



# 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!’”*



## From the Pastor

October is a time for us to settle into our routine and programs for the coming year. We need everyone’s participation and support, interest, and energy to carry the load of ministry we anticipate. There will always be something new for you to learn about how we try to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the town of Auburn, with Central Massachusetts and the world. The purpose of our church is ministry, and we do this in many ways, working with many people, working for many people. We invite each of you to get more involved in ways that are of interest to you.

Followers of Jesus Christ realize that they are blessed by God in the midst of trying to be a blessing to others. They also understand that everything we do is for Jesus Christ, and in His Name. Therefore, we don’t have to worry about seeking recognition and praise for our efforts since they will all be appropriately noted in the Book of Life.

So, come one - come all - be a part of the ministry team that is First Congregational Church. You are welcome! You are needed!

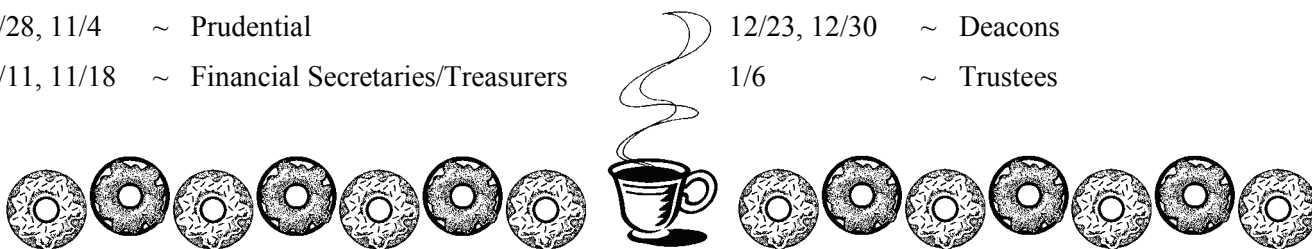
Sincerely,

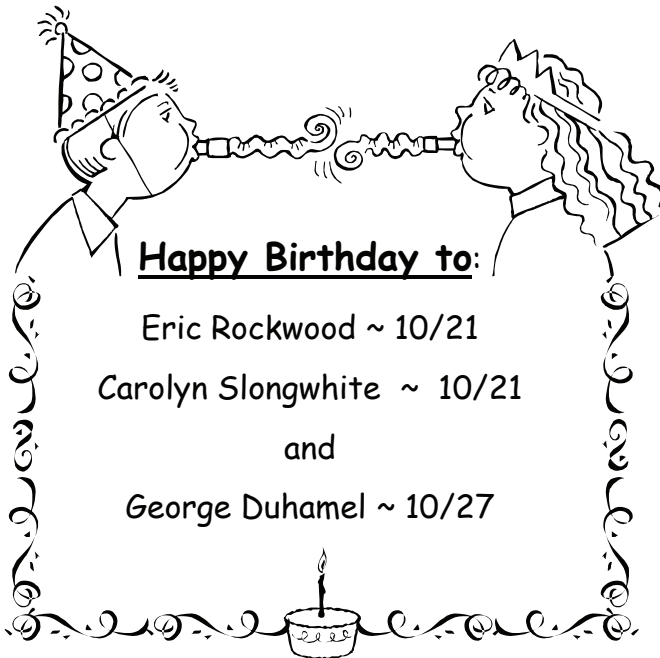
Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Knox  
Pastor

*Sunday Morning  
Worship Service  
& Sunday School  
begin at 10:00 a.m.*

## Coffee Hour Hosts

- |              |                                    |              |                            |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 10/7         | ~ Historians & Memorial            | 11/25, 12/2  | ~ Music Committee          |
| 10/14, 10/21 | ~ Stewardship                      | 12/9, 12/16  | ~ Nominating & Scholarship |
| 10/28, 11/4  | ~ Prudential                       | 12/23, 12/30 | ~ Deacons                  |
| 11/11, 11/18 | ~ Financial Secretaries/Treasurers | 1/6          | ~ Trustees                 |





### Happy Birthday to:

Eric Rockwood ~ 10/21

Carolyn Slongwhite ~ 10/21

and

George Duhamel ~ 10/27



### Fair Trade Coffee

The Fair Trade Coffee Program has returned, and will be sold during coffee hour on Sundays!

You will again have the opportunity to purchase this coffee for \$6 a bag. Why not stock up for your home and/or office?

## Happy Anniversary

*Congratulations to the McPherson's and the Duhamel's as they celebrate wedding anniversaries this month.*

*Jean & Rich were wed on October 8<sup>th</sup> 1994, and George & Laura will be celebrating their 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on October 31st!*



*For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife...*

*Genesis 2:24*

*Congratulations go out to Kevin & Jessica Eknaian who were wed on Saturday, September 22, 2007 at St. John's Church in Philadelphia, P.A.*

*Proud parents are Sue & Stan MacPhee and Henry & Linda Eknaian.*

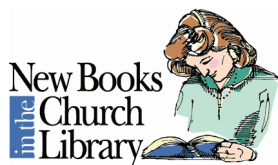
## Neighbors In Need



The Neighbors in Need offering will be received during October for use in North America and Puerto Rico. One third of the offering supports ministries with American Indians.

The Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM) is the voice for American Indian people in the UCC. CAIM provides Christian ministry and witness to American Indians and to the wider church. Justice issues that affect American Indian life are communicated to the whole UCC by CAIM.

The other two-thirds of the offering is used to help in responding to disasters in the United States and in working with people trapped by poverty with compassion and justice.



## Library Tidings

by Gloria Whitehead

As the seasons change, we're bringing a couple of changes/additions to the libraries for this month.

In memory of her mother who died recently, Sue Campbell has given *Final Gifts* (#10). The authors, Maggie Callanan and Patricia Kelley, are experienced hospice nurses whose compassion and communications with the dying allows them to reveal their needs, feelings and more. Beautifully written, Sue found this book very helpful.

*Light From Heaven* (#1) is the last, long anticipated volume of Jan Karon's *Mitford Years* series.

*Blood, Sweat and Tears* (#6) by Michele Turk has been given by Marilyn Plue. What is one of the most visible symbols of help? Hint: Its founding in America was in 1881 by a woman who had lived in a town adjacent to Auburn. You're right - The American Red Cross. However, a Swiss businessman by the name of Henry Durant founded the first Red Cross in 1863. His dream was to reduce the suffering of wounded soldiers, specifically during a battle in Solferino, Italy. This book is compiled with outstanding stories from 29 volunteers and staff members from all over the states. It's subtitle is "An Oral History of the American Red Cross."

The 7th and final installment in J.K. Rowling's tale of Harry Potter is in. For the present time, it will be found on the table in the adult library. Word is that many youngsters and oldsters had it read within 24 hours and others have read *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* (#1) for a third time.

*Beneath the Streets of Boston* (#6) - *Building America's First Subway* by Jim McKendry has been given by Pastor Ken. Enhanced by the outstanding artwork of the author, this historically accurate description of BeanTown's first "Big Dig" takes you deep into the burrowed tunnels between Boston Harbor, Beacon Hill, and the Old Statehouse. Miles were dug with picks and shovels that ultimately relieved traffic and took riders to their destinations for a nickel.

The collection of inspirational books (#10) is now split between the low bookshelf under the left, rear window and the bottom 2 shelves to the far right in the bookcase with the display.

*The Unselfishness of God* (#10) by Hannah Whitall Smith has a new card, but its author lived from 1832-1911. *The Christian Secret of a Happy Life* is her outstanding work which has been in print for over 100 years, but is not available at this time. However, *The Unselfishness of God*, which she completed at age 70, is also a winner—a detailed retrospective of her fruitful life and Quaker background. Her style, especially for the times in which it was written, flows with amazing ease.

Let God's paintbrush brighten your days!

## FOOD PANTRY TRIPS

The Friends of Auburn Senior Center are now funding a monthly trip to the North American Martyr's Food Pantry on the 3rd Saturday of each month. There is no charge for either the food or transportation, but reservations are a must. Please call (508) 832-7799 to be put on the van schedule.

*To all my friends and church family,  
Thank you for my cards and visits - it  
really helped lift my spirits during my  
recovery.*

*Alice Carlson*



We will be having a church yard sale on Saturday morning, October 20th. It will be a joint effort of the Trustees and Boy Scout Troop 101.

We are accepting donations (no glassware, clothes or computer parts please). Items are being stored in the room behind the stage in the Vestry.

We thank you for your support.



### “Historical Memories”

First Congregational Church

Extract from the Worcester Daily Telegram  
November 13, 1896

Architect E.T. Chapin of the new Auburn Congregational Church telegraphed last night for church pews for that building.

The Indiana Church Furniture Company of Richmond, Indiana has secured the contract. It is hoped that the pews, two hundred and fifty sittings necessary for the auditorium, will be here by January 1st, at which time it is expected that the church will be completed in every detail.

There will be no cushions used, the seats being the kind known as the curb back and seat style.

Church Historians - George DuHamel & Paula Lubin

## Outreach Committee News

### Sharing our gifts

Outreach was pleased to contribute to Auburn Youth and Family Services' First Day program to provide Auburn kids with school supplies. We have also recently made donations to the Worcester Area Mission Society as well as to Hope Lodge, a program to provide housing and support systems for cancer patients undergoing treatment.

### CROP Walk

The annual Church World Service Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00. It's a pleasant 3.5 mile walk around Auburn for a very worthy cause. Why not take an hour stroll to help fight hunger around the world?

If you're interested in walking or sponsoring a walker, please contact Sue Campbell.

### New Orleans update

First Congregational continues to be the “go-to” source for sending books to New Orleans. Other organizations benefit from our experience in this area and the deep discount we can pass along on the shipping rates. Brown School in Newburyport sent us 41 boxes! Sutton and Millbury are sending books also.

It will soon be time for our team to travel to New Orleans! Randy Bohn, Bruce Fant, Rich McPherson, and Bill Storie will be heading down on November 10<sup>th</sup> for a week. The last team set the bar pretty high, but we know this group will get a lot accomplished!

Thank you for your support,

The Outreach Committee

Ellie Lowell, Cindy Dube, Gayle Farley, Alicia Schillinger, Ernie Smith and Sue Campbell

### Here We Grow Preschool



Here we are, beginning the month of October, which means September is over, and we have made it through the first month of school. I am proud to say that *Here We Grow* only has two openings at this time. That means we have 124 children and the majority of them are no longer crying. It takes a few weeks for the children to get comfortable with their new teachers, friends, and surroundings.

During the month of September the children had a tour of the building to help them understand just how large it is. It also helps them to understand that the building is a church and needs to be respected as such.

For the second year in a row we have asked the children and their parents to create a page of family pictures to go into the classroom family albums. The albums will be in the classrooms so the children can look at them if they are missing someone, or maybe they will share their picture page with their new friends, or maybe it will help children understand that not all families are the same, and that's okay. Whatever the reason for looking through the albums, it will be a great way to share each others families.

Once again this year we decided to have Parent Orientation during the school day. It was held on the first day of school for each session. The turnout was great. Most of our parents attended, and those that didn't have been with HWG for a few years. Since I did all three orientations, I may have forgotten to mention everything each time, but all information is in the family handbook.

During the month of October our plan is to visit the apple orchard, have the police and fire department visit, and celebrate Halloween, but I'll wait until next month to tell you all about that.

As always, you are welcome to stop in and see what your preschool is all about, or check out HWG'S web site. Until next month, stay healthy, sell a lot of pumpkins, and enjoy the weather.

Dawn Murphy  
*Here We Grow Preschool*

### From the Choir Room

Thank you to Paul and Audrey Kosky for the generous donation of music. Audrey had been a church organist, and we gratefully accept this donation in her memory.

Anthem highlights for October:

This month the First Church Choir will introduce two new anthems: *Let the People of God*, October 14th, and *I Surrender Lord*, October 28th. *Let the People* is a joyful, powerful anthem. Eight pages of continuous eighth notes in the vocal and piano part make for a rhythmically driven, “stay awake” piece! *I Surrender* combines text and harmony in an expressive tribute to the worship experience. The text: “Lord in the quiet of this place, I am surrounded by Your grace. I come with heavy heart and soul, I long for You to take control.” The moving chorus: “And I Surrender Lord,” gently reminds us to leave our burdens in God’s hands. This tender and peaceful anthem has been donated by Garry and Mona Mahlert.

Joyful Noyse will sing a new anthem on October 28th, *Victory Chant*. The youth will divide into two groups, one echoing another. We are pleased to have several new children this year, and I’m proud to note that the older kids are very helpful and supportive of the younger ones!

For a change, I thought this newsletter submission should be devoted to the “nuts and bolts” of the Music Ministry: our long term goals, immediate plans, finances, and fundraising efforts.

This year the choir and Music Committee will be focusing on 3 major goals:

- 1) The purchase of a baby grand piano
- 2) The recording of a CD
- 3) The updating of the sound system.

These are lofty and financially demanding goals; however, we are well on our way towards achieving the first two.

At last year’s meeting between the Trustees, choir, and Music Committee, it was voted on to purchase a baby grand piano as part of the sanctuary renovation. Because there was a fund set up in the 1980’s for “instruments” that was never used, the Music Committee (per Bob Luther’s okay) was able to vote the fund (\$7,000) be used toward a new piano. Although a new baby grand would normally run up to three times that amount, we are looking to buy used and stay close to the fund range. Structurally, the baby grand makes sense as it is much lower than the upright, allowing the congregation better visibility. Musically, First Congregational will have a quality instrument to service the church for many decades to come. (The Yamaha, recently donated by Connie Hodgkins, will remain in the choir room.)

To fulfill our goal of making a CD, the choir and Music Committee have been actively fundraising. To date, the choir has chaired the yard sale, sold parade tee shirts (with the church logo), held a bake sale and formed the “Anthem Tribute.” In exchange for heading up the yard sale, the Trustees gave us 50% of the proceeds towards our budget. We still have many tee shirts available in all sizes, small, medium and large. Adult sizes are \$10, and youth are \$8. The shirts are blue with a white logo on the front left depicting a picture of the church and the words “First Congregational Church of Auburn.” If you are interested in purchasing one please see Gordon, Linda or Debbie Mahlert.

Since the bake sale was quite a success, the choir will hold another one November 4th. (Shirts will also be available then!)

The Anthem Tribute was originally started as a way to honor loved ones on an ongoing basis, while also supplementing our budget for new music. Because the choir size doubled, so did the cost of ordering new music. Our budget, however, could not be increased. As a result, we actually ended the year 2006 over budget and in debt! Although our fundraising efforts are going well, we did cancel the organ tuning for this year (at a savings of over \$400) in order to balance our budget, and stay on track with our CD goal. Anthem Tribute music will be on display during coffee hour on October 28th.

The updating of the sound system will NOT be a complete overhaul, but will be an addition to the existing system. At present, we have one cordless mike and two clip-ons. We would like to have four cordless mikes available for two reasons: the Praise Choir and Joyful Noyse. In order to get the full Praise Choir up and running, the sound equipment is a must. The essence of "Praise Music" is the sound system, and therefore NOT optional! Two mikes for the instruments (guitar, etc.) and two for the singers (2 or 3 to a mike) would work. We are planning a half hour of Praise Choir/Praise Band music tentatively scheduled for November 4th during coffee hour. This will give everyone a chance to hear what this music is, and have fun singing together, "full blast" outside the church service. For this to happen, we will need to borrow equipment, which is why the date is tentative.

The mikes will also be used for Joyful Noyse. Children's voices are, by nature, not mature and benefit from amplification. One mike works for two children, at most. As we have several new members this year, 3 mikes spread out would be ideal.

In closing, our Music Ministry is growing and thriving. I envision endless possibilities and bright horizons as we strive to be instruments for God's plan.

Blessings,

Heather Moore  
Minister of Music

God gave music . . . to help you grow ever closer to Him and His love.

### JOYFUL NOYSE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

10/7, 10/14 & 10/21	11:15 a.m. rehearsal	12/2, 12/9, 12/16	11:15 a.m. rehearsal
10/28	9:15 a.m. rehearsal	12/23	9:15 a.m. rehearsal
	<i>Victory Chant</i>		<i>Come, Light of the World</i>
	<i>Clap Your Hands</i>		<i>Angels Song</i>
11/4, 11/11, 11/18	11:15 a.m. rehearsal	12/24	5:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service
11/25	9:15 a.m. rehearsal		<i>Come, Light of the World</i>
	<i>Jonah</i>		<i>Angels Song</i>

(Anthems may change.)

**Please Note:** There will be a separate table at Coffee Hour for Joyful Noyse ONLY. Choir children may go directly to this table for their snacks - enabling them to have time to eat and make the 11:15 a.m. rehearsal.

Also, the choir is looking for any one who is gifted in sewing and would be willing to make alterations to a handful of our choir robes. It would be greatly appreciated. Please see Heather Moore for more information.



October has many issues listed on the National Health Calendar. I will list a few. It is "Talk about Prescriptions" Month, Halloween Safety Month, Healthy Lung Month and National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is also Lupus Awareness Month, National Dental Hygiene Month and National Physical Therapy Month. October 1<sup>st</sup> is National Child Health Day and the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> is Drive Safely to Work Week. (I think these should be ongoing, not for a day or a week). October 7<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> is Fire Prevention Week. The 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> is National Health Education Week, and also National School Lunch Week. October 19<sup>th</sup> is National Mammography Day and the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> is Respiratory Care Week.

I have information out on the health table in Fellowship Hall. I also have a few books about cancer in the Adult Library. These books can be kept. I just want to have them out where they will be seen. Please take them, whether it be for a friend or for yourself, to learn about what someone is going through. I can get more.

It seems that I keep mentioning hand washing! Well, I can't stress it enough! There are "bad germs" out there and the best way to stay free from them is proper hand washing. One of the "bugs" is MRSA (Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus). It used to be primarily diagnosed in hospital settings; now they are finding it in the community. It often looks like a spider bite, mainly in skin lesions such as abscesses, boils, pustular lesions (where pus is) and cellulitis. Forty percent of all MRSA infections diagnosed in Emergency Rooms are CA - MRSA (Community Acquired MRSA). Incidence is high in the pediatric population and adolescents that are healthy. Another germ is VRE (Vancomycin Resistant Enterococcus). People used to get Vancomycin to fight other bacteria, now it is resistant to some germs. These germs are difficult to get rid of, they spread. Please be careful and don't forget to wash your hands. Wash for at least 15 seconds, or sing "Happy Birthday" while you wash. I will have handouts about these germs on the table. My information comes from the Center for Disease Control. I'm not trying to scare people, but I want to educate you on the seriousness and prevention of these germs.

God Bless!

Debbie Pranaitis  
Parish Nurse

The Auburn Cultural Council announces that applications are now available for its 2008 funding cycle. As part of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, we have been allotted level funding in the amount of \$4,730. Last year we received requests totaling over \$20,000 for grants. Massachusetts based individuals, artists, non-profit community groups, cultural institutions and schools may apply. Applications along with local guidelines are available at the Auburn Public Library, the Town Hall and online at [massculturalcouncil.org](http://massculturalcouncil.org). Local Chairperson is Roberta Stencel, who may be reached at (508) 832 - 4954 or [rochet@charter.net](mailto:rochet@charter.net).



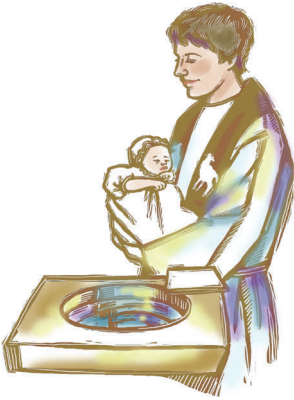
## SANCTUARY NEWS

The Board of Trustees is diligently pursuing bids on various aspects of the sanctuary renovation project. Our hope is that we can wrap up some rough estimates and be able to have something we can present to the Congregation within a month or two (depending on the timing of the returned proposals).

Thank you for your patience.

Board of Trustees

## Recent Baptisms



On September 9th we celebrated the baptisms of **Kali Patricia Kobel** and **Morgan Mary Fontaine**. Kali is 6 months old. Her parents are Christian and Sara Kobel. The happy grandparents are William and Marilyn Kobel.

Morgan is the daughter of Mark and Lynn Fontaine, and she is 7 months old. Her proud grandmother is Norma Morgan.

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Congratulations to Lynda Clifford on the birth of her son, **Joshua Michael Clifford**, born on July 8, 2007.




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*Many thanks to all who gave so generously to the First Day Program. There were 40 children who had a new outfit and school supplies thanks to all of you.*

*Avis Britton*

## YOM NEWS

YOM will be having *Breakfast at the Bohns*, and then we'll be unloading the pumpkins for our "Pumpkin Patch" on Saturday morning October 13<sup>th</sup>. Breakfast is at 9:30 and the pumpkins are due to arrive at 11:00. ALL youth, age 13 and up, are welcome to join us, just let me know if you're coming to breakfast so we'll be sure to prepare ample food. ALL proceeds from the "Pumpkin Patch" will benefit the church sanctuary fund.

YOM will also be accepting orders for Joe Corbi's pizza and cookie dough up until the week of October 7<sup>th</sup>; please see any YOM member for details. All funds raised from Joe Corbi's will support YOM activities throughout the year, as well as our summer mission trip.

Also, mark your calendars for the "Bonfire at the Bohns" on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup>. YOM members are encouraged to bring a friend. We'll be cooking hot dogs and s'mores over an open flame. We'll also have chili and hot cider. YOM is always open to new members. Anyone who is or will be 14 by July 1, 2008 is welcome to join us.

Jennifer & Randy Bohn

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### PUMPKINS, GET YOUR PUMPKINS HERE!

The Great Pumpkin (and a few of his friends) are coming to First Congregational Church! We are planning a fundraiser selling pumpkins on the church's front lawn. The "pumpkin patch" will be open every day, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> through Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, 11:30 a.m. - dusk. While we have cashiers for the weekends, we are looking for volunteers to cover the weekday hours.

**All proceeds go toward the Sanctuary Renovation.**

For more information, please contact Diane Moore (508) 832-8078, Jennifer Bohn (508) 832-0428 or Shirley Hill (508) 832 -6335.



### **Rosemary L. Bouley**

June 16, 1913 - August 7, 2007

Rosemary Laura Bouley, 94, died Tuesday, August 7th in Denver, Colorado. Survivors include grandchildren, Karen Jewell and Bradford Albert Bouley, and daughter-in-law Alice Bouley of Colorado. She was predeceased by her husband, Ernest J. Bouley and her son, Bruce Albert. Born in Worcester on June 16, 1913, Rosemary worked as a secretary at New England Power for many years. During the 1950's Rosemary, Ernest and Bruce moved from Worcester to Auburn. While living here, Rosemary was an active member of the First Congregational Church. She served on the board of Deaconesses and taught Sunday School for many years. She was an active member of the Goodwill Group and spent countless hours working on handicrafts that were handmade and she home baked for the church fairs. She will be greatly missed by all those who knew her. (Submitted by a Goodwill member . . .)

### **Audrey J. Kosky**

Please pray for the family and friends of Audrey Kosky who died August 19th at the Auburn Life Care Center, after a long and brave battle with a serious illness.

Audrey leaves her loving husband of 31 years, Paul G. Kosky; two daughters, Dr. Misty Eaton of Puerto Rico, and April (Eaton) Brown (wife of Mark Brown) of Sutton and one grandchild, Ally Brown. Audrey was a member of our church, and a funeral was held here on Friday, August 24th. Audrey will be sadly missed.

### **Gladys M. (Bogart) Soderberg**

April 14, 1920 - September 7, 2007

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Soderberg family on the recent loss of Gladys Soderberg who died on Friday, September 7th. Her beloved husband, Arthur J. Soderberg died in 1979. She leaves her daughter, Carol Jones and her husband William of Auburn; her son, John Soderberg of Center Harbor, NH and 4 grandchildren. Gladys was an active member of our church teaching Sunday school and as a member of Women's Fellowship. Gladys' funeral was held here on Tuesday, September 11th. Gladys will be missed. Memorial donations can be made to the First Congregational Church in Auburn, Renovation Fund, 128 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501, or to the Lorraine Gleick Sr. Center, 4 Goddard Dr., Auburn, MA 01501.

### **Virginia E. (Gould) Iveson Perkins**

Virginia E. (Gould) Iveson Perkins, 95, died Friday, September 7th. Her husband, Holmes Iveson died in 1977. Her second husband, Donald R. Perkins, died in 1998. She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

*"I am the resurrection and the Life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies." John 11:25*

The next church  
supper will be on  
**Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**  
at 5 p.m.

(Menu to be announced)



Pastor Appreciation  
Sunday is  
October 14th

Pastor Appreciation



*TIDINGS is a monthly  
publication of*

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Auburn MA 01501

Phone: (508)832-2845

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Auburn, Mass

**October 2007**

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28	29	30	31			