



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

REMEMBER

Our Stewardship campaign theme is "Remember." What makes us humans unique? Opposable thumbs, language, tools? Another favorite is memory, we can remember and learn. If we cannot remember what happened before, we cannot learn. We will constantly be making the same mistakes over and over again. We can too easily get lost in the mundane of day-to-day and forget to do the special things that make memories. Things like taking a trip, eating with friends, having a walk through God's beautiful world.

Things out of the ordinary make memories. We stop thinking about the everyday; we can do our morning rituals with minimal conscious thought. But the unique has a good chance of making it to long term memory.

This month the church has many things going on. There is the pumpkin arrival on October 1 at 8AM. Then the working of the pumpkin patch; the shifts are 10-2 and 2-6. This is a good time to enjoy the crisp fall air. So bring your blankets and coffee and talk to the people who come by to enjoy the beauty of the patch; take some pictures and buy a pumpkin or 12. If you are new to the patch, let me know and we can make sure a veteran is with you until you get used to how it works. It really is easy and a lot of fun.

We also have the Pumpkin Patch Fair on October 15 from 9AM to 4PM. We will need a clean-up crew for downstairs that same day at 4:30PM for about an hour so we can have the vestry ready on Sunday for the Girl Scouts and Monday for Here We Grow. Please talk to me or Randy Bohn if you can help with Saturday's vestry clean-up.

Lastly, we have Memorial Sunday on October 30. We will be remembering those who have died in the last year. We will also be dedicating the window to Rev. Dr. Knox, the lift to Pearl Morrill, and trees to Carole Sampson and Charlotte Cohoon and the saints who have passed on. I hope you have wonderful memories of our church and will consider increasing your yearly pledge, especially if God has blessed you this past year.

Pastor Brian



Consecration Sunday, October 23rd

Chronicles 31:12 *God's people faithfully brought in their contributions, tithes and dedicated gifts.*

Fall is always a busy time in the life of our church. That goes, too, for your Stewardship Committee. On September 18 we kicked-off our annual campaign with a brunch.

The highlight will be on Sunday, October 23rd, when we celebrate Consecration Sunday. You are being asked to return your pledge cards then, to come forward and place them in the Joash Chest. For those of us who do not know, from Vocabulary.com, "Consecration is most often used in a religious context; consecration is the act of dedicating something to God, sanctifying it and making it holy."

If you have not, as of yet, you will soon be receiving a letter from us with your annual pledge card enclosed. Please take the time to read this letter and to remember your church and your church family, a true gift from God.

Your Stewardship Committee,
Cindy Dube, Linda Hardy, Marilyn Kulesa, Sheila Skog, Lauren and Jacob Webb

On October 8th
Rich and Jean McPherson
will be celebrating their wedding
anniversary - Happy Anniversary!



October Birthdays include:
Marjorie Zimmerman - Oct. 7th
Eric Rockwood - Oct. 21st
Carolyn Slongwhite - Oct. 21st
Happy Birthday to all of you!

Coffee Hour Hosts:

- 10/2 ~ Personnel Committee
- 10/9 ~ Outreach Committee
- 10/16 ~ Historian, Mem'l/Scholarship, Library & Nominating Committees
- 10/23 ~ Stewardship Committee
- 10/30 ~ Financial Secretaries/Treasurers

Potluck & Movie/Book Discussions

We have begun meeting again for potluck suppers. We met on September 20th for supper, a time of fellowship, and discussion centered on the Gospel of John. We will view the movie *The Son of God* followed by a time of discussion on **October 18th beginning at 5:30 p.m. and you're invited.**

Pastor Brian welcomes your suggestions of movies and/or books.

October Sermon Topics

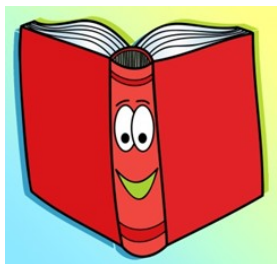
October 2 (World Communion Day)
"Do It for Me!"

October 9
"Samaritan Leper"

October 16
"The Evil Judge"

October 23
"Pride Goeth Before a Fall"

October 30 (Memorial Sunday)
"Zacchaeus Was a Wee Little Man" (children's time)
"Zacchaeus Was Lost"



...from the FCC Library Corner

As we ramp up towards *Here We Grow's* first visit of the 2016-2017 school year, I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who sent in new and gently used books to be added to our shelves as well as send out a big THANK YOU to those who have helped get the Library in shape! (...those library elves have been a big help!!)

Some of the improvements we've made are...

Collectively, "we" have gone through and weeded out some of the older well-worn books to make room for new ones. Any book we decide to dispose of will be donated to a local charity!

"We" typed up the Library Master File so now our lengthy list of books is in an Excel file for ease of cataloguing, sorting, searching, etc.....!!

"We" brought down a bookcase from the attic just like the one at the back of the Sanctuary in the Adult Library so the little ones can have more room to search through for their favorite reading material.

We still have a lot of work to do in the coming weeks/months on the specialty theme books, videos/audio books, older age groups and Adult Library, but we'll be ready for the little ones to come in towards the end of September.

Don't forget to swing by; choose a book for yourself and enjoy a little downtime!!

...Happy Reading!!

The Church Librarian



Carole Ellen (Sparhawk) Sundeen, 80, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 in her home surrounded by her loving family by her side after a short illness. Her beloved husband of 54 years, Henry H. Sundeen died in 2011. She leaves two daughters, Tammy Seeley and her husband Dennis and Wendy Lavelly and her husband Hank, her two sons Scott Sundeen and his wife Cheryl and Brian Sundeen and his wife Jennifer, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She was predeceased by her grandson Nicholas Sundeen. She is survived by her brother Wesley Sparhawk. She is preceded in death by her sister Barbara Beauregard and brothers Sumner, Leroy and Clayton Sparhawk. Carole was born in Auburn and graduated from Auburn High School. She was the daughter of the late Charles and Mabel (Kenyon) Sparhawk.

Carole worked for State Mutual Insurance Company until her children were born when she retired to be at home with the kids. She was a member of our church, First Congregational Church in Auburn. Her favorite place to be was at home and spending time with her children, grandchildren and especially her great-grandchild Brayden. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend and will be missed. At Carole's request, funeral services and burial were private.

Sue E. Anderton, 87, of Auburn died Thursday, September 8, 2016 in Saint Francis Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Worcester after an illness. Sue was born in Port Dover, Ontario, Canada daughter of the late Hugh and Stella (Ivey) MacDonald. Sue married the love of her life, David O. Anderton, in 1950 and together they raised their family in New York where she was a stay-at-home mom. Later in her life, Sue was a Teacher's Assistant in the Liverpool Public Schools for many years. When she moved from New York to Auburn in 1996 she became a member of the First Congregational Church and a volunteer at the Auburn Senior Center.

Her husband, David O. Anderton died in 1988. She leaves two sons, Charles Anderton and his wife Roxanne and Paul Anderton and his wife Janice and four grandchildren. She was predeceased by a brother, Donald MacDonald. Funeral services for Sue will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the First Congregational Church, 128 Central Street, Auburn or the Worcester County Food Bank, 474 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury, MA 01545.

Laura Marion (Stevens) DuHamel, 93, passed away peacefully on August 28, 2016 in Avon Park, Florida. Laura was born in Franklin, NH, the daughter of Edward and Marion (Robbins) Stevens. She spent her childhood in Stonington, Maine, moving to Auburn in 1940, where she married George DuHamel, the love of her life for 72 years. They were fortunate to travel and wintered over 30 years in Florida, yet Auburn was always considered home.

She was an active member of our church, the First Congregational Church in Auburn, serving as a Sunday school teacher, deaconess, a member of the Candlelight Group, as well as participating in various committees over the years. She was a member of the Eastern Star Pakachoag Chapter No. 224 for over 50 years and lifetime member of the Auburn Historical Society.

She is survived by her son, Steven DuHamel and wife Norma of Zolfo Springs, FL; her daughter Paula Lubin and husband Leonard of Avon Park, FL; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; as well as many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her husband George who died in 2014, and brothers Haroll, James, and Arthur.

A memorial service celebrating the lives of both George and Laura DuHamel was held September 10, 2016 here at our church, First Congregational Church, 128 Central St., Auburn. Burial was private. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the First Congregational Church Memorial Fund.

Dear Church Members,

Our family would like to thank all the wonderful people who graciously helped us prepare a special memorial service honoring the lives of our parents, George and Laura DuHamel.

Although we have lived out of state for several years, this church has and always will stand as the foundation that has molded our family values and beliefs throughout our lives. Auburn is truly blessed to have you! Thank you –

Respectfully,

*Len & Paula Lubin
Steve & Norma DuHamel*

*** * * PUMPKIN PATCH FAIR! * * ***

The October **Pumpkin Patch Fair** will be held on **Saturday, October 15th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** and we're hoping everyone gets involved! Please take another look around for items you can donate to our "**attic treasures**" (no clothes please!). These items should be clean, in excellent condition, and ready for sale. Donations of books are needed for the **Book Table** at the fair. CDs, DVDs are also wanted.

Also, please consider donations to our **Silent Auction**, such as: sporting event tickets, a vacation home that you could offer for a weekend, teen services for fall leaf raking, someone who's a good cook can offer a meal prepared and served at the "winner's" location. We're only limited by our own creativity!

"Attention Jewelry Lovers" - We are looking for donations of older or vintage jewelry to enhance our jewelry table, some to be sold "as is" or recreated into a new piece. Any donations are greatly appreciated. Questions? Contact Gayle Farley at 508-753-0285 or email her at gayle2bill@gmail.com.

WANTED: Michael's coupons (monetary donations appreciated, too!)

ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEES/BOARDS:

Please put those finishing touches on your baskets that will be sold at the fair and DROP OFF AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!!

*** * * FALL FAIR SET UP BEGINS AFTER COFFEE HOUR ON OCTOBER 2ND AT WHICH TIME WE'RE HOPING FOR SOME ABLE-BODIED MEN TO HELP TAKE DOWN THE ROUND TABLES AND SET UP 6 FOOT TABLES IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ALL WEEK FOR SET UP (OCT. 10TH—14TH) DAY & EVENING. ANY TIME YOU CAN DONATE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

WORKERS NEEDED FOR BREAKDOWN OF THE VESTRY ON OCT. 15TH BEGINNING AT 4:30 P.M. BREAKDOWN OF FELLOWSHIP HALL WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE WEEK FOLLOWING THE FAIR. PLEASE CLEAR YOUR CALENDAR TO HELP!

You may call Cindy Ryan at 508-832-3416 or email: cynthiaryan1313@gmail.com to obtain more info about the fair or to convey your availability.

PLEASE SEE THE SIGN-UP SHEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AND INDICATE YOUR AVAILABILITY TO WORK THE FAIR — THANK YOU!!!

WITH YOUR HELP, we look forward to another successful Church fundraiser!



“GRANDMA’S PANTRY”

Fall is in the air and the church is preparing for our fair October 15th. I'm making a plea to all of our bakers. "Grandma's Pantry" is looking for ALL types of baked goods and sweet treats. We are also looking for any canned preserves or vegetables you may have prepared this summer from your gardens such as jams, jellies, pickles, relish, etc. We will feature the soup bar again if you would like to contribute a crockpot of soup. (We sold out of soup last year!)

Please have your baked items and treats packaged and ready for sale. Also, please be sure to indicate if your homemade goodies contain nuts.

If you have any questions about "Grandma's Pantry," please call Jennifer Bohn at 508-407-8710 or email: PetuniaBohn@msn.com.





Auburn Women's Club
Halloween
Dollar\$ for \$cholars



Saturday, October 29th, 5:30 pm
North American Martyr's Church Hall
Tickets \$10.00 -- \$5.00 under 12

Join us for a Roast Chicken Dinner
and a howling good time!

All proceeds go to scholarships

Costumes optional!

but highly recommended for this spirited event!

For Tickets Contact:

Ann Marie: 508-832-3083



NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR



...and more about the Pumpkin Patch Cookbook...

(See the insert in this copy of your Tidings)



I thought I would provide the Login information for those of you who are tech-savvy and wish to enter your own recipes. Please copy and paste the URL found below into your browser:

<http://www.typensave.com/get-started/>

Our Username is: ThePumpkinPatch (all one word)

Our Contributor Passcode is: garlic056

As you enter your recipe, please consider the special symbols designating the type of recipe you are contributing. If one of the symbols applies, please click on the symbol and it will appear with your recipe (i.e...."in memory of", "diabetic", "gluten-free", etc.). If none apply, please click on "no symbol."

*** It's so simple!! It, literally, took me 6 minutes to enter one recipe. ***

If you had a recipe submitted under your name (or a loved one) in one of the two cookbooks previously published by First Congregational Church of Auburn, MA - the **200th Anniversary Cookbook** (printed in 1975 by the Women's Fellowship Group) or **Our Favorite Recipes** (by the Challenge 95 Committee) and wish us to copy the recipe directly from there, please drop me an email and I'll search on the name of the contributor or recipe name you give me, make sure it is the correct recipe, and ensure it gets re-published in this latest cookbook! If we are publishing in memory of a loved one, we can add the appropriate symbol!

We only kicked off the project on Sunday, Sept 18th during worship service and already we have had a tremendous response, recipes submitted/entered in the website as well as volunteers ready to get started on entering/proofing more recipes and choosing how the cookbook will look....all necessary for success!!

If we can get off to a quick start – which means we need your recipes sooner rather than later – then we might even be able to get the first print in time for Christmas!! Don't forget to let us know how many copies you might want to purchase in this fundraiser so we have an idea of how many to print! No idea on price yet – we have to determine the specifics on the cookbook itself before we will have any idea....we will let you know as soon as we can.

Thank you to all who are assisting and contributing to this project! Without your assistance it would not be possible!

Michele Schillinger | m_mschillinger@charter.net | 508.259.2239



Here We Grow Preschool

As October begins we have settled into our classrooms with great ease. Both children and parents had a gentle transition.

Here We Grow began the school year with 32 three-year-olds and 61 four and five-year-olds. At this time, we have openings in all the AM and PM three-year-olds' classes, two openings in the young fours' class and one opening in the M-W-F Ext. class. If you know of someone who is looking for a two-day program for their three-year-old, or a three-day program for their four-year-old, have them call the school at 508-832-8184.

We have one new teacher in our three-year-olds' class who has settled in nicely with the help of the returning staff. It's nice to see the seasoned staff helping and getting ideas from the "new" staff.

During the month of September, the children became familiar with their teachers, new friends, and new surroundings. They had a tour of the entire building and met Denise and Pastor Brian.

Each child received homework the second week of school. Continuing on with one of our traditions, the children created a picture page of their families and added it to their classroom family album. It is one of the ways we become familiar with the many different types of families attending HWG. It is also a great way for the children to open up to someone, just by talking about their families. The book is very popular.

We had a great parent turnout for Parent Orientation which was held a week before school started. Many questions were asked and answered with the hope that any and all fears were put to rest. For the 7th year in a row we offered a "Meet the Teachers" time before the actual first day of class. Once again we had a good turnout.

I would like to thank Wayne Prouty, Stan MacPhee, Denise Jobin and Mike Schillinger for all the help they did in preparing HWG for another school year. We wouldn't have been ready without their continued support. So THANK YOU!

Upcoming events for the month of October: Apple Orchard field trips, visits from the police and fire departments, and Halloween parade and parties.

Until next month, stay healthy —

Gina Basili, **Here We Grow** Preschool Director

HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

Handbell Choir rehearsals will be held every Sunday in Fellowship Hall beginning at 3 p.m. and are expected to last about an hour.

If you are interested in handbells or have any questions, please contact Herb Mower at 508-434-2864 or mower@alum.mit.edu.

JOIN US! - NEW MEMBER CLASSES

New Member Classes will be starting Oct. 23rd following worship. Classes will run approximately 15-20 minutes for 3 to 4 consecutive Sundays.

Please contact the church office if interested in learning more.

Please join us on

Saturday, October 22nd at 5 p.m.

for our **Roast Pork Community Supper**

Adults ~ \$10 Children ~ Free!

Servers: Board of Ed. & volunteers please!



COMMUNITY DINNER



Now that fall is here, there are some health observances that go along with it. October is Children's Health Month, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Healthy Lung Month, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Bullying Prevention Month, National Dental Hygiene Month, National Physical Therapy Month, National Spina Bifida Awareness Month, National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness Month, National UNICEF Month, and Talk About Your Medicines Month.

October 1st is International Day of Older Persons (all of us that don't go forward for Pastor Brian's children's message).

October 2-8 is Mental Illness Awareness Week.

October 3rd is Child Health Day and World Habitat Day.

October 9-15 is National Fire Prevention Week.

October 10-14 is National School Lunch Week.

October 23-29 is National Respiratory Care Week.

This is a great time to talk about these topics mentioned above. Fire safety is an important issue to discuss. How you will exit the house and where you will meet outside the home. Are the exits easy to get to and if there is someone in the home that needs assistance, is the fire department aware? Information will be available on the table.

God Bless and have a healthy, safe fall season.

Debbie Pranaitis, Parish Nurse

AUBURN WALK FOR HUNGER - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23rd AT 1 P.M.

TO SUPPORT AYFS FOOD PANTRY AND KATERI'S KITCHEN

Registration is at 12:45 P.M. at Auburn Youth & Family Services, Pheasant Court, Auburn.

Please join Sue Campbell for the 2 ½ mile walk for hunger. The walk begins and ends at Auburn Youth and Family Services. All money raised will support the food pantries at AYFS and Kateri's Kitchen at North American Martyrs Church. Approximately 300 individuals in the Auburn community are given food assistance monthly.

Please make checks payable to AYFS Hunger Walk.

If you would like to walk and want a collection envelope, please see Sue Campbell or call 508-799-2718.

Thank you for your generous donations! Last year \$337.25 was collected in the Celtic sneakers!

*****Look for the Celtic sneaker collection on October 2nd.**

MEMORIAL SUNDAY ~ 10 A.M. OCTOBER 30TH

We have designated October 30th as Memorial Sunday. At this special worship service we remember church members that we have lost in the past year. Also during this service, congregants will have an opportunity to come forward and receive a flower and light a candle in memory of a loved one.



This service of remembrance has proven to be moving and very special to those who have lost loved ones, so please mark your calendars for October 30th, and plan to join us on Memorial Sunday.

Welcome Fall!

The pumpkins will be filling the front lawn and the days will be getting chilly. Sunday School, Confirmation, and Youth On a Mission are heating up.

We have 4 classrooms in full swing. As always we are in need of teachers to help mold the children's love of the Bible and understanding of God's unwavering love. What better legacy could you leave with a child than to teach them the love of the Lord? Please see me if you want to make an impact on a child's life.

I am in my office almost every Thursday night from 6:30-8:30. If you would like to go over a lesson, I am more than willing to go over it with you at that time or we can find a mutually agreed upon time. This curriculum is very thorough and I will have all your supplies prepared for you. It is hard when our Sunday School is growing and we need to scramble every week for teachers. My wish is to have 2-3 teachers for each classroom so we can have some consistency and structure for the kids.

YOM had a pizza party on September 16. Fun was had by all. We welcome new members in grades 6-12. Our pizza party and sleepover that was planned for September 30th into October 1st has been cancelled due in large part to the conflict with Auburn's Homecoming weekend. Please check future bulletins and the November *Tidings* for upcoming activities.

YOM will once again be selling pies and cookie dough. Delivery will be on November 20th after service, just in time for your Thanksgiving dinner. Please see a YOM member. We will be selling after services on October 2, 9 AND 16.

Confirmands, along with Outreach, will be attending Worcester Fellowship on October 30th. There will be a collection box in Fellowship hall for men's white socks.

FAITH is not believing that God can, it is knowing that HE WILL.

Jean McPherson
Director of Religious Education

We welcome **Cayden Benjamin Peck** who arrived on August 30th! He was 7lbs., 13oz. and 20.5 inches at birth. Cayden's parents are Kimberly and Ian Peck. He was also welcomed by big brother Cameron! Proud grandparents are Pam and Marty Tentor.

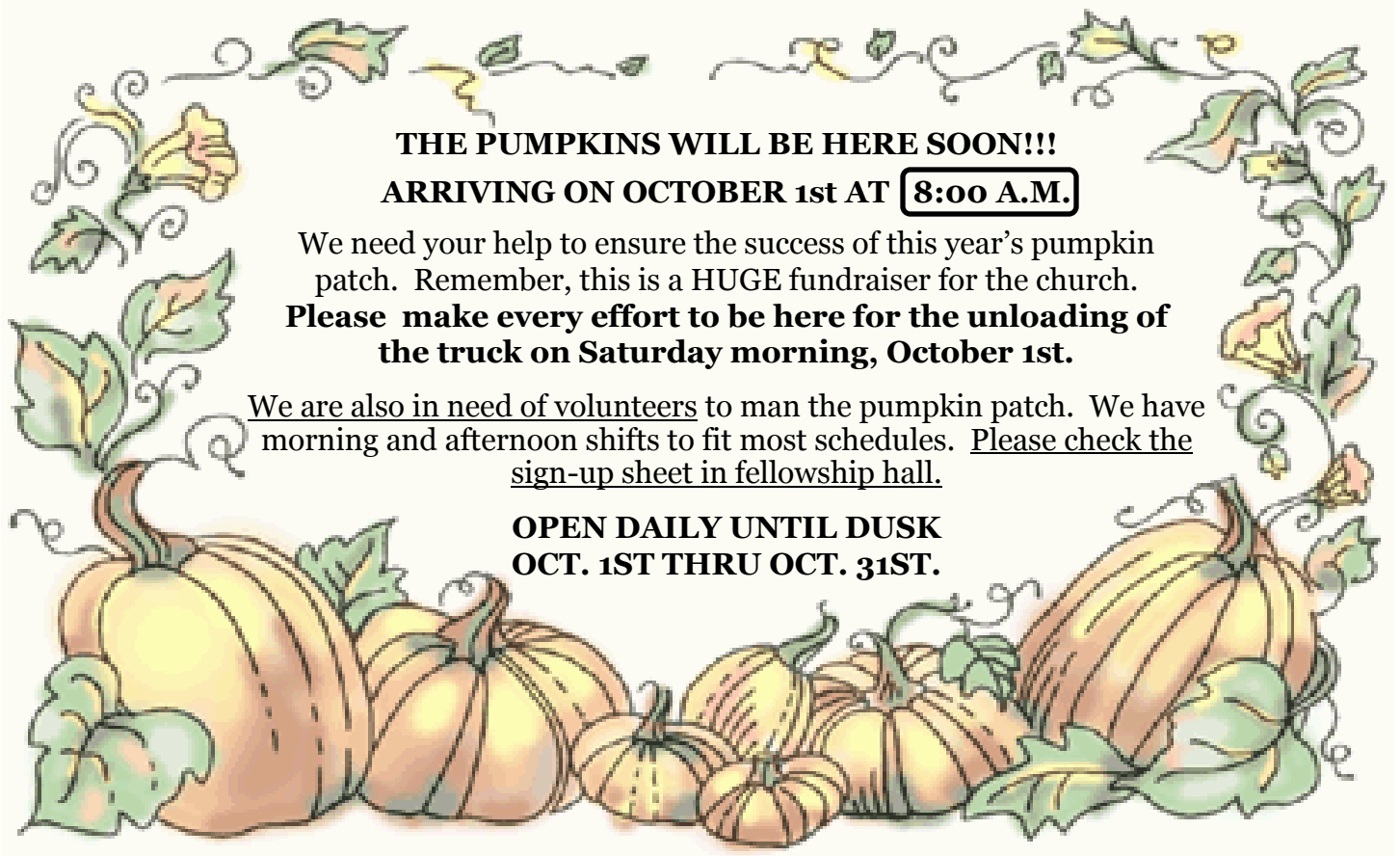


We celebrate with the MacPhee Family on the birth of **Avery Allison Eknaian**. Avery arrived on August 31st, weighing 8 lbs. and measuring 20 in. Avery's parents are Jeffrey and Ashley Eknaian. Proud grandparents are Sue and Stan MacPhee.

Congratulations to all!

*Dear First Congregational Church of Auburn,
I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of your scholarship award. Thank you for your generosity which will allow me to use the funds towards my college experience. I will be attending Roger Williams University this fall. I am very thankful for receiving your thoughtful gift because of the special meaning it has to me. Dr. Reverend Kenneth E. Knox, my grandfather, has a special place in my heart. Education was very important to him and I hope that I can follow in his footsteps and make a difference in the world. Thank you again for your generous contribution which will make my scholarship possible.*

*Sincerely,
Joshua D'Orazio*



**THE PUMPKINS WILL BE HERE SOON!!!
ARRIVING ON OCTOBER 1st AT **8:00 A.M.****

We need your help to ensure the success of this year's pumpkin patch. Remember, this is a HUGE fundraiser for the church. **Please make every effort to be here for the unloading of the truck on Saturday morning, October 1st.**

We are also in need of volunteers to man the pumpkin patch. We have morning and afternoon shifts to fit most schedules. Please check the sign-up sheet in fellowship hall.

**OPEN DAILY UNTIL DUSK
OCT. 1ST THRU OCT. 31ST.**

TIDINGS is a monthly publication of
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*God's church in Auburn Center
 doing Christ's work in the world.*
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OR CURRENT RESIDENT