

Bath United Methodist Church
www.BathUMC.org

340 Oak Grove Ave. Bath, ME 04530
Worship With Us Sundays at 10:15am

Secretary: Julie Ramsey
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Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I AM!" At that point they picked up stones to throw at him. - John 8:58-59

April 18, 2021

Welcome to Bath United Methodist Church

April 18, 2021

WELCOME Pastor Gwyneth

CANDLE LIGHTING *Spirit of the Living God* Belong Church

* CALL TO WORSHIP From Exodus 3 Iris Fields

Leader: God called out to Moses from a burning bush, and Moses replied,

ALL: Here I am!

Leader: "Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your father - the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. I have heard the cries of my enslaved people in Egypt. I am sending you to free my people. Now, go!"

ALL: But who shall I say is sending me?

Leader: "I AM WHO I AM. Say this to the people. I AM has sent me to you."

ALL: We worship and trust you, Holy God, the Great I AM!

* HYMN *Holy! Holy! Holy!* Bethany First UMC

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Gwyneth

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 15:1-7 Iris Fields

JOYS & CONCERNS After each prayer we will agree together, "Lord, hear our prayer."
PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

* SCRIPTURE John 8:51-59 Pastor Gwyneth

MESSAGE *"Before Abraham, I AM"* Pastor Gwyneth
Message Series: "Who is Jesus?"

* HYMN *Bind Us Together* CSI Church of Dallas

* BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERINGS will be received on the way out of the sanctuary. Or you may safely [donate online](#) by credit card, bank number or text, or mail your donation to the church. Thank you for your generosity!

LEAVES ON A TREE - On your way out, you are welcome to tape your "family tree leaves" on the tree, celebrating that you are part of an amazing and eternal Family!

Today's Scripture Readings

Genesis 15:1-6 (NLT)

Some time later, the LORD spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great."

² But Abram replied, "O Sovereign LORD, what good are all your blessings when I don't even have a son? Since you've given me no children, Eliezer of Damascus, a servant in my household, will inherit all my wealth. ³ You have given me no descendants of my own, so one of my servants will be my heir."

⁴ Then the LORD said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir." ⁵ Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, "Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!" ⁶ And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

John 8:51-59 (NLT)

Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, anyone who obeys my teaching will never die!" ⁵² The people said, "Now we know you are possessed by a demon. Even Abraham and the prophets died, but you say, 'Anyone who obeys my teaching will never die!' ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?"

⁵⁴ Jesus answered, "If I want glory for myself, it doesn't count. But it is my Father who will glorify me. You say, 'He is our God,' ⁵⁵ but you don't even know him. I know him. If I said otherwise, I would be as great a liar as you! But I do know him and obey him. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced as he looked forward to my coming. He saw it and was glad."

⁵⁷ The people said, "You aren't even fifty years old. How can you say you have seen Abraham?"

⁵⁸ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I AM!" ⁵⁹ At that point they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus was hidden from them and left the Temple.

Worship Announcements

If you are visiting with us, we welcome you and hope you find your time of worship here meaningful. Nursery and restrooms are down the hallway, and the greeters will be happy to answer any questions.

Name Tags: Please be sure to wear your name tags each week in worship. These are very helpful to us as we return to worship, as well as for guests.

Children in Worship: Children may take an activity clipboard and sit with their family during worship, or at the craft table when it is set up.

WORSHIP IN PERSON, LIVE will continue Sundays at **10:15am**, and as long as the Covid numbers allow. Current max capacity for the sanctuary is 50% or 53 people. Thank you social distancing and wearing well-fitting masks at all times!

WORSHIP ONLINE - We are uploading the services on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) after worship which can also be viewed on **Bath TV Channel 14** on Thursday at 4:00 pm, and on **Brunswick TV Channel 3** on Saturday and Sunday at 7:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Current Sermon Series: "Who is Jesus?" We will be studying some of the **I AM sayings of Jesus**. Through these sayings, we see that Jesus self-identified as the God who introduced himself to Moses at the burning bush as "I AM Who I AM". We encourage you to study and meditate on these passages during the week, and we study each of these Scriptures at the Tuesday morning Bible Study.

- 4/18 Before Abraham I AM (John 8:51-59)
- 4/25 Living Water (John 4:1-30)
- 5/2 Bread of Life (John 6:35-42)
- 5/9 True Vine (John 15:1-11)
- 5/16 The Way, Truth and the Life (John 14:1-12)
- 5/23 Good Shepherd (John 10:10-18)
- 5/30 Light of the World (John 8:12-19)

Bath UMC Info & News

Thank you Rian Lewis for leading worship and **Bob Soule** preaching last Sunday while Pastor Gwyneth was on vacation!

Church Membership Classes - We will be hosting classes for a few people and always welcome more! One-hour classes will take place Fridays, **April 23, 30, May 7 and 14 at 1pm** in person at the church. Inquiring members, curious observers and current members who want a refresher are all welcome! Contact Pastor Gwyneth to sign up! Any who decide to join the church will be received during worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 23.

Our **Church Secretary, Julie Ramsey** is on vacation for several weeks. Barbara Word has volunteered to help out. Is there **anyone else who might come alongside?** Many hands make for light work!

Spring Clean-Up Day - Saturday, April 24. Come over to the church at 10am to give our church facility, inside and outside, some TLC! If you can clean, paint, garden, or fix things, come and lend a hand! All ages welcome. **Sign up** on the form in the hallway. FMI contact Kathy Smith, Trustees Chair.

Weekly Gardening Team - Please **sign up** for a week of garden care (watering and weeding) either alone or together with family or friends! It is recommended you bring your own small tools and gloves. FMI contact Kathy Smith, Trustees Chair.

Sunday Servant Sign-Up: Please sign up to serve as greeters, readers, slideshow operators and more on the sign-up sheet in the hallway. Due to Covid precautions, we need more helpers than usual. Thank you!

We are **mailing out bulletins** to those not on our weekly email list and who are unable to attend worship in-person. If you would like to receive this mailing, or be added to our email list, please contact the church office at 443.4707.

We are also **delivering DVDs** of worship services. Please contact the church office if you would like one delivered or mailed to you, regularly or on occasion.

Clynk Return Bottles: Grab a Clynk bag from the church, fill it up with your return bottles, and return to any Hannaford and the \$\$\$ goes to Bath UMC!

Pocket Prayer Cloths are available on the welcome table to take to a friend in need of encouragement. We also have **prayer shawls** if you prefer.

New England Conference will be meeting **online June 10-12**. Rian Lewis will be attending as our Lay Member to Annual Conference, and Pat Brown and Kathy Smith will be attending as Equalization Members for our Katahdin District. Pastor Gwyneth will also be attending clergy session all day June 9.

Pastor's Bible Study - Please join us on Zoom **Tuesdays at 10am** as we study the Scripture for the pastor's upcoming sermon. Go to zoom.us/join OR call **(253) 215-8782** and when requested, enter Meeting ID: 839 2093 6720 and Passcode: 231802 All are welcome any or all weeks.

Drive-Thru Dinner Church - To help in this COVID-19 crisis, **every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:00pm**, we are offering "to go" **FREE** brown bag dinners for any who stop by, and delivery in Bath upon request. Financial donations are crucial for keeping this ministry going. Thank you!

Care Groups have been formed with a Care Captain assigned to each group to check in on you and your family. If you would like to be placed in a Care Group, please contact the pastor or church office.

Keep Updated on our [facebook page](#) and our [Church Webpage](#). You can also access the [Calendar for Church Events](#) and [subscribe to our weekly prayers & updates email](#)

Need a Lift? Christian Music Radio - PositiveFM at **89.3 FM** with a variety of Christian music interspersed with short, uplifting messages and **AIR1** is broadcast at **93.9 FM**.

Church Directories - If you need a church directory, please contact the church office to arrange pickup, delivery or mailing.