000. These expenses are broken down in the pie charts below.

### 2019 St Luke's Year End Expenses to date - \$87,525.55



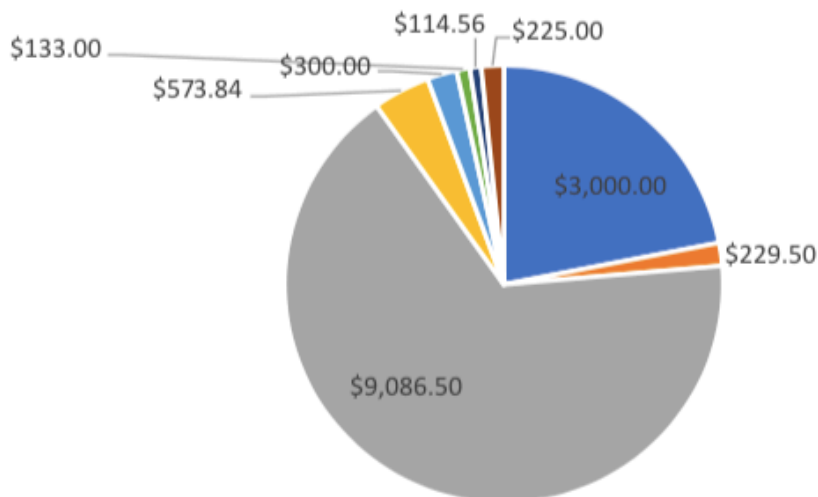


### 2019 Year End Operating Expenses to date - \$17,364.67

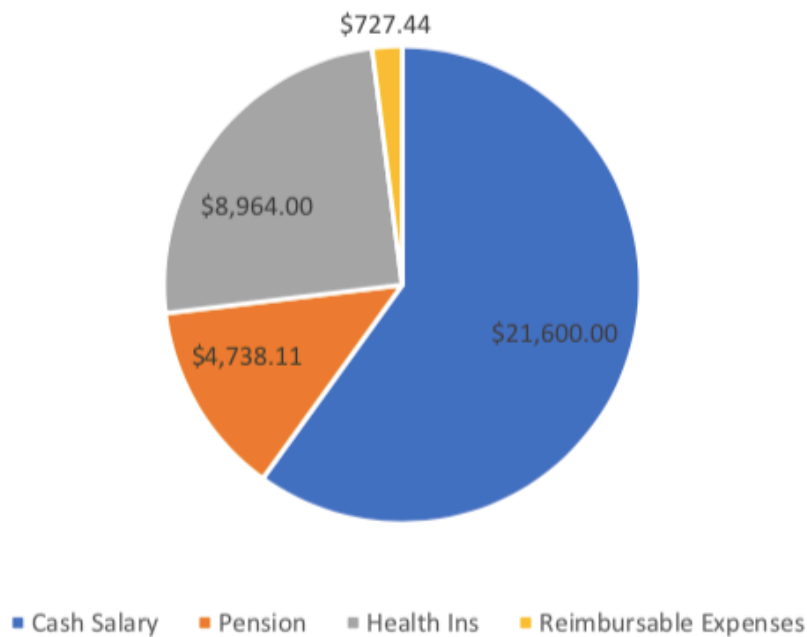


- Church Electric
- Vestry Floor Maintenance
- Required Inspections
- Cable/Internet/Parsonage Phone
- Worker's Comp
- Church Heat
- Waste Management
- Parsonage Electric
- Snow Plowing
- Janitor Cleaning Supplies
- Building Insurance
- Parsonage Heat
- Town Water & Sewer

### 2019 Year End Local Worship Expenses to date - \$13,622.40



- Choir Director
- Choir Director SS/MED
- Organist
- Organist SS/MED
- Organist Substitute
- Copyright License
- Video Licensing
- Pulpit Substitute

**2019 Year End Minister Local Expenses to date - \$36,029.55**

The Finance Committee hopes the above information provides some clarity into the St Luke's Finances. As you can see, we were able to meet our financial obligations for 2019. We were able to pay 100% of our Mission Shares for 2019. This achievement was due to your belief and faith in the good works of St Luke's UMC. This next year poses another challenge for which I hope and pray we all stand together as we did in 2019. Peace be with you all.

Drew Dilks

**EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

Anyone wishing to dedicate Easter lilies or other types of flowers for the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 12, should bring their plants to St. Luke's no later than Saturday, April 11, by noon time and leave them in the nursery area. Supply the information below to the church office ( [stlukesumc@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesumc@gmail.com) ) or leave info in the collection plate no later than Sunday, April 5, to ensure their inclusion in the printed bulletin for Easter Sunday.

If you would like to take your plant with you after the service, please put your name on a label on the pot.

In memory/honor of:

Given By:

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**Your Trustees at Work**

In our last few months in the sanctuary, before moving to the vestry for services, you may have noticed some buzzing or vibration as the organ was being played. Well, that wasn't Jeff DeLangie's fault! Our organ and its speakers were installed when Leigh Thaeler was organist and Peter Hey was pastor, if that gives some sense of age. Upon inspection of the speakers Bruce Cameron determined that four of them were in need of serious attention. Bruce did a good deal of research and found repair kits, at considerable savings when compared to purchase of new units.

Repair work has been completed and speakers reinstalled. All that's left is for Jeff to give them a test run. Hopefully on Palm Sunday we'll all be back to hearing that glorious sound we've come to expect in our sanctuary.

Mike Corey, on behalf of your Trustees



# March 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 11AM Worship Service 12PM Coffee hour- April Starin	2 Visitation Ministry	3 10AM-1PM Office hours 6:30PM Hope at the Table	4	5	6	7 7PM Open Mic Night (St.Patrick's Day Theme)
8 11AM Worship Service 12PM Coffee Hour- Marilyn Clukey	9 Visitation Ministry	10 10AM-1PM Office hours	11 6:30PM Trustee's Mtg	12	13	14
15 11AM Worship Service 12PM Coffee Hour- Caroline Schulze	16 Visitation Ministry	17 10AM-1PM Office hours 6:30PM Hope at the Table	18	19	20	21 5-6:30PM Community Café (Team B-tacos)
22 11AM Worship Service 12PM Coffee Hour- Barb Clements UMW Meeting	23 Visitation Ministry	24	25 6:30PM Finance/ Church Council Meeting	26	27	28 8AM-12noon Trustee's Work Day
29 11AM- Children's Worship Service 12PM Coffee Hour- Sue & Sara Varney	30 Visitation Ministry	31				

## St. Luke's United Methodist Church

63 East Broadway  
Derry, NH 03038  
PHONE:  
(603)434-4767

Sunday Worship Service  
11:00 AM

Children Sunday School  
During Worship

### St. Luke's Mission Statement

To bring people to Jesus and membership in God's family, experience God's Love in Worship, grow in Christ-like maturity equipped to share God's Love through service in the world.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.stlukesumcnh.org](http://www.stlukesumcnh.org)

Find us on Facebook

## Video Ministry

The times for St. Luke's Cable TV

Derry Cable Channel 23

**Wednesday** 7:00 am and 5:30 pm  
**Sunday** 9:30 am and 5:30 pm

Londonderry Cable 20

**Sunday** 9:00 am

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The Link is published in twelve monthly issues by St. Luke's United Methodist Church. The deadline for all articles is the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month. The staff encourages letters on issues concerning our readers, pictures, as well as feedback on the newsletter itself. Suggestions are always welcome. Please send all articles and pictures to [kachampoux@comcast.net](mailto:kachampoux@comcast.net).

## ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

63 East Broadway  
Derry, NH 03038