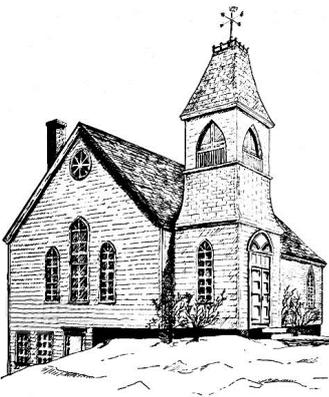


First Community Church

Newsletter

December 2013



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

As we know, Thanksgiving came relatively late this year. This means there is no Sunday between Thanksgiving and the beginning of Advent, no week to catch our breath and to begin to prepare for a season of preparation.

Advent is indeed a time of preparation. It is an important part of the liturgical year; in fact it is the beginning of the church year. It is a time that we set aside to prepare for the celebration of Christ's incarnation, Christ's birth in Jesus of Nazareth. This incarnation, the event of the "Word made flesh," is just as important to us as Christians as the celebration of the resurrection on Easter.

Christmas used to be regarded as a religious holiday, a day that was special to Christians and of little interest to anyone else. The secularization of this religious celebration has been gradual and insidious. It is not uncommon nowadays to hear people refer to Christmas as a secular holiday "with religious overtones."

It is not that I want to wage war against the devolution of Christmas from a religious celebration to a celebration of secular materialism. It is what it is, and it brings happiness to millions of people who don't have the slightest clue or interest in what this day is all about. I only have so much energy nowadays to do so many things, and I want to pick my battles carefully. I just want to make sure that, in the midst of the ubiquitous secularization of Christmas we as Christians, perhaps as a faithful remnant, know the true spiritual meaning of this season.

I was heartened this past week to read of a recent paper that Pope Francis released. In his papal statement, Pope Francis, who is emerging as one of my heroes, sharply criticized the growing economic inequality due to the structural sins of unfettered markets not only in the West but also in developing countries. In this apostolic exhortation he decried what he called the "idolatry of money" and warned that it would lead to "a new tyranny." This guy is obviously the real thing!

And no matter what the rest of the world thinks or does, he is calling us as Christians to remember what this season is all about.

This is why, once again, we begin our Advent worship with the lighting of the Advent candles, the candles of hope, love, joy, and peace. These candles are a reminder that despite the claims of advertising companies that one can obtain these gifts through the purchase of a particular product, these gifts come from somewhere else, from somewhere much deeper. This is why I like the theme of the worship bulletins that we will be using this Advent season: Christ brings us hope, love, joy, and peace.

The message of Christmas is that God's light shines in the darkness. On that night, two thousand years ago, it streamed forth from an obscure corner of the world in the birth of a little child. The human life of that child ended on a cross, but his light still shines in the darkness. We have this light deep within our soul. There it struggles to push back the darkness of our lives.

We do not have to do battle with secular materialism; I think that's a losing cause. I can learn to live with the chipmunks' covers of Christmas carols and the barking dogs' rendition of Jingle Bells. All we have to do as Christians is remember what Christmas is all about and incarnate this in our lives. The Word that was incarnate in Jesus brought healing to a broken world. Christmas calls us to celebrate the presence of a love whose light is able to bring good news and great joy to all peoples. Wherever love reigns that light shines forth and the darkness cannot defeat it.

We invite you to share the joyous moments of this season with us -- in the richness of our worship, in our special music, in the symbolism of the Advent candles, in the fellowship of our Advent Event, and in the stillness of our candlelight service on Christmas Eve. We also invite you to share in our mission as we reach out through the Salvation Army to those in need in our own community and in places of special need throughout the world.

May the blessings of Christmas be with you this special season and throughout the coming year.

Peace,
The Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

Adult Bible Study

This year our Sunday morning Bible study, which meets at 9:15 AM on the second, third, and fourth Sunday of every month, is studying Paul's letter to the Romans. Paul's letters, which are the oldest Christian documents we have, and which were written at least twenty-five years before the gospels, allow us a glimpse into the theology of the early church, how the followers of Jesus in the first century understood who Jesus was and the significance of his birth, life, teaching, death, and resurrection. In this letter, Paul tries to show how Christianity is rooted in Judaism, but is a faith for all humanity.

In addition to addressing matters of personal faith and morals, the letter to the Romans contains practical advice to the church in Rome about the problems they were facing. As such, it has been a source of inspiration and renewal in the church from earliest times to the present.

Everyone is welcome! Bibles are provided!



Missions Offering

Our Mission Offering for December is given to the Salvation Army through our church “Christmas Card.” We continue our long tradition of this program in lieu of sending individual Christmas cards to members of the congregation whom we see regularly. If you would like your name to be included on this card, which will be sent to all those members and friends of our church family who are on our mailing list, please make your donation no later than Sunday, December 15. This will insure that your name will appear on the special holiday greetings that will be enclosed with the Pastor’s Christmas Letter. If you have a pledge box, please use the special envelope provided in it. Or you can make a check payable to the church, (note on it “Salvation Army”) and give it to Jim Holmes or place it in the offering plate.

This is a great way to extend Christmas greetings to everyone in our church family and support a very worthy cause in the process.

For many years, people have had the misconception that The Salvation Army is just a social service agency that helps in emergency disaster situations. They are much more than that!

The Salvation Army, founded in 1865, is an international religious and charitable movement organized and operated on a quasi-military pattern and a branch of the Christian Church. Its membership includes officers (clergy), soldiers/adherents (laity), members of varied activity groups and volunteers who serve as advisors, associates and committed participants in its service functions.

The motivation of The Salvation Army is love of God and a practical concern for the needs of humanity. This is expressed by a spiritual ministry, the purpose of which is to preach the Gospel, disseminate Christians truths, supply basic human necessities, provide personal counseling and undertake the spiritual and moral regeneration and physical rehabilitation of all persons in need who come within its sphere of influence regardless of race, color, creed, sex or age.

The Red Kettles and bell ringers are perhaps the most visible community-wide Salvation Army program. During the holidays the results from the nickels, dimes and dollars put into the kettles provide needy families, seniors, and the homeless with Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, gifts for children, coats and shoes for kids with none to wear, and visitation to the elderly and imprisoned who have no one to care for them.

Volunteers distribute gifts to shut-ins in hospitals and nursing homes, and shelters are open for sit-down dinners. The Salvation Army endeavors to bring spiritual light and love to those it serves at Christmas so that the real meaning of the season is not forgotten. Many families receive aid over a period of months after the Christmas season as well, people struggling with difficult family, emotional, or employment problems.



The Season Of Advent



This year the sacred liturgical season of Advent begins on Sunday, December 1. This is always a special time in the life and worship of our church. We begin to sing the Christmas carols that are so much a part of our tradition, one each week until Christmas Eve. Our sanctuary is always decorated so nicely thanks to the artistic touch of David Sickles.

In our worship, we usually focus on a theme that helps us to prepare for the celebration and the experience of Christmas. This year we will be reflecting on the blessings of Christmas – the gifts or fruits of the Spirit that God gave birth to in Christ, gifts that are ours to share with others. Each week, as we light one of the candles of our Advent wreath, we will explore what it would mean to receive the gift symbolized in that candle and then discover how we might give birth to these gifts in the world.

December 1	Christ Brings Us Hope
December 8	Christ Brings Us Love
December 15	Christ Brings Us Joy
December 22	Christ Brings Us Peace
Christmas Eve	Christ Brings Us Light

Please join us during this special and blessed season as we prepare to receive the Christ child into our lives.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Let us welcome our Savior into the world and into our lives on Christmas Eve as we gather for our traditional service of lessons and carols, as we both “receive the light” and share it with each other.

Join us on Tuesday, December 24 at 6:30 PM.

The Advent Event **POTLUCK** *Supper*
 & *Tree Lighting Sing-A-Long*

Saturday, December 7 at 6:00 PM



Come and join us for another greatw night of eating, singing and fun as we gather for our annual Advent Event. The supper will begin right at 6:00 PM. It will be potluck so please make your favorite dish (entree, appetizer, side dish, or salad) and bring it to share. The Choir will provide the drinks, dessert and fun. Please sign up on the posted sheet in the Vestry and let us know what food you will be bringing.

After dinner we will go up to the Sanctuary to light the tree and sing some familiar Christmas songs. Then let the games begin – On Your Mark, Get Set, Go – “The Amazing Race” is off! Everyone can participate and it is sure to be a night that will put you in the holiday spirit right through the holiday season! So mark your calendars, bring your friends and join the Choir as we celebrate this wonderful time of year!

If you would like a ride to and from the Advent Event, don’t hesitate to call Jim and Cheryl Holmes (508-460-0142). We want you to be there and share in this special event with us.

Our Gifts We Bring

Our Missions Offerings are donations made above and beyond our gifts of the Pledges that we make to support the First Community Church of Southborough’s General Operating Budget.

Bob Farmer, our Treasurer, has provided us with an update of what we have collected and donated as of November 30, to the Missions that we have chosen to support this year.

American Himalayan Foundation

PROJECT STOP GIRL TRAFFICKING

SEPTEMBER

\$275.00

Straight Ahead MINISTRIES
 OFFERING KIDS A WAY OUT

OCTOBER

\$500.00

SOUTHBOROUGH FOOD PANTRY

\$200.00

A Blast From The Past

125 Years Ago

1888 – December

- ♦ Mr. Lafayette M. Perkins and Mrs. Susan P. Perkins (who had transferred by letter from Buffalo, NY in 1887, was dismissed to the Methodist Episcopal Church in Westboro, 11 December.

50 Years Ago

1963 – December

- ♦ The Board of Directors saw the letting of both the new heating system contract and the fuel contracts to Kenoil of Marlboro. The Church Study Committee was completed and had held one meeting. Christmas greetings were sent to the Servicemen.
- ♦ The Sunday School Christmas program was held on the 21st, followed by a visit from Santa in the vestry, who presented each child with gifts and candy.
- ♦ The Women's Fellowship packed boxes of goodies for those members unable to attend Church or any of the functions. A Christmas party and an exchange of gifts by the members was enjoyed by all who attended.
- ♦ The Church School Secretary reports the following: Officers: Mrs. John Dewey, Supt; Mrs. Charles Masterman. Sunday School Teachers: Mrs. W. Earl Appleby, Mrs. Carlton Choate, Mrs. Shirley Conant, Miss Sharon Dewey, Mrs. John Hale, Miss Beverly Harpster, Mrs. Martin Holmes (1/2 year), Mr. Martin Holmes (1/2 year), Mrs. Alvah Hubley, Jr., Mrs. Robert Holmes, Miss Sharon Sickles (1/2 year), Miss Jan Webb, and Mrs. Ernest Williams.

25 Years Ago

1988 – December

- ♦ Justin Daniel Mills was baptized December 10th.
- ♦ Christina Katherine Simpson was baptized December 23rd.
- ♦ Hamilton Armstrong died December 31st.

10 Years Ago

2003 – December

- ♦ The Advent Event, hosted by the Board of Christian Education, was held on Saturday, December 6. The potluck supper began at 6:00 PM, followed by some singing and the latest round of Advent trivia.
- ♦ The Church Council met on December 9th. The Red Roof Inn now houses only 1 homeless family.
- ♦ The Women's Fellowship Christmas party was held at the home of Pat Mountain.

Holiday Or Holy Day



Ahhh! The season of Thanksgiving we have every year, a wonderful recognition of family, home and reunion. As a population, we are very mobile and scattered. But Thanksgiving reaches out to everyone, drawing them home to share together a delicious meal and especially each other, catching up on each other's life accomplishments, family news, and perhaps new additions.

Pure and simple, a time to appreciate and enjoy those special relationships. It is something we often neglect -- too busy, too far way, illness limitations and/or (unfortunately) contentiousness.

At the Thanksgiving table, we are willing to by-pass all of this to unite around the "groaning board" and just be with each other as a family and good friends. To be grateful, enjoying this special time together, be thankful for who you are and for the gift of family. Thanking God with a prayer of grace (even if you don't pray regularly) seems so appropriate, meaningful, comforting and warm.

But the time for resuming your "normal" life inevitably arrives and disperses family and friends once again, leaving us with new memories to warm the heart.

However, in the blink of an eye we are hooked and catapulted into "taking advantage of midnight madness" bringing us back into a hectic commercial driven society. Only a few hours to focus on family and faith with loved ones and appreciation for each other and even before midnight on Thanksgiving Day, commercial shopping AKA "Black Friday" overshadows and erases that precious family focus time called Thanksgiving or thanks-giving!

It is really hard to ignore the commercialism and hoopla to remind ourselves what Christmas really commemorates i.e. the birthday of Jesus, the Savior promised centuries ago. An emissary who devoted his short temporal existence to teaching and preaching God's will. He sought out and trained (if you will) His disciples to reach out and introduce God's son, Jesus, the sustainer, liberator, and Savior to us all.

We celebrate Jesus' birthday as Advent, with scripture, carols and candle lighting -- a time of great promise and joy.

The birthday of Jesus was a long expected event, honored by angelic chorus, adoration and gifts from far away that were delivered to that lowly manger by three foreign Kings who followed that bright star to the stable and manger bed to honor Jesus, the infant.

His birth is a renewal of faith, a reminder of the enormous gift of life from our Father through His beloved Son, providing a truly selfless and meaningful Gift of Life.



Christmas is a fun, colorful, exciting and commercial time for families, especially the children. A time of expectation and hope. It doesn't need to compete with the reverence of the true meaning of Christmas.

Have a Merry Christmas, enjoy family and friends and the gifts. Rejoice and be thankful for the meaning behind the celebration, the arrival of Jesus, the ultimate gift of life! Have a blessed Christmas, recognizing the value of this gift and thank God. Then gather around the tree and enjoy the holiday and family festivities.

Martha Hubley
FCC Columnist



Would You Like To Be A Vestry Floor Angel?

Have you ever sat in the vestry during the winter months for a committee meeting, a pot-luck supper, a Sunday morning Bible study or one of our other study groups and found yourself rolling your feet onto their side or dangling them in the air because the floor was so cold? Have you ever noticed how the sound reverberates throughout the vestry during coffee hour because there is nothing to absorb it, and how you have to talk louder to be heard (which doesn't help the overall problem)? Have you ever looked at the tile floors in the kitchen, bathroom, and vestry and entertained the passing thought that they have seen better days?

The Board of Trustees, after what feels like literally months of deliberation, has voted to have the floors in the kitchen and bathroom replaced and to carpet the vestry floor with the same beautiful indoor/outdoor carpet that we recently had installed in the narthex. This long-overdo upgrading will make a tremendous difference in our comfort as well as the aesthetics of three rooms that are a very important part of our church life.

After careful comparative shopping, we found a carpeting company and a tile company in the area that can give us just what we want for a very reasonable price (approximately \$6,000). We were also excited to learn that we can have the entire project completed before Christmas Eve!

This is why we are turning to you. How would you like to be a Christmas Vestry Floor Angel? It is very easy (probably a lot easier than becoming an actual angel). All you have to do is make a (tax-deductible) gift to First Community Church earmarked for the Vestry Floor Fund. Then every time you sit in our vestry during the cold winter months in quiet comfort you will have a warm glow inside you that comes from the knowledge that you helped make this possible. By the way, if you have fallen behind in your monthly donations to the Building Fund, this would be a great way to catch up!

The week after we decided to embark upon this faith project, we received an unexpected gift. A previous member of the Board of Trustees, whose name we will not mention but who has recently moved out of our part of the country to Arizona and who is probably thrilled that we are finally embarking upon this long-overdo project, sent us a gift of \$500 to kick off our campaign! So this anonymous member of our church family is our very first Christmas Vestry Floor Angel! That's the way it is in our church. Whenever we need something done, someone steps forward to do it.

Please consider becoming a Christmas Vestry Floor Angel. If you do, you will not only be able to put your feet on the vestry floor during the winter months without them freezing, you will also have a warm glow inside you. And isn't that what Christmas is all about?

Report Of The Trustees

The continuing projects on our list of ‘to dos’:

- ☑ The four EXIT lights will be replaced, a spotlight that shines on the church front door will be installed, and the can lights from the choir, which were replaced some time ago, will be installed in the two dark corners of the vestry by our electrician, Jim Bertino.
- ☑ The vestry has been measured and will be carpeted the same as the narthex.
- ☑ The bathroom and kitchen floors will be covered with waterproof vinyl, hopefully during the month of December. (This job requires both the stove and refrigerator to be moved to allow installation; the toilet in the bathroom will also need to be resealed)
- ☑ New “waterhog” doormats have been purchased for the inside of the two entrances from the outdoors.
- ☑ The nursery will become a library specifically to house choir music; the copier room will become more of an ‘office” for our Administrative Assistant, Bob L’Heureux.
- ☑ Creative Planters has removed all leaves and cleaned all the planted beds.
- ☑ The vestry ceiling must be explored to determine water and insect damage.

Board of Trustees: Beth Hook, Karin Farmer, Sandy McKeen, Skip Willman, Dave Crane, and Roy Pinnock.



Please help us help others!

First Community Church Shopping List for December

For the month of December, 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.”

Coffee Instant or Ground Regular	Cookies	Brownie & Cake Mixes
		

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

Women's Fellowship

"And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his Kingdom there shall be no end." **Luke 1: 31-33**

With our shut-in list up to date and some wonderful donations of food items and fruit, we were able to make up 16 "Sunshine Baskets" for some very special people -- Always a blessing to those who received one and to us in the giving.

Please remember our Christmas Table Fundraiser, which we hope will also help our members and friends with some of their Christmas Shopping. The following people will be responsible for overseeing the sales:

December 1 - Mattie Cummings & Beverly Lees
December 8 - Karin Farmer & Thelma Oakes
December 15 - Martha Hubley & Marlene Joe

As in the past, we will gladly accept any donations of Christmas items or baked goods for the table. Please pre-price them to speed up their readiness for sale. Contact Mattie Cummings or Martha Hubley with any questions.

We are again taking orders for one of your favorite holiday items; the beautiful Christmas Centerpieces each made with donated fresh greens and decorated by Marlene Joe. The cut off date for ordering is December 20. You will find an order form elsewhere in the Newsletter and in your Sunday morning bulletins. Please get your order in early!

A reminder to all ladies of the church that you are welcome to the Women's Fellowship Christmas Party that will be held on Sunday December 8, in the Vestry at 1:30 PM. Please bring your favorite finger food and dessert as well as a gift for the Yankee Gift Swap. (\$10.00 limit) Barbara Crane will be sharing the Christmas devotion. We hope to see you all there.

Mattie Cummings
Secretary

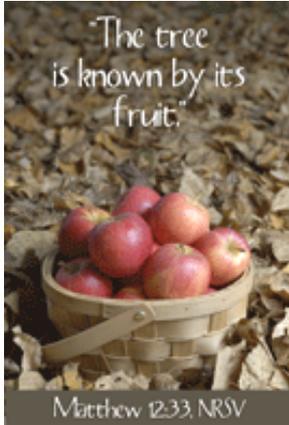


Poinsettias

This shrub, native to Mexico, is at the heart of legend about a poor girl who wanted to bring Baby Jesus a gift one Christmas Eve. As she walked to church, she gathered a bouquet of weeds, which Jesus miraculously transformed into lovely red flowers. Thus the poinsettia (named for Joel Poinsett, the U.S. ambassador to Mexico who first brought the plant to America) is known in Mexico as *la flor de la Nochebuena* (flower of the Holy Night).

The poinsettia is also an ideal Christmas symbol because its leaves turn red when deprived of sunlight and its flowers (the red inner buds) bloom in December.

Stewardship & Growth Committee Report



Just a friendly reminder – if you have something to “donate and sell” on Craigslist, please contact Dave Sickles. This venue could be a triple win – win for you with parting with things you might no longer want or need, win for the church with monies needed and win for the buyer.

Also on these cold winter nights if you are warming up your kitchen by baking on a Saturday night, you might think of bringing in your homemade goodies on Sunday morning to sell at the L’il Shoppe.

Our First Community Church of Southborough brochure is moving ahead to a true work in progress. Trying to contain our excitement over this project, we hope to have the first draft ready for our review sometime this coming January. Cheryl Holmes has been working with an outside advertising/marketing representative, who has been truly getting to know our church and help design a brochure that totally fits us. More on this project to follow in the next few months.

This committee continues to work on ways to increase our income and increase our membership. We are open to ideas and suggestions.

Report Of The Diaconate

We are continuing our tradition of providing poinsettias to decorate the altar for Christmas. Please remember how beautiful our altar looks at Christmas with lots of these lovely flowers adorning it and consider donating towards this cause -- And you get to take them home too. That takes “having your cake and eating it too” to a higher level. Watch for the order forms in your church bulletins on Sunday morning as well as the one inserted in your December Newsletter. We invite you to dedicate your flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one.

In keeping with another tradition, our designated Mission for the month of December will be the Salvation Army. We suggest again this year, that the money you might have spent on Christmas cards and stamps, you might want to donate to this important Mission. We will add your name to the Christmas Card that is sent with the Pastor’s Christmas Letter to all the friends and members of First Community Church.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 PM.

Oh The Weather Outside Is Frightful....



Our general policy as a church is to try to hold worship whenever we can, if only for a few people. We believe that if you want to make the effort to attend on a snowy day, we should be there for you. However, we wouldn't want you to be hurt either walking or driving to church in inclement weather. We also need to remember that our Pastor and our Organist come from quite a distance. It may be a lot easier for some of us to get to the church than it would be for them. Above all, we don't want you to end up driving to church on a snowy or icy day only to find that church has been cancelled.

In anticipation of snowy or icy days, when we would not want people to go out, the Diaconate and the Minister have established a policy and procedure for the cancellation of our Sunday service. The decision of whether to hold or cancel church because of weather will be made by the Pastor, who lives in Foxborough; the Moderator – Lou Dundin, who lives in Grafton; and our Deacon Emeritus, Bob L'Heureux, who lives in Southborough.

We will not post the cancellation on the telephone tape at the church number because that would entail someone trekking to the church and re-recording the message. We will also not be posting it on our website.

Notice of the cancellation will appear on the three Boston television stations:

Channel 4 (WBZ) -- Channel 5 (WCVB) -- Channel 7 (WHDH)

In addition, WBZ News Radio will read the list of cancellations twice every hour – at :05 and at :35 past the hour. We are listed as “First Community Church – Southborough.”

The decision will be made and the cancellation will be called in to these stations by 8:30 AM Sunday morning by the Pastor, who alone has the secret, encrypted code numbers that enable our church to appear on the cancellation list for each station.

From The Editor

The deadline for the January-February 2014 Newsletter has not been determined as of the printing of this Newsletter and will be **announced at a later date.** 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 Friends:

Thank you for your generous contribution to the work of Church World Service – which we appreciate more than ever in these challenging times.



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Your compassionate support is helping impoverished communities develop clean, reliable water sources. Teaching poor farmers sustainable ways to create food security. And providing food, water, shelter and other necessities to families struggling to rebuild their lives and livelihoods after natural disasters and civil conflict.

I have seen both the resilience and the resolve of the women, men and children we assist. And I have been deeply moved by the generosity of people like you, who give hope and opportunity to people in need, here in the U.S. and around the world.

May God bless you for your kindness,

Rev. John L. McCullough
President and CEO

With Our Special Thanks To --

- ◆ David Sickles for sharing his gift of style and decorating to make the sanctuary warm with the hues of fall and Thanksgiving.
- ◆ Everyone who helped organize, bake pies and breads, advertise, make monetary donations, set up, and/or man our booth in front of Mauro's on Saturday, November 23 for our very successful Pie Sale. There were at least 50-60 pies, cakes, brownies and other baked goods to sell and we raised \$840.00 for the General Fund.

A special thanks to Darlene Sanderson who coordinated the list of baked goods, to Skip Willman for transporting the church vestry table, and to David Crane for preparing and placing the sign announcing the sale. And a very big thank you to Bob Farmer, Jim Holmes, Scott McKeen and Bob L'Heureux who braved the cold to man the tables and make the sales.

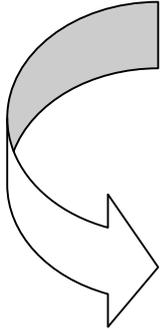


Overflowing With Thanks

As Bob Farmer has discovered in his accounting over the past 25 years that we have been holding a pie sale, we have raised over \$11,000 for the church! That's a lot of dough.

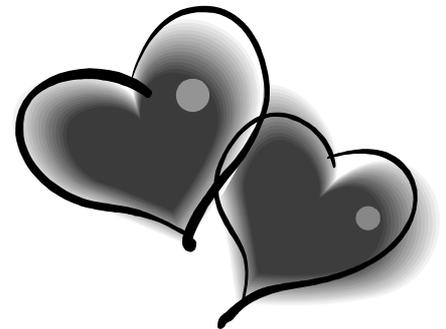
LOOKING AHEAD

“A Blessed New Year”
2014



Write down these dates!!

<i>Birthdays</i>	
Gilbert Joe	2 nd
Nancy Hite	3 rd
Matthew Deschamps	11 th
Betty Tebbetts	12 th
Tanner Willman	13 th
Bayley Willman	18 th
Cheryl Holmes	19 th
Darcy Hilbert	20 th
Stacey Willman	21 st
Dick Varney	24 th
Justin Elias	27 th
Pat Davis	29 th
<i>Anniversaries</i>	
Lynn & Scott Webster	23 rd
Dorothy & Michael Larson	24 th

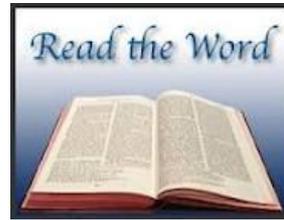


CELEBRATIONS

"then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind." *Philippians 2:2*

Lay Leaders

December 1 - Barbara Crane
December 8 - Bob Farmer
December 15 - Pat Grogan
December 22 - Joyce Harrington
December 29 - Martha Hubley



Greeters

December 1 - Mattie Cummings
December 8 - Karin Farmer
December 15 - Beverly Lees
December 22 - Bob Farmer
Christmas Eve - Sharon & Skip Willman
December 29 - Cathy Ten Eyck

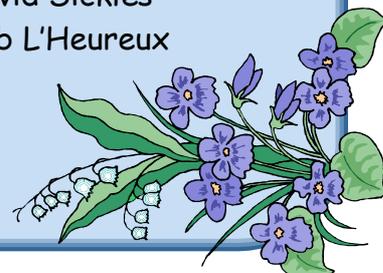
Coffee Hour Hosts

December 1 - Karin Farmer & Helen Varney
December 8 - Garcia, Roy, & Nigel Pinnock
December 15 - Barbara Crane & Beth Hook
December 22 - Marlene Joe
December 29 -



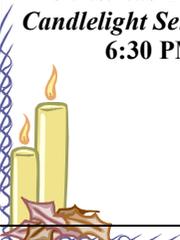
Memorial Flowers

December 1 - Cathy Ten Eyck
December 8 - Dianne Simmons
December 15 - -
December 22 - David Sickles
December 29 - Bob L'Heureux



Deacons for December

Garcia Passley & Dianne Simmons

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 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	2	3 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Diaconate Meeting	4	5	6	7  Advent Potluck Supper 6:00 PM
8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 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 1:30 PM Women's Fellowship Christmas Party	9	10 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting	11	12	13	14
15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 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	16	17 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	18	19	20	21  WINTER BEGINS
22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 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	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</i> 6:30 PM 	25  CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27	28
29 FIFTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service	30	31  NEW YEAR'S EVE				