

November 2020



# FRIENDLY MESSENGER

First Congregational Church, 1070 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602  
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## A Word from Rev. Jackson

Greetings in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ:

There are several highpoints in this coming month of November. First would be All Saints Day celebrated on November 1st. It is a day where we remember those who served Jesus Christ in the Christian church. The next special day would be Veteran's Day on November 11th. This is a day when we pause and remember Veterans and their families who served in the military to protect our freedoms as Americans. Following this would be Thanksgiving on November 26th. It is remembered as a day of thankfulness to God for all He has given to us. It also marks the journey of the Pilgrims and the feast they shared with the Native Americans 400 years ago.

However, there is one more day I would put before you as it relates to our church: Stewardship Sunday on November 15th. This is a very important day in the life of our church. On Sunday, November 15th the Stewardship Committee will be gathering pledges of support for the continued ministry and mission of this congregation. It is only with our mutual support that our church can continue to exist and share the good news of Jesus Christ.

God has given us so much. What are we willing to give to Him? Please pray that each of us will make a pledge to help this mission in Tatnuck. Let us seek God's leading during these difficult times and commit our time, talents and treasures to the work of His kingdom. May the Holy Spirit guide us to be generous with all God has entrusted to us. As the Apostle Paul taught the Christians in Rome: (Romans 12:5-8) "*so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching, the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.*"

See you in church. Because He Lives!

*Rev. Bob Jackson*

## Special Announcements

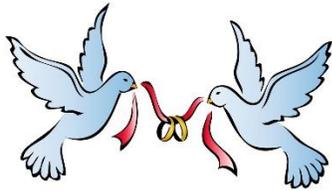
Council, Trustees, and Deacons reports are now located in the Narthex.

### A New Chapter

I regretfully share with you that our church administrative assistant, Katy Chase, has taken a full time position as of October 26th. Her last day with our church was Friday, October 23rd.

Katy has been a tremendous asset to our church's ministry and has been a blessing for all the behind the scenes work she accomplishes each week. Katy has faithfully served our church as administrator and financial secretary for almost 2yrs. We thank her for her devoted service and commitment to our church. We pray Godspeed and blessings in her new position. Go with our Lord Jesus Christ Katy and we pray your new position will be a blessing to you and your son Travis.

Sincerely,  
*Rev. Bob*



### WEDDING WISHES

Bryan MacInnes and Jennifer Paolilli were married on October 10, 2020 at The Bull Run in Shirley. Rev. Jackson officiated at the ceremony. Bryan is the son of Mac and Connie MacInnes. Congratulations Bryan and Jen!

## Stewardship News

Stewardship information for 2021 will be arriving by mail during the first week of November. Please place your pledge card in the offering plate during the November 15th service or mail it to the office.

Thank you, Stewardship Committee

## Fellowship



We have re-started our weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 10am. Please join us! There will be no meeting on November 3rd, but please make sure you get out and vote! Also, no meeting the week of Thanksgiving. Enjoy your holiday!

## Church Mouse



Hi Everyone. Happy November. It's a month with three holidays. First, Nov. 3 is Election Day so VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! I know I will see some of you that day if our parish hall is the place you cast your ballot. The second is Veterans' Day on November 11. Thank you to the women and men who wore the uniform and protected our freedoms. Thank you also to the families of those women and men by supporting them and praying for them while they served our country. The third is Thanksgiving. One of my favorite holidays when we nibble just a little too much and spend time with our families and good friends. Every day is a good day to be thankful for all the blessing we have. This year of 2020 has certainly been challenging but we have been uplifted by our families and our church family as we continue to be thankful for our health. I saw something last week that I think describes our relationships with our families and friends. It said, "One little stone will not build a bridge. Luckily, that stone has friends! Lifting you up in prayer." I pray each of you has a wonderful month of November. Continue to enjoy the colors of God's creation. Look out for your friends and neighbors. Keep our world and our nation in prayer. And, as you gather at your Thanksgiving table, remember to say grace and thank our loving God for the abundance that we are able to share with one another. Blessings and peace, Nick, your faithful church mouse

## Prayer Requests



*Hampton Bagdasarian requests prayers for June Kemp; Sue Cardin requests prayers for David Siam; Connie MacInnes requests prayers for her niece Linda; The Deacons request prayers for Paul Scherdell; prayers for Sally Day; prayers for Marilyn Mildish; prayers for Melanie Anderson*

Give the children of MSPCC a very special holiday



Every year for quite some time we have been donating Christmas gifts to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. In the past we have picked up names, ages and gift requests from them, made tags and hung them on our Christmas tree, collected the gifts and either delivered them or had them picked up.

Due to the pandemic this year, we realize that it will be difficult for many of us to get out to shop so we've decided to accept monetary donations instead. We usually spend about \$25 on each gift, but any amount you'd like to give will be greatly appreciated. You can mail your donation to the church, drop it off at the office or give it to the Missions Committee...Ruth Nickerson or Sue Anderson.

We hope you will participate in this very worthwhile cause, making Christmas brighter for so many children.

Thank you and God bless!

Sue & Ruth

## WINDOW FUND

Matt brought in his change and added it to our teddy bear

**W**indow **F**und jar that we put out in the narthex every Sunday. Thank you, Matt!

If we all continue to bring in our change, it will all add up and we'll be able to have our windows repaired and painted at long last. Some people are saving dimes in water bottles at home and bringing them in when they're full. This is also a fun way to save. Regular sized bottles hold about \$100 and the short ones hold about \$40 - \$50. However you choose to give and no matter how much you can contribute, it will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your help!



## Birthdays



### November

06	Rita Swett	27	Matthew Ahaesy
08	Lorna Cardin	28	Donald Ansley
12	Betty Dalbeck	29	Katy Chase
13	Renee Mason	30	Ruth Nickerson
17	Ashley Rucinski	30	Andrew Sullivan
24	Travis Sinclair (Katy's son)		

### December

05	Kenneth Sawyer	26	Marie Trzcinski
18	John Dalbeck	28	Jim Mirick
18	Kimberly Day		

## Anniversaries



### November

09 Greg Waters & Cindy MacLaurin

### December

30 Rev. Bob & Carolyn Jackson

*Thank you to all our Veteran's!*



*Election Day – Vote!*



*Happy Thanksgiving!*



## Board of Trustees Window Project

We are happy to share that we are continuing our project to refurbish and paint the church windows. It has been a while since we attempted to raise funds to paint our windows. Our church windows are in great need of repair and painting.

Would you consider making a donation to this worthy cause? The estimated cost is \$5,000. We have raised about \$1,725 with \$3,275 to go. With your help and God's provision, we can paint and restore our windows for the future. Thank you for your help in the past....we appreciate your help for the future.

