



~ November Worship ~  
10:00 am in the Sanctuary



<b>November 4</b> All Saints Sunday	<b>“Journey with Luke: Stilling Storms”</b> Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor	<b>Luke 8: 22-25</b>
<b>November 11</b> Giving Sunday	<b>“Journey with Luke: Giving and Receiving”</b> Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor	<b>Luke 6: 37-38</b>
<b>November 18</b> Thanksgiving	<b>“Journey with Luke: Grace and Gratitude”</b> Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor	<b>Luke 7: 36-50</b>
<b>November 25</b>	<b>“Journey with Luke: You Are the Christ”</b> Rev. John Castricum, Sr. Pastor	<b>Luke 9: 18-27</b>

Thank you for your help in publishing our newsletter on time. Our next Newsletter deadline is **November 15, 2018**. Our next mailing is **November 28, 2018**. Please send you email articles to: [fchurchb2@verizon.net](mailto:fchurchb2@verizon.net). Thank you.



**First Church of Christ, Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**November 2018 Newsletter**



**Pastor’s Message**

We do it all the time. We drive over a bridge, we walk into a building, we step into an elevator with the assumption that they will work and we will be safe using them. We don’t give it a thought – the fact that the infrastructure that surrounds us and supports us will work safely. Infrastructure is kind of boring. We really don’t like to talk about it much. When given the choice of making repairs to a bridge or funding a after-school program for underprivileged kids, I think most of us would vote for the after school program. Until something tragic happens.

When infrastructure breaks, like the I-35 West Mississippi Bridge in Minnesota did ten years ago, it is a horrible tragedy. Not only is there the grief and mourning for all those who died and got seriously injured, but there is fear and anger that makes the tragedy worse. Questions come up: who’s to blame? How could our government let this happen? Will it happen again? To us? Am I safe driving to work? In my building?

*continued on page 2*



**Christian Nurture**

In the Christian calendar, November is a transitional month. We start the month on All Saint’s Day. On this holy day we remember all of the Christian Saints who directly or indirectly shared their faith with us. In the United States of America, we then shift our focus to the harvest and to gratitude. Thanksgiving gives us a wonderful opportunity to think about our blessings and about God’s abundant love. Most years, before all of the Thanksgiving left overs are consumed, we transition into Advent. This year we get a pause. Advent doesn’t start the Sunday after Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving is early this year and there is a little extra time between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Instead of rushing right into advent, this year we get to spend a little more time focused on Thanksgiving and gratitude. For many, this pause will go unnoticed. Black Friday will still happen, and the Christmas shopping season will begin. BUT we know Christmas isn’t about shopping and advent is not about business. It is about watching and waiting. It is about preparing for God born among us. AND so we will wait, we will sit in the period of thanksgiving a little longer preparing our hearts and minds for what is to come. We will count our blessings, we will bless food, we will enjoy time with family and friends, and we will look for God all around us. Pausing just for a moment in a spirit of Thanksgiving.

~ Kate Byers

**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](mailto:fchurchb2@verizon.net)  
**Website:** [www.firstchurchbedford.org](http://www.firstchurchbedford.org)

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**Senior Pastor:** *The Reverend John Castricum*  
cell phone: 857-939-0711  
**Director of Christian Nurture:** *Kate Byers*  
**Music Director:** *Susan Capestro*  
**Church Administrator:** *Debra Zagaeski*

The First Church of Christ, Congregational  
25 The Great Road  
Bedford, MA 01730-2192  
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continued from front page:

I thought about this as I approached this year's Generous Giving campaign. Very shortly, you will be hearing a lot more about pledging to the church, and you will receive your annual pledge appeal letter and a pledge card in the mail. When I write these letters, I want people to know all the ways this church transforms lives: both for people coming to the church and for those in our community and world. I point out our tremendous outreach to Bedford, our mission to West Virginia.

I let people know about all the great organizations that use our church, for free or for a minimal charge, like Alcoholics Anonymous, National Alliance of Mental Illness, Bedford Patrons of Music Students and so many more. I talk about how our worship has made a real difference in people's spiritual lives. How we have welcomed people, no matter who they are, and given them a sense of belonging. I talk about how we embrace those who hurt and stay with them no matter what.

But the fact remains that most of the money you give our church is for maintaining our building and paying salaries. Who gets inspired thinking their money buys electricity and heat? Who wants their hard-earned money to pay for gutters and snow plowing and telephones?

Infrastructure is one of the least exciting things, but without it, there is no ministry. If there is no heat in the sanctuary, people will not come and receive the spiritual nourishment they so desperately need on Sunday morning. If there is no snow removal, the A.A. meeting does not happen and someone who really needs that support doesn't get it. Without salaries, there is no music program, no education for our kids, no preaching or teaching. You would try to call the office to coordinate your ministry, and no one would answer. All of the "cool" things we do, all of these wonderful ministries that bring God's vision of love, peace, justice, healing and joy to this world depend on maintaining a hidden and ordinary infrastructure.

It's kind of like the "donkey duty" sermon I preached last Palm Sunday. Without those disciples doing the hidden, dirty work of getting the donkey, the glory and powerful symbolism of the Palm Sunday story would not have happened.

In this season of giving, I am grateful for the ordinary, the mundane things in our church that make the exciting, inspirational things happen. I celebrate the heating, the electricity, the copy paper, the mowing and everything else that is indispensable to bringing God's light and love to Bedford and beyond.

Pastor John

### Meditation Group

Meditation, a practice of quieting the mind that can help us achieve greater peace and focus over time, is beneficial for all of us. Meditation reduces stress, improves concentration, increases self-awareness, happiness and acceptance. It is also a wonderful thing to explore with others.

A small meditation group has formed, and all are welcome as regular members or drop-in visits. Come if you want to get started with meditation, if you already have a practice you want to deepen and share, or if you're just curious to learn more about it and what it can mean for you.

The meditation group meets twice monthly on the first and third Fridays at 7:30 pm in the parlor. **Our meetings for November are Friday, November 2 and Friday, November 16.**

A sign up sheet is available in the vestry, or send an email to Becky Konkle at [beckykonkle@gmail.com](mailto:beckykonkle@gmail.com), or just drop in.

| ~ November 2018 ~                                                                                                             |                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                            |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sun                                                                                                                           | Mon                                                                   | Tue                                                                                                                                                        | Wed                                                                                                                     | Thu                                                                                                                                                                | Fri                                                                                        | Sat               |
|                                                                                                                               |                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                         | 1<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>5:30p Essentrics (LFH)<br>7:30p AA (UFH)  | 2<br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)                   | 3<br>6a AA (UFH)  |
| 4<br>ALL SAINTS COMMUNION<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:30 Group (Vestry)<br>10a Worship (Sanctuary)<br>7p Prayer Group (Parlor)        | 5<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room)                   | 6 Election Day<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)<br>7p Masons (LFH)                                                                        | 7<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (Vestry)<br>9:45a Pastor Group (John) (Wellesley)<br>6p Wonderful Wednesday (UFH/KV) | 8<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>5:30p Essentrics (LFH)<br>7:30p AA (UFH)  | 9<br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)                   | 10<br>6a AA (UFH) |
| 11 Veterans' Day<br>VETERANS DAY<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:30 Group (Vestry)<br>10a Worship (Sanctuary)<br>7p Prayer Group (Parlor) | 12<br>Office Closed<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room) | 13<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7:30a Women's Fellowship Breakfast (Riverview-Billerica)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)<br>7p Cabinet (Vestry)<br>7p Masons (LFH) | 14<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (Vestry)<br>9:45a Pastor Group (John) (Wellesley)                                   | 15<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>5:30p Essentrics (LFH)<br>7:30p AA (UFH) | 16<br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)                  | 17<br>6a AA (UFH) |
| 18<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:30 Group (Vestry)<br>10a Worship (Sanctuary)<br>7p Prayer Group (Parlor)                               | 19<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room)                  | 20<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)                                                                                                       | 21<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (Vestry)<br>9:45a Pastor Group (John) (Wellesley)                                   | 22 Thanksgiving<br>Office Closed<br>THANKSGIVING<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7:30p AA (UFH)                                                                                  | 23<br>Office Closed<br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH) | 24<br>6a AA (UFH) |
| 25<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8:30 Group (Vestry)<br>10a Worship (Sanctuary)<br>7p Prayer Group (Parlor)                               | 26<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7p Jubilee Ringers (Music Room)                  | 27<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:45p AA (12 Step Men) (Room 5)<br>7p Women's Fellowship (Vestry)                                                                     | 28<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>7a Men's Group (Vestry)<br>9:45a Pastor Group (John) (Wellesley)                                   | 29<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>8a Bible and Bagels (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>9a Coffee and Conversation (Bruegger's Great Road)<br>5:30p Essentrics (LFH)<br>7:30p AA (UFH) | 30<br>Pastor John Day Off<br>6a AA (UFH)<br>6:30p AA (Beginner Mtg) (UFH)                  |                   |

**Daily Lectionary Scripture References  
November 2018 (Year B)**

**Thurs., Nov. 1**  
**All Saint's Day**  
Solomon 3:1-9 or Isaiah 25:6-9  
Psalm 24  
Rev 21:1-6a  
Jn 11:32-44

**Fri., Nov. 2**  
Psalm 146 Ruth 2:1-9  
Romans 3:21-31

**Sat., Nov. 3**  
Psalm 146  
Ruth 2:10-14  
Luke 10:25-37

**Sun., Nov. 4**  
Ruth 1:1-18  
Psalm 146 Hebrews 9:11-14  
Mark 12:28-34

**Mon., Nov. 5**  
Psalm 18:20-30  
Ruth 2:15-23  
Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10

**Tues., Nov. 6**  
Psalm 18:20-30  
Ruth 3:1-7  
Acts 7:17-29

**Wed., Nov. 7** Psalm 18:20-30  
Ruth 3:8-18  
John 13:31-35

**Thurs., Nov. 8**  
Psalm 127  
Ruth 4:1-10  
Romans 5:6-11

**Fri., Nov. 9**  
Psalm 127 Ruth 4:11-17  
Hebrews 9:15-24

**Sat., Nov. 10** Psalm 127  
Ruth 4:18-22  
Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

**Sun., Nov. 11**  
Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17  
Psalm 127  
Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44

**Mon., Nov. 12**  
Psalm 113  
Genesis 24:1-10  
1 Timothy 5:1-8

**Tues., Nov. 13** Psalm 113  
Genesis 24:11-27  
1 Timothy 5:9-16

**Wed., Nov. 14** Psalm 113  
Genesis 24:28-42  
Luke 4:16-30

**Thurs., Nov. 15**  
1 Samuel 2:1-10  
1 Samuel 1:21-28  
1 Timothy 6:11-21

**Fri., Nov. 16**  
1 Samuel 2:1-10 1 Samuel 2:18-21  
Colossians 2:6-15

**Sat., Nov. 17** 1 Samuel 2:1-10  
1 Samuel 3:1-18  
Mark 12:1-12

**Sun., Nov. 18**  
1 Samuel 1:4-20  
1 Samuel 2:1-10  
Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25  
Mark 13:1-8

**Mon., Nov. 19** Psalm 3 1 Samuel 3:19—4:2 He-  
brews 10:26-31

**Tues., Nov. 20** Psalm 3  
Deuteronomy 26:5-10  
Hebrews 10:32-39

**Wed., Nov. 21** Psalm 3  
1 Kings 8:22-30  
Mark 13:9-23

**Thurs., Nov. 22**  
**Thanksgiving**  
Joel 2:21-27  
Psalm 126  
1 Timothy 2:1-7 Matthew 6:25-33

**Fri., Nov. 23**  
Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18]  
2 Kings 22:11-20  
1 Corinthians 15:20-28

**Sat., Nov. 24**  
Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18]  
2 Kings 23:1-14 John 3:31-36

**Sun., Nov. 25** 2 Samuel 23:1-7  
Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18]  
Revelation 1:4b-8  
John 18:33-37

**Mon., Nov. 26**  
Psalm 63  
2 Kings 23:15-25  
Revelation 11:1-14

**Tues., Nov. 27**  
Psalm 63  
1 Samuel 17:55—18:5  
Revelation 11:15-19

**Wed., Nov. 28** Psalm 63  
2 Samuel 2:1-7  
John 16:25-33

**Thurs., Nov. 29** Psalm 25:1-10  
Nehemiah 9:6-15  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

**Fri., Nov. 30** Psalm 25:1-10  
Nehemiah 9:16-25  
1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

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

Pastor John will be continuing his "Coffee and Conversation" in November. He will be at Brueggers Bagels on Great Road on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. He will be there to talk about anything you want: your faith, an issue you're struggle with, a joy you want to share or whatever is happening in your life. If you've never come, give it a try. He'd love to hear what's on your mind!

**Wonderful Wednesday**

We will be having a special Wonderful Wednesdays this month on **November 7<sup>th</sup>**. As usual, we will gather for a delicious meal at 6 p.m. At 7 p.m. we will be having an **Advent Banner workshop**. We're planning to do some simple paper lace banners (similar to the Tree of Life Banners) to hang in the sanctuary in December. We will also be working on a new cloth Advent Banner to hang in the front of the church. Just about anybody can participate in creating these banners – all you need to do is cut along the lines with an Exacto Knife. Please join us for a great dinner, fellowship and fun!

**Up-coming Wonderful Wednesday Dates**

- November 7, 2018
- December 5, 2018
- January 16, 2019
- February 6, 2019



**Remember to change your clock.....**

**move your clock BACK one hour**

**on Sunday, November 4, 2018**

**Thank you to Pie Makers!**

A fun time was had by all at our annual Apple Pie Making night on October 15. We had 15 helpers of all ages and ended up making 53 pies for the Turkey Dinner and for general sale. Thank you to everyone who showed up to help, Becky Konkle for the delicious lentil soup and to our pie crust makers, Betsy Cogliano, Nancy McKinney, Susan Wingfield, Claire Maxon, Kathy Konkle, Chris Majoros and Pastor John!



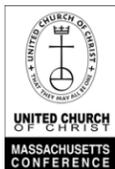
Your Co-Pie-lots,  
Chris Majoros and Carol Jamison

**Blessed to be a Blessing Retreat  
All Church Family Retreat**

This winter our 3rd annual All Church Family Retreat will be in early February or late January. We will focus around what it means to be blessed and how we can live our blessings out in ways that bless others. It is sure to be a meaningful weekend or fun, community, and spiritual growth. Nurture is currently working on the details including location. Expect detailed information via email and in church announcements in November.

**Advent Devotionals**

Once again, the Deacons are pleased to offer Advent Devotionals to the congregation to help us prepare for Christmas. These devotionals are written by the U.C.C.'s "Stillspeaking Writer's Group" who offer daily devotionals via email. This year's theme is "Come, Lord Jesus" based upon a prayer from Revelation 22, asking for Jesus to come and restore God's peace, justice and reconciliation to a world in need. Feel free to pick up a devotional for your family in the Narthex, at the Vestry entrance to the Sanctuary or in the church office.



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## Faith at Home

During November, we hear a lot about gratitude and Thanksgiving. These two themes will be very present at church all month. During Sunday School children and youth will talk about counting their blessings. The idea behind the lessons is help children see the ways they are blessed and to develop an overall sense of gratitude for everything in their lives. As the children learn about blessings, they will be encouraged to keep track of their blessings. Please help your children count their blessings. Help them to keep church lessons on their mind all week long.

### Thanksgiving Food Drive

On Sunday November 18<sup>th</sup> Nurture is sponsoring a food drive for the Bedford Food Pantry. Please bring some non-perishable food to share with our neighbors in need. During worship, all donations will be brought forward and blessed. Following worship food will be take to the pantry to help Bedford residents have enough to eat this winter.



### Blessed to be a Blessing Retreat

This winter our 3rd annual All Church Family Retreat will be February 8-10. We will focus around what it means to be blessed and how we can live our blessings out in ways that bless others. It is sure to be a meaningful weekend of fun, community, and spiritual growth. Stay tuned for more details.

### Sunday School

During Sunday School in November, Children and Youth will meet together as they spend three weeks learning about blessings and thinking about what it means to count our blessings. At the end of the month we will shift from Counting our Blessings to getting ready for Advent and Nativity Sunday. All of November is a break from the Spark curriculum as we focus on the holidays and bringing our faith to life in the middle of everyday life.



### Board of Nurture

Nurture is active but experimenting the best meeting style/time for this group.

### Stewardship

New locks on outside doors, one door with a programmable, electronic lock, one lock with non-copy key (limited number distributed).  
Making changes to prevent flooding in Lower Fellowship Hall. Heavy rains are causing water to come down the fire escape stairs and into the hall. Gutters and drainage have been added  
Continued work on the flag pole  
Pilot light on stove fixed

### Board of Deacons

Meet in September, and are setting a direction for the year  
Discussed having poinsettias at Christmas

### Women's Fellowship

Smaller than usual group for Breakfast this morning  
September meeting to plan the year

### Old Business

Giving campaign, kick off, second Sunday in November. Alison hijacked the meeting to ask Why a Pledge campaign? What does it mean to you? IS pledging relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? Are there questions with short-ish answer we can ask the congregation to glean more info about this. Ideas the came up  
Pledging is a time to reflect on our giving without just mechanically writing the check  
A time of reminding people how the church spends the money/ why it's a good investment  
We should include a description for how to electronically pay  
We need to stress how our church transforms people's lives  
FYI people are going to Super Saturday – a day of workshops for church leadership. The deadline has been extended if more people want to go.  
We discussed dates for the November meeting as Terry cannot be there on 11/13. We chose 3 dates and Alison will send out a doodle poll to discern a meeting date.

### Governance and Ministry

We elected to punt on discussion Chapter 1 'til our next meeting.  
We are extremely grateful to Susan W for sharing her thoughts re Terry's questions  
A quick comment was made about the difference between "ministry" (day to day operational tasks) and "governance" (longer term, vision stuff)  
We are glad that (in general) this Cabinet is not a "gatekeeper" group and glad that we don't usually second guess work done on the boards.( please comment if you don't agree)

Respectfully submitted

Alison Weaver, clerk pro-tem

## Minutes from Cabinet October 9, 2018

Attending: Barbara Byam, Kate Byers, John Castricum, John Guetersloh, Carol Jamison, Nancy McKinney, Alison Weaver, Kelly Woessner.

Before the meeting convened we chatted about the pledge campaign for this year. We will be starting a campaign talking, with a theme of supporting infrastructure. (If we can think of a catchy slogan). The work of the church is enabled, made smoother & easier because of our staff and our building. General consensus is this is an O.K. idea if we're clear about tying it to the more glamorous work.

Meeting convened at 7:20 with a centering and moment of silence

### Pastor's Report :

Debra Zagaeski has been our admin for 3 weeks now and is settling in  
Pastor/Parish committee went to a training session which was fruitful. They met earlier this week  
John got an e-mail from a person who is a web designer (and a pastor) asking if we want a new web site.

John feels we need to update our web page (we say it explicitly but no one disagreed)  
This gentleman would charge us \$6,000 (fee based on the size of our church  
We had some questions (John wrote them all down and will ask).

What's the platform/server situation?

What's the maintenance, how much can we do ourselves and how much needs him to come to help us? (and charge us?)

Perhaps at or before our next meeting we could check out one or two web sites he's done.  
Alison will ask a friend who does web design for non-profits what we should expect

### Director of Christian Nurture's Report:

Sunday School is going well

We have hired Jacob Mock as the nursery attendant on Sunday Mornings

The blessing of the animals will be this Sunday afternoon (the Cards are bringing a trailer)

November will be counting our blessings and blessing food

### Treasurer's report

John G is working with Debra to get her on board with our finances

We have not needed to tap into the investment money since the summer.

### Board of Outreach

Dispersed money left from last quarter including \$1,000 to local UCC to help with situation in Lawrence and \$1000 to national UCC for hurricane Florence relief.

They will be alternating their meetings between Wednesday and Tuesday night to accommodate all their members

Becky Mantz has joined the committee and has spoken to them about JFON (Justice for our Neighbors)

Looking for a Cradles to Crayons date in the Spring (details confused about a fall collection)

Not certain of interest in a Crop Walk team this year.

(continued on page 9)

## Programs for our youth:

### Think Outside Sunday Morning

#### Preschool and Elementary

##### *Baking night*

On **Friday November 30<sup>th</sup>**, the elementary youth group will gather to bake! We will meet in Upper Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 8pm for dinner, baking, and some holiday crafts. Children ages 4 and up are invited to attend this fun evening with or without their grown-ups.

#### Middle School and High School

This year our older youth will explore questions central to life and faith, in four units organized around a central event with meetings before and after for learning and reflection. Each unit will be a distinctive focus running for about 4 consecutive weeks. The first few weeks we will meet at church for dinner and programming as we prep for a "big activity." The third week will be a more time intensive/exciting activity. Our final week will be a wrap up session where we reflect over food on what we have done and learned. Youth and their families are invited to commit to the units that work for them. This year our units are:

##### *Getting oriented: What should guide our lives?*

Youth will spend time exploring the bible, prayer, and community as tools for discernment/guidance. Then we will go on a geocaching adventure where we practice using electronic tools as guidance. Our final session will encourage youth to think deeply about the ways our faith guides our life. This unit will meet:

October 14<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7:45pm

October 21<sup>st</sup> from 6 to 7:45pm

October 27<sup>th</sup> Turkey Dinner

November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9am to 2pm (Geocaching in Boston)

November 18<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7:45pm

##### *Finding identity: Who are we?*

Youth and their parents will spend a few weeks talking about our identity as children of God. We will try to figure out what it means to be a child of God and how that plays into so many different aspects of our identity. The big event for the unit will be a lock-in in full of learning, games, and fun. This unit will meet mid January to mid February. For the three dinner and programming meetings parents are encouraged to attend with their youth. Some of the unit will involve everyone talking together. There will also be opportunities for parents and youth to meet separately.

##### *Seeking social justice: What are we called to do?*

Our March unit will focus on an overnight trip into Boston with City Reach where youth will work with people experiencing homelessness to serve the homeless community of Boston. The prep meetings will encourage youth to think about homelessness and about mission through relationship.

##### *Caring for the earth: How are we called to live?*

Shortly after Easter and Earth Day, youth will spend 4 weeks thinking about environmental justice. The big event for this unit will be an over night camping trip in May.

## Music Notes



### Choir

As a vocal ensemble, the **Adult Choir** has been working on vowels, phrasing, vocal quality and blend. We've enjoyed practicing our selections for November and hope you do also!

### Jubilee Ringers

The **Jubilee Ringers**, after playing twice in October, are spending November sharpening up their pieces for Bell Sunday, which is next month on December 9.

### Instrumentalists

Sarah and Emily Castricum are playing a cello/piano duet for offertory the first Sunday of the month. More instrumentalists are likely to appear this month and next!

### November Music Schedule:

Thursday, November 1 - Adult Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm

Sunday, November 4 - Instrumental call time 9:00 am (choir is off)

Monday, November 5 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm

Thursday, November 8 - Adult Choir, no rehearsal (Wonderful Wednesday Week)

Sunday, November 11 - Adult Choir rehearsal 8:30 am

Monday, November 12 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm

Thursday, November 15 - Adult Choir rehearsal 7:30 pm

Sunday, November 18 - Adult Choir mini-rehearsal 9:00 am

Monday, November 19 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm

Thursday, November 22 - Adult Choir, no rehearsal (Thanksgiving)

Sunday, November 25 - Adult Choir rehearsal 9:00 am

Monday, November 26 - Jubilee Ringers rehearsal 7:00 pm

- Susan Capestro, Director of Music

### 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>

## November Deacon's Offering

### Bedford Food Pantry

Here is a little history about the Pantry: After several years participating in the Greater Boston Walk for Hunger, a local family decided to bring the fight against hunger closer to home. In January 1991 they began seeking volunteers and filing forms, and six months later the Bedford Community Table/ Pantry became a reality. The organization has nonprofit 501(c)(3) status and is recognized as a charity by the IRS and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is staffed solely by volunteers, and funded by donations from individuals, corporations and other organizations.

Each Thursday, volunteers prepare a complimentary community dinner for all at the Bedford Town Center on Mudge Way, and pack and hand out bags of groceries to area residents who need assistance. The pantry and the community dinner do not operate between Christmas and New Year's, Thanksgiving, other holidays and Bedford Public Schools snow days. They offer community dinners only during the school year.

### Women's Fellowship/Soul Sisters

#### Trekking in Tanzania With Denise Barnett

"Visit" Tanzania and "climb" Mount Kilimanjaro with our own Denise Barnett! Join the Women's Fellowship/Soul Sisters (WFSS) at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27, in the Vestry when Denise will share highlights of her recent trip to Africa.

Last summer, Denise climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, went on an African safari, and learned about the people of Tanzania. Although her visit was short – just three weeks – she was warmly welcomed by the folks on her climb and in the safari camps. She also made a school visit, spent a day with the Agape Women's Group and a morning at a Maasai village.

Come and hear about her amazing trip – and feel free to share highlights of your own adventures if you've traveled in Africa.

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))

### Bible and Bagels and Luke!

Our "Bible and Bagels – and Luke" Bible Study, continues in November on Thursday Mornings from 8 to 9 a.m. at Bruegger Bagels on Great Road. This year, Bible and Bagels will be coordinated with the "Journey with Luke" sermon series during the year. Each session, will be an opportunity to "talk back" about last week's sermon as well as learning more about the upcoming sermon. We will delve deeper into Luke: his background, his writing style and his faith. This is a drop-in bible study: show up anytime - no prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. This is a "low stress" Bible Study aimed at those who don't know much about the Bible, but are curious to learn more. So join us and get your day started right, with a good dose of inspiration. And bring a friend, too!

### 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>