

First Community Church

Newsletter

Celebrating 150 Years of Christian Worship

Summer 2014



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 I write this I am struck with what a beautiful day it is! This is spring at its finest, and it is especially appreciated at the end of such a long, cold winter.

I suspect that we will soon be entering into the “lazy, hazy days of summer” both in our weather and in the rhythms of our lives.

My schedule has loosened up considerably now that the semester is finished. As much as I love teaching undergraduates and passing on some of the wisdom that has been gleaned from decades of parish ministry, state mental hospital chaplaincy, working with clients, and just living, I confess I like not having to arise while it is still dark for a twice-weekly trek to Worcester. I enjoy being able to begin to whittle away at the pile of “must read” books that grace the little end table next to the easy chair in my study instead of grading papers all weekend.

(Almost) every morning now I take our collie, Brie, for a walk. In addition to resuming a New Year's resolution that somehow drifted away, I confess to being shamed by a poster at our veterinarian's office. The poster reads, “If you are overweight, perhaps your dog is not getting enough exercise.” So Brie and I walk three miles every morning. I listen to the birds and she chases the squirrels and rabbits. It is a good thing that Brie has a family that loves her and feeds her. If she had to live off the animals she caught, she would be one very hungry doggie.

Unfortunately, our other dog, Emmy, can no longer walk with us. The cancer that resulted in the loss of one of her legs spread throughout the rest of her little body, and we decided it was time to

let her go. We treasure the thirteen years we shared with this little bundle of love, and our house feels a little empty for her passing. Darlene and I would like to thank all those who expressed their support throughout Emmy's struggles. She was truly a little animal-shaped piece of God.

We are not exactly entering into the lazy, hazy days of summer in our church. Our summer schedule of worship, which will be led primarily by Julie and me since Jon is away on sabbatical, begins June 22 and goes through the end of August. The theme for our preaching this summer will be interesting characters of the Bible. So we will be here every Sunday at our regular worship time. Check the enclosed schedule for more specifics.

As we prepare for our 150th anniversary celebration, we have taken a big step in upgrading our facilities. Our vestry is graced with new carpet, a new wall along the Southville side of the building, insulation to keep us warmer during winter months, and better soundproofing around my study. We have replaced support strapping and beams that were rotting from water damage, and installed a plethora of electrical outlets along a wall that had none. We owe a special vote of thanks to the Board of Trustees and especially Bob Farmer, Skip Willman, and David Crane for doing all that could possibly be done in tearing down the old wall in order to keep the carpentry costs at a minimum. All we have left to do is hold a painting party to spruce up the whole vestry. I have no doubt that we will come up with both the volunteers and the funds we need to make this happen before fall.

Throughout the summer months, the Stewardship and Growth Committee will be working on our anniversary celebration plans. This September 14, our traditional Rally Day is being reframed as Homecoming Sunday. We will be contacting a number of people whom we have not seen in a while and make a special effort to welcome them back to church. Following our worship service, we will share a meal in the spruced-up vestry where some of our old timers will be invited to share memories of this church in decades past.

We have already begun to plan for our anniversary celebration. The official date is in January 2015, but we will be holding celebratory events throughout the fall. For example, we hope to have some of our previous pastors return to preach and to share their memories of our church and our church family. We hope to have some musical events and, of course, plenty of church suppers. This is a wonderful time to reflect on our rich history, where we have been, where we are today, and to open our hearts to the vision that will guide our unfolding in the future.

Here again, however, we note the passage of time. One of our beloved former pastors, Elven Riggles, suddenly and unexpectedly passed away just last week. I never met Elven, who served as the Pastor of our church and the Assistant Pastor of Pilgrim Church not long after I left my ministry at Pilgrim Church in the early 1970's, but I often hear parishioners share their memories of how he buried their parents, married them, and baptized their children. We mourn his passing and also the passing of his wife, Jill, several years ago. They were two of the people whom we would have liked to invite back.

So we hope to see you throughout these busy summer months, and we hope you will be with us this fall as we celebrate the history and the continuing spirit of our little church.

Faithfully yours,
Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

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 interesting/unusual/strange/outrageous people in the Bible. We hope that by exploring the contributions that these characters made to the unfolding narrative of the Gospel, we will all come to see that there is not only a place for us but also an important role in God's salvation history.

DATE		MINISTERS	SUBJECT CHARACTER
JUNE	22	Rev. Paul Sanderson	The Elder Brother in the Story of the Prodigal Son
	29	Rev. Paul Sanderson	The Syrophoenician Woman
JULY	6	Communion Service Rev. Julie Cedrone	Eve
	13	Rev. Julie Cedrone	Cain
	20	Rev. Paul Sanderson	The Samaritan Woman at the Well
	27	Rev. Paul Sanderson	Jacob
AUGUST	3	Communion Service Rev. Julie Cedrone	Rizpah
	10	Rev. Julie Cedrone	Ananias and his wife, Sapphira
	17	Rev. Paul Sanderson	Martha, the sister of Lazarus
	24	Rev. Julie Cedrone	Mary, the sister of Lazarus
	31	Rev. Jonathan Wortmann	Pontius Pilate
SEPTEMBER	7	Communion Service Rev. Paul Sanderson	Return to Regular Schedule
	14	Homecoming Sunday & Rally Day at First Community Church	

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, 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 Cedrone.



Missions Offering For June



For June, we support the Heifer Project. Heifer's mission is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth. Heifer envisions a world of communities living together in peace and equitably sharing the resources of a healthy planet.

Their strategy is to *"Pass on the Gift."* As people share their animals' offspring with others – along with their knowledge, resources, and skills – an expanding network of hope, dignity, and self-reliance is created that reaches around the globe.

The simple idea of giving families a source of food rather than short-term relief caught on and has continued for over 60 years. Today, millions of families in 128 countries have been given the gifts of self-reliance and hope.

Heifer's Approach: Long-Term Solutions for Sustainable Futures

Heifer applauds and supports the vital work of disaster relief organizations. However, in times of crisis, it's important to explain the distinction between their work and ours.

Ever since our founder, Dan West, came up with the phrase "not a cup, but a cow," Heifer's approach to providing global assistance to struggling countries has been characterized by long-term development, rather than short-term relief.

After immediate needs for food, shelter, fresh water, clothing and other necessities have been met, Heifer works within communities to empower disaster survivors with the economic means - such as livestock, training and other resources - to rebuild their families, their neighborhoods and their hope for sustainable futures.

Here's how Heifer International works:

A typical Heifer project consists of three essential components:

- Livestock and other material goods
- Training and extension work
- Organizational development, which includes planning, management, record keeping, passing on the gift, reporting and evaluation.

And it all starts in a community.

First, Heifer helps a community group analyze their situation. They ask: What do we need? What are our resources? What would we like to see happen in five years? Then, they plan specific activities to achieve their goals.

At this point, the Heifer "living loan" becomes reality. Farmers prepare for their animals by participating in training sessions, building sheds, and sometimes planting trees and grasses.



Then the livestock arrives -- heifers, sheep, geese -- bringing with it the benefits of milk, wool, draft power, eggs and offspring to pass on to another farmer.

Finally, the group evaluates its progress, and the cycle repeats as the group moves to more and more ambitious goals, each time visioning, deciding, implementing and reflecting.

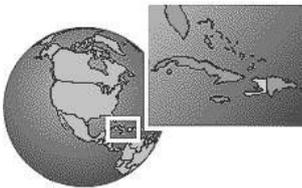


“Passing on the Gift”

Every family and community that receives assistance promises to repay their living loan by donating one or more of their animal’s offspring to another family in need. This practice of “**Passing on the Gift**” ensures project sustainability, develops community and enhances self-esteem by allowing project partners to become donors.

This is Heifer’s **sustainable approach** to ending hunger and poverty – one family, one animal at a time. It’s not temporary relief. It’s not a handout. It’s securing a future with generations of people who have hope, health and dignity.

Missions Offering For July -- Haiti Mission



Matt: 5:15
Rev: 1:20

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

"His Royal Ministry"

1 Pet. 2:9

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

Tel. (508) 481-2086

Haiti remains the least-developed country in the Western Hemisphere and one of the poorest in the world. Nearly 80% of the population lives in abject poverty. Maternal and infant mortality rates are among the highest in the world, and malnutrition rates are very high. Illiteracy stands at 48%. For many Haitians, the road out of poverty leads to Miami or elsewhere in the developed world.

*“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord...to give you a future and a hope.”
(Jeremiah 29:11)*

In 1986 God impressed upon me this word from the prophet Jeremiah to take it back to the Haitian people on my second visit there in 1988. I did share this word with them then and still carry it in my heart today concerning Haiti. God’s eye is on the nation for good and though it seems slow in coming, I believe he has a plan for them, to raise them up and out of the poverty they have known for so long.

His Royal Ministry’s work in the south of Haiti is part of that plan to educate the children in our school there and to preach the Gospel in our two churches.

Our extended hand here at First Community Church in Southborough also enters into God's plan for them, bringing hope and the blessing of our love and concern for them. My hope is that we will have joy in our hearts, knowing we are making a difference in Haiti.

In Christian love,

Mattie L. Cummings
Executive Director,
His Royal Ministry

Missions Offering For August

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

***You may not be part of the problem
but you can be part of the solution***

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?

At Pathways, we use the word "survivor" to describe someone who has been raped or sexually abused in order to reflect one's strength and healing capacity. One of our survivors states it best: "I feel like a part of me died the day I was raped, but with the help of my counselor, I've found hope again as I continue my healing. The center's free services not only helped me but also my family and friends and I would not be here today if it wasn't for their help and support."

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.

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.

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.

Our Vision is:

- 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.



Unfortunately, sexual assault can and does happen and it's important to know that **It's Not Your Fault!**

No one asks or deserves to be assaulted. Sex requires your consent. Rape and sexual assault are violent crimes and are motivated by a perpetrators need for power and control.

If you or someone you know has been assaulted-- know you have options. **Call our 24-hour hotline 1-800-870-5905.** We are here to help end the silence, end sexual violence.



“Celebrating 150 Years Of Christian Worship”

Plans are moving full steam ahead for this very special celebration and we welcome input and assistance from all interested people. We are planning a wonderful “Homecoming Sunday” – warm and welcoming – on Sunday, September 14. It will be our “Rally Day” and the kickoff for our celebration of 150 years as a Christian Church. We extend a warm invitation to all to join us – past and present members, active and inactive members, frequent and infrequent worshipers -- ALL ARE WELCOME! After the service, which will be a special celebration in itself, we will have a hearty lunch. We will provide the main course and will be asking church members to help provide sides, salads and desserts. We will post a signup sheet in the Vestry sometime in August.

At this Kickoff event, we hope to have a slide show of pictures of our church and church people through the years – this would be in a continuous loop program that folks can check out during the meal when they would like. If you have any old pictures of our church, please let David Crane borrow them for a few days so he can add these to the slide show. He will give them right back unharmed. Please consider bringing in these treasures for all to enjoy. Any of you who will need a ride to this event, please let us know – we have many willing and able drivers who would love to come get you so we can all be together. If you know of someone associated with our church in the past, please reach out to them and invite them to join us.

At this Homecoming event and for other celebration activities we will be reaching out and inviting former pastors to come worship with us or even preach on a Sunday.

September 2014 to January 2015 is the timeframe we are planning to hold our anniversary events. So please save the date of Sunday, September 14 to come and help us kickoff this special 150th Anniversary of our church.

Our next gathering for the celebration planning will be Tuesday, June 24 at 6:15 PM. We welcome all interested members of our extended church family to come join us even if you have not previously attended any planning meetings. In addition, please know that if you come, it does not mean that you have to commit to every planning meeting from now on – you might just have a good idea that you could share or you might want to do a little piece of the celebration.

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.

**Church World
Service**



MAY

\$165.00

Spring Has Arrived

Believe it or not, spring is here! Hopefully the warm weather will be here for our yard sale! While you are doing your spring cleaning, set aside those items you no longer need and donate them for the FCC Yard Sale to be held Saturday, June 14, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the church. Rain or shine! Items must be CLEAN and SALEABLE.



Donations can be left in the Sunday School room. We cannot accept big old TVs, computer monitors or cribs.

If you have any questions about donating, just ask. If you need help getting your donations to the church, ask anyone on Stewardship and Growth Committee and we will be glad to help you.

Anyone interested in helping set up and price items should contact one of the committee members. We could use help during the week of the sale as well as the day of the sale.

We hope you will all stop by and browse. We will have clothes, shoes, toys, household items etc. and FREE coffee! Stop by. You just might find a treasure!!!

Homecoming Sunday & Rally Day

In just a few short months, we will be kicking off our 150th anniversary of this church. To start our celebration we will be having a "Homecoming Sunday" on September 14. We will begin at our 11:00 AM worship service at which time we will be inviting all our current and former members and friends of First Community Church to come and join us.

If you were or are a member or friend of this church, or perhaps a singer in our Choir, a teacher or student in our Sunday School, part of one of the many youth fellowship programs, maybe a member of the Women's Fellowship, or joined our Community Fellowship group at one time, or one of several children who contributed to our Junior Choir, or one of several people who led or accompanied our Choir or Junior Choir, or one of the many people who have served on a various board or committee, we are looking for YOU!

This promises to be a day of great fellowship and sharing wonderful memories of times long past. Please come and share a special memory you had here at First Community. There will be a special luncheon after the service where we will all be able to reminisce and hopefully catch up with those we have not seen in some time. If you know of someone who may not hear about this special time at First Community Church, please share the news with them and invite them along! See you all at HOMECOMING!

A Blast From The Past

125 Years Ago

1889 -- July

- ◆ Mrs. Mary A Clifford joined by letter from 1st Congregational Church of Southboro.

75 Years Ago

1939 -- June

- ◆ Children's Day was held on June 11th.
- ◆ The following children were baptized by the pastor, Rev. Leslie W. Irving, all being presented by parents of the Congregational Church: Gladys Elaine Norcross, Gail Norcross, and Elsie Joan Norcross, all children of Mr. & Mrs. Howard Norcross; Charles Edward Wood, son of Mr. & Mrs. Francis Wood.

50 Years Ago

1964 -- June

- ◆ The Women's Fellowship gave a generous donation toward the purchase and installation of a dehumidifier for the Vestry and a dedication service was given for our new Church organ on June 27th.
- ◆ The choirs of the Westboro Methodist Church and the Southville Federated Church joined under the direction of Mr. Hubert Bower of Westboro and gave a free presentation of musical works. At their meeting they held a candlelight installation service in the sanctuary for the purpose of installing the new officers for 1964-1965.
- ◆ Children's Day was June 14th. Three children earned Bibles, 8 received first year pins; 9 received 2nd year wreaths; 6 received 3 year bars and 4 received four year bars.

1964 -- July

- ◆ Vacation Bible School was held July 6- July 17 with a total enrollment of 60 and average attendance of 46. The material was by Standard Press Publishing Co. and titled "Jesus the Promised Savior." A crafts program resulted in a mosaic mural depicting "The Life of Christ" done by the senior group.

A special program on July 13th presented Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Harrington from the Romabai Mukti Mission in Kedgaon, India. Slides and art works were shown

The children decided to send their missionary money for the purchase of an aluminum wheel chair for the hospital there. On July 17th the classes met at Mooney field for a closing outing with a picnic lunch.

Superintendent was Martha Hubley; Assistant Supt. Betty Holmes. Crafts director was Shirley Hutchinson. Teachers included Ruth Lambert, Gerry Nelson, and Helen Varney.

25 Years Ago

1989 -- June

- ◆ The Women's Fellowship had their annual dinner out at the Andrea restaurant on Rt. 9.

10 Years Ago

2004 -- June

- ◆ The Church Council met on June 10th. Darcy Hilbert resigned as superintendent of the Sunday School and Kathleen Lirette was appointed in her place.
- ◆ The Church picnic was held on Sunday June 13th. David & Dennis put up a tent.
- ◆ The Women's Fellowship had its annual closing meeting with a wonderful night out at the Marlborough Country Club. Helen had gifts for everyone and Mattie spoke briefly about the Church Fund Raising Policy issue.

2004 -- August

- ◆ Parents "Rescue Week" was a resounding success thanks to the planning and hard work of several volunteers. All five days had between 15 and 20 children. At the end of the week, all of the parents were extremely appreciative and some even made donations to the church and church missions.



Our most heartfelt sympathies reach out to the family of Rev. Dr. Elven Walter Riggles, Jr. who passed away at the age of 55 on Friday May 30 in Vermont. He made his home in Durham, CT and Bellows Falls, VT.

Rev. Riggles was our former Pastor from 1984-1989. He was also the minister at the United Churches of Durham, CT for twenty-five years.

He was the husband of the late Jill (Fiorini) Riggles who had served as a Deacon at First Community Church of Southborough.



Rev. Riggles is survived by his children, Meredith Huntley and her husband Matthew Huntley, Elizabeth "Posey" Riggles, and John Riggles. . He leaves a sister, nieces, his mother-in-law and many cousins and loved ones.

Graveside services will be held in private at the convenience of the family.

Our love and prayers are with the Riggles Family.

Bottles & Cans For Cash



First Community Church is lined up for Wednesday, June 11 for our day in the “Cage” -- the day that we take our turn to sort and bag cans and bottles for cash! The Transfer Station’s Bottle and Can Cage in Southborough is located off Route 85, near the Post Office.

By giving your time and efforts for just a few hours on that day, our Church has a great opportunity for a chance to earn money through this great fundraiser to go toward the General Fund.

Please put your name on the dotted line on the sign-up sheet that is posted in the Vestry.

Don’t forget to keep saving all your deposit plastic bottles and cans prior to collection day. They can be brought to church on Sunday, June 8. If you need someone to pick them up, just call Mattie Cummings or Bob L’Heureux.

Mattie Cummings
Chief Bottle & Can Collector

From The Desk Of The Collector

ALL POWER TO THE PLEDGER

They are the lifeblood of the church. Once a year they make a pledge for the following year.

They usually are only recognized once a year. The rest of the year the special gifts are recognized (without which we could not do without)

The percentage of pledgers that give to the Missions and Diaconate offerings are only about 50%. I would suggest that is because they are stretching to give as much as possible to the vital General Fund of the church. And perhaps to other behind the scenes items for which they don’t seek reimbursement.

Yet they are the ones that form the backbone to our church’s stability. Without them, the opportunity for special gifts would not be possible.

Generally their gifts, on a cumulative annual basis, are more generous. They are the ones who give without specifying where the gift must be spent. They allow the church to cover the boring, annual expenses without which we would not exist.

So the next time you hear thanks given for special donations, remember “the pledgers” and thank God for them.

Jim Holmes, Collector

Stewardship & Growth Committee Report



The Stewardship and Growth meetings for the remainder of the year will continue to use the first half hour of each meeting to make the plans for our 150th Anniversary Celebration. We welcome all interested members and friends to come join us even if you have not previously attended other planning meetings. Please know that if you come, it does not mean that you have to commit to every planning meeting from now on – you might just have a good idea that you could share or you might want to do a little piece of the celebration. So please come. We are planning for the festivities to run from September 2013 through January 18, 2015. (Read more about our Celebration plans in the separate article)

Yard sale preparations are just about complete and we are working diligently for a successful Saturday, June 14 big SALE. From 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, we are aiming to sell out everything we have. Please check around your house, garage, and cellar for clean, gently used items that you no longer want or need and bring them in to the church. And please come that day to see what treasures you can find. For sure, we know that the Women's Fellowship Bake Table will indeed have culinary treasures for you to enjoy – (thank you ladies!)

The third draft of our brochure has been received and the committee will be meeting on Sunday, June 8 to hopefully, make the last edits, and be ready to send it back to the advertising firm who has been so graciously working with Cheryl Holmes to complete this project. We are still looking for volunteers to adopt a town in which to distribute the brochures and share this information – and NO, we are not talking about going door to door. Please speak to any member of the board if you would like to help us get our name out there.

Kudos and thanks to Dave Sickles for coming up with a way to honor, remember, and celebrate the lives of dear church members we have lost over the past years. When no one has signed up to dedicate fresh flowers on a particular Sunday, Bob L'Heureux will pick a name from a list compiled by the Pastor and this board, and place the beautiful silk flower arrangements on the altar in memory of that person. Thank you, Dave, for such a great idea, to remember and honor loved ones we have lost.

The next meeting of the Stewardship and Growth Committee will be Tuesday, June 27. It will begin after the 150th Anniversary Celebration planning session that begins at 6:15 PM.

Report Of The Diaconate

On Sunday, May 11, the Diaconate celebrated Mother's Day with a special coffee hour including a specially decorated cake. The Deacons had chosen to celebrate with cake rather than flowers for each of the women, which had previously been our tradition. However at our June meeting, the board decided to return to our "flower tradition" next year but will continue celebrating with cake as well.

The Diaconate will be hosting the traditional Strawberry Shortcake Social for Father's Day on June 15. 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.

Our faithful organ is showing some symptoms of some difficulties and arrangements are being made to have it repaired. In the meantime, Michael has been our hero playing both the piano and the keyboard, often simultaneously. Kudos and thank you to our amazing Michael!

Joint summer services shared with Pilgrim Church will begin on June 22. 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. Rev. Sanderson and Rev. Julie Cedrone will be taking several turns at the pulpit, with Rev. Jonathan Wortmann taking a turn in August. We will return to our regular schedule on Sunday, September 7.

Looking ahead to the fall, our Rally Day this year will become “Homecoming Sunday” in which we are inviting our church family to join in the celebration as the kickoff to our 150 year celebration. Past and present members, active and inactive members, and worshippers who come frequently or infrequently, are all warmly welcome to come join in the beginning of a celebration of our 150 years in existence as a Christian Church. The date of our “Opening day” Celebration will be Sunday, September 14. Please come if you can. We will provide the entrée and will post a signup sheet for church friends and members to share their culinary skills with sides, salads and desserts. The sign up sheet will be posted sometime in August.

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, September 2 at 6:30 PM.

The Diaconate wishes everyone a restful and enjoyable summer.

Women's Fellowship

“Now also when I am old and grey headed O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to everyone that is to come” Psalm 71:18

The Women's Fellowship met on Tuesday May 20 for a brief business meeting. Final plans were discussed concerning the Bake Table we will have at the Annual Yard Sale, Saturday June 14. We will gladly accept all baked goods to help in this effort. Everyone was encouraged to bake muffins, pies, breads, and lots of cookies. The pies always do well; if your rhubarb is ready, a great rhubarb pie would be wonderful.

Overseeing the bake table are as follows:

Mattie Cummings and Helen Varney	8:00 AM to 10:00 AM
Karin Farmer	10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Marlene Joe	12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Our long time member and local artist Shirley Hutchinson will be helping our Yard Sale Fundraiser with a presentation of her many hand painted works. Please be sure to check out her beautiful creations.

Mr. Doug Peck finished out our meeting night with a wonderful presentation on what “Seniors Helping Seniors” right here in Southborough, is all about. He discussed the differences between Independent Living, Assisted Living and Long-term Skilled Nursing Facility Care. The goal of Mr. Peck and his business is to help seniors and their caregivers live at home independently. Mr. Peck can be reached at (508) 485-1765 or email at kindnessworksllc@gmail.com.

Our annual “Dinner Out” evening will be on Tuesday June 17 at 6:00 PM at the Marlborough Country Club. Please remember that all the ladies of the church are welcome to join us on this evening – always great fellowship! We are hoping to have at least 12 people in attendance.

Mattie Cummings, Secretary

**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 Reg) |
| 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 |

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 **Wednesday, September 3.** The Newsletter will be ready for distribution on Sunday, September 7.

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

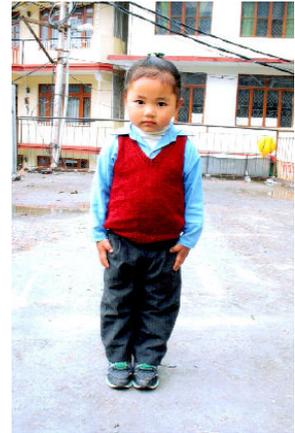


Dear Reverend Paul Sanderson and the members of the First Community Church of Southborough

Tashi Delek (Greetings in Tibetan)

On behalf of the Board of Directors of The Tibet Fund, thank you so much for your generous contribution for the yearly sponsorship donation to support child Tenzin Dekyi from Yongling Kindergarten School in India.

Through the support from yours and the First Community Church of Southborough, the School will be able to provide healthy meals, basic necessities and education to Tenzin, which will ensure a brighter future for her.



If you have any questions about her, please contact Mrs. Tashi Yangzom/Sponsorship Secretary at Youngling School.

Again, thank you for your continued support of needy Tibetan refugee children in India.

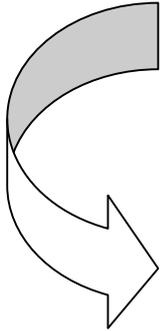
With best wishes,

Yangzom
The Tibet Fund



With Our Special Thanks To –

- ◆ The Board of Trustees for the delicious Spaghetti Supper Feast! A big thanks to the Master Chef Skip Willman. Everything was fantastic and the fellowship tops the list!
- ◆ The Board of Trustees and especially Bob Farmer, Skip Willman, and David Crane for doing all that could possibly be done in tearing down the old wall in order to keep the carpentry costs at a minimum.



LOOKING AHEAD

Fall Morning Worship Begins at 11:00 AM
 Sunday, September 7
 Homecoming Sunday & Rally Day
 Choir Back in Full Voice
 All beginning
Sunday, September 14



Write down these dates!!



Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

Skip & Sharon Willman	20 th
Peter & Beth Hook	23 rd



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

Michael Nelson	12 th
Tim Deschamps	14 th
Scott McKeen	14 th
Martha Templeman	19 th
Mattie Cummings	24 th

Anniversaries

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



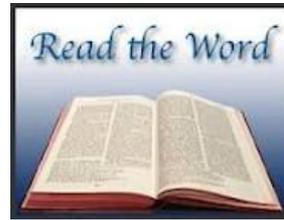
CELEBRATIONS



"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

June 1 - Beth Hook
June 8 - Bob L'Heureux
June 15 - Darlene Sanderson
June 22 - --
June 29 - --



Greeters

June 1 - Bob Farmer
June 8 - Sandy & Scott McKeen
June 15 - Dianne Simmons
June 22 - Cheryl & Jim Holmes
June 29 - Barbara Crane

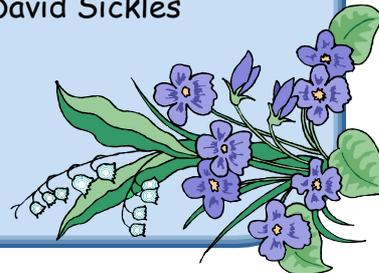
Coffee Hour Hosts

June 1 - Pat Grogan & Beverly Lees
June 8 - Sandy & Scott McKeen
June 15 - Diaconate - Father's Day Strawberry
Shortcake Social
June 22 - Mattie Cummings & Martha Hubley
June 29 - Marlene Joe



Memorial Flowers

June 1 - Dianne Simmons
June 8 -
June 15 - Cheryl & Jim Holmes
June 22 - Sharon & Skip Willman
& David Sickles
June 29 -



Deacons for June

Garcia Passley and Dianne Simmons

July 2014

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

JULY MISSIONS

“His Royal Ministry”-- Haiti Mission Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<i>SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE</i>	<h1>August 2014</h1>					1	2
3 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Julie Cedrone <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i> Coffee Hour following Worship Service	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Julie Cedrone Coffee Hour following Worship Service				13			
17 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Dr. Paul Sanderson Coffee Hour following Worship Service				18			19
24 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Julie Cedrone Coffee Hour following Worship Service				27	28	29	30
31 11:00 AM Worship Service Rev. Jonathan Wortmann Coffee Hour following Worship Service				<h2><i>Missions – Pathways for Change</i></h2>			