## **WEEK OF MARCH 16, 2025**





**From Woody:** I just finished reading a wonderful biography of President Abraham Lincoln by Jon Meacham. It is titled "And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle." I am going to shamelessly share a story from the book. In April of 1865, Lincoln had gone to meet with Grant down in Richmond in anticipation of Lee's surrender. As they nervously awaited news, Lincoln did what he could. The interval was nerve racking. In Grant's tent at City Point, Lincoln noticed three kittens, 'little wanderers' who

had lost their mother. Moved by their 'mewing' he picked them up to comfort them. "Poor little creatures, don't cry, you'll be taken good care of," Lincon said. To the officer the President added, 'Colonel, I hope you will see that these poor motherless waifs are given plenty of milk and treated kindly." "I will see, Mr. President," the colonel replied, "that they are taken in charge by the cook of our mess and are well cared for." The Union officer, Horace Porter, was struck by the scene. "It was a curious sight at an army headquarters, upon the eve of a great military crisis in the nation's history, to see the hand which had affixed the signature to the Emancipation Proclamation, and had signed the commissions of all the heroic men who served in the cause of the Union...tenderly caressing three stray kittens," Porter recalled. It was not only curious-it was revealing. In the midst of carnage, fresh from the battlefields strewn with the corpses of those he had ordered into battle, Lincoln was seeking some kind of affirmation of life, some evidence of innocence, some sense of kindliness amid cruelty. The orphaned kittens were a small thing, but they were there, and his focus on their welfare was a passing human moment in a vast drama. He could not control much. But he could control this.

All of us can learn from this that there are many things we have no control over, but we can still do something of love for others, be they human or animals. You will probably hear some Meachem words from this wonderful book again soon.





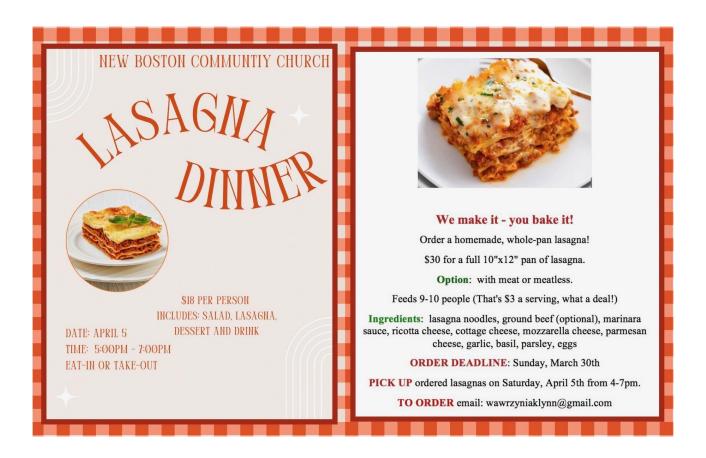
**Quilt Raffle During Lent:** During Lent, we will be raffling off 2 beautiful handmade quilts—made and donated by Carolyn Ferguson-Wilson. One is purple and shades of green, the other is "Comfort of the Psalms" with comforting

phrases from the Psalms scattered throughout. Cost is \$5 for 1 ticket and \$10 for 3 tickets. They will be on display after church and tickets can be purchased then. Or if you can't get to church but would like to participate, you can send a check made out to Community Church of New Boston—to Barbara Woodland, 133 Hooper Hill Road, New Boston. Indicate which quilt you want your ticket(s) to go to, and Barbara will fill out

and deposit your tickets. Questions? barbarawoodland@comcast.net



**New Members:** We would love to have new members join our church family. Please see Woody or call him at 603-487-3643 if you are interested or would like to learn more.





**Dress A Girl Around the World:** This project will be continuing through September. Meetings at the church will be: Saturdays April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug 16 Sept all Saturdays (6,13, 20, 27). Completed dresses are due to Kristi by September 30. Any questions or if you would like to participate, contact Kristi at 603-486-9910 or email at kris Kreations@ comcast.net.



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**Peace Quote:** Prayer does not change things; prayer changes people, and people change things...Prayer in not hearing voices, prayer is acquiring a voice. *Theologian Reinhold Neibuhr*