



The Church Bell

The Federated Church of Christ
Brooklyn, CT



Sunday Worship
Sunday School
10:00 AM

Office Hours
Tue Wed Thu
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

October 2016

Notes from Pastor Mary - Best Of

March 2014

My name is Mary Little Apicella, and I am honored to have received the call to be your next settled pastor. For this my first report, I want to share some of the facts of my foundation, and I look forward to getting to know each of you better in the weeks and months to come.

I was born on September 24, 1986 and grew up in Marion, North Carolina. I graduated from high school in 2005 and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion from Wake Forest University in 2009 and a Master of Divinity degree from Boston University School of Theology in 2013. While in seminary, I was the student pastor at The First Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain, MA, an American Baptist congregation, which sponsored me in the ordination process with the ABC, USA. I will be ordained at FBC in Jamaica Plain on April 6, 2014, becoming the first woman ever ordained into the ministry at that church.

December 2014

The first Moravian Lovefeast was served in Germany on August 13, 1727. It is styled after the common

meal partaken in love and fellowship by the early Church after Pentecost, where the early believers met and broke bread together, thereby signifying their union and equality. These meals of the church family were associated with the celebration of the Lord's Supper, which followed them. They were called agape, from the Greek word for highest expression of love. The service itself is not reserved only for Christmas but occurs throughout the year, though the Christmas Lovefeast is the most memorable and well known by non-Moravians.

Our Lovefeast will take place on Sunday, December 14th at 7:30pm. We will have musical offerings by our choir, David Gonzalez, Re'al Carpentier, and other special performers that you will not want to miss. I hope you will come and be part of creating a new tradition for our church and bring someone with you!

(continued)

Contents:	
Best of Pastor Notes	1
Party Line	2
Deacons	3
WCGCS	3
Prayers	4
Watch Out!	5
Calendar	6
Articles 18th	
each month to:	
ChurchBell@FCCBrooklynCT.org	

Pastor: Rev. Mary L. Apicella
Christian Education Director: Therese Carpentier

Worship Accompanist: David Gonzalez
Secretary: Carrie Taylor

July 2015

Starting this Sunday, July 5th, we will spend 6 weeks thinking about Sabbath as resistance. How can we as Christians claim the practice of Sabbath as part of our religious heritage from Judaism in order to cultivate a way of living and being in the world that is peaceful, more simple, and aware of God's presence in every moment. As the 4th of the 10 Commandments, the charge to "remember the Sabbath and keep it holy" is more than just prohibition on activity and a command to be pious and still until the sun goes down. Rather, the Sabbath as God intended it, is an active practice of resistance and alternative, valuing rest, balance, and the ability to say "no" in a culture that expects us to always say "yes!" "More!" "NOW!"

September 2015

Sunday, September 20th, we will be kicking off our first Annual Federated's Fall-tastic Jubilee™ celebrating our children, our church, and letting folks in our community know we are a place of welcome, hospitality, and grace for all. The word "Jubilee" is especially rich in meaning and tradition because in the Hebrew Bible, God commanded that every 50 years the people set aside time to restore rightful ownership of land and property, reconcile relationships, and celebrate being God's Beloved Community by focusing on loving God and loving one's neighbor.

Party Line

There have been lots of people on the go over the summer. Mary Ann Thomen traveled to Virginia for a wedding and a much needed vacation. Steve and Kathryn Stellitano spent several days in Vermont and enjoyed taking classes at King Arthur Flour in pie baking and gnocchi. Cindy and Mark Rollins had a wonderful cruise down the Rhine from Basel to Amsterdam. Alan and Norine Nichols spend some time in Nashville in September. Norine thought the highlight would be visiting the Pickers' Warehouse. The Motasky's traveled to an island off the coast of Maine to visit a cousin. Henry and Debbie Chabot spent a few weeks visiting friends in Germany in August.

Hope Barton traveled with her daughter, Louise Morrison and family to Colorado to visit son Josh, wife Lisa and their new baby, Kiera Marielle who was born on July 31st. Hope's other son, Travis was married on June 26th to Marilyn. Eventful year for the Barton family!

Jean Burdick's great grandson Levi is slowly improving after some time at UMass. He is still suffering with respiratory issues and using an inhaler. Lori Bailey has returned home and is hopefully making great progress after some setbacks.

Earl would like everyone to know that there was a mix-up in his telephone listing. His home number should be listed as 401 636 8040.

~ Kathryn Stellitano

Deacons

It takes a community to do the work of God here at the Federated Church. The Deacons appreciate the service each of the following folks gives to the community.

September 17th Melissa Wilson lead 9 woman in a retreat study of the book of Ruth. The diverse group of 9 women from the church and community shared and bonded. The Biblical themes of loss and hope was personalized as women face similar journeys in their lives today. Just as Ruth and her daughter-in-law Naomi had no idea that their lives would contribute to the life of King David and Jesus, we have no idea the hope and influence our lives have on the future.

Lee Lambert is facilitating Wednesday evening supper and prayer starting September 21st at 5:30 to 7 in the chapel. Everyone is welcome.

A subcommittee of Jean Burdick and Ruth Stetson are exploring options for the memorial garden and remembering the life of Barbara Repko.

Mo Girard with finical support from the Woman's Group and the talent of her husband, David, provides cards for out outreach to the congregation. Earl McWilliams is the face of caring showing up to visit folks. These individuals and the unknown others who check in with the Federated Folks is an extension of our ministry that the Deacons cannot do alone. Thank You!

For our youngest folks, those under 4, we are looking to restart child care during worship. If you are interested in helping please see Mary Ann Thomen.

Deacons: (Missy Ennis, Lee Lambert, Sandy Motasky, Carolyn Otto, Melissa Wilson)

~Mary Ann Thomen

WCGCS

The Women's Group is back at work preparing for our fall projects. Our Take Out Lasagna Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 29th. As usual we will be asking for donations of 9x13" frosted cakes.

The Sugar Plum Fair on December 3rd is less than three months away and planning is well underway.

Jan Geer reports that she has plenty of jewelry boxes but does need more jewelry to go in the boxes! Once again Ruth Stetson will be organizing the basket raffle. She would appreciate any kind soul assembling a themed basket to help out. Last year this table raised over \$400! Jean Burdick who has resurrected the Knit and Sew Table is looking for donations of knit or crocheted baby items. These are usually very popular. And of course Hannah McNally will happily accept any donations for her gently used Christmas table.

Our next meeting will be on Monday October 10th at 9 AM in the chapel conference room. Please join us!

~ Kathryn Stellitano

Loving God, Hear Our Prayers...

- For our children, that they would grow closer to God throughout their lives and trust that God guides them everyday, and for Rachele as she finds her way in the world.
- For guidance and the willingness to seek God's Will for our church families and our families at home.
- For James, as he navigates the court system for the right to see his son and to make decisions in his son's best interests.
- For patience in relationships and forgiveness in stressful situations, and for lightheartedness and laughter to seek joy in all things.
- For being a centered, non-anxious presence for ourselves, for the relationships in our lives, and that we would speak with care and compassion to all we meet.
- For traveling mercies, awareness of other drivers, and safety for all those traveling on highways, and prayers of comfort and peace to those whose loved ones have died as the result of auto accidents.
- For Shaelyn and Levi, both of whom are sick and dealing with throat and respiratory problems.

For the family of Dick, who is nearing the end of life.

- For Jean Brennan, on the death of her son, Mark, from cancer, and for Jean's health.
- For Sandy and Randy Motasky and their family, on the death of Sandy's mother.

- For Earl, that he would find relief from bodily pain.
- For Emalyn, 16 month old great-niece of Carolyn Otto, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.
- For 4 year old Ava, undergoing chemotherapy for cancer.
- For Ruth, Don Wilson's sister, who is undergoing chemo treatment for cancer and facing surgery in September.
- For Steve, who has throat cancer.
- For Summer's grandmother, Erma.
- For Pauline Urgell, Archie Kneeland, and Linda Peloquin.
- For John Wilcox.
- For healing for Lori Bailey, as she recovers from hip surgery.
- For Shirley Leach in Colonial Rehabilitation and Nursing Home.
- For a brother-in-law diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, and what it may mean for the future.
- For Patty, and for all who are struggling with addiction and drugs, that they would find and receive help and find loving reconciliation in relationships with loved ones.
- For the millions of people displaced and fleeing as refugees from the violence in Syria, Turkey, Afghanistan, and South Sudan, for the children who endure the traumas of war, and who face insecurity of food, shelter, and safety.

(continued)

Loving God..., from previous page

- For our nation still in need of healing from racism, prejudice, and violence.
- For peace in our world, and that all the world would experience the saving love of God.

Gracious God, we give you thanks...

- For newlyweds Ailla and Dan, Kiana Gonzalez and her new husband, and Aimee and Chad.
- For the blessings of children, particularly with the family of Katlynn, Caylee, and Keegan.
- For all who come to worship and bring the blessings and gifts from God to make God's love known.
- For family support and love near and far.
- That it is in the love of Jesus that we find salvation and for the opportunities to share that love with others.
- For health care workers who show love and affection to their patients and residents in long term care.
- For Bonnie, and all who serve our country.
- For parents and family, shelter, food, and love.
- For all the ways we glimpse the love of Jesus in the actions of others.
- For this loving and supportive church family who blesses others with the power of prayer.
- For the people in our lives who remind us of God's love and presence, even in the midst of struggle.

Watch Out!!!

You may get a phone call from someone like "officer Johnson" from the "IRS Legal Department" - if you do, don't panic; it a fake or scam call.

A few ways to tell are:

- 1) the IRS will always send you a letter via the US Mail;
- 2) no one at the IRS is an "officer"
- 3) no one from the "IRS Legal Department" will call you; they would call your lawyer if you owed taxes.

The IRS said it does not contact taxpayers by email, social media or text messages, and said people can do the following to avoid being a victim:

Report the call to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 1-800-366-4484

If targeted by a potential scammer, also contact the Federal Trade Commission at FTC.gov.

Federated Church of Christ

15 Hartford Road, PO Box 204,
Brooklyn, CT 06234

Office: (860) 774-9817

Pastor: (860) 774-3761

Find us on **FaceBook**:

www.FaceBook.com

[/FederatedChurchBrooklynCT](https://www.facebook.com/FederatedChurchBrooklynCT)

UCC Interim Eastern Regional Minister:

Rev. Tom Clough 860-928-0765

toms@ctucc.org

ABC of Connecticut Executive Minister:

Rev. Judy Allbee 888-236-5421

jallbee@abconn.org

October 2016 Calendar - [www.federatedchurchbrooklynct.org / calendar.html](http://www.federatedchurchbrooklynct.org/calendar.html)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 Sharon H - birthday 10am Worship 11am Fall-Tastic Jubilee	26 9am Office Hours	27 Paula M - birthday 9am Office Hours 7pm Choir Practice	28 9am Office Hours	29	30	Oct 1
2 10am Worship	3 9am Office Hours	4 9am Office Hours 7pm Choir Practice	5 9am Office Hours	6 9am Office Hours	7	8
9 10am Worship	10 Columbus Day (region) 7pm Executive Board	11 9am Office Hours 7pm Choir Practice	12 9am Office Hours	13 Wendy T. birthday	14	15
16 Dylan L - birthday Dylan L. birthday 10am Worship	17 9am Office Hours 6pm Bell articles due	18 9am Office Hours 7pm Choir Practice	19 9am Office Hours	20 Frands & Hannah M. a Laurie M. birthday	21 Robert R. birthday	22
23 10am Worship	24 9am Office Hours	25 Kathleen B-L - birthday 9am Office Hours 7pm Choir Practice	26 9am Office Hours	27	28 Sam Lasagna Dinner	29
30 10am Worship	31 Halloween	Nov 1 9am Office Hours 7pm Choir Practice	2 9am Office Hours	3	4 Hal M - birthday	5

Pastor: Rev. Mary L. Apicella
 Christian Education Director: Therese Carpentier

Worship Accompanist: David Gonzalez
 Secretary: Carrie Taylor