

FRIENDLY MESSENGER

First Congregational Church, 1070 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602
www.fcc-worcester.org · Office: 508-752-4635 · Parsonage: 508-459-9085



A Word from Rev. Jackson

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:

Summer has arrived and as I write this letter, they are predicting 100° temperature and 70% humidity in a day. So much for a gentle entrance! So Often life works like this as well. We may coast along for months even years and all of a sudden “Bam”, and everything changes. The important thing to remember about life’s sudden adjustments is that we are not going through them alone. On June 24th, I am preaching from Mark 4:35-41. It’s the story about Jesus crossing the sea of Galilee with His disciples during a raging storm and He is asleep in the back of the boat. The disciples are terrified of drowning. Jesus is sleeping on a cushion in the back of the boat, “Teacher, they ask, don’t you care if we drown? “How many times have we asked Jesus a question like this at crisis points in our life? Jesus, where are you? God, why are you letting this happen? Where is God when you need him?

You may have asked these questions or know someone who has. The answer is in the next few verses: “He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves:” Quiet! Be still?”, then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to His disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith? They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!” (Mark 4:39-41). So, here’s the bottom line. Jesus is still in the boat! Yes, everything became calm and peaceful and the natural forces were changed by the creator. But even if they were not, Jesus is still in the boat! In the midst of an external out of control situation, the one who ultimately controls everything is still with them. Even if the wind and waves did not die down, Jesus still in the boat.

The bigger issue is fear and lack of faith. Yes, the disciples were amazed by the sudden change in

weather. But they still didn’t understand who Jesus was. They respond to the peaceful environment that now surrounds them with terror and fear. “Who is this? and why do the winds and waves obey Him? Because He created them! When we encounter stormy and threatening situations in the future, let’s always remember who is in our boat of life. Even though it may appear like our Lord is sleeping, He is still in ultimate control. Our lives and our church are in His hands. If we claim this promise, then we will have a lot more blessed assurance and inner peace. Have a blessed faith filled summer.

See you in church! Because he lives!

Rev. Bob

FRIENDLY MESSENGER DEADLINE:

The *hard and fast cut-off* date for the September issue is Thursday, August 23rd. If your article(s) aren’t in by that date, we’ll be happy to include it (them) in our October, 2018 issue. Thank you!

Bulletin Cover Donations

If you’d be interested in donating a Sunday bulletin cover for a special occasion, please stop in the office to pick one out from one of the many flyers we have available. The cost is only \$12!

From Hospitality

Anyone wishing to bring in treats for Sunday Coffee Hour through the end of 2018, please sign up in the Narthex or call the Office. Thank you!

Thank You!

July Birthdays

- 01 Carolyn Jackson
- 02 Sue Johnston
- 02 Julie Barrow
- 05 Bruce Johnston
- 10 Brittany Hinson
- 13 Erica Vecsey
- 18 Paul Scherdell
- 19 Nancy Dalbeck
- 28 Richard Trzcinski
- 29 Rev. Bob Jackson

July Anniversaries

- 01 Jeffrey & Brigitte Conlon
- 24 Bruce & Sue Johnston
- 29 Matt & Dawn Ahaesy

August Birthdays

- 03 MaryKay McGrail
- 05 Kahlán Cardin
- 05 Judy Mitchell
- 06 Dolores Trzcinski
- 11 Chelsea Mason
- 14 Alison Johnston
- 17 Mark Mason
- 19 George Boggs
- 25 John Waters
- 26 Eric J. Vecsey
- 26 Milton MacInnes
- 29 MaryLou McCreight
- 31 Theresa Andes

August Anniversaries

- 09 Donald & Sheila Ansley
- 13 Steven & Linda Ann Coy
- 16 Norman & Susan Anderson

Minutes of Meetings

The Council would like to remind all members that minutes of Council and Board meetings are posted on the bulletin board opposite the Tower Door entrance.

Laundry Love



Laundry Love:

No vacation from laundry during the summer and the need for quarters and supplies remains the same. So please note, the collection dates in the Sunday bulletins and the end of this article.

Your June donations ran the entire gamut of their requests. Five large jugs of detergent, 2 boxes of hand sanitizers, 3 tubes of kid sunblock, 1 large box of alcohol wipes, 1 antiseptic cream, 2 boxes Capri Sun, \$15.55 cash for the machines and an added donation of 2 lbs of coffee for “Walking Together” ministries.

You may leave your donations ANY Sunday under the bubble tub in the narthex, but the following dates are times just before the delivery day:

- Sunday, July 8
- Sunday, August 5
- Sunday, September 9

Watch for those BOGO deals and give the free detergent to Laundry Love!

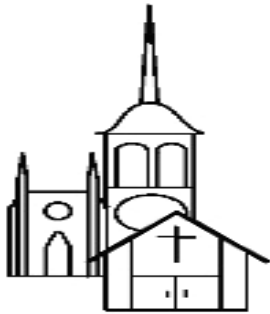
Sharing Network:

Upcoming Reminders for your Calendars:

Buddhas Over Worcester – Exhibit – Boundless Way Temple – 1030 Pleasant Street in their gardens through July. Take a few moments for a self-guided tour in the quiet of these lovely gardens and walk among the artistry of over 25 artists on display. A time for quietness and reflection in our way-too-hectic lives.

Fall Market Day – Worcester Friends – 901 Pleasant Street – Saturday, September 22, 9am-3pm. Homemade apple pies, books, plants, vendors coffee, donuts and hot dogs.

Save by the “bag full” for Concordia! – Remember October is Concordia month and you can start saving items now as you decide not to wear certain clothes again next summer. Bulletin reminders will be published during September and October, but you can get started NOW!



History Room

Summer is especially fun working on projects, as it is very quiet at church and we can get more hours per visit. Besides the cataloging Steven is doing, we are identifying

people and activities from an assortment of photos, mostly dated in the 1990s. Between some IDs on the pictures, a few phone calls and several years of old directories, all is moving smoothly.

If you come across any photos, programs, or family histories you would be willing to share, please see us anytime and they will be placed in our collection. We will copy and return originals if you would prefer.

You have the “links” we need when we receive a research request – so thank you for your help.

Prayer Requests

Hampton Bagdasarian requests prayers for June Kemp; Helen Wronski requests prayers for Josephine Morrow and Elaine Wronski; Susan Anderson requests prayers for her daughter, Melanie, and for Justin and Catherine; Sue Carrow requests prayers for her brother, Michael Curran; Bruce Kabasinsky; Sis Prefontaine; Ronald Taylor; Rita Swett; Holly Mahler; Jean Andes; Paul, a friend of Brian MacInnes ; Marie Waskevich; Kimberly Wright neighbor of Helen A. Wronski, for her upcoming surgery and Sue Anderson.

Many of us are between 65 and death

i.e. old. My friend sent me this excellent list for aging . . . and I have to agree its good advice to follow. The guy who sent this highlighted #19.

1. It’s time to use the money you saved up. Use it and enjoy it. Don’t just keep it for those who may have no notion of the sacrifices you made to get it. Remember there is nothing more dangerous than a son or daughter-in-law with big ideas for your hard-earned capital. Warning: This is also a bad time for investments, even if it seems wonderful or fool-proof. They only bring problems and worries. This is a time for you to enjoy some peace and quiet.

2. Stop worrying about the financial situation of your children and grandchildren, and don’t feel bad spending your money on yourself. You’ve taken care of them for many years, and you’ve taught them what you could. You gave them an education, food, shelter and support. The responsibility is now theirs to earn their own money.

3. Keep a healthy life, without great physical effort. Do moderate exercise (like walking every day), eat well and get your sleep. It’s easy to become sick, and it gets harder to remain healthy. That is why you need to keep yourself in good shape and be aware of your medical and physical needs. Keep in touch with your doctor, do tests even when you’re feeling well. Stay informed.

4. Always buy the best, most beautiful items for your significant other. The key goal is to enjoy your money with your partner. One day one of you will miss the other, and the money will not provide any comfort then, enjoy it together

5. Don't stress over the little things. Like paying a little extra on price quotes. You've already overcome so much in your life. You have good memories and bad ones, but the important thing is the present. Don't let the past drag you down and don't let the future frighten you. Feel good in the now. Small issues will soon be forgotten.

6. Regardless of age, always keep love alive. Love your partner, love life, love your family, love your neighbor and remember: "A man is not old as long as he has intelligence and affection."

7. Be proud, both inside and out. Don't stop going to your hair salon or barber, do your nails, go to the dermatologist and the dentist, keep your perfumes and creams well stocked. When you are well-maintained on the outside, it seeps in, making you feel proud and strong.

8. Don't lose sight of fashion trends for your age, but keep your own sense of style. There's nothing worse than an older person trying to wear the current fashion among youngsters. You've developed your own sense of what looks good on you – keep it and be proud of it. It's part of who you are.

9. ALWAYS stay up-to-date. Read newspapers, watch the news. Go online and read what people are saying. Make sure you have an active email account and try to use some of those social networks. You'll be surprised what old friends you'll meet. Keeping in touch with what is going on and with the people you know is important at any age.

10. Respect the younger generation and their opinions. They may not have the same ideals as you, but they are the future, and will take the world in their direction. Give advice, not criticism, and try to remind them that yesterday's wisdom still applies today.

11. Never use the phrase: "In my time." Your time is now. As long as you're alive, you are part of this time. You may have been younger, but you are still you now, having fun and enjoying life.

12. Some people embrace their golden years, while others become bitter and surly. Life is too short to waste your days on the latter. Spend your time with positive, cheerful people, it'll rub off on you and your days will seem that much better. Spending your time with bitter people will make you older and harder to be around.

13. Do not surrender to the temptation of living with your children or grandchildren (if you have a financial choice, that is). Sure, being surrounded by family sounds great, but we all need our privacy. They need theirs and you need yours. If you've lost your partner (our deepest condolences), then find a person to move in with you and help out. Even then, do so only if you feel you really need the help or do not want to live alone.

14. Don't abandon your hobbies. If you don't have any, make new ones. You can travel, hike, cook, read, dance. You can adopt a cat or a dog, grow a garden, play cards, checkers, chess, dominoes, golf. You can paint, volunteer or just collect certain items. Find something you like and spend some real time having fun with it.

15. Even if you don't feel like it, try to accept invitations. Baptisms, graduations, birthdays, weddings, conferences. Try to go. Get out of the house, meet people you haven't seen in a while, experience something new (or something old). But don't get upset when you're not invited. Some events are limited by resources, and not everyone can be hosted. The important thing is to leave the house from time to time. Go to museums, go walk through a field. Get out there.

16. Be a conversationalist. Talk less and listen more. Some people go on and on about the past, not caring if their listeners are really interested. That's a great way of reducing their desire to speak with you. Listen first and answer questions, but don't go off into long stories unless asked to. Speak in courteous tones and try not to complain or criticize too much unless you really need to. Try to accept situations as they are. Everyone is going through the same things, and people have a low tolerance for hearing complaints. Always find some good things to say as well.

17. Pain and discomfort go hand in hand with getting older. Try not to dwell on them but accept them as a part of the cycle of life we're all going through. Try to minimize them in your mind. They are not who you are, they are something that life added to you. If they become your entire focus, you lose sight of the person you used to be.

18. If you've been offended by someone – forgive them. If you've offended someone - apologize. Don't drag around resentment with you. It only serves to make you sad and bitter. It doesn't matter who was right. Someone once said: "Holding a grudge is like taking poison and expecting the other person to die." Don't take that poison. Forgive, forget and move on with your life.

19. If you have a strong belief, savor it. But don't waste your time trying to convince others. They will make their own choices no matter what you tell them, and it will only bring you frustration. Live your faith and set an example. Live true to your beliefs and let that memory sway them.

20. Laugh. Laugh A LOT. Laugh at everything. Remember, you are one of the lucky ones. You managed to have a life, a long one. Many never get to this age, never get to experience a full life. But you did. So what's not to laugh about? Find the humor in your situation.

21. Take no notice of what others say about you and even less notice of what they might be thinking. They'll do it anyway, and you should have pride in yourself and what you've achieved. Let them talk and don't worry. They have no idea about your history, your memories and the life you've lived so far. There's still much to be written, so get busy writing and don't waste time thinking about what others might think. Now is the time to be at rest, at peace and as happy as you can be!

REMEMBER: "Life is too short to drink bad wine and warm beer."

Officers and Board Members for 2018

Officers

Moderator	<u>Greg Waters</u>
Vice Moderator	<u>Linda Ann Coy</u>
Clerk	<u>Don Ansley</u>
Treasurer	<u>Bev Bean</u>
Asst. Treasurer	<u>Mary Kay McGrail</u>

Board Members

Board of Deacons

Chair	<u>Matt Ahaesy</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Sue Cardin</u>
Member at Large	<u>Sue Anderson</u>
Clerk	<u>Don Ansley</u>

Board of Trustees

Chair	<u>Sheila Ansley</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Doug Perkins</u>
Member at Large	<u>Jean Fassett</u>
Treasurer	<u>Bev Bean</u>

Board of Christian Education

Chair	<u>Sue Anderson</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Cindy MacLaurin</u>
Co-Member at Large	<u>Hampton Bagdasarian</u>
Co-Member at Large	<u>Connie MacInnes</u>

Board of Mission Outreach

Chair	<u>Ruth Nickerson</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Sue Anderson</u>
Member at Large	<u>Jean Fassett</u>

FCC Worcester Calendar

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00am Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Independence Day 7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 11:30am Trustees Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00am Resurrection Ministries 6:30pm Neighborhood Watch Mtg 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>2:00pm Zaycon delivery</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 11:30am Deacons meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00am Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God 3:00pm Resurrection Ministries Event</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00am Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 11:30am Church Council Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00am Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg</p>				

FCC Worcester Calendar

August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Lammas 7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting	2 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir	3	4 10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God
5 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 6:30pm AA Meeting	6 10:00am Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting	7 10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg	8 7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting	9 6:30pm AA Meeting	10	11 10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God
12 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 11:30am Trustees Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting	13 10:00am Resurrection Ministries 6:30pm Neighborhood Watch Mtg 7:00pm AA Meeting	14 10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg	15 7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting	16 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir	17 2:00pm Zaycon delivery	18 10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God
19 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 11:30am Deacons meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting	20 10:00am Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting	21 10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg	22 7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting	23 *Deadline for Submissions to the Friendly Messenger 6:30pm AA Meeting	24	25 10:00am New Hope SDA 12:00pm Church of God
26 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries 11:30am Church Council Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting	27 10:00am Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting	28 10:00am Fellowship 7:00pm AA Mtg	29 7:30am BNI 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries 7:00pm AA Meeting	30 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:00pm Choir	31	