

# The Hilltops

Monthly Newsletter | April 2020

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

Editor - Krissy Miner



## New Beginnings

United Methodist Church

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

Pastor - Christopher Jones 978-877-9757  
Church Secretary - Krissy Miner  
Financial Secretary - Jean Whitman  
Church Treasurer - Lynne Connors

### Church Council:

Chair: Jeff Rice 978-300-5150  
Trustees Chair: Rick Oakley 978-821-0830  
Lay Leader: Shirley Hult 978-433-6622  
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:  
Linda Jones 978-877-1923

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

**Nominating Committee:** Chris Silver, Rick Oakley, Brenda Bennett, Lynn Grimes

**SPRC:** Chair - Christine Silver; Committee Members: Margie Wilson, Lynn Grimes, Susan Siart

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



How many times did Peter deny that he knew Jesus?

(March Question: Why does Lent last 40 days? A: By observing the 40 days of Lent, we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice and withdrawal into the wilderness in the desert for 40 days, where he fasted, was tempted by the devil and prepared to begin his ministry.)



Wendy Ashe, April 8  
Margie Wilson, April 9  
Emma Ermel, April 16  
Conner Lavery, April 19  
Lynn Grymes, April 20  
Brian Goyette Sr., April 22  
Ken Gerken, April 24



Rick & Linda Oakley, April 12  
George & Pat Freeman, April 25





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; Jean Krikorian; Dondi LaRue; Tommy Maciorowski; Bob MacMaster; Joan McCorquodale; Chloe Miner; Dick & Judie Moore; Bob & Terry 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.

**APRIL**

## Coronavirus Covid-19 Pandemic

Governor Charlie Baker's State of Emergency order prohibits gatherings of more than 10 people until May 4<sup>th</sup>, so we will not hold any public worship services until at least that date. Also canceled are weekly bible studies, book clubs, and the monthly community supper. Please check our website weekly for updated messages: [www.newbeginningsumcma.org](http://www.newbeginningsumcma.org)  
Stay well!



### **Church Cookbook News!**

The co-chairs of the Church Cookbook, Sue Siart and Elaine Tittlemore, are asking for recipes, and if you haven't sent yours in, please do! We need many more, and in any category. Recipes can be mailed, to P.O. Box 497 if you'd like to mail them, or drop them off at the Church. There will be more information coming regarding this fundraiser.

### **Faith Thought Submitted by Nancy Conlon**

*Nobody can will their heart to beat even once.  
Every heartbeat is a gift from God and it means  
he's not done with you yet.*

*The idea that we are going to put less value  
on another person's heartbeat because they are  
disabled or because they carry an incurable  
disease is anathema to us.*

*Remember, when Jesus rose from the dead  
he restored life in God-made man!*

*In the face of that gift,  
how can we denigrate the life of any other  
human being?*

(Joseph Dutkowsky, MD) Source: Plough Quarterly No. 3