



First Church of Christ, Congregational United Church of Christ

January 2018 Newsletter



Pastor's Message

Unlike some pastors, I am a big believer in having clocks in the sanctuary. After 20 years of leading worship and delivering sermons, I have concluded that at least the person behind the pulpit ought to know what time it is.

Yet, in many places around the world, congregations don't care what time it is. In many places in the world, they would never think of having a clock in worship - a service could go on for hours. People travel long distances to get to church, many of them setting out before the sun is up. And after such a journey, people want a robust, lengthy sermon. Anything less than an hour and a half, everybody feels cheated. Suffice it to say, this is not the way it works in many Protestant churches in America.

There is a story of a preacher who was famous for always finishing his services right at noon. Then one Sunday, the impossible happened. He preached until 12:30. On the way out, one of his elders angrily asked, "What happened to you?"

The preacher answered, "For years I have always put a candy mint in my mouth as the ser-

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Faith at Home

January is a funny time of year. While the darkest day of the year occurs in December, January can feel dark. The holiday energy and excitement is behind us, in New England it is cold and often snowy. There is often a push to start new things as we live into New Year's Resolutions. A new fresh year is paired with a dark and cold season. This January, I invite you to a new daily practice of prayer. In the dark, as you start each day, pause for just a moment take a few deep breaths and say "God this new year is yours, this new week is yours, this new day is yours. Guide me as I live into this day." Then take another breath or two before you turn on the lights and begin your day. This moment of centering should take about 60 seconds. At first it might seem pointless but if you practice beginning each day my centering just for a moment on God and God's call for your today slowly you will see an impact.

~Kate Byers

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Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Church Office Phone: 781-275-7951
Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 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*

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vice started, and I would tuck it away. It was always gone at exactly noon. That way, I never had to look at the clock or worry about what time it was. But this Sunday it didn't go away, and I finally realized I had put a button in my mouth."

Preachers are not the only ones who have to keep track of time. We all do. There are deadlines to meet, buses to catch, papers to be turned in. Calendars and clocks and especially smart phones have become our masters in modern society.

In his book *Time Wars*, Jeremy Rifkin writes that the idea of our lives and the events in them being controlled by blocks of allocated time is, in terms of centuries at least, a relatively new idea. Not until the 15th century did clocks begin to appear in the town squares of Europe. Not until the 17th century did those clocks have minute hands.

Surely much has been gained in terms of productivity, but when life became divided and subdivided into seconds, minutes, and hours, many things were lost. We experience those losses every day. We have certainly lost our patience with others and ourselves. With each "advance" in technology, we expect things faster, not only from our computers, but from one another. The speed our modern lifestyle has created unimaginable stress in our lives. We live at an increasing distance from the ancient but timeless understanding that each day, each moment, is an unearned gift from a gracious God, rather than a commodity to be traded or spent for something else. As a new year begins, I think it is time to rethink time.

The ancient Greeks were famous for their two understandings of time: kronos time and kairos time. Kronos time is ordinary time that is measured, second by second. Kronos time is our taskmaster, full of schedules, appointments, due dates and stress.

Kairos time, on the other hand, flows gently -- allowing us to be in the moment. We participate in kairos time, rather than racing to catch up with it. Kairos time may occur during prayer or meditation, the creative process, rocking a baby, reading a well written book, and other activities that are personally meaningful to us. One is wholly absorbed in the moment, unhurried and unaware of time passing. These are the moments that nurture

our souls.

As we put up our new calendars, and start filling them in with all our "kronos" activities, I would urge you to also think of spending some good "kairos" time during the New Year.

I wish you all a Happy New Year, filled with peace, rest and plenty of kairos time.

~ **Pastor John**

Thank You!

Many thanks to all who have pledged to support the ministries of First Church for the upcoming year! Your generosity will make a huge difference in the lives of so many people in our church, community and world. As we look ahead to even greater ministry and outreach in 2018, all those who give can have the satisfaction of knowing that their gifts are being used to transform the lives of hundreds, even thousands. Thanks to you all for making First Church such a rich, vibrant community of faith! God bless you all!

~ **First Church Generosity Team**

Coffee and Conversation at Bruegger's

Pastor John will be continuing his "Coffee and Conversation" in January. He will be at Bruegger's Bagels on Great Road on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Drop by to talk about anything you want: faith, the Patriots, weather or anything else on your mind.

Bible and Bagels at a New Time

Pastor John continues his "Bible and Bagels" bible study on **Thursdays mornings, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.** at Bruegger's Bagels in Bedford. As always, 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!

Don't Forget to Turn in Your Pledge

Many thanks to everyone who has turned in their pledge card for the 2018 giving year. If you haven't turned one in yet, there is still plenty of time. Feel free to mail them to the church, drop them in an offering plate or hand them into the church office. Blank cards are available in the church office, in the narthex or in the Vestry. Thanks to all for generously supporting our church!

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Learning : Saturday, January 13, 2018

In the past folks from First Church have gone into Boston during the Martin Luther King weekend to participate in City Mission Society's "Martin Luther King Day of Service and Learning." This year, City Mission has decided to change the format into a "Day of Learning," on **Saturday, January 13th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the United Parish in Brookline.** The day will be a reflection on the 50th anniversary of the Poor People's March, organized by Dr. King.

City Mission writes, "Although launched in 1968, this movement continues to be relevant today. Join City Mission for our annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Learning, where we will continue this important work. The US Census reflects the huge disparities in Boston, where the poverty rate for white residents is just under 7%, and for Black residents is 21.5%."

The day will include panel discussion and small group sharing about poverty, race and what our faith demands us to do about it. There will be guest speakers and facilitated small group discussion to help us learn from, and build community, with each other.

If you are interested in going to this important event, please contact Pastor John as soon as possible.

Registration is Open for the All Church Retreat!

Join us at beautiful St. Thecla's Retreat House, just down the road in Billerica! We'll be reflecting together on how to create a welcoming space where we can all share our stories and grow in faith, exploring our differences as a source of enrichment. We'll enjoy indoor and outdoor fun as the weather permits.

The retreat begins on **Friday, February 9th with dinner at 6:00 pm and program at 7:00 pm, and we'll wrap up by 2:00 pm on Sunday.** Join us for the entire weekend or come when you are able.

Please see the enclosed registration form for more details or register at <https://goo.gl/3hrfU5>.

Wonderful Wednesday

Join us on **Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6 pm** for dinner and a presentation about Israel and Palestine. In 2013, Kate took a Religion and Conflict Transformation class in Israel and Palestine. During this class she lived with a Palestinian family, visited a Israel settlement, met with the General who determined where the wall separating Israel and Palestine would go, and got a firsthand experience of the conflict present in the Middle East. Come hear how this experience shaped Kate's understanding of Israel and the ways we can engage the Israel Palestinian conflict.

Upcoming Wonderful Wednesday Dates

February 21, 2018
March 21, 2018
April 4 & 18, 2018
May 16, 2018

A Spectacular Thank You Note to First Church

We received a unique thank you song from our friends Lori McKinney and Robert Blankenship of the RiffRaff Arts Collective in West Virginia.

You can view it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aH1WabyRcCY&feature=youtu.be>

January Deacons Collection

on Sunday, January 7, 2018

is for

City Mission Society (CMS)

Church School for 2017-2018

Nursery

Children zero through five years old are welcome to the nursery at the beginning of worship. They are also welcome to start worship with their family and go to 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 January, the Elementary School will learn about Solomon building the temple in Jerusalem. This unit will help our children understand what it means to be church and will lead into a unit on love and acting God's love in the world. The two units combined are designed to pair with John's sermon series "Being the Church."

Youth Forum

During January youth will think about what it means to be the church. We will look at 1 Corinthians and other foundational texts as we think about what it means to be the church today.

Youth for 2017-2018

Lock-in: On **Friday, January 19th** youth (middle and high school students) will gather a church at 6 pm for a night of faith, fun, and food. The lock in will start with dinner Friday night and end with breakfast Saturday morning. Youth will be ready for pick up by 10:30 am Saturday morning.

Draft Youth Group Calendar (Changes are in **Bold**)

- January 19th – Lock-in
 - February 4th – Snow fun (tubing or skating)
 - March 10th – Helping with the Mission Fest
 - March ? – Youth Service Weekend
 - April 1 – Egg Hunt
 - May 5th – Helping with the Rummage Sale
 - May 19th – Fun event chosen by youth
 - June 9th – Marching in Boston Pride
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Cradles to Crayons



On November 18th, 21 First Church volunteers of all ages helped collect, inspect and sort items at the Nashoba Brooks School in Concord. Over the course of the afternoon volunteers were able to impact 600 children by providing the essentials they need to thrive. Thank you to Cheryl Pespisa for organizing our group. We look forward to volunteering at the Cradles to Crayons warehouse in Brighton on March 17, 2018 from 1:30-3:30 pm.

Outreach Board Notes

2018 West Virginia Mission Trip:

We are pleased to announce the 2018 Mission Trip to West Virginia, **April 14-21, 2018**. For the third year we will be working with the Appalachian South Folklife Center, the Wade Center for Children and other organizations in the area. We will have a Mission Trip information meeting after church on Sunday January 7, 2018 at 11:30 am in Upper Fellowship Hall. Questions? Please contact Pastor John, Rick Burke, Allyson Printz or Mary Criscione.

City Mission:

Thanks to all our generous First Church donors who provided items for the City Mission Christmas Shop. On December 10 we delivered an overflowing load of gifts to the Winchester collection center. City Mission provides items for homeless and low income Boston residents and works with community partners to distribute. A treasured tradition here at First Church, this offering of gifts makes a real difference for many people of all ages in the city.



Mitten Tree:

The Outreach Board is again sponsoring the Mitten Tree. During January we will be collecting mittens, gloves, hats and scarfs. These items will be sent to children and families at the Wade Center in West Virginia. ***The tree will be in the Sanctuary through the end of January.***

House of Hope:

As the New Year begins, the Outreach Board would like to thank all the people who have supported House of Hope in the past year. Your generous donations of diapers and wipes, toiletries and hygiene items, tissues and paper towels and many other items are very much appreciated! It is also noteworthy that we have provided calendars and greeting cards that might have been thrown away, but are now in use by the families who live in one of the House of Hope residences. Our House of Hope team still has an ample supply of brownies made on our Day of Service to take when we visit the shelter. Many thanks to Dot Fallon, Cathy Gray, Mark Buccolo and Nancy McKinney for helping with dinner service and clean-up each month this fall! For more information about House and Hope and some inspiring stories of the families who live in the residences, you can visit <http://houseofhopelowell.org>.

Superbowl Sunday Food Sale – Sunday February 4, 2018:

The Outreach and Nurture Boards will be sponsoring a food sale on Superbowl Sunday. Food donations are needed – snacks, dinners and treats. Thank you for your support in contributing and/or purchasing food to support our Nurture and Outreach activities.

Upcoming Outreach dates:

January 7, 2018:	Mission Trip Information meeting after church
February 4, 2018	Superbowl Sunday food sale
March 10, 2018	West Virginia Mission Festival
March 17, 2018	Cradles to Crayons volunteer event in Brighton 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
April 14-21, 2018	West Virginia Mission Trip

Mission Festival after church Planning Meetings:

January 21, 2018:	11:30 am in Upper Fellowship Hall
February 18, 2018:	11:30 am in Upper Fellowship Hall
March 4, 2018:	11:30 am in Upper Fellowship Hall



Music Notes

Many thanks to the choir, ringers, and instrumentalists who all made Christmas Eve so special, including Shirley Kring (flute), Roy Kring (trumpet), Kate Trigg (flute), Rich Woessner (cello) and Kelly Woessner (piano). Your talents and flexibility are so appreciated, especially when music selections change as a result of busy holiday schedules. We're so glad you took that flute out of storage, Kate!

During January, the Adult Choir is singing a different style of anthem each Sunday. Our goal with these pieces is to enhance the unique theme of each worship service. We're temporarily shifting our attention from solo and duet singing to blending as a group. This month's rehearsals are focused especially on intonation, vowels, consonances and singing unaccompanied.

The Jubilee Ringers had a busy fall season that culminated in Bell Sunday's 3 handbell pieces. Many thanks to John Bridgeman and Robby Bridgeman, who kept "Dr. Rich" from becoming too lonely and tired from ringing all those heavy bass bells! In January, we're rehearsing all new music. Our priorities include deciphering various sections of the anthems for the new season, and perhaps most important, furthering our considerations of what we'd ideally like to bring to the congregation during worship.

The Children's Choir has another opportunity to sing in the worship service on February 4. To prepare, we'll try for a rehearsal the Sunday before, 11:30 on January 28. Parents of young singers: let me know how your schedule looks for those dates.

January Music Rehearsals:

- Monday, January 1 - Jubilee Ringers, no rehearsal (New Years Day)
- Thursday, January 4 - Adult Choir 7:30 pm
- Sunday, January 7 - Adult Choir 9 am
- Monday, January 8 - Jubilee Ringers 7 pm
- Thursday, January 11 - Adult Choir, 7:30 pm
- Sunday, January 14 - Adult Choir 9 am
- Monday, January 15 - Jubilee Ringers no rehearsal (MLK Day)
- Thursday, January 18 - Adult Choir, No Rehearsal (Wonderful Wednesday Week)
- Sunday, January 21 - Adult Choir 8:30 am
- Monday, January 22 - Jubilee Ringers 7 pm
- Thursday, January 25 - Adult Choir, 7:30 pm
- Sunday, January 28 - Adult Choir 9 am
- Sunday, January 28 - Children's Choir 11:30 am
- Monday, January 29 - Jubilee Ringers 7 pm

- Susan Capestro, Director of Music

Explore Seoul, Tokyo & Kyoto with Women's Fellowship

The entire church community is invited to join the Women's Fellowship/Soul Sisters (WFSS) as we kick off the new year with a travelogue focusing on Seoul, South Korea, Tokyo and Kyoto at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 in the Vestry.

Our own Kathy Register will share highlights of her recent "mother/sons" trip to three of Asia's most famous cities. She and son Nathan LeBlanc visited Nate's twin brother, Bryan, in Seoul, where he was teaching English. They all then traveled to Japan for a whirlwind week.

This was a trip filled with contrasts! Seoul is a sprawling modern city that is home to world-famous K-Pop (Korean popular-music) stars, as well as traditional palaces and gardens. Bustling Tokyo is the international center of video gaming and animé (animated movies, TV shows and books). And Kyoto is Japan's celebrated cultural capital, filled with 2,000 beautiful temples and shrines.

Please join us for this multi-generational tour of three fascinating cities. Everyone in the church family is welcome -- bring a friend!

Allyson Printz (allyson@printzfamily.us)
Kathy Register (registerk11@gmail.com)

Announcing the 2nd Annual West Virginia Mission Festival

Date: Saturday Evening, March 10, 2018

Location: First Church of Christ, Congregational - Upper Fellowship Hall



On July 9, 2017, sixteen members and friends of our congregation set off for our biggest mission trip since Hurricane Katrina. It was a 16 person, multi-generational team. The diversity of ages, personalities and backgrounds made for an incredible mix of talent and perspectives. Our goal — help the two caretakers of an old Baptist Church in tiny Wyco, West Virginia rehab their building in preparation for their big 100 year anniversary in 2018.

We Get by With a Little Help from Our Friends: This incredible trip would not have been possible without the outstanding participation of our congregation and members of our community at our first West Virginia Mission Festival in

January 2017. Your generous participation and donations at this event helped fund the travel and living expenses of the trip, it helped us purchase all the supplies for the Wyco church restoration project (paint, toilets, vanities, and much more), and it enabled the Outreach Team to provide thousands of dollars of Home Depot gift cards and cash donations to the Appalachian South Folklife Center, the RiffRaff Arts Collective and the Wade Center.

The Tradition Continues: This year, a new group of mission travelers will pack up and head back down to West Virginia in mid-April to engage in another community development program. But we can't do it without your help! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. The event will feature:

- ◆ **Musical Entertainment by The Klines** – a Folk Music husband and wife duo from West Virginia that will delight and educate you with songs and stories from Appalachia.
- ◆ **Cake Walk** – donate cakes and dance the dance to see who wins the sweets. An old Appalachian tradition will make a comeback again.
- ◆ **Children's Entertainment** – bring the young ones along! A variety of activities will be organized to keep your children laughing and dancing throughout the evening so they sleep well when you go home.
- ◆ **Partner Update** – members of our Outreach and Mission Team will provide an update on the advancements that have been made over the past year by our WV partners thanks to your efforts and donations.
- ◆ **Giving Wall** – help make a tangible impact on economically challenged communities in West Virginia through your donations. Help build a deck or repair a leaky roof or faucet.
- ◆ **Silent Auction** – in the weeks leading up to and during the WV Mission Festival, we will feature a Silent Auction that is sure to provide some tempting opportunities for vacation and fun.

Join Us on March 10, 2018 for the
2nd Annual West Virginia Mission Festival

We thank you, our partners in West Virginia thank you and we look forward to having you join us on March 10 to keep our mission momentum going and continue to do God's work here on earth.

For more information, please contact
Allyson Printz (allyson@printzfamily.com, 978-590-2246)
Rick Burke (rickburkejr@gmail.com, 617-633-9015)
or anyone on the Outreach Team. Peace and blessings.





Memorial Poinsettias

Thank you to all who donated towards the beautiful poinsettias that filled the Sanctuary. Memorial Poinsettias were given by: Bruce & Dotty Blake in memory of Earl & Bea Sparks. Lorraine Bonner in memory of Jim Kirk & Jim Bonner. Bob Clark and the Cozzi Family in memory of loved ones. Betsy Cogliano in memory of John & Elizabeth Farr. The Couveé in memory of Buccella Family & Couveé Family. Don & Mary Criscione. Buzz & Donna Dobbins in memory of our loved ones. Peter & Terry Gerrish in memory of our Parents. Steve & Carol Jamison in memory of Nancy V.A. Taylor and Carol & John Sprout. Chris Majoros & Alison Weaver. Nancy McKinney in memory of Theos D. McKinney, Jr., Nan Penley. The Printz Family in memory of Jon Walters. Kathy Register in memory of Rev. Fred P. Register. Donna, Hitesh & Kavita Shroff in memory of Loryne Koebele. Norm & Sally Sutherland in memory of Alice & Alfred Sutherland and Alta & Charles Jobes. Eleanor Tatosian in memory of Haig Tatosian and Anthony & Mary Amato. Charlie & Holly Webster in memory of our Parents. Michael & Susan Wingfield in memory of our Parents.

In Sympathy



Mike & Susan Wingfield and Family
on the death of Mike's mother
Barbara Anne Wingfield
on November 21, 2017
in Wharton, Texas

With Thanks

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your cards, phone calls, emails, and expressions of sympathy after the death of Mike's mother, Barbara Wingfield. It was such a comfort knowing you were thinking of us.

~ Susan and Mike Wingfield

Memorial Gifts



General Memorial Fund

In Memory of Mike Gural
Lenore Dichard

In Memory of Al Hurd
Buzz & Donna Dobbins

In Memory of Don Dichard
Lenore Dichard

Music Fund

In Memory of Al Hurd
Doris Webber

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>



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 or signup online at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20foe49aaab22a6f49-flowers>



December Cabinet Notes

8 cabinet members in attendance. Cabinet will generally meet on second Tuesday of the month at 7:05pm. Upcoming dates: January 16, 2018, February 13, 2018, and March 13, 2018.

Old Business: Be the Church Banner Allyson Printz will send a picture of options to cabinet members. Next meeting, we will vote on which option with the objective of hanging it outside the church.

Pastor's Report: Advent play dovetails nicely with sermon series. Pastor John will be taking a few days off between Christmas and New Year's. MLK Day of Learning on Saturday, January 13, 2018 see newsletter for details. MLK Breakfast in Bedford will be at First Church, run by Bedford Diversity group. Pastor John will officiate at Caroline Crowther's wedding. Ruth Gural's last Sunday here is December 17.

Christian Nurture: Kate will be returning to the office during the week as she has hired a new nanny.

Treasurer: Working on a procedure for investing. May need to send out a second letter reminding people to pledge. Could do a presentation on financials after church sometime.

Nurture Board: December 2nd youth went shopping for Cradles to Crayons and had a Yankee swap. December 3rd Advent craft workshop was well-attended. December 6th Wonderful Wednesday, smaller attendance. December 17th Nativity Sunday with pageant. Caroling scheduled at Carleton Willard on December 17th Christmas Eve 4pm will be the family service. Women's Fellowship Breakfast at Riverview went well. Presentation on women's leadership and discussion went well. Next presentation 4th Tuesday of January, Kathy Register's travelogue of Korea and Japan.

Board of Deacons: Got a thank you note from a family in need who was sent some funds. Deacon coverage has been set up for Al Hurd's service, poinsettias, and Christmas. Allyson working on a list of where everything is stored, especially for Advent. Thinking about a friendlier way of taking collections. Thinking about roping off the last few pews so church looks fuller for the videotaping and John is not alone at the front. Comment on roping off the pews – it could be unfriendly to people who may need to make a quick exit (with babies) or are uncomfortable in crowds. Sent out Advent books to shut-ins with notes.

Stewardship Board: Met with financial advisor looking at investments. Portfolio is not currently balanced or diverse. Next step is to decide if we will go this route. No decision made yet.

Outreach Board: Cradles to Crayons outing on November 18th had 21 participants. 600 local children benefitted. Cradles to Crayons Brighton warehouse trip on March 17, 2018 1:30-3:30 pm. City Mission Society collected for two Sundays in December. House of Hope November and December we served dinner and brought brownies and items collected in the baskets at church. Bedford Food Pantry need to decide if want to make a regular monthly collection. Nurture and Outreach will split proceeds of Superbowl food sale in February 2018. Youth will be cooking for it during their lock in in January. March 10, 2018 Mission Trip Festival had an organizing meeting. Still looking for help. Would like to include more storytelling in the evenings while there. Smaller raffle baskets and smaller cake walk. January 7, 2018 Mission Trip information meeting after church. Scheduled January 21, 2018 February 18, 2018 and March 4, 2018 for additional Mission Trip Festival planning meetings. 8-10 people committed so far. \$1800 from craft fair so far allocated. Came up with guiding principles for donations: Donate to organizations whose mission dovetails with First Church. Develop long-term relationships. Prioritize charities important to members of First Church, as demonstrated by their giving time and resources. The Charity is not otherwise well-funded – where our funds can make a significant impact. Prefer to send larger amounts to fewer organizations. Take into account what others such as deacons are donating.

~ Ruth Robinson, Scribe

Daily Lectionary Scripture References January 2018 (Year B)

Mon., Jan. 1
New Year's Day
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Psalm 8
Revelation 21:1-6a
Matthew 25:31-46

Tues., Jan. 2
Psalm 148
Proverbs 1:1-7
James 3:13-18

Wed., Jan. 3
Psalm 110
Proverbs 1:20-33
James 4:1-10

Thurs., Jan. 4
Psalm 110
Proverbs 3:1-12
James 4:11-17

Fri., Jan. 5
Psalm 110
Proverbs 22:1-9
Luke 6:27-31

Sat., Jan. 6
Epiphany
Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Sun., Jan. 7
The Baptism of Christ
Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

Mon., Jan. 8
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Genesis 17:1-13
Romans 4:1-12

Tues., Jan. 9
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Exodus 30:22-38
Acts 22:2-16

Wed., Jan. 10
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Isaiah 41:14-20
John 1:29-34

Thurs., Jan. 11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Judges 2:6-15
2 Corinthians 10:1-11

Fri., Jan. 12
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Judges 2:16-23
Acts 13:16-25

Sat., Jan. 13
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Samuel 2:21-25
Matthew 25:1-13

Sun., Jan. 14
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

Mon., Jan. 15
Psalm 86
1 Samuel 9:27—10:8
2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1

Tues., Jan. 16
Psalm 86
1 Samuel 15:10-31
Acts 5:1-11

Wed., Jan. 17
Psalm 86
Genesis 16:1-14
Luke 18:15-17

Thurs., Jan. 18
Psalm 62:5-12
Jeremiah 19:1-15
Revelation 18:11-20

Fri., Jan. 19
Psalm 62:5-12
Jeremiah 20:7-13
2 Peter 3:1-7

Sat., Jan. 20
Psalm 62:5-12
Jeremiah 20:14-18
Luke 10:13-16

Sun., Jan. 21
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

Mon., Jan. 22
Psalm 46
Genesis 12:1-9
1 Corinthians 7:17-24

Tues., Jan. 23
Psalm 46
Genesis 45:25—46:7
Acts 5:33-42

Wed., Jan. 24
Psalm 46
Proverbs 8:1-21
Mark 3:13-19a

Thurs., Jan. 25
Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 3:23-29
Romans 9:6-18

Fri., Jan. 26
Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 12:28-32
Revelation 2:12-17

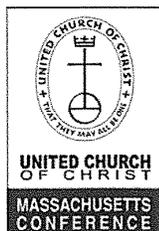
Sat., Jan. 27
Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 13:1-5
Matthew 8:28—9:1

Sun., Jan. 28
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

Mon., Jan. 29
Psalm 35:1-10
Numbers 22:1-21
Acts 21:17-26

Tues., Jan. 30
Psalm 35:1-10
Numbers 22:22-28
1 Corinthians 7:32-40

Wed., Jan. 31
Psalm 35:1-10
Jeremiah 29:1-14
Mark 5:1-20



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~ January 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day Office Closed 6a AA (UFH)	2 6a AA (UFH) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 6:45p AA (Room 5)	3 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (V)	4 6a AA (UFH) 8a Bible & Bagels (Bruegger's) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 7:30p AA (UFH)	5 Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6p AA (UFH)	6 6a AA (UFH)
7 COMMUNION EPIPHANY 6a AA (UFH) 8:15a 8:15 Group (V) 9a Adult Choir (S) 10a Worship (S) 11:30a West Virginia Mission Trip Info Session (UFH) 6:30p Prayer Group (P)	8 February 2018 Newsletter Deadline 6a AA (UFH) 10a La Leche League (V) 7p Jubilee Bells (MR)	9 6a AA (UFH) 7:30a Women's Fellowship Breakfast (Riverview-Billerica) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 6:45p AA (Room 5)	10 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (V) 7p Outreach Board (V)	11 6a AA (UFH) 8a Bible & Bagels (Bruegger's) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 7p Nurture Board (V) 7:30p AA (UFH) 7:30p Adult Choir (MR)	12 Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6p AA (UFH)	13 6a AA (UFH) 9:30a MLK Day of Learning (United Parish, Brookline)
14 6a AA (UFH) 8:15a 8:15 Group (V) 9a Adult Choir (S) 10a Worship (S) 11:30a Sermon Talk Back (P) 6:30p Confirmation (V) 6:30p Prayer Group (P)	15 Martin Luther King Office Closed 6a AA (UFH)	16 6a AA (UFH) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 6p Masons (UFH/LFH/K) 6:45p AA (Room 5) 7p Cabinet (V)	17 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (V) 6p Wonderful Wednesday (UFH/K/V)	18 6a AA (UFH) 8a Bible & Bagels (Bruegger's) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 7:30p AA (UFH)	19 Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6p AA (UFH) 6p Youth Lock In (LFH)	20 Youth Lock In (LFH) 6a AA (UFH)
21 6a AA (UFH) 8:15a 8:15 Group (V) 8:30a Adult Choir (S) 10a Worship (S) 11:30a West Virginia Mission Festival Planning Meeting (UFH)	22 6a AA (UFH) 7p Jubilee Bells (MR)	23 6a AA (UFH) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 6:45p AA (Room 5) 7p Women's Fellowship (V)	24 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (V) 10a Newsletter Folding (MR)	25 6a AA (UFH) 7:30p AA (UFH) 7:30p Adult Choir (MR)	26 Pastor John Day Off 6a AA (UFH) 6p AA (UFH)	27 6a AA (UFH)
28 6a AA (UFH) 8:15a 8:15 Group (V) 9a Adult Choir (S) 10a Worship (S) 11:30a Children's Choir (MR) 11:30a Sermon Talk Back (P) 6:30p Confirmation (V) 6:30p Prayer Group (P)	29 6a AA (UFH) 7p Jubilee Bells (MR)	30 6a AA (UFH) 9a Coffee & Conversation (Bruegger's) 6:45p AA (Room 5) 7:30p NAMI (Room 4)	31 6a AA (UFH) 7a Men's Group (V)			



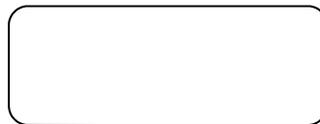
~ January Worship ~



January 7, 2018 Epiphany - Communion	10:00 am	<i>"Divine Wisdom"</i>	Matthew 2: 1-12 Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor
January 14, 2018	10:00 am	<i>"Being the Church: Called to Unity"</i>	1 Corinthians 1: 10-17 Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor
January 21, 2018	10:00 am	<i>"Being the Church: Called to Discipline"</i>	1 Corinthians 5: 1-13 Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor
January 28, 2018	10:00 am	<i>"Being the Church: Called to Nurture"</i>	1 Corinthians 3: 1-22 Ms. Kate Byers, Director Christian Nurture

Thank you for your help in publishing our newsletter on time. Our next Newsletter deadline is **January 8, 2018** Our next mailing is **January 24, 2018**. Please send you email articles to: fchurchb2@verizon.net. Thank you.

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