

First Community Church

Newsletter

Summer 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

Did you know that only about 30% of people in the United States who consider themselves Christian attend weekly worship on any regular basis? The percentage of people who attend is highest in the southeast and southwest, and lowest in the northeast and northwest. This means that we in New England share the dubious distinction of being the least “churched” people in the country.

There are many reasons why people who consider themselves Christian don't belong to or attend a church. I find two of them particularly interesting.

First, some people maintain that they do not want to affiliate with a church because “there are hypocrites in the church.” This is true. However, I would maintain that there are also hypocrites outside the church. If a hypocrite is defined as one who does not practice what he/she preaches, as someone who can “talk the talk” but not “walk the walk,” then there are indeed hypocrites in the church—and I am among their number!

If we think about it for a moment, we will know that we are all hypocrites. If what the apostle Paul tells us is true, that “we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God,” particularly the glory of God in us, then because we are all sinners we are all hypocrites. I would maintain, however, that at least we who are practicing Christians know this and admit it. At least we are trying to grow, to change. The critic, often speaking as if he/she is not among this number, is usually doing little or nothing to close the gap between the ideal of Christ and the reality of our daily lives.

A second criticism or complaint is that church and religion is irrelevant. I find this puzzling. Irrelevant to what? I recall how Orlo Stunk, one of my professors at Boston University, defined religion. He suggested that religion is “the organized, systematic attempt to address the recurrent eternal problems of human existence.”

I can't remember what problems Orlo had in mind, but within this category I would list (1) the meaning of life; (2) the meaning of my life; (3) formulating an ethical/moral code; (4) living out of this code; (5) becoming more compassionate and loving; (6) healing our brokenness, both within ourselves and within our relationships; (7) dealing with tragedy; (8) becoming ourselves fully as a child of God, as an incarnation of God, e.g., self-actualizing or individuating; (9) facing and preparing for death; and (10) leaving this world a better place than when we entered it.

The critic may be correct: the church may not always have done the best possible job of addressing these existential questions. But where, other than the church, are these questions/issues addressed? If the church is irrelevant, what is relevant?

We in the First Community Church of Southborough believe that Christianity is relevant and that our church is relevant. While we may not have neatly packaged answers to the recurrent eternal problems of human existence, to the complex problems and issues we face today, at least we struggle with them honestly and with integrity. Here in this church, we hypocrites help each other find the answers to these questions in the Bible, in worship, in prayer, in fellowship, and in service.

Faithfully yours,
Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

Just A Phone Call Away

In case of a pastoral emergency during the summer months, call (in this order):

1. Reverend Sanderson (508) 873-0534 (Cell)

This will always get through to me. I will be around most of the summer, so I will be available to respond personally most of the time. If I am out of state, which will probably only be for two weeks in July and a week in August, Reverend Wortmann or Reverend Cedrone will be covering for me.



2. Bob L'Heureux (508) 485-8216

In the rare event that I am not available, Bob L'Heureux, our Deacon Emeritus, will be able to contact Reverend Wortmann or Reverend Cedrone.

Summer Schedule

Throughout the summer, our worship service will be held at the regular time of 11:00 AM. If you need to attend an earlier service because of plans for the day, Pilgrim Church will be holding their service at 9:30 AM.

This summer, the theme of our preaching will be the *Book of Proverbs*. In addition to a tentative schedule of who will be leading worship each week, we have enclosed the chapters in the book that we will be focusing on each Sunday. We encourage you to dust off your Bible and read the indicated chapters before you come to worship. The book is so rich with symbolism and can be read on so many different levels, that I suspect you might see something very different in a chapter than the preacher does.

DATE		MINISTERS	RELEVATION CHAPTERS
JUNE	30	Rev. Jonathan Wortmann	1 – 3
JULY	7	Communion Service Rev. Jonathan Wortmann	4 – 6
	14	Rev. Jonathan Wortmann	7 – 9
	21	Rev. Jonathan Wortmann	10 – 12
	28	Rev. Julie Cedrone	13 – 15
AUGUST	4	Communion Service Rev. Paul Sanderson	16 – 18
	11	Rev. Julie Cedrone	19 – 21
	18	Rev. Paul Sanderson	22 – 24
	25	Rev. Paul Sanderson	25 – 27
SEPTEMBER	1	Communion Service Rev. Paul Sanderson	28 – End

Missions Offering For June

For June, we support the Heifer Project.

Heifer International “living loans” A step on the road to self-reliance

The secret behind Heifer International’s success lies in a fact of life: Animals reproduce.

For more than 65 years, the combination of livestock plus training in environmentally sound farming practices multiplies the impact of every gift. Not so very long ago, Heifer was a small nonprofit organization helping a few thousand families a year. Today Heifer raises more than \$100 million a year and impacts a million families. Heifer helps people in the United States and more than 50 countries through training, through “living loans” of livestock and through Heifer’s



signature “*Passing on the Gift,*” in which recipients share offspring of their animals and knowledge with others.

Why is it so effective? The byproducts of farm animals—milk, eggs, wool, meat—can improve nutrition directly when recipients consume them, or raise incomes when sold locally, improving housing and access to health care and education. Animal manure becomes organic compost to increase crop yields for better nutrition and income.

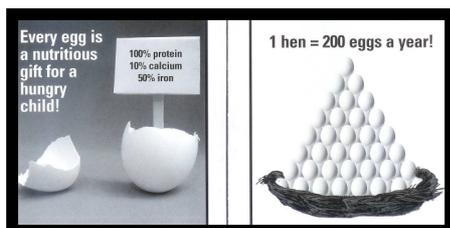
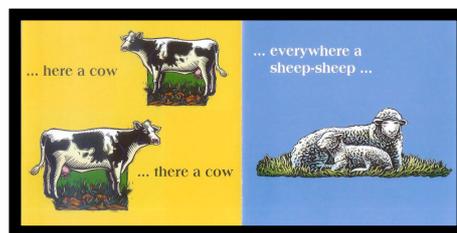
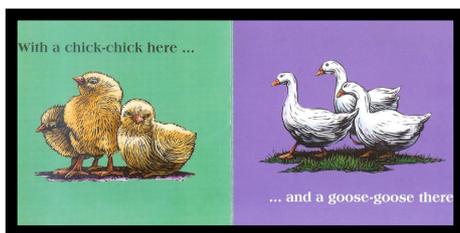
Heifer trains project participants in environmentally sound agricultural methods because long-term success depends not only on increasing farm production but also on improving the environment. Heifer’s project participants plant fruit and nitrogen-fixing trees, use worm beds and composting to improve the soil, cultivate bees for pollination and honey, build efficient stoves to reduce firewood use and many other techniques to maximize farm output. Everything works together to improve agricultural production while conserving and improving the environment.

Another reason for Heifer’s success is that it works at the grassroots level, teaching people how to use their own shared community values as the basis for community strategic plans that yield many economic activities to improve their lives. As community members work together to overcome obstacles, their own local decision-making processes are strengthened, laying the groundwork for further economic development.

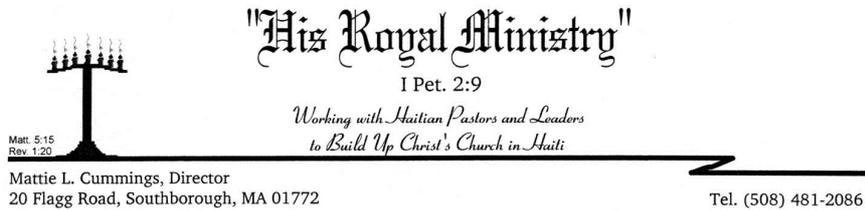
Heifer’s development model, which relies on project participants working hard and carrying out their own plans for improving conditions in their villages for the long haul, does much more than put food in the mouths of hungry people. Heifer helps people become better able to feed themselves—resulting in new hope and building self-reliant families, stronger communities and ultimately a better world.

Heifer’s mission is to end hunger and poverty while caring for the earth. Since 1944, Heifer International has provided livestock and environmentally sound agricultural training to improve the lives of those who struggle daily for reliable sources of food and income. Heifer is currently working in more than 50 countries, including the United States, to help families and communities become more self-reliant.

**It is not a stretch to think you can help end
hunger worldwide for a song...**



Missions Offering For July -- Haiti Mission



The Lord replied, "My presence will go with you."

Then Moses said to him, "If your presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here." "How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us?"

"What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" **Exodus 33: 14-16**

Haiti 1993

One night I came across these words of Moses found in Exodus 33. They brought home to me, the same concern that Moses had. That very night I jotted them down on a scrap of yellow paper large enough so I could see them and read them again and again.

I still have that scrap of yellow paper and the words still speak to me today.

God's presence did go with Moses and with *His Royal Ministry* to the South of Haiti. As I reflect back over these many years, especially these last three since the 2010 earthquake, I marvel at what God has done for us and for all of Haiti.

Our new church and school buildings rose up out of the rubble! What joy it is to know our students are back in a better, more beautiful and safer building getting the education that will bless them for the rest of their lives. Our teachers are working again to help the children as well as provide for their own families with their meaningful work.

I know what a blessing a church can be. Our own church, First Community, makes a difference reaching out to our community and places beyond, reaching as near as Haiti and as far as Tibet to make a difference.

I praise God for his grace and presence that has kept the political situation in Haiti peaceful at this time, allowing the elected President Michel Martelly to keep his promise that education would be a top priority. In a recent phone conversation with Pastor Lorinson, he shared how President Martelly was working very hard to help all the schools with needed materials.

Along with some strides in education, I read about some economic gains in a Boston Globe article dated May 11. Surely God's grace will also be needed if Haiti's economic master plan is

to be successful. Please keep the Caracol Industrial Park, a 600-acre manufacturing site in your prayers for Haiti. (See Editor's Insert Below)

God knows the plans he has for Haiti to give the Haitian people a future and a hope.

His Royal Ministry has a small part to play in that plan as his presence goes with us.

In Christian love,

Mattie L. Cummings
Executive Director,
His Royal Ministry

(Editor's Insert)



Caracol Industrial Park

In collaboration with the government of Haiti, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the U.S. State Department, the Clinton Foundation assisted with the development of the Caracol Industrial Park, which will ultimately create up to 60,000 jobs and decentralize the Haitian economy. In October 2012, President Bill Clinton joined Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, President Martelly, Prime Minister Lamothe, and President Moreno of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the opening of Caracol Northern Industrial Park.

The Korean apparel manufacturer Sae-A is the anchor tenant and will create 20,000 jobs alone, and is already employing more than 1,000 people – most of whom are women. Origin Holdings, a large U.S. furniture company, and Sherwin Williams, a U.S. paint company, will be the second and third tenants in the park.

Missions Offering For August



In August, our Mission Offerings are donated to Pathways for Change, formerly the Rape Crisis Center of Central Massachusetts.

Pathways for Change, Inc. (Pathways) is a SDO Certified, tax-exempt charitable 501(c) (3) agency, established in 1973, and Incorporated in 1982. The mission of Pathways is to address the impact of sexual assault and abuse by providing quality and multicultural services to all persons whose lives have been affected by sexual violence and education geared toward the prevention of violence. Our vision is to provide leadership within the Central Massachusetts region that results in a coordinated and Survivor-centered response to sexual assault and abuse within all communities.

Pathways is proudly one of the first rape crisis centers to be established in Massachusetts. Founded on the philosophy of empowerment and based on the leadership of survivors, Pathways has served as a leader within the movement to end sexual violence. Since opening our doors in 1973, Pathways has been committed to the provision of comprehensive services to the communities within our service area, which now includes 47 cities and towns in the Greater Worcester and Fitchburg/Leominster areas.



Our Mission

To address the impact of sexual violence by providing quality and multicultural services to those whose lives have been impacted by sexual violence and to provide education geared toward ending violence.

As a freestanding rape crisis center, the efforts of the entire agency are focused on the issues related to sexual violence. Our sole commitment to these issues results in a deep and widespread impact throughout Central Massachusetts.

Did you know that 1 in every 3 women has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in her lifetime and most often the abuser is someone known to her? Did you also know that 1 out of every 7 survivors of Rape is a male?

Our Vision

- That each survivor has access to culturally appropriate services.
- That communities are actively engaged in prevention.
- That systems be well coordinated and survivor-centered.
- That survivors lead all aspects of the community response to sexual violence.

Our spiral logo symbolizes the healing journey for survivors.

The spiral's center represents the initial aftermath of sexual violence. The intersecting rays on the spiral symbolize the impact that sexual violence has on all aspects of our lives and our healing journey. As we travel this path and build resilience, strength, knowledge and awareness, the intersecting rays of impact diminish.



Multi-Cultural/Mutli-Lingual

Pathways for Change has been supporting survivors since 1973. We recognize that sexual violence is motivated by the need for power and control and is never the survivor's fault. Survivors often experience intense feelings as a result of the loss of control and violation they have suffered. Feelings may be present immediately after or years later.

Survivors often feel alone and isolated and at Pathways for Change, we are here to help provide much deserved support. Our philosophy reflects our knowledge that sexual violence knows no boundaries of race, age, language, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic situation, disability or religion. We believe that everyone who has been impacted by sexual violence has the right to receive support. At Pathways for Change, all of our counseling services are comprehensive, FREE and CONFIDENTIAL to survivors and their family and friends who are affected by rape, incest, child sexual abuse and any form of sexual violence. Services are offered in English, Spanish and ASL with other languages, as needed, through certified interpreters for adolescents and adults survivors of all genders as well as their family, partners and friends.

What is a sexual assault counselor?

A "sexual assault counselor" is a peer who (A) is employed by or is a volunteer in a rape crisis center; (B) has undergone a minimum of thirty-five hours of training (at Pathways for Change our counselor training is over 45 hours); (C) reports to and is under the direct supervision of a licensed social worker/therapist (D) has the primary purpose of rendering options, counseling, or assistance to survivors of sexual violence and their non-offending family and friends.

All Pathways for Change Peer Counselors, Advocates and Facilitators are Massachusetts state certified sexual assault counselors who are well informed because they have completed the specialized training. Our counselors provide a safe environment to individuals and support them while they are working toward healing. We are here to provide you non-judgmental, empowering and knowledgeable support because we understand that you know what's best for you. A counselor is always available to offer you; support, information and assistance in getting connected to counseling services.

Face to Face

"I now have the strength and courage to overcome the abuse in my life."

Sexual abuse violence is a trauma that can cause a crisis in your life that can cause challenges such as trouble sleeping, nightmares, changes in your appetite, an inability to concentrate and anxiety. It is NORMAL to have some or even many of these challenges after experiencing any type of sexual violence, regardless of how much time has passed. There may be other feeling or behaviors, all of which are VERY NORMAL to experience.

Through FREE and CONFIDENTIAL face to face peer counseling, Pathways for Change provides peer support services to sexual assault survivors, their families and friends. Why provide counseling to families and friends? At Pathways for Change we know when families and friends are supported, they will have the knowledge and understanding to be a support to you.

Healing Circles (Support Groups)

"I feel so fortunate to have been able to participate in a healing circle at Pathways for Change."

I feel empowered and I have so many more emotional "tools" in my toolbox. Thank you Pathways for Change!"

Healing Circles are a place for people to give and receive both emotional and practical support as well as to exchange information and resources. This is a special time set aside for people to come together who have experienced the effects of sexual abuse/violence in their lives. Participating in a Healing Circle can help you cope better and feel less isolated as you make connections with others facing similar challenges.

The size of the group will be 4-12 people and always with two facilitators. Most adult groups will meet for 10-12 weeks and be one and a half hours in length. Most teen groups will be 8-10 weeks and meet for two hours.

In order to insure a safe emotional space for all of us, the group will be of a non-confrontational nature. That is, the Healing Circle will be a place where a person can be absolutely secure in knowing that here, they will not be challenged, argued with, made to explain, made to justify, ridiculed, questioned, laughed at or in any way made to feel less than worthy of support. To maintain this space it is important for all to speak from one's own feelings and experiences.

“Summertime, Summertime, Sum-Sum-Summertime”



This is a line in a song, popular quite some time ago, extolling the joys of summer, kind of a happy-catchy lilting tune. If you heard it, you would soon be singing or at least humming along without realizing it.

But summer is upon us; activities break off or slow down until fall. Even church adjusts its schedule. Vacations longed for are anticipated eagerly, plans already in place. Days are longer, weather is milder (you don't have to shovel sunshine) and warmer temperatures “invite” outside activities.

It is a time we look forward to and back upon, as less hectic and more restorative than other seasons seem to be. It is a well-deserved pause in the cycle of responsibility to enjoy a welcomed beginning to a slower pace with a healthy dollop of relaxation and summer fun. A time of renewal. Another Alpha and Omega experience, the beginning and the end. Little “journeys” that make up a life.

Staying home? Summer is a time to stand back and watch those seeds you planted last May sprout, grow, and reach fruition, whether wonderful fresh veggies or beautiful fragrant and colorful blossoms. Pour an iced tea, stand or sit back and revel in your accomplishments. Then grab that hoe and de-weed! All your “TLC” (tender, loving, care) devoted to your yards and garden was also welcomed and utilized by those uninvited weeds and pesky insects.



Nothing of great importance is accomplished without an equally great effort and attention!



Perhaps a little travel is in store for you this summer. Get away, change of scenery, even a new perspective await a great expectation of new and different experiences.

Or maybe an enticing return to a favorite vacation haunt to see acquaintances and feel the friendship of last year, giving you a second side of life, adventurous yet comfortable and solid in its familiarity.

Summer renews us in many ways and prepares us for the rest of the year. It ties up the end of one time phase and refreshes us for the beginning of the next. Summer is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end in reverse.

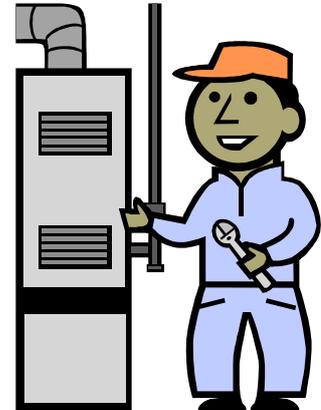
Have a great summer and enjoy every minute; it won't be back 'til next year! God has provided so much and so well -- all we need!!

Martha Hubley
FCC Newsletter Columnist

Furnace Fund

They say timing is everything. Well luckily, we made it through the cold winter months but now it is time – time to replace the furnace.

One of our two furnaces has been “hanging in there” because we have given it the proper maintenance through the years. Because of that, we were lucky to get more years of service from it than would have normally been expected. Jim Holmes did some research, and discovered that the old furnace was purchased in 1985, so it has served us for about 25 years.

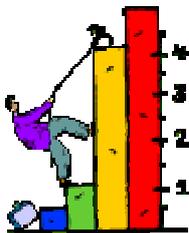


The Trustees have been seeking out quotes and presently have three that they have chosen to review in detail. Each quote has a different brand of furnace and the Trustees will now have to decide as to which quote is the best and will provide the best furnace for our needs.

As most of you are aware through the letter sent to the members and friends of First Community Church from the Board of Trustees, dated May 15, 2013, we do not have an Emergency Fund set aside for such contingencies. Yes, we could turn to our Memorial Fund, but we do not feel that the purchase of a replacement furnace is the most meaningful use of these funds. Yes, we could turn to our modest endowment fund but we believe that it is not prudent to deplete it at this time.

With all that said, a “Furnace Fund” was set up to raise donations. And as always, the Members and Friends of First Community Church of Southborough reach deep in their hearts and pull out what it takes to keep our little church together.

The complete cost of the furnace and installation – \$3,700 -- Our donations to date \$2,055.00 -- An incredible amount of money donated in just a mere 15 days.



We are still working towards the goal for the complete cost of the replacement furnace, and ask that you keep the Furnace Fund growing to that end.

As we begin the summer months of the free heat that Mother Nature will provide for us, remember that winter will not be so “free!”

A Blast From The Past

125 Years Ago

1888 -- July

- ♦ July 1st: Mrs. Sarah Greene, Mrs. Flora M. Claflin, Jrs. Annie P. Collins were this day received into the fellowship of the Church on confirmation according to the rules of the Church. Thomas Prescott DeArmand, son of Mrs. Sarah DeArmand, received baptism this day.

100 Years Ago

1913 -- June

- ♦ June 12th: After our Thursday evening prayer meeting, a special meeting was called to consider the question of asking for our usual grant for the coming year. The following communication was received from the Ladies Society. Voted that on condition that the church withdraw its application for \$75 from the Home Missionary Society that the Home Circle pledge for one year \$26 at the rate of \$0.50/Sunday. This to apply on the minister's salary, and to make up any deficiency to the amount of \$75 (including the \$26). Voted that the society accept the kind offer of the Circle and not ask for any aid from the Home Missionary Society. W. B. Boutilier, Clerk.
- ♦ Tuesday morning some of the people of Southville and vicinity were quite surprised when they saw an effigy of a man hanging from a telegraph pole near the Southville station. It was a good joke; the figure was fully dressed and was suspended 30 feet from the ground. It was finally taken down by section men. Whoever put it there did a good job and it is thought some boys on account of the celebration of Bunker Hill day the 17th of June.

1913 -- August

- ♦ Rev. S. Carlisle Schaeffer, Pastor of the Congregational Church left for Baltimore, MD where he will spend his vacation.
- ♦ A well-known resident says there used to be a pecan tree growing in the Saddle Hill district and thinks it is there today. It is a rare tree in this vicinity.

75 Years Ago

1938 -- July

- ♦ Rev. Roy Pearson of Somerville, who concluded his services as Pastor of the Federated Church has accepted a call in a similar capacity at Lynesboro, NH.
- ♦ Regular services have been discontinued at the Federated Church for the summer except for the regular morning Worship.

1938 -- August

- ♦ Miss Mary Hunt, clerk of the Congregational branch was married to Frank Dunmire and moved to San Diego, California.
- ♦ Warner Oland, veteran Hollywood actor, died in Stockholm, Sweden. He had maintained a summer home on Gilmore Road, Southboro since 1914 and his neighbors in this vicinity have learned with regret of his death. Mr. Oland came to this neighborhood in 1913 in search of a secluded spot for rest and study. He has been a frequent visitor during

the subsequent years and his unassuming personality, so much in contrast with some of his earlier roles, won him a host of friends here.

His full name was Johann Warner Oland and was born in Sweden, Oct. 3, 1880. His father was forester to the king of Sweden. The family came to America when Johann was 17 years old. They settled in Worcester. Oland made his stage debut in 1901 when he played in a condensed version of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." His best-loved characterization was that of "Charlie Chan." Many of his neighbors will miss his genial personality and some of those in poorer financial circumstances will remember with gratitude his substantial generosity to them in the past.

50 Years Ago

1963 -- June

- ◆ Children's Sunday was observed on June 9th. Two children earned Bibles. Nine received first year pins, seven received second year wreaths, and four received three year bars. The children of the Church participated in the Church service. At the conclusion of the service, each child present received a carnation.
- ◆ The Women's Fellowship closed their year with a box-lunch supper in the Church yard. They also decided to purchase a number of chairs for the church vestry. The Men's Club also donated \$125. toward the "folding chair fund." The men also donated \$10 to the Miss Finn Retirement Fund.

1963 -- July

- ◆ Vacation Bible School was held July 8 to July 19. The theme was "Christ's Way, My Way." Total registration was 49 with a daily average of 43. Mrs. Mary Appleby was director and Mrs. Martha Hubley and Mrs. Shirley Hutchinson were assistant directors.

Teachers were: Martha Templeman; Shirley Hutchinson, Betty Holmes, Mrs. Norman Lilley, Mrs. Marjory Lisk, Mrs. Carlton Choate, Miss Adah Conant, Mrs. Judy Meredith, Miss Dianne Stockwell, Mrs. Jean Dewey, Mrs. Clifford Ansell, Miss Francine Ansell, Mrs. Martha Hubley, Mrs. Irene Brown, Mrs. Mary Appleby.

Mrs. Joseph Blake arranged transportation for teachers and children. Mrs. Ronald Nelson and Mrs. William Merchant were in charge of the refreshments. Mrs. Charles Masterman acted as Secretary-Treasurer and also as pianist. Children of the teachers were cared for in the parsonage by Mrs. Earl Killam, Mrs. Joseph Blake, Mrs. Madeline Thorne, and in the home of Mrs. Carlton Choate by Mrs. Warren Watkins and Miss Deborah Choate.

25 Years Ago

1988 -- June

- ◆ Special congregational meeting held on June 26th after the morning worship service. Purpose was disposition of the parsonage. It was voted to try renting first "for once we sell, we can't return." There will be extensive screening of applicants for income. A security deposit will be necessary. Responsibility will be the Church Council not the Board of Trustees.
- ◆ Children's Sunday was followed by a "Message Balloon" send off.

1988 -- July

- ◆ Funeral of Nancy (Agnes) Ferguson was held on July 5th (mother of Sarah L'Heureux).

1988 -- August

- ◆ Bob Nelson was appointed sexton replacing Richard Dinjion.

10 Years Ago**2003 -- June**

- ◆ Cheryl Webster has graciously agreed to take on the task of Co-Editor of our Church Newsletter with Tim Deschamps. Cheryl's energy and enthusiasm, combined with her organizational skills will bring together a more consistent publication schedule with a fresh appearance.

The ultimate success of this effort will be heavily dependent upon relevant and timely input from every church board, committee, and organization. It's "OUR" Newsletter and any ideas or suggestions are welcome.

- ◆ Church council met on June 24th. Two estimates will be obtained on fixing/replacing the floor – one for new ceramic tile and one for linoleum.
- ◆ The Annie Clark concert went over well and netted \$200+. Approximately 40 people attending.
- ◆ Reserved parking signs have been installed.
- ◆ Meals to the homeless at the Red Roof Inn are being continued.

2003 -- July

- ◆ A can and bottle drive was held.
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From The Desk Of The Collector

You know the routine, it is June, summer is upon us, we like to skip a few Sundays and enjoy our too short New England summer. And you also know what is coming next. The bills don't go away. The toughest time is in the summer when even the stalwarts sometimes stray. We may not use fuel oil in July but since we are on a budget plan, we still have a monthly payment due.

Remember this is OUR Church. In 20 short months, we will be celebrating our sesquicentennial, the technical term for 150 years. An incredible story!

If you are going to be away this summer, why not join the other dedicated contributors who regularly mail in their support. Simply mail to:

Attention: Collector
First Community Church
137 Southville Road
Southborough MA 01772

As always, THANKS for your magnanimous support!

Jim Holmes, Collector

Report Of The Diaconate

The Diaconate will be hosting the traditional Strawberry Shortcake Social for Father’s Day on June 16. It is in celebration of Fatherhood but you sure don’t need to be a father to join in the festivity and enjoy the strawberry shortcake. Don’t miss it.

Our Mission Offerings for the summer months are “*The Heifer Project*” for June; “*His Royal Ministry*” our Haiti Mission for July; and “*Pathways for Change*” (formerly the Rape Crisis Center of Central Massachusetts) for August. We ask that you give as you are able to these important Missions.

We are fortunate that Rev. Sanderson has arranged for Rev. Caldwell, a volunteer for the Heifer Project, to come and speak to us about the Heifer Project on Sunday, June 16.

Joint summer services shared with Pilgrim Church will begin on June 30. Worship service at First Community Church is held at our usual time of 11:00 AM and Pilgrim Church is held at 9:30 AM.

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, June 4 at 6:30 PM.

S O U T H B O R O U G H F O O D P A N T R Y



Please help us help others!

First Community Church Shopping List for the Summer

For the summer months, 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.”

Food Items	Rice (instant white or brown), Instant flavored oatmeal, crackers, granola bars, Jello, and individual snacks
Beverages	Bottled Juice, Individual Juice Boxes, and Coffee (Instant or Ground Regular)
Canned Goods	Beef soup; clam chowder, solid white tuna, corned beef hash, and chili
Paper & Plastic Goods	Toilet tissue, Saran Wrap, paper towels, plastic storage or sandwich bags, and aluminum foil

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

Visit the Southborough Food Pantry on Facebook.com or southboroughfoodpantry.org for the latest grocery list.

Women's Fellowship

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

Romans 8:11

The Women's Fellowship met on May 21 and the bake table at the Church Yard Sale to be held on Saturday, June 1, was at the top of our agenda. We have decided to sell our long time stored church dishes that are still in good condition and could be just what someone is looking for. Check them out at our table along with some other special items and of course some delicious baked goods.

Due to changes in schedules, our Kitchen Clean-Up group became a team of two, Barbara Crane and Mattie Cummings, working very hard to make our church kitchen shine. Thanks Barbara for all your effort.

We discussed our annual “Dinner Out” evening in June. We decided to have it at the Westborough Country Club “Mulligan’s Taverne on the Green” on Tuesday, June 25 at 6:00 PM. Please remember that all the ladies of the church are welcome to join us on this evening – always great fellowship!

Mattie Cummings, Secretary

Our Gifts We Bring

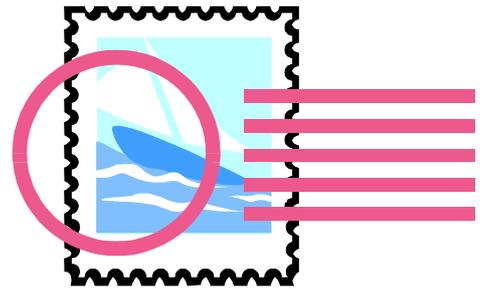
Our Missions Offerings are donations made above and beyond our gifts of the Pledges that we make to support the First Community Church of Southborough's General Operating Budget.

Bob Farmer, our Treasurer, has provided us with an update of what we have collected and donated as of May 31, to the Missions that we have chosen to support this year.

<p><i>Church World Service</i></p>  <p><i>MAY</i></p> <p><i>\$225.00</i></p>	 <p><i>APRIL</i></p> <p><i>\$450.00</i></p>
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Postcard Ministry

With summer right around the corner, and friends and family traveling or taking vacations, or loved ones shut in and can't be with us in morning worship, think about taking one or two postcards from the cardholders in the pews and send it to them to let them know that you are thinking about them; you miss them, or you wish them "get well."



The postage stamp is already on the card so you can take it with you and drop it in the nearest mailbox or put it in the offering plate and it will be mailed for you.

Thanks to Sandy McKeen for keeping all the cardholders full with postcards all stamped and ready to go.

Rally Day & All Church Cookout



Join us for a cookout after worship – Sunday, September 8, 2013. The Stewardship and Growth Committee will provide burgers, hot dogs and beverages. We will need salads, chips, and desserts. There will be a sign up sheet in the Vestry at the end of August.

Hope you will join us in welcoming in a new year at FCC!

From The Editor

The next edition of the Newsletter will be the September issue with all of our "Back to Fall" schedule of events and meetings. Please have everything submitted no later than **Sunday, August 18.**

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,

On behalf of the Worcester County Food Bank, I thank you for your very generous gift. In 2012, the Food Bank observed 30 years of providing hunger-relief to individuals and families throughout the region. During the year, the Food Bank and our network of 149 agencies provided assistance to more than 9,000 people who turned to us for help with their basic need for food.

You make our efforts possible and the results are meaningful to our neighbors in need. Neighbors like Ellen who heard about the food pantry in her hometown, but hesitated going there for assistance for her family. "When I walked in, the way I was welcomed was so comforting." Ellen recalls. "The food I received was exactly what I needed after my other resources ran out. The help was right there at a time when I needed it the most."

We share the struggle for food with people like Ellen each and every day. Our staff, volunteers, and partner agencies are here to help each person with food and information on a variety of nutrition resources that support them in being more food secure and healthy.

Please consider this thank you as an invitation to come and see the Worcester County Food Bank and your support in action.

Sincerely,

Jean G. McMurray
Executive Director

From Our Members

Dear Members of First Community Church,

Thank you so much for the beautiful floral arrangement in memory of the recent loss of my husband.

Your kindness and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

Carol Carlson & Family

Providing over 70 million pounds
of help and hope since 1982.



Hello dear friends at First Community Church,

I found my dream condo home in Portsmouth NH. My life long yearning to live by the sea has been realized! I am happy and have a great job prospect in Portsmouth.

So, once again, I part ways with all of you wonderful people but keep you in my heart.

In all my travels, I've not met a church family or group of people that have so much love and kindness for everyone – be it a life long friend or a new comer; whether a regular church goer or a sometimes attendee. Know that your kindness and prayers have sustained me and the lessons learned from the pulpit to the pew to the coffee hour.

Thank you all so much.

With love,
Carol Jordan

From Our Choir

THANK YOU!

The Choir Director, Organist and Choir members would like to thank the Deacons, members, and friends of the First Community Church for Choir Appreciation Sunday held on May 26. We normally sing in the back of the church, however, with no heat in the sanctuary, we sang up front in the Vestry and really felt “showcased!”

The cake and the fellowship was wonderful. Paul also had a special sermon complete with recorded music. It was great! Thank you all so much!

Your First Community Church Choir

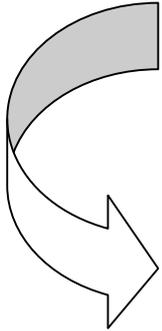
Organist: Michael Larson

Choir Members: David Sickles, Director

Joan Brunelle	Jim Holmes	Marlene Joe
David Crane	Beth Hook	George Nutting
Cheryl Holmes	Martha Hubley	Darlene Sanderson

With Our Special Thanks To –

- ◆ Darlene Sanderson and Michael Larson for opening their hearts and sharing with all of us their feelings of how and why they began to work together to write some songs which gave new meaning to their friends and members of First Community Church.
- ◆ The Board of Trustees for the delicious Spaghetti Supper Feast! A big thanks to Karin Farmer, Beth Hook, Sandy McKeen, and David Crane for their tireless efforts the whole day to cook, serve and clean up. Thanks also to the game show hosts Cheryl Holmes and David Sickles who provided some challenging fun for the evening.



LOOKING AHEAD

Fall Morning Worship at 11:00 AM
 Rally Day & All Church Cookout
 Choir Back in Full Voice
 All beginning
Sunday, September 8



Write down these dates!!



Birthdays

Barbara Crane	1 st
Tyler Hilbert	10 th
Dave Lowry	17 th
Kalyann Willman Teasley	19 th
Kiyah Hansberry	23 rd
Darlene Sanderson	23 rd
Dianne Simmons	23 rd
Justin Hubley	24 th

Anniversaries

Chet & Lois Jacobson	7 th
Skip & Sharon Willman	20 th
Peter & Beth Hook	23 rd
Dave & Marjorie Lowry	24 th



Birthdays

Bud Hubley	2 nd
Lynn Webster	9 th
Corey Sanderson	15 th
Pat Grogan	16 th
Martha Hubley	21 st
Kristen Springer	21 st
Dave Sickles	27 th
Karin Farmer	28 th
Jackson Willman Teasley	28 th
Sandy McKeen	29 th

Anniversaries

Bud & Martha Hubley	6 th
James & Rowena Robertson	17 th
Francis & Pat Grogan	18 th
Jeff & Stacey Willman	24 th



Birthdays

Toby Mountain	8 th
Michael Nelson	12 th
Tim Deschamps	14 th
Scott McKeen	14 th
Martha Templeman	19 th
Mattie Cummings	24 th
Walter Hite Sr.	31 st

Anniversaries

Lee & Mattie Cummings	1 st
David & Barbara Crane	18 th
Tim & Ann Deschamps	24 th



CELEBRATIONS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2013</h1>						 1 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
2 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	3	4 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Diaconate Meeting	5	6	7	8
9 9:15 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service	10	11 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	12	13	14  FLAG DAY	15
16  10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Strawberry Shortcake Social following Worship Service	17	18	19	20 7:00 PM Church Council	21 	22
23 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service Coffee Hour following Worship Service	24	25 6:00 PM Women's Fellowship Dinner at the Westborough Country Club	26	27	28	29
30 SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Jonathan Wortmann Coffee Hour following Worship Service	<h1>Missions -- The Heifer</h1>					

	<h1>Project</h1>
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July 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE	1	2	3	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6
7 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Jonathan Wortmann <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i> Coffee Hour following Worship Service	8	9 6:15 PM Investment Committee	10	11	12	13
14 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Jonathan Wortmann Coffee Hour following Worship Service	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Jonathan Wortmann Coffee Hour following Worship Service	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Julie Cedrone Coffee Hour following Worship Service	29	30	31			

JULY MISSIONS

“His Royal Ministry”-- Haiti Mission Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE</i>	August 2013			1	2	3
4 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Dr. Paul Sanderson <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i> Coffee Hour following Worship Service	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Julie Cedrone Coffee Hour following Worship Service				14		
18 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Dr. Paul Sanderson Coffee Hour following Worship Service <u>September Newsletter Deadline</u>	19	20	21			24
25 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Dr. Paul Sanderson Coffee Hour following Worship Service				28	29	30
						31

Missions – Pathways for Change