

First Community Church

Newsletter

November 2010



Our Mission Statement

We are a community of faith believing in the power of prayer and seeking earnestly to deepen our spiritual life and share the love of God with others.

The Pastor's Message

At our October Stewardship & Growth Committee meeting, it was noted that since Stewardship Sunday will be celebrated November 21 it was time to start thinking about our annual stewardship drive. The general consensus was that we should stay with the approach of the past few years: (1) have me as the Pastor send a letter to everyone on our mailing list addressing the matter of Christian stewardship; and (2) have the Stewardship & Growth Committee follow this up with a letter outlining our financial situation and providing both a pledge card and guidelines for pledging in the coming year. It was also suggested that I should preach a rousing stewardship sermon, though we are never clear whether this should be on Stewardship Sunday or the previous week, before people have filled out their pledge cards.

I agree with the philosophy of stewardship that we have embraced in this church. We don't have to beat you over the head or stir up feelings of guilt to have you assume the responsibility that is yours as a member or friend of this church. We don't have to tell you that we are a small church and we need every single pledge (especially yours!) to cover our operating expenses. We also don't have to remind you that since some of our expenses (which are carefully monitored by every board and committee) rise every year, we need to increase the number of pledging units, the amount pledged per unit, or both.

The key to Christian stewardship is, of course, Christian discipleship. The two go hand in hand. Of the two, I am more inclined to focus on the matter of discipleship. This is because, as the Book of James articulates so well, faith precedes works. If we have faith, a deep personal relationship with the living God, we do not have to be told what to do or what to give. Our actions and our gifts will flow from a wellspring of faith and compassion within us. It is impossible to be a disciple of Christ and not have this show in what we give both to the church and to the world.

When we view stewardship from this perspective, it is clear that what each of us needs to do is to commit ourselves to grow in discipleship. To be specific, as members or friends of this church we should challenge ourselves to move

- from not attending Sunday worship to attending Sunday worship;
- from attending Sunday worship sporadically to attending regularly;
- from not being an official member to becoming a member;
- from being an absentee member to becoming an involved member; and
- from contributing to the operating expenses of our church by placing money in the offering plate when we attend to making a commitment to support the operating expenses of our church through a pledge.

This year I would like to challenge those of you who have been marginally involved in the life of our church to become more involved both through your presence and your pledge. Perhaps you are on our mailing list because you were the recipients of some special ministry that was offered by our church, e.g., the celebration of your marriage, the baptism of your child, or a funeral for a family member. Please remember what our church has meant to you and your family. The act of remembering should lead to a feeling of gratitude to those who through their contribution of time, talent, and treasure make our ministries possible. As we rejoice in the many ministries of our church, we will be led to respond, challenging ourselves to move to the next level of church commitment.

The Stewardship & Growth Committee has adopted the following theme for our stewardship in the coming year: (1) remember; (2) rejoice; and (3) respond. We should remember what the church has done for us, and then we should remember that we are the church. We should rejoice that we have such a wonderful church, such a wonderful community of faith, and that we are doing so much in our community and the world. Then we should respond both in our presence and our pledge in the coming year.

Yours in Christ,
Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible Study group meets on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of every month from 9:15 – 10:30 AM in the Vestry. This year we began with the Book of Ruth, trying to discern its message for our own spiritual journey, for our society, and for the life and ministry of our church. We completed it in “record time” and have moved forward to the Book of Esther.

The Bible study is open to all. No background in biblical knowledge is required. You don't even need to own a Bible (Bibles are provided by the church). Please join us for a time of fellowship, study, and sharing as we seek to strengthen not only our understanding of our religion but also our personal faith.

Stewardship Sunday

Watch the mail the next few weeks for a letter from your Pastor and the Stewardship Committee inviting you to renew (and hopefully increase) your pledge for the coming year. Bring your pledge card to church on Sunday, November 21, Stewardship Sunday, or mail it back to us by that date so we can begin to prepare our budget for the coming year.

We traditionally celebrate Stewardship Sunday on Thanksgiving Sunday because of the deep connection between Thanksgiving and Christian stewardship. As we gather together to thank God for our many blessings, we also renew our commitment to share our time, talent, and treasure with our church. This is a very important day in the life of our church. We invite you to be with us as we celebrate what we have in this church and as we lay the foundation for the coming year.

Missions Offering

For the month of November, we reach out with our gifts to support the International Mission of World Vision and our local Mission, the Southborough Food Pantry.



World Vision is a Christian humanitarian charity organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. We serve close to 100 million people in nearly 100 countries around the world. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people.

World Vision provides emergency and hunger relief, long-term community development programs, agricultural development assistance and leadership training. The organization also educates the public on poverty and justice-related issues and advocates on behalf of the poor and children in crisis.

A worldwide staff of about 40,000 assists about 100 million people in nearly 100 countries throughout Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Asia and the Americas.

Disaster Timeline

In a crisis like Haiti’s earthquake, World Vision rushes to the scene with life-saving aid then stays for the long term to help families recover. Here is an outline of World Vision’s first-in, last-out approach:

2-3 HOURS

World Vision staff closest to the emergency **REPORT** on the severity and need.

24 HOURS

World Vision’s global rapid response team **MOBILIZES** to provide emergency relief.

72 HOURS

Pre-positioned relief supplies are accessed locally and from warehouses around the world, and **DISTRIBUTION** begins.



7 DAYS

DELIVERY continues of survival items like food, water, and medical supplies.

30 DAYS

World Vision helps **STABILIZE** families by providing temporary living accommodations and Child-Friendly Spaces for children.

90 DAYS

The focus shifts from survival to **REBUILDING** infrastructure, food production, and access to clean water.

ON GOING

World Vision concentrates on **IMPROVING** infrastructure, food security, and helping parents re-establish livelihoods.



DID YOU KNOW?

90% of all disaster victims live in developing countries where poverty and lack of resources exacerbate the suffering.

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## SAFE PLACES TO PLAY

In World Vision’s Child-Friendly Spaces, the goal is that boys and girls will temporarily forget they’re living in a disaster zone. These spaces provide activities such as games, painting, singing, and dancing to help children overcome the emotional effects of a catastrophe. They also allow children to return to healthy routines and experience a sense of normalcy again.



# SOUTHBOROUGH FOOD PANTRY

Our second Mission is our local Southborough Food Pantry. For the past few years we have concentrated our efforts on a particular “need” each week. This has proven to be a great success for our Church. It has helped to fill the shelves with much needed items that are not traditionally donated during the month of November.



To help you remember what item(s) to bring on which week, the Diaconate will be putting “Coupons” in the Sunday morning bulletins to post at home on the refrigerator with your grocery list. If each of us can bring just one item from each group, our little Church will make a big impact on the shelves of the Southborough Food Pantry.

Our thanks to Cathy Ten Eyck, our Representative, for her willingness to make sure that our collected donations will be delivered each week. Our many thanks to Barbara Crane, Karin Farmer, Beverly Lees and Cathy for supporting the Food Pantry by volunteering their time each month to help out.

## COOKIES FOR KIDS

Sunday Nov 7



Boxed, snack bags, or individual packs

## PLASTIC FOOD STORAGE

Sunday Nov 14



Plastic food storage bags (All sizes - sandwich, quart, gallon, etc.)

## COFFEE

Sunday Nov 21



1 lb. cans of Regular Coffee

## LAUNDRY & DISHES

Sunday Nov 28



Laundry detergent & dishwashing liquid

*Annual**Sale*

## *If You Bake It, They Will Come*

Our annual Church Pie Sale, will be held on Saturday, November 20, from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM or until we are “sold out.” Just in time for Thanksgiving Day, the pie sale is held at Mauro's (the old McCarthy's i.e. “The Spa”) in downtown Southborough with tables set up outdoors. Weather conditions have ranged from the balmy 50's to the frigid teens with brisk winds. The pie hawkers are shaded by the building and bundle up appropriately.

Over the years, we have been very fortunate to have a good variety of pies available for sale. We are often asked which pie was made by a particular, well known, chef. The people who have bought pies from our previous sales know just what they are looking for -- blueberry, lemon meringue, banana cream, and the always popular “apple pie.” All breads are an added delight. Please label all your donations and make sure to indicate with or without nuts.

Please think about what you could bake for the sale and then consider doubling it. The pie sale is one of the biggest fundraisers in our Church. Last year \$978 was raised.

Mrs. PPW (Pushy Pastor's Wife) alias Darlene Sanderson, has again offered to coordinate the list of baked goods needed. If you are able to bake anything (including cookies, breads, apple crisp, etc.) please tell Darlene. If you don't, she is apt to hunt you down!

Pies can be left at the church Friday night, or delivered to the “spa” before 10:00 AM.

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## *Report Of The Diaconate*

We will be welcoming new members to our church family in November. This is always an exciting time for our fellowship. Stay tuned to see who our new members will be. We also have three baptisms coming up this fall. Our church family is growing.

The United Parishes of Southborough will hold their annual Thanksgiving Service on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 23 at 7:00 PM. The host church will be St. Anne.

The church will soon have new front doors and the Diaconate will be helping to fund the purchase and installation.

The Spiritual Study and Exploration Groups held Monday during the day and Thursday in the evening have been going very well and have been well attended.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2 at 7:15 PM.

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## *The Sacrament Of Adult Baptism*

In our church, we offer three types of baptism. We baptize infants who are brought forward for dedication by their parents. We baptize young children who are old enough to understand what it means to be baptized and who join with their parents in requesting this sacrament. We also baptize adults who have found their way to Christ and who wish to make the commitment to become not only a follower but a disciple of our Lord.

On Sunday, November 7, two members of our congregation, Joyce Harrington and Roy Pinnock will present themselves for Christian baptism. We celebrate their journey of faith and we are honored to have them consecrate their commitment to the Lord through receiving the Sacrament of Adult Baptism in our church!

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## *Welcome New Members*

On Sunday, November 14, we will receive three new members into full fellowship with our church. We extend a warm and hearty welcome to Dave Lowry, Marjie Lowry, and Roy Pinnock who come with many gifts and who are already an integral part of our fellowship.



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## *A Service Of Thanksgiving*

This year St. Anne Church will be hosting the annual United Parishes of Southborough Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 23 at 7:00 PM. Clergy and Laity from all of the United Parishes member churches participate in this service and is sponsored by the United Parishes Lay Council.

Please take a moment out of a busy week to remember and celebrate all we have to be thankful for as individuals, as families, as a church, and as a nation.

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## *Spiritual Study & Growth Group*

**Thursday Evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 PM**  
**Led By Rev. Sanderson**

Our Spiritual Study and Growth Group meets every Thursday in the Vestry. This fall we are continuing our exploration of the topics of death and life after death. This coming week we will begin to read and discuss the book *90 Minutes in Heaven*, the true story of the death (and return to life) of Don Piper, a Christian minister who was involved in a terrible automobile accident.

This group is open to all. Come even if you can't attend all the meetings and/or if you simply can't find the time to read the books on your own. We generally read from the books or listen to tapes of the books and then discuss them during the meeting.

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## *A Blast From The Past*

### **100 Years Ago**

#### **1910 – November**

- ◆ The Chanticleer or chicken pie supper under the auspices of the Ladies Aid of the evening of Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, is being planned for with a right good will, and the roosters are climbing higher on the perch hoping to be ready for the first table.
- ◆ The Ladies of the Congregational Church will hold a sale and entertainment in the village hall Tuesday evening, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The entertainment will comprise of solos and readings by Miss Eula M. Briggs of Boston and a farce entitled “The Dumb Waiter.”

### **50 Years Ago**

#### **1960 – November**

- ◆ Four Sunday School teachers attended the school of Religion in Worcester one night a week for six weeks.
- ◆ The Women’s Fellowship decided to buy some new equipment for the kitchen. Rev. Cosseboom gave a most interesting talk on “Heifers for Hope.”

### **25 Years Ago**

#### **1985 – November**

- ◆ The Church council held an open meeting to discuss the idea of a Board of Elders as a new governing body.
- ◆ “Pony Express” Stewardship drive results: 41 weekly; 2 monthly; 13 yearly pledges totaling: \$19,948.
- ◆ An All Saints Recognition Ceremony was held to thank those selfless persons who have been so generous with their gifts of time, talents, and resources throughout the years.

### **10 Years Ago**

#### **2000 – November**

- ◆ The Women’s Fellowship Holiday Fair was held. They made 20 Sunshine baskets for shut-ins.
- ◆ Gail Nitler has been accepted in care as a theological student and we have been accepted as her sponsoring church. Rev. Sanderson has been accepted as one of her mentors.
- ◆ The Board of Deacons has begun selecting a “Person of the Month” during Sunday services.
- ◆ Choir members in 2000: Martha Hubley, Dot Watkins, Darlene Sanderson, Beth Hook, Evelyn Till, Joan Brunelle, Barbara Wicklman, Jim Holmes, Bob Nelson, Norman Wicklman, Dennis Roy, Tom Sickles. Director: David Sickles

## *From The Desk Of The Collector*

“Joblessness Hits the Pulpit” was the headline in the May 2010 Wall Street Journal by Joe Light. I don’t know about you, but I always chuckle when I hear that another poll was conducted by the “Pew Survey.” I’ve never seen a pollster strolling among our pews asking questions!

Interesting tidbits we never hear included: “In 2009 the government counted 5,000 clergy looking for jobs, up from 3,000 in 2007 and 2,000 in 2005.” “Official unemployment rate among clergy sits at 1.2%.” “Nearly 30% of church attendees said they had reduced their giving since November 2009.” According to MinistryPay.com, run by the National Association of Church Business Administration, “The average salary of a youth minister with a few years experience is \$32,000.” “An associate pastor with a decade of experience might earn \$64,000 and with a bachelor’s degree more than \$77,000 according to the U.S. Census Bureau.”

And I bet you didn’t know that the average length of job search for Jewish rabbis has increased. One un-ordained children’s minister in PA, recently unemployed, took a lay job in carpentry – “the biblical profession of Jesus and his father, Joseph.” “The irony is not lost on me,” he said.

As tough as the economy has been, and as challenging as the lack of an increase in Social Security benefits has been, First Community Church has not seen this kind of reduction in giving.

Thank you!

Jim Holmes, Collector

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## *The Power Of Prayer*

Your input is needed to update our Sustaining / Continued Prayer List. Our monthly “Sustaining” Prayer List is being reactivated by transferring to it, those folks whose names currently appear on our weekly list but whose concerns are of a longer-range nature, e.g., those in nursing homes or shut-in but whose condition is essentially stable and who are not scheduled for or recovering from surgery or some other form of “active” treatment. **If there is anyone else whom you want to place on the list, please provide the name(s) and current status to Bob L'Heureux** (bob\_lheureux@verizon.net; 508-485-8216). The first “Sustaining” list will be included in the worship bulletin on November 7 and an “updated” version will be distributed on the first Sunday of each month thereafter. *Updates, of course, must be provided by those placing names on the list.*



An important part of the list has been, and will remain, the names of **family members and friends serving in a branch of the armed forces**. Because the duty and location assignments of military personnel are subject to frequent change, it is important that the information pertaining to each listed service member be updated whenever a change occurs. The initial list of armed services members will include only those names provided to Bob L'Heureux by November 5th. Please indicate if the member(s) you want to have listed are currently serving (or scheduled to serve) in Afghanistan or Iraq.

# Celebrations Celebrations



On Sunday, October 17 we celebrated the Sacrament of Infant Baptism for Nigel Joseph Pinnock, son of Garcia Passley and Roy Pinnock.

We extend a warm welcome to him, the newest member of our Christian community, and we ask God's blessing on him and his parents Roy & Garcia.

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## *Women's Fellowship*

*"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." John 17:21*

The Women's Fellowship had its first meeting of the fall season on September 21, when we shared in a delicious potluck supper and then got right down to business.

With all the women in favor, we decided to again, have a "Christmas Table" fundraiser, offering gift items for Christmas. Baked goods, handcrafted items, and the big favorite of many – special arrangements made up with fresh greenery, candles, and bows. This fundraiser will begin on the first Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 28 and will end on Sunday, December 19. Marlene Joe has again offered to take orders on centerpiece arrangements for your holiday decorating.

The Women's Fellowship would appreciate it if anyone in the Church would like to help with our project and we will accept any donation of Christmas items to sell at our tables. Please contact Mattie Cummings or any member of the Fellowship. All proceeds from this project will be shared equally between the Women's Fellowship and the Church.

We also set the date for our annual Christmas Party. Sunday, December 12 we will come together to share some light food fare, our Yankee Gift Swap with a \$5.00 limit on gifts and lots of warm fellowship. Barbara Crane will lead the devotions. We extend an invitation to all women of the Church to come join us on this afternoon for fun, food, and friendship.

On a special note regarding our November 16 meeting -- Please bring your baked goods, candies, goodies and some diabetic foods for our Sunshine Baskets. We will be making 16 to 19 baskets. Helen Varney will be leading devotions and writing up name tags for the baskets. Mattie Cummings will be providing refreshments. A special thanks to everyone who donated empty baskets for us to use in this worthwhile outreach program.

Mattie Cummings  
Secretary

## *With Our Sincerest Sympathies*



Our heartfelt sympathies to all of the Pierce families for the loss of Emerson A. Pierce who died at the age of 80 on Thursday, October 7, 2010. He was the husband of the late Meredith T. (Marks) Pierce, who died in 2008. Prior to his retirement to Florida, he was the organist here at First Community Church of Southborough.

He is survived by his children, Warner Pierce of Marlborough, Naomi Hobson of Sussex, WI; Marshall Pierce of Marlborough and Rowena Keith of Shrewsbury; a brother, David Pierce of Cape Cod; a sister, Priscilla George of Concord, NH; his sisters-in-law, Miriam Marks of Clermont, FL, and Rae Pierce of Brockton; and grandchildren, nieces and nephews, cousins and other relatives.

Rev. Sanderson officiated at a memorial service for Emerson at First Community Church on October 11.

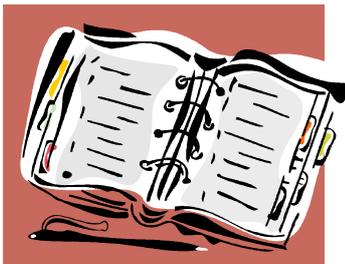
## *Spiritual Exploration Reading*

### **Monday Afternoons with Rev. Sanderson**

The Monday afternoon Spiritual Exploration Reading Group meets from 2:30 – 4:00 PM in the Vestry. We are presently reading a book by Marcus Borg, the biblical scholar who wrote the book *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*. The book is entitled *Jesus and Buddha: The Parallel Sayings*. After an introduction by the Zen master Jack Kornfield and a preface where Marcus Borg explains his interest in the parallel teachings and themes of Christianity and Buddhism, the book contains approximately two hundred parallel sayings, with Jesus' teaching on the left page and the Buddha's teaching on the right.

We will be reading these teachings not only to discover (and hopefully delight in) the astounding number of parallels between Christianity and Buddhism, between the fundamental beliefs of Jesus and Siddhartha Guatama, but also to experience the impact of each teaching for our soul. The group is open to all. You are welcome to join at any time.

## *Pastor's Schedule*



On most weeks, the Pastor will be at the church on the following days/times:

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| Mondays   | 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM |
| Tuesdays  | 2:00 PM – 9:00 PM  |
| Thursdays | 2:00 PM – 9:00 PM  |

Please call (508) 873-0534 if you wish to make an appointment with the Pastor.



### ***New England Society of Jungian Analysts***

To our Pastor who was unanimously elected to serve a five-year term on the C. G. Jung Institute - Boston Training Board at the October meeting of the New England Society of Jungian Analysts. The Training Board oversees the training of the 24 present candidates who are in the process of their training to become certified as a Jungian psychoanalyst, a process that takes approximately 8-10 years.

Paul has been serving for the past two years on the New England Society of Jungian Analysts Ethics Committee, a committee charged with the responsibility of drafting a new Code of Ethics for the Society and the Institute. He has also been nominated to serve on the newly formed Education Committee to explore the possibility of having the C. G. Jung Institute – Boston design a curriculum that will enable them to offer a Master’s Degree in Psychoanalysis in addition to the Diploma in Jungian Analysis that they now offer.

As we all know, “Busy hands are happy hands! Idle hands are the devil’s workshop!”

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## ***Stewardship & Growth Committee***

At our regular monthly meeting this past month, in addition to finalizing the planning for the International Dinner Night, we discussed the upcoming pledge drive. As we have done in previous years, the Pastor will send a letter to the members and friends of our church addressing the spiritual dimension of stewardship. This will be followed by a letter from the Stewardship & Growth Committee detailing the general financial needs of our church. Also in keeping with what we have done in previous years, we will be celebrating Stewardship Sunday on November 21, which is also Thanksgiving Sunday.

We are also in various stages of planning a number of upcoming events for our church: a movie night once a month; a marriage enrichment workshop put on by our Pastor and co-sponsored with Pilgrim Church; some variation of the international theme night we just held; and options for Sunday afternoon concerts in our sanctuary. We are also exploring the possibility of offering those of our parishioners who are unable to attend worship regularly the option of having their pledges automatically debited from their checking account each week.

Our next Stewardship & Growth Committee meeting will be Tuesday, November 30 at 6:30 PM, the fifth Tuesday of the month rather than the fourth, because the United Parishes of Southborough Thanksgiving Service will be held on Tuesday, November 23.

## *International Dinner Night*



It was Saturday night and the foods from about eight countries were overflowing the tables! Thanks to the labors of love from church members and friends of several different ethnic backgrounds, we sampled foods from Armenia, Brazil, Greece, Mexico, Italy, Germany, Jamaica, the Maritime Provinces of Canada, the Philippine Islands, and (of course) America! We had a wonderful turnout -- friends from other churches, friends of friends and family members. No one went away hungry!

As he always manages to come up with a trivia quiz, Bob Farmer tested our geography skills with naming the capital cities of many countries around the world. Amazingly, two people managed to pass the quiz, missing only one answer. The rest of us did not do quite so well—actually, most of us missed a lot!



This event, although we all had fun and lots of good food to eat, was primarily a fundraiser for the church's General Fund, raising \$440.

The Stewardship and Growth Committee would like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation for all who attended and especially to all those who helped setup, cook, advertise, decorate, serve and cleanup.



Look for a repeat or some variation of this event in the future!

## *Report Of The Trustees*

At our October 12 meeting, we reviewed our progress concerning several projects that are on our "To Do" list. The drainage pipe for the dehumidifier has been moved to behind the wall so the storage cabinets in the Vestry can fit snug against the wall. We have a new oil budget plan and a new maintenance agreement for both furnaces.

We have selected the new front doors we want for the Church. They will be metal on the outside with a wood core for insulation on the inside. The moldings can be designed to match our present doors as closely as possible. The doors will have a push bar, which is a much quicker and safer way to open the door in the case of an emergency, and a window so we can see if anyone is on the top step just outside the door. The Diaconate is exploring the possibility of using some of the Memorial Funds to pay for the doors, making a meaningful memorial for some family's (or families') loved ones.

Other projects in the works involve contracting with someone to shovel snow in the winter, moving the sign that used to be in front of the church to the Highland Street side, and installing improved lighting in the choir loft. We will also be holding our Annual Pie Sale on Saturday, November 20 in front of Mauro's in downtown Southborough.

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, November 9 at 6:15 PM.

## *Our Gifts We Bring*

| <i>Missions -- January – October</i> |                   |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                      | COLLECTED         | DISBURSED         |
| Straight Ahead Ministries            | \$475.00          | \$475.00          |
| Assabet Valley Pastoral Counseling   | \$260.00          | \$260.00          |
| Abby's House                         | \$380.00          | \$380.00          |
| Worcester County Food Bank           | \$300.00          | \$300.00          |
| Church World Service                 | \$380.00          | \$380.00          |
| Love Loaves-Heifer Project           | \$40.00           | \$0               |
| Love Loaves-World Vision             | \$2.00            | \$0               |
| Heifer Project                       | \$560.00          | \$600.00          |
| Rape Crisis Center                   | \$385.00          | \$385.00          |
| Southborough Food Pantry             | \$50.00           | \$50.00           |
| Central Asia Institute               | \$385.00          | \$385.00          |
| World Vision                         | \$25.00           | \$0               |
| Tibet Mission                        | \$334.00          | \$360.00          |
| Salvation Army                       | \$35.00           | \$35.00           |
| Haiti                                | \$585.00          | \$585.00          |
| Haiti Earthquake Relief              | \$1,566.00        | \$2,130.00        |
| Haiti Cookie Sale                    | \$262.00          | \$0               |
| Haiti Breads Sale                    | \$252.00          | \$0               |
| Haiti Hygiene Pouches                | \$50.00           | \$0               |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                        | <b>\$6,326.00</b> | <b>\$6,325.00</b> |

Bob Farmer, Treasurer

### *From The Editor*

The deadline for the December 2010 Newsletter will be **Sunday, November 21**. Remember to include any dates for meetings or events you would like listed on the calendar.

Articles and/or dates for the calendar may be submitted to Cheryl Holmes by:



(508) 460-0142



244 Flanders Road  
Westborough, MA 01581



caholmes@charter.net

# Thank You

## *From Our Missions*

Dear Partners in Mission:

I truly thank you for your kindness. By supporting Heifer International, you support a large network of hope, opportunity, and self-reliance through your generous gift.

Families in countries that formerly had strong conflicts with their neighbors such as Rwanda, Kosovo, Philippines, and Peru are benefiting from your gifts daily – by building stronger communities. These villages now live together in peace as they reconcile past differences.

Thank you for giving a gift that keeps on giving, that passes on the gift of self-reliance across generations and international borders all over the world. Over 150,000 families have benefited in the last year alone – and that's a number worth celebrating!

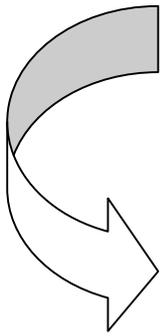
Sincerely,

Jo Luck  
President and CEO



## *With Our Special Thanks To --*

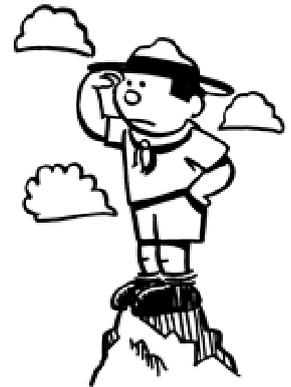
- ◆ Everyone who donated items and personal notes and cards for the Holiday Care Package Drive for our servicemen and women serving in the Middle East. Thanks to all the people who organized the “Support Our Troops” Drive. And many thanks to Bob L’Heureux for making us aware of the drive and delivering all our donations.
- ◆ Karin Farmer for adding to the colors of fall by planting mums around the Church. The corner kitchen entrance is bursting with yellows, reds, and oranges.
- ◆ The Stewardship and Growth Committee for their very fine efforts to hold a first time International Dinner to bring our church family and friends together for a night of good food and fellowship and in the process raise money for the General Fund. A big thanks to all those Chefs who cooked up and shared their favorite native food.



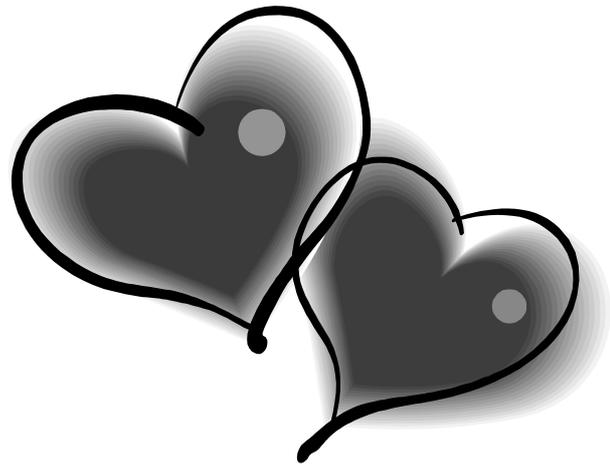
# LOOKING AHEAD

**First Sunday of Advent  
Guest Minister – Rev. Jeanne Friswell  
Sunday, November 28**

**The Rite of Confirmation  
Emily Hite & Mitchell Hilbert  
Sunday, December 5**



## Write down these dates!!



### *Birthdays*

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| Shirley Hutchinson | 4th  |
| Rachel Hooper      | 5th  |
| Beverly Lees       | 12th |
| Ethel Armstrong    | 12th |
| Austin Renaud      | 13th |
| Mackenzie Renaud   | 13th |
| Earle Watkins      | 17th |
| Dennis Roy         | 20th |
| Ann Deschamps      | 25th |
| Sharon Willman     | 26th |
| Martha Nutting     | 30th |

# CELEBRATIONS

### *Anniversaries*

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| Diane & Ron Sickles      | 8th  |
| Darlene & Paul Sanderson | 18th |





## *On Thanksgiving*

*I'm thankful for so many things  
On this Thanksgiving Day;  
My heart is filled with happiness  
For blessings come my way.*

*The warmth and comfort of my home,  
The love that I find there,  
And all my golden memories  
That shine with beauty rare.*

*I'm thankful for my loyal friends,  
The laughter and the tears,  
The dreams and hope and faith I have  
To chase my doubts and fears;*

*For freedom in this land of ours,  
The right to work and plan  
To strive to reach the highest goal  
And do the best I can.*

*But most of all I'm thankful for  
The joy I find in prayer,  
To let God know I'm grateful  
For his constant love and care.*

*LaVerne P. Larson*

## *Count Our Blessings*

*If we add up our blessings  
Upon Thanksgiving Day  
We'll find the list is lengthy -  
More than we can repay.*

*Although we've know some shadows,  
Which come to everyone,  
We've also walked in sunshine  
And found a share of fun.*

*So we can learn we're lucky,  
Whatever comes our way...  
If we add up our blessings  
Upon Thanksgiving Day.*

*Hilda Butler Farr*

# For we are laborers together with God...(1 Corinthians 3:9)

## Lay Leaders

November 7 - Lou Dundin  
November 14 - David Crane  
November 21 - George Nutting  
November 28 - Dianne Simmons



## Greeters

November 7 - Lois Jacobson  
November 14 - Dianne Simmons  
November 21 - Sandy McKeen  
November 28 - Chet Jacobson

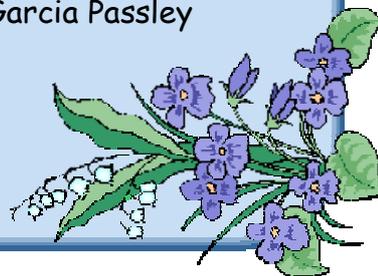
## Coffee Hour Hosts

November 7 - Marlene Joe & Martha & George Nutting  
November 14 - New Members Reception - Diaconate  
November 21 -  
November 28 -



## Memorial Flowers

November 7 - Sharon & Skip Willman  
November 14 - Marlene Joe  
November 21 - Garcia Passley  
November 28 -



## Deacons for November

Bob L'Heureux and Jim Holmes

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Monday                                                  | Tuesday                                                                                                                                   | Wednesday                                                                                     | Thursday                                                                                                         | Friday | Saturday                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1                                                       | 2<br>5:00 PM<br>Choir Rehearsal<br>7:15 PM<br>Diaconate Meeting                                                                           | 3                                                                                             | 4<br>7:00 PM<br>Spiritual Study &<br>Growth Group                                                                | 5      | 6<br><br><i>Set Your Clocks<br/>Back 1 Hour</i>     |
| 7<br>10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal<br>11:00 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship Service<br><i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i><br>Coffee Hour following Worship Service                                                                                          | 8<br>2:30 PM<br>Spiritual Exploration<br>Reading Group  | 9<br>5:00 PM<br>Choir Rehearsal<br>6:15 PM<br>Trustees Meeting                                                                            | 10                                                                                            | 11<br><br><i>Veterans Day</i> | 12     | 13                                                                                                                                     |
| 14<br><b>WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS<br/>TO FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH</b><br>9:15 AM Adult Bible Study<br>10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal<br>11:00 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship Service<br>Coffee Hour following Worship Service                                 | 15<br>2:30 PM<br>Spiritual Exploration<br>Reading Group | 16<br>5:00 PM<br>Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00 PM<br>Women's<br>Fellowship                                                                      | 17                                                                                            | 18<br>7:00 PM<br>Spiritual Study &<br>Growth Group                                                               | 19     | 20<br><br><i>Annual Pie Sale</i><br>8:30 AM – 12 PM |
| 21<br><b>STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY<br/>&amp;<br/>THANKSGIVING SUNDAY</b><br>9:15 AM Adult Bible Study<br>10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal<br>11:00 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship Service<br>Coffee Hour following Worship Service<br>*December Newsletter Deadline* | 22<br>2:30 PM<br>Spiritual Exploration<br>Reading Group | 23<br>5:00 PM<br>Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00 PM<br><i>United Parishes<br/>Ecumenical<br/>"Service of<br/>Thanksgiving"</i><br>St. Anne Church | 24                                                                                            | 25<br>                       | 26     | 27                                                                                                                                     |
| 28<br><b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b><br>10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal<br>11:00 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship Service<br>Coffee Hour following Worship Service                                                                                              | 29<br>2:30 PM<br>Spiritual Exploration<br>Reading Group | 30<br>5:00 PM<br>Choir Rehearsal<br>6:30 PM<br>Stewardship &<br>Growth Committee                                                          | <b>November 2010</b><br><b>Missions -- World Vision &amp;</b><br><b>The Southborough Food</b> |                                                                                                                  |        |                                                                                                                                        |

|  |  |  |               |
|--|--|--|---------------|
|  |  |  | <b>Pantry</b> |
|--|--|--|---------------|