

First Community Church

Newsletter

May 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

One of the benefits of having our son Corey back in the area is that Corey, in my opinion, is a musicologist. By that I mean that he plays several instruments, understands music, and is constantly trying to introduce his admittedly troglodytic father to new musical experiences. I was perfectly happy with my listening repertoire of classical music complemented with a heavy dose of Pink Floyd until Corey challenged me to step a little outside my comfort zone and open my ears and my heart to Bluegrass.

It started fairly innocuously. Last summer Darlene and I accompanied Corey and Nathan to the Podunk Bluegrass Festival in Hartford, Connecticut. I have to admit that I was blown away both by the music and the unbelievable talent of these (often quite young) musicians who not uncommonly hail from Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia. As I watched several teenage or younger fiddlers or banjo players, whom I would characterize as world class, I thought to myself, "So this is what kids would look like if they didn't have television, computers, and video games to occupy their minds, their hands, and their hearts all day long!"

Because of my experience last summer, which included the rare opportunity to listen to The Steep Canyon Rangers, the backup group for comedian Steve Martin, who is himself a world-class banjo player, when Corey mentioned that Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver were performing in a concert in a relatively small venue in Lexington (Massachusetts), Darlene and I were not a hard sell. So last Saturday night, after a long weekend of attending and helping to host a workshop at the C. G. Jung Institute -- Boston on the Tavistock method of infant observation and the importance of early infant experience for the development of the aesthetic, spiritual, and symbolic function, I stepped into another world for a few hours.

If you are not into Bluegrass I won't bore you by telling you about Doyle Lawson and the role he has played in the development of over sixty major Bluegrass musicians over his approximately fifty-year career. Trust me, this guy still has it. I don't see how anyone could be any better on the mandolin. Accompanied by a guitar, a base guitar for rhythm, a dobro, fiddle, and banjo,

Doyle led his group in a three-hour excursion into a broad range of bluegrass offerings. The most powerful and touching for me was the acappella renditions by Doyle and three of the band members of some old Gospel hymns.

Although I don't generally line up politically with the voters from Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia, I have to admit that I am in tune with their religious feeling and expression. I had the same feeling listening to Quicksilver perform that I often have when we sing some of our beloved hymns that were written in the middle 1800's – that this is an important articulation of our Christian tradition, one that touches the heart as well as the mind. Last Saturday night I was moved to tears as four men who, because their music flowed from a deep and rich Christian spirituality, helped the rest of us to connect with it as well.

This is how I feel about our choir. I can't tell you how grateful I am that these members of our church give so generously of both their time and their talent to help deepen and enrich our worship experience. I am both appreciative of and grateful for the musical talent of David Sickles and Michael Larson, and what they are able to create with admittedly limited but dedicated and enthusiastic resources. We don't have a big church and a big choir, like some other churches do, but I wouldn't trade ours for anyone's.

Choir Appreciation Sunday, which we celebrate this year on May 20, provides us with the opportunity to formally express the gratitude we feel week in and week out for our organist, choir director, and choir, and for the contribution they make to our weekly worship. I invite you to attend and express your thanks to these members of our congregation who play such an important role in helping us to connect with the depths and richness of our Christian tradition, who touch our hearts as well as our minds in so many ways.

The Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

Adult Bible Study

Come join us as we study the Gospel of John, a poetic and mystical gospel account of not only what Jesus said but who he was.

The Bible study is open to all. No background in biblical knowledge is required. 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.

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.

An Invitation To New Members

New members will be received into the church on Sunday, June 3, 2012. If you would like to enter into full fellowship with our church, or if you have any questions about what membership in our church involves, please contact the Pastor.



Missions Offering



Our Mission Offering for May is the Blankets+ Program (Formerly called Tools of Hope and Blanket Program) by Church World Service (CWS).

Did you know?

It's our birthday!

Church World Service was founded on May 4, 1946.

Founded in 1946, Church World Service is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian communions working together with partners to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice around the world.

'The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him his own.'

– Benjamin Disraeli

Born out of love and inspiration, Church World Service has worked for more than six decades with one goal: **building a world where there is enough for all.**

Our first endeavor was sending food to the hungry after World War II. Today, Church World Service focuses not only on meeting immediate needs but also on offering sustainable solutions that empower people around the world. Even people facing extreme hardship tell us that what they really want is to support themselves and their families. Our experience has taught us to listen.

We meet them, right where they are. We help them identify their strengths and weaknesses, their obstacles and opportunities. We help them create solutions they can maintain – and build on.

The people we assist are not about to let injustice or adversity define them. Neither are we.

By supporting the work of Church World Service, you affirm the power of individuals and communities to take ownership of their future. Your support means a refugee family will be able to start a new life. Or that those in crisis brought on by disaster or violence will be able to recover with dignity.

Their chance for a new beginning is also your chance to change lives. **How will you respond?**

Give HOPE. Take ACTION.

Hope comes in many forms. In blankets wrapped around survivors of deadly storms, earthquakes and other disasters. In seeds to replant fields destroyed by floods. In a cup of clean, safe water for a child struggling to fight off disease. And though it may look different every time, the source of hope remains the same – **you.**

Through the Blankets+ Program, you provide emergency resources and long-term assistance to help families around the world recover from disasters and build viable, sustainable lives and communities.

Blankets+

... providing blankets and so much more!

When disaster strikes, CWS works with partners on the scene to provide shelter, food and water, blankets, recovery kits, counseling – the basics people need to survive. And, CWS stays long after the headlines have faded, helping vulnerable families and communities prepare for and recover from natural and human-caused calamities.

For example, in drought-ridden Ethiopia, CWS and partners are assisting 120,000 people with food and seeds to restart farming activities.

When disaster strikes here in the U.S., CWS dispatches disaster response specialists to the scene, where they help local interfaith groups to assess and respond to the material and spiritual needs of their communities.

After Hurricanes Ike and Gustav hammered the U.S. Gulf Coast, CWS reached out to its network of long-term recovery groups with material resources such as CWS Blankets and Kits, and with project development support. Since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, CWS has invested in building long-term recovery capacity along the Gulf Coast, and more than 640 houses were repaired or rebuilt through a CWS/Habitat for Humanity collaboration.



\$50 can give warm blankets to 10 orphans in Transnistria, the poorest region in Moldova.



\$100 can provide seeds and tools for poor rural families in South America's Gran Chaco region.



\$300 can help drill 10 meters of a shallow borehole well in Pakistan.



\$1,000 can provide a pair of goats for 8 families in East Africa, giving them milk and a source of income.



..... *The Diaconate*

2012 Membership: Bob Farmer; Joyce Harrington (Treasurer); Beverly Lees; Scott McKeen; Garcia Passley (Secretary); Bob L'Heureux (Chair).

Meetings: 6:30 PM on the first Tuesday of each month (except July and August)

Responsibilities (working very closely with the Pastor) include, but are not limited to:

- Provide general oversight of the spiritual affairs of the church;
- Arrange for worship service pulpit supply whenever the Pastor is not available;
- Provide in-church support for pulpit supply and summer services guest clergy;
- Prepare and serve Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month, on Maundy Thursday, and for any other service designated by the Pastor;
- Account for and administer Deacons Fund offerings and church memorial funds;
- Select the twelve monthly missions for each calendar year;
- Make *Upper Room Daily Devotional Guides* available for use by congregants;
- Send written acknowledgements to visitors whose Guest Book entry includes their full and readable address.

Recent Activity: The spring is one of the Diaconate's busiest times of the year with planning for Holy Week and Easter services, Laity Sunday, Choir Appreciation Sunday (May 20), Mother's Day (May 13), Father's Day (June 17), and the Summer Services (June 24 through September 2).

Also:

- a three-year old Tibetan refugee girl (*Tenzin Dekyi*), living in India with her parents, was "adopted" and will receive annual financial support through "The Tibet Fund", one of our monthly missions;
- appropriate plaques were procured for the major memorial funds contributions of new *Front Entry Doors* (Tom and Gwen Sickles) and *Choir Loft Lighting* (Ed Lambert);
- a new "Church Guests" book was purchased and placed in the Narthex and new brass "followers" were purchased for use on the altar candles;
- based on the extensive and lively Annual Meeting discussion of the pros and cons of moving our Sunday worship service to an earlier time, the decision was made to take no further action in that regard at this time.

Your Input Is Welcome: We who are currently serving on the Diaconate feel privileged to have been given this opportunity and take our responsibilities very seriously. Working closely with one another and with Pastor Sanderson has been and is a real blessing. We sincerely welcome your input concerning any aspect of the spiritual life of our wonderful community of faith.

The next meeting of the Diaconate will be Tuesday, June 5 at 6:30 PM.

**This is the first in a series of focus articles on the Boards and Committees of First Community Church of Southborough*



Here's the scoop on the Yard Sale --- Saturday, May 12 --- 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM -- Rain or shine at the church. Clean your cellar! Clean your attic and garage! Clean out those closets and kitchen cabinets!

If anyone needs help with the pick up of their items, call anyone of the members on the Stewardship and Growth Committee. Items can be dropped off at the church now. Everything should be clean and in good salable condition. Sorry -- NO televisions, computers, or monitors and NO broken items!

We'll have clothes, shoes, toys, household items, FREE coffee, and a bake table sponsored by the Women's Fellowship.

Anyone interested in helping set up and price should contact one of the committee members. We are using colored stickers, which will represent a certain price.

We hope you will all stop by and browse. You just might find a treasure!!

2012 Stewardship & Growth Committee

David Crane, Eileen Prefontaine, Darlene Sanderson, David Sickles, Dianne Simmons and Sharon Willman

Spiritual Exploration Reading Group

Exploring The Relationship Between Chinese Mysticism And The Christian Faith

Tuesday Afternoons with Rev. Sanderson (May - June 12)

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!

From The Desk Of The Collector

Ever wish you could write a check to a good cause but don't want the mailman delivering frequent requests for additional monies? Donating to the First Community Church and specifying one of our monthly missions will do just that!

Instead of you getting the requests, our Treasurer, Bob Farmer receives them. Just ask him how many requests he gets!

Summer is just around the corner. A friendly reminder that if you are not going to be in Church for several weeks, we sure would appreciate it if you would utilize the USPS and drop your pledge in the mail. The bills keep coming even if you do not!

Thank you.

Jim Holmes, Collector

Investment Committee



Although our investments are up a bit from the beginning of the year despite a volatile market, several indicators suggest we could be in for a dip. As a result, the Investment Committee has voted to move most of our holdings into bond funds for the time being to minimize our risk.

At our next meeting we will look to see whether to move back in or whether to move farther out. Either way we should be in the best shape possible given the market!

2012 Investment Committee

Lou Dundin, Karin Farmer, Beverly Lees, Sandra McKeen, and Cathy Ten Eyck

Our Gifts We Bring

<i>MISSIONS -- JANUARY – APRIL 2012</i>		
<i>MISSIONS</i>	<i>COLLECTED</i>	<i>DISBURSED</i>
Straight Ahead Ministries	\$410.00	\$400.00
Assabet Valley Pastoral Counseling	\$300.00	\$300.00
Abby's House	\$433.00	\$433.00
Worcester County Food Bank	\$268.00	\$220.00
Southborough Food Pantry	\$100.00	\$100.00
Heifer Project	\$10.00	\$0
TOTALS	\$1,521.00	\$1,453.00

Bob Farmer
Treasurer

A Blast From The Past

125 Years Ago

1887 -- May

- ◆ The remains of Mrs. Mary Faulkner, wife of George Faulkner, who died at her residence in Taunton, were brought here for interment on the 4th. Funeral services were held at the home of her mother, Mrs. Caroline Day, conducted by Rev. John LeBosquet, Pastor of the 2nd Congregational Church, who spoke in glowing terms of her worth.

100 Years Ago

1912 -- May

- ◆ Last Sunday there were union services at the Congregational Church at which the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) Civil War Veterans attended. There was special music.

75 Years Ago

1937 -- May

- ◆ A special meeting of the Southville Federated Church was held on May 10th for the purpose of electing a pastor for the ensuing year, and also to decide on the time at which one service would begin during the summer season. The meeting was opened with prayer by Mr. Dunn. Mr. Morrison was appointed moderator of the meeting. It was voted that Mr. Pierson be recalled for the ensuing year.

It was also voted to have only one church service during the months of July and August, and that the evening services for the month of June begin at 7:30 o'clock. Lucy Stockwell, clerk.

- ◆ Joseph Sanchioni is a veteran B & A section hand (Boston & Albany RR) having been 32 years on the railroad. He says this is the first winter he did not have to shovel snow.
- ◆ Mrs. Warner Oland of Hollywood, California, has been a visitor at her summer home on Gilmore Road. (She was the wife of the screen actor who portrayed Charlie Chan)
- ◆ A new restaurant has been opened on Cedar Street, Hopkinton, Rt. 85, under the management of Anna Carbone.

50 Years Ago

1962 -- May

- ◆ The Women's Fellowship made arrangements for the purchase of a new coffee urn with money realized from the sale of cards and stationary by Mrs. Dexter Osgood. May Fellowship Day was held under the supervision of Mrs. Blake, acting President, due to the absence of Mrs. Hutchinson, president. A Masonic Supper was held on May 9th.

25 Years Ago

1987 -- May

- ◆ On May 2nd, the Church held an auction in Fellowship Hall of Pilgrim Church. Jean Wynn and Beth Hook were co-chairmen. The Women's Fellowship participated in the bake sale and snack bar. Approximately \$2,400 was realized from this effort.

- ◆ The Women's Fellowship annual yard sale was held May 16th at the home of Martha Templeman. Since it is on Rt. 85, it attracts a lot of people. Close to \$500 was raised.

10 Years Ago

2002 -- May

- ◆ Spring cleanup was done along with putting stones along back.
- ◆ The Trustees have assigned a Vestry Committee to upgrade the Vestry. Several donations have been received and hopefully next year we will see many changes in the Vestry that will be very eye appealing.



Sunday, May 20 has been designated as Choir Appreciation Sunday. Come and hear the choir as they are "warming up their vocal chords" for this special occasion.

The Choir is always looking for new members to join the group and share their love for music in praise to God. However, you should know in advance, that David Sickles, the Choir Director, has a very special test that he administers to any potential new members.

In case you are interested, we thought this would be a good time to give you some hints to prepare for the tough questions you might have to answer.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS??

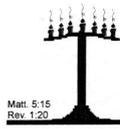
The Dentist's Hymn ----- Crown Him with Many Crowns
 The Weatherman's Hymn ----- There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
 The Contractor's Hymn ----- The Church Is One Foundation
 The Tailor's Hymn ----- Holy, Holy, Holy
 The Golfer's Hymn ----- There Is A Green Hill Far Away
 The Politician's Hymn ----- Standing on the Promises
 The Optometrist's Hymn ----- Open My Eyes That I May See
 The IRS Agent's Hymn ----- I Surrender All
 The Gossip's Hymn ----- Pass It On
 The Shopper's Hymn ----- Sweet Bye and Bye
 The Realtor's Hymn ----- I've Got A Mansion Just Over the Hilltop
 The Doctor's Hymn ----- The Great Physician
 The Electrician's Hymn ----- Send The Light

And for those who speed on the highway – a few Hymns to hum along the way

45 mph ----- God Will Take Care Of You
 65 mph ----- Nearer My God To Thee
 85 mph ----- This World Is Not My Home
 95 mph ----- Lord, I Am Coming Home
 100 mph ----- Precious Memories



A Haiti Mission Update



Matt. 5:15
Rev. 1:20

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

"His Royal Ministry"

I Pet. 2:9

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

Tel. (508) 481-2086

"Chefs Help Haiti Effort"

The Island Greek Oysters Foundation's "Friends for Haiti Fundraiser" were able to buy tilapia farming starter kits for more than 40 families through "Caribbean Harvest," an organization that aims to boost the commercial fishing industry in Haiti.

Some of Boston's best chefs participated – *Rialto's* Jody Adams, *Island Creek Oyster Bar's* Jeremy Sewall, and Michael Schlow of *Tico and Via Matta* were just a few of the big names who came out to support the event this past fall.

The night's honored guest was Valentin Abe, Caribbean Harvest's founder.

Tilapia fish farms provide not only nutrients and vital protein, but also a self-sustaining food resource. The implementation of a fish farm allows untrained women and men to learn a vital self-sustaining trade to not only feed their families, but to provide additional income to support their children. In turn, their children have the opportunity for an education and to learn other trades. It is a great feeling to know you can provide for your family and achieve a better future for your children.

Spiritual Study & Growth Group

Exploring Jungian Psychology And The Christian Faith

Thursday Evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 PM with Rev. Sanderson (May - June 14)

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!

Women's Fellowship

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee." Isaiah 26:3

The Women's Fellowship met on Tuesday, April 17 at 6:30 for a brief business meeting. We touched briefly on plans for a baked goods table at our upcoming church yard sale to be held on Saturday, May 12. This effort is designated as our month of May date, to raise funds for L'il Shoppe to go the church's General Fund. At our next meeting, we will be choosing other dates to help in this fundraising effort.

Our April meeting ended promptly at 7:00 PM to give place for our guest speaker Zack Bird. Angie DeCormier, our second guest speaker, could not be present as she was visiting her family in Michigan before she and Zack leave for Abu Dhabi.

In the time that Angie and Zack have been attending church with us at First Community, we learned that he and Angie had come from other states to work and learn at the nationally recognized New England Center for Children (NECC) located right here in Southborough on Route 9.

Zack shared some very interesting information about the development of autistic children at NECC.

- The NECC was founded in 1975 with a mission to transform the lives of children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- The Autism Curriculum Encyclopedia (ACE) is used by over 600 students at NECC
- NECC serves students primarily between the ages of 18 months and 22 years old
- Since 1997, NECC has provided individual programs for students in Bermuda, London, Qatar, and Abu Dhabi
- Since 1987, over 900 full time employees have received Master's Degrees in one of NECC's onsite graduate programs, many of which are now working with students with autism in public schools across the United States
- NECC has an operating budget of 52.7 million, employs more than 800 staff members, operates a 90,000 square foot central school facility and owns 15 residential group homes in the Metro West area of Massachusetts

At the end of April, Zack and Angie left for the NECC facility constructed in 2010 in Abu Dhabi, UAE (United Arab Emirates).

It was wonderful having them with us for a while and we wish them well on their continued journey working with these special children.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 PM. Sandy McKeen will be responsible for devotions and Mattie Cummings will take care of the refreshments.

Mattie Cummings, Secretary

SOUTHBOROUGH FOOD PANTRY

Please help us help others!

First Community Church Shopping List for May



For the month of May we will be collecting all donations that are appropriate and you are willing to give. Choose from the list below or consider making a check out to First Community Church of Southborough with a note earmarking it "Southborough Food Pantry."

Canned Chicken



Coffee Instant or Ground Regular



The collection box is located next to the L'il Shoppe for you to drop off your items.

From The Editor

The next issue of the Newsletter will be the Summer Issue (June, July & August). The deadline is set for **Sunday, May 27, 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



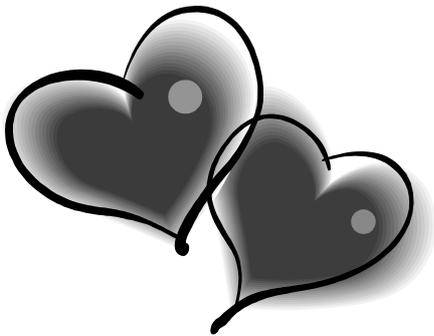
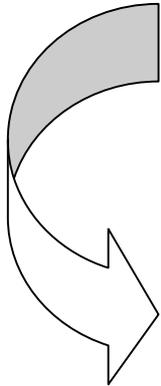
With Our Special Thanks To --

- ◆ David Sickles, Sharon Willman, and Pat Grogan for each in their own way, making our Sanctuary so beautiful for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.
- ◆ Rev. Sanderson, the readers, the Choir, and our organist Michael Larson for making Maundy Thursday's Tenebrae Service a solemn and moving evening during Holy Week.
- ◆ All those who took part in this year's United Parishes Easter Sunrise Service. Thanks to Rev. Julie Cedrone for delivering the Easter message; Rev. Paul Sanderson for the closing prayer and benediction; and the Fay School in Southborough for the annual loan of their battery-powered podium. And a big thank you to Bob L'Heureux for all his time and effort to organize the program.
- ◆ Bob Farmer, Martha Hubley, Bob L'Heureux, Sandy & Scott McKeen, and Skip Willman who helped add to our General Fund by sorting and bagging bottles and cans at the Southborough Transfer Station. And of course, a big thanks to the Chief Bottle & Can Collector, Mattie Cummings who organizes this fundraiser every year.
- ◆ Everyone who took part in this year's Laity Sunday Service. Thanks to our Choir Director David Sickles for leading us in a well-enjoyed hymn sing when we had the chance to sing some of our old time favorites.
- ◆ The Women's Fellowship for hosting the evening presentation by Zack Bird and Angie DeCormier on their work at the New England Center for Children (NECC) and their upcoming journey to work for NECC in Abu Dhabi.
- ◆ The Trustees for the delicious Spaghetti Supper, which raised money for the General Fund. A very big thank you to Skip Willman, the Master Chef.
- ◆ Barbara & David Crane, Karin & Bob Farmer, Beth Hook, Sandy & Scott McKeen and Skip Willman and his trusted companion, John Deere, for their time and efforts spent on the Spring Clean Up. The Church grounds look beautiful and alive with Spring!

LOOKING AHEAD

Strawberry Social
Father's Day -- Sunday, June 17

Write down these dates!!



Birthdays

Angie DeCormier	1 st
Scott Webster	6 th
Cricket Port	10 th
Stan Norcross	12 th
Jan Bishop	13 th
Barbara Bresse	14 th
Jeff Willman	22 nd
David Crane	23 rd
Nancy Mantos	30 th
Mason Renaud	31 st

CELEBRATIONS



Memorial Day Reflections

Written in 2011 by Crystal Cavalier, the 2011 Army Spouse of the Year

As Memorial Day 2011 approaches, it is time to stop for a moment and consider the true meaning of this holiday.



Studies from the Department of Veterans Affairs show that most Americans confuse Veterans Day with Memorial Day. Why? Well both holidays commemorate our veterans service, but with one important difference. So what's the difference you ask? Well Memorial Day honors service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries sustained during battle. Deceased veterans are also remembered on Veterans Day but the day is set aside to thank and

honor living veterans who served honorably in the military.

On this Memorial Day, we should honor the many soldiers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to their country. From soldiers who fought during the American Revolution to the soldiers of today's Armed Forces. We also need to remember that the war lives on in soldiers, even after they depart the battlefield, and war lives on in the lives of those families who survive. Often we do not observe the day as it should be, a day where we remember our loved ones and our friends who have given the ultimate sacrifice.



This Memorial Day I am going to do something a little different than years before. My husband, children and I are going to buy American flags and visit a few of the nearby cemeteries and walk through and find the soldiers who do not have a flag. I'll leave one and say a prayer for the family of that person, who for some reason could not bring their soldier flowers or a flag. I am also going to visit my grandfather's and great-grandfather's grave who fought in WWI and WWII. I also ask you this Memorial Day to fly your American Flag at half staff and let it remind us of the sacrifices being paid by our men and women in uniforms. Our flag is truly a symbol of the freedoms that we are fighting to protect.

I'll pray for the families who paid the ultimate price, whose loved ones died, or were imprisoned and never returned. I'll pray for anyone who may still be missing in action or a prisoner of war. I will not forget, I will not let my children forget, rest assure that your commitment to the United States and the US Army will never be forgotten.

Thank you for your service to our country.

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

Lay Leaders

May 6 - David Crane
May 13 - Barbara Crane
May 20 - Cathy Ten Eyck
May 27 - Pat Grogan



Greeters

May 6 - Karin Farmer
May 13 - Sharon & Skip Willman
May 20 - Jan Norcross
May 27 - Beverly Lees

Coffee Hour Hosts

May 6 - Cathy Ten Eyck
May 13 - Barbara Crane
May 20 -
May 27 -



Memorial Flowers

May 6 -
May 13 - Garcia & Roy Pinnock
May 20 - Hazel Watkinson
May 27 -



Deacons for May

Bob L'Heureux and Garcia Passley

*In Quietness and Confidence
You will find God*

*When peace is missing,
When you take control,
God seems far away and
Your life in turmoil.*

*Pride serves no purpose,
You've closed the gate.
You distanced yourself,
How can you relate?*

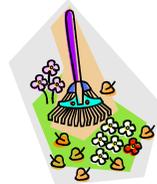
*Stop and reflect,
Think of God's love
Long promised by Jesus,
Focus above!*



*Quietly listen
To that still small voice.
Trust and believe
Be confident, rejoice!*

*Then calmness returns,
Your life will repair.
Once again you're in tune.
Look beside you, He's there.*

*Martha Hubley
Guest Writer*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 2012 Missions – Blankets+ Program		1 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Diaconate Meeting	2	3 7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group	4	5  <i>Spring Clean Up</i>
6 10:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i> Coffee Hour following Worship Service	7	8 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Women's Fellowship	9	10 7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group	11	12  <i>9:00 AM – 1:00 PM</i>
13  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	14	15 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	16	17 7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group	18	19
20 Choir Appreciation Sunday 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	21	22 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	23	24 7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group	25	26

<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>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 Summer Newsletter Deadline (June-July-August)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Memorial Day</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:00 PM Spiritual Study & Growth Group</p>		
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