

FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH
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PO Box 246
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The Federated Courier

Federated Community Church
590 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

E-mail: hampdenfederated@gmail.com
www.hampdenfederatedchurch.org
Tel. (413) 566-3711

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June 2025

From the Pastor's Desk

Ending Credit

When I was a teenager and in my early 20s, I loved to go to a movie. At the end of the movie, I tried to sneak out while the ending credits were rolling on the screen. That was the best way to avoid the heavy traffic at the stairways after the movie.

However, these days, I intentionally watch the ending credits to the end with a grateful heart, sometimes, with respectful applause. They are the unseen heroes who gave the movie life. A movie is a masterpiece made by hundreds of people through their dedication: light, camera, costume, casting, music, design, etc. Every person and part is precious. With that gratitude, their name is shown on the screen.

At the end of Romans, Paul wrote the list of co-workers in ministry. Romans 16:1-7, “I commend to you our sister **Phoebe**, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae...Greet **Priscilla** and **Aquila**, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. They risked their lives for me...Greet **Mary**, who worked very hard for you...Greet **Andronicus** and **Junia**, my fellow Jews who have been in prison with me...” The list goes on and on till the end of the chapter.

This is the last article I can write for our newsletter. Looking back on the last two years, it was like a wonderful drama of God who

directed our ministries. It was full of joy, thanksgiving, praise, and miracles.

Thinking about myself, I made many mistakes and still have weaknesses. Then, you filled up the vacant parts, supported my weaknesses, and helped me continue the ministry. Even though I don't mention their names in this letter, I imprint their names and what they did for me and for the church in my heart, and won't forget them for a long time.

If someone outside the church looks at us, he/she will think our story is a well-made drama or just a story of a growing church. But we all know what turmoil we've been through, how desperate our prayers were, and how deep our congregants' dedications were.

So, just as I give a big applause in front of the ending credits, I glorify the Lord and give my deep gratitude to you. Thank you for everything you've done for me and my family. It has been a pure honor and joy to serve the Lord with you at the Federated Community Church of Hampden.

Sincerely Yours,
Kwan

Thank You

From the Deacons' Bench

June 8: A Very Special Birthday!

Raise your hand if you've had a birthday party with all the trimmings: family and friends, good food, cake, candles, and gifts! It's fun, isn't it, especially opening the gifts! Unless, of course, the gift is the wrong color, the wrong size, too personal, not personal enough, something you'll never use. Or something you just plain don't like or don't want!

You'll probably still be grateful for the thought and effort of the giver (while wishing someone had read your mind and gotten the XYZ you really wanted).

On **June 8, Pentecost Sunday**, we're going to celebrate the "birthday" of the Christian Church. It was a very different celebration from today's birthday bashes: on that day, over 2,000 years ago, Scripture tells us that the Apostles in Jerusalem each received the same gift, the Holy Spirit. No one had to worry about the size, color, or usefulness of this gift. It fit every person perfectly. No one had asked or wished for it, and they didn't know they needed it until they received it. The Apostles were empowered to share the Good News with everyone there, and three thousand people became followers of Christ, because of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Church was born that day.

And talk about the gift that keeps on giving! Peace, belonging, guidance, comfort, discernment, and spiritual transformation are life-sustaining effects of the Holy Spirit at work in us. This gift is for each of us and, ultimately, the world.

Please accept this invitation to our birthday celebration on June 8. Come and open your heart to the gift of the Holy Spirit which God offers you with his unconditional love, and grace. Let's celebrate together!

(And, as always, let's share some cake!)

Blessings,
Deacon Linda Hornig



June Birthdays



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

Karen Anable	06/05
Kimberley Mercure	06/08
Jacqueline Brusa	06/10
Miyani Tessier	06/10
Samuel Castellano	06/11
Judith Tirrell	06/13
Betty Sutcliffe	06/14
Jennifer Fisher	06/15
Bobbi Grant	06/19
Alison Castellano	06/19
Alicia Richter	06/20
Janet Modlish	06/20
Paul Cilley	06/23
Alexandra Smith	06/23
Michael DeSanti	06/24
Jacob Trevallion	06/25
Owen Godin	06/25
Penny Dibble	06/26
Elena Green	06/27
Nancy Nelson	06/27
Elizabeth Cilley	06/29
Matthew Sterling	06/29

Wedding Anniversaries

Richard & Sharon DeSanti	06/02
Joanne & David Gernux	06/07
Paul & Linda Hatch	06/10
George & Gail Romano	06/12
David & Jane Wyman	06/12
James & Beverly Brant	06/21



Prayer Corner



Sam Glista
Joan Day
Rita Spencer
Dawn McKeone
Joyce Brooks
Phyllis
Laurie Schoolcraft
Ann Beroth
Linda Hornig & family
Kris Butler
Dennis Connor
Rory
Tyler

For World Peace
For those affected by wildfires
For victims & families of mass shootings
For the people of Palestine & Israel
For those affected by hurricanes
For the people of Ukraine
For those traveling
For those battling cancer
For those struggling with addiction or mental illness
For those that grieve the loss of loved ones
For first responders & health care workers
For the people Afghanistan, Iran, Haiti, Russia & Middle East
For the changing climate
For our country
For all world leaders
For shut-ins and those who are isolated
For the homeless
For Asian & Black people & all who are persecuted for simply
being how God created them

Thank You

Thank you to **Bobbi Grant** for sponsoring our June newsletter!



On June 15th we will have a Special Cookout/Picnic. It will be in Appreciation of Pastor Kwan and Family, as well as the annual completion of Sunday School and start of summer. We will need volunteers as well as people to bring various food items. Please contact Mark Casey at 413-222-9292 if you are interested in helping out.

Missions

Missions Report for May 2025

For the Months of April and May our church's special mission was focused on collecting donations to support the work of the Shriners Children's Hospital in Springfield MA. Through the generosity of our congregants, we have collected \$542.00. This will be sent along with a note that the collected money was in memory of Dr. Phil Stoddard, Frank Watson and Don Facey who spearheaded this mission in the past. My thanks to all those who contributed. I pray that it will bless the children who are the recipients of the various treatments that help them live life fuller and with joy. In Jesus name, Amen.

Bobby Schofield,
Missions Committee

June Missions

For the months of June & July the Missions Committee will be collecting donations for St. Jude's Hospital for Children to help in the fight against childhood cancer. If you would like to donate, please notate on either the check memo or on the envelope the cash is in, that the money is to go for the St. Jude's collection. Thank you in advance for your support - a little goes a long way in helping out the little ones!

Christian Education Ministry

Out of the Mouths of Babes

I so enjoy sharing worship on Sunday with our youngest congregants, and I'm so grateful our church family feels the same way. I see the smiles during the Children's Moment, as Jocelyn or Bill invites the children to share: hands wave wildly to be picked, and no one can predict what they may say or do. Sometimes they offer details of a Bible story, or their own relevant (or not) experience, or sometimes they share a random piece of information unrelated to anything. No matter what, their answers are unscripted and completely spontaneous, and they give us so much joy.

How beautiful it is to see them at ease and at home with their church family, in God's house.

This was a recent response from one of our children, when asked what they do when they are being tossed by one of life's storms. This child raised its head from coloring and very matter-of-factly, without missing a beat, answered: "That's when I talk to God."

Such effortless eloquence, and profound wisdom. They have so much to teach us about simple faith! We are truly blessed by each of them!

With a grateful heart,

Linda Hornig, CE Committee



Memorial Day Breakfast & Craft Fair

Many thanks go out to Jack Germain and his kitchen crew for providing a delicious breakfast to our craft vendors and 139 fair attendees.

Many hours of work prior to the day of the fair and on the day of the fair were put in “behind the scenes” by so many people! Thank you all – if I try to list everyone, I know I will miss someone. But under the guidance of Elsie, Penny, and Mark another successful day brought in \$2,983.00 for our church.

The eleven-year-old boy who won the raffle for the mountain bike just so happened to have been the first person to buy a raffle ticket that morning! Congratulations!!

Thank you to all who worked at and supported the breakfast and fair!

Janet Libby



WOMEN OF WORSHIP

(WOW)!!!

**YOU'RE INVITED TO
THE 7TH WOW GATHERING**

BRING A FRIEND & COME MEET NEW FRIENDS

**Help create a vibrant and supportive community
for women to grow in Christ-centered**

FAITH, FRIENDSHIP, & FUN!

Light Refreshments Served

Date: Saturday, June 21, 2025

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Place: Federated Community Church
590 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036**


HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

For such a time as this! (Esther 4:4)

For more information, please call 413-566-3711.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HampdenFederatedChurch/>

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2	3	4 4:00 PM CE Meeting	5	6 7:30 PM AA	7
8 Pentecost Children's Sunday 9:00 AM Choir 9:30 Prayer Gathering 10:00 AM Worship	9	10 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Finance	11 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray 3:00 PM Prayer Gathering	12 4:00 PM Deacons Meeting	13 7:30 PM AA	14 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
15 9:00 AM Choir 9:30 AM Prayer Gathering 10:00 AM Worship *Pastor Kwan's last sermon* Church Picnic	16	17 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA 7:00 PM BOD	18 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray 3:00 PM Prayer Gathering	19	20 7:30 PM AA	21 10:00 AM WOW
22 9:00 AM Choir 9:30 AM Prayer Gathering 10:00 AM Worship	23	24 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA	25 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray 3:00 PM Prayer Gathering	26	27 7:30 PM AA	28 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
29 9:00 AM Choir 9:30 AM Prayer Gathering 10:00 AM Worship	30					

Join us For....



Bible Study- Wednesday 10:30 AM



Knit, Stitch & Pray – Wednesday 1:00 PM



WOW – every 3rd Saturday of the month
at 10:00 AM



Men's Mystery Breakfast- every 2nd
& 4th Saturday of the month at
8:00 AM



Prayer Gathering – Sunday at 9:30 AM &
Wednesday at 3:00 PM

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