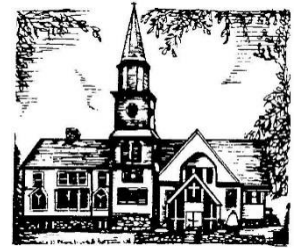


FRIENDLY MESSENGER

October, 2018

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 is the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Autumn in all its glory is upon us as we witness the colorful leaves and pumpkins. God's hands paint beautiful and colorful scenes of His creation all around us. Be sure to stop pause and breathe in this beautiful season!

One of the many things I appreciate about the music we sing in our church is the theological content. While I enjoy some types of praise music I am not a fan of "7/11" hymns. I picked up this concept while I was at a ministers conference many years ago. A fellow minister explained to me that "7/11" hymns are mostly praise songs that contain 7 words and get repeated 11 times. Mind you, I love praise music and enjoy singing it on occasion. But I also feel that church music should have some theological depth.

This past Sunday (9/23) we sang the hymn "Christ the Eternal Lord" If you read the words you can learn a lot about the purpose and nature of Jesus Christ. Consider verse 2: "*Christ the unchanging Word to every passing age, whose timeless teachings still are heard set forth on Scripture's page; transform our thought and mind, enlighten all who read, within your word by faith to find the bread of life indeed.*"

Some other hymns which contain a solid message would be "The Church's One Foundation", "Crown Him with Many Crowns", "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" or "We Gather Together." Can you think of a few that speak to your faith?

Last summer, while I was in Germany learning more about Martin Luther and the Reformation, I was educated about the theological background of many of the hymns he wrote. Luther had deep purpose and reasoning when he composed the words of his hymns. He wanted his congregants to grow in faith and theological understanding as they sang his hymns in worship.

As we sing our hymns each Sunday, let's be sure to pause and take in the meaning of the words we are singing. The more we absorb, the more our faith grows!

Sing with joy unto the Lord!

Rev. Bob Jackson.

FRIENDLY MESSENGER DEADLINE:

The *hard and fast cut-off* date for the October issue is Tuesday, October 23th. If your article(s) aren't in by that date, we'll be happy to include it (them) in our November, 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!

My Dear Church Family

I'd like to take a moment to thank you all so very much for the many prayers, meals, cards, calls and visits that you've so graciously given me. They've meant the world to me (and to Norman, too)! Your thoughtfulness during these rough times have truly been a blessing. You've really lifted my spirits and I can't thank you enough! God bless each and every one of you! With love and blessings,

Susan Anderson.

October Birthdays

- 02 Ada Grant
- 04 Jean Andes
- 04 Matthew Andes, Sr.
- 11 Benjamin Day
- 15 Hampton Bagdasarian
- 19 Ann Scherdell
- 19 Armand Thienel
- 23 Robert Anthony Olson
- 25 Marilyn Mildish
- 27 Faith Cerie Audette
- 31 Justin Conlon

October Anniversaries

- 12 Wesley & Betty Dalbeck
- 14 George & Jane Boggs
- 17 Armand & Joyce Thienel

Association Cluster Meeting

Our Cluster meetings have been a great success - helping to nurture the vitality of the Central churches and strengthen the covenant between them, the Association, and the Massachusetts Conference! The Board of Directors will continue Cluster meetings this year with a twist - we will have speakers at each meeting to address issues YOU have expressed interest in. Each church is encouraged to attend at least one cluster meeting a year. We ask that 2 to 3 church representatives attend, and if the pastor is available, they are invited too!

The Rev. Dr. Jonathan New will be participating in the October cluster meeting and will be talking about Stewardship-Best Practices. People's giving patterns and motivation for giving are changing and we are feeling the direct effects. Dr. New is the Associate Conference Minister for Stewardship and Financial Development and will share stewardship best practices responsive to these changes that still remain true to who we are as people of faith.

We would like to have a group attend from our church, if you are interested please contact me or the church office so you can register for this program.

Thank you

Rev. Bob Jackson

Laundry Love



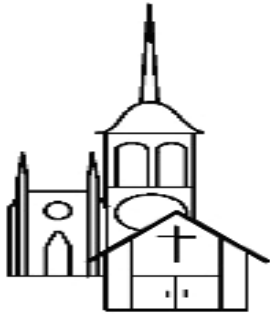
School is open, sports are in full swing and everyone will be wearing more layers ... this means MORE Laundry!

With season changes coming fast, we need to include the pocket hand-sanitizers and hand creams to our laundry items of detergent, softener sheets and quarters. The first-aid items for the zip bags help with blisters and small cuts all year long.

October collection day is Sunday, October 7th – with delivery on the 11th. Donations can be made all month long UNDER the bubble tub in the narthex, with any cash donations given to Linda Ann directly.

September totals were: 10 large jugs of detergent, \$15 cash, 4 long bubble sticks, 5 large crayon boxes, 5 activity books plus two cartons of new craft and activity materials, 2 shopping bags of new craft and activity materials, and three school bags filled with school supplies.

What a happy crew when they unloaded the wagon that morning! Thank you all for continuing our South Main outreach.



History Room

One of the special things about fall are the traditions from years gone by – the seasonal activities in both the city and in the surrounding towns.

The commercial ones add a new twist to keep us returning, but it is the organizations and churches that truly put out the most effort to hold on to those special events we savor in our memories. The bake, knitting and candy tables, the chowder lunches, hot-dogs, pies for dessert plus the raffle and attic areas, all bring back the memory of a favorite outing during the season.

Watch for the “Fairs” and “Events” columns on the “Living and Faith” page in the T&G for dates and times then take a step back to those “good ole days” and enjoy giving them your support. Handmade or fresh-baked items win hands down.

Coming up in October are long-running fairs such as Auburn Congregational and Spencer Congregational Church sales – both on October 20th.

If you have a favorite and know the date – share it with us and it will get posted for everyone!

See you at the Fairs!

Fall Cleanup Nov 3rd

It is time once again to clean up our church yard in preparation for the Holiday Season to come. There are many opportunities for service and many hands make light work.

Save the date Saturday November 3rd, 2018 from 9:00am-2:00pm.

Bring your rakes, pruners and good will. If you cannot make the date consider taking on one of the items on the work list and doing it at a time which suits you (Contact Cindy MacLaurin). Or if yard work is not your gift, consider donating lime, mulch or fertilizer. Any and all help is welcome.

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 and her neighbor Kimberly Wright,; Susan Anderson requests prayers for her daughter, Melanie, and for Justin and Catherine; Sue Carrow requests prayers for her brother, Michael Curran; The Deacons request prayers for Bruce Kabasinsky; Sis Prefontaine; Jean Andes; Marie Waskevich; Sue Anderson; Sue Cardin; Paul Scherdell; Norman Anderson and Betty Dalbeck.

Deacons Prayer List Update

The Board of Deacons has decided to start the new church year off with a fresh look at the Prayer List. Going forward they respectfully request anyone requesting prayers to be published in the Prayer List of the bulletin and the newsletter fill out a Prayer Request card. These cards are in the pew card holders and are on the table with the bulletins and sign-up clipboards. These filled in cards may then be given to Rev. Bob, a member of the Board of Deacons (Matt Ahaesy, Sue Anderson, Don Ansley, Sue Cardin), or be placed in the offering plate. The church Office can also accept requests over the phone or via email on your behalf.



"I LOVE ANIMALS"

Professional, experienced, loving dog walking, and dog & cat sitting. 12 years experience; live locally. insured and bonded. Cover Tatnuck Square, Paxton & Holden. Whether it's short term because you're recovering from a surgery, you're away for the day or overnight, or are at work, I'm available to come and walk your dog(s). I also care for cats when you are away. Many references.

Would love to help – Laurie Moran 508-344-2765

A Treasured Recipe from the Senior Lunch Crew

Orange Cream Delight

3 small pkg. orange gelatin

1 ½ orange juice

1 ½ whipped cream

3 c boiling water

3 Tbsp. sugar

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Add all other ingredients except cream. Put gelatin in refrigerator to set. Whip cream. Fold it into gelatin when syrupy. Ladle into sherbet glasses or pour into a flat pan to cut in squares for serving. It will set up in about 1 and ½ hours. Serves 10 to 12.

Save the Date

Super Saturday, October 20, 2018

Keefe Regional Technical High School.

Framingham, MA

Fellowship News

We have a full month of programs for October.

We will be collecting gently used clothing for women, men and children during the entire month. Please place your donations on the stage in Fellowship Hall. They will be sorted and taken to Concordia Closet.

What's up for the month?

October 2 Travel to Meadowbrook Orchards in Sterling for lunch and visit to their farm store. Meet at 10 am to carpool.

October 9 Church Cleanup day. Light housekeeping projects around the church.

October 16 District 5 City Councilor Matt Wally will be with us.

October 23 Our Speaker Series. We welcome Clarence Burley, clerk of the Worcester Friends Society.

October 30 We welcome our guest speaker, Rev. Meredyth Ward-Urban Missioner, Walking in the Way Ministries. Laundry Love.

Meetings are held on Tuesdays in the church parlor beginning at 10 am. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend. We look forward to seeing you.

Fellowship Speaker Series Reminders:

October 23rd – Clarence Burley – Worcester Friends

October 30th – Rev. Meredyth Ward – Walking Together Ministries and Laundry Love

November 27th – Carissa Rodriguez – Trinity Congregational Church – Fitchburg

February 12, 2019 – Fr. Timothy Burger – St. Lukes

April 2, 2019 – Chris Wychorski – Habitat for Humanity and ReStore

Hope you all were able to hear Rev. Jane Willan from Paxton Congregational on September 25th. A charismatic speaker to say the least.

Join Fellowship at 10AM for coffee on the above dates, bring your friends and enjoy the guest speaker.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1070 Pleasant Street. Worc, MA
508-752-4635

FELLOWSHIP 2018 - 2019					FELLOWSHIP 2018 - 2019			
MONTH	DATE	DAY	PROGRAM		MONTH	DATE	DAY	PROGRAM
Sept	4	Tue	Primary Elections	x	Jan	1		<i>No Meeting</i>
	11			x		8		<i>No Meeting</i>
	18		Welcome back meeting	x		15		<i>No Meeting</i>
	25		Speaker -Rev Jane Willan - Paxton	x		22		<i>No Meeting</i>
				x		29		<i>No Meeting</i>
October - Collect clothes for Concordia Closet				x	Feb	5		UnBirthday Party Pot Luck Lunch & school supplies (minimum, &5)
				x		10	Sun	Coffee Hour #2
Oct	2		Meadowbrook Orchards & Lunch	x		12		Speaker - Rev Timothy Burger - St.Lukes
	9		Church CleanUp	x		19		OPEN
	16		Speaker - Councilman Matt Walley	x		26		Lenten program
	23		Speaker - Clarence Burley - Quaker	x				
	30		Speaker -Rev Meredyth Ward	x				
			Laundry Love - Urban Missioner	x				Lenten starts 3/6/19
				x	March	5		Mardi Gras Breakfast
				x		12		Speaker - TBA
Nov	6		Election Day - No Meeting	x		19		Movie
	13		Berg's florist (\$12) & Sort clothes	x		26		Worc Voc Tech School Lunch
	20		No Meeting					
	22	Thurs	THANKSGIVING					
			Put up Christmas Trees (mitten, parlor & Sanctuary) & Carissa Rodriguez Trinity, Fitchburg	x				
				x				April - Collect clothes for Concordia Closet
				x	April	2		Speaker -Chris Wychorski - Habitat
				x		9		OPEN
				x		16		Berg's florist (\$12) & Cookie Trays
				x		21	Sun	EASTER
				x		23		Church Clean Up
				x		30		Lunch with Beth & Bruna at 308 Lakeside
				x				
				x	May	7		Bible Study & Sort Clothes
				x		14		Bible Study
				x		21		Show N Tell or
				x		26	Sun	Coffee Hour #3
				x		28		Ten Penny Auction
				x				
				x				
				x	June	4		Final Meeting
				x		11		No Meeting
				x		18		No Meeting
				x		25		TRIP - TBA
xxx TUESDAY Meetings 10 AM \$5 membership fee xxx								

Concordia's Closet:

It is that time of year again, to decide which outfits will see another year and which ones you are donating to Concordia's Closet. So, before your schedule get too full and time is short, open the closets, drawers and boxes and get the job done.

Remember we need items for the WHOLE family, ALL seasons, ALL colors plus accessories such as belts, scarfs, shoes and handbags. Business attire is also needed for interviews and work. Actually, any gently used item is welcomed.

Sheets, blankets, comforters in good condition would be a plus as the cold months are just ahead.

Please leave your donations ... Marked "Concordia's Closet" ... at the back of the stage AWAY from the base board heaters during the entire month of October.

The delivery will be made the beginning of November.

Let's celebrate the start of our 8th year of this outreach with the biggest delivery ever!

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.

The Church Mouse

Hi everyone! Want to wish all my church family a happy autumn season. Won't be long before we see all the colored leaves. But, it also won't be too long before we have to rake all those beautiful leaves in the yard. The colors are definitely a gift from our loving God who designed our world. Maybe the falling leaves are God's way of saying, "Trick or Treat!"

It's been good to see many of our church family returning to worship after the hot summer. I've heard music in the chapel, so I know some of the children are back for Sunday school. Praise God! Some of the field mice in the neighborhood tried to take up residence in Rev. Jackson's basement. He was very gracious though and politely asked them to leave. I'll have to find out where they went. God tells us that our days are like the grass and then they are gone, but the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting if we remember to do his commandments. Wow! Everlasting is a really long time, but I'm sure going to try and please God every day. I share God's love with you. See you around church. As always, Nick the mouse.



FCC Worcester Calendar

October 2018

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