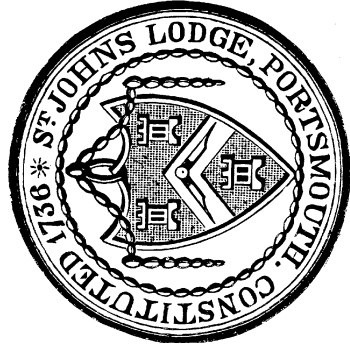
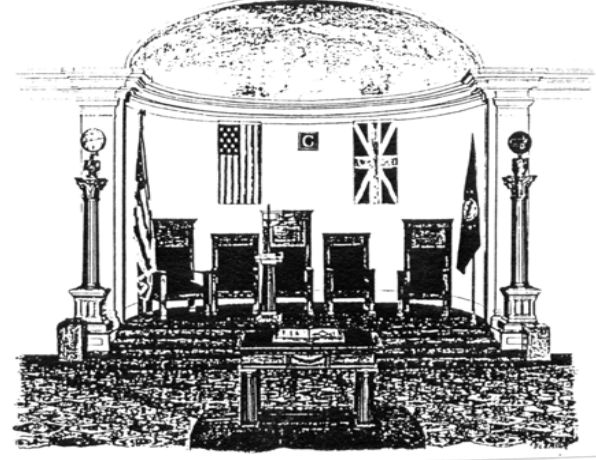


St. John's Lodge, No. 1, F&AM
280 Bayside Rd
Greenland, NH 03840



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February 2012



February 2012 Trestle Board

St. John's Lodge No. 1
Portsmouth, NH

The Master's Message

Greetings from The East, Brethren!

Your officers have been hard at work for you this month and we have a busy few months ahead of us at St. Johns Lodge #1. In addition to our Stated meetings, we have the following meetings and events upcoming:

- An EA Degree and Game Night planned in February
- Two degrees planned for March (including an MM degree with our Brethren from William Whipple Lodge working the second section – in Colonial garb!)
- In April, we will have our Out of Hibernation Road Race (April 14th) as well as an EA Degree that will be held at The William Pitt Tavern.

Here's an update on some of the other areas we are focusing on for 2012:

- Out of Hibernation Road Race with a goal of raising \$10,000 this year for the Seacoast Family Food Panty. Br. Joe Minai is chairing the race committee this year and is already hard at work.
- Raising new Masons – we want to raise as many new brothers as we can without losing focus on the importance of their masonic education as part of the process
- Rusty Brothers – we'll be making a concerted effort to personally reach out to the brethren we haven't seen in awhile to see what we can do to get them excited about Freemasonry again.
- Traveling to Other Lodges - **If 4 or more brothers are planning to travel to another Lodge, call me at (603)325-8066 and I will provide you a 275th Anniversary Plate to offer as a gift.** Also, a new "traveling gavel" for the 1st District is to be available sometime during the first quarter of 2012. More details will follow, but we are going to get that gavel!
- Table Lodge – Possibly held in June.

These activities are all in addition to the other special programs we have each year such as our Veterans Program, Past Masters Night and Special Ladies.

Brethren, as we have heard many times before, you get out of Masonry what you put into it. I encourage you to get involved and if there's something you think we should be doing as a Lodge, please let me or one of your officers

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2012 Officers

Worshipful Master	Gilbert H. Palmer
Senior Warden	Jonathan Neihart
Junior Warden	Nicholas J. Caron
Treasurer	Verne S. Anderson, Jr., PM
Assistant Treasurer	Joseph Cardone
Secretary	RW. Robert L. Sutherland, PM
Assistant Secretary	Thomas W. Haslam, PM
Senior Deacon	Roderick MacDonald
Junior Deacon	Noah Blanchard
Chaplain	Nelson D. Hersey, PM
Associate Chaplain	Daniel G. Stolworthy, PM
Marshal	Timothy H. Neihart
Sr. Steward	Nicholas Pesarik
Jr. Steward	Martin Nilsen
Alternate Steward	Brian Orluk
Alternate Steward	Howard Kalet
Organist	Nelson K. Ward
Historian	Alan M. Robinson, PM
Tyler.....	Wesley J. Rowe, PM
Grand Lodge Representative.....	Robert Padian
Electrician.....	Ronald E. Metcalf, PM

Continued from previous page.....

Their parish house, called Sanborn Hall, was added in 1958 and consecrated by Bishop John Wesley Lord. Today the active parish is lead by Pastor **Bob (Song Bok) Jon**. Rev. Lyle Leland Gaither, who served the Methodist Church during the time of its move to Miller Avenue, was born September 21, 1877 in Prairie City, Iowa. While living in Portsmouth and serving our community, Rev. Gaither and his wife had their only child, a son also named Lyle, who was born on December 30, 1912. Reverend Gaither served for many years and in many Methodist Church parishes around the country. He was a good man. He died on May 5, 1955 at the age of 78 in Lancaster, Missouri, and he is buried in the IOOF (Odd Fellows) cemetery in Lancaster. You probably won't be surprised to learn that Rev. Brother Lyle Leland Gaither was a Freemason. He was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on November 1, 1911, Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on November 29, 1911, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on December 27, 1911 all in St. John's Lodge, No. 1 here in Portsmouth.

**Alan Robinson, PM
Historian**

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know. We can't promise to do everything that is suggested, but the more ideas and feedback we receive, the better chance we have of making St. Johns an even greater Lodge than we are already.

Finally Brethren, we have an excellent program scheduled for the February Stated – a presentation about The Middle Chamber Lecture which is promised to make us all re-think our understanding of this important section of our ritual. Don't miss it!

Fraternally Yours,

**Contact
Information:**

**Gib Palmer
Worshipful Master**
Gilbert.Palmer@assurant.com
(603) 601-2294

**Robert Sutherland Jr.
Secretary**
Robert7615@aol.com
(603) 436-1095

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

Stated Communication (Open in FC)

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Dinner—Mexican (\$8.00)

Officer dress—White tie and tails

Special Communication

Entered Apprentice Degree

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Dinner—Ham and Beans (\$8.00)

Officer dress—White tie and tails

Special Communication

Four Square

Star in the East Lodge—Exeter

Thursday, January 23, 2012

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Please make reservations for dinner.

Call Doug Almon (603) 778-7645

Game Night

Wednesday, February 29, 2012—7:00PM

3rd Floor—Pool Room

Pizza will be provided

Bring your own beverage, favorite game and rusty brother

Casual Attire for all

St. John's Lodge

Historical Sketch

Reverend Lyle Leland Gaither and the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth

Jesse Lee was an American Methodist Episcopal clergyman born in 1758 in Virginia. In 1789, he began traveling through New England, preaching the Gospel and establishing Methodism, a movement of Protestant Christianity, from Connecticut to northern Maine. In July 1790 he arrived in Portsmouth, and on Sunday the 11th, he preached from the steps of the Old Courthouse in Market Square. From that date and for the next several years, Methodism grew in the city.

In 1807, Martin Ruter was assigned as the Methodist minister in Portsmouth and Nottingham. The next year, the Methodist Church of Portsmouth was organized and incorporated by action of the NH Legislature. The church's parishioners purchased a building previously occupied by the Universalist Church located on what was then called Vaughn Street, a short alley between Congress and Hanover Streets downtown. The purchase price was \$2,000. The building was later called the Cameneum.

In those early years of the church in Portsmouth, the pulpit was filled by a different minister almost every year beginning with Rev. George Pickering. In 1811, Rev. John Brodhead and Rev. John Lindsey were serving. Beginning during their years, on each Sabbath day, a collection was taken. Lighting for the house of worship was provided by candles, and that year, they paid \$14.56 for them.

In 1812, Rev. John Rexford was pastor and there were 60 members of the growing church. In 1814, Rev. Thomas W. Tucker was serving and received as salary of \$129.22 along with a place to live. In 1816, Rev. Josiah Chamberlain was preaching and the congregation had grown to 71 members. In 1817, Rev. Daniel Filmore was minister and the house was filled to capacity. In that year, he established a Methodist Episcopal Sunday School and he obtained permission to use Jefferson Hall for their prayer meetings. Even with that bigger space, they couldn't fit everyone in.

The congregation continued to grow and in 1826 when Rev. Shipley Wilson was serving, a new sanctuary was built on State Street to accommodate the growing congregation. The cost, including the purchase of the land, was about \$9,000. In the new church building, the vestry was in the upper part of the house over the entry. The first minister to preach at the State Street location was Rev. John

Newland Maffitt. Rev. Maffitt was a nationally known revivalist minister and charismatic orator who had a dramatic preaching style which attracted large crowds. He resided in the brick house on the southerly corner of Daniel and Chapel streets.

The old Methodist house of worship on Vaughn Street was disposed of in 1829. On June 10 of that year, the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church met in Portsmouth, and the New Hampshire District was formed.

From 1830-1860, every year or two, a new minister was assigned to the Portsmouth church. In 1860, under the leadership of Rev. D. P. Leavitt, a new vestry, costing about \$15,000 (exclusive of land), was built on Daniel Street. From 1860 to 1910, ministers were stationed at the church for two to three year rotations.

In 1911, because of the growing number of parishioners, the Methodist Church decided to move again to a larger facility, and they offered their State Street church building for sale. Temple Israel, Portsmouth's growing Jewish congregation, agreed to buy the church building for use as their synagogue. The property was sold on September 1, 1912 and the members of Temple Israel occupied it later that fall, celebrating its opening with elaborate festivities, including a parade.

The Methodist congregation began construction on a new church building on July 1, 1912. The land and stone church construction cost them \$26,000. The cornerstone of the church, which was the same one used in the State Street church in 1827, was laid by church ritual on September 8, 1912, and construction of the beautiful building completed in 1913. From 1910 to 1914, during the time that the State Street church building was sold and the new church was built, the church was lead by Rev. Lyle L. Gaither.

Located at 129 Miller Avenue, just up the street and steps away from our Masonic Temple, the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth is not only an architecturally beautiful stone building, it is, as their mission states, a church of faith and service with open hearts, open minds, and open doors that, by God's grace, seeks to be like Jesus in his love for God and all God's children.

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