

FRIENDLY MESSENGER

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

As we round the corner into a new church season it's hard to believe that summer is almost gone. It has been a difficult and hot summer for a few in our church family, but cooler temperatures are returning.

The Gospel of Mark tells us a beautiful story about Jesus healing Jairus's daughter and bringing her back from the dead. (Mark 5:35-42). As Jesus travels with Jairus, the synagogue leader, some of his friends tell him "Your daughter is dead" "Why bother the teacher anymore?" Jairus must have been filled with dreaded fear and sadness. Jesus said to Jairus: "Don't be afraid, just believe." Jesus knew that in a few minutes Jairus's daughter would be raised from the dead and walking around.

If I had to pick a theme for this fall-this would be it. "Don't be afraid for our Children, just believe."

"Don't be afraid for our Stewardship Program, just believe."

"Don't worry about the security of our church, just believe and pray for God's protection."

It all sounds so simple and I'm sure Jairus had his doubts even though he was in the presence of the Son of God. The professional mourners laughed at Jesus when He said she is asleep and not dead. But Jesus put them out of a job.

The world still laughs at simple faith and mocks true belief. But guess what: it works! Jesus promised not to abandon us and He won't. Imagine how much we could accomplish as individuals and as a church if we didn't give in to fear and just believed.

As we enter into this new season, let's give fear, worry, stress and angst the boot! Let's sweep it away with our fall cleaning. Instead may we move ahead in faith and believe, claiming the promises given to us in the Bible. Nothing is impossible with God when we put our future in His hands. The Lord who parted the waters in the Red Sea is the same God who parts our

problems and makes a way if we believe! See you in church!

Because He lives,

Rev. Bob Jackson.

FRIENDLY MESSENGER DEADLINE:

The *hard and fast cut-off* date for the October issue is Thursday, September 25th. 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!

Thank You!

September Birthdays

- 04 Clarissa Nigro
- 04 Matthew Andes, Jr.
- 04 Brigitte Conlon
- 11 Jacob Stewart
- 11 Ronald J. Taylor, Jr.
- 19 Gabrielle Conlon
- 27 Gordon Cross

September Anniversaries

- 05 Scott Yonker and Bill Condon
- 07 Karl and Jennifer Marble
- 10 Matthew and Theresa Andes

Concordia's Closet:

Fall is officially here and the closets, drawers and underbed storage bins need your attention!

Fellowship is more than willing to help you by accepting all your gently worn clothes, including business outfits, during our October collection month. Place your donations on the stage in the Fellowship Hall, AWAY from the heaters, all month long. They will be delivered to Concordia's Closet the beginning of November. Remember, we need ALL sizes, ALL seasons, ALL colors, ALL ages, including accessories like belts, scarves, shoes and handbags. Bed linens and comforters in good condition are also welcomed.

We are into our 8th year supporting this outreach. Because of your care and generosity, we fill a van or an Explorer each fall and spring, let this fall be the biggest delivery yet!

Neighborhood Events:

Mark your calendars and support our neighbors' projects:

Boundless Way – Daily meditations, M-F.

Fall Sesshin – September 20-23 – Registration required – *“To Touch the Heart and Mind”*

Worcester Friends – Market Day - September 22 – 9am to 3pm

901 Pleasant Street – Fresh apple pies, vendors, books, plants, coffee, donuts and hot dogs.

Christ the King Church – Giant Yard Sale – September 22 – 9am to 1pm

1052 Pleasant Street – Vendors and MORE!

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.

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.

Laundry Love



Laundry Love:

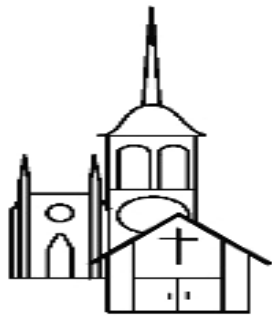
Laundry did not get a vacation this summer, so thank-you to everyone that remembered to bring in supplies for Laundry Love.

Over the past two months we delivered: 23 large jugs of detergent, 2 large boxes of dryer sheets, a 3-pack of sanitizers, large boxes of alcohol wipes, bandages, 2x2 gauzes, \$14.25 for the machines, along with 18 jars of bubbles, 2 activity packs, color books, crayons, wood puzzles and 3 packages of children's sunscreen.

A HUGE thank-you to everyone.

The next Sunday deadline is September 9th – Homecoming Sunday, to be delivered that same week.

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 30th when Rev. Ward comes to Fellowship to talk about Laundry Love and ALL the outreach provided by *Walking in the Way Ministries*.



History Room

The display case this fall is a nudge to get to know your neighbors, here on the west side and any of those around the county that have activities to which we have been invited: a Fall Fair, a

Harvest Dinner, a Holiday Concert or a Fellowship meeting where the neighbor comes to us.

Make it a point to find out what is going on, share the date and time, actually attend, support their efforts and let them know you are there. You will meet a lot of new friends, buy some fun items and enjoy some great food. Feel free to invite them to one of our Fellowship Meetings or the speaker series. New friends have a way of coming back when they are invited and feel welcomed – we do that well here at FCC, so let’s spread it around.

Note the several activities at three of our neighbors already listed in the newsletter.

See you there!

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; Paul, a friend of Brian MacInnes; Marie Waskevich; Sue Anderson; Sue Cardin; Paul Scherdell; and Beverly Bean.

Meet our Neighbors and Friends Speaker Series:

Fellowship is pleased to announce their “Meet our Neighbors and Friends” Speaker Series for the 2018-19 program year. Make it a point to come on Tuesday mornings for coffee/social time and learn more about who our neighbors and friends are, and what they are doing in our community.

September 25, 2018 –

Rev. Jane Willan – Pastor, First Congregational Church, Paxton

Author, T&G Living Faith page contributor

October 23, 2018 –

Clarence Burley – Clerk, Worcester Friends Society Neighborhood supporter and peaceful activist

October 30, 2018 –

Rev. Meredyth W. Ward – Urban Missioner, Walking in the Way Ministries

Laundry Love – Baby Boxes – and more

November 27, 2018 –

Carissa Rodriques, LM – Pastor, Trinity Congregational Church, Fitchburg

Speaking on her journey to ordination

February 12, 2019 -

Fr. Timothy Burger – Pastor, St. Luke’s Church, Worcester

Speaking on his journey to St. Luke’s and their outreach.

March 12, 2019 –

Speaker TBA

April 2, 2019 –

Chris Wychorski – Habitat for Humanity/ReStore Both organizations’ mission and volunteer opportunities

Keep the Fellowship program near your calendar and watch for reminders in the Sunday bulletins.

WELCOME BACK TO FELLOWSHIP

It's September, time to gather once again. We will meet in the church parlor at 10:00 am on Tuesday mornings, beginning with coffee and goodies. Our first meeting will be on September 18th. The planning committee has met to come up with a full schedule of meetings and events for the year. Do come to hear what has been planned. We look forward to seeing you. Invite a friend to join us. On September 25th, we will welcome the Rev. Jane Willan from Paxton as our featured speaker and guest. There will be no Senior Lunch Program this year. We would like to share one of the favorite recipes from past lunches.

Catalina Chicken

- 6 boneless chicken breasts
- 1 pkg dry onion soup mix
- 1 c. whole berry cranberry sauce
- 1 c. pineapple chunks, drained
- 1 large bottle Catalina dressing

Place chicken in a greased 9x13 pan. Cover with dry soup mix. Spread cranberry sauce and pineapple over chicken and soup mix. Pour salad dressing overall. Bake uncovered for 45 minute at 350 degrees. Serves 6. Good with rice and a tossed salad. Enjoy.

THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings everyone. Wow, it sure has been a very warm summer, even for a little mouse like me. I've been hanging out with the family of brown rabbits who live in the church yard. Recently, we've been joined by the neighborhood skunk. Lots of wildlife, even in the city. Some of my extended family members were taking up residence in the church lobby. I kindly asked them to move out. I didn't want them intruding on my church family. I am so glad to see Bruna back in the church office. I missed her. And a shout out to Scott. I really enjoyed listening to those two young men who played the church organ this summer. They were really talented. I am looking forward to the autumn season. Apple picking and colored leaves. It's the best of New England and it's all part of God's plan. I'll see you in church, but you won't see me! Love to all, Nick the FCC church mouse.



Officers and Board Members for 2018

Officers

Moderator	<u>Greg Waters</u>
Vice Moderator	<u>Linda Ann Coy</u>
Clerk	<u>Don Ansley</u>
Treasurer	<u>Bev Bean</u>
Asst. Treasurer	<u>Mary Kay McGrail</u>

Board Members

Board of Deacons

Chair	<u>Matt Ahaesy</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Sue Cardin</u>
Member at Large	<u>Sue Anderson</u>
Clerk	<u>Don Ansley</u>

Board of Trustees

Chair	<u>Sheila Ansley</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Doug Perkins</u>
Member at Large	<u>Jean Fassett</u>
Treasurer	<u>Bev Bean</u>

Board of Christian Education

Chair	<u>Sue Anderson</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Cindy MacLaurin</u>
Co-Member at Large	<u>Hampton Bagdasarian</u>
Co-Member at Large	<u>Connie MacInnes</u>

Board of Mission Outreach

Chair	<u>Ruth Nickerson</u>
Vice Chair	<u>Sue Anderson</u>
Member at Large	<u>Jean Fassett</u>

FCC Worcester Calendar

September 2018

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