



THE UNION SPIRIT

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
105 PLEASANT STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MA 02333

FEBRUARY 2015

From The Pastor...

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God. Psalm 25: 1

So much is happening at Union Church these days it can make your head spin. We just had the Annual Meeting with folks joining new committees. Much work has been done on our Safe Church policy. An Operating Manual is being developed. We are opening the process on Open and Affirming. Stephan Ministry training is in full swing. The ministry of caring will soon begin. Sunday School and Youth Ministry are rolling along nicely. Our food pantry and mission work continues.

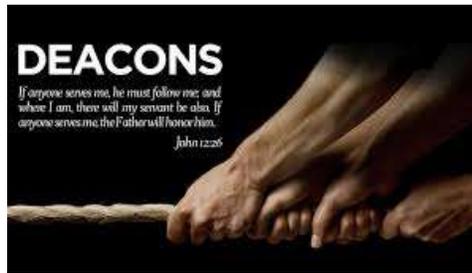
All the involvement in so many areas by so many people is heart warming. It does give me pause, however. I would like to sound a cautionary note. When people work with people, there is always potential for conflict. Personalities can clash, people can try to take control, people can sometimes not get things done that they committed to, people can do things incorrectly, people can judge others; these are all part of being human.

My cautionary note is to remind all of us that we are all flawed yet we are called to treat one another as Jesus teaches us. He teaches us to be giving and forgiving. He teaches us kindness and compassion. If you get frustrated with someone at church, I ask that you respectfully and assertively communicate with him or her. At church, we can disagree without being disagreeable.

Another cautionary note is this. Be careful of burn out. Many people in our church are involved with many things at church. This is wonderful, but it can lead to people resenting all they do when others may not be doing as much. Not just our church but churches in all denominations have people who were super involved up and leave because it became too much for them. I pray that does not happen with you.

Peace,
Pastor Jim

Diaconate



**Pat Martin and Carol Ryan have finished their term as Deacons.
Thank you so much for all of your hard work and faithfulness!
Please join us in wishing them well as they continue on in their faith journey.**

Welcome!

**Our newest Deacons
Stephanie Rando & Dennis Wilburn**

**We look forward to serving the Lord with you.
Join us in welcoming them with us!**

**Your Deacons:
Jen Bentley, Al Ciri, Donna Colburn, Bill Driscoll, Stephanie Rando,
David Repeta, Jamie Riordan, Dennis Wilburn & David Young,**



**It is always so wonderful to see our church family growing!
We will be welcoming new members into our family soon!
Stay tuned during a special service soon
when we celebrate their commitment to the Lord.**

Finance

The Finance Committee would like to welcome

Susan Muise

to the committee!

The Finance Committee:

Laurie Mitcheson, Val Mason, Susan Powers, Susan Muise,
Chris Hoyt, Bill Dawson, and Howard Martin



February

Vern Post – 2nd

Jerry Cicierega – 11th

Howard Martin – 22nd

If you would like to add and of your family members birthdays and anniversaries
to the newsletter just email the office (office@uccofeb.org)
or put a note in Laurie's mailbox and provide these dates for your family.

Thank you!!



It is about time to conclude the cookbook project with a BIG thank you to the many good people who made it possible. Thank you for taking the time to contribute a few recipes and/or stop by the church office to help copy, collate, punch holes, assemble and bind the books. Your time and interest in getting the job done was very much appreciated. One of us was very nervous about pulling it all together, and as so often happens, it did get done and the extra worry was not needed. There were 100 books assembled and the total profit for the church fair/general fund was \$1,323. We know Martha Russell would be very pleased with the results of our efforts.

*In appreciation,
The Cookbook Committee*

Trustees



With the stormy season ahead of us there is always the possibility of Church services being cancelled. Tune into WCVB/Channel 5 or online at www.thebostonchannel.com/closings/index.html for cancellation notices. As soon as Laurie gets the word that we are cancelled she will send an email out to everyone and post it on Facebook.

Thank you, Roy Augustson, Gary Martin, Mike Mason, Vern Post & Scott Poulin