



Herald of Good TIDINGS

**“Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, ‘Behold your God!’”
~ Isaiah 40:9**

**December 2nd*

*1st Sunday in Advent
Communion Sunday with
Deacons’ offering & food pantry*

**December 9th*

2nd Sunday in Advent

**December 16th*

3rd Sunday in Advent

* Sunday Services begin at 10 a.m.

Advent Schedule



All Are Welcome

**December 23rd*

4th Sunday in Advent

December 24th

Christmas Eve

5 p.m. Family Service

*11p.m. Candlelight
Communion Service*

Other December activities include **“Parents’ Night Out”** on Dec. 7th from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., followed by **YOM’s Yankee swap**. The **Christmas Potluck, Sing-along & Christmas Basket Assembly** will be held on Dec. 8th beginning at 5 p.m. and look for our annual **Cookie Walk** during coffee hour on Dec. 16th.

The Christmas Fund 2018

For over a century, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a tangible expression of God’s love and light in the world. Year after year, United Church of Christ (UCC) members and congregations have reached out in kindness, compassion, and gratitude to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church in the past and who now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs.

In 2017, UCC congregations and members generously contributed over \$1,500,000 to the Christmas Fund. This enabled the United Church Board of Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards, to provide, on behalf of the whole Church, Supplementation of Small Annuities, Retiree Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants, and Christmas “Thank You” Gift Checks to individuals in need.

The theme of this year’s Christmas Fund Offering is “The Light Is Surely Coming.” Our goal is to raise \$1.7 million to help support these ministries of light and love. The recipients of these gifts are persons who have faithfully served the church for many years. And now, in their time of need, you can be the church to them. We invite and encourage you to join thousands of UCC members and congregations who will support this year’s appeal and trust the Light is surely coming.

On behalf of the hundreds of clergy and lay employees and their families whose lives were touched by your support of the Christmas Fund Offering, we offer our sincere thanks for your generosity!

Enclosed in this month’s “Tidings” is an offering envelope. Please return it to the church office — 128 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501, or place in the Sunday offering plate and **thank you** for your support.



If you would like to honor any of our church staff with a monetary gift this season, please make checks payable to the church noting who it's for in the memo section. You may also give donations directly to Lori Stockhaus.

Thank you.

In December we will be viewing the 1954 film *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (on **Tuesday, December 18th, beginning at 5:30 p.m.**) *"During the 1850s, Milly (Jane Powell), a pretty young cook, marries Adam (Howard Keel), a grizzled woodsman, after a brief courtship. When the two return to Adam's farm, Milly is shocked to meet his six ill-mannered brothers, all of whom live in his cabin. She promptly begins teaching the brothers proper behavior, and most importantly, how to court a woman. But after the brothers kidnap six local girls during a town barn-raising, a group of indignant villagers tries to track them down."*

Cookbook Reminder

Our Church cookbook would make a wonderful Christmas gift. It's also the perfect grab or hostess gift as well. As you may recall, it contains over 200 recipes! In addition to "Our Favorite Pumpkin Recipes" section, we have Appetizers & Beverages, Soups & Salads, Vegetables & Side Dishes, Main Dishes, Breads & Rolls, Desserts, Cookies & Candy, and "This & That" (miscellaneous recipes that don't quite fit into the other categories).

At just \$15 each, they will make a great addition to your own kitchen library as well. Remember, this is a church fundraiser; a portion of each cookbook sold goes to the church's general fund. Please see Michele Schillinger or call her at 508-259-2239.

Happy Birthday
to:



- Nathan Minor ~ Dec. 4th
- Rebecca McPherson ~ Dec. 28th
- Lori-Ann Stockhaus ~ Dec. 28th

Coffee Hour Hosts:

- 12/2 Historian, Memorial/Scholarship Nominating & Library Committees
- 12/9 Music Committee **& help please**
- 12/16 Outreach Committee
- 12/23 Board of Deacons
- 12/30, 1/6 Prudential Committee (2018)
- 1/13 Music Committee (2018 members)
- 1/20 Board of Deacons (2018 members)

ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEES/BOARDS:

All budget requests are NOW due.
Please place in Trustees' mailbox.

ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE JANUARY 2nd.

Thank you very much to my former neighbor, Debbie Pranaitis. I was very surprised and overwhelmed to receive 80th birthday cards signed by members of the church.

It brought back good memories of my family and the church in Auburn.

It's nice to receive the Tidings each month to stay in touch with the church and its membership.

*Sincerely,
Alan Malkasian & Family*

Always Winter, Never Christmas

When I read that line in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* I knew the white witch was a special kind of evil. As many of you know, I like snow, but I feel the cold like anyone else. Somehow the lead up to Christmas makes the cold easier to handle. Do you feel that way? Doesn't a cold day in January seem so much worse than a cold day in early December?

There is something about Christmas that brings me back to my childhood. Does Christmas get any better than when you are 4 to 8-years-old? I can see in our Here We Grow kids that 3-year-olds don't quite "get" Christmas and Santa. But the 4-year-olds, they understand Christmas and Santa and it transports them with wonder to the point they almost vibrate with excitement.

When the 4-year-olds are in the vestry with Santa some are bouncing around like crazy; others are overwhelmed with emotion and are clinging to their mom or their teacher. This Santa and Christmas are big things in their world and they can hardly believe they are seeing him.

Then we get old and first we are too mature for Christmas. Time passes and we try to make a "perfect" Christmas for our little ones; forgetting that some of

the best Christmases in our memories are the ones with a disaster.

Like the year we accidentally cut a cat spruce for our tree. (A cat spruce REEKS like cat pee.) We only smelled it after it warmed up, which was after it was almost completely decorated. We took off the fragile decorations, then threw a semi-decorated tree out the door because it was making the house smell that bad. Thus started the rule: the tree has to be up in the house 24 hours before it is decorated.

The disasters almost never "ruin" Christmas, not if the family pulls together to "fix" the disaster. If you are in it together, it becomes the, "Remember that Christmas when..." story. Every family needs a remember when story.

Many families will have Christmas with an empty chair, a chair that was once filled with a loved one. A sad time to be sure, but also a time to say, "Remember when..." and laugh, and remember the old stories.

May your Christmas be an antidote to winter.

Pastor Brian

DECEMBER SERMON TOPICS:

- 12/2 ~ Children's Time: "Hope"
Sermon: "Be on Guard"
- 12/9 ~ Children's Time: "Why Do You Do Good?"
Sermon: "Why Is He Saying That?"
- 12/16 ~ Children's Time: "The Candy Cane"
Sermon: "How Do We Turn from Anger?"
- 12/23 ~ Children's Time: "Can you wait?"
Sermon: "You May Be Busy, but Are You Mary at the First Christmas Busy?"
- 12/24 ~ 5 p.m. The Echo Story of Christmas
11 p.m. Sermon: "Christmas"
- 12/30 ~ Children's Time: "The Wise Men"
Sermon: "Have You Lost the Christmas Spirit?"



FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DECEMBER 2018

As amazing as it seems, another year has come to its end. I pray as you reflect on the past year, you find the happy memories among the sad and the blessings among the tragedies. Find comfort in knowing that YOU are NEVER alone.

December 7th is Parents' Night Out (PNO)

If you have not registered, please do so ASAP. We set up crafts and food based on the sign-up sheet. If your child/ren have ALLERGIES please let us know. Dinner is usually pizza, juice and chips and then we have a surprise treat. This is a fundraiser for Youth On a Mission so we are asking for a free will donation. If you have not participated in the past, please consider taking a few hours for yourself this holiday season and let the teens care for your children. Following PNO we will have a YOM Christmas party that will include at \$10.00 Yankee swap. YOM members, please see me if you wish to attend and are helping with PNO.

December 8th Hymn Sing and Potluck

During the evening we share a meal and then assemble the Christmas baskets for shut-ins. We end the evening with a carol sing in the sanctuary.

December 16th Annual Cookie Walk

The table will be overflowing with a delicious selection of cookies for you to fill your tin and share with your family and friends. Why not think about 2 tins and you can keep a little "stash" for yourself to complement a warm cup of tea during the cold winter nights. As always, we welcome any and all contributions. Please drop them off in fellowship hall by 9:45. Please label the container and note if they have nuts. THANK you in advance for your generosity.



Christmas Eve Service 5:00 p.m.

This year the Confirmation Class is taking the reins for this very special service. Please come and support them and share the true meaning for the season.

Thank you, dear God, for bringing us to the end of another year. We do not take this for granted. Thank you for your goodness, mercies, for your unfailing and unending love.

With His guidance we serve —

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Jean McPherson
Director of Religious Education

Again, this year, the Boy Scouts will be selling Christmas wreaths and cemetery baskets/logs on the Church lawn on Sunday, Dec. 2nd. Your support is much appreciated.

For delivery call 774-239-2240.

On Sunday, November 11th, we celebrated the baptism of Madeline Rae Gautreau. Madeline is the 8 ½ - month-old daughter of Andrea and Matthew Gautreau. Proud great-grandparents are Carole and Bob Murray. We pray God's continued blessing upon Madeline and her family.





Happy Holidays from **Here We Grow** Preschool

I'm not sure where this school year is going; December is upon us and it looks like the cold weather has arrived. The children and staff are preparing for the winter holiday season which is fast approaching. We are looking forward to the holiday festivities and the excitement they bring.

Here We Grow was pleased to once again be able to donate nonperishable items to the church to be delivered to families during the Thanksgiving holiday. It is always nice to watch the children placing their donations in the basket and to listen to the conversations about how the donations are helping those who may need a little extra during this time of year.

With plans well on the way for the winter holiday, the children have gone from Thanksgiving songs to singing songs for our winter holiday programs. During the month of December, **Here We Grow** will work with the Auburn Police Department in the collection of unwrapped toys and items for children ranging from infant to 16-years-old. The police department will distribute everything collected to children living in Auburn. Our holiday programs will be on December 20 and 21; feel free to stop in on the morning of the 21st to listen to the children singing in fellowship hall. The children are hoping to get a visit from the man in red again this year.

We are also collecting gently used winter coats, snowsuits, and other outerwear throughout the winter to be given to Auburn Youth and Family Services. There is a box outside the **Here We Grow** office for anyone wishing to help with this cause.

The school will be closed from December 24th - January 1st. Our first day back will be January 2nd.

The **Here We Grow** staff and families wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season.

Cristi Corey — Director, Here We Grow Preschool



December is Safe Toys and Celebrations Month.

December 1 is World AIDS Day.

December 2-8 is National Handwashing Awareness Week.

December 2-8 is National Influenza Vaccination Week.

Handwashing is still the best way to help stop the spread of germs. Hand sanitizers help, but soap and water still work best.

I want to remind you that this time of year is very difficult for many people, especially if there's been a recent loss of a loved one. Reach out to these people, sit with them, let them know that you care. This gift doesn't cost anything, but it is very much needed and appreciated.

Merry Christmas and a Very Happy, Healthy New Year.

God bless,

Debbie Pranaitis, Parish Nurse, 508-612-4521



Robert H. "Opa" Vayo, 94, of Auburn, died peacefully at the Lutheran Home on October 18, 2018 surrounded by family. He is survived by 6 children; sons, Richard, Stephen and his wife Patricia, Robert, Gerald and his wife Karen, daughters Linda Rodger and her husband Richard, and Janice Goodwin and her husband Jeffrey, a sister Norma Candela and sister-in law Jean Vayo. He also leaves behind 20 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Opa was predeceased by his wife Dorothy, daughter Karen Young, brothers Charles and David, a sister Alice Turner, a daughter-in-law Barbara Vayo, and a granddaughter Marie Young.

He was born in Worcester, son of the late Leon and Helen (Ploch) Vayo. He owned and operated Quik Deliveries for 28 years, retiring in 1984. He and Dorothy enjoyed spending the winter months in Florida, Myrtle Beach and other warmer locations. He was a life member of the Auburn Elks Lodge, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as an honorary member of the Worcester Polish American Veterans Club. He especially enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

He proudly served his country in the US Navy during two tours of duty. He enlisted days prior to his 18th birthday during World War II, and was aboard the USS John Penn which participated in the invasion of North Africa and then 2 years in the Pacific. After this ship was sunk during the battle of Guadalcanal he served aboard the USS Titania. Luckily when the John Penn was sunk, he was stationed on the Russell Islands assisting the Seabees building a forward supply base. He reenlisted during the Korean Conflict and was assigned to the USS Stormes.

The family wishes to thank the many caregivers over the years that were instrumental in allowing him the ability to remain in his own home; and the caring staff at Lutheran Home where he spent his final days. Calling hours were held on October 24, 2018 at Britton Funeral Home in Auburn, followed by a brief service. Burial was private in Hillside Cemetery, Auburn. Donations may be made to First Congregational Church Memorial Fund, 128 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501, or the Elder Services of Worcester Area, Inc., 67 Millbrook St., Suite 100, Worcester, MA 01606.

Please keep the Vayo family in your prayers.

COMPLETING YOUR 2018 PLEDGES AND DONATIONS

Please help our church's 2018 budget by completing your current pledges as early in the month of December as possible. By doing this, it becomes much easier to close on December 31, 2018. Please be aware that any pledges or donations received showing a postmark 'after' December 31, 2018, will be posted and reportable for next year's **2019** giving statement, and not for 2018. All pledges and donations **received before the deadline of December 31, 2018**, will be reported on your 2018 giving statement. Also, if you did not make a pledge in this current year, but would still like to donate this year, please do so as early in December as possible. All gifts are greatly appreciated and checks should be made payable to: First Congregational Church.

Bless you all for the many gifts you offer to this church. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

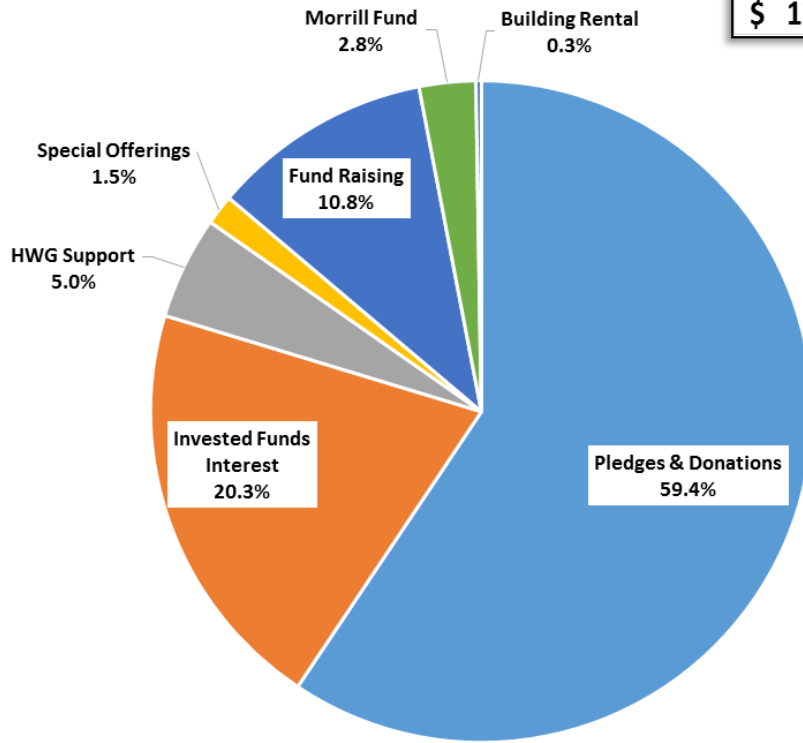
Thank you,
Sue MacPhee, Financial Secretary - *Gmail: Susiemac2002@gmail.com*
Lori-Ann Stockhaus, Assistant Financial Secretary

*** Please see page 7 for an income - expense comparison for 2018 (through the month of October). These charts are provided by Church Treasurer, Nick Stockhaus.

First Congregational Church - Income

Through October 2018

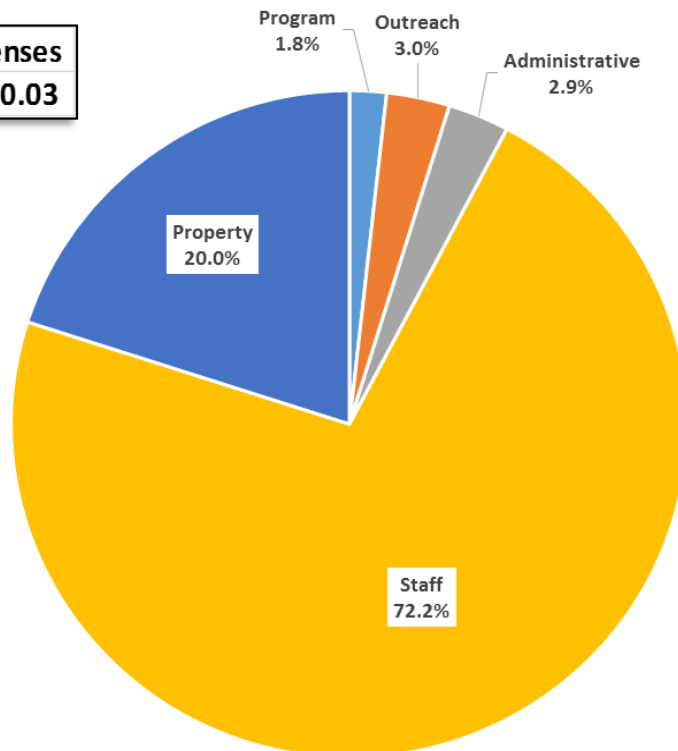
Total Income
\$ 172,281.04



First Congregational Church - Expenses

Through October 2018

Total Expenses
\$ 173,830.03



From the Stewardship Committee

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in Consecration Sunday or returned a pledge card. As of November 16, First Congregational Church has received 83 pledges, payments, or donations for a total of \$121,064.

As a part of our stewardship theme "Growing our Faith through Generosity," we are focusing on celebrating generosity. Having received so much from our generous God, we want to be a generous people: not just with our tithes, but with our time and our talents. Giving not just at church on Sunday, but giving ourselves to God every place we find ourselves, every day of the week.

If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please do so today, whether you're making a pledge or not, so that we can plan the budget for 2019. The Deacons or the church office can help you if you don't have a pledge card. No pledge is too small and, if your situation changes, your pledge can be changed at any time.

We appreciate your support.

In His love,
Your Stewardship Committee
(Michelle Bigelow, Nan Johnson, Ellie Lowell, Lauren and Jake Webb)

"All Christians are but God's stewards. Everything we have is on loan from the Lord, entrusted to us for a while to use in serving Him." - John MacArthur

AUBURN HUNGER WALK 10/21/2018

| <u>#</u> | <u>Association</u> | <u>Walker</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Bethel Lutheran | Ruth Thompson | \$850.00 | |
| 2 | Bethel Lutheran | Bethel Lutheran | \$102.00 | \$952.00 |
| 3 | Auburn Youth & Family | Sally D'Arcangelo | \$120.00 | \$120.00 |
| 4 | St. Joseph's Church | Christine Benvenuti | \$653.00 | \$653.00 |
| 5 | North American Matrys | Vincent Miles | \$20.00 | |
| 6 | North American Matrys | M. Peschiera | \$20.00 | |
| 7 | North American Matrys | Ava Thibeault | \$40.00 | |
| 8 | North American Matrys | Trevor Fuller | \$75.00 | |
| 9 | North American Matrys | Daniel Handfield | \$60.00 | |
| 10 | North American Matrys | Pamela Ashmankas | \$773.00 | |
| 11 | North American Matrys | Logan Costa | \$100.00 | \$1,088.00 |
| 12 | First Congregational Church | Sue Campbell | \$443.00 | \$443.00 |
| TOTAL | | | \$3,256.00 | \$3,256.00 |
| Gift to Kateri's Kitchen from Knights of Columbus | | | -\$250.00 | |
| SUB TOTAL | | | \$3,006.00 | |
| 10 % TO KATERI'S KITCHEN | | | -\$300.00 | |
| TOTAL TO AUBURN YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES | | | \$ 2,706.00 | |

| <u>Association</u> | <u>Number of Walkers</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| North American Matrys | 9 | 1088.00 |
| AYFS | 1 | 120.00 |
| Bethel Lutheran Church | 4 | 952.00 |
| First Congregational | 1 | 443.00 |
| St. Joseph's Church | 6 | 653.00 |
| TOTALS | 21 | \$ 3,256.00 |

Thank you!

FROM THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

It is beginning to look a lot like.. well... that time of year!

For some of our neighbors, the holiday season brings just as much sadness and stress as it does happiness. Perhaps your neighbor lacks the financial stability to give gifts with abundance. Or maybe someone has lost a dear friend or family member and this is the first holiday without them. We have men and women overseas fighting for the very freedom our country was founded on.

I have been thinking a lot about words and their simple definitions. Ever feel like we complicate things too much? I sure do! Let's look at how "Outreach" is defined in its simplest terms. It is both a noun and a verb. As a noun, Outreach is defined as "the extent or length of reaching out." As a verb, it means "reach further than." Outreach is not only about giving money. It is about reaching out to your neighbors, and friends, and family. Be present. Lend a hand. Give a hug. Tell someone you appreciate them!!!! If you can give, then by all means give!!! But if you cannot give things or money, you can still reach out! Reach out to your neighbor. Pray for them, or better yet, pray with them!

Your FCC Outreach update for December is a good one! Thanks to the generosity of a local business, there has been a donation to cover the costs of Thanksgiving dinners for our community members who may otherwise not be able to fill their tables with all the trimmings. As a result of this recent donation, \$500 previously allocated to the food pantry was returned to the Outreach Committee. We voted to send that \$500 to Hope Lodge in Boston. Hope Lodge is a beautiful place that offers a home-like experience for patients undergoing cancer treatment. They not only house patients, but also offer home cooked meals and activities in the evening. They have laundry, outdoor space for meditation and prayer, private bathrooms, all at no cost to the patient and his/her caregiver. There are 30 Lodges in the U.S. and Puerto Rico and the Boston location has 40 rooms. This non profit is near and dear to our heart, because a church member and his wife stayed at Hope Lodge in Boston while he received chemotherapy at a local hospital. If you would like to learn more about Hope Lodge, go to www.cancer.org and search for Hope Lodge.

Our total for food pantry collections is:

October 7, \$79
 October 22, \$80
 November 4, \$89

Thank you and God bless,

Shannon Hartmann, Secretary
 Outreach Committee



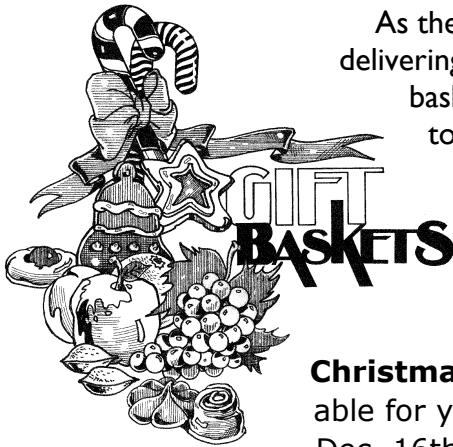
Estate Planning?

Have you included the church in your will or estate planning? Please prayerfully consider if the Lord would have you remember your church when completing your will.

"One of the greatest missing teachings in the American church today is the reminder to men and women that nothing we have belongs to us."

Gordon MacDonald, American Pastor & Teacher

During times of inclement weather, we have set up an account with WCVB - TV Channel 5 enabling us to report Church service cancellations. However, if weather is severe enough to result in area power outages, we may not have the capability to contact them. So you should always use your best judgment, exercising caution when deciding whether to venture out to service during stormy weather.



As they've done in past years, the Deacons, Pastor Brian, and Deb Pranaitis will be delivering Christmas baskets/stockings to shut-ins. We're planning to prepare/assemble baskets on Dec. 8th as part of the Christmas carol sing-along and potluck get together. Remember, the potluck begins at 5:00 p.m. and Jackie Knox will lead us in singing Christmas carols (thank you, Jackie!).

Please look in Fellowship Hall for a list of items that are needed for the Christmas baskets and a potluck sign-up sheet.

Christmas arrangements made of fresh greens will once again be available for you to purchase during coffee hour on Dec. 9th and, if any remain, on Dec. 16th as well. All the greens are gathered locally, so there is no expense involved. All monies taken in will go to the church's general fund. Keep these in mind when doing your holiday shopping; they make lovely hostess gifts and most are suitable for a table centerpiece. We enjoy making these and hope you will support this small church fundraiser.

Judy Murphy & Cindy Dube

A REQUEST FROM AUBURN COMFORT BLANKETS

As the colder weather comes into season, it is a good time to get out the sewing machine or the knitting needles and crochet hooks to keep our hands busy. Auburn Comfort Blankets, a group who meet on Tuesday mornings at church, is looking for at-home sewers who could make some children-sized 100% cotton cloth quilts. As a rule, we prefer them to be SMALLER than 40" x 60". Even as small as 36" x 36" are used in the nursery at the hospital. We can supply you with fabric from our stash of donated material. If you are able to make just the quilt tops, we have people who can complete them with batting and a backing. We accept knitted and crocheted blankets as well.

Auburn Comfort Blankets provides blankets to ill or traumatized children. Blankets are delivered to UMass hospitals and to shelters for women and children. This organization is under the umbrella of the church's Board of Christian Outreach.

Blankets can be dropped off any Tuesday morning in the "old kitchen" near the vestry on the lower level of the church between 9 AM and noon. Contact Sue Campbell at 508-799-2718 or Carol Luther at 508-752-8974 if you have any questions.

BELL CHOIR SCHEDULE

12/2 @ 2:30 pm Rehearsal
 12/9 @ 2:30 pm Rehearsal
 12/16 @ 9:00 am Rehearsal with
 performance at 10:00 service
 12/23 @ 2:30 pm Rehearsal
 12/24 @ 10:15 pm Rehearsal with
 performance at 11:00 pm

January 2019 **NO REHEARSALS**

A MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is being proactive in the safety and security of our employees and the church community. We are looking to find out who within our church has keys to enter the building. If you haven't already signed one of the church key finder forms while at church, please contact Ron Hanks at 508-832-4227 where you can leave a message or email him at hanksrl@gmail.com.

If anyone has keys but no longer needs them, please let us know that also. We would like to take care of this during December and thank you for your help.

2019 COMMITTEE SEARCH NOMINEES WANTED – Updated as of 11/19/18

As Nominating representatives of the First Congregational Church, namely Sue MacPhee, Judi Taft and Melynn Guilford, we are searching for continued committee support. If you are a church member and interested in joining any committee vacancy listed below, then please let us know. Please complete a nomination request form and drop it off in our church office; or, contact one of us directly. If you're hesitant and have questions, please contact us or other members for more details.

Listed below are the remaining 3 committees with 6 nomination vacancies:

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Deacons: Jesus had 12 disciples. They were: Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Thaddeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot.</p> <p>In Christian continuity, our FCC bylaws allow for 12 members to serve as Deacons. The 2019 term is looking thin with only 5 members, plus 3 nominees, to cover the shared workload.</p> | <p>4 vacancies @ <u>Three year term</u> from 2019-2021</p> |
| <p>Stewardship:</p> | <p>1 vacancy @ <u>Partial term</u> Present 2018 to 2019</p> |
| <p>Trustees:</p> | <p>1 vacancy @ <u>Two year term</u> from 2019-2020</p> |
| <p><i>Terms begin following approval at our January 2019 Annual Meeting and end dates (i.e., 2019, 2020 or 2021) extend until the following January's Annual Meeting changeover. Per our revised 2018 bylaws, extended terms by a member cannot exceed 6 years without a one year break. As such, nominee openings not listed above were thankfully filled already and waiting for January's approval.</i></p> | |

To all current committee persons, God bless you and THANK YOU for your faithful commitment and continued fellowship at First Congregational Church in Auburn. Our committee will continue to do its best toward collecting member nominees for the above noted open vacancies. To all other members, please ask questions and join a committee so these groups won't become short staffed. Making friends and working within a team binds us together in church fellowship that's filled with love of our church and our faith.

Our contact information is:

Sue MacPhee: Home Phone — (508) 832-9347, Gmail: Susiemac2002@gmail.com

Judi Taft — (508) 752-2023, email: jtaft01527@aol.com

Melynn Guilford: — (508) 904-2921, email: melyng3@yahoo.com

NOMINATING VOLUNTEER SLIP

I'm interested in: _____ Committee

My name is: _____ My Contact number is: _____

Best time to call is: _____

Please mail to the church or drop off in church secretary's inbox located on her office door. Thank you.



But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:10, 11

Wishing you and yours a blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

TIDINGS is a monthly publication of
**First Congregational Church,
 United Church of Christ**
 128 Central St., Auburn MA 01501
 Phone: (508) 832-2845
 Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Email: secretary@auburnfirstucc.org
 or PastorBrian@auburnfirstucc.org
*God's church in Auburn Center
 doing Christ's work in the world.*
 Web: auburnfirstucc.org



BULK RATE
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Non-Profit Org.
 Permit No. 6
 Auburn, Mass

| December 2018 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

OR CURRENT RESIDENT