

THE FINANCIAL TIMES OF FIRST U

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CELEBRATION

The Search Endeth

After looking hither and yon, the candidate to be our next settled minister has been found! The elected search team of seven enthusiastic congregants have found Rev. Hillary Collins-Gilpatrick next door in New Hampshire. As opportunities unfold to meet her (virtually), remember to thank the Search Team: Steve Thomas, Anne Turner, Ben Tupper, Dorothy McAloney, Dal Holtrop, Christy Hayashida, and Jamie Brookes, for a job well done!

Anon, A Second Celebration Arises!

Our own Senior Youth Group has challenged us to match their Congregant Relief Fund. The fund now holds \$1,500 available for your needs. This challenge has also generated \$3,000 towards our church operating expenses!

TRANSPARENCY

A Plan Doth Emerge

Thou stalwart and trusty Board has been studying the books to find ways to make ends meet through the pandemic and beyond. Fulsome fundraisers have been cancelled, most notably the Heart in Hand Gala and Clam Festival. Several rentals have also been cancelled while the church is closed. We anticipate that several among us might have challenges in the coming

OPPORTUNITY

Hark! Do Ye Hear The Call?

Spring is filled with so many opportunities: watch the flowers sprout to feel the warmth of the sun, clean the yard, and - by far the most exciting opportunity at First U - participate in Candidating Week(s), which began on April 27 and will culminate in the congregational vote on May 10. The Board and Search Committee have worked to create opportunities for all to meet Rev. Hillary. **Mark your calendars, block off time, and plan to vote on Sunday, May 10th** following worship. Rev. Hillary brings deep experience in spiritual exploration for all ages, social justice work, creative worship services; has glowing recommendations; and is enthusiastic to join with us in this next stage of our history.

months. Lo, keeping our eyes peeled for opportunities, we succeeded in securing a **\$24,100 grant** from Bangor Savings Bank through the SBA Paycheck Protection Program for small organizations to meet payroll for eight weeks. So, trumpeters please, we expect to meet our obligations at least through all of 2020!