

**JUNE 2019**

# 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**

## FROM THE PASTOR

As I write this, we are getting partly sunny days after a couple months when it rained all day, every day, or so it seemed. With the sun out, I notice my mood is also sunnier. I think that is true for many of us. No matter how deep in technology we get, and how far from nature we become, the weather still has a great effect on us.

I think this spring people were more down than they normally are. Depression is a problem for many people. Many people suffer in silence. People are afraid to bring it up. I know having a serious discussion is not the most fun thing to do. But it can really help. I do not think talking about depression or asking if someone is doing alright will lead people down a spiral. Rather it might help people connect, and feel less isolated.

My mom was the clan babysitter. She babysat for a lot of my older cousins until I got old enough to babysit by myself. After every babysitting job, the one we babysat for would try to pay my mom. This would result in 15-30 minutes of a hand fight as Mom gave back the money and the cousin kept trying to give Mom the money. It got pretty ridiculous. Two fully grown women trying to slip \$5 into each other’s pockets or purse. It was a long night of reverse pickpocketing.

I did not want to do that. I did the one rejection plan.

“How much is babysitting?”

“You are family; it is free.”

“No, I will pay you \$2 an hour.” (Yeah, I am OLD!)

“Ok, thanks.”

The first rejection was the polite rejection. The second rejection was a real rejection. That is how to start a “serious” talk, I think. Let who you are talking with get one rejection.

“Do you want to talk?”

“No”

“No, I am being serious here. Would you like to talk?”

If that gets another “NO,” then let it drop. Otherwise, let the talk go where it will. Talking about depression is not really talking about depression. It is talking about how much you care about the person; you care enough to notice.

I think the devil loves silence; the devil loves secrets. Silence and secrets isolate people. People are strong in community and weaker when isolated.

It is no accident that God spoke creation into being. Speaking is a holy thing. So if you see friends and family that seem to have changed, say something. It might spark people to get help if they need it.

May we all have a sunny and joyful summer.

Pastor Brian

## SERMON TITLES

6/2 “As We Were Going”

6/9 “The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit”

6/16 “Baptism Sets Us Free”

6/23 “Call Down Fire on Them”

6/30 “Mary Magdalene Was Not a Loose Woman”

## Children’s Time:

6/2 “Communion”

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no July or August Tidings. Look for our next issue in September. (Submission deadline is August 25th.) Have a great summer!

Well, it's finally here! The weather has been consistently getting warmer, the flowers and trees are all budding, and the kids are all anxious for school to end. As we near the end of another Sunday school year, I want to thank everyone that volunteered this past year. Some of you helped with "floating," others taught at class when we were in need. No matter what your contribution was, I want to thank you for taking time out of your worship to help show the children of this church that it's not just what you say about love for one another, but in your actions you speak volumes. You show them different ways we can share God's love. The children recognize those of you who help out, and we speak about how anyone, no matter how young or old, can help spread the word of God in their own unique way.

Sunday school is still collecting money for Heifer International and the water filtration system that they are trying to purchase. They have already purchased two goats. We will be collecting until the end of this month. Please send your child with their offering to Sunday school, where we do a weekly collection. The Board of Ed has graciously decided to match any and all funds we can raise. This is how we ended up with two, instead of just one goat. I want to thank the Board of Ed for their generosity.

Thank you also to the Board of Ed members: Katie Sharr, Tricia Gervasi, Theresa Stone, Lillian McPherson, Deb Minor, Stephanie Sanborn, and Shannon Hartmann, for their help this past year. I also want to thank Michele Schillinger for her wonderful work in the library.

I would like to welcome our six confirmands — Nick Comeau, Anthony Gervasi, Reanna Largesse, Gabe Lazerick, Abby Morrison, and Cam Scobie, to membership. As they start a new chapter in their church life, I pray that they will embrace the church and all that goes on here and become an active member.

### **JUNE 2 ANNUAL PICNIC**

Please join us on the front lawn for hot dogs and hamburgers as well as fun old fashioned (NON electronic) games. We ask you to bring a dessert or salad to share and the Board of Ed will supply condiments, chips, drinks, and burgers/hot dogs. This will take place immediately after service. We will have coffee hour outside so we can all say thank you to our volunteers and teachers and welcome the summer. I hope to see you all there!

Again, thank you to everyone, especially the teachers: Shannon Hartmann, Lillian McPherson, and Michael Schillinger for teaching AGAIN this year. Enjoy your summer and we will see you in September.

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

With His guidance we serve,  
Jean McPherson, Director of Religious Education



We're pleased to announce the arrival of Colton Camden Peck who was born on April 25. He was 20" and 7lb., 10 oz. at birth. Proud parents are Kimberly and Ian. Colton's big brothers, Cameron and Cayden, just adore him! Doting grandparents are Pam and Marty Tentor.

Congratulations to all!

### **Summer Birthdays include:**

Alyse Bukoski - June 16th  
Lisa Rockwood - July 21st  
Reanna Largesse - July 26th  
Pat Bukoski - Aug. 5th  
Skip Bigelow - Aug. 10th  
Alice Carlson - Aug. 23rd

**Happy Birthday to all!**



### **Coffee Hour Hosts**

6/2 Board of Ed      6/9 Board of Trustees      6/16 Prudential Committee      6/23 Board of Trustees

**Please note:** committees/boards will **NOT** be hosting coffee hours June 30<sup>th</sup> through Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. Look for a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall for any individuals/families who would like to host a coffee hour.



### FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

June is Cataract Awareness Month, Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month, Men's Health Month, National Migraine and Headache Awareness Month, National Safety Month, and Hernia Awareness Month.

July is Cord Blood Awareness Month, Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month, National Cleft & Craniofacial Awareness & Prevention Month.

August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Month, National Breastfeeding Month, National Immunization Awareness Month, and Psoriasis Awareness Month.

We have seen many cases of measles in the news lately due to lack of vaccinations. There had been a concern of the vaccination causing autism and the research shows that it doesn't. Measles is highly contagious and has become a problem. Other diseases that had been eradicated in the U.S. are returning because people aren't getting their babies vaccinated; small pox and TB have returned.

The Dermatology Department at Hahnemann Hospital just had a free skin cancer screening. This is the time of year when the sun's rays are stronger and more apt to cause problems. I have a "facts sheet" that I will put on the table in Fellowship Hall. I knew the sun can reflect off the water, but I wasn't aware that it also reflects off the sand. Be careful, use sunscreen, and avoid the sun between 10a.m. and 2p.m. when its rays are the strongest.

Please remember to wear helmets when riding bikes, skateboards, motorcycles, and ATV's. Head injuries can be permanent!

Have a safe and healthy summer.

God Bless!

Debbie Pranaitis, Parish Nurse  
Cell: 508-612-4521



Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, June 2nd**, and plan to join us as we celebrate our children on

### Children's Sunday.

Following our service that day will be our annual church picnic. We will be looking for donations of desserts and salads to complement the burgers and dogs supplied by the Board of Ed.

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

THE PUMPKINS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE DELIVERED ON SEPTEMBER 28th!

THE PUMPKIN PATCH FAIR IS BEING PLANNED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH. SO PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PLEASE SEE CINDY RYAN WITH YOUR QUESTIONS, IDEAS, AND OFFERS TO HELP AT THE FAIR!

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The Church Council has approved the implementation of a new fundraising policy. If you're involved with a fundraiser here (whether benefitting the church or other organization) please familiarize yourself with the policy well in advance of your event in order to meet specified deadlines. The policy and accompanying application form are available in fellowship hall or by calling the church office, 508-832-2845.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR GRADUATES & SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

**Amanda Carlson** is the daughter of Jill and Wayne Carlson and granddaughter of Alice Carlson and the late Gus Carlson. Amanda will be graduating in June from TEC Connections Academy in East Walpole, MA where she was a member of the National Honor Society. Amanda is planning to attend Anna Maria College in the fall where she will major in early childhood education. Amanda received a scholarship from the Elmeda Scholarship Fund.

**Juliana D’Orazio** is the daughter of Kerry and John D’Orazio. Her grandparents are Jackie Knox and the late Rev. Dr. Kenneth Knox. Juliana earned High Honors and will be graduating from Coventry High School in Coventry, CT. She plans to attend Endicott College where she’ll study Communications and Digital Media. Juliana received a scholarship derived from the Craig Whitcher Scholarship Fund.

**Zachary Lazerick** is the son of Pam and John Lazerick and grandson to Lee Fenby and the late Rev. Robert Fenby. Zach, a member of the National Honor Society, will be graduating from Auburn High School on June 7th. Zach achieved multiple honors within the field of mathematics and, active in Boy Scouting, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He plans to attend Bowdoin College to pursue his educational interests in mathematics and science. Zach received a scholarship derived from the Ralph and Esther Warren Scholarship Fund.

**Isabelle Leahy** is the daughter of Heather and Paul Leahy, and granddaughter of Wayne and Joyce Prouty. She will be graduating from Bay Path Regional High School where she received several awards including “Student of the Month.” Isabelle is planning to attend Worcester State University where she will major in Psychology. She received a scholarship from the Jay E. Murray Scholarship Fund.

**Lillian McPherson**, the daughter of Rich and Jean McPherson, graduated on May 18th from Worcester State University. Lillian has earned a Bachelor’s Degree in History.

### FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

I think I speak for the entire Outreach Committee when I say the month of May has been busy and uplifting for all of us fortunate to serve on this committee.

Our food pantry received approximately \$72.00 in donations from church members.

At our April meeting we received a piece of mail from a non-profit organization called Honor Flight New England. Their one goal is to take New England area WWII and Korean veterans on a one-day trip to Washington, DC to visit and reflect at the memorials that were built in their honor. Since June of 2009 they have made this dream come true for over 1,950 veterans. The trip is completely free to the veterans. A guest is welcome to join them for a fee. Our own, the late Don Woodcock, was lucky enough to take part in this program. His wife, Marion, could not say enough good about his experience. If you know of anyone who qualifies for this trip, please share this information with them. Further details are available thru our church secretary, Denise. They typically run 4-6 trips per year. The Outreach Committee was happy to donate \$100.00, collected at the Palm Sunday Breakfast, to this worthwhile cause.

May 9th found us at the Thursday Cafe, a program held at All Saints Episcopal Church in downtown Worcester. They are open from noon until 4pm and serve the homeless population in the area. We cooked and served a hot meal for 120 visitors. We also provided socks, underwear, and personal hygiene items as well as some used clothing. Each participant is invited to take one item from each station. Also available are ingredients to make sandwiches for later in the day and inflatable beds where they can rest. So many of the participants expressed sincere gratitude to us for helping them this way.

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Outreach Committee (continued from page 4)

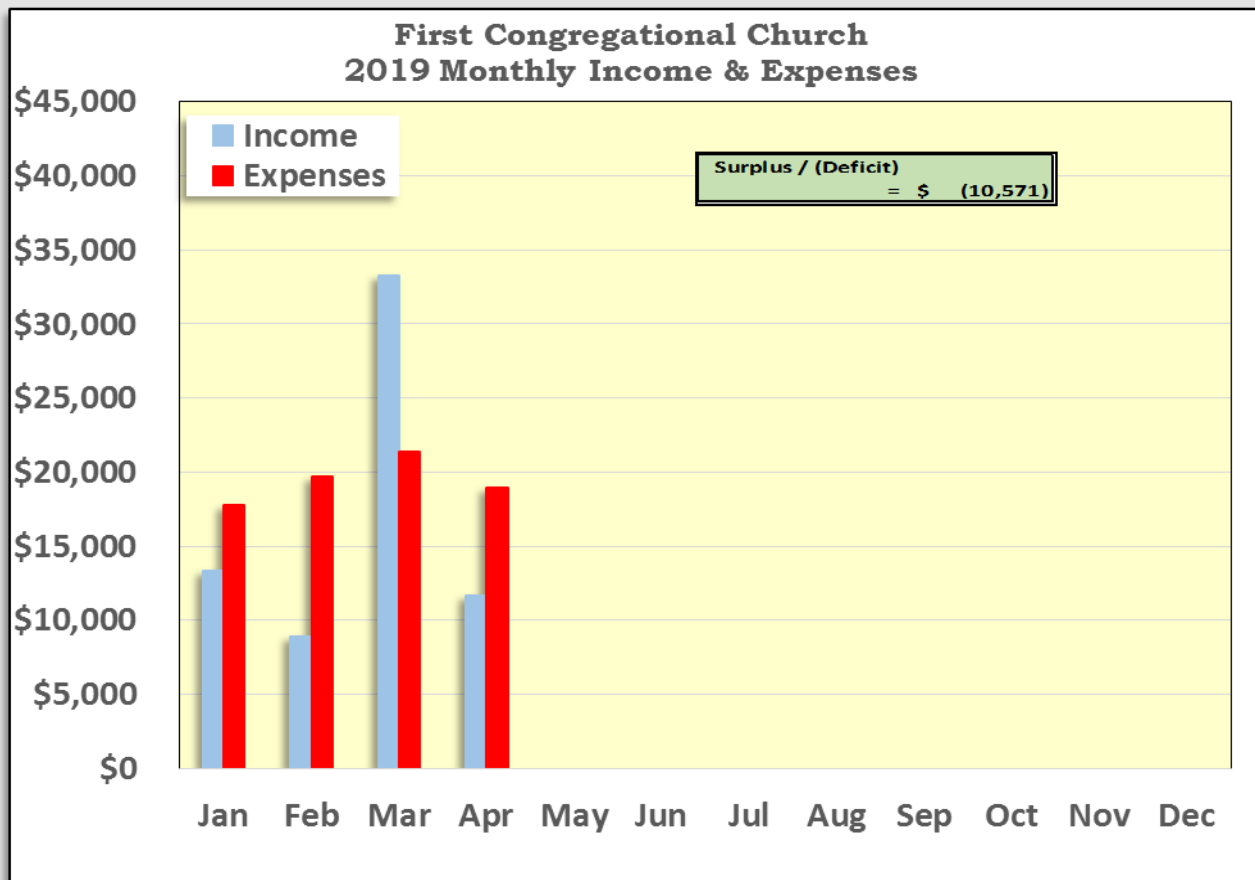
The Committee would like to thank Nan Johnson for help with cutting up 40 lbs. of chicken, Sheila Skog for spending the day helping us, and Deb Pranaitis and Pastor Brian for help with transporting all our "gear" and set up at the site. Thank you, too, for all who baked brownies for us. An added bonus for us was that we were able to deliver our leftovers to the Veterans Shelter on Grove Street, a very impressive site that houses 91 veterans.

To round out our week, for the first time our food pantry was a distribution center for the food drive on May 11th conducted by the Auburn Postal Workers. Thank you to Bob Luther, Sheila Skog, and Michele Schillinger for keeping the church open and accepting the donations. As the mail carriers made their deliveries, they picked up the donated goods. When they had as much as they could handle in their truck, they made a delivery to one of the 5 (I believe) food pantries in town. We were blessed with several deliveries throughout the day. Our upstairs classroom was filled with bags of food; every table and chair covered, and the floor. We have quite a project ahead of us sorting and finding storage for all this wonderful food!! We want to thank all of you who have come in to help sort the food. The people of Auburn are a very generous group.

As we wind down for the summer, we want to remind you that Outreach is a mission of this church. We, as a committee, are delegating the spending of your dollars. We are always open to suggestions and hope you will come to us with what you think is a worthy cause and something we should consider supporting. Have a fun and safe summer.

Cindy Dube

Our thanks to Nick Stockhaus, Treasurer, for providing us with this financial update each month.





**YARD SALE HELP NEEDED**

- 8 a.m. 6/13 Pick strawberries. Approximately 3 hour time commitment.  
We will meet at 8 a.m. in the church parking lot.
- 3 p.m. 6/13 Prepare strawberries. Approximately 2 hr. time commitment.
- At home tasks: Biscuit bakers needed, make at home and drop off on Friday (the 14<sup>th</sup>) to the church or early Saturday morning (the 15<sup>th</sup>).  
Plants needed: please pot and label for our plant sale.
- 6pm Fri. 6/14 Carry tables and chairs out to lawn.  
Approximately 60 minute time commitment.
- 1:30pm Sat. 6/15 Take down tables and chairs and return them to building.  
Help with clean-up. Approximately 90 minute time commitment.
- 8am-2pm Sat. 6/15 You may also sign-up for a 2 hour shift at our coffee/strawberry shortcake booth.  
Come to the yard sale; shop, eat, and show your support. Bring your friends and family.



As you can see, none of these important tasks will demand too much of your time and this year several dedicated volunteers will be missing so **MORE THAN EVER WE NEED YOUR HELP**. You may call me at 508-832-6646 and let me know how you can help, **or just sign-up in Fellowship Hall**.

**And finally, spaces are still available if you wish to participate in that way! Spots are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-church members. Tables are available for \$5 each.**

Thank you in advance and God Bless — Cindy Dube

**From the Stewardship Committee**

We are happy to share with you this year's Stewardship theme:

**WITH GOD, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE:  
HELPING EACH OTHER, OUR CHURCH, AND OUR WORLD**

This theme speaks to all of us who have felt God's power in times of sorrow, joy, or wonder. We know that all is possible with God -- and this inspires us and gives us energy to spread His love to each other, our church, and our world.

Together we can make the positive changes happen that we would like to see. We already do this in so many ways: teaching our children about God, praising God each Sunday, praying for the sick and those in need, reaching out to our community, fostering compassion in our youth, helping our elders.

We use our gifts of time, talent, and treasure to do God's work in the world. And every day brings new possibilities. We will explore these ideas as the year unfolds.

In His love, your Stewardship Committee

Michelle Bigelow, Nan Johnson, Ellie Lowell, Debbie Mahlert, Linda Mahlert, Martha Pappas

“But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”  
Matthew 19:26

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.” — Teresa of Avila



### ***Here We Grow*** Preschool June Tidings

This is a very busy time of the year for everyone associated with **Here We Grow**. With graduation approaching, we go forward with many mixed emotions. We will be saying good-bye to some families we have known for years, and we look forward to bringing in a group of new families. At this time, we all would like to say thank you for the support and memories that we have all been part of this year.

**Here We Grow** will be graduating on June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Spree Day will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have a little one and would like to join us for Pumpernickel Puppets Show, please stop in. The show starts at 10:45.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the 3-day and 5-day program classes visited Broad Meadow Brook Nature Sanctuary in Worcester for their end-of-year field trip. We had a great day for a nature walk and exploring the pond. If you have never been there, we highly recommend it. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, the 2-day program classes visited Stowe Farm in Millbury; the weather was perfect for a hayride, petting the animals, and planting sunflowers!

We still have space available in our summer program. Week 1, *It's a Pirates Life for Me* (June 17-21) and week 2, *The Wonderful World of Wizards* (June 24-28). We welcome children ages 4-9, even if they do not attend HWG during the year.

At the closing of this school year, our enrollment for 2019-20 school year has a few openings in our 3-year-old and afternoon 4-year-old classes as well as our 3-day extended day program. If you know of anyone looking for a great school, please send them our way.

In closing, I would like to thank Denise, the church members, board members, and parents for making another year of Here We Grow a great one. I look forward to the fall and continuing the success of this program. Wishing you all a safe and fun-filled summer.

Cristi Corey, **Here We Grow** Director

The June 15th Yard Sale Plant Table Team (Sheila Skog, Lynn Largesse, Diane Moore, Carmela Hansen, Shirley Hill, Lois Therrien, and Connie Whitehead Hanks) are looking for PLANTS! As you clean up your gardens, pot up those perennials that have spread beyond their boundaries. Items that sell well are:

- herbs - mint, lavender, tarragon, oregano, sage, chives, etc.
- succulents
- ground covers - vinca, pachysandra, lily of the valley, etc.;
- small shrubs and trees
- annuals
- perennials - sedum, hosta, iris, delphinium, liatris, peonies, lilies, astilbe, and many others
- starter plants for veggie gardens
- house plants are welcome too!



*Plant Sale*

Many thanks to everyone who donated pots for the upcoming yard/plant sale. We are now in good shape. Our need for pots has been fulfilled. If anyone needs pots for your donated plants, please call Connie at 508-832-4227 or email her at [clwhanks@gmail.com](mailto:clwhanks@gmail.com). We have plenty to share. Also, please send Connie a quick email if you plan to make any plant donations. Indoor and outdoor plants are welcome. Please label your plants to the best of your knowledge. Popsicle sticks, tongue depressors, or tape all work as good labels. We are looking forward to hearing back from you!

Remember, the plant sale has raised over \$500 each year in the past. Please help us continue its success. Thank you!

**COMMUNITY YARD SALE---PLANT SALE---COOKOUT**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15th, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**



Spring cleaning? Don't throw that good "stuff" away. Recycle it by selling it to someone who needs it! Do you have an accumulation of things that are just too good to throw away, but you no longer need? Don't have enough to hold your own yard sale?

**Join us on the church lawn for our**

**COMMUNITY YARD SALE!**

Spaces are \$15 for church members, \$20 for non-members. Use of a table is \$5 per table. Please contact Cindy Dube at 508-832-6646 or Denise in the church office at 508-832-2845 to secure your spot.

**RETURNING AGAIN THIS YEAR . . .** We will have a church table. Donated items (**clean and in good working order**) may be dropped off to the church and stored in the Sunday school room across from Jean's office. We are also accepting books.

**Please NO clothing, VCR tapes, or large electronics (TV'S, monitors, etc.)**

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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](mailto:secretary@auburnfirstucc.org)

or [PastorBrian@auburnfirstucc.org](mailto:PastorBrian@auburnfirstucc.org)

*God's church in Auburn Center  
doing Christ's work in the world.*

*Web: [auburnfirstucc.org](http://auburnfirstucc.org)*



BULK RATE  
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**June 2019**

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**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**