

FRIENDLY MESSENGER

First Congregational Church, 1070 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602
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A Word from Rev. Jackson

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

The summer of 2019 is in full swing and all around us is evidence of God's beautiful creations. As we are enjoying this season, I'm sure many of you have plans or goals for the next few months. Perhaps it is a place you want to travel to or a project you hope to accomplish by September.

I would like to offer up this quote from Romans to you as a spiritual exercise we could all strive for over the coming season: *"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers."* Just imagine what our church and our life could be like if we were able to live out these words. Peace, goodwill and encouragement would be the fruit of this kind of living. Consider the words in this scripture: Love, mutual affection, rejoice, hope, persevere, prayer, contribute, and hospitality. These things cannot be bought, but they are the fruits of a spirit led life. They are especially needed in 2019 to take a stand against evil, negativity, discouragement, unbridled criticism and despair.

Imagine a church living out the themes of Romans 12:9-13. What great things could be accomplished for our Lord. As someone once said: *"The mark of a great church is not how many people come, but how many people live differently for having been there"*.

This summer, let's all strive to be that church that makes a difference in a dangerous and dark world. Then people will desire to be in the presence of the light that pours forth from the windows of our souls. Let's approach the balance of this year with a "why not?" and a positive attitude. Please keep our church

family and its non-verbal witness in your prayers. God can use a soul that is open to Him and says "yes" when he calls. May the living and practicing of Romans 12:9-13 be our mutual goal for this summer....and beyond.

See you in church! Because he lives!

Rev. Bob

From Hospitality

Anyone wishing to bring in treats for Sunday Coffee Hour through the end of 2019, please sign up in the Narthex or call the Office. Thank you!

Thank You!

**July 7th, 14th and 28th are currently available
All dates in August are currently available**

Our Little Lending Library

Looking for a summer read? We have a collection of books from Discovery Books. They are the same people who produce Our Daily Bread booklets each month. You will find the books on the table in the church parlor. There are lots of different topics. Take one home and enjoy.

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, September 8th will be Homecoming Sunday. It would be great if you could join us for lunch right after church, rain or shine.

We hope to see you there!

The Christian Ed Committee

Laundry Love

July Birthdays

- 01 Carolyn Jackson
- 02 Julie Barrow
- 10 Brittany Hinson
- 11 Judy Nally
- 13 Erica Vecsey
- 18 Paul Scherdell
- 19 Nancy Dalbeck
- 28 Richard Trzcinski
- 29 Rev. Bob Jackson

July Anniversaries

- 29 Matt & Dawn Ahaesy

August Birthdays

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

August Anniversaries

- 09 Donald & Sheila Ansley
- 13 Steven & Linda Ann Coy
- 14 Jim & Deborah Mirick
- 16 Norman & Susan Anderson



Laundry Love

There are some hot, sticky days ahead this summer and the laundry will be increasing with all the extra changes the kids will need. Let us remember to bring in the detergents, dryer sheets, and coins for the machines to help the families that depend on us and the Laundry Love team to make things a bit easier.

Due to the sometimes long waits, they could use water bottles and Capri Sun packages along with bubbles, sidewalk chalk and children's sun screen. Books, crayons and sticker books help the team to keep the small ones busy.

Because of your generosity last month we delivered 5 jugs of detergent, 1 box of dryer sheets, 2 cartons of Capri Sun, 2 packages of socks and 6 regular-size containers of hair and skin products. Thirty dollars in cash was also donated for the machines.

Thank you Everyone!

Summer collection schedule – Items due Sunday, July 7 and August 4 for delivery the Thursday of those weeks.

Please continue to remember this very important need in our own city.

Sharing Network

Buddhas Over Worcester – Final reminder for the Artist Exhibit at **Boundless Way** called “*Buddhas Over Worcester*.” It is open daily and is a self-guided exhibit of over 25 artistic interpretations of “being awake in the midst of joy and sorrow.” A lovely, quiet stroll through the temple gardens to take in the exhibit, but to also feel the peace and quiet that surrounds you. Exhibit concludes on Friday, July 5, 2019.

Friend’s Market Day – was a great success of sales, vendors, books and a sell-out of the homemade pies.

Next Market Day is in September featuring their homemade Apple pies. Date will be in the September *Friendly Messenger*.

Mark Your Calendars:

Concordia’s Closet

Collection – the month of October

Delivery – November 12th

Habitat for Humanity/ReStore

Donations always accepted – and shop to support this vital mission.

A Thank You to Our Church Family

To the Blue Star Mothers, I wanted to thank you for the lovely plant you gave the church following your Mother's Day plant sale. We placed it on the communion table in honor of all mothers and all women who do so much to raise children and keep them safe. We pray for the children of Blue Star mothers that they will be safe and protected from harm's way. We are glad to be able to support your efforts and hope it was another success.

Most sincerely, Rev. Jackson

We received this reply:

Thank you so much for your kind words. We are always grateful every time you and your board approve our request to use the front lawn of the church. It means so much to us, and we always have fun just hanging out with each other. Not to mention a successful fund raiser. We get to talk to neighbors, and random people who stop to ask about our

organization. Ultimately, the funds raised are used to either send packages overseas (yes the USPS is super expensive) or to help raise funds for NEADS (National Education for Assistance Dogs Services). They are our #1 non-profit, and have raised enough money to sponsor 2 dogs over the past 10 years. Our children are the driving force behind our organization, and people like you and your congregation are the BEST. Thank you again. Karen Belliveau for the Blue Star Mothers.

Just one of the ways our church supports the Tatnuck community.

Missions

Thank you for your donations to Carty Cupboard every month. Please remember that families still have to eat in the summer and that many children are home all day now. We only delivered four bags of groceries in June. Let’s try to do better!

Good items for summer include ketchup, mayonnaise, salad dressing, relish, peanut butter and jelly and things that are easy to prepare. Plastic bottles/jars are best. Also needed are healthy snacks like granola bars, crackers, fruit cups and similar items. Diapers for the little ones and personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc. are always needed.

Thank you once again – The Missions Committee

Sunday School – You can make a difference!

Sunday School has ended until September, at which time we will need one more teacher. We have one but need a second so they can alternate. We have a wonderful new curriculum that has been working out very well. We are also in need of more Safe Church people. Please help us!

Prayer Requests

Hampton Bagdasarian requests prayers for June Kemp; Sue Cardin requests prayers for David Siam; Susan Anderson requests prayers for her daughter, Melanie; Sue Carrow requests prayers for her brother, Michael Curran; Connie MacInnes requests prayers for her niece Linda; The Deacons request prayers for Sis Prefontaine & Paul Scherdell

FRIENDLY MESSENGER DEADLINE

The due date for the September issue is by Tuesday, August 27th. If your article(s) are not in by that date, we'll be happy to include it (them) in our October 2019 issue. Thank you!

Bulletin Cover Donations

If you'd be interested in donating a Sunday bulletin cover, the cost is only \$12!

3 Things GOD has never seen:

1. A person that has not sinned.

Romans 3:23

2. A sinner he does not love.

John 3:16

3. A Sinner he cannot save

Romans 10:13

JESUS LOVES YOU!

Always Pray
to have eyes that see the best in
people,
a heart that forgives the worse,
a mind that forgets bad,
and a soul that never loses faith
in God.

FCC Worcester Calendar

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>10:00am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> Boy Scouts-Hall <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Parlor	2	3 <i>7:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	4 <i>Independence Day</i> <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	5 <i>9:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	6 <i>10:00am</i> New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor <i>12:00pm</i> Church of God-Hall
7 <i>10:00am</i> Worship <i>10:30am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	8 <i>10:00am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>6:30pm</i> Neighborhood Watch Mtg-Parlor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	9	10 <i>7:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	11 <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	12 <i>9:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	13 <i>10:00am</i> New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor <i>12:00pm</i> Church of God-Hall
14 <i>10:00am</i> Worship <i>10:30am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>11:30am</i> Trustees Meeting <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	15 <i>10:00am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	16	17 <i>7:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	18 <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	19 <i>9:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	20 <i>10:00am</i> New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor <i>12:00pm</i> Church of God-Hall
21 <i>10:00am</i> Worship <i>10:30am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	22 <i>10:00am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	23	24 <i>7:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	25 <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	26 <i>9:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	27 <i>10:00am</i> New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor <i>12:00pm</i> Church of God-Hall
28 <i>10:00am</i> Worship <i>10:30am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>11:30am</i> Church Council Meeting <i>6:30pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	29 <i>10:00am</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall	30	31 <i>7:00pm</i> Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor <i>7:00pm</i> AA Meeting-Hall			

FCC Worcester Calendar

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				Lammas 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 11:30am Deacons Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm Boy Scouts-Hall 7:00pm AA Meeting-Parlor		7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 11:30am Trustees Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 6:30pm Neighborhood Watch Mtg-Parlor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall		7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall		7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 11:30am Church Council Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	Deadline for September Newsletter	7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall

