

# *First Community Church*

# *Newsletter*

## *Celebrating 150 Years of Christian*

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*September 2015*

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### *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*

I can't believe that we are here already! I have been back to school for a week—the beginning of my twenty-third year at Assumption College. As I walk the dogs in the morning, the temperature has been delightfully cool and only an occasional chirping of a bird breaks the silence. Our boards and committees are beginning to regroup after the summer break. The fall edition of our newsletter has been handed out, mailed and/or posted online. And Rally Day is next Sunday!

Although the summer has passed very quickly for me, much quicker than I would like it to pass, I am really looking forward to this fall.

This summer was absolutely full for Darlene and me (what a surprise!). A day after Darlene finished her school year we drove down to Norfolk, Virginia to help Kristen pack and move back home. She is looking forward to beginning her dream placement that begins in September—a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at the Anxiety Clinic of the Institute of Living in Hartford. Not long after that, we flew down to Gainesville to attend her graduation.

Mike and I drove back from Florida together with his stuff so the two kids are finally together after a long year of commuting back and forth between Florida and Virginia. This week they are moving to the Hartford area and Mike will be starting a new position in Framingham. Then Darlene and I took Kristen and Mike on a whirlwind tour of Switzerland, Germany and Austria to show them where we lived and the places we visited the year we lived in Germany while I studied in Zurich. Kristen was only three at the time, so she was seeing Zurich, Schaffhausen, Konstanz, Munich, Vienna, Salzburg, Innsbruck, and the concentration camp at Dachau for the first time.

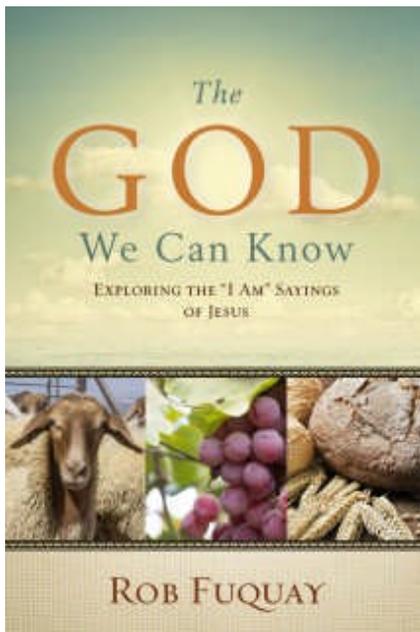
So no, I didn't do the reading that I hoped to do over the summer months. I also never got to the beach (which is probably a good thing in light of a couple of new skin cancer spots). As usual, I am looking forward to a relatively sane and predictable (though quite busy) fall schedule.

I can't believe that it was only a year ago that we began the celebration of our 150th anniversary as a church. Starting with an absolutely full church on Rally Day followed by a catered dinner downstairs in the vestry, a gathering that was attended by members of our church family who had traveled over a thousand miles to be with us, we entered into a year of reflection on our past, celebration of our present, and excitement about our future. It was clear through all the events of the year that we have a rich history, a history graced by many exceptional pastors and parishioners who have created our church out of love, dedication, the sharing of their gifts, and a lot of hard work. We have something very special in this little church, something that is worth preserving and also sharing with others. We are not going to go away!

We would love to have you be with us at Sunday worship and in the many activities and missions of our church in the coming year. It is a little hokey but absolutely true that our church is not the same without "u"! We invite you to join us in our commitment to grow and deepen in our faith through Bible study and spiritual growth groups in the context of a genuine Christian community, the kind of community that has given our little church the reputation of being "the little church with a big heart."

Faithfully yours,  
Reverend Paul D. Sanderson

## *Adult Bible Study*



Our Adult Bible Study, which meets on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of every month, will begin on Sunday, September 27. We meet in the Vestry from 9:15 – 10:30 AM.

Please join us as we continue our study of the Bible and as we ponder the guidance it provides for the living of a Christian life.

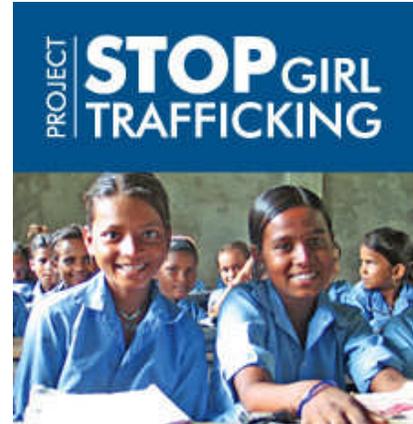
This fall we will continue to utilize the resources of the series "The God We Can Know" by Rob Fuquay. Reverend Fuquay, who is the senior pastor of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, helps us focus on what are known as the "I am" sayings of Jesus, most of which are recorded in the Gospel of John. When Jesus tells us that he is: "The Bread of Life;" "the Light of the World;" "the Good Shepherd;" "the True Vine;" "the Way, the Truth and the Life;" "the Resurrection and the Life," he is telling us about both his identity and the deepest parts of our own identity as well.

Whether you are a beginner or a life-long friend of the Bible, there is a place for you around our table! Bibles are provided!

## Missions Offering

Our September Mission Offering will go to “Stop Girl Trafficking” a project sponsored by the American Himalayan Foundation.

**The problem is huge.** Every year, as many as 20,000 girls from the poorest parts of rural Nepal are trafficked. They are coerced or tricked with false promises of good jobs, then sold into brothels, indentured servitude, or forced into child marriage.



**How can this happen?** Crippling poverty, caste discrimination, and a culture that does not value women are all part of the toxic mix that makes girls in rural Nepal easy targets for traffickers. For poor families living on the edge, a girl is an extra mouth to feed. If she can leave her home to earn money for the family, they may be too desperate to look closely at what that really means—the girls become slaves, their young lives cut short by suffering and despair. All too often, they disappear and no money ever comes back.

**And now there is a new threat.** Traffickers, eager to profit from the countless families made homeless from the earthquakes, are preying on girls at their most vulnerable. But suffering doesn't have to be the end of the story.

### EDUCATION IS THE WAY

The way we combat this modern-day slavery is surprisingly effective: we prevent it.

**We keep girls from being trafficked** by going into the villages, finding the girls most at risk and putting those girls into school. We also educate the girls, their teachers and whole communities about the realities and dangers of trafficking. For a small investment, we can keep a girl safe for an entire year: **\$100 pays for school fees, books, uniforms, mentoring, and tutoring.**



*Living is tough in rural Nepal, and Nepali girls are a prime target for traffickers.*



*Moms are now proud to see their daughters staying in school.*

ravaged areas into “STOP Girl Trafficking,” so predators can’t exploit families who have already endured so much.

**And it works.** Convincing families to send their girls to school was hard at first, but the idea is gaining traction. Now entire villages are asking to be included. And as the girls stay in school and learn, they gain confidence, are more respected by their families and communities, and become role models for other girls like them.

Fifteen years ago we started with 54 girls. **This year we have 10,750 girls** in schools across Nepal who are trading a sentence of slavery for a life full of dignity and hope. **And we’re adding 3,800 more girls** from quake-

## Prevention is rescue without the suffering

### HOW IT ALL STARTED

Dr. Aruna Uprety, our visionary partner, went to the brothels in India where over 100,000 Nepali girls are trapped, hoping to convince some to come home. To her great surprise, they told her, “It’s too late for us. If we had known anything, if we had been able to go to school and learn and work, we would never have landed here. Please, keep this from happening to other girls.”



*A young STOP Girl Trafficking scholar.*

The heartbreak of their situation pushed her to focus on prevention, breaking the cycle of trafficking from the start. She pioneered the approach of getting at-risk girls into school, and our partnership with her has saved thousands of young lives.

### *Saving girls, one student at a time*

*For a small investment - \$100 pays for everything: school fees, books, school uniforms, tutoring. It is all it takes to keep a girl in school and safe from traffickers for a whole year.*



Rally Sunday, the official kickoff of our new church year, is scheduled for Sunday, September 13. Our worship service will be followed by an all-church luncheon sponsored by the Diaconate. They will be providing a baked ham as well as beverages. A sign-up sheet is posted in the vestry with a list of foods you might bring to add to the menu.

Let's start the year off on a high note with everyone present to welcome in the new church year!

## *Women's Fellowship*

*"Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice."* **Philippians 4:4**

The Women's Fellowship will hold their first fall meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 6:00 PM. This year, Thelma Oakes will be hosting the meeting at her home on 103 Myrtle Street, in Ashland. She will be preparing a wonderful meal so come and be with us for a great time of food and fellowship. All women of the church are welcome to attend. We are all planning to meet together at the church promptly at 5:45 PM and carpool to her home.

Barbara Crane will be leading the devotions.

Mattie Cummings  
President/Secretary



**THE CHOIR IS BACK!** The choir will be back in the loft on Rally Sunday, September 13! Anyone who would like to sing with us is more than welcome. Just come a little early on that Sunday and join us upstairs before the service for a brief rehearsal. Verna Duffy will be our guest organist that day.

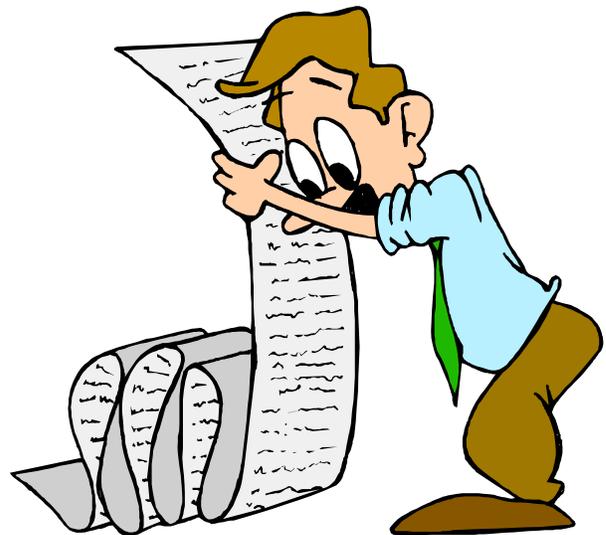
Our regular rehearsals will begin again on Tuesday, September 22, from 5:00 PM to approximately 6:15 PM, with a short rehearsal every Sunday morning at 10:30 AM.

Please consider adding your voice and join us for a great time of fellowship, fun, and some "joyful noises!"

## *Report Of The Trustees*

The Trustees were busy during the summer months. Our church lawn and gardens have been well maintained and many outside projects were repaired. The list goes on ....

- ☑ Due to the bad winter, the gutter on the Southville Road side of the church was damaged. We put in an insurance claim and received a check to have it repaired. This was done in the spring. The amount received also provided an extra cushion amount for possible damage to our church sanctuary walls facing Southville Road and the interior walls in the bell tower. The gutter on the Highland Street side of the church was cleaned; the church belfry and the woodwork around the new front doors were painted. The remaining balance of the check was deposited into the Trustees' savings account.
- ☑ The Trustees sponsored an all-church clean-up day. The lawn was fertilized and lime was spread. All the church flowerbeds were cleaned. A dead tree was removed near the front doors of the church and it will be replaced with a shrub at a later date.
- ☑ Volunteers were asked to adopt a small garden and plant what they thought would look good. This idea worked out well and made the church grounds look great!
- ☑ The lawn at the back of the church had extensive landscaping and reseeded. A French drain was added and the drain from the church gutters and downspouts were extended to it. The older French drain near Highland Street was rebuilt.
- ☑ The retaining wall along the church's parking lot was extended up to and around the small garden near Southville Road. The materials used were recycled from an old area that was buried years ago.
- ☑ The Trustees received one new quote for repaving the church parking lot and for fixing our water problem near the kitchen.
- ☑ The two furnaces and the fire extinguishers were serviced.
- ☑ The copier maintenance contract will be up for renewal in September and will need to be reviewed with all parties concerned.
- ☑ Karin Farmer has been busy this summer tending to all the flower gardens making sure they were weeded, watered, and looking fresh! Thank you Karin for taking such good care of the gardens and making sure that the colors of spring and summer were blooming with each season!
- ☑ Thank you to Dianne Simmons for planting the splash of colored pansies under our church sign. It adds to the sign and says, "Welcome!"
- ☑ The vestry lights and emergency signs were repaired and or replaced.



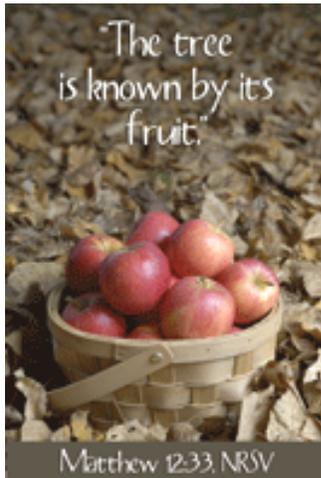
Thanks to those who help to keep our church looking great. A big thanks to Skip Willman, Joyce Harrington, Mattie Cummings, and Helen Varney for all their help. With a four-person Board of Trustees, Pastor and Treasurer, we think we have accomplished quite a lot this past year.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 at 6:30 PM.

2015 Board of Trustees

Mattie Cummings, Joyce Harrington, Helen Varney and Skip Willman  
Ex officio members, Bob Farmer and Rev. Paul Sanderson

## *Stewardship & Growth Committee Report*



At our joint meeting with the Diaconate on May 26, we discussed the growth and future of our church. It was truly, in this writer's humble opinion, a meeting of the hearts and minds and spirits. Every one of us present at that meeting was there solely because we love our church and want to do whatever we can to not only have the church survive, but to have our church THRIVE! Why??? Because we not only love our church but also feel we have something very unique and special to offer the Christian community that surrounds us and does not know the treasure we hold here. This is truly a work in progress – some ideas were discussed and some plans were put into action.

The committee also held a very successful yard sale this past June, with the help of all our church family members and friends. We could not do it without all of them. To start the summer off on a great note, the committee supported another D & D Dinner on June 20. Another success, especially with all the hard work and talents of none other than the dynamic duo of Dianne Simmons and Darlene Sanderson. Truly a two-man, or should we say, two-woman operation, that work together hand in hand to pull off a meal fit for a “King and Queen!”

We will be meeting jointly with the Diaconate on Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30 PM to continue every effort to build our church.

To quote Bob the Builder -- “Can we build it?” “YES we can!”

2015 Stewardship & Growth Committee

Barbara Crane, Cheryl Holmes, Darlene Sanderson, Sharon Willman, Dianne Simmons, Secretary; and David Crane, Chairman

## *Spiritual Exploration Reading Group*

*Silence: The Power of Quiet in a World Full of Noise*

**Begins Tuesday, September 15 with Rev. Sanderson**

Our Spiritual Exploration Reading Group, which meets Tuesdays from 2:30 - 4:00 PM in the vestry, will start up again on September 15. This fall we will be reading a wonderful little spiritual guide by the Vietnamese Zen monk Thich Nhat Hanh entitled, *Silence: The Power of Quiet in a World Full of Noise*.

In the Introduction to his book, Thich Nhat Hanh tells us:

We spend a lot of time looking for happiness when the world right around us is full of wonder. To be alive and walk on the Earth is a miracle, and yet most of us are running as if there were some better place to get to. There is beauty calling to us every day, every hour, but we are rarely in a position to listen.

The basic condition for us to be able to hear the call of beauty and respond to it is silence. If we don't have silence in ourselves—if our mind, our body, are full of noise—then we can't hear beauty's call. . . .

Mindfulness is the practice that quiets the noise inside us.

Perhaps this speaks to you. Or perhaps as you read this you are thinking that developing the spiritual practice of mindfulness sounds like a good thing to do, but I am just too busy; I just don't have the time to do it. Perhaps, like so many of us, you are running away from silence, filling your days with constant activity and noise, holding at arm's length the wonderful experience of silence, of solitude, of inner peace that would bring an added dimension of meaning to your very busy life.

As Thich Nhat Hanh points out, Jesus often went off by himself to pray. When we build times of prayer, meditation, mindfulness, and solitude into our lives in very simple ways, in the kind of ways that this little book teaches, we just might find that we bring a deeper sense of inner peace to our relationships, to our work, and that it can make everything we do more of a spiritual encounter.

We take the time to read the book together and share, to discuss those parts that touch or enlighten us. We look forward to having you with us!

## Celebrations Celebrations



On Sunday, June 21, we celebrated the Sacrament of Infant Baptism for Saydie Rae Briggs and Masen Hunter Briggs, children of Michael and Michelle (Masterman) Briggs.

We extend a warm welcome to Saydie and Masen, the newest members of our Christian community, and we ask God's blessing on them and their parents Michael and Michelle.

## *A Blast From The Past*

### **125 Years Ago**

#### **1890 – September**

- ◆ 3 September -- The Annual Church meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congregational Church. Mr. Chas. Hooper chosen moderator. J.E.S. Moore and Charles Hooper elected Deacons. J.E. Kaler elected clerk. Report of the treasurer and collector, Mrs. Fay; read and accepted. Motion made that the report of the Examining Committee, be deferred. Motion carried.

Motion made that we try and raise the balance of the salary among the members. Motion carried.

Voted that Deacon Moore, Mr. Guild and Mrs. Ward be a committee to send a letter of sympathy and consolation from the church, to our former Pastor Rev. Truman Merrill, we having received word of the death of his wife.

Voted that we send Mr. Works a letter of thanks for his kind service in taking charge of the choir and playing the organ. A vote of thanks was given to Miss May Loring for her kindness in so long giving her services as organist of the Church.

- ◆ 7 September -- Francis J. Ramsdell received on profession.

### **100 Years Ago**

#### **1915 – September**

- ◆ Gov. Winfield Scott Hammond of MN visited Cordaville. He was born here, graduated from Peters High School and left the area 30 years ago.
- ◆ A supper was given at the parlors of the Congregational Church Tuesday evening. Ice cream was also for sale.
- ◆ Methodist Church: Sunday sermon, “Sacred and Saving Union.” Children’s talk, “Magic Lamps.” Evening service, pastor preached on “Anoint Thine Eyes.” At the close of the sermon, one of the League members joined the Church on probation.
- ◆ New officers of the Ladies Aid: Methodist Church: Mrs. E.A. Kendall, president; Mrs. John O’Brien, V.P.; Mrs. Herbert Jones, Secretary; Miss Mary Dorr, Treasurer.

## 50 Years Ago

### 1965 – September

- ◆ The Church conducted a religious census of Southboro, south of Rt. 9. The following are highlights of the information which we received that day:

Federated (now Community) Church members	9%
Roman Catholic	45%
Protestant affiliated elsewhere	20%
Protestant unaffiliated (known)	6%
Protestant unaffiliated (unknown)	9%
Mixed Marriage	6%
Misc, Cults, Jewish, etc.	4%
Not interested	1%

Breakdown was also by: Southville; Cordaville;  
Development (where Bob L'Heureux lives); Other.

410 responses (households?) 93 incomplete or not home

Protestant Unaffiliated (known) means that we already  
included them as friends of the Church

Unknown means this is the first contact we have had with  
them

## 25 Years Ago

### 1990 – September

- ◆ 15 September – John Dewey transferred to Morning Star (United Methodist) Church of Las Cruces, NM.
- ◆ New Sunday School superintendent was Nancy Robertson.
- ◆ 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Church celebrated. Buffet prepared by Martha Callaghan and Kim Masterman. Robert Bishop acted as Master of Ceremonies.

Former pastors present were Rev. Leslie Irving (1938-40) from Beverly, MA; Rev. & Mrs. Arthayer Sanborn (1940-42) from Florida; Rev. & Mrs. Moon (1942-1945) from CA and Rev. Michael & Rev. Elizabeth Feicht (1979-1982) from Hanson, MA. All took part in service.

Diane Kurzontkowski rendered a beautiful selection on the piano and Emerson Pierce on the organ.

Robert Nelson made a beautiful mahogany plaque on which to put each of the 45 pastor's names and years served from 1865 to present. It was dedicated by the pastors present.

The Sunday morning service included Rev. Moon delivering the sermon. Diane Kurzontkowski on the piano. Rowena Roberson and Ethel Armstrong hosted a special coffee hour following the service.

125<sup>th</sup> committee: Arlene Williams, Winifred Stone, Jeanne Hunt, James Holmes, and Robert Farmer

## 10 Years Ago

### 2005 – September

- ◆ Congratulations and best wishes to Jim and Cheryl (Webster) Holmes who were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, September 3 at the Church with Reverend Sanderson officiating. Following a whirlwind honeymoon to Las Vegas and southwestern United States, the couple is now back to work on the Stewardship Committee, Diaconate, editing the Newsletter and singing in the Choir as well as their other gainful employment!
- ◆ Adult Bible Study began on Rally Day at 9:15 AM. Using the book of Job, we are planning to address some of the fundamental questions of human existence, specifically the question of suffering and evil. Just as Job did, we hope to examine how our understanding and experience of life shapes our understanding and experience of God, then how our understanding and experience of God shapes our experience of ourselves and life.
- ◆ Rally Day, our traditional “Welcome Back!” day was held on Sunday, September 11. We returned to our regular Sunday worship time of 11:00 AM. A cookout following the worship service was hosted by the Board of Christian Education.

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### *Did You Know??*

Did you know that we had a church library?



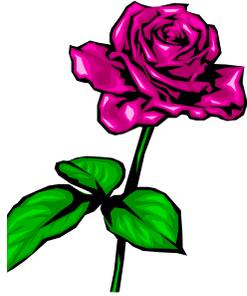
Sometime ago, the nursery was cleaned out and a new multi-function room was created. To make our newly remodeled vestry look less crowded and more inviting for our dinners, coffee hours, and special events especially with its new carpet and paint, the two white storage cabinets were moved to this new room. One cabinet is designated for the Deacons and the other is for cleaning supplies.

The room is also home to a small collection of Christian books for everyone to read and share. There are also many music books to peruse if you are looking for a particular hymn or song. We encourage you to borrow one of the books and if you have any you would like to donate, please bring them in and put them on the bookshelves with the other books. (We are looking to keep it to a Christian themed library).

Recently however, it appears that the room is now becoming more like a full storage closet than our church library. If you have put items in there (other than books) that do not belong, would you please remove them. If you need help to find a place to store them, speak with David Sickles and he will help you find a home for them.

Our many thanks for your help in keeping this room neat and organized!

## *With Our Sincerest Sympathies*



We were all deeply saddened at the passing of our friend and member, Cathy (Catherine L. (Quirk) Ten Eyck on Sunday, March 15, 2015. Cathy, 86, died at the UMass Medical Center in Worcester MA. Cathy was an active member of our church serving on committees and always ready to be a Sunday morning greeter. She was also an active volunteer at the Southborough Food Pantry and the Southborough Senior Center. She was always there to lend a helping hand!

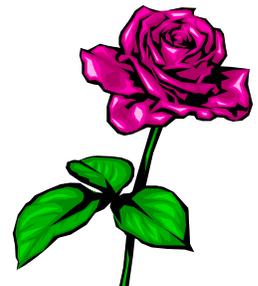
Cathy was the wife of Arthur G. Ten Eyck who passed away in 2004. Arthur and Cathy, both lovers of reading, opened Ten Eyck Books, an antiquarian bookselling business out of their home in Southborough upon retirement. She is survived by her brother-in-law, Harold Ten Eyck and his wife Susan of PA and Cathy’s nieces Deborah Minnier, Laura Sanders, Rachel Mitchley and Hannah Smith.

Cathy and her “quiet smile” will be deeply missed by all of us at First Community Church of Southborough.

A Memorial Service was held at First Community Church, Saturday, March 21 at 11:00 AM with Rev. Paul Sanderson officiating.



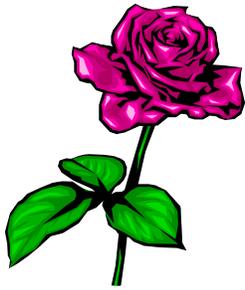
Our church was again deeply saddened on Thursday, June 18, 2015 when our dearest friend and member died after his long battle with Alzheimers. LTC Scott E. McKeen, 89, was an active member of our church the moment he and his wife Sandy walked through the doors. Serving several terms on the Board of Trustees and Diaconate, he would get the job done. Right up to the very end, Scott would enter the sanctuary together with Sandy, and his smile and wave were a welcomed sight for all of us.



Scott is survived by his best friend and wife of 48 years, Sandra (Zubel), his daughter, Kimberly (McKeen) Bilawchuk and her family of Lowell, MA; his son, Brian McKeen and his family of Bow, NH; and six grandchildren.

Scott, who served with distinction in the Massachusetts Army National Guard for 30 years in many positions of increasing responsibility before his retirement and honorable discharge as a Lieutenant Colonel, was buried at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne MA on June 23, 2015.

Our deepest and heartfelt sympathies reach out to Sandy and all her family members for their great loss. Scott will be missed by each of you, and to each of us, his family at the First Community Church of Southborough.



We reach out with our deepest and heartfelt sympathies to Pat Grogan for the recent loss of her husband Francis. Francis J. Grogan, 79, passed away Wednesday, June 17, 2015 in Beaumont at Worcester, MA.

Fran leaves his wife of 39 years, Patricia M. (Merchant) Grogan; a son, Thomas F. Grogan of Worcester; three step daughters, Tina MacConnell and family of Hopkinton, JoAnn Dwyer and family of Westborough, and Charlene Slocum and family of Canton; a brother, a sister, his grandchildren and several nephews and nieces.

A private burial was held at St. John's Cemetery.

We extend our condolences and sympathies to all of the Grogan family who will miss him greatly. In Pat's own words, "My husband was a quiet man but was always there when I needed him!"

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## *Report Of The Diaconate*

We hope you all had a wonderful summer. The weather has certainly been beautiful.

Our little church is going full steam ahead into a busy fall season starting with Rally Sunday, which is Sunday September 13. We will gather as a church family at our 11:00 AM worship service then have a "reuniting" meal right after it. The Diaconate will provide a baked ham and the beverages and we are asking the congregation to provide the sides, desserts and rolls. We hope everyone will be able to make this special event – everyone always has a good time at our Rally Sunday.

The Tuesday afternoon study group will begin their fall session on September 15. Sunday morning Bible Study begins on Sunday, September 27 at 9:15 AM. We will continue our reading and discussion of "The God We Can Know" by Rob Fuquay.

There will be a joint meeting of the Diaconate and Stewardship and Growth Committee on Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30 PM.

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

2015 Board of Deacons

David Crane, Karin Farmer, Marlene Joe, Sandy McKeen, Treasurer; Jim Holmes, Chairman; and Dianne Simmons, 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 September 1, to the Missions that we have chosen to support this year.

<i>Missions -- January – September 1, 2015</i>		
<i>MISSIONS</i>	<i>COLLECTED</i>	<i>DISBURSED</i>
Pastoral Counseling Centers of Massachusetts	\$215.00	\$215.00
Abby’s House	\$252.00	\$252.00
Worcester County Food Bank	\$280.00	\$280.00
Heifer Project	\$200.00	\$200.00
Church World Service	\$250.00	\$250.00
Haiti – “His Royal Ministry”	\$305.00	\$300.00
Pathways For Change	\$185.00	\$200.00
The Tibet Fund – The Sponsorship of Tenzin Dekyi	\$360.00	\$360.00
Nepal Earthquake Relief	\$650.00	\$650.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,697.00</b>	<b>\$2,707.00</b>

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## *From The Editor*

The deadline for the October 2015 Newsletter will be Monday, **September 28, 2015**. 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](mailto:caholmes@charter.net)

# Thank You

## From Our Missions



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

## "His Royal Ministry"

I Pet. 2:9

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

Tel. (508) 481-2086

*"The Lord was moved by prayer for the land." 2 Samuel 24:25*

To the First Community Church Family,

Our Haitian Representing Pastor, Rev. Lorinson Guerrier remains ever faithful to the Lord's work in Haiti. Overseeing our three churches and two schools, places many demands on his time and strength. He and all our people involved in this work look to the Lord for help and grace to meet each new day.

Pastor Lorinson is ever mindful to say thank you for all the financial help they receive from the First Community Church family every year, coming just in time to help with needed items for the churches and schools.



Our vision remains the same – to always and in every way, build up Christ's Church in Haiti.

Personally, I also thank all of you again for your most generous gifts and I ask for continued prayer for Haiti as they are moving toward elections for a new President.

Sincerely in Christ,

Mattie L. Cummings  
Director - "His Royal Ministry"

## *From Our Friends*

A sincere thank you to everyone at First Community Church for all your help with the March 24th Lenten Dinner. Thank you so much for helping with setup and cleanup and thank you for the delicious desserts. Special thanks to Beverly Lees for her great job coordinating all that she did.

Many people told me they look forward each year to dinner at Pilgrim Church and you are a big reason why.

Thank you so much.

Sue Baust  
Pilgrim Church

## *With Our Special Thanks To –*

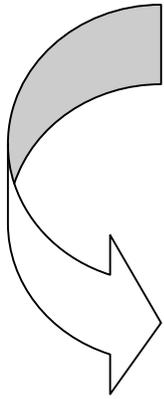
- ◆ Barbara Crane, David Crane, Bob Farmer, Beth Hook, Bob L’Heureux, and Skip Willman who helped add to our General Fund by sorting and bagging bottles and cans at the Southborough Transfer Station. And of course, a big thanks to the Chief Bottle & Can Collector, Mattie Cummings who organizes this fundraiser every year.
- ◆ The Diaconate for honoring all the Dads on Father’s Day with the annual “Strawberry Shortcake Social.”
- ◆ Everyone who donated items for and/or made purchases at the very successful Spring Yard Sale. Thanks to the Women’s Fellowship for again hosting their “Bake Table” that always is a winner. And very special thanks to the following who worked so hard organizing, setting up, staffing, and/or cleaning up after the sale:

|                 |                  |                   |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Barbara Crane   | Joyce Harrington | Darlene Sanderson |
| David Crane     | Cheryl Holmes    | David Sickles     |
| Mattie Cummings | Jim Holmes       | Dianne Simmons    |
| Jim D’Arcangelo | Beth Hook        | Fiona Torres      |
| Bob Farmer      | Gil Joe          | Sharon Willman    |
| Karin Farmer    | Marlene Joe      | Skip Willman      |

- ◆ The D&D Dynamic Duo, Darlene Sanderson and Dianne Simmons for the awesome chicken dinner they put on to usher in the summer season. Again, they outdid themselves.



**Overflowing With Thanks**



# LOOKING AHEAD

Ramp up for a busy fall season!!

## Write down these dates!!



### *Birthdays*

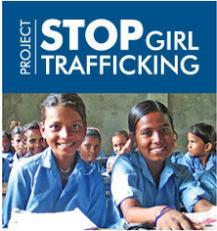
|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Zack Bird           | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  |
| Zachary Webster     | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Rev. Paul Sanderson | 16 <sup>th</sup> |
| Rae Kay             | 20 <sup>th</sup> |
| Marlene Joe         | 22 <sup>nd</sup> |

### *Anniversaries*

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Cheryl & Jim Holmes     | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  |
| Susan & Mitch Hansberry | 10 <sup>th</sup> |
| Jennifer & Lou Dundin   | 13 <sup>th</sup> |
| Nancy & Walter Hite     | 26 <sup>th</sup> |



# CELEBRATIONS

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Monday                                                                                                                      | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                                                             | Wednesday                                                                                                                                              | Thursday                                                                                                                       | Friday                                                                                        | Saturday  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <p><b>Missions</b><br/> <b>“Stop Girl Trafficking”</b><br/> <b>American Himalayan Foundation</b></p>                                                                                                                               |                                            | <p>1</p> <p>6:30 PM<br/>Diaconate Meeting</p>                                                                                                                                                       | <p>2</p>                                                                                                                                               | <p>3</p>                                                                                                                       | <p>4</p>                                                                                      | <p>5</p>  |
| <p>6</p> <p><b>SUMMER WORSHIP</b><br/> 11:00 AM Worship Service<br/> Rev. Paul Sanderson<br/> <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i><br/> Coffee Hour following Worship Service</p>                                                    | <p>7</p>                                   | <p>8</p> <p>6:30 PM<br/>Trustee’s Meeting</p>                                                                                                                                                       | <p>9</p>                                                                                                                                               | <p>10</p>                                                                                                                      | <p>11</p>  | <p>12</p> |
| <p>13</p> <p>10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal<br/> 11:00 AM Sunday School<br/> 11:00 AM Worship Service<br/> Luncheon following<br/> Worship Service</p>  | <p>14</p>  <p><b>ROSH<br/>HASHANAH</b></p> | <p>15</p> <p>2:30 PM<br/>Spiritual Exploration<br/>Reading Group</p> <p>6:00 PM<br/>Women’s Fellowship<br/>Dinner at Thelma Oakes</p>                                                               | <p>16</p>                                                                                                                                              | <p>17</p> <p>7:00 PM<br/>Church Council</p>                                                                                    | <p>18</p>                                                                                     | <p>19</p> |
| <p>20</p> <p>10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal<br/> 11:00 AM Sunday School<br/> 11:00 AM Worship Service<br/> Coffee Hour following Worship Service</p>                                                                                     | <p>21</p>                                                                                                                   | <p>22</p> <p>2:30 PM<br/>Spiritual Exploration<br/>Reading Group</p> <p>5:00 PM<br/>Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>6:30 PM<br/>Joint Meeting<br/>Stewardship &amp; Growth<br/>Committee &amp; Diaconate</p> | <p>23</p> <p><b>FALL<br/>BEGINS</b></p>  <p><b>YOM KIPPUR</b></p> | <p>24</p>                                                                                                                      | <p>25</p>                                                                                     | <p>26</p> |
| <p>27</p> <p>9:15 AM Adult Bible Study<br/> 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal<br/> 11:00 AM Sunday School<br/> 11:00 AM Worship Service<br/> Coffee Hour following Worship Service</p>                                                      | <p>28</p> <p>October Newsletter<br/>Deadline</p>                                                                            | <p>29</p> <p>2:30 PM<br/>Spiritual Exploration<br/>Reading Group</p> <p>5:00 PM<br/>Choir Rehearsal</p>                                                                                             | <p>30</p>                                                                                                                                              |  <p><b>september</b><br/> <b>2015</b></p> |                                                                                               |           |