

First Community Church

Newsletter

March 2012



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

This past Wednesday, February 22, was Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday, as you know, marks the beginning of a very special season in our church year – the season of Lent. Although spring doesn't officially arrive for another month, from the 40-50 degree temperatures we have enjoyed this past week it is apparent that we are closer to it than we realize. Even though it has been a wonderful winter, at least in terms of weather and the amount of money we have saved on our church's heating bill, I am looking forward to spring. I am looking forward to the living symbols of Easter that are already beginning to spring from the trees, the shrubs, and the very ground.

I find my spirit lifted by the increased light of the early hours and the songs of the birds when I take my dogs for their morning walk. There is a beautiful silence to a solitary walk on a cold winter morning. I am glad that winter is a part of my life, part of my yearly experience. But there is something about the chirps, the calls, and the songs of the birds that have their own power. I have no idea why they are all chirping and calling. I find it difficult to believe that they are conveying important information to each other. Whether it is true or not, I cling to my belief that these little birds are just downright happy! These little incarnations of God's spirit are just happy to be alive! I wonder if they know something we don't know, or which we sometimes forget.

As I mentioned, in terms of the weather it has been a great winter. But there is more to life and to our lives than the weather. I am aware that for some of us it has been a difficult winter. For some of us the winter is not over, nor will it be over in the foreseeable future. My prayer for each and every one of us is that as we pass through the seasons of our lives, even for a few moments of each day we might feel the joy that fills these little birds. No matter what hardships the day might bring, they seem to be so happy to be alive! What a dreary life it would be if we could not, even for a few moments each day, be surprised by the experience of joy.

Our church is moving forward into spring. Our annual meeting was a celebration of all we have done this past year and a looking forward to the future. It is apparent from the spirit in our church and also from the statistics that have been compiled on the past few decades, that our church is moving in the right direction.

In 1981 we pledged \$10,000 to the general fund and gave \$600 to missions.

In 1991 we pledged \$19,000 to the general fund and gave \$800 to missions.

In 2001 we pledged \$42,000 to the general fund and gave \$4,000 to missions.

In 2011, this past year, we pledged \$47,456 to the general fund and gave \$5,207 to our various missions.

For those of you who have been an integral part of our church over the past decades and who would like nothing better than to ensure that we will be alive and vital in the years to come, I hope you will find these statistics heartening. You and so many others both with and before you have not labored in vain!

We know that what we have here in this little church is special. We would also like to share what we have with more individuals and families. To this end we have tried to remove any barriers to church membership and Sunday morning worship attendance that we could. We installed a chair lift that makes it possible for people to access our sanctuary from the vestry. We have made hearing assistance devices available to worshippers. My sermons are available both in printed and voice versions on our web site. We are an open and affirming congregation.

At our annual meeting we struggled with the issue of whether we should change the time of our worship service to an earlier hour if that would indeed make our church more attractive to more families. Although there was a wide diversity of opinions on this topic, I am encouraged that we were able to consider not only our own preferences and comfort but also the future health and growth of our church. We are clearly not afraid to stretch a little and think "out of the box" if we are convinced that we are both moving in the right direction and also preserving our unique identity and spirit.

This Sunday, the first Sunday in Lent, we will observe a Service of Dedication of our church officers for the coming church year. In light of the commitment of so many of our members to pledge their financial support and to share their gifts and talents with us and with the larger community that we serve, I am confident that we will step forward into the future the same way we have since the beginning of our little church 146 years ago -- with faith. When have we ever had a problem that we didn't solve? When have we ever had a legitimate need that our members did not step forward to address?

Keep our church in your prayers this Lenten season and in the year to come. Whatever it is that God wants us to do and become, I am convinced we will do and become it.

Yours in Christ,
The Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

Missions Offering

Our March Mission Offerings are given to Abby's House in Worcester Mass. Abby Kelley Foster House Inc. (Abby's House) opened one of the first overnight emergency shelters for women with or without children in the U.S. Abby's House was formed at the beginning of the battered women's movement – there were no paradigms to follow in organizational development. Instead, the volunteers who ran the shelter listened carefully to the needs of the women and responded accordingly. The spirit of empowerment, sisterhood and mutuality embodied by the original volunteer activists continues to inform program delivery today.



Mission Statement

The mission of Abby's House is to provide emergency and long term affordable housing, as well as advocacy and support services to homeless, battered and low-income women with or without children.

We fulfill our mission by empowering women to lead self-directed lives filled with dignity and hope.

By offering warm hospitality, we seek to be in relationships of caring and support.

In naming the oppression that exists in women's lives, we strive to create change.

Emergency Shelter

Imagine having nowhere to go; nowhere to sleep, eat or shower. Now, imagine having children to take care of under these circumstances. Where would you go?

Since 1976, women in these circumstances have been coming to Abby's House for help. When it opened, Abby's House was one of the first homeless shelters for women in the United States. Since then, we have helped more than 11,500 homeless women and children reclaim and rebuild their lives. At Abby's, we help women move out of the chaos of homelessness and regain their independence.

“If it weren't for Abby's House, I would have frozen to death in my car this winter, because that's where I was living. You can't imagine what that's like. Abby's House took me in. They helped me figure out a way to get out of my situation and find a place to live. Without them, I would probably be dead.” -- a recent shelter guest

Staffed by a Shelter Advocate and more than 60 regular volunteers, the Abby's House Emergency Shelter is open year-round and serves hundreds of homeless women and children from across Central Massachusetts each year. It is one of two family shelters in the area that does not require its guests to be on welfare, which allows us to serve women from all circumstances, but means we are not eligible to receive state or federal funding.

The average stay at our shelter used to be 11 nights, but has increased to 27. This means that we sometimes need to use our rental units as an extension of our shelter, which, in turn, reduces the amount of rent we take in. It costs \$157,650/year to run the shelter, but we receive only \$15,500 in grants. The remainder comes from individual contributions and sales in our Thrift Shop. If we had to pay staff to provide coverage instead of having a dedicated corps of volunteers, it would cost an additional \$69,500 to shelter the women and children who turn to us for help.

Housing

Abby's House is Worcester's largest provider of affordable housing specifically designed to meet the needs of women and children.

Abby's operates 7 two-bedroom apartments and 71 single room units in four buildings in Worcester, but serves women and children from across Central MA. It costs us approximately \$700/month to operate each unit. The rental fees we collect only cover 48% of these costs. The remainder is covered by foundation and corporate grants, special events and individual contributions.

Women living in our housing receive wrap-around services, which include:

- Advocacy and individualized service planning
- Membership in our Women's Center
- Food Service
- Clothing Assistance through the Thrift Shop
- Support around Domestic Violence and other issues
- Access to partner agencies, such as the YWCA, Tower Hill Botanical Garden, Worcester Art Museum, etc.

The average stay for a woman living in our housing is two years. 98% of the women we serve move into independent housing. The reason we have such a high success rate is because we provide each woman with the individualized support and services she needs to regain her independence.

Advocacy

We all need support to get through the tough times in our lives. At Abby's, having a personal Advocate makes a world of difference to the women we serve.

At Abby's House, each woman is assigned her own Advocate, who helps her identify realistic goals and provides her with the tools she needs to achieve them. Our Advocates empower the women we serve to access the resources they need to succeed in regaining their independence.

The women who come to Abby's House have all had a tough time and feel very alone. For many of them, their Advocate is the first person in their lives who has been truly invested in their well-being. Our Advocates work side-by-side with each woman to help her outline and achieve her goals and develop a sense of pride and self-worth. At Abby's House, you're never alone.

“When I came to Abby's, I had just left my abusive boyfriend and wasn't sure what to do. Katrina helped me figure out how to get back my stuff and stay safe. Now I'm living at Abby's House, have a job, going to counseling and slowly getting my life back together. The staff here has been really great. If it weren't for them, I would have probably gone back to that crazy situation, because I didn't have anywhere else to go.” -- Abby's House resident

Adult Bible Study

In our Sunday morning Bible Study we are continuing our study of the Gospel of John. The Gospel of John is quite different from the synoptic gospels; its focus is not so much on what Jesus did and said as who he was. In our study whenever possible, we compare the way a particular event or interaction is described in John with how it is described in Matthew, Mark and Luke. Everyone is welcome. Bibles are provided.

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.

Annual Meeting



Our Annual Meeting, held on Sunday, February 12, 2012, was a big success. Following the morning worship service was a delicious soup and salad luncheon (including some tempting desserts and coffee) that was hosted by Women's Fellowship.

Reports from the boards and committees were received, the budget for the coming year was voted, and a full slate of officers and representatives on the boards and committees was accepted. There was a general feeling of celebration concerning all we did in the past year, how healthy our church is both financially and in terms of spirit, and how we are looking forward expectantly to the year to come.

Spiritual Study & Growth Group

**Exploring Jungian Psychology And The Christian Faith
Thursday Evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 PM with Rev. Sanderson**

The theme of our Thursday evening Spiritual Study and Growth Group this winter/spring is the relationship of Jungian psychology (the psychology of Carl Gustav Jung) to the Christian faith. We are beginning our study with an overview of Jung's understanding of the psyche and an exploration of the archetypes of persona and shadow. We will read and discuss two books in particular: Robert Louis Stevenson's short novel, *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*, and Robert Johnson's *Owning Your Own Shadow*. Johnson, who is both a Jungian psychoanalyst and an Episcopal priest, is especially gifted in being able to take Jung's profound insights into the grounding of religious beliefs and doctrines in the archetypal structures of the collective unconscious and present them in a way that makes them easy to grasp.

The Thursday evening study group meets every Thursday from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Vestry. Everyone is welcome!

Report Of The Diaconate

The Board of Deacons happily welcomes Scott McKeen and Garcia Passley, our two new deacons for a three-year term. Welcome!

The United Parishes Lenten Series begins on Tuesday March 6. All are welcome to attend these meaningful Lenten evenings. For more information, see the article further in the Newsletter.

The possibility of changing the time of our Sunday morning worship services was discussed at the Annual Church Meeting. The Deacons are taking the thoughts expressed by the congregation under serious consideration. If you were unable to attend the meeting and have some thoughts concerning the possible time change, we would like to hear from you.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 15 at 5:30 PM.

United Parishes Lenten Series

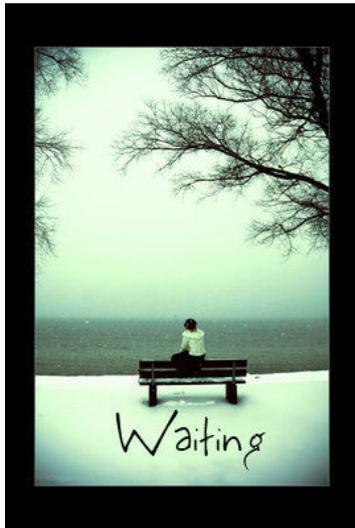
For the eleventh year in a row, the clergy of Southborough and the United Parishes of Southborough will be hosting a Lenten reflection series at each of their churches. This year's theme is "Children of Abraham: Exploring our shared connections with Muslims and Jews."

Each of the four Tuesday evening sessions will begin at 6:00 PM with a brief worship service in the host church's sanctuary. A dinner will then be served in the parish hall, followed at approximately 7:00 PM by a 15 to 20 minute presentation by one of the town's clergy. A time for questions and small group discussion will follow until 8:00 PM.

Our church will be co-hosting the dinner at Pilgrim Church on March 13. We usually have an excellent turnout at these meetings from our church. Participants especially enjoy the opportunity to worship together, to listen to the presentations, and in sharing with each other, realize how much we have in common. The meal is also excellent!

The schedule is as follows:

DATE	HOST CHURCH	SUBJECT	SPEAKER
March 6	St. Mark's Episcopal Church	"An Introduction To Three Faiths: Is One Better than the Others?"	Rev. Barbara Talcott
March 13	Pilgrim Congregational Church Co-hosted by First Community Church	"Women and the Children of Abraham"	Rev. Julie Cedrone
March 20	St. Matthew's Church	"Life Lessons of Faith from the Holy Quran"	Fr. Conrad Pecevich
March 27	St. Anne Church	"Mysticism Across the Monotheists"	Rev. Talcott and Rev. Jon Wortmann



It seems that waiting and patience are God's hallmarks for our Spiritual Journey. Just three months ago, we entered a period of waiting called Advent. It was an uplifting spiritual time of expectation, hope, peace, joy and love, culminating in the celebration of Jesus' birth with all our mind, body, soul and hearts.

Then it was back to waiting and patience for 30 years until Jesus brought His earthly ministry to us. Calling together His disciples and apostles to the task of learning, understanding and spreading the Gospel (Good News) so long ago hinted at and referred to throughout the Old Testament. The New Testament had begun!

And now we enter the waiting period of Lent; remembering the time Jesus spent in the wilderness in prayer and the encounter with Satan causing such anguish and temptation, trying to thwart Jesus' mission of ministry and message of redemption for all of us.

Again we are awaiting and recalling the utter devastation of Jesus' cruel death on the cross and the utter joy of triumph over that death, at His resurrection that first Easter morning.

Here and now in Southborough, the United Parishes, a group of clergy and laypeople representing most of the churches and their respective denominations, were responsible for starting and developing a much used and needed Food Pantry as well as other ecumenical and community programs and services. They also organize a weekly series of ecumenical sessions held yearly during Lent at a variety of host churches.

These Lenten services remind us of why we are, who we are, and what we can be within the context of our Christian faith. We gather together, eat together, listen and discuss together, the implications and impact our Christianity presents to us, especially as we wait for and approach Easter, the ultimate catalyst of our beliefs and faith. I urge you to attend as many sessions as you can. It really represents the breadth and strength of the Ecumenical Christian experience.

If you consider Jesus' birth, life, ministry, good news messages, teaching and gathering of followers all for a radical (at the time) idea, i.e. God as man willing to be sacrificed as repentance for us; rising up from death in defiance of carnal death, and returning to reign on high; then perhaps we will realize that we needed all that "waiting" time to really hear, record, live, learn, understand, internalize, share, believe, and rejoice at each Eastertide, that timeless, far reaching, life changing experience of Jesus the Christ, recorded in our Bibles and preached weekly in our churches throughout the entire year.

It doesn't get tired. It is forever, from generations past through generations future. God's love for us is well worth the wait! We cannot be grateful enough for all we receive from God. His love will touch and keep us always.

Martha Hubley
Guest Columnist



To Arlene Williams who celebrated the 90th year of her birth this past February. Arlene was the “Guest of Honor” at a special surprise party on Saturday, February 18 at our Church. Happy Birthday Arlene, from your friends and family at First Community Church of Southborough.

Women's Fellowship

“One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.”
Psalm 145:4

A very special thank you to all the soup makers and other crock pot offerings -- “so delicious!” Thanks to everyone who made sandwiches and to those who provided crackers, chips, pickles, olives, and home made bread sticks. Thanks to all those who brought special desserts -- lots of great apple crisps, plain and with raisins, Sweet Potato Pie, cookies, spice pumpkin cake and to finish it all off -- the after dinner Ghirardelli dark chocolates. So many loving hands made for a very enjoyable Annual Meeting Luncheon. And thanks to everyone who helped with the cleanup work after.

It is hard to believe the United Parishes Lenten Series Season is here already. With that in mind, our next regular scheduled meeting has been moved from Tuesday, March 20 to Thursday evening March 22 at 6:30 PM. Martha Hubley will be responsible for refreshments and I will have the devotions.

Mattie Cummings, Secretary

Spiritual Exploration Reading Group

Exploring The Relationship Between Chinese Mysticism And The Christian Faith

Tuesday Afternoons with Rev. Sanderson

The theme of our Tuesday afternoon Spiritual Exploration Reading Group this winter/spring is how the insights of ancient Chinese mysticism can shape our understanding of God. We are reading Lao Tsu's collection of eighty-one poems, the Tao Te Ching to discern parallels with Jesus' teachings about God and the way we should live our life.

The Tuesday afternoon study group meets every Tuesday from 2:30 – 4:00 PM in the Vestry. Everyone is welcome!

A Blast From The Past

100 Years Ago

1912 – March

- ♦ Mrs. Boutilier, mother of Mr. Frank and Walter of this place, is reported ill at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Pike in Ashland.
- ♦ Miss Mary Finn, who is teaching in Westfield, is at home for Easter vacation until the first of April.
- ♦ A cow owned by John J. Henderson, superintendent of the Cordaville Woolen Co., gave birth to twin calves last Saturday. The mother is part Guernsey and Ayrshire and is considered a valuable animal. Frank Liberty is in charge of her.

75 Years Ago

1937 -- March

- ♦ Repair work has been done at the Federated Church in charge of Arthur LeGay, H. Holmes and W. Nelson.

50 Years Ago

1962 -- March

- ♦ The Women's Fellowship meeting was enlightened by a talk on Japan, with slides given by Mr. Martin Holmes. Many articles of interest were shown.
- ♦ New members in 1962: Miss Francine Ansell & Sharron Dewy; Mr. Lawrence Houghton and Paul Stockwell. Mr. Roger Gardner (transfer from Natick); Mrs. David Oakes (transfer from Methodist Church, Ft. Walton Beach, FL); Mr. & Mrs. Calvin W. Broom (transfer from Framingham); Rev. & Mrs. Richard Glessner (transfer from Congregational Church, Wilmington, VT).

25 Years Ago

1987 -- March

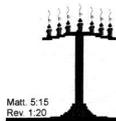
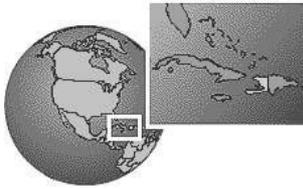
- ♦ The board of Deacons consisted of James Holmes, chair; Arlene Williams, treasurer; and Jill Selden (later Riggles) as secretary. Karin Farmer was representative to the Church Council.
- ♦ A Union service with Pilgrim Church was held at the First Community Church on Ash Wednesday. A service of Tenebrae on Maundy Thursday in which the Deacons participated was held at Pilgrim Church.

10 Years Ago

2002-- March

- ♦ The trustees held a Corned Beef Supper, which was a huge success and netted \$302.
- ♦ The Choir held a pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday to help raise funds for new choir robes.
- ♦ Helen Hoisington passed away and her funeral service was March 22nd.

A Haiti Mission Update



Matt. 5:15

Rev. 1:20

Mattie L. Cummings, Director
20 Flagg Road, Southborough, MA 01772

"His Royal Ministry"

1 Pet. 2:9

*Working with Haitian Pastors and Leaders
to Build Up Christ's Church in Haiti*

Tel. (508) 481-2086

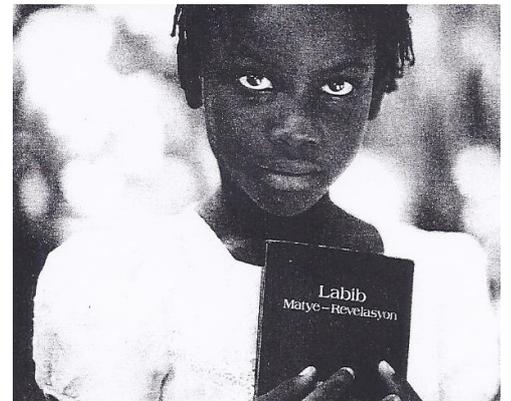
Hope for Haiti – Thousands find Christ through MY HOPE Project – Article taken from the September 2011 issue of *Decision*, a publication of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Originally, the My Hope project was to take place in Haiti in 2010 but was postponed when a catastrophic earthquake devastated the country on January 12, with the capital city of Port-au-Prince taking the brunt of the extensive damage.

Staff from Samaritan's Purse and Rapid Response Team chaplains from BGEA were on the ground in Haiti within a day of when the quake struck - and 18 months later they continue to minister within the impoverished Caribbean nation.

Franklin Graham proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ at a Festival of Hope this past January at the national stadium in Port-au-Prince. The meetings drew an estimated attendance of 80,000 people, with more than 3,400 responding to the Gospel invitation.

The My Hope campaign culminates this multi-pronged evangelistic outreach. Up to 80,000 Haitians were trained to serve as "Matthew" hosts, who invited family and friends either to their homes or churches to hear the Gospel broadcast through TV or radio or by projectors. Teams will fan out across the country in the coming months, using the portable projectors to show a DVD version of the program and giving opportunities for people to accept Christ.



Churches are now reporting how many Haitian men, women, boys and girls accepted Christ as Savior or rededicated themselves to Him as Lord. To date, based on figures from 2,167 churches, 44,797 decisions for Christ have been recorded.

From The Editor

The deadline for the April 2012 Newsletter is **Sunday, March 25, 2012**. Remember to include any dates for meetings or events you would like listed on the calendar. Articles may be submitted to Cheryl Holmes by:



(508) 460-0142



244 Flanders Road
Westborough, MA 01581



caholmes@charter.net



From Our Missions



Dear Friends,

This past week we had our ninth 5-day Juvenile Justice Ministries School entitled “Contributing Factors to Delinquency.” It was our largest school, with 47 students. And it was one of the most diverse. We had 18 students who have been locked up in juvenile detention – some of whom are on staff with us now, some who are involved with our re-entry programs in some way, and some who were attending with parents or a youth leader. Other students consisted of a veteran leader of the Baltimore juvenile justice system, several inner city pastors, several social workers, a medical doctor, and several ministry and business leaders.

It’s always so encouraging to see the synergy that exists with people who have God’s heart for high-risk youth. Please pray for each of these people as they go back to their communities and apply things they have learned.

Things are moving ahead for our grand opening of the *Straight Up Café and Community Center* in the heart of Main South of Worcester. Still so much to be done as we finish renovations on the building, train staff and volunteers, and begin to train youth who will be employed out of there. Please pray with us for God’s hand in all of this, and for His provision for all the finances needed to establish this work in the heart of a very challenging area of our state.

One of the most exciting things about this process is the number of youth and people from that community who have wanted to be involved in getting the space ready to open. The purpose of *Straight Up* is to “Equip juvenile offenders to transform the Main South Community.” Tiffany, one of the girls who has been involved in our Worcester program and attended the 5-day school and also is part of our youth advisory council for *Straight Up*, handed Scott a note at the end of the school. In it, she said:

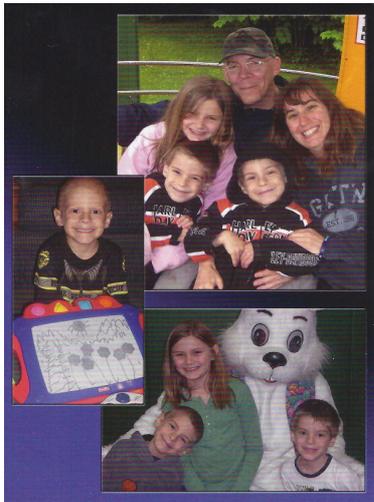
“Thank you for allowing me to be part of this class and part of the opening of “Straight Up!” Not only am I learning ways to help people in my community, I also learned to understand myself and to accept myself and the things I have been through. In doing so I am able to start working towards my future, and even more importantly set up a future for my daughter. I thank God for bringing you all into my life and believing in me and giving me a place to fulfill my dreams.”

It was on the way home from the third day of classes that Tiffany prayed to receive Christ with Brenda and Angel on our staff. Please pray for her and the others who God has chosen to be part of this ministry.

May you experience God’s abundant power and peace in 2012.

In His Service,
Scott and Hanne Larson
(Founders of Straight Ahead Ministries)

From Our Friends



Dear Members of First Community Church,

Thank you so much for your generous gift! We are so touched by your thoughtfulness!

Thank you for continuing to support our family through this difficult time. Your prayers and actions have helped us emotionally and physically.

We are truly blessed to have you in our lives. "Smile! Be Happy!"

Love,
The Stoddard's



Cole Stoddard

With Our Special Thanks To –



- ◆ Beverly Lees for all her tireless efforts to gather up the many reports, budgets, and other vital information needed for the Annual Reports. Many thanks to Bob L'Heureux and Beverly for their time spent in printing, collating and stapling the reports in plenty of time for everyone to review before our Annual Meeting.

- ◆ Everyone who helped to make our Annual Meeting Luncheon a delicious way to begin our Sunday afternoon leading up to the Annual Meeting. A very special thank you to the Women's Fellowship for all their best efforts to organize and feed our hungry group and do it so well!



- ◆ Dianne Simmons (Diaconate); Sherrie Jodrey & David Lowry (Stewardship & Growth Committee); and Anne Mato (Board of Christian Education) for completing their final terms on their respective boards and/or committees.

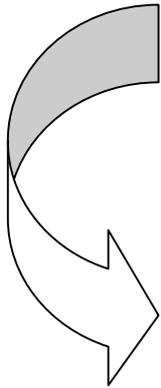


- ◆ Everyone who came out to join in the fun of the first ever "Bunco Nite" at First Community. It was a great night of fun and fellowship, moving from table to table and partnering with a new face each round of the game. Thanks to David Sickles and Cheryl Holmes for organizing the evening and making sure there was enough pizza and goodies to go around! And congratulations to AngieDeCormier, the winning champion Bunco player of the evening.

LOOKING AHEAD

“Bottles & Cans for Cash”
Wednesday, April 25

Write down these dates!!



Birthdays

Lee Cummings	3 rd
Rowena Robertson	4 th
Jon Willman	5 th
Dorothy Larson	5 th
Richard Curtiss	7 th
Cathy Ten Eyck	7 th
Emily Hite	10 th
Walter Hite	11 th
Jan Norcross	12 th
Susan Elias	12 th
Marjorie Lowry	22 nd

Anniversaries

Stan & Jan Norcross	30 th
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CELEBRATIONS



The Coming of Spring

*After the weeks of winter chill,
The warm sweet gold of a daffodil.*

*After the silence, white and long,
A little brook's allegro song;*

*A bird cadenza spilling joy
Into the heart of a listening boy.*

*And shining grass on the wakened sod,
Like a lovely psalm of praise to God,*

*To God who has given you and me
The wonderful gift of eternity.*

By Grace V. Watkins



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March 2012</h1> <h2>Missions - Abby's House</h2>				1 7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group	2	3
4 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i> Coffee Hour following Worship Service	5	6 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 6:00 PM United Parishes Lenten Series held at St. Mark's Church	7	8	9	10  <i>Set Your Clocks Ahead 1 Hour</i>
11 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service	12	13 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM United Parishes Lenten Series held at Pilgrim Church Co-host First Community Church	14	15 5:30 PM Diaconate Meeting 7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group	16	17  Happy  St. Patrick's Day
18 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service	19	20  2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM United Parishes Lenten Series held at St. Matthew's Church	21	22 6:30 PM Women's Fellowship	23	24
25 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service April Newsletter Deadline	26	27 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM United Parishes Lenten Series held at St. Anne Church	28	29 7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group	30	31