

# FRIENDLY MESSENGER



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

## A Word from Rev. Jackson

If you ever go to the place where Jesus is supposed to have had breakfast with His disciples, you will find it to be a peaceful and calming location. It's a small beach which would be a perfect place for a gathering of close friends on the shore of Galilee. You can see right away why Jesus may have chosen this spot to reinstate Peter and recharge His disciples.

Jesus never tried make them feel guilty about what they did on Maundy Thursday evening. He could already see their hearts and knew they probably had a profound sense of guilt. Adding to it would benefit no one. Instead He asked: "Do you love Me?" When they responded "yes" three times, He told them "Feed my lambs"; "take care of my sheep"; and "feed my sheep". No guilt, just a commitment to love Jesus Christ and tell them what they needed to do from now on.

When Adam and Eve tasted the forbidden fruit, they hid out of guilt. The disciples ran away and went out to fish. God searched for Adam & Eve and Jesus found His disciples and gave them their fish. When we are sorry for our sins our Lord searches us out; not to condemn us, but to forgive us. We are prone to run away from the one who can forgive and restore us. Although they lost the garden, God did not give up on Adam and Eve. He still worked with them and helped them in their daily lives. Jesus still found redeeming value in His disciples and He still finds value in us.

There is an important lesson we can gather from this encounter on the quiet Galilean beach. In spite of our sin, we still have value to the Kingdom of God. It is Jesus who can redeem our lives and show us the mission ahead. We are not to carry around our guilt, but leave it at the cross and see what God can do with our talents and gifts.

In this post Easter season, may we turn to our Lord, be redeemed from our sins and be used by Him for his

glory. Let us go forth as a resurrected people and act on the good news Jesus has put into our hearts. Be not afraid and move ahead in faith.

See you in church! Because He lives!

*Rev. Bob Jackson*

*A special thank you to each of you who remembered me with cards, calls & comments on the loss of my mother, Marilyn Jackson. Your love and care was deeply appreciated. Rev. Bob*

## 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!

## May Birthdays

- 07 Sally Day
- 07 Dawn Ahaesy
- 09 Steven Coy
- 17 Robert Olson
- 21 Christina Dalbeck
- 25 Bev Bean
- 25 Heidi Hinson
- 25 Deborah Mirick
- 26 Philip Cardin
- 28 Sheila Ansley

## Laundry Love



Warmer weather means outdoor activities and the seasonal bedding changes. The families visiting Laundry Love are in need of extra loads of washing just like we are. Please remember them when you shop and bring the detergent and dryer sheets into church placing them UNDER the bubble tub in the Narthex.

Please give cash donations for the machines to Linda Ann.

Children's activities items are also welcomed as the laundromat gets warm, but the sun is still up. Fun things like bubbles, sidewalk chalk, Story and sticker books plus crayons and puzzles aid the workers in keeping the young ones busy.

Your welcomed donations for April were: 5 jugs of detergent, dryer sheets and 3 bubble packs, as well as a month high of \$70.00 in cash. Thank you everyone.

Next collection deadline is Sunday May 5th.

### 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.

May 5 OPEN

May 12 OPEN

May 19 OPEN

May 26 Fellowship

### Prayer Requests

*Hampton Bagdasarian requests prayers for June Kemp; Sue Cardin requests prayers for David Siam; Helen Wronski requests prayers for Josephine Morrow and Elaine Wronski; 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; prayers for Joyce Thienel; prayers for Bruce Kabasinsky for continued recovery after having knee surgery; prayers for Mac (Milton) MacInnes who is recovering from knee surgery; prayers for Daniel Ames; prayers for Helen Wronski; prayers for the family & friends of Mary Lou McCreight on her passing*

### FRIENDLY MESSENGER DEADLINE:

The *hard and fast cut-off* date for the June issue is Tuesday, May 28th. If your article(s) aren't in by that date, we'll be happy to include it (them) in our June 2019 issue. Thank you!

### Concordia's Closet:

The FINAL Sunday for dropping off your donations of gently used clothing is, Sunday, May 5th. They will be delivered on Tuesday the 7th.

Do not let the warm weather get here before you have sorted your closets AND contacted your friends and neighbors for their items.

All donations go to Concordia's free closet, an outreach to the Main South neighborhood. Also needed are interview and work clothes, giving a great impression to the new employer, as well as, building self-confidence.

The Explorer will be ready to be filled to the roof. Please have your items on the stage at the church, ready to be delivered

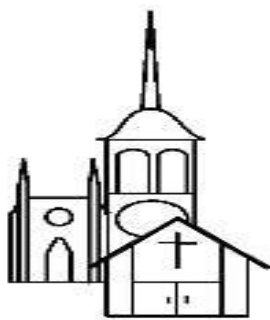
## We Remember

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Mary Lou McCreight who went to be with her Lord and Savior on Easter day. Her memorial service was held in our sanctuary on April 26.

## Thank You

Thank you to the soup makers and bread bakers for contributing to our Maundy Thursday soup supper. It was a time of fellowship as we remembered how Jesus gathered with his disciples. For He told us, "Where two or three have gathered together in My name, there I am in their midst." Matthew 18:20

## History Room:



Where does it begin and where does it end? This question has been asked many times over the decades, probably the correct answer is still in question.

But, Tatnuck is what we are talking about.

Doing a bit of research in the history room, I came across a delightful article that dates back c.1948, pointing out the much debated question...where does Tatnuck begin and end. Even then it was anyone's opinion, including what became known as West Tatnuck. We know it had to end at the Paxton and Holden lines, but unsure where it started in relationship to West End Worcester and THE square.

In the late 30's and 40's it was generally thought that Tatnuck began at Lenox Street and continued to Whittaker (Tatnuck) Square - but no solid basis for this theory. It was the fastest growing, and most attractive residential community in Worcester, even with the constraints of the war.

It boasted three churches; Congregational, Episcopalian and Catholic. It soon added a Jewish synagogue with a home for the aged and a children's orphanage. When the little red brick school house was rebuilt on the present site of Tatnuck Magnet School, a fire house was built in its place.

Tatnuck's first library in 1839, had a membership that paid \$2.00 per share to belong. It was housed in the Levi Gates house opposite the Congregational Church on Pleasant Street. If more than one person wanted the same book, then lots were drawn to see who would check out the book first. Since then, the library has been located in the Tatnuck Magnet School, where Willard Tavern (the stagecoach stop for Paxton, Barre and Boston) stood.

The square at the time of the article had 4 gasoline stations, shops to fulfill the needs of the community, the churches, school, and fire station already mentioned.

A monument dedicated to the heroes of World War 1 is still part of the square, but the natural surroundings have evolved with time.

Pleasant Street westward was a one-lane road to the western highlands. Tory Fort Lane led to a ledge of rocks called Tory Fort. Tradition claims that the Revolutionary War Tories hid from the ire of the patriots on this natural fortification of sorts.

The beauty of the reservoirs, cascading falls, ponds and springs were home to wild turkeys, wild cats, gears and wolves. A bounty was offered for the rattlesnakes in the area, soon becoming a hunter's adventure.

From the Tatnuck Farmers Club Winter Outings, ice fishing on Cooks Pond, the story of the hermit that lived on Rattlesnake Hill (the Hermitage), to the many stories of the Nipmuc Indians that first settled the area - the stories of Tatnuck defy conventional "boundaries". Those of us that have

fond memories of how it was, or have watched all the changes taking place, are proud of its history, even if the question of just where Tatnuck begins or ends will probably still be debated and not ever truly answered.

## **Fellowship News**

Happy May. Happy Spring.

Here is our May schedule. We begin each Tuesday at 10:00 am in the church parlor with coffee and goodies. Hope you will join us. Bring a friend too.

May 7th -We will be sorting clothes for Concordia Closet. This has been one of our ongoing service projects. We will also begin our Bible Study.

May 14<sup>th</sup>-Bible Study...continued

May 21st-Show N Tell Day. Bring along a special item and share its story with us.

## **The Church Mouse**

The April showers have brought May flowers. Hooray for the colors of Spring. God is using his big paintbrush to make the world beautiful. What an awesome God we have! I am seeing lots of projects around our church. Many hands have been working together to give our building and grounds a spring cleaning. I say out with the dreary remnants of winter and in with the newness of the season. Many of my outdoor friends have returned to the church yard. Welcome back robins and rabbits. Lots of special days this month to remember...Happy May Day, Happy Mother's Day and Happy Memorial Day. "For behold, the winter past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers have already appeared in the land; the time has arrived for pruning the vines, and the voice of the turtledove has been heard in our land." Song of Solomon 2:11-12.

Blessings to all, Nick your faithful church mouse

May 26th-Sunday. We are hosting Coffee Hour on Memorial Day Sunday.

May 28th-Our Annual Ten Penny Auction. Please bring three gently used items for auction. This is always a fun time. You never know what will be up for auction.

June 4th-Looking ahead, June 4 will be our final meeting for this program year

## **Sharing Network**

PIE Alert

Spring Market Day has been set for Saturday, June 15th, 9:00-2:00 pm.

Get there early to buy your fresh baked Strawberry or Strawberry/Rhubarb pies.

Browse the many vendors, plants, and books offered for sale, with a cup of hot coffee and donuts in hand.

## **Note of Thanks from Ada Grant's Daughters:**

Thank you to all of our Mom's friends at First Church for the prayers, visits, and words of comfort. She loved her church and considered the congregation to be her true friends. We are forever grateful for all the support and cards received before, during and after her illness. All the cards received showed us how much she was loved! There are 23 years of memories of Ada at First Church and we hope you enjoyed every moment of them. We know we have enjoyed every moment of our lives we have been blessed with her as our Mom. She was a wonderful and caring human being!

Happy Mother's Day. May God Be With You

Beverly Abramson & Wendi Stebbins

# *Easter Flowers Recognition's ~ 2019*

*Dawn and Matt Ahaesy*

*In memory of the Gibbs and Ahaesy families*

*Susan and Norman Anderson*

*In memory of my loving family who have gone before me*

*Susan and Norman Anderson*

*In honor of loved ones*

*Theresa Andes*

*In honor of Frances Maino*

*Theresa Andes*

*In honor of Jean Andes*

*Sheila and Donald Ansley*

*In memory of Rev. Martin W. Perry*

*Sheila and Donald Ansley*

*In celebration of our three healthy children and  
our 2 Grandchildren*

*The Bagdasarian Family*

*In memory of H. Rose Bagdasarian*

*The Bagdasarian Family*

*In honor of Sadie Bedrosian*

*Bev Bean*

*In celebration of my church family*

*Jane and George Boggs*

*In memory of our parents*

*Raymond Bull*

*In memory of my parents*

*Melissa Castle*

*In memory of Margaret Castle*

*Linda Ann, Steven, Steve & Sarah Coy*

*In memory of our parents & grandparents and friend Ada Grant*

*Jillian, Carlo & Cody DiBonaventura  
and Jordan Blackadar*

*In memory of Judith Maxted-Rice*

*Fellowship Group*

*In loving memory of Ada Grant*

*Rich & Kathy Freeman*

*In memory of Ralph Cochran, Mildred Cochran, Robert  
Freeman and Barbara Freeman.*

*Ruth Gauch*

*In memory of Ada Grant*

*John Hakkila*

*In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Levi Hakkila*

*Rev. Bob & Carolyn Jackson*

*In memory of Harold E. and Marilyn Jackson*

*Leanne & Jim Jezerski*

*In memory of William & Pauline Greene, Clifford &  
Marjorie Greene, and Andrew & Catherine Campsie*

*Khloe Kapinos*

*In memory of Willy & Manley*

*Mac & Connie MacInnes*

*In memory of Linwood & Alice, Lenny Hodgkins and  
Daniel & Katherine MacInnes*

*The McGrail's*

*In celebration of the joy of Easter*

*Charlotte Perry*

*In honor of Connor & Bryan-my Grandsons*

*Ann Scherdell & family*

*In memory of Ray and Jeffrey Scherdell*

*Ann Scherdell & Family*

*In honor of Paul Scherdell*

*For Ada Grant from her daughters, Beverly & Wendi and their spouses*

*In memory of Ada Grant*

*In honor of all her family and friends at 1st church*

*In recognition of her passing in February*

*Thank you to those who gave flowers for our families and friends who are unable to attend the services. The plants are  
enjoyed and truly appreciated by them*

# FCC Worcester Calendar

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>2</b> 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>3</b> 4:00pm Girl Scouts-Hall 9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	<b>4</b> 10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
<b>5</b> 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 11:00am Elder William Adu-Boahes & Pasor Alfred-Hall 6:30pm AA Meeting-Parlor	<b>6</b> 10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm Boy Scouts-Hall 7:00pm AA Meeting-Parlor	<b>7</b> 10:00am Fellowship 11:30am Missions	<b>8</b> 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>9</b> 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall 7:00pm Choir	<b>10</b> 4:00pm Girl Scouts-Hall 9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	<b>11</b> 7:30am Blue Star Plant Sale 10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
<b>12</b> Mother's Day 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 11:30am Trustees Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>13</b> 10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 6:30pm Neighborhood Watch Mtg-Parlor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>14</b> 10:00am Fellowship	<b>15</b> 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>16</b> 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>17</b> 4:00pm Girl Scouts-Hall 9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	<b>18</b> 9:30am Spring Garden Festival & Plant Sale at the Worcester Common Oval 10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
<b>19</b> 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 11:30am Deacons meeting 2:00pm 34th Annual Walk for the Homeless at Elm Park 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>20</b> 10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>21</b> 10:00am Fellowship	<b>22</b> 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>23</b> 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall 7:00pm Choir	<b>24</b> 4:00pm Girl Scouts-Hall 9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	<b>25</b> 10:00am New Hope SDA-sanctuary & parlor 12:00pm Church of God-Hall
<b>26</b> 10:00am Worship 10:30am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 11:30am Church Council Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>27</b> Memorial Day 10:00am Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>28</b> Deadline for Newsletter submitting 10:00am Fellowship	<b>29</b> 7:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor 7:00pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>30</b> Ascension 6:30pm AA Meeting-Hall	<b>31</b> 4:00pm Girl Scouts-Hall 9:00pm Resurrection Ministries-3rd floor	

