



# 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

## A Hard Summer

This summer I have paid more attention to the news. Why was that? There is war in Ukraine in which Russia is supplying the "rebels" with high altitude anti-aircraft missiles that resulted in the destruction of an airline jet. Those missiles require radar trucks and a lot of other support vehicles to work. I doubt rebels could run such a complex missile system. As I write this, there are reports Russian trained "volunteers" have crossed into Ukraine in an armored column.

There is war in Iraq and Syria with a group too extreme for Al Qaeda. A group I never heard of is on the brink of genocide while trapped on a mountain in the desert.

Hamas in Gaza and Israel fought another battle that neither had any chance of winning. Hamas is too weak to defeat Israel and is too good at hiding for Israel to find and defeat them without causing a massacre of Palestinian civilians.

There was another police shooting of an unarmed man that sparked rioting in an American town. When I hear the chant, "No justice, no peace!" I pray for both. Too often peace is really apathy and justice is too often revenge. An eye for an eye will only leave the world blind. True peace and true justice do not come into the world often. Justice and peace are hard to get and easy to lose.

There is a large Ebola outbreak in West Africa; Ebola kills between 65-70% of the people it infects. I heard one country has gone from having 200 doctors for 4 million people to having only 50 doctors for 4 million people. The U.S. has almost 10,000 doctors per 4 million people.

All these problems seem too big to solve. We are just normal people. We spend most of our energy working our jobs, taking care of our families, and finding a little time to rest. There is no way we can fix what is wrong in this world. Not necessarily true. A silly game of dumping ice water on yourself has raised over \$12 million more for ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) than was raised last year (as of August 17). People will forget the videos, but if a scientist finds a cure due to a grant from the money the ice buckets generated, that will be a miraculous outcome.

There are things we can do to make the world better. Small things. But many small things become huge things. After all, the great oceans are just a bunch of tiny rain drops.

This month we start Sunday School and Confirmation. If you have a young person entering 8th grade or higher they are eligible for Confirmation. Please call the church so we can be sure to have enough materials for everyone.

On September 14 we will celebrate the 90th anniversary of our Boy Scout Troop 101. Imagine how much good those boys and men have done over the decades.

Looking forward to October we have pumpkins arriving Saturday, the 4th, and the Church Fair on Oct. 11th & 12th. There are many ways you can help the world. I hope you see helping our church as one way to make the world better.

Pastor Brian

### SERMON TITLES FOR SEPTEMBER:

9/7 "What Is Man or Woman?"

9/14 "The Curses"

9/21 "New Things"

9/28 "A Holy City"

Children's: "The Love of God"

"Temptation"

"Who Wrote that Song?"

"Call and Response"

Please mark your calendars for **Rally Day** which will take place on **Sunday, September 7th**. Rally Day is the official kick-off of Sunday School. Our Cradle Roll and Sunday School are equipped to meet the needs of newborns up to middle school-aged children. **We look forward to seeing you there!**



### FROM THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

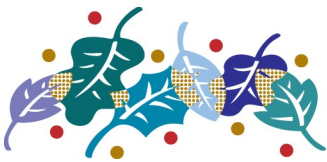
October 5th, 2014 is the one day event called **Day for the Hungry**. This event supports "Love In Motion's" (the group Jen & Randy Bohn travel with to Haiti) goal to distribute 4,000 bags of food on Christmas Eve 2014 and 4,000 bags of food on Easter 2015. Each bag contains food for a few days and, more importantly, a gospel presentation in Haitian Creole. The goal is to raise \$50,000 and we believe nothing is impossible for God. We have seen Him move churches and individuals alike to great places of generosity to meet this practical and spiritual need.

FCC Auburn participated very successfully in this event last year for Christmas. On October 5<sup>th</sup> you will be asked to purchase and decorate a bag that will be hand delivered full of food on Christmas Eve and Easter to a family in need. There is no more direct way to help. Watch upcoming bulletins and the *Tidings* for details. If you have questions please see Jennifer or Randy Bohn.

On another note, the Board of Outreach is looking for the congregation's input. We are  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way through the year and find that we still have *some* funds available for distribution. What we would like to know from you, the congregation at large, is what is important to you? What causes, individuals or programs would you like to see our church support? Please see any Outreach member with your suggestions and ideas.

In His name we serve,

Jennifer Bohn, Ron Hanks, Laurie Babcock, Lynda Clifford and Ellie Lowell



### \* \* \* **FALL FAIR EXTRAVAGANZA!** \* \* \*

The October **Fall Fair** will be held Columbus Day weekend and we hope to get everyone involved. Please begin to take inventory of items you can donate to our "attic treasures."

These items should be clean, in excellent condition and ready for sale. We are also looking for donations of books, puzzles and DVDs (please NO VHS tapes). No need to store these items at home; begin to bring donations in now and we will store them behind the curtains on the stage in Fellowship Hall.

**"Attention Jewelry Lovers"** - we will be making items from new and vintage beads to sell at the Fair. We are also looking for donations of older or vintage jewelry to enhance the table, some to be sold as is or recreated into a new piece. Any donations are greatly appreciated. Questions? Contact Gayle Farley, chair of the jewelry table, at 508-753-0285, or email her at [gayle2bill@gmail.com](mailto:gayle2bill@gmail.com).

**FALL FAIR WISH LIST:** Michael's 50% off coupons, chenille (bathrobes, bedspreads - will be cut up), spindles from old kitchen chairs, furniture (small tables, bureaus, bookcases, etc.) that can be refinished or repurposed, small wooden spoons, old clay pots.

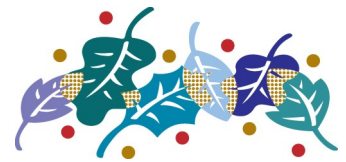
### **ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEES/BOARDS:**

Please be thinking about what to include in your baskets that will be sold at the fair.

We have received a generous donation of Patriots tickets that will be bid on at the fair. Please consider what you may have to donate. Ideas include: 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 taker's location.

We're only limited by our own creativity! Please call Cindy Ryan at 508-832-3416 to obtain more info.

**PLEASE NOTE:** we are planning to hold weekly craft nights beginning this month so check the bulletin or call the office for day/time. **WITH YOUR HELP**, we look forward to another successful Church fundraiser!



*To Brian and all the Church Family –*

*Words simply cannot express the gratitude from me and my family for the most amazing outpouring of love in honoring Ken. He, I am sure, was there at his Memorial Service and smiling down on all of us with pride, appreciation and love.*

*Thank you to so many people who helped with the service itself – to see old friends in the choir – to the MANY who helped prepare and serve the most wonderful spread of food – to the unbelievable number of notes, cards and words of love and support.*

*We all know that Ken was always prepared for when he would be called to his eternal home. I was not ready to let him go, but all of our family knew that he was ready and would not have wanted to see him go on as he was.*

*I thank God every moment of every day that I had his love and companionship for 56 years. Our Church family and my own family are helping me to put one foot in front of the other and maybe one day it will be easier.*

*Thank you SO much for everything that First Congregational Church has done for us and means to us.*

*Jackie and Family*

#### **PET BLESSING ON OCTOBER 11TH:**

**Pastor Brian is planning to have a drop by Pet Blessing on Saturday, October 11th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. by the pumpkin patch.** It will be a short time of blessing to thank God for our little, furry friends (and feathered and scaly). Please stop on by.

*To our church family,*

*We want to thank you for your prayers and expressions of concern when Donald fell and broke his hip and during his recovery. It is very comforting to know you are there for us during times of difficulty.*

*Blessings and love,  
The Slongwhites,  
Donald and Carolyn*

#### **DRIVEWAY FUND UPDATE**

**GOAL \$29,685**

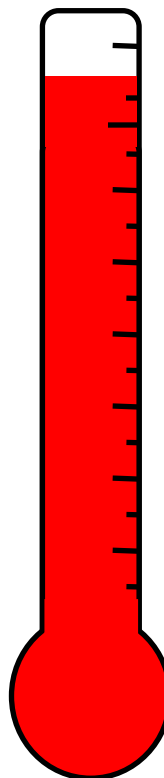
We reported in the June Tidings that we had raised \$22,815\* toward our goal of \$29,685 needed to retire the driveway debt.

At this time, we need \$2,540 to reach our goal! THANK YOU to all who answered the call thus far.

If you haven't yet done so, please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Driveway Fund.

Thank you.

\* includes pledges still to come



The following families have suffered losses since the last printing of the *Tidings* in early June. Please keep the family members and loved ones in your prayers.

**Robert Everett Bjork**, 55, of Charlton, died unexpectedly on June 7, 2014. Bob leaves his wife, Linda (Auger) Bjork; their two children, Jenae and Corey Bjork and a grandson, Syllis; a brother, Nick Bjork; two sisters, Judith Bjork and Jean Koleshis; as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister, Joanne Riendeau and brother, William Bjork. Robert was born in Worcester to Carl and Mildred (Knowlton) Bjork. After graduating from Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School, Bob went on to become a construction supervisor for FW Madigan, previously working for Vitkus and Cutler Assoc. A funeral service was held on June 12 at our Church.

**Judith L. (Bennett) Seuss**, 72, of Auburn, died June 18, 2014, in her home with family at her side. Judi leaves her husband, Eugene Seuss, and her children; Steven Merrill and Karen Merrill, two stepchildren, Lynda Rogers and David Seuss, and three grandchildren. She was the daughter of Alexander and Ingeborg (Johnson) Bennett, and resided in Auburn her entire life, graduating from Auburn High School. Judi worked as secretary and traffic manager for L.R. McCoy and Marydyne International. A graveside service was held on June 30<sup>th</sup> at Hillside Cemetery, Auburn.

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of **The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Edward Knox**, 74, who died on July 31, 2014, following a short illness. He was born in Chester, Vermont to Rev. Frederick R. Knox and Dorothy Richardson Knox on March 14, 1940. He graduated from Boston University, Andover Newton Theological Seminary, and received his Doctorate from Hartford Seminary.

Rev. Knox is survived by his beloved wife of 52 years, Jacqueline (Tooze) Knox; his four children, Gary Knox and his wife, Tracy Chen; Stephen Knox and his wife, Elvisi; Kerry D'Orazio and her husband, John; and Dana Knox; his six grandchildren, Dean, Mindy, Kathleen, Samuel, Joshua and Juliana; and his sister, Elizabeth Stoddard. He was predeceased by a brother, William Knox.

Rev. Knox served as a Congregational Minister for the United Church of Christ for 44 years, first in the East Woodstock Congregational Church of Woodstock, CT (1964-1972), the Talcottville Congregational Church of Vernon, CT (1972-1984) and the First Congregational Church of Auburn, MA (1984-2008) where he retired from, but remained Pastor Emeritus. He served on many Auburn town committees including as Chairman of the Cemetery Commission. He also served as the Chaplain of the Auburn Fire Department for many years. He loved trains, as his grandfather was an engineer for the Boston & Maine Railroad, and he enjoyed riding with his grandfather. Ken and Jackie enjoyed summers on Boyden Lake in Robbinston, Maine.

A memorial service in celebration of Rev. Knox's life of service was held on Saturday, August 9, here at First Congregational Church. Burial, in Hillside Cemetery, was held privately.

Donations in his memory should be sent to the "Rev. Dr. Kenneth Knox Memorial Fund," c/o First Congregational Church of Auburn, 128 Central Street, Auburn, MA.

**Elsa (Baker) Johnson**, 81, of Auburn died August 2, 2014 after an illness. Her husband, Earl R. Johnson, died in 1991. She leaves three daughters, Paula Bigelow, Kristine Weagle, and Karen Brown; nine grandchildren, eight great grandchildren; a niece and several nephews. Elsa was predeceased by two sisters, Helen Clark and Ann Graham, a brother, Mark Baker, and a great granddaughter, Natalia Weagle. She was born in Northbridge, daughter of the late Peter and Elsa (Gabrielson) Baker. Elsa was raised in Auburn and graduated from Auburn High School. She worked as a secretary in the Worcester area, retiring from Morgan Construction Co. A memorial service was held August 8 at Britton-Wallace Funeral Home, Auburn. Burial was private.

**Glenn E. Mitchell**, 78, of Auburn died August 13, 2014 in St. Vincent Hospital after an illness. His wife Bette J. (Rehn) Mitchell died in 2011. Glenn leaves his son, Captain Jeffrey C. Mitchell, a daughter, Diane Mahlert, four grandchildren, a great grandson, a sister, Joyce Wooldridge, a brother, Ernest Mitchell, and several nieces and nephews. Glenn was born in Brattleboro, VT. He was the son of the late Herbert and Eleanor (Brown) Mitchell. He attended Auburn schools, and graduated from Auburn High School. Glenn worked for the town of Auburn for nearly 40 years serving as the Highway Surveyor, Tree Warden and Deputy Chief of the Auburn Fire Department. He had previously owned and operated the G.E. Mitchell Construction Company. His funeral was held August 18 at Britton-Wallace Funeral Home with burial in Hillside Cemetery.

## 2014 RELAY FOR LIFE

Celebrate ~ Remember ~ Fight Back

September 5th - 6th (6:00 p.m. Fri. - noon Sat.) at Lemansky Park, Auburn

On September 5th and 6th at Lemansky Park 34 teams of people will walk the track in the annual Central South County Relay for Life. Highlights of this event include the survivor and caretaker walk and the luminaria ceremony. Survivors and their caretakers are invited to attend the opening ceremony and walk the survivor lap and attend the dinner immediately following the lap. There will be many activities throughout the event. For more information contact a member of the D.U.C.K.S. team (**Dedicated United Christian Kindred Spirits**). Team members include: Jean McPherson (Team Captain), Alex and Michelle Brownwell, Barbara Cowden, Shirley and Steve Hill, Bev Scobie, Bessie Morgan and Rebecca McPherson. You may donate online by going to [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org).

### What is Relay For Life?

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in communities across the globe a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. At Relay, teams of people camp out at a local high school, park, or fairground and take turns walking or running around a track or path. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Because cancer never sleeps, Relays are overnight events up to 24 hours in length.

Relay began in 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt\*, a colorectal surgeon in Tacoma, Washington, ran and walked around a track for 24 hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Since then, Relay has grown from a single man's passion to fight cancer, into the world's largest movement to end the disease. Each year, more than 3.5 million people in 5,000 communities in the United States, along with additional communities in 19 other countries, gather to take part in this global phenomenon and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer. Thanks to Relay participants, we are creating a world with more birthdays, a world where cancer can't claim another year of anyone's life. We invite all cancer survivors in the community to attend Relay For Life because they are the reason we Relay.

\*Sadly, Dr. Klatt, 71, died on August 3, 2014 from heart failure after battling stomach cancer.



### JIMMY FUND WALK

I'll be participating in the Jimmy Fund Walk again this year. I'll be walking 26.2 miles on September 21st to raise funds for cancer research. I started doing this walk for my mom when she died almost 16 years ago. This will be my 14th walk. I do it in memory of my mom, Flo Aker, and Nick's dad, Dick, and my Dad, Don Aker (who didn't die from cancer but had it about 6 times) and in honor of my friends, Karen and Carol, who beat cancer. If you'd like to sponsor me, you can donate online by going to: [www.jimmyfundwalk.org](http://www.jimmyfundwalk.org), or you can mail a check to me (payable to the Jimmy Fund) to: 36 Linda Ave., Millbury, MA 01527. I'm trying to raise \$2,000 this year.

Please remember to call or text me to see how I am doing. It is a long walk and talking to people makes the time go by faster. My cell number is 508-317-7747.

Thanks in advance,  
Lori Stockhaus

Since its founding in 1948, the Jimmy Fund has supported the fight against cancer in children and adults at Boston's Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, helping to raise the chances of survival for cancer patients around the world. **Because it takes more than courage to beat cancer.**

## FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

As we live our lives under the watchful eyes of the Lord and enjoy the many surprising gifts bestowed upon us, we must remember to appreciate and enjoy this home He has provided us. As we continue to grow as a church family, we also need to keep whole this home that we share. This means inviting others to share our place of worship, building partnerships both in our house and abroad, and working together to keep safe this place where we congregate and share our spiritual vitality. Our mission is clear and our destiny certain. But no one person, even with the help of our Lord and Savior, can protect our house of worship. Let's work together to create a sense of individual as well as shared ownership so that we can continue to worship, grow, serve, and support together as a family, and connect spiritually under the watchful eyes and capable hands of the Lord. As your Stewardship Committee, we'd like to share with you all of the things your pledges and/or time make happen.

### WORSHIP

Sunday Morning Worship  
 Inspiring Sermons  
 Seasonal Planning  
 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service  
 Good Friday Service  
 Maundy Thursday Service  
 Easter Sunrise & 2 Easter Services at Church  
 Holy Communion  
 Baptisms  
 Weddings  
 Memorial Services and Funerals  
 Choir  
 Instrumentalists  
 Sound System  
 Hearing Assistance Units  
 Carillon  
 Bell  
 Coffee Hour

### SUPPORT SERVICES

Office and Staff  
 Copier  
 Computers  
 Building and Grounds Maintenance  
 Major Repairs on a Classic New England Church  
 Cradle Roll Nursery  
 Communications  
 Bulletins  
 Newsletter  
 Email Reminders  
 Facebook Group  
 Musical Instruments  
 Pastoral Counseling  
 Financial Oversight  
 Adult and Children's Libraries  
 Greeters  
 Pumpkin Patch  
 Fall Fair  
 Summer Yard Sale  
 Monthly Church Suppers

### SERVE

Our Food Bank  
 UCC Relief Fund  
 Worcester Area Mission Society  
 Support for Food Bank at Auburn Youth & Family Services  
 Thanksgiving Meal at Jeremiah's Inn  
 Meal and Worship at Worcester Common  
 City Reach Homeless Experience at Boston Common  
 Visitation of Sick and Shut-ins  
 Provide Transportation to Appointments  
 Room Scheduling  
 Dismas House for Rehabilitating Recent Parolees  
 Mass. Tornado Relief  
 College Scholarships  
 Emergency Shelter for Mary D. Stone Elementary School  
 Free Community Supper  
 Thanksgiving Baskets  
 Christmas Baskets  
 Angel Tree Winter Coats for Elementary Students  
 Grocery Cards to Supplement our Food Bank  
 Church Members Give Rides to People No Longer Able to Drive  
 Haitian Christmas & Easter Food Bags

### GROW

New Member Classes  
 Sunday School  
 Monthly Potluck Book Club/Movie Night  
 Lenten Soup and Sandwich with Spirit Talk or Videos  
 Christmas Carol and Basket Party  
 Parent's Night Out  
 Youth Sleepovers  
 Youth Camp  
 Intergenerational Socials

### WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

New, More Handicap Accessible Entry to Worship  
 Improvements to Media/Worship Experience  
 More Opportunities to Reach Out to Our Community  
 Upgrades to Building and Grounds

(Continued on page 7)

**FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE** (continued . . . )**GROUPS WE HOST AND THE GOOD WORK THEY DO**

Hear We Grow Preschool	90 years of Boy Scout Troop 101
HWG Summer Program	Eagle Projects
Thanksgiving Baskets	Bird Banding
Toys for Tots/Auburn Police Christmas Gift Distribution	Host Cub Scouts
Here We Grow Preschool Scholarship	Host Girl Scouts
Linus Sewing Group - Blankets for Hospitals and Disaster Relief	Host Town Relay for Life Meetings
	Have Church Relay for Life team

**First Congregational Church Fundraiser  
October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Publick House in Sturbridge**

**SAVE THE DATE of October 20th** for the supper at the Publick House to benefit the Church.

A turkey dinner with all the fixings will be served with two seatings (4:30-6:15 and 6:30-7:30). The total cost of the all-you-can-eat buffet is \$13 with \$4 out of every ticket going to our Church (and another \$4 going to another charity). It is a delicious dinner with dessert, beverage, etc., and we are hoping that MANY people will participate.

We will be pre-selling tickets to this event during upcoming coffee hours or by calling the church office. While tickets will be available at the door, purchasing tickets ahead of time helps the Publick House to estimate how many people to prepare for. Look for more info on tickets in future church bulletins and the October *Tidings*.

**Potluck & Movie/Book Discussions**

Now that September is here, we will once again be meeting for potluck suppers in the vestry (old kitchen) area. The potluck will begin at 5:30 p.m. on movie nights with the movie viewing during dinner, and discussion to follow at its conclusion. On book discussion nights, the potluck will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the discussion time beginning at approximately 6:30-6:45 p.m. You do NOT have to read the book, if you just want to come for food and fellowship, please do!

Tuesday, Sept. 23 - *The Book of Jonah* - (Old Testament Book of the Bible) 6 p.m. start time  
 Tuesday, Oct. 21 - *Jonah* (movie) - 5:30 p.m. start time

We welcome your suggestions for movies and/or books.

**FRIENDLY REMINDER:** no food or drink is allowed in the Sanctuary.  
 Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Congratulations to Matthew Brothers and Lauren Sibley who wed on May 17, 2014. Matthew is the son of the late Douglas Brothers and wife, Breyn Brothers, and the grandson of Jean and Ed Brothers. The ceremony and reception were held at Harrington Farms in Princeton, MA.

Congratulations to Heather Zautner and Jason Belair who were wed here at First Congregational Church on August 2, 2014. Heather is the daughter of Ailaine and Kevin Zautner.



**FROM JEAN McPHERSON, THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Happy fall! This will be a VERY busy month for the Board of Ed and D.U.C.K.S.

**September 5 and 6 will be the Relay for Life at Lemansky Park.** We would love to see as many smiling faces down there as possible. If you would still like to donate to our team, or better yet join us, please contact Shirley Hill or me or just show up sometime after 6pm Friday the 5th or before 12 noon on the 6th.

**Rally Day is on September 7! There will be a parent meeting immediately following worship that day.** Also, we will need teachers again this year, so please contact me or a Board of Ed member if you are interested. Please take a moment to come down and look at the "new look" in the Sunday School wing. We have certainly brightened things up for the children. Thank you to everyone involved in that process.



**Confirmation will also start on September 7** with a confirmand **AND** parent meeting after church in the green room **at 11:30.**



**Our first Youth On a Mission (YOM) meeting** will be a pizza party some night in September, so watch the bulletin for the date. YOM is open to anyone in 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Please see Alex Brownell, Pastor Brian or me if you know of anyone who may be interested.

**FYI - Just in time for Thanksgiving, we will be selling pies Oct. 5th - Oct. 19th.**

Let's enjoy the changing of the leaves and all the splendor of God's creations.

"Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words." — Francis of Assisi

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We would like to thank everyone who came out to help with funeral preparations and odd jobs on Thursday, August 7th. It was a real team effort with much accomplished in a short period of time due to "many hands making light work." We would also like to acknowledge all of the efforts of Stan MacPhee for completing various tasks throughout the building to comply with inspection codes. Thank you, Stan!

If you haven't yet checked out the spruced up Sunday School classrooms, we encourage you to do so. We would like to send a **BIG THANK YOU SHOUT OUT** to Todd Dube, Stan and Sue MacPhee, Dawn Murphy, and Rich McPherson for all their help in setting up the freshly painted Sunday School classrooms.

Speaking of the Sunday School classrooms, below is the content of a letter Pastor Brian recently sent to Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis.

Dear Sheriff Evangelidis,

This letter is to thank you for allowing us to participate in the Worcester County Sheriff's Department Community Service Program. The inmates, supervised by Deputy Dan Joslyn, were at our site for almost two weeks in July. I have never seen a group work so quickly and do such a professional job. The old saying is, "You can get the job done fast, cheap or high quality, pick two." Your group was able to accomplish all three. They made quick work of the painting job in our Sunday school rooms and the hallways of our pre-school. By Thursday they had completed all the jobs we, in our wildest dreams, thought they would have time to complete. So we asked them to help with landscaping and that, likewise, was done quickly and well.

Additionally, we would like to commend Lieutenant Hynes for his assistance with scheduling this project. He was very helpful in assessing our needs and answering any questions we had.

As noted on your website, this program truly is a win-win for our community.

Sincerely,

Rev. Brian M. Grover, First Congregational Church



September Tidings from **Here We Grow** Preschool

Welcome to the 26<sup>th</sup> year of Here We Grow Preschool being an educational outreach program of the First Congregational Church in Auburn. On September 2, 2014 our doors will open as we welcome 107 children and families for another great year of meeting and making new friends and exploring and learning in a beautiful environment. As I mentioned we have 107 children enrolled which means we have 27 openings in all T/TH a.m. and p.m. and M/W/F a.m. and ext. day classes. Our afternoon 4-year-old rooms are full, as is the 5 day extended. At this time I am still receiving phone calls from families wanting to visit HWG. During the weeks of August 11<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> we enrolled 4 new students. I am hoping that we will be almost filled by September.

Our staff for this year are: in room 1 is Anne Coyne and Cristi Corey, room 2 is Mariann Lavallee and Kathleen Lanava, room 3 is Helen Ethier, Patti Bickford, and Gina Basili and room 4 is Michele Fuller.

Thanks for all the help we received to get ready for the new school year. During the summer the church's Sunday school rooms and all hallways were painted; they look so clean and bright. The hallway carpets and rugs were cleaned and HWG classrooms were cleaned by Sally Gagnon. A big thank you to Marc for the great job he did preparing the vestry floor and the floor in room 4. Things are looking great.

With the end of 2013/14 school year, once again it was difficult saying goodbye to many of our families who had been with us for awhile; we wished them well, and asked them to keep sending their friends our way. Many, if not all, feel that **Here We Grow** Preschool is the best program around.

All end-of-year field trips went well as did all 4 graduations. The young 4's had a day graduation with a make-your own sundae party. The 3-year-olds had a short program in their classrooms which worked out very well. All children and their families enjoyed Spree Day with games and entertainment by Pumpernickel Puppets. The 4's going onto kindergarten in the fall had 2 night graduations. They were spectacular. I am proud to say that we made it through another successful year.

So, off we go to another school year with many new faces, many returning faces, and the hope that we, as a staff, have a positive impact on the lives of these little children.

Until next month, enjoy the weather and stay safe.

Dawn Murphy, HWG Director



On June 15<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the baptism of Madeline Scott Lallier, the (now) 6 1/2 month old daughter of Matt and Katrina Lallier. Proud grandparents are Pam and Marty Tentor.

On June 29<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the baptism of Andrew Marshall Sharr, who was 3 1/2 months old at the time. Andrew is the son of Andrew and Kathleen Sharr.

And, on July 13<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the baptism of Courtney Sage Canane, the daughter of Lori and Jeffery Canane. Courtney was 9 months old at the time of her baptism.

We pray God's blessings upon these precious little ones and their families.

**THANK YOU FOR YARD SALE HELP** - Thank you to all for attending and supporting our community yard sale in June. You helped make it a fun and successful day. Our profit was \$2,100 and \$350 for Youth On a Mission!

Cindy Dube



(And a huge thank you to Cindy for all of her hard work!)



Choir Practice Resumes

**Choir Practice** will resume beginning **Thursday, September 4th, at 6:00 p.m.** We will be singing during the worship service on **September 7th.** If you're interested in joining the choir, please speak with Heather Moore, our Minister of Music. We are also encouraging any interested children (or a parent) to speak with Ms. Moore if you would like to learn more about **Joyful Noyse**, our children's choir.

*Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! Psalm 95:2*

**Thank You Golfers!**

Thank you to everyone who participated, sponsored, or donated raffle items to this year's golf tournament fundraiser! This year we had 50 golfers and the Church made \$3,400. Thank you once again to Paul Gemme and his crew for organizing this tournament!

**Coffee Hour Hosts:**

9/7	Music Committee
9/14	Boy Scout Troop 101
9/21	B.O.C.E. (Brd of Ed)
9/28	Historian, Memorial/Scholarship & Nominating Committees
10/5	Personnel Committee

September Birthdays include:

- Pastor Brian - Sept. 6th
- Jacob McPherson - Sept. 14th
- Laura DuHamel - Sept. 19th

Happy Birthday!



On September 14th Lori & Nick Stockhaus will be celebrating their 23rd wedding anniversary - Congratulations!

**SPECIAL SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY SUPPER**

Our next Community Supper will be held on Saturday, September 20th at 5 p.m. It will be a special outreach supper and many church volunteers will be needed to ensure its success. So, please purpose today to be a part of this event. Look for more info to come in future bulletins or call the church office. Thank you!

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 101 - 90 YEAR CELEBRATION - SUNDAY, SEPT. 14**

Please join us on Sunday, Sept. 14th for a special worship service as we commemorate the 90th anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 101.

During the service, Scout Leader George Fournier will briefly share the history of the troop and its previous Scout Leaders which is basically comprised of former church members.

There will be memorabilia displayed in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. If you have any materials relating to the troop to add to their collection please bring it with you.

All former Eagle Scouts are encouraged to attend.



We will be starting a new **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

on **September 7** for youth, 8th grade and up. Please call the church office, (508) 832-2845, to register.



This is very difficult to write this time because of Rev. Knox's passing on July 31st. A Parish Nurse in his church was one of his goals. He asked me to be the Parish Nurse. I didn't know what a Parish Nurse was, never heard of a Parish Nurse, and why me? I immediately researched Parish Nurse, learned that it started in the Midwestern area and is still going strong in that area. I took the Parish Nurse course at Anna Maria College, and I still meet monthly with the area Parish Nurses. I have thanked Rev. Knox many, many times for asking me to be the Parish Nurse. It has been such a great, positive experience in my life. I feel that I have been able to help many from the congregation by being an advocate regarding health issues. Now, I feel that I will continue to perform as Parish Nurse, with the help of God, and Rev. Knox looking down on me.

September is Baby Safety Month, Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, National Cholesterol Education Month, and National Preparedness Month.

Sept. 1st is International Chocolate Day (dark chocolate is healthier)

Sept. 21st is World Alzheimer's Day

Please remember to check the closet in the entrance to the educational wing, if you need medical equipment. It has been changing lately, which is great. If you need something and it isn't there, check with me. I know some people have things in their homes that they will loan.

Have a great month and God bless,  
Debbie Pranaitis, Parish Nurse

The following is from Linda Graham, Florence LaPlante's daughter:

*Thank you to everyone who remembered Florence with a birthday card for her 90th birthday. We had a small family celebration on her birthday, (May 30th) and the next day held an open house for 4 hours. Everyone we invited came and Florence had an excellent time. She received over 50 cards for her birthday and we have them in a basket for her to review whenever she wants.*

*Her church family really came through BIG TIME!! As she opened the cards, I found a picture in the church directory to jog her memory. Please let everyone know how truly blessed we are and how thankful we are for everyone's participation.*

*Thanks so much!!*

*Linda*

### Library Tidings by Gloria Whitehead

Can you remember how completely spellbound you were when Dianne Benson Davis spoke about raising 8 baby bald eagles while living alone for 4 months in the wilderness at Quabbin Reservoir? In a book entitled *Eagle One* she tells of experiences that make you think more about your encounters with nature. A noteworthy comment in the book suggests that anyone going into veterinary medicine should have the text available. Interesting illustrations are also included. Without reservations, the total collection contributes to making you feel closer to actually being present as the book is written. You'll feel good after each reading.

Also, with Sunday School beginning on September 7 the Children's Library, in addition to Sundays, will be open once a month to each Here We Grow class. We look forward to their return. The date and time schedule will be announced soon.

### The Pumpkin Patch will be opening soon!

The pumpkins will be arriving at the Church on October 4th at 9:00 a.m.

We are hoping for the usual great turnout of people to unload the truck. We will be getting a full truck this year, as we did last year, so the more people — the faster it will go.

The sign up sheet is being prepared, but if there is a certain day and time you prefer, please contact me or Shirley Hill and we will pencil you in.

Looking forward to another BIG money maker for our Church!



Thank you,  
Diane Moore  
508-832-8978



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