

First Community Church

Newsletter

March 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 the various boards and committees coordinated their church schedules and calendar for the next few months, scrambling once again to enable us to attend the United Parishes of Southborough Lenten Series, I overheard several people remark that “Easter comes early this year.” In a sense, this is true. Palm Sunday is March 24 and Easter Sunday is March 31 this year. That means we are already well into the season of Lent.

Why is Easter so “early” this year? How is the date of Easter determined? You might think it would be tied to the celebration of the Jewish Passover since Jesus and his disciples entered Jerusalem on what we know as Palm Sunday to celebrate the Passover. Our powerful Maundy Thursday communion service, where we observe the ancient ritual of Tenebrae, was originally a Passover meal. But this isn't how the date is set in the western branch of Christianity.

Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Please don't ask me how the church came up with that formula. Unless they were picking the date to coincide with a pagan fertility festival (which may actually be the case), I don't see what a full moon has to do with the historical event of Jesus' resurrection. I can see the connection with spring because both spring and resurrection have to do with new life springing forth from the dark earth. I like the symbolism of the connection, but we lose a little of the historical dimension or grounding of Easter in the process. And the resurrection was a historical as well as a symbolic event.

It will probably be at least “brisk and invigorating” when we gather by the side of the lake at Hopkinton State Park at 6:30 AM on Easter Sunday for our Easter Sunrise Service. I doubt if this will deter the 75-100 faithful from all the churches in Southborough, Catholic and Protestant, who gather every year to welcome Easter at the moment of the rising sun. That ecumenical service has its own beauty. A few hours later, we meet in our own churches, nice warm churches that are beautifully decorated, to worship in our own traditions with our own communities. I could not imagine missing Easter Sunday worship in our own church, even if I attended the

sunrise service, if only for the magnificent hymns and the special music that our choir will be sharing with us.

In one sense, the date of Easter is “early” this year. In another sense, it can never be early. Just as it did for the first disciples, Easter comes to us when we discover the true meaning of the resurrection: that Christ rose from the dead; that Christ lives; that Christ is present within and among us; that Christ is present as a guiding, healing, comforting, and saving power in our lives. When we think of Easter this way, it can never come too early. In fact, it cannot come soon enough!

I look forward to the beautiful decorations that will grace our sanctuary during Holy Week: the palm cross on Palm Sunday and the cross of lilies on Easter Sunday. I look forward to the sight of the chancel graced by pure white lilies and colorful tulips. Easter is coming just in time, just at the right time – at the end of a long, cold winter. My prayer is that it will also come to you, that it will come at just the right time – perhaps at the end of a long, cold winter.

May the spirit of Easter and the presence of the risen Christ be with all of us in this special and sacred season!

Faithfully yours,
The Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

Adult Bible Study

We are continuing our study of the Wisdom Literature of the Bible, starting with the Book of Proverbs. So far, we have discovered a true depth of wisdom in these books, which were originally attributed to Solomon, and we have identified themes that found later expression in the teachings of Jesus and the writings of the apostle Paul.

Adult Bible Study group meets on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of every month from 9:15 – 10:30 AM in the Vestry. Bibles are provided.

Please Note: For the month of March, Bible Study will be held only on Sunday, March 17.

Annual Meeting



Our Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, February 17, 2013 following the worship service with a delicious soup & sandwich lunch that was hosted by the Women’s Fellowship.

Reports from the boards and committees were received, the budget for the coming year was voted, and a slate of officers and representatives on the boards and committees was accepted. The general feeling of celebration concerning for who we are and what we offer as a church was accompanied by a commitment to help our church grow and move forward into the future that God intends for us.



Emeritus (*i·mer'ā·tes*)

n. One retired from professional life but permitted to retain as an honorary title the rank of the last office held.

adj. Holding after retirement an honorary title corresponding to that held last during active service.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary

At the Church Annual Meeting held last month, Bob L'Heureux was elected Deacon Emeritus by acclamation. He is the first to obtain this honored ranking in our Church's 148 years.

I would bet that being as modest as he is, Bob has no idea how many terms he has completed as a Deacon. You'll note at various times the terms have been 3 and 4 year terms. His first term was during the conversion from the Federated Church year that began in October to the Community Church year in which officers are elected in February.

October 1969	–	February 1973
February 1974	–	February 1978
February 1981	–	February 1985
February 1988	–	February 1991
February 1992	–	February 1995
February 1997	–	February 2000
February 2001	–	February 2004
February 2005	–	February 2008
February 2010	–	February 2013
Total: 9 Terms -- 29 Years 4 Months		

Considering our bylaws do not allow consecutive terms, you will notice there have only been 6 years he possibly could have served out of the last 44 that he did not. For many of the years, he served as chairman. He has served in 6 different decades with 10 different Pastors. During his first term he served with Rod Houghton, Louie Hoisington, Willard Snow, Howard Norcross, Charles Hutchinson, Ernest "Bud" Williams and Robert Nelson. Those were the days when women could prepare Communion but not serve on the Diaconate. That changed in 1982 when the first woman was elected to the board -- Karin Farmer.

He has served longer than any other Deacon has in our Church surpassing Louie Hoisington's 20 years (Evelyn Till's Dad).

Of course, he wasn't chosen Deacon Emeritus for the number of years he served. It was a widely held recognition of everything he has provided to our Church. Bob epitomizes all that a Deacon should be - spiritual, faithful, compassionate, and active in promoting a Christian environment within our Church.

Upon his election, typical of Bob, he asked what the job entailed. I would answer, "Continue doing everything you have always done for as long as you are able."

Congratulations and thank you Bob, from your family at First Community Church.

Jim Holmes
Church Historian

United Parishes Lenten Series

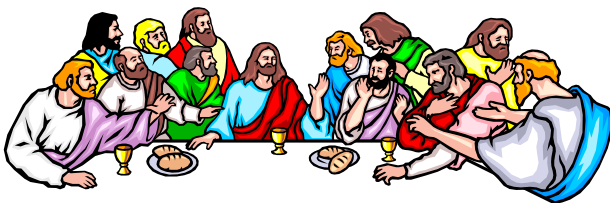
The United Parishes of Southborough has already begun holding its annual Ecumenical Lenten Series at various parishes for four Tuesday nights preceding Easter. The program begins with a short worship service at 6:00 PM that is led by the host church. Dinner is served at 6:15 PM. At 7:00 PM there is a presentation on the topic of shalom by one of our clergypersons. The presentations are followed by a small-group discussion, which concludes at 8:00 PM.

The question that is the central focus of our Lenten series this year is “A Whole Life: Finding Shalom.” In these busy times, how do you nurture all the parts of yourself? How do you stay healthy and connected to God despite the storms and stresses of your life? The speakers will offer suggestions for finding peace and becoming more centered as we journey through Lent together.

The schedule for the meetings is as follows:

DATE	HOST CHURCH	SPEAKER
February 26	St. Matthew Church	Fr. Conrad Pecevich
March 5	Pilgrim Congregational Church Co-hosted by First Community Church	Fr. Phil LaBelle
March 12	St. Anne Church	Chaplain Stephen Hebert
March 19	St. Mark’s Episcopal Church	Rev. Julie Cedrone

A Service Of Tenebrae



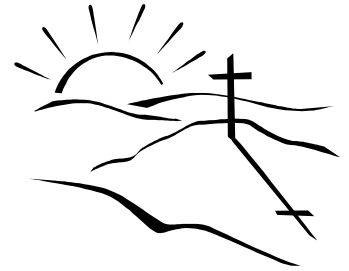
On Maundy Thursday, March 28, at 7:00 PM, we meet in the sanctuary to participate in the remembrance of the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. The word “maundy” comes from the Latin “mandatum novum” or “new commandment” that you *love one another*.

Our communion service is followed by an observance of the Office of Tenebrae, an early (4th century) office of worship. The word “tenebrae” means darkness. The gradual extinguishing of the candles following the recitation of the events of Holy Week symbolizes the betrayal, the approach of Jesus’ enemies, the moments of aloneness in the Garden, and the dark night of the soul. The moment of near total darkness recalls the three days our Lord was in the tomb. The relighting of the single candle is the prophecy of the resurrection soon to dawn.

*Come – Listen – Feel the Words Spoken – Share the Last Supper
Leave with the Passion of Christ*

Easter Sunrise Service

“He is risen, He is risen indeed”



Arise early and dress warmly to see the sunlight glistening off the water and listen to the variety of bird songs joyfully filling the air all around.

Join us at Hopkinton State Park on Easter Sunday morning, March 31 for our annual Sunrise Service sponsored by the Lay Council of The United Parishes of Southborough. The service will begin at 6:30 AM at the end of the parking lot next to the marina. In case of steady rain, the service will take place at First Community Church.

Julie Cedrone, Associate Minister of Pilgrim Church and Rev. Paul Sanderson, Pastor of First Community Church will be delivering the Easter message. Diane Newland will be providing special music.

Missions Offering

Our March Mission Offerings are given to Abby's House in Worcester Mass. Abby's House, (Abby Kelley Foster House Inc.) incorporated in 1976, 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, one woman at a time, Abby's House has helped thousands of women and children make their way out of the chaos of homelessness. About 300 women and children each year stay in our emergency shelter. We provide our programs with the financial support of individuals,

community groups, private foundations, family foundations and corporations. Eighty-nine cents of every dollar donated to Abby's House goes directly to programs for homeless and battered women and children.

The following is an excerpt from *A BRIGHT SPOT IN THE CITY*, a publication of Abby's House, which was submitted by Alex Kartheiser on November 27, 2012.

The Value of a Real Conversation

These days, we have a whole new vocabulary to describe how we relate to one another: texting, blogging, face booking, tweeting--all done on our smart phones, iPads, or other gadgets. While these new forms and modes of communication help people stay connected, nothing replaces the impact of face-to-face conversation.

Each day when I come to work at Abby's House, I am greeted by the women who live here, who sit in front of the building, talking or relaxing. Our conversation might be a simple exchange of greetings about the weather or something deeper than that, but what matters is that we start each day with real conversation, by making a real connection. When I enter the building and make my way to my office, I look forward to talking with my co-workers face-to-face. It starts my day on a positive note, and provides me with something tangible but incredibly valuable. By connecting face-to-face, we are taking the time and making the investment in one another that we care about how the other person is doing, and in the process, building a community that is based on hospitality and genuine concern for one another.

For 35 years, Abby's House has greeted women and children with warm hospitality, offering services, support and a listening ear to those who turn to us for help. The women who come to our door may have exhausted their resources but they are strong, resourceful and resilient. Some of them may be working, others may be going to school, looking for work, or need additional education or training, but they all need a little help to take that next step. What they need most from us is to be accepted and treated with respect, and to belong, regardless of their past history or what brought them to our door. What they need most is for us to engage in conversation with them about how they got here and how they can regain their footing on the path to independence.

Technology certainly has its place -- just today, one of our residents got a job that she applied for online. Women who need our help can visit our website and learn more about our services, print a housing application, or locate a phone number for the staff person that can help them. Once they're living with us, they use computers and cell phones to make appointments, do research, look for and apply for jobs, send and receive emails, play games, watch videos, and stay connected with family and friends. All of this helps them realize their goals. Technology also helps Abby's stay in touch with friends and fans -- if you haven't already done so, check out our website, our Facebook page, and/or sign up to receive e-news alerts!

But technology will never replace what's always worked at Abby's. When we greet women at the door and welcome them in, it is the beginning of a relationship. By offering "old-fashioned" hospitality with a smile and a hug, we help the women feel comfortable, understood and cared for; it builds trust and community. Relationships take time, but our commitment to using a personal approach is what has made the difference for the 11,500 women and children who have turned to Abby's for help. By walking with them, side by side, in relationship, we have helped them move on with their lives and regain their independence

Thank you to our founders, board and other volunteers, who help us continue extending the hospitality, warmth and sense of community that is the bed-rock of our success.

Women's Fellowship

*"If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. **John 14: 15-17***

On February 17, the Women's Fellowship provided a delicious meal of homemade soups and sandwiches for the Annual Meeting Luncheon. It was another very cold Sunday and the hot soup was very much appreciated.

Special thanks to Beth Hook, Marlene Joe, Martha Hubley, and Sharon Willman for the great soups; Barbara Crane, Cathy Ten Eyck, Pat Grogan, and Beverly Lees for the sandwiches; Karin Farmer, Helen Varney and Dianne Simmons for the desserts. And what is soup without those little crackers? Thanks Sandy McKeen for supplying them. Great job by everyone!

A special note for our March meeting – the date will change from our usual Tuesday evening meeting to Thursday, March 21 at 6:30 PM due to the Lenten Series meetings. Remember to come with some ideas for a program in April and May. Beth Hook will be responsible for devotions and Beverly Lees will supply the refreshments.

Mattie Cummings, Secretary

Symptoms Of Inner Peace

- A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than fears based on past experiences.
- An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
- A loss of interest in judging other people.
- A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
- A loss of interest in conflict.
- A loss of the ability to worry (This is a very serious symptom).
- Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
- Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.
- Frequent attacks of smiling.
- An increasing tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
- An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others, as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

Author unknown

Karin Farmer
Contributing Columnist



A Blast From The Past

125 Years Ago

1888 – March

- ◆ On March 12th the biggest blizzard on record occurred throughout the northern part of United States. Snow, accompanied by high winds began to fall early Monday morning with a temperature nearly down to zero, and for 48 hours it continued bringing death to many who were caught out and literally burying many homes.

William Hayden of Westborough, told of three trains of the Boston & Albany railroad, which were buried in deep drifts near Cedar Swamp for two days and food was taken to the passengers from the old Westboro Hotel in the Square by means of four-horse sleds driven down the tracks. When it stopped snowing the snow was 28 inches deep on the level and drifts were over 30 feet deep in places.

- ◆ Cordaville - The Grammar school has opened under the Superintendence of Mr. Edwards of Lowell, a graduate of Dartmouth College. Miss Tufts of Medfield, again resumes her position as teacher of the ward school here.
- ◆ Miss Susie L. Bosquet of Southville is seriously ill. Dr. Bradley of Westboro is in attendance. (daughter of the late Rev. LeBosquet)

100 Years Ago

1913 – March

- ◆ Cordaville - E.E. Quinlan recently caught an 18 lb. coon in Buck's pasture on Saddle Hill. An elegant coon dinner was then in order, which was given at the home of a Southville resident with a few invited guests.

75 Years Ago

1938 -- March

- ◆ March 21 -- A special meeting of the church was held in the Vestry to discuss proposed repairs on the church and to hear the report of the committee appointed to obtain prices for labor and materials. Mr. Pearson (pastor) acted as chairman and read a list of prices for different portions of the work. Namely:

New floor in the vestry

New electric wiring and lights in vestry

New ceiling and painting walls of vestry

Painting the outside of the church and other small repairs
on outside that should be done before painting.

The total cost would be in the vicinity of \$480. Motion by Mr. Norcross, seconded by Mrs. Warner and carried to proceed with the repairs as outlined, floor, lights, ceiling, walls and inside work to be done first or as much thereof as we have funds to pay for. No expense to be incurred unless we have funds on hand or pledged. Also voted that same committee: Pearson, Stockwell, Dunn, and Tupper, continue work and collecting of funds. And that money collected for repairs be turned over to Church treasurer to be used as a special building fund.

The majority of the members present were in favor of painting the Church white although no vote was taken upon it.

50 Years Ago

1963 -- March

- ◆ At the third meeting of the Board of Deacons, conducted by the pro-tem chairman, Mr. G. Franklin Boutilier told us that it was getting to be a little too much for him to attend and chair meetings. (Editor’s Note: Mr. Boutilier turned 93 on April 17, 1963. He lived to be 109. His daughter, Jeannie Boutilier, our oldest member, will be 96 this year and is in a nursing home in Westboro.)
- ◆ A new Senior church school class was started March 3rd with our new Pastor’s wife (Mrs. Earl Appleby) in the parsonage. It was well attended.
- ◆ Much thought and planning went into a Parent Teacher meeting, which was held on March 17th. Professor Charles Schaufele of the Gordon Divinity School spoke.
- ◆ The Women’s Fellowship held “Horticultural Night” with guest speaker, Mr. Smith from Breezy-Hill Nursery in Westboro. They also sponsored a Stanley Home Party later in the month.

25 Years Ago

1988 -- March

- ◆ The Board of Trustees sponsored a Boiled Dinner.

10 Years Ago



2003 -- March

- ◆ The Church Council met on March 20th. It was voted to reserve two parking spaces closest to Southville Road for those in need. About 60 persons have been attending the ecumenical Lenten services.
- ◆ The choir sponsored a pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday.

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 February 28, to the Missions that we have chosen to support this year.

 <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">THE TIBET FUND བོད་ཀྱི་ཐེབས་ཆུ།</p> <p style="margin: 0;">JANUARY</p>	<p style="margin: 0;"><i>Assabet Valley Pastoral Counseling</i></p>  <p style="margin: 0;">FEBRUARY</p>
\$245.00	\$185.00

Turning Point



“Flu” has become a catchword for just about any malady that takes up residence within us in this season. Thankfully, this year’s visit is on its way out. We were warned by the media; every talk show and newscast features an expert who explains the strength and variation of this year’s virus strain.

The current strain threatens so we make sure that we and all of ours, are inoculated. Then we wait it out, hoping that the flu shot works and we and our families will be spared. The symptoms are similar to those of a very bad cold, only stronger and accompanied by fever, aches and pains. It settles in us and makes us feel completely and utterly miserable.

Do not think I make light of it; it is real, debilitating, and sometimes fatal, especially for the very young, the elderly, and those whose health may already be compromised. We respect its potency and often take extra vitamins, try to get more rest, and in general stay as clear of it as we can.

It is like a pall hanging over us, will it strike us or will this be our lucky year? It’s bad enough that the healing and uplifting effect of sunshine is at its lowest ebb and winter weather can be nasty in general. They do not call it the “winter doldrums” for nothing. Add the flu to the mix, and Spring cannot come soon enough.

But come it does! Every year, after every winter (flu or no flu), March marks the beginning of Spring. It feels much like a rebirth. The equinox on or about the 20th of March marks a midpoint between summer and winter. As the daylight hours lengthen, winter slowly gives up for now. Warmth is returning slowly but surely and we perk up, begin to think about and plan our outdoor and travel activities. It feels like this should be the start and promise of a new year.

We are truly blest. We live in a universe that includes our Earth, giving us a glimpse, on a clear night, of the majesty and vastness of God’s creation. We have a solar system that provides life giving and sustaining possibilities for us to inhabit and thrive in a variety of microcosms from tropical to frigid, arid to watery, and everything in between, which we have populated (sometimes overpopulated) throughout the centuries. We even contemplate expansion, creating a habitable and life-sustaining system should we need it for exploration or other -- Note the space station!



We have a geography that provides just about all we need in an atmosphere, which is purifying and recycling air and water to sustain ourselves indefinitely (if we don’t overtax it!).

We have a population, though increasing too rapidly, that is self-sustaining, cycling from birth to death or “dust to dust” in Biblical terms, “All we have needed, the Lord has provided.” We were given life and intelligence with the ability to do whatever is necessary to sustain ourselves.

I can’t help but think that this is not all that it is about. Our Creator and our evolution brought us to the here and now. Now what? Did I mention spirituality, experience, intuition, emotions,

empathy, sympathy, caring and sharing, in other words, all of God’s special gifts that make us uniquely human, and yet a creation in His image?

We are all similar, having life but separate in understanding and thinking from His other living creations. We are special! We are His children! We are also His ambassadors! Who we are, what we say and do, how we learn, think and act sets us apart and represents He who formed us and gave us life. No wonder we worship and sing His praises (just come and listen on Sunday morning and feel His presence in your own life.

This February and March, we remember and celebrate Jesus’ life, death and resurrection during the Lenten season and especially on Easter Sunday. Join us in the ecumenical Lenten series of service, a uniquely, unifying experience. Also be sure to experience the sacred and sobering service on Maundy Thursday. And of course, our traditional Easter Sunday morning service at 11:00 AM at the church.

There is also the 6:30 AM joyful Easter morning service at the Hopkinton State Park celebrating the discovery of the empty tomb. Yes, it’s early! Yes, it may be chilly! But this is all part of God’s creation celebration. It will put a “Spring” in your step and warmth in your heart.

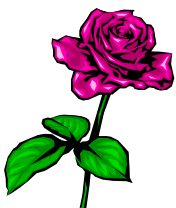
Flu season is waning! Spring’s promises are waxing!

Jesus’ life is celebrated.

Life is looking up for us all!

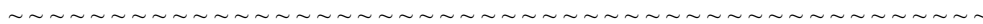
Martha Hubley
FCC Newsletter Columnist

With Our Sincerest Sympathies

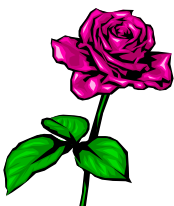
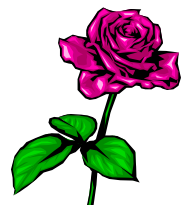


Our deepest and heartfelt sympathies go out to the families of Jason M. Hutchinson, 24, of Uxbridge MA who died January 15, 2013 in the Milford Regional Medical Center. He was the son of Gary and Deborah Hutchinson. He was also the grandson of Shirley Hutchinson and nephew and cousin of Darcy, Tyler, and Mitch Hilbert, all friends and members of First Community Church.

Our prayers and love are with each of you.



We extend our sincerest sympathies to Verna Duffy, our friend and substitute organist, for the recent loss of her mother, Lucy Wilbur Booth, 91, who died on January 16, 2013 at Bethany Health Care Center in Framingham MA. Our prayers and sympathies go out to Verna and the Booth family for their loss.



We reach out to Gloria Sadler, our friend and former choir member, for the recent loss of her sister. Doris Haradon, 93, passed away on January 22, 2013. Gloria, our thoughts and prayers are with you.



To Lee Cummings who will be celebrating the 90th year of his birth this coming March 3rd. Lee was “tricked” by his lovely wife Mattie, along with her willing accomplices (and some unknowingly) to attending his own special surprise party on Saturday, February 23 at our Church. Many friends and family were there to share their congratulations and best wishes.

Happy Birthday Lee from your friends and family at First Community Church of Southborough.

Spiritual Exploration Reading Group

Tuesday Afternoons from 2:30 – 4:00 PM with Rev. Sanderson

The theme of our Tuesday afternoon Spiritual Exploration Reading Group is the search for that deepest level of spiritual experience that underlies all of the world religions.

This spring we began by reading Aldous Huxley’s *Introduction to Swami Prabhavananda* and Christopher Isherwood’s 1944 translation of the classic Hindu text the *Bhagavad-Gita*. Huxley’s essay is an excellent articulation of what has been called “the Perennial Philosophy.”

We are presently viewing and discussing the material presented in the *The Power of Myth*, a video series of Bill Moyers’s interviews with the world-renowned mythologist Joseph Campbell. This series, perhaps more than anything else that has been presented in the public venue, served to open the general public up to the depth dimension of religion and the psychological and spiritual dimension of mythology. This series is also available in book form.

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

From The Editor

The deadline for the April 2013 Newsletter is **Sunday, March 31, 2013**. 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 Partner,

Thank you for your recent gift. Your generosity enables World Vision to provide essential care, encouragement, and hope to hurting children and families. You are a vital part of the work we do in the name of Christ.



“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.” Philippians 1:3-5

By striving together for a common purpose and sharing our gifts, we can have a significant, long-term impact on people’s lives. World Vision is committed to coming alongside struggling families and communities, giving them the tools, guidance, nurturing, and assistance needed to build a future full of promise and opportunity.

World Vision is truly blessed to have you as a partner. Thank you for your gift and your compassion for others.

In His Name,

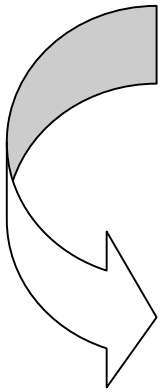
Richard E. Stearns, President

With Our Special Thanks To –

- ◆ Beverly Lees for her tenacious effort to collect 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 for everyone to review before our Annual Meeting.
- ◆ The Women’s Fellowship for organizing and “feeding the flock” after our Sunday morning worship. Homemade soups and sandwiches followed by dessert was a great way to start the Sunday afternoon just before our Annual Meeting. Thanks to Lou Dundin, our moderator, for presiding over the meeting.
- ◆ Beverly Lees and Bob L’Heureux (Diaconate); David Crane and Darlene Sanderson (Stewardship & Growth Committee); George Nutting and Skip Willman (Trustees) and Beverly Lees (Investment) for completing their final terms on their respective boards and/or committees.
- ◆ Native Builders Construction Company for offering to plow our parking lot after a recent storm – for free!
- ◆ Skip Willman, David Crane, Bob L’Heureux and Jim Holmes for plowing, shoveling, and snow blowing us out after several winter snowstorms. Let’s hope they get to retire the plow & shovels for the winter.
- ◆ David Crane for installing the gutter and downspout alongside the kitchen on the Highland Street side of the church.

LOOKING AHEAD

“Bottles & Cans for Cash”
 Wednesday, April 24
 “Bunco Night”
 April 2013
 Exact Date TBD



Write down these dates!!



Birthdays

Lee Cummings	3 rd
Rowena Robertson	4 th
Jon Willman	5 th
Dorothy Larson	5 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



2013 ROSTER OF PERSONNEL
THE FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SOUTHBOROUGH

Pastor The Rev. Paul D. Sanderson, D.Min., PhD.
Clerk..... Beverly Lees
Moderator..... Louis Dundin
Administrative Assistant to the Pastor* .. Robert L'Heureux

Financial/Property Oversight:

Treasurer Robert Farmer
Collector..... James Holmes
Auditors* Bev Lees; Sandra McKeen; Karin Farmer; Catherine Ten Eyck
Sexton * David Sickles

Board of Trustees:
 3-Yrs: Roy Pinnock / Glenn Willman
 2-Yrs: David Crane / Beth Hook
 1-Yr: Karin Farmer / Sandra McKeen

Stewardship & Growth Board: 3-Yrs: David Crane / Darlene Sanderson
 2-Yrs: David Sickles / Dianne Simmons
 1-Yr: Sharon Willman / Cheryl Holmes

Investment Committee:..... 5-Yrs: Beverly Lees; 4-yrs: Sandra McKeen
 3-Yrs: Louis Dundin; 2-Yrs: Karin Farmer;
 1-Yr: Catherine Ten Eyck

Worship/Spiritual Oversight:

Organist* Michael Larson
Choir Director* David Sickles
Sunday School Superintendent* (Left Open)
Ushers* Robert L'Heureux; Sandra McKeen; Scott McKeen
Flowers Coordinators* Patricia Grogan / Hazel Watkinson
Memorial Funds Coordinator* Sharon Willman
Deacon Emeritus Robert L'Heureux

Diaconate: 3-Yrs: Marlene Joe / Dianne Simmons
 2-Yrs: Scott McKeen / Garcia Passley
 1-Yr: Robert Farmer / Joyce Harrington

Board of Christian Education: 3-Yrs: (Left Open)
 2 Yrs: (Left Open)
 1-Yr: Barbara Crane

Community Outreach:

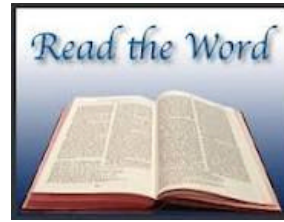
Reps. to U. P. Lay Ecumen. Council Robert L'Heureux / Dianne Simmons
Website Coordinator* David Crane
Newsletter Editor / Publisher* Cheryl Holmes
Newsletter Printing & Distribution* Robert L'Heureux / Catherine Ten Eyck
Communications Coordinator* Joyce Harrington
Coffee Hour Coordinator* Patricia Grogan / Marlene Joe

* Appointed Position

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

Lay Leaders

March 3 - Lee Cummings
March 10 - Bob L'Heureux
March 17 - Sandy McKeen
March 24 - Barbara Crane
March 31 -



Greeters

March 3 - Joyce Harrington
March 10 -
March 17 - Scott McKeen
March 24 -
March 31 -

Coffee Hour Hosts

March 3 - Beth Hook
March 10 -
March 17 -
March 24 -
March 31 - Easter - No Coffee Hour







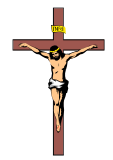

Memorial Flowers

March 3 - David Sickles &
Sharon & Skip Willman
March 10 - David Sickles
March 17 - Cricket Port
March 24 - Beverly Lees
March 31 - Easter



Deacons for March

Bob L'Heureux & Scott McKeen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 3 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	4	5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM United Parishes Lenten Series held at Pilgrim Church Co-host First Community Church	6	7	8	9  <i>Set Your Clocks Ahead 1 Hour</i>
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 10 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service	6:30 PM Diaconate Meeting	12 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM United Parishes Lenten Series held at St. Anne Church	13	14	15	16
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 17 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	18	19 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM United Parishes Lenten Series held at St. Mark's Church	20 	21 6:30 PM Women's Fellowship 7:00 PM Church Council	22	23
 24 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service	25	26 2:30 PM Spiritual Exploration Reading Group 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Stewardship Growth Committee	27	28  MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 PM Tenebrae Service	29  GOOD FRIDAY	30 HOLY SATURDAY
Easter Sunday 31 6:30 AM Sunrise Service 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service No Coffee Hour April Newsletter Deadline	 <h1>March 2013</h1> <h2>Missions - Abby's House</h2>					