

# FAITH



# FORWARD

## Bar Mills Community Church

13 Hermit Thrush Drive, Buxton, Maine 04093 / P.O. Box 424, Bar Mills, Maine 04004/ 207-929-3535

[www.barmillscommunitychurch.org](http://www.barmillscommunitychurch.org)

Over the course of the past month, we have talked about what it means to be “in the Father, through the Son, and with the Holy Spirit.” We have discovered God the Father has chosen us, Jesus the Son has redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit has sealed us. We have a remarkable God who loves us and has been at work “before the foundation of the world” (Ephesians 1:4) to demonstrate his unconditional love and compassion for us.

In February, we are going to examine the human condition by looking at the bad news and the good news. The bad news tells us we are all “dead in our sins” (Ephesians 2:1) and that there is nothing we can do about it on our own. The Good News arrives with the words, “But God (2:4).” Our God is so full of grace, mercy, and love that he provided a way to rescue us from the clutches of sin and give us new life. “It is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8).”

In March, we will address what it means to be a church member. The apostle Paul explains how members of a church are like parts of a body (1 Corinthians 12:12). Each member brings their own gifts to the church. These gifts are what make their congregation unique. Every person at Bar Mills Community Church brings their uniqueness to our congregation, which is what makes our church special. It is by bringing yourself - all that you are - into our church family and allowing God to shape us by his love and grace, that we will begin to become a church that is building meaning through Christian community.

In his book *I am a Church Member*, Thom Rainer explains that church membership is not the same as a membership to a country club. Country club membership is about “receiving instead of giving, being served instead of serving, rights instead of responsibilities, and entitlement instead of sacrifice (pg. 11).” Being a member of a church means you are a part of our body of believers, and a part of the body of Christ. “Members of a church comprise the whole, and are essential parts of it. (pg 12)”

Some of you may have questions, doubts, or trepidations about church membership. I did for a long time. As we begin to explore what it means to be a member of Bar Mills Community Church, I invite you to bring your questions and uncertainties. Ask God to open your heart up to what it means for you to be a member of our congregation. Seek the ways you can use your unique self to give, serve, and sacrifice for our church, our God, and our world as we are Building Meaning through Christian Community.

Dave Reiss, Pastor

# Kids' Korner



sermons4kids.com

## Jesus Gives Us the Comforter

### Theme

The Holy Spirit is our comforter.

### Object

An oscillating fan and pieces of crepe streamer - one per child

### Scripture

John 14:16

Parent or Teacher:

1. Set up a fan to move and blow over the children.
2. Hand each of the children a piece of streamer to hold as you talk.
3. Allow them to hold it up into the wind when it comes their way.

Today we are going to talk about something you can't see, but you know it's there.

*Do you feel that? What is it and where is it coming from?* (Allow kids to answer, but keep asking them to provide facts and proof of this wind they do not see.)

*So you're convinced there is wind here even though you don't see it?* We can't see the wind, but we sure see what it's doing, don't we? I see it blowing some of your streamers, some of your hair is moving, and I also feel much cooler than I did before.

*Do you know what this reminds me of in the Bible?* (Allow kids to guess.) I'll give you a hint: It's an amazing gift left for us when Jesus returned to heaven to be with His Father. *Do you know what it is now?* (Allow kids to guess.)

Jesus promised us a helper and that helper is the Holy Spirit. We don't see the Holy Spirit because He lives inside of those of us who make Jesus our Lord and Savior. But just like the wind from the fan today, even though we can't see the Holy Spirit, we know that He brings comfort and help to us.

Pray:

God, even though we can't see You, we know You are real. We also know Your Holy Spirit is real. Thank You for the comfort You bring us through the gift of Your Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name, amen.





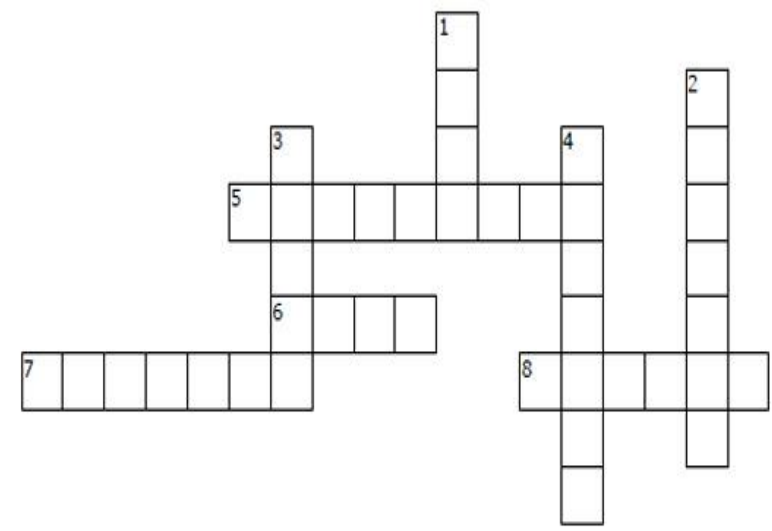
# Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever." John 14:16 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on John 14:15-21 (NIV)



**John 14:16**



## ACROSS

5. One who gives help or advice
6. To have a strong affection and attraction for someone
7. To give an order with authority
8. The first person of the Trinity; God the \_\_\_\_\_.

## DOWN

1. To be alive or have life
2. For all time; time without end
3. The whole earth and all the people on it
4. Children who have no parents

FATHER	FOREVER	WORLD	LOVE
COUNSELOR	LIVE	COMMAND	ORPHANS

## Bible Study

We are now offering two Bible Study options on Wednesdays.

1. Our in-person gathering will meet at the church at 1:30pm.
2. Our Zoom gathering will meet at 6:30pm.

Please join us each week as we gather together (in person or via Zoom) to glorify God through fellowship with one another and to study God's Word.

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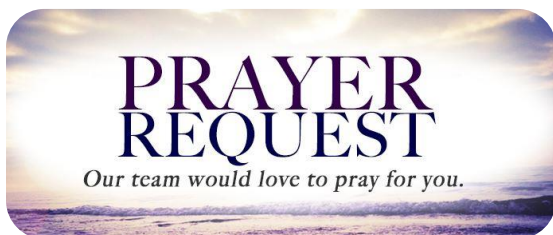
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## Prayer Time

Father,  
We are so grateful to be living  
in a democracy  
where many play a part  
in making sure the needs and  
desires of the nation's citizens  
are heard and met.  
As our leaders work together  
to find solutions to difficult problems,  
we ask that You guide them  
to speak respectfully and  
with humility to one another.  
Help them to show Christ-like love  
to those they interact with  
and be an advocate  
for their constituents and others.

Come,  
Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.  
And kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.  
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord,  
by the light of the Holy Spirit  
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.  
In the same Spirit  
help us to relish what is right  
and always rejoice in your consolation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



### ***Please Contact:***

Dave A. Reiss, Pastor  
pastordave.BMCC@gmail.com  
cell: 207-804-0541 church: 207-929-3535

Bar Mills Community Church Council Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2022

**Present** –Tom Brunelle, Linda Caouette, Tim Cook, Lori and Michael Dorey, Sue Dunn, Judy Moody, John Myers, Barbie Petersen, Pastor Dave Reiss, Anna Maria Salvatore, Judy Sjulander.

**Meeting Opened** Anna Maria Salvatore led us in prayer

**Pastor's Report**

1. Pastor Dave Reiss started discussion on the book "Pursuing God's Will Together" by Haley Barton with first topic being *Discernment*.
2. When is best time to meet to discuss the book? Decided best time is not during a Council meeting
3. Who should be included in the initial group?

**Clerk Report** - see report (accepted)

**Financial Reports** see reports(accepted)

1. It was asked if the dues for Cumberland Assoc. were paid last year.
2. John Myers- Financial Administrator did not receive a bill to pay the dues for last year.
3. Pastor Dave Reiss to respond to email he received about Assoc. from 2021.

**Treasurer's Reports** (see reports) - all accepted

1. Offerings down slightly from last year
2. Judy Sjulander has received the final bill for the painting project.
3. Proposed budget for 2022 does not include more security or Vector Sonics proposals for electronics upgrades.
4. Discussed whether we should hire a landscaping service to take care of the lawn mowing or should we buy a new mower.
5. \$5100 was added to the proposed budget under misc. repairs for Building and Grounds Committee.
6. Council approved new budget with changes.
7. The council discussed the need to increase \$1000 spending limit.
8. Any item over \$1000 needs to be voted on by the congregation
9. This limit has been in place for many years and should keep up with the current rising cost of items.

**Nominating Committee Report** -

1. There was discussion on whether to include Security and Safety Committee with the Building and Grounds Committee.
2. The decision was made to roll the Security and Safety Committee into the Building and Grounds Committee. The duties for both of these team overlap.
3. All church committees are charged with insuring safety and security of members and the church.

**Deacons Report-**

1. Communion will be Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> since we were not able to meet in person the first Sunday of the month.

**Social Media** – No report this month

**Christian Education**

1. The Children's Church is going well



### Building and Grounds Committee

1. Tim Cook inquired about what type of maintenance service our water system gets.
2. Judy Moody is the contact person for the water system and informed us that it was backwashed last month.

### Other Business

1. We will be requiring masks for at least a month due to the current outbreak of the COVID-19 at our church and in the community.
2. Free supper will be cancelled this month due to the COVID-19. We want to keep everyone safe and healthy.
3. 6K race for May thru World Vision. Pastor Dave Reiss will connect with the Missions Committee on how to inform congregation to get involved.
4. Search Committee need to plan installation service for Pastor Dave Reiss - Al Fletcher to be contacted by Sue Dunn to make arrangements.

**Meeting Closed** with prayer by Pastor Dave Reiss.

Barbie Petersen, Clerk



**Free Community Supper**

Saturday,  
February 19, 2022

**We start serving at 5:00 pm**

*Hawaiian Style*

Wear your favorite Hawaiian themed outfit.  
There will be fun activities for the whole family.

*\*Activities start after the meal \**

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# TAKE OUT LUNCH

Choose One Soup

Choose One Sandwich/Entree



Tomato Tortellini Soup



Corn Chowder



Shepherd's Pie



Ham and Cheese Slider

All meals include dessert

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

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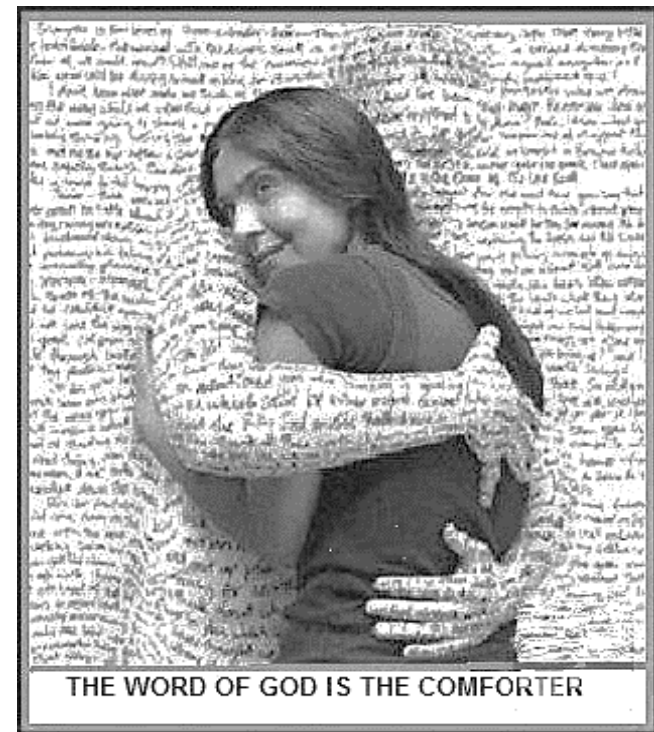
\$10

Donation  
Welcomed

To Place Order Contact:

Judy @ 929-5555 / judysjul@gmail.com

Place Order By: Monday, February 7, 2022



## We All Need a Helper

We all need a helper, who is always there one who can assist us with our daily care.

We need that one person, to go with us the length someone who will give us the power and the strength.

We need their guidance, on what we should do we need them to tell us just how and when to.

We need their words, of comfort and solace we need their love perfect and flawless.

We all need a helper, so Jesus saw to it . . . for He gave to each of us the comfort of His Spirit!

*Deborah Ann Belka*

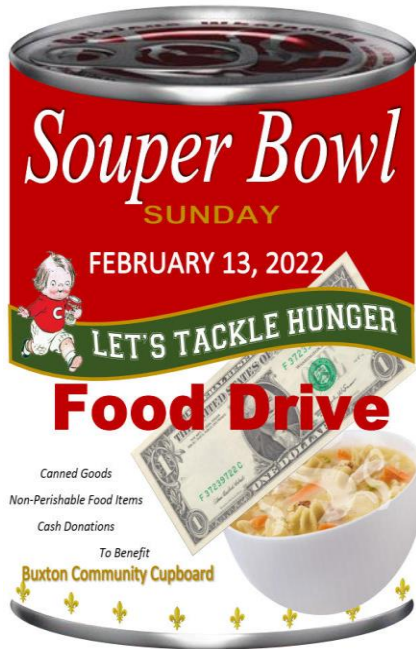
John 14:16-17

*16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. 17 He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive him because it doesn't see him or know him. But you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you.*

# FEBRUARY MISSION

## FOOD DRIVE

"LET'S END HUNGER"



The February Mission will be a food drive to benefit the Buxton Community Cupboard.

Sunday, February 13th we will "Kick Off" with the Annual "Souper" Bowl Food Drive.

This special food drive is on Super Bowl Sunday. As we plan our menus for the BIG GAME let's think of those who aren't able to put together a special spread or even put a meal on the table.

We will be collecting  
**canned food items**  
**non-perishable food**  
**cash donations.**

Please bring items to the church  
on Sunday mornings  
during the month of February.



**The Buxton Community Cupboard** has been serving the Buxton community for many years. It is located in the little white house (see picture to the left) behind the parsonage of the Buxton Centre Baptist Church that is located at 938 Long Plains Rd, Buxton, ME 04093.

This organization relies on donations of food from the good citizens of Buxton, food drives at businesses, schools and cash donations which are spent on food items.

They are always looking for new people to help. Contact them if you would like to help volunteer!

Hours of Operation: Friday mornings 9:30 am to 10:30 am and the first Saturday of the month 9:30 am to 10:30 am.

If you would like more information about their services or would like to volunteer, please call (207) 929-6764 and ask for Betty.

And **God** will *generously* provide *all* you need.

Then you will *always* have *everything* you need.

and *plenty left* over *to share* with others.

2 Corinthians 9:8



Here are some ways that we can serve our church and serve God.

**Volunteering** is a great way to feel connected to the church, feel like part of a community, and serve Jesus at the same time. There are many ways to help at church: we are always looking for help making food for the Take- Out Lunch and the Free Supper, we need help serving the meals at the Free Supper, crafters to make items for the Christmas Marketplace, join a committee and the list goes on...

**Missions** are a way for us to give back to God and to help provide for those struggling with difficult times locally or to donate to an organization that can spread the news of the gospel world-wide and provide help to those in need. Each month our church offers a different mission to contribute to.

**Tithes and Offerings** A *tithe* is a specific amount (10% of your income) that you give first, and an *offering* is anything extra that you give beyond that. After you've tithed and paid all your bills and expenses for the month, you can use any extra money in your budget to give even more! it's the lifeblood that keeps the church moving forward, a key component of good financial stewardship. It allows churches and ministries to be able to fulfill the mission, vision, and call God has placed on us. Tithing helps us grow our faith and trust that God will provide for us.



#### Offering Challenge

There are roughly **35 people** that attend Sunday services each week. If we all give at **least \$1** more each week that would give the church **an extra \$1820** at the end of the year.

**Fundraising** is one of the most important aspects of a church's success. Not only does fundraising help to ensure a church's financial viability, but it also brings community members and parishioners together for a good cause. Listed below are the ongoing fundraisers our church offers.



**Clynk** is a bottle drive and we are looking for your help! It is easy to participate.

1. **Bag It** (pick up bags at church)
2. **Tag It** (tags can be picked up at church)
3. **Drop It** (at any Hannaford Clynk location)

In **2021** we earned **\$400**. In **2020** we earned **\$900**

**Let's set the goal for 2022 to \$900 again.**

**Each bag contains an approx. \$3.25 worth of redeemed bottles and cans**



As we write up our grocery list, let's also plan to pick up our Hannaford Gift Cards each week at church. They can be purchased after the service in the back of the church.

#### Gift Card Challenge

In 2021 **604** gift cards were sold = **\$1510** Let's set a goal of **800** for **2022** = **\$2000**

If we sell just **7** more cards each that earns us an extra **\$910** at the end of the year.

Each \$50 gift card = \$2.50 to the church.



The **Take-Out Lunch** is the second Wednesday each month and most people donate \$10.00. Each meal includes a sandwich, a cup of soup and a dessert. You can pick up your lunch at the church or ask to have it delivered.



# February 2022

Portland, Maine -waterfront

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 1:30 pm In person Bible Study 6:30 pm- Zoom Bible Study	3	4	5
6 10:00 am Worship Service	7 7:00 pm AA Meeting	8 6:30 pm Council Meeting	9 11:30 am Take Out Lunch  1:30 pm In person Bible Study 6:30 pm- Zoom Bible Study	10	11	12
13 10:00 am Worship Service	14 7:00 pm AA Meeting  <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15	16 1:30 pm In person Bible Study 6:30 pm- Zoom Bible Study	17	18	19 5:00 pm Free Supper Hawaiian Theme
20 10:00 am Worship Service	21 7:00 pm AA Meeting	22	23 1:30 pm In person Bible Study 6:30 pm- Zoom Bible Study	24	25	26
27 10:00 am Worship Service	28 7:00 pm AA Meeting					