

First Church in Pembroke

March 2020 Newsletter

Upcoming Event

March 4th -6:30pm Event Planning

March 7th -8-10am Pancake
Breakfast

March 8th – 12:15 Missions Meeting

March 10th -7:30pm Deacons
Meeting

March 11th -10:30am Thrift Shop
Meeting

March 14th-5:00 St. Patrick's Day
Dinner

March 17th -7:30pm Trustees
Meeting

March 21st- 9-12:30 Bob Naylor

March 22nd- 10am "Welcome Back
Service"

March 24th -7:30 Church Council
Meeting

March 25th-April Newsletter
Deadline

March 29th-Easter Baskets due in
Fellowship Hall for 4/12 raffle

Recurring Event

Every Thursday
Creative Workshop-7pm

Choir Practice – 7:30pm

Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday

Thrift Shop 11am -3pm

Pastor's Corner

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is the official start of the season of Lent, six and a half weeks in total, consisting of 40 weekdays as an act of repentance prior to Easter or Resurrection Sunday. The institution of the day, or the season, is not in your Bible. It was set up by the early church to provide some structure in how to think about and prepare for Resurrection Sunday.

It was first observed in the 7th century. Ash Wednesday served as an invitation for certain people to publicly begin a season of penance. This specific practice then fell into disuse and was re-instituted in the 10th-ish century but opened to the general congregation rather than "certain people".

As a part of the ceremony, the repentant, which is you, were marked with ashes as an outward symbol of an inward disposition of the heart; that is, a heart that loves God and one that mourns their sins. Back in the days when the Old Testament was written, people used to dump ashes on their heads as a sign of sin, either that they had committed, or had been committed against them. Ashes were a symbol of mourning in ancient culture, and often accompanied by sackcloth (think wearing an itchy burlap shirt) and fasting. One did this to be physically miserable as a reminder that they needed communion with God more than they needed physical comfort and secondly to show everyone how miserable they were.

You wouldn't tell a joke to a person in mourning. In fact, you would probably go out of your way to avoid such a person. Wearing ashes show that we care about sin and brokenness and we recognize that our sins separate us from God.

Over the course of Lent, I am going to be preaching on the "Seven Deadly Sins". Perhaps, if we can increase our understanding of sin then we will be more likely not to commit them.

Blessings,
Rev. Fred

Trustees

The Trustees met on 2/18/20

- January financial report was presented in draft form with more updates to be made as figures are received from the bank records.
- Changes to the copier machine are finalized and will result in a new copier and lower cost to the church.
- Replaced the sink in a classroom due to leaks. Multiple repairs on the Fellowship Hall boiler have hopefully been fixed.
- New vendors are being contacted to see about painting the sanctuary ceiling including one who did work previously for the church.
- Markings indicating that the church doors are being monitored after hours have been placed on the doors.
- Continuing waiting for the attorney to finalize the deed restriction required for the CPC funding.
- Keys to the church and parsonage have been accounted for. The protocol will be finalized at the next meeting.
- The fire alarm system is being upgraded and will result in lower cost to the church
- Parsonage work is being resolved slowly with a few issues remaining except for outside work in the spring.
- Fundraising reported on the St. Patrick dinner 3/14/20, the Lenten Chowder Luncheon 4/10/20 and Old Home Days Fair 5/28-30/20.
- The next meeting will be 4/17/20.
- Full minutes are available in the church office.

THRIFT SHOP FLASH – MID WINTER SALE – UP TO 50% OFF - NEED AN EXTRA JACKET? – WARM HAT, SCARF OR AN EXTRA PAIR OF GLOVES, MITTENS –BOOTS

Greetings from the Diaconate!

It's March - although spring doesn't officially begin this month, it is the month in which we welcome meteorological spring. Spring is a time for new beginnings and with that in mind we ask you to join with us on March 21 as all members and friends of our church join together under the leadership of Rev. Bob Naylor in a day of visioning for our future.

Then please join us for "Welcome Back" Sunday the next day. To assist in Rev. Naylor's planning please RSVP by calling the office or signing the sheet in Fellowship Hall. Want to come but can't make it? Please let us know that, too.

The new acolyte procedure is going well. Please remain in the pews until they have carried the lit tapers, representing the Light of Christ, out of the sanctuary.

Celebrate a joyous event or remember a loved one by purchasing flowers to adorn the altar. The signup sheet can be found on the door of the Deacon's closet in the hall.

Community Pancake Breakfast is Back!!!

The griddles are warming up at First Church in Pembroke. We continue to host a Community Pancake Breakfast on the FIRST Saturday of the month from September – June from 8-10am in the church Fellowship Hall. Drop by as you head off to those sports events or on your way to do errands and join us for Pancakes, Sausage, Juice and Coffee! Short Stack (2 pancakes & 2 sausages) \$3.00 and Super Stack (4 pancakes & 4 sausages) \$5.00. A great way to start your day - and you don't have to cook! Tickets available at the door. See you March 7, 2020!

Stewardship

Time, Talent, and Treasure are the three vital components of Stewardship. We urge everyone to consider how we can contribute in any and all these ways. Making a pledge allows the church to make plans for the future. The Stewardship Team thanks everyone who has submitted a pledge for this year and reminds you that, although the official pledging campaign took place in November, it is never too late to pledge! Pledge cards are still available in the office. Many churches today are striving for "Second Mile Giving" based on Matthew 5:40-42 in which Jesus says "and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go the second mile. Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you." We ask you to make a pledge if you have not done so yet, and to reflect on giving more if you have already pledged. Together we can strengthen our church and grow its ministry!

Missions

A roll of blanket (rescue and survival) material was donated by the U.S. Felt Co. Inc. With the help of the ladies from our Thursday night crafting, we were able to cut the roll into 4X5 blankets. The blankets were then trimmed and put in a large zip bag. Thank you to the Palmers for their donation of zip bags. Distribution then went out into the Pembroke community. The blankets were given to the following: Fire Department, Police Department, Council on Ageing and the Fire House Pantry. The Fire House Pantry – Soup Kitchen's will be bringing theirs into Boston to help the homeless at Needle Park. A small blanket was also given out to the Pembroke Animal Shelter. Thank you, Vin, the proprietor of U.S. Felt Co. Inc., all will be helped by your generosity.

It is now time to set up our Hygiene Kits for Church World Services.

Missions is again asking this year for a helping hand to put together the kits to help those people that have experienced earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, fires and other disasters.

Our basket will be set up in Fellowship Hall. A zip bag will be provided to put your donation in:

Needed are:

1 hand towel (15" X 28" to 16" X 32")

1 face cloth

1 bar of soap in original wrapper

And a \$2.00 donation for postage

The Mission committee will provide the remaining items that are needed to complete the kits.

The donation campaign for "One Great Hour of Sharing" envelopes will be put in the pews for March 22nd.

Mission will be helping with the St. Patrick's Day Dinner. The children from CE will put together favors again this year and help set up the tables.

Missions has been asked to do a Flannel Board Bible story the first Sunday of every month in Sunday School. The Bible story for the Month of March is: Peter Saved from Drowning Matthew 14: 22-33, Mark 6: 45-56, John 6: 15-21

"Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth" Isaiah 45:22

Community Nursery Kindergarten (CNK) is a non-profit preschool that runs under the auspices of the First Church in Pembroke. CNK provides a positive, enriching and developmentally appropriate preschool educational experience for the young child ages 2.9 – 6.0 years. Our goal is to provide the most encouraging, nurturing environment possible by offering classes designed to appeal to the interests of each child at their own individual stage of development. We have been caring, sharing, and learning for over 50 years.

We have started registration for the 2020-2021 year! We have several different class options- including a full day option this year. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in signing a child up for preschool, please give our director, Jean Holland a call at 781-294-1654. Please check out our website www.cnkpembroke.com and visit us on Facebook @CNK Pre-school.

St Patrick's Day Dinner, Saturday, March 14, 2020

Menu: Corned beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots, Turnip, Onions, Dessert, Beverage!!

Doors open at 5pm, dinner will be served in Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm and take out is available. After dinner Irish Dancers from the Kenny Academy of Irish Dance will perform. This will be an outreach to the Community in general and to the Senior Community. We will again work with the Firehouse Food Pantry and the Council on Aging. Ticket price is \$10.00. If assistance is needed, we will provide tickets through COA Outreach and food pantries, and home delivery where appropriate. Ticket reservations will be taken through First Church office at 781-293-2584 and online at firstchurchinpembroke.org.

First Church Pembroke – March 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>10AM Sunday Service</p> <p>7:00 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>2</p> <p>4:30-6 Brownies</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:15-6:30 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:15-6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30-8:30 Event Planning</p>	<p>5</p> <p>11-3 Thrift Shop 7:00 Crafts 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>11-3 Thrift Shop 4-5:30 Juniors 7:30 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8-10 Pancake Breakfast 11-3 Thrift Shop</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10AM Sunday Service</p> <p>12:00 Missions 5:30-7 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:30 Deacons</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:30 Thrift Shop Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>11 – 3 Thrift Shop 7:00 Crafters 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10am (Private Funeral Service) 11 – 3 Thrift Shop 7:30PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11 – 3 Thrift Shop 5:30 St. Patrick's Day Corn Beef Dinner</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10AM Sunday Service</p> <p>5-6:30 Juniors</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30-6:30 Daisies</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:30 Trustees</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 CNK Board Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11 – 3 Thrift Shop 7:00 Crafters 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11-3 Thrift Shop 7:30PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9-12:30 Bob Naylor 11 – 3 Thrift Shop</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10AM Sunday Service</p> <p>"Welcome Back Service"</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:15- 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:30 Church Council</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline 5:15-6:30 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11-3 Thrift Shop 7-9 Crafters 7:30 Choir</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11-3 Thrift Shop 7:30PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11 – 3 Thrift Shop 11-6 Eagle Scout Ceremony</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10AM Sunday Service</p> <p>*Easter Baskets Due In Fellowship Hall for 4/12 Raffle!</p>	<p>30</p> <p>3:30-5 CNK Staff Meeting 5:30-6:30 Daisies</p>	<p>31</p>				