



# First Church of Christ, Congregational United Church of Christ

## October 2017 Newsletter

### Pastor's Message

About a year ago, after we voted on our new Mission Statement, "Welcome All, Grow in Faith, Joyfully Serve," I had an idea to create a new logo that would reflect this statement. It would be a symbol reflecting this new statement that we could use on all our communications.

At first, this seemed like an easy task: contact a graphic designer to come up with something, and in a week or two, we would have our new logo. Boy was I wrong! I quickly realized this is far more involved for just one person - we really needed a strong team of creative and persistent people willing to be involved. I am so grateful that four excellent people volunteered to join me on this project: Alison Weaver, Allyson Printz, Carol Jamison and Peter Gerrish. I would like to publicly thank them and acknowledge all the hard work they put into this process over the Spring and Summer.

This whole experience led the committee to do a lot of soul searching. Symbols are powerful things. One symbol can carry a powerful message, for good or for bad, without the viewer even thinking about it. Think of a cross as a symbol. It carries

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### Sunday Worship 10:00 am

**Church Office Phone:** 781-275-7951

**Church Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3 pm

**Church Office Email:** fchurchb2@verizon.net

**Website:** www.firstchurchbedford.org

**Senior Pastor:** The Reverend John Castricum  
cell phone: 857-939-0711

**Director of Christian Nurture:** Kate Byers

**Music Director:** Susan Capestro

**Church Administrator:** Suzie Barry

### Christian Nurture

The church year is well underway. This year started strong with lots of activity in September and even more in October. This month brings us the Turkey Dinner, the Crop Walk, two Wonderful Wednesdays and many more activities. No matter your age, there is a way for you to connect with community, joyful serve, and grow in faith. So come and while you are at it, bring a friend. Help us welcome all by inviting your neighbors and friends to join us for your favorite fall church activities.

Community office hours are back! In October, I will be at Bruegger's Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. Stop by for conversation and an after school snack. You can also find me online. Feel free to friend me (Kate A. Byers) on Facebook, or to follow me on twitter @KateAByers.

*~ Kate Byers*

### 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey Dinner

**Saturday, October 14, 2017 at 6 pm**

Spread the word and bring your family and friends to feast in Upper Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm!** Enjoy succulent roast turkey, savory stuffing, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, and warm rolls and butter, but be sure save room for dessert – homemade apple or pumpkin pie! The fun, food, and fellowship can't be beat.

Tickets are \$15/adult and \$10/child under 12. You may purchase tickets after church on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, or by calling the church office at 781-275-7951.

We are planning a pie making night on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, and we'll be taking orders for frozen apple pies that will be available for pick up at the dinner. Call Allyson Printz at 978-590-2246 for details.

So, if you have a few hours to spare to help with advertising, selling tickets, food prep, serving, or set up or clean up, call Dotty Blake at 781-275-0196 or email at cpodot@gmail.com. Thanks!

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deep Christian significance. Yet there is a major theological difference between an “empty” cross and a crucifix. You need a good eye that looks and thinks about every detail.

After a lot of brainstorming, we decided that a design that included fish would be a great choice. Why fish? Well, the sign of the fish is an ancient Christian symbol. It emerged as the church was facing great persecution from the Romans. Drawing a fish on the ground was a secret sign that indicated you were a Christian. The word for fish in Greek is “ichtys”, and the Greek letters in ichtys are an acronym for Jesus: “Iesous Christos, Theou Yios Soter” or “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior.”

Fish are also prominent symbols in the stories of Jesus. We recall how the first disciples Jesus called were fishermen. He told them to “follow me and I will make you fishers of people.” The fish, then, has become a symbol of discipleship. This fits with our mission statement, which is based on a discipleship model of being a church. Jesus also used fish in one of his greatest miracles, the feeding of the five thousand. One point the story makes is that Jesus takes our ordinary efforts and by his grace, multiplies them to have a bigger impact than we could ever imagine.

Thanks to Rick Burke, we had the opportunity to work with a great graphic design firm, Pixels 360, who offered us many great designs. We are especially grateful that they offered us their services for free. With all these options, our team sat down and discerned which the symbols would best represent our mission statement, and therefore, our church. This was done after “testing” the various logos with different people. We brought our final choice to Church Cabinet for their final approval.

So, after a lot of work, prayer, discernment and meetings, we revealed our new logo to the church on Homecoming Sunday. It has three fish, “swimming” in a circle. Surrounding these fish is our mission statement. The color of each fish match the color of each part of our mission statement. It symbolizes how these three parts of the statement flow into one another. Like the

Trinity, even though the statement has three parts, there is also a unity to the statement.

Now comes the fun part. We are looking to spread this logo all over. You will see it on our bulletin covers, our newsletters, our letterheads and business cards. It will be on our Constant Contact mailings and our Facebook page. It will be prominent on our new website and many other places. It was displayed prominently at our tent on Bedford Day. We hope to have it printed and framed to be displayed in the Narthex. We also have 100 car magnets with the new logo, for anyone to place on their car. Look for more logo “swag” in the months to come!

I hope you spread the word about this new logo, and if friends or neighbors ask what it means, pull out this article and tell them why – and then tell them about our church, and all the ways we are fulfilling our new Mission Statement.

~ *Pastor John*

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### **Sermon Talk-Back Series**

Pastor John as well as Kate Byers will be continuing Sermon Talk Back sessions in October. We will be meeting in the Church Parlor on **October 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**, about 15 minutes or so after coffee hour begins. This will be a great opportunity to ask a question, make a comment or dig deeper into what was preached on Sunday morning. All are invited, and no knowledge of the Bible or faith is required. Join us for another opportunity to “Grow in Faith.”

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### **Bible and Bagels**

#### **A New Bible Study Opportunity**

Pastor John continues his “Bible and Bagels” bible study on **Thursdays mornings from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.** at Bruegger’s Bagels in Bedford. This is a drop-in bible study: show up anytime you’re free to go over a Bible passage with John. No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. This is an introductory session aimed at those who don’t know much about the Bible, but are curious to learn more. Join us and get your day started right, with breakfast and a good dose of inspiration. And bring a friend, too!

## Coffee and Conversation and Bible Study at Bruegger's

Pastor John will be continuing his "Coffee and Conversation" in October. He will be at Bruegger's Bagels on Great Road on **Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** (an hour earlier from last year). He will be available to talk about anything you want: faith, the Patriots, weather or anything else on your mind.

On **Thursdays**, John will be continuing his "drop-in" Bible Study session at Bruegger's from **9:00 to 10:00 a.m.** This is an open, introductory Bible Study – no prior knowledge of the Bible is needed – just an open and curious mind, and all the questions that you have stored up in the back of your head. If you want to talk to John about other things, he will be around for about an hour after the Bible Study. Come with your questions and bring a friend!

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### Mission Trip Sunday

This past summer, sixteen of us went to West Virginia on our 3<sup>rd</sup> trip to the area. We came back with many stories, pictures and reflections. We hope everyone will come to worship on **Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** when the Mission Team will be leading worship and reflecting on their experience. Afterwards, we will have coffee hour in Upper Fellowship Hall where we will offer a slideshow of the trip, answer questions and offer further comments about our experience.

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### New Member Sunday

From what we can see, there are a few friends of our church who might like to become members of our community of faith. If you are interested in joining the church, we ask you to fill out a yellow membership application, available in the Narthex and Vestry, or by calling the church office. **We will be holding a service welcoming new members during worship on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.** To prepare for this day and answer any of your questions, we are scheduling a new member session on **Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**, shortly after morning worship. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor John.

## Faith at Home

The school year is well underway. Kids schedules are intense as are parents, there seems to be little time to truly connect with one another. Even when we can connect kids rarely offer up information without a little encouragement. A few days ago, I stumbled upon an article called "50-questions-to-ask-your-kids-instead-of-asking-how-was-your-day" reading through the list of questions got me thinking about the ways our brief interactions with kids can shape their moral, spiritual, and faith development. So I decided to come up with my own list of connecting questions. Hopefully some of these questions will help you have a deeper conversation with your kids in the few moments you get to connect between school and soccer practice.

1. What made you smile today?
2. Can you tell me an example of kindness you saw/showed?
3. Was there an example of unkindness? How did you respond?
4. How did you help someone today?
5. What made you laugh?
6. Who inspired you today?
7. What is something you heard that surprised you?
8. What is something you saw that made you think?
9. What is something that challenged you?
10. How were you brave today?
11. What was the hardest rule to follow today?
12. Who did you share your snacks with at lunch?
13. What kind of person were you today?
14. What made you feel loved?
15. If you could start today over, what would you do differently?

~ Kate Byers

### October Deacon's Offering

on October 1, 2017 is for:

**United Church of Christ  
Neighbors in Need**

## Church School for 2017-2018

**Nursery:** Children zero through five years old are welcome to join Samalie in the nursery at the beginning of worship. They are also welcome to start worship with their family and to join Amy in the nursery following Children's time or to remain in worship for the entire service. Parents you know your kids best. Please do whatever work best for your family and let us know how we can support you in caring for your children.

**Elementary School:** In October the Elementary School will study the story Ruth while exploring immigration themes. This story will allow the children to think about a family migrating across great distance, staying together, caring for each other, and loving God.

**Teach:** Would you like to work with our children this year? Nurture is looking for nursery volunteers, 6-8 elementary teachers, and 3-4 Youth Forum leaders. There are lots of big and small ways to help our children and youth grow in faith. Let Kate know what you might be interested in doing.

### Youth Forum

All 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to Youth Forum. Youth forum will meet in the library/parlor following the reading of scripture. This new program replaces middle school Sunday school but should not be confused with Sunday school. Rather than a class set on teaching, it is a drop in style chance for youth to engage in the week's scripture lesson. The gathering will almost always focus on the day's scripture passage and topic. There will be adults in the room but conversation and learning will be youth lead. Some weeks there might be a video or an activity around the topic but only if it helps engage youth in the topic of the week. This structure recognizes that most of our youth are participating in either confirmation or OWL. It is designed to give all youth a chance to engage scripture in a meaningful way while acknowledging their most significant religious education this year is happening outside of Sunday Morning!

**Teach:** Would you like to work with our children this year? Nurture is looking for nursery volunteers, 6-8 elementary teachers, and 3-4 Youth Forum leaders. There are lots of big and small ways to help our children and youth grow in faith. Let Kate know what you might be interested in doing.

### Youth Group for 2017-2018

**CROP Walk:** On October 22 the middle and high school youth will participate in the Concord Area CROP Walk in honor of Mike Gural. Youth will fundraise throughout the month. On **Sunday October 22 at 1:00 pm**, youth will meet in the church parking lot to head into Concord for the walk. The 7km CROP Walk route starts and ends at First Parish in Concord (20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA). The Walk kicks off around 2:15 pm and takes about one hour to walk. Youth will return to church by 4:30 pm. Together, we can help end hunger in our community and around the world!

#### **Draft Youth Group Calendar:**

- October 14<sup>th</sup>: Serving at Turkey Dinner
- October 22<sup>nd</sup>: CROP Walk in honor of Mike Gural
- November 3<sup>rd</sup>: Helping at the Holiday Craft Fire Sale
- November 19<sup>th</sup>: Making care packages for college students
- December 3<sup>rd</sup>: Shopping and Swapping holiday service meets holiday fun
- January 19<sup>th</sup>: Movie Night or Lock-in
- February 4<sup>th</sup>: Snow fun (tubing or skating)
- March 10<sup>th</sup>: Helping with the Mission Fest
- March ? : Youth Service Weekend
- April 1<sup>st</sup>: Egg Hunt
- April 28<sup>th</sup>: Helping with the Rummage Sale
- May 19<sup>th</sup>: Fun event chosen by youth
- June 9<sup>th</sup>: Marching in Boston Pride

**Help:** In order for these events to occur, we need adult leaders. All events need at least one more additional leader. Off sight and overnight events need at least two additional leaders. Does something look like fun to you? Can you help lead an event? Is there some other event you would like to lead? Talk to Kate.

## Wonderful Wednesday Dates 2017-2018

Join us for dinner at 6:00 pm in Upper fellowship Hall followed by a program on:

- October 4, 2017
- October 18, 2017
- November 8, 2017
- December 6, 2017
- January 17, 2018
- February 21, 2018
- March 21, 2018
- April 4, 2018
- April 18, 2018
- May 16, 2018

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### Wonderful Wednesday in October

Join us at **6:00 pm** for dinner in Upper Fellowship Hall followed by the following program:

**October 4, 2017:** The Immigration and Refugee Concerns Task Team of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ will join us for dinner and conversation. In addition to conversation around the wider churches work on immigration and refugee concerns, we will play a game where we all take on the role of an immigrant. Through the course of the evening our immigration stories will unfold as we learn about the immigration journey from many different perspectives.

**October 18, 2017:** This Wonderful Wednesday, we will slow down a little and spend some time engaging in spiritual practices. Fall is a hectic time of year and the holidays are right around the corner, come, connect with God and community.

## Pie Baking, Tuesday, October 3 at 5:00 pm *Soup Dinner provided*

All are welcome to our annual apple pie making evening on **Tuesday, October 3 at 5:00 pm**. Come for as long or as little as you can. We need all the washers, peelers, mixers, cutters, rollers and crimpers that we can get! We are also looking for homemade pie crusts since this streamlines the process. Soup dinner will be provided.

We will prepare pies for the Turkey Dinner (October 14) and take pre-orders for pies (\$15 each) that will be available for pick up the evening of pie baking through Turkey Dinner. There will be a limited number of frozen pies for sale at the Turkey Dinner so pre-ordering is the best way to ensure that there will be a pie for you!

To pre-order, contact Carol Jamison ([ctjamison@aol.com](mailto:ctjamison@aol.com)) or Allyson Printz ([allyson@printzfamily.us](mailto:allyson@printzfamily.us)).

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### Women's Fellowship/Soul Sisters Got Too Much Stuff? 'Rightsizing' Strategies

Thinking about downsizing or just reducing the amount of stuff you've been accumulating over the years? Join the Women's Fellowship/Soul Sisters (WFSS) at **7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24**, in the Vestry to share strategies for "rightsizing" your home.

Our own Denise Barnett has helped a number of people – family and friends through the downsizing process. She will share some of the resources and insights she has learned along the way. And please bring your own ideas about what has worked for you. All church women are invited. Bring a friend or neighbor!

**Allyson Printz** ([allyson@printzfamily.us](mailto:allyson@printzfamily.us))  
**Kathy Register** ([registerk11@gmail.com](mailto:registerk11@gmail.com))

### Save the Date.....

#### **All Church Retreat!**

**Friday, February 9 thru Sunday, February 11, 2018**

The retreat will engage people of all ages around Sacred Conversations. Gather your family and friends, coming for the whole weekend or just for the day. Stay tuned...more details coming soon.

## Music Notes

### Children's Choir:

Next month's Children's Choir anthem is *Who Are These Like Stars Appearing*. Be sure to come to rehearsal on October 29th, and the run-thru the morning of November 5th!

- Sunday, October 1 Children's Choir in Worship Service - 9:30 am call time
- Sunday, October 29 Mini-rehearsal 11:30 am, music room
- Sunday, November 5 Children's Choir in Worship Service - 9:30 am call time

### Jubilee Ringers:

There's a bell anthem the last Sunday in October *and* the first Sunday in November. Ringers have been exploring music that uses other percussion, stringed and bell-like instruments. A mark tree, or chime tree, is a small set of chimes that hang from a bar, played with a stick or a finger. Curiously, it was named after a guy named Mark, its 1967 inventor. A rainstick, a hollowed-out tube filled with pebbles, was originally made from cactus. It's thought to have its origins in northern Chile. When tilted, it sounds like rain. Full "concert harps" or pedal harps, are quite large and expensive, however, the smaller Celtic harp, or lever harp, uses levers instead of pedals. Cave paintings of harp-like instruments have been dated as far back as 15,000 BC! Handbells can be soothing, however, what would happen if we were to add rainstick, mark tree and Celtic harp into the mix? Find out during the worship service on November 5!

### Adult Choir:

Take note of our special Sunday rehearsal times, if you'd like to sing and can't attend Thursday night rehearsals. All middle schoolers who've been singing with our choir in the past are now invited to join us anytime - don't miss Lady Gaga October 8!

- Sunday, October 1 Mini-Rehearsal 9:00 am
- Thursday, October 5 No Rehearsal (Wonderful Wednesday Week)
- Sunday, October 8 Full Rehearsal 8:30 am
- Thursday, October 12 Full Rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Sunday, October 15 Mini-Rehearsal 9:00 am
- Thursday, October 19 No Rehearsal (Wonderful Wednesday Week)
- Sunday, October 22 Full Rehearsal 8:30 am
- Thursday, October 26 Full Rehearsal 7:30 pm
- Sunday, October 29 Mini-Rehearsal 9:00 am

~ Susan Capestro, Director of Music

### With Sympathy

To Lu Woodford and family  
on the passing of Lu's sister, Kathy Chase  
on September 7, 2017 in Ohio

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To Karen Guetersloh and family  
on the passing of Karen's father, Andrew Gross  
on September 10, 2017 in New Jersey



## Flowers for Sunday Worship

Enjoy the beauty of your and others' donations each week as a beautiful part of our worship together. Flowers may be donated in memory of a loved one or just because the Spirit moves you! We will order flowers for you unless you prefer to do it yourself. The cost varies depending on choices but runs \$30-50. There is a signup sheet in the Vestry on the bulletin board, or you may contact Betsy Cogliano at 781-275-9462 or at [laxmom5@aol.com](mailto:laxmom5@aol.com) or signup online at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20foe49aaab22a6f49-flowers>

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## Coffee Hour

Is making coffee a Ministry? Absolutely! Coffee hour after church is as important as anything else we do as a church. Where else do you get to check in with your church friends, deepen your relationships and create a stronger sense of "joyful fellowship?" Please sign up to help on the bulletin board in the Vestry or online at this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20foe49aaab22a6f49-coffee>

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## Garden News

Before you know it, we will have a frost and it will be time to clean up our church gardens for the winter. It has been a good summer with plenty of rain. Even through the construction of the new sidewalk and road pavement, the flowers continued to bloom. Those tall zinnias (that were supposed to be short) brought joy and smiles to many. We were without the sprinkler system after it was damaged when the town was working on the road and sidewalk. But by the end of August, the town had contacted the installers of the system to repair it for us.

Our big news is that we have ordered two cast stone urns for the front of the church. They will be delivered later this fall.

*~Susan Wingfield*

## News from the Outreach Board

**2017-2018 Outreach Board members:** Nancy McKinney, Mary Criscione, Allyson Printz, Jen Dalrymple, Laura Mock, Chris Majoros, Cheryl Pespisa, Pastor John.

**Food Pantry Donations:** We continue to collect weekly donations for the Bedford Food Pantry. Please remember the Food Pantry in your shopping and prayers. The pantry can use nonperishable foods before expiration date and personal hygiene products - paper towels, dish soap, shampoo, laundry detergent, bar soap. Collection baskets are located outside the vestry and the office.

**House of Hope:** House of Hope proudly offers many services to homeless families to provide them with the tools that they need to better their situation for themselves and their families. We continue to collect weekly donations for House of Hope. Bring donations of household or personal hygiene items and place them in the bins outside of the vestry or the office.

**2018 West Virginia Mission Trip:** After our successful trip this summer we are planning a 2018 mission trip to West Virginia. We will be asking for your input. More details to come ....

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## News from The Wyman Family

A recent letter from Dr. Walter E. Wyman, Jr., includes information about his mother Barbara. (wife of Rev. Walter Wyman who served First Church from 1961-1969)

Those in or near my age group will remember their years here. Rev Walter has died, but Barbara, now 98 has been living as the Odd Fellows Home near her son and family.

Mentally "sharp" she now uses a wheelchair, participates in book discussion groups, exercise classes, visiting and comforting others. She remembers their days in Bedford very well!

Barbara enjoys receiving mail and can be reached at:

Mrs. Barbara Wyman  
534 Boyer Avenue  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Walter, Jr., is about to retire at the age of 71 as a Professor. He has taught "Preaching and Theology" at a local college.

*~ Doris "Mickey" Webber*

## November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Yuletide Treasure Grand Finale Weekend *Includes A Simple Supper and a Brunch!*

Plans are rapidly coming together for a fun weekend in November! **The Yuletide Treasures Grand Finale will be held on Friday, November 3, 2017 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm and on Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm** in our Church Library and Parlor. We will also be open after church on Sundays, November 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> for one hour. The handcrafters have been busy knitting, sewing, and making many items and will be selling them in the Vestry.

After 23 years of creativity, our Yuletide Team is now retiring and putting their glue guns to rest. Many thanks for your support of the Yuletide Treasures over the years. We are honored that our decorations are now part of your holiday traditions. According to our annual reports, Yuletide Treasures first began in 1994, earning about \$360. Every year our small team got very ambitious and began creating and selling even more items, making up to \$3,000 or \$4,000 each year. Claire Maxon works her magic displaying the items we make. For our finale, we have many beautiful things to sell: wreaths, centerpieces, lighted garlands and trees, a few lighted bottles, Christmas ornaments, and one-of-a-kind creations. We also have many of our supplies left that we will be bundling to sell at fantastic prices.

Margie Burke, Kate Trigg, Carol Jamison, and Peter Gerrish are hosting and preparing a Simple Supper on Friday, November 3, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:30 pm. The menu includes soup, salad, mac and cheese, bread, and dessert. Allyson Printz is leading a team for a Light Brunch on Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Come and visit this enchanted holiday event, enjoy dining with friends at our supper and/or brunch, and begin making your purchases for decorating your home or for giving as gifts. All proceeds benefit our WV Mission project and our Local Budget.

Reminders and updates will be in our church bulletins and Constant Contact notices. If you would like to help staff the events, help with baking, setting up, cleaning up, etc., please contact Allyson Printz (Dinner/Brunch at [allyson@printzfamily.us](mailto:allyson@printzfamily.us) or (978) 667-2052) or Susan Wingfield (Yuletide) at [susanw1@verizon.net](mailto:susanw1@verizon.net) or (781-275-9389).  
*~Susan Wingfield and Allyson Printz*

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### June Cabinet Notes

6 members were in attendance. May minutes were accepted. Church Calendar Update: Jennifer Dalrymple and Jane Taylor will lead the book club; first book called *Quiet*. Emily O'Hara stepping up for Homecoming. Church Service Day proposed by Kate and Sarah C. – mission day with spiritual component. Variety show is often in March but next year, maybe April. Karen Guetersloh's last year to run Strawberry Festival. Yuletide Treasure Sale need to determine where proceeds will go. The room will be open two Sundays after the sale in the library and parlor. Logo: Need to clarify assignment to graphic artists. **Treasurer:** no report. **Pastor:** Focusing on mission trip. Summer goals get new software to manage financial and membership, also update website. **Outreach:** Flatbread fund raiser coming up June 13. 16 people going on mission trip. **Nurture:** Nurture Sunday next week. Meeting June 14<sup>th</sup> on Wonderful Wednesday and Nurture Board on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Kate will figure out what should be done about high chairs. **Deacons:** Will be providing hot dogs for Nurture Sunday. **Stewardship:** Light post in front of garage will be removed. Fixing some tiles. Still waiting on the town for replanting at the side of the church. Changing table will be added at the upper fellowship hall bathroom. Will be looking at the hot water from the cold water tap. **New Business:** Directories will be available at Homecoming. Need a letter of congratulations to First Parish on their 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their building. Women's Fellowship will be at Short Stop Café this month. Terry to determine if there will be meetings over the summer and day of month for the meetings. Bylaw review: Have boards review; what do they want to do, what do they want to keep doing; take a look at how other churches structure themselves  
*~ Ruth Robinson*

## August 2017 Cabinet Notes

8 Members present.

**Pastor:** Year's worship planning at this time. Start with "What does the Bible say" sermon series about controversial items. Scheduling Mission Trip Sunday. Last Sunday of October is 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, will meet in parlor to discuss after Sunday services. Bible Study – would like more people to attend – will try 7 am at Bruegger's, Thursdays. Logo committee – reviewing several options, but won't be ready for homecoming. Will come up with a recommendation to put before cabinet. Need to think about a process for personnel evaluations. John does not want Pastor to do these without congregational input. Deferred to another cabinet meeting (Sept-Oct) along with budgeting process. Directory: Who should be in it? Cabinet members to ask how it is used. Who maintains it?

**Christian Nurture:** Summer – flat Jesus has gone to Hawaii, West Virginia, and many other places. Family cookout at Chenie Bell's house in July – 75% attendance by elementary kids. Beach trip planned for end of August 28 for elementary (with parent) through high school. Fall – Youth programming will be different this year due to makeup of youth. 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders invited to join OWL program. 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to confirmation, 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to plan a weekend for the whole group. Sunday morning youth conversation around scripture passage. Elementary continuing as last year with teaching team structure. Units parallel, but not perfectly aligned to John's sermons. Focus on women of the Bible, Woman at the Well, Ruth, Widow's Offering. Events: service day September 30 (intergenerational) library, DPW, veterans, food pantry. SPAN health kit, House of Hope baking, birthday cards and holiday cards for incarcerated individuals. Family retreat for February 9-11, potentially in Billerica St. Thecla (aka Daughters of St. Paul). Suggestion, flat Jesus slide show to show before service at homecoming.

**Treasurer:** Concern – budget passed by the annual meeting did not include an increase for staff. 2% increase would be \$3000, could be funded by conserving in other areas. For John, Suzie, Susan, Kate retroactive to July 1, 2017. Kate would like her pay divided over 12 months rather than 11. Working on operating budget. Will have an update next meeting. John Castricum's calling requires a home equity fund contribution. More straightforward as salary. No tax impact or change to bottom line by changing categorization. Consensus for John and John Guetersloh to work together to modify the calling agreement and come back to the cabinet with a proposal.

**Stewardship:** Plumbing – hot and cold water mixing due to absence of backflow valves. Working with Larry Sweet, plumber. Installed dehumidifiers with floor drain in boiler room due to high humidity rusting controls. Flooding issue through doorway into LFH during deluge. Had to move Recreation Department gymnastics equipment. Ran dehumidifiers, vacuumed water, steam cleaned rug to get rid of wrinkles. No insurance claim required. Lightning strike hit on other side of the police station - fried copier, router, some outlets, air conditioning. Has all been fixed. Great Road Project – ripped up the irrigation system. Adrienne St. John knows about it and has indicated town will pay for it.

**Outreach:** Spaghetti dinner mission trip fundraiser, Flat Bread Fundraiser, 1-2 dinners at House of Hope ended year. Mission trip 16 people including 2-9<sup>th</sup> graders. Refurbished a small Baptist church. Planning another trip to West Virginia next year. Working on a meeting time. Strategy has been to do fewer things but deeper. Community supper planned. \$1500 to Africa project. Frozen casseroles worked very well.

**Calendar:** Mission Festival set March 10, 2018. Turkey dinner for October 14, 2017. Yuletide November 3-4, 2017,

**Women's Fellowship:** Planned for the year at Lois' house. Will finalize schedule in September.

**Homecoming:** Sunday School registration via Google form, hot dogs & chips needs shoppers, preparers, servers, cleaners. Need to put in the newsletter. Terry will set up a sign up Genius.

**Cabinet Membership:** Barb Byam and Kelly Woessner will be joining us.

Next Meeting: September 12 (second Tuesday) at 7pm.

~ Ruth Robinson, Scribe

## Daily Lectionary Scripture References October 2017 (Year A)

### **Sun., Oct. 1**

*Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

### **Mon., Oct. 2**

Psalm 42  
Exodus 18:1-12  
Philippians 1:3-14

### **Tues., Oct. 3**

Psalm 42  
Exodus 18:13-27  
Philippians 1:15-21

### **Wed., Oct. 4**

Psalm 42  
Exodus 19:9b-25  
Matthew 9:2-8

### **Thurs., Oct. 5**

Psalm 19  
Exodus 23:1-9  
Colossians 2:16-23

### **Fri., Oct. 6**

Psalm 19  
Exodus 23:14-19  
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

### **Sat., Oct. 7**

Psalm 19  
Exodus 23:10-13  
John 7:40-52

### **Sun., Oct. 8**

*Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  
Psalm 19  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

### **Mon., Oct. 9**

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 5:1-21  
1 Peter 2:4-10

### **Tues., Oct. 10**

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3  
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

### **Wed., Oct. 11**

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 6:10-25  
John 11:45-57

### **Thurs., Oct. 12**

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:1-8  
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

### **Fri., Oct. 13**

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:9-11  
James 4:4-10

### **Sat., Oct. 14**

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:12-18  
Mark 2:18-22

### **Sun., Oct. 15**

*Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

### **Mon., Oct. 16**

Psalm 97  
Exodus 32:15-35  
Jude 17-25

### **Tues., Oct. 17**

Psalm 97  
Exodus 33:1-6  
Philippians 3:13-4:1

### **Wed., Oct. 18**

Psalm 97  
2 Kings 17:7-20  
John 6:25-35

### **Thurs., Oct. 19**

Psalm 99  
Exodus 33:7-11  
3 John 9-12

### **Fri., Oct. 20**

Psalm 99  
Exodus 31:1-11  
1 Peter 5:1-5

### **Sat., Oct. 21**

Psalm 99  
Exodus 39:32-43  
Matthew 14:1-12

### **Sun., Oct. 22**

*Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalm 99  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

### **Mon., Oct. 23**

Psalm 63:1-8  
Exodus 40:34-38  
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

### **Tues., Oct. 24**

Psalm 63:1-8  
Numbers 12:1-9  
Revelation 18:21-24

### **Wed., Oct. 25**

Psalm 63:1-8  
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9  
Matthew 17:22-27

### **Thurs., Oct. 26**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 31:14-22  
Titus 1:5-16

### **Fri., Oct. 27**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18  
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

### **Sat., Oct. 28**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 32:44-47  
John 5:39-47

### **Sun., Oct. 29**

*Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

### **Mon., Oct. 30**

Psalm 119:41-48  
Numbers 33:38-39  
James 2:8-13

### **Tues., Oct. 31**

Psalm 119:41-48  
Exodus 34:29-35  
James 2:14-26



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~ October 2017 ~

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Mon                                                                                                                   | Tue                                                                                                                                                                                  | Wed                                                                                | Thu                                                                                                                                                                                 | Fri                                                                           | Sat                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:15a 8:15 Discussion Group (V)<br>9a Adult Choir (MR)<br>9:30a Children's Choir (MR)<br>10a Worship (S)<br>11:30a Deacon's Meeting (UFH)<br>6:30p Prayer Group (P)                                | <b>2</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Bells (MR)                                                                      | <b>3</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7:30a Violence Prevention Committee (V)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's)<br>5p Pie Baking (Kitchen/Vestry/UFH)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5) | <b>4</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (V)<br>6p Wonderful Wednesday (UFH/K/V)  | <b>5</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Bible & Bagels (Bruegger's)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation Bible Study (Bruegger's)<br>7:30p AA (UFH)                                                    | <b>6</b><br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)  | <b>7</b><br>6a AA (UFH)                                           |
| <b>8</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:15a 8:15 Discussion Group (V)<br>8:30a Adult Choir (MR)<br>10a Worship (S)<br>11:30a Sermon Talk Back (P)<br>6:30p Prayer Group (P)                                                              | <b>9</b> Columbus Day<br>November 2017 Newsletter Deadline<br>Office Closed<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>10a La Leche League (V) | <b>10</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7:30a Women's Fellowship Breakfast (Riverview-Billerica)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)<br>7p Cabinet (V)   | <b>11</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (V)                                     | <b>12</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Bible & Bagels (Bruegger's)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation Bible Study (Bruegger's)<br>7p Nurture Board (V)<br>7:30p AA (UFH)<br>7:30p Adult Choir (MR) | <b>13</b><br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6p AA (Beginner Mtg) (LFH) | <b>14</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6p Turkey Dinner (UFH/K)              |
| <b>15</b><br>Mission Trip Sunday<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:15a 8:15 Discussion Group (V)<br>9a Adult Choir (MR)<br>10a Worship (S)<br>6:30p Prayer Group (P)                                                                        | <b>16</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Bells (MR)                                                                     | <b>17</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)                                                                                 | <b>18</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (V)<br>6p Wonderful Wednesday (UFH/K/V) | <b>19</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Bible & Bagels (Bruegger's)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation Bible Study (Bruegger's)<br>7:30p AA (UFH)                                                   | <b>20</b><br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH) | <b>21</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>1p Memorial Service-Mary Lou Pike (S) |
| <b>22</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:15a 8:15 Discussion Group (V)<br>8:30a Adult Choir (MR)<br>10a Worship (S)<br>11:30a Sermon Talk Back (P)<br>6:30p Confirmation (V)<br>6:30p Prayer Group (P)                                   | <b>23</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Bells (MR)                                                                     | <b>24</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)<br>7p Women's Fellowship (V)                                                    | <b>25</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (V)<br>10a Newsletter Folding (MR)      | <b>26</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Bible & Bagels (Bruegger's)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation Bible Study (Bruegger's)<br>7:30p AA (UFH)<br>7:30p Adult Choir (MR)                         | <b>27</b><br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH) | <b>28</b><br>6a AA (UFH)                                          |
| <b>29</b><br>REFORMATION SUNDAY<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:15a 8:15 Discussion Group (UFH)<br>9a Adult Choir (MR)<br>10a Worship (S)<br>11:30a Children's Choir (MR)<br>11:30a New Member Info Session (P)<br>6:30p Prayer Group (P) | <b>30</b><br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Bells (MR)                                                                     | <b>31</b> Halloween<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)<br>7:30p NAMI (Room 4)                                                |                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                               |                                                                   |



~ October Worship ~  
10:00 am in the Sanctuary



|            |                               |                                                                                             |                                                |
|------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| October 1  | <i>World Communion Sunday</i> | <b>“What Does the Bible Say? Immigration”</b><br>Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor            | <b>Matthew 2: 13-15</b>                        |
| October 8  |                               | <b>“What Does the Bible Say? Transgender”</b><br>Ms. Kate Byers, Director Christian Nurture | <b>Genesis 2: 4-7 &amp; Galatians 3: 23-29</b> |
| October 15 | <i>Mission Trip Sunday</i>    | <b>“On a Mission - The 2017 Mission Trip”</b><br>West Virginia Mission Team                 | <b>Luke 10: 25-37</b>                          |
| October 22 |                               | <b>“Where Did the Offertory Come From?”</b><br>Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor              | <b>Leviticus 27: 30-34</b>                     |
| October 29 | <i>Reformation Sunday</i>     | <b>“Happy 500th Anniversary, Protestants!”</b><br>Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor           | <b>Romans 1: 16-17</b>                         |

Thank you for your help in publishing our newsletter on time. Our next Newsletter deadline is **October 9, 2017** Our next mailing is **October 25, 2017**. Please send you email articles to: fchurchb2@verizon.net. Thank you.

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and mail this page to us at the above address or email the  
office at fchurchb2@verizon.net.

**ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER**  
**Saturday, October 14, 2017, 6:00 pm**  
**Upper Fellowship Hall...see page 1 for details**



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