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From the Pastor's Desk

*The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness
will rejoice and blossom.*

*Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice
greatly and shout for joy. Isaiah 35: 1-2a*

Greetings in the Name of Christ!

November calls us to reflect and give thanks as we honor Veterans, celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving, and end the Christian year. November 28th is the beginning of Advent, which starts our Christian year. The Federated Community Church has much to be thankful for:

A new Children/Youth Faith Formation Coordinator

A new Music Director (to begin in worship on November 28th)

A set of bells and a Bell Choir (a set of Chimes is in the process of being purchased thanks to the Memorial Committee)

An active Mission Committee

An engaging Bible Study group (please join us)

A dedicated core of faithful servants

Weekly for donations (fresh and packaged) for the Indian Survival Center

Videographers who capture worship for the Internet, Cable television, and Facebook Live

Wonderful Wednesday Worship which feeds our aging population both physically and spiritually generously provided by a few dedicated folks

Consistent, pleasant, and efficient office personnel.

Several generous bequests and endowments that continue to bring financial stability to our church

These are but a few of the many gifts for which we give thanks. What are you thankful for? How are you demonstrating your gratitude to God?

With a grateful heart,

Pastor Pat



From the Deacons' Bench

I grew up in East Longmeadow going to the First Congregational Church. My mother was very active in the church, but my father not so much. I came to know God and Jesus mostly through my mother as she read Bible stories to me and took me to church.

I really didn't think about faith and what that was until I met Reverend Hansen who was the teen pastor. He was the person who showed me that faith was inside me and it was different for each person. It didn't matter where I went, whether I was in a religion or attended a house of worship. As long as I believed in God and Jesus, faith would always be there with me. That was when I realized my father had as much faith as my mother. He had what Reverend Hansen called the quiet steady faith.

In my travels and living in other places, I didn't attend very many churches. I did find a church in Granby, CO where I put down roots because the church community was inviting and not judgmental. I really grew spiritually there.

Then I returned here and began the search for a church. I visited a few, semi-joined one, but never had that "at home" feeling. No one seemed to be connected to each other or their church. Then I was invited here to this church. From the beginning, I felt comfortable with this church community. Everyone I have met and interacted with is so spiritually connected to this church and each other. You can feel their faith. I know I have found my home.

Blessings,

Penny Dibble, Deacon





November Birthdays

Birthday Greetings to the following members of our church who celebrate birthdays in November.



Heather Sterling	11/01
Eva Becker	11/04
William Haley	11/04
Nancy Willoughby	11/05
April Gonce	11/05
Caleb Becker	11/06
Jeremy Tessier	11/09
Earl Schofield Jr	11/10
Trina Robinson	11/11
Journe Germain	11/11
Lisa Chaffee	11/11
Nathan Varney	11/12
Cheryl Fonda	11/15
Anthony Tulloch	11/16
Carol Quinlivan	11/17
Dawn McKeone	11/17
Alicia Hummel	11/18
Beverly Barrett	11/18
Sean Lee	11/19
Jeanne Regnier	11/19
Diane Fisher	11/20
William Cunningham	11/21
Todd Kane	11/21
David Spencer	11/23
Walter Bliss	11/25
Lynn Cunningham	11/26
David Hutchison	11/26
James Morini	11/30

Wedding Anniversaries

David & Kathleen Hutchinson	11/04
Anthony & Pamela Rogers	11/14
David & Karen Anable	11/23
Geraldine & John Spear	11/26



Prayer Corner



Evie Meacham
Winnie
Dennis
John (Jack) Bennett
Watson Family
Janet Brehaut
Josh G & Family
MaryLou Black
Sandra Gibson
William
Amy
Joan
Amy
Vincent
Jake

Christopher
Carol Darnley (cancer)
Bob Green
Fran Brown
Elaine Selfridge
Gretchen Warner
Doreen
Jaoat
Ed
Adam
Jan
Melinda
Ann
Anna
Kelvin

For those working on Covid vaccines
For those without access to Covid vaccines
For first responders & healthcare workers
For the people Afghanistan & the people of Haiti
For those impacted by changing weather disasters
For those traveling
For shut-ins and those who are isolated
For those battling cancer
For the homeless
For our country
For all world leaders
For Asians & Blacks & all who are persecuted for simply
being how God created them
For transitions within our church
For World Peace

Join us on Mondays at 9:30 AM for Spirit Chat and to lift those
above in prayer.

Sympathy to....

Friends & family of **Jackie Prior**, who passed away on October 2nd.



A Poem

Brown nuts are for squirrels
Red apples for me
And leaves red and yellow
For people to see.

I sing in the Summer
I sing in the Fall
To God, our Kind Father
Who cares for us all.

-Anonymous

Taught to Joyce Libby by her mother, Ruth Stillman

Pumpkin Fest Update

Thank you to all who helped to make the Pumpkin Fest event a success!



Missions



The Mission Committee is working with the Community Survival Center in Indian Orchard to help bring Thanksgiving Dinners to their clients. They have asked us to help with the side dishes/desserts this year. Each week for 3 weeks we are asking for specific categories as follows;

Week 1: Stuffing and/or Canned Yams and/or Juice

Week 2: Cranberry Sauce and/or Gravy and/or dessert (cake mix, brownies)

Week 3: Fresh or Canned Veggies, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Turnip, Onions

These will be collected during the last song of the service by the Sunday School children or an adult.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce Brooks

November 7th -All Saints Day

Join us in worship as we remember those who have died this past year. We will celebrate Communion; where Christ will host the table for those of us still in our physical realm and those who have entered eternal life.

Fellowship Hour Resumes

We will have Fellowship Hour on the first Sunday of each month. Please sign up to host on the list found on the kitchen refrigerator.



Stewardship Campaign Underway

This year's campaign is based on Psalm 50: To know God is to Thank God. All the earth and all we have belongs to God; why is it important to give back to God? Pledge cards will be received on November 21st; Thanksgiving service. Please plan on being in service or mailing your pledge back by November 21st so we can plan our Missions for the next year.

Cards for a Cause

Please pick up order sheets in the church office and you can sell to friends, family, and coworkers to help Federated Community Church. This fundraiser will go until the end of November. Please make checks out to Joyce Brooks. They can be given to me at church with the order sheet or mailed to me at 270 Allen Street, Hampden, MA. Cards are \$30.00 a box. Each box contains 30 cards.

Please check out boxes and cards after church or on the website: <http://www.cardsforacausefundraisers.com/>

Thank you,

Joyce Brooks

Music Committee Update

We are pleased to introduce our new Music Director: Mark Jacobson. He comes with a wealth of music experience, a deep love of God and the church, the gift of creativity, and a sense of humor. We will have a "Meet & Greet" on Saturday, November 13th at 11:00 AM followed by a light lunch.

If you are interested in participating in the choir, bells, or adding to our music in worship, please join us in welcoming Mark. Please let Cheryl Fonda (413-427-4011) know if you are planning to attend. Mark will begin on Sunday, November 28th.

Music News:

Welcome Mark Jacobson as our New Music Director

One of the reasons that I am a musician is because music expresses what words cannot. Yet here I am, fumbling around for language to describe the workings of the Holy Spirit and an unexpected call to be your new music director at the Federated Community Church. So here it goes; Hi, I'm Mark Jacobson and I'm going to be the new music director at FCC. I've been an organist and choir director for about 40 years. Hampden FCC will be my fourth church serving in that capacity. I started singing in a junior choir at age 6 and with the exception of some colorful lapses during my college years, have been doing so ever since. I know a lot of hymns but not all of them. I understand the nature of choirs but I still get surprised. I like to believe that I'm organized and prepared - most of the time. I love the Lord – always.



And with that, we look to our shared future. We are going to make some music for the glory of God. Normally, this is the point at which I would announce resuming Thursday night choir rehearsals with an enthusiastic “welcome all who have a voice to raise!” That moment is coming but not quite yet. Right now, loving our neighbor means protecting each other from Covid and it's really hard to sing while on a respirator.

So, we're going to start small. In Advent we'll be seeking musicians (solo singers, duets, instrumentalists of any kind) to heighten our worship experience with musical offerings. Even if you don't think that your gift is “good enough” or even “usable,” talk to me anyway. A church musical ministry is a lot like a church pot-luck; everybody brings a little something to the table and before you know it, you have a feast. That's how I perceive my role; as one who crafts and shapes a spectrum of gifts and talents into an offered musical meal. Sometimes it's green Jello salad, sometimes it's tuna noodle casserole. It all feeds us. It's all good.

You'll hear me repeat this phrase often. “It is good to give God thanks and praise.” No other reason is necessary other than it is “good” to do so. I believe the world needs more random acts of

goodness and beauty. I am honored and humbled to be called to serve as your new Music Director. I promise to try my best to be worthy of the task. I pray that together we will make the world a better and kinder place by making music here in this place at this time; in this sweet corner of the world, in your beautiful church on the banks of the Scantic.

Grace and Peace,
Mark Jacobson

From our CYFF Coordinator, Laura

You Are a Beloved Child of God

We welcome all to celebrate God's Love with us in a fun, nourishing and meaningful way.



It is the mission of this church that all children grow in the love of God; learning how to pray, celebrate themselves and their world.

Nourish and be nourished: children will work in various community efforts to help others in need and brighten the days of their community members, as they, themselves are also celebrated and nurtured.

Through prayer, story-telling, movement, games and crafts students will learn how to deeply value themselves: Loving themselves and others the way they are loved by God.

Upcoming Lessons:

We will be celebrating the upcoming Christian holidays, as well as learn about cultural celebrations both in our country and the world.

We are studying Genesis, and are finishing our Creation themes in the upcoming weeks. We will discuss the story of Noah, as we celebrate animals (a favorite topic in our group). We will also be discussing All Hallow's Eve and the upcoming holidays of All

Saint's Day and All Soul's Day. We will learn their origin and how they are celebrated.

We love to sing and play games! We have learned "Peace Like a River" and our newest song is "So Glad I'm Here", a celebration of life.

We also incorporate movement games and yoga for centering, fun, play and focusing effects. We practice a centering, calming breath as well as play games in which we move like animals with yoga and the bright creativity of our lively group!

Birthdays:

Happy birthday River!

Happy birthday Olivia!

Happy birthday Eva!

Happy birthday Caleb!

Happy birthday Anthony!

God Bless you and keep you in Love!

Laura Lillibridge, CYFF Coordinator



Just for the Fun of It

Found in our music room.

Author unknown.

Can you think of a # 1 ?

Honor Roll

Fifty-Year Members 2021





We celebrate three members who will be added to the “Honor Roll” of fifty or more year membership on November 21, 2021. **Frank Watson** joined in March of 1971, (50 yrs.), **Phyllis Watson** joined in March of 1971, (50 yrs.) and **Laurie Bliss** joined in May of 1971, (50 yrs.) Congratulations for 50 years of faithfulness to our church.

The “Honor Roll” of fifty-year members also includes the following active members: Edith Casey (80yrs.), Rollyn Hatch (77yrs), Marcia Willey (75 yrs.), Richard Harris (72 yrs.), Beatrice Moriarty (72 yrs.), Judith Hatch (71 yrs.), Albert Jones (70 yrs.), Carroll Willey (69 yrs.), Sandra Wild (69 yrs.), Joyce Libby (69 yrs.), Joyce Burt (68 yrs.), Alice Wilcox (68 yrs.), Russell Streeter (66 yrs.), Joan Harris (63 yrs.), Irene Cutting (62 yrs.), Mary Lou Black (61 yrs.), Marion Cilley (61 yrs.), Clara Kern (61 yrs.), Patricia Safford (60 yrs.), Evelyn Meacham (59 yrs.), Donald Ryan (59 yrs.), Nancy Ryan (59 yrs.). Elaine Evans (58 yrs.), Robert Schoolcraft (57 yrs.), Evelyn Schoolcraft (57 yrs.), Patricia Baker (57 yrs.), Florence Munroe (56 yrs.) Lois Pixley (54 yrs.), Virginia Richter (54 yrs.), Sandra Dodd (54 yrs.), Steven Safford (54 yrs.), Mark Casey (54 yrs.), Bruce Libby (54 yrs.), Janet Brehaut (54 yrs.), Priscilla Kibbe (53 yrs.).

Please join us in worship as we recognize them for their service & faithfulness.

THANKFUL



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:30 AM Spirit Chat	2 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA	3 10:30 AM Bible Study	4 	5 6:00 PM Game Night	6 12:30 PM Watercolor Session
7 10:00 AM Worship CY Faith Form begins in classroom Fellowship Hour	8 9:30 AM Spirit Chat	9 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Finance	10 10:30 AM Bible Study	11 Veterans Day 	12 7:30 PM AA	13 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 11:00 AM Meet & Greet with Mark
14 10:00 AM Worship *CY Faith Form	15 9:30 AM Spirit Chat	16 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA 6:30 PM BOD	17 10:30 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM *WWW	18 	19 7:30 PM AA	20
21 10:00 AM Worship *CY Faith Form	22 9:30 AM Spirit Chat	23 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA	24 10:30 AM Bible Study	25 Thanksgiving 	26 7:30 PM AA	27 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
28 10:00 AM Worship *CY Faith Form	29 9:30 AM Spirit Chat	30 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA			* Children/Youth Faith Formation will begin in the sanctuary and will be dismissed after approx. 15 minutes	*WWW= Wonderful Wednesday Worship /Lunch



Join us on Friday November 5th

6:00 – 8:00 PM