## The Hilltops

#### Monthly Newsletter | June 2020

Published by New Beginnings United Methodist Church serving Pepperell, Townsend, and the surrounding communities. Editor – Krissy Miner



United Methodist Church

We are followers of Jesus, who tend God's garden, serving the mind, body and spirit of all God's children.

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Lay Leader: Open

SPRC Chair: Christine Silver

Stewardship: Open Worship Ministry:

Jean Whitman 978-597-2511

Community Outreach Ministry:

Open

Spiritual Formation Ministry:

Brenda Bennett 802-318-7563

Youth Ministry: Open

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**Membership Committee:** Lynne Connors, Linda Jones, Brenda Bennett, Louise Thorpe, Rick Oakley and Shirley Hult

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**Trustees:** Chair- Rick Oakley; Treasurer - Marcia Scofield; Secretary - Krissy Miner; Committee Members: Al Higgins, Al Harris, Shirley Hult



Deep in the wilderness of Judaea, what insect did John the Baptist use as sustenance?

(May Question: The giant, Goliath the Philistine, got knocked down by which prophet of God? Answer: David.)



Linda Oakley, June 20 Kim Chapman, June 20 Lisa Lavery, June 29 Lauren Lynde, June 29



Debbie Alger; Lily Andreasen; Joan Arsenault (Lynne's friend); Kathryn Bruen (Louise's sister, stroke); Patrick and Collette Burns; June Carr (Louise's lifelong friend); Betty Conley; Charlene Corris (a steamboat friend of Shirley Coit); Ralph Cusano (cancer); Mary Ann DiStefano (The Poehler's dear friend, ovarian

cancer); Philip Durno (cancer); Keith Edmonds (cancer & heart problems); Emma Ermel; Marcus Ermel; Delaney Fallon; Susan Fallon & family: Bill and Gail Felton (homebound): Sandy Freeman; Donna Gallagher (brain injury); Andrew Garbino; Shirley Gibson & family; Steven (Ann Goebel's brother, cancer); Jimmy Harnish (cancer); the family of Kathy Harris; Lucky & Penny Howie; Michele Kelley; Dondi Krikorian: LaRue: lean Tommy Maciorowski; Chloe Miner; Dick & Judie Moore; Bob Newton; Lucinda Nichol (Judy's daughter); Linda Oakley; Lance Osborne; Debby Parker; Wallace Powers (cancer); Terry Quinn; Leslie Rice; Gloria Roddy (multiple myeloma); Peter Sheldon; Richard Simmons; Al St. Croix (cancer); Louise Thorpe; Patty Thorpe (MS and graves disease); Jimmy Tompkinson; Christine & Roy Walker; Don Waye (cancer); Rev. Joan-Anne Westfall; Emma Whitman; Sheila Wick; Nevaeh Wilder (cancer); Edward (Margie Wilson's brother, cancer); Robert Withee: Bonnie Wozniak; the victims of natural disasters all over the world: all those unemployed; all those affected by the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic.

# "The Church is not empty, we have been deployed."

Submitted by Brenda Bennett

God is in the Small Stuff By: Bruce & Stan

To be an ongoing project. A work in progress.

#### Improve Yourself (No One Else Can)

Will there ever be a time when you will stop learning and improving yourself? Will it happen when you get your high school diploma? Not then, because the education process has only just begun. At college graduation? Hardly, because the lessons of the real world await. When you become a parent with your own children to raise? Certainly not, because every parent has to stay mentally sharp just to keep up with the "new math." Will you be able to stop learning and improving when you reach

your "golden years?" That's doubtful, because then you'll need more wits than ever to figure out all of the discounts to which you are entitled.

So when does your quest to improve yourself end? When you stop breathing. Between now and then, you should consider yourself to be an ongoing project. A work in progress. Always improving. Never stagnant.

Self-improvement is a popular topic. In the midst of our current technology generation, we are told that our minds are like computers—they are only as good as they are programmed. But the emphasis on continuing personal development is not unique to contemporary society. Several decades ago someone wrote, "You are what you think." And even before that, the Bible said, "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7 KJV).

God did not design you to be stagnant or sluggish in any respect: spiritually, physically, mentally, or socially. To borrow a book title from Churck Swindoll, God intends that you "live above the level of mediocrity."

Self-improvement doesn't happen automatically. It requires constant, systematic, and disciplined personal development. There are books to be read, people to meet, and new places to discover. Your personal growth is a privilege, not a burden. This is where God loves to get involved in the details of your life. Let Him work in the small stuff of your life to help you grow and improve.

Each day, as you begin again your process of personal growth, remember that it all begins with your attitude. You must prepare your heart and program your mind for self-improvement. Like the Scripture says, "Fix your thoughts on what is true and honorable and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise" (Philippians 4:8 NLT).

#### ...In the Small Stuff

- Self-improvement is a lifelong process.
- Learn from the mistakes of others.
   You'll never live long enough to make them all yourself.

- Don't take pride in exceeding your expectations if your goals were only mediocre.
- Learn to tell a good story.
- Once in a while, set a goal that absolutely terrifies you.
- Learn to thrive on challenge and change.
- When you think you've learned enough, you haven't.
- Don't be afraid to try something you don't think you can do. You may surprise yourself and you'll probably enjoy it.
- It's hard to learn from a mistake you don't acknowledge making.
- Develop a unique style
- Consider how you can make a bigger impact with your time, money, and talents.
- Seeing is better than looking.
- Listening is better than hearing.

Doing is better than talking.

### Submitted by Brenda Bennett

### Hedy Lamarr – Actress, Director and Inventor

Last week I watched a program on Hedy Lamarr presented on Channel 2. She was considered the most beautiful woman in the world by the film industry. The piece outlined many parts of her film career which included both acting and film producer, but the part that sparked my interest was that she was an inventor and the co=inventor of frequency-hopping spread spectrum that is the basis of computer communications for which she received no recognition and no royalties.

Although her entire life was very interesting the thing that brought me to write this article was something she read to her adult son on the phone that was played at the end of the show:

"I'll read you something pretty.

People are unreasonably illogical and self-centered: Love them anyway!

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish, alternative motives: Do good anyway!

The biggest people with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest people with the smallest minds: Think big anyway!

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight: Build anyway!

Give the world the best you have! Give the world the best you've got anyway!"

With all she accomplished in her life and all that she overcame in her life THIS was what her son wanted this program to be closed with!! My thought, "You did well Momma Hedy!!"

### Submitted by Nancy Conlon

#### Gratitude

"Gratitude is a currency that we can mint for ourselves, and spend without fear of bankruptcy."

~ Fred De Witt Van Amburah

"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." ~ Oprah Winfrey

"Nothing purchased can come close to the renewed sense of gratitude for having family and friends." ~ Courtland Milloy

"Gratitude (being thankful in all things) is spiritual therapy. **Not** thankful **for** all things, **but** thankful **in** all things" ~ Andrew L. Foster III



June 21st



2020

\$	2020					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NO SERVICE OR GROUPS Calendar only for reference	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 11:30am Church Council (virtual)	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Newsletter Articles Due	16	17	18	19	20
21 11:30am Church Council (virtual)	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



## **Worship Times:** 9:00am Casual Service

9:00am Casual Service 10:30am Traditional Service

## **Meetings and Social Events:**

11:30am Church Council (1st and 3rd Sunday)

11:30am Positive Pot Luck (Last Sunday)

## To learn more, visit

www.newbeginningsumcma.org



