**Faith Read Psalm 116** Second Sunday after Lent

Anne Lamott, 21st century
“I have a lot of faith. But I am also afraid a lot, and have no real certainty about anything. I remembered something Father Tom had told me – that the opposite of faith is not doubt, but certainty. Certainty is missing the point entirely. Faith includes noticing the mess, the emptiness and discomfort, and letting it be there until some light returns.”
Augustine, 5th century
“Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore seek not to understand that you may believe, but believe that you may understand.”

**Save the Date:**

* **African Music Performance in Lunenburg, MA March 6 at 7:00** African Arts in Education brings the experience of African culture to students through a 30-day display of art, a series of drumming workshops, and a performance. The visit to Lunenburg Public Schools ends with a public performance at Lunenburg High School, featuring world-class players from Crocodile River Music playing drums, balafon (African xylophone), guitar, and other percussion. Admission $5, seniors and students $3, children 12 and under free. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Lunenburg Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Additional support is provided by the Sun Hill Foundation, the Lunenburg PTO, and the Lunenburg Music Aiders.
* **Daylight Savings time change: Saturday night at midnight March 7-8**
* **Mason Town Vote, March 10. Town Meeting on March 14 Don’t miss the vote on the pipeline warrant articles (2).**
* **Community Supper March 12th Corned Beef & Cabbage 5:30 to 7pm** Still free, and still a great place to visit with Mason friends and neighbors from surrounding towns! Come and support this community offering, powered by good cooks and energetic persons from age 6 to over 90. Your contributions keep it going, and we share any leftovers with shut-ins and with St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry.
* **Coffee House March 21 7pm Featuring Decatur Creek**. In the band are Doug Farrell, Steve Dionne, and Jack Carlton, all of whom write original songs and have played as soloists. Their unique sound combines Folk, Americana, and ballads. Check them out at: <http://www.reverbnation.com/decaturcreek>
* **Palm Sunday March 29** A special Sunday celebrating Jesus’ entrance to Jerusalem. Palm fronds are handed out so that everyone can wave them in celebration and recognition of the positive effects of the life of Jesus.
* **Maundy Thursday April 2 7pm service of Tenebrae** This Latin word means shadows. The purpose of the service is to recreate this emotional part of the Passion story. In our church’s tradition, nine people sit at a long table to represent the disciples, with a candle in front of each person. As each person reads a part of the story, a candle is extinguished, until finally the Christ candle is put out, and the congregation is left in darkness. The church is then illuminated just enough for people to leave safely, in silence. This is not a service of joy, but in recognition of the sacrifice made for us. Our experience of the sadness helps us to experience the greater joy that is Easter.
* **Easter April 5 Sunrise Service at 6:15 am** at Wally and Gretchen Brown’s House on corner of Meeting House Hill Road, and Wilton Rd.
* **Easter April 5 Church Service at 10 am** Followed by Easter Brunch

**Study Groups at Mason Church** The Diaconate is planning to have two study groups after Easter. (The weather is too changeable at this time to ask Reverend Robert to make that long drive.) We will have one 3- to 4-week group based on one of the Prepared to Serve workshops – “Three Wishes” – on end-of-life issues, and another study group on “Faith through the Ages” to discuss faith and enlightenment from early life to late life.

**Search Committee News:** The search committee continues to move forward in their work .

**Help Wanted – Knitters**: Susan bought lots of yarn to make shawls during this winter season; she had faith that the knitting would take place! Choose a bag, including the pattern, and keep your fingers involved in knitting as prayer. If you know someone who needs the warmth and prayers of a shawl, please contact:

Susan Suokko at Usercat2@comcast.net or 941-920-0270 or Linda Lannin at 603-878-2470.

 **Are you listening? Are you sharing?**

**To Reach Out, remember, and care…**

* Linda Busse’s address is 10809 Westwood Loop, Apt 912, San Antonio, TX 78254
* **Happy Birthday to Laila on March 3 and for the next 365 days, we are grateful!** Send a message to : Laila Washburn, c/o Brett Kivela, 25 Will Road, New Ipswich 03071. Visitors are welcome, it would be good to call first. 878-3065

**Prayers**

* Keep Curt Dunn in your prayers, along with Karin, his good friend and care giver.
* Cindy Tibbetts remains in our prayers as she continues to have challenges, and is still not able to drive. She has one day up, and one down, all challenging. Call at 809-2036 or 878-3904
* **Always remember the food bank,**  by picking up a little something extra when you shop for groceries**.** Sometimes the things that are needed most are the non-perishables like tissue, soap, etc. Look for the Food Bank tote near the bulletin board to leave your offering.
* **Buy your coffee at Mason Church: Help keep the coffee in our coffee hour…**  We use fair trade coffee, and support our coffee hour by selling coffee to you for your home use. Mason Church RUNS on FAIR TRADE coffee! Please contact Mark Stroms, 603 305-0023.
* Do you know someone who needs spiritual support or other support, of the pastor and deacons? Please call, your church family may be able to help. Leave a confidential message at 603-878-1684. Any news items, comments, or things you would like to share: contact Michelle at 878-1680 or miscott39@gmail.com