



United Church of Christ

The Federated Courier

Federated Community Church
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United Methodist Church

Volume 67 5

May 2014

From the Pastor's Desk

Alleluia!

Christ is Risen!

Now what?

After an amazing Easter morning, full of beautiful music, celebrating, and surprises, the early church sat back and wondered, "now what?" Jesus had beaten death. He had made good on His promises. Now it was time for those who loved him, and those who were curious about him, to figure out what to do next?

They met in each other's homes. They gathered to pray. They studied the holy words of their tradition, and they told stories about Jesus. They told stories about how he had changed their lives and how his resurrection had changed everything! They talked about the healing they had experienced. They discussed the peace they felt when they relied on his Spirit to be with them during difficult times. They spread the word to family and friends about the exciting things that they had witnessed. In all of this, they refined for themselves what it meant to be part of this new thing.

In this post Easter season I believe that we have similar opportunities.

Jesus has been an integral part of our lives this past season of Lent.

- We have gathered in his name on Sunday mornings and witnessed new and old friends worshiping with us.
- We have heard the sweet "hosannas" of our choir as they have lifted up their voices in praise each week.
- We have come together in Bible studies and prayer groups.
- We have prayed for one another through our personal and communal Holy weeks.
- We have met in homes and at the Village Market where we have told about the activity of Christ's spirit alive in our congregation.

Now it is time for us to refine what we mean when we say that we are part of this thing called *Federated Community Church*.

- How does it make a difference that we are here?
- How have you seen Christ's spirit changing peoples lives within and beyond our congregation?
- What are we inviting people into when we say, "join us at FCC"?

I can assure you that just as the early church found, there is not one, perfect, universal answer to those questions. The solution will be an evolving one. It will change with every person who comes or goes forth from this community of faith. It will change with new understandings and experiences of Jesus. It will change as we change. It is important that we keep track of the answers though, in every time we ask the questions. Each time we get close to knowing who we are, we will better be able to share our common story with folks who are looking for someplace to explore their faith. Who knows, perhaps *this* will be the place for them to do that very exciting work of the spirit!

If you have an answer in this time and place to any of the questions above, I'd love to hear what's on your mind. You can email it to me at: hampdenfederated.pastor@gmail.com or give me a call and we can get together to share.

Alleluia!

Christ is Risen!

On we go...in his holy name.

Aloha, Todd

PS: If you missed Easter at FCC this year, check out a video of the sermon here, <http://tinyurl.com/fceaster>



FROM THE DEACONS' BENCH

Father, help me to remember that joy and thankfulness are not dependent on my circumstances, but on what Christ has done for me. In his name, Amen.

This prayer is taken from a book given to me, Teachers Touch Eternity One Heart at a Time, by Ruth Geisler. I wanted to share it with you.

Your Deacon, Mary Howell

Anniversaries

We send congratulations to the following members who celebrate wedding anniversaries in May:

Jeremy & Kristi Tessier	05/03
Patricia & David Baker	05/04
Dennis & Sandra Chaffee	05/05
Jesse & Kathleen Lee	05/15
Barbara & John Bennett	05/17
Robert & Mary Howell	05/18
Thomas & Janet Gentile	05/21
Carl & Karen Gatchell	05/24
Dale & Amy Varney	05/30
Lauren & Keith Hummel	05/31

HAPPY Birthday!

Birthday Greetings to the following adult members of our church who celebrate birthdays in May:

Dorothy Maiwald	05/01	Lois Pixley	05/14
Anne Marie Matzko	05/01	Barbara Bennett	05/14
Regina Germain	05/02	Trevor Thompson	05/14
Helen Law	05/02	Ryan Struthers	05/15
Barbara Schofield	05/03	Joyce Ogonowski	05/17
Jodi Brodeur	05/03	Cheryl Patterson	05/18
Myron Stone	05/03	Scott Olesuk	05/18
Robert Fisher	05/03	James Bliss	05/20
Paul Olesuk	05/05	Lori-Beth Sterling	05/20
Donald Ogonowski	05/05	Ryan Doyle	05/23
Sandra Howell	05/05	Joanne Gernux	05/24
James McEwan	05/08	Stephen Libby	05/24
Geraldine Kruger	05/08	Ruth Haley	05/26
Beverly Burnell	05/08	Kathryn Marino	05/30
Sandra Dodd	05/09	Bonnie Howell	05/30
Carroll Willey	05/11	Alan Struthers	05/31
Beatrice Moriarty	05/12		

PARISH NOTES

Prayer Corner

Please uphold the following in your prayers:

Bev Burnell	Evie Meacham
Peg Stearns	Don Haraty
Martha Patullo	Paul Brooks
Judy Ingle	Judy Schwabe
Dot Gulbrandson	Julia Winetrout
Derrick Deslauriers	Janet Case
Judith Gerrish	Duncan Gourlay
Helen Dickinson	Art & Audrey Burger
Wendy Vigurs	Peter Bokulic
Elva Jenkins	Don Samms
Tracy Helin	Robertson Clark
Bev Savoie	Walt Black, Jr.
Walt Black Sr.	

Kitchen Committee Requests.

We now are very fortunate to have Marilyn Connors on the staff as our part time custodian. Since she is new and has a lot of tasks to perform, we can all help her and make her work easier. We are asking that all committees and groups using the kitchen please try to leave the kitchen as clean as they found it. This means all counters are to be wiped down and all perishable item that are not going to be consumed the following day be removed after each event. The floor is to be wiped and mopped. Dishwasher must be emptied and cleaned out and sink next to the dishwasher must be cleaned and cleared of any food.

Thank you for your help.

Kitchen Committee

Dave Dobles remembered by the Men's Breakfast

The Men's breakfast Group recently voted to have a Granit brick placed on the Walk of Honor at the Mass. Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam, Ma. in honor of his service during World War II. The walkway is located around the center core of the cemetery. If you happen to attend a service at the cemetery in the future walk out to the flag pole and will see the walkway on the right.

The Brick will be engraved as follows:

*In Memory of
David L Dobles
Army TEC5 WWII*

Big E Fund Raiser Sept 12th- 28th

Our church has received an invitation to work at the Agawam Lions Club Chicken Dinner booth at the Big E. We would share \$5,200.00 with The Agawam Congregational Church. The two churches would receive \$2,600.00 each.

Individuals working will be given a pass to the Big E as well a parking voucher.

The hours of work will be 8 PM to 10 PM each day with a total staffing requirement of 6 people between the 2 churches. The task involves: cleaning the Barbeque Pit, Dining Room, Serving Line Area and Kitchen. You will be working in teams of 2 with the Agawam Church staff under the supervision of a Lions Club Member.

We need to fill a total of 52 time slots during the event. [That does not mean we need 52 people, as each person could work more than one time slot].

In order to plan ahead we must come up with a list of people that are interested in this fund raiser by the end of May to show that we can make this commitment. Once we have determined that we have enough people, we will assign the actual dates for each person to work based on their availability. This commitment schedule must be submitted to the Lions Club by July 1st.

We have a budget figure to raise \$10,000.00 in 2014. Making \$2,600.00 for this one event go a long way in achieving this commitment for the year. There will be a signup sheet in Libby Hall starting on Sunday May 4th

Hope you will be able to work at this event.

Frank Watson

Ongoing Ministries

- Food Drive to benefit the Survival Center
- Men's Breakfast "Open to the Public" every 2nd & 4th Saturday morning at 8am. (Do not meet in summer)
- Food donations for Sunday's coffee hour to support the Fellowship Committee
- Opportunity to read scripture during worship – Please speak to a Deacon if you would like to volunteer.
- Monday Night Potluck/Study – 5:30pm. Will not meet during July and August.
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study – 9:00am – Will not meet during July and August.
- Wednesday Morning Prayer Group – 11:00am. Meet all year round.

If you know a family or shut-in or someone in the hospital or nursing home that would like a Pastoral visit, please make Pastor Todd aware.

Family Sunday will be on June 8th at which time Scholarships will be awarded and Sunday School will participate in the service.

There will be a signup sheet in the Vestibule in June for Ushers during July & August. Think about volunteering for this simple task



SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL SUPPER
AT
FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH

590 Main Street
Hampden, MA
Saturday, May 10, 2014
6:00 PM



Menu

Spaghetti & Meat Balls
Tossed Salad
Bread
Dessert
Beverages



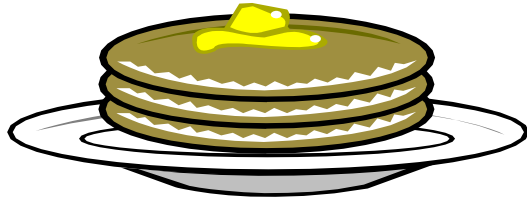
Adults \$10 – Children under 12 \$5
Please call Church Office
For reservations by May 7th
at 566-3711

Come, bring Mom for a Mother's Day Dinner!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MEMORIAL DAY
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST
AT
FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH
590 MAIN STREET
Hampden, MA

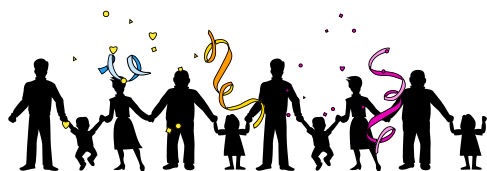
MONDAY, MAY 26, 2014
7-10 AM



ADULTS \$4.00

CHILDREN UNDER 10 \$3.00

COME AND HAVE BREAKFAST WITH US
AND STAY AND ENJOY THE PARADE!



Craft Fair

Monday, May 26

The event will be held on our

beautiful grounds

on the banks of the Scantic River.

Come join us for a day of fun and shopping!

Crafters; including handmade items, candy,
jewelry, and much more.

Hours: 8am - 2pm

Soda & water will
be available for purchase.

Questions about Booth Space and Table Rental

Please contact

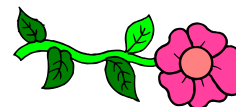
Laurie at 364-8322 or Kristi 374-8742


e-mail: fairsatfcc@gmail.com





May 2014



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 Senior Choir	2	3
4 10:00 Worship, Communion, Sunday School, Nursery, 11:30 Missions Mtg	5 5:30 Potluck/study	6 9:00 Bible Study 6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA	7 11:00 Prayer Group	8 10:00 Ladies Aid Work Bus. Meeting 7:00 Senior Choir	9	10 8:00 Men's Breakfast 6:00 Spaghetti dinner
11 MOTHER'S DAY 10:00 Worship, Sunday School, Nursery 11:30 Deacons Mtg.	12 5:30 Potluck/study	13 9:00 Bible Study 6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA	14 11:00 Prayer Group	15 7:00 Senior Choir	16	17
18 10:00 Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	19 5:30 Potluck/study 7:00 BOD Meeting	20 9:00 Bible Study 6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA	21 11:00 Prayer Group	22 7:00 Senior Choir	23	24 8:00 Men's Breakfast
25 10:00 Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	26 Pancake Breakfast Craft Fair 	27 9:00 Bible Study 6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA	28 11:00 Prayer Group	29 7:00 Senior Choir	30	31

FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH
590 Main St.
PO Box 246
Hampden, MA 01036

Church Staff

<u>Pastor</u>	Rev. Todd Farnsworth
<u>Organist/Choir Director</u>	Barbara Bennett
<u>Administrative Assistant</u>	Joyce Ogonowski
<u>Christian Ed Directors</u>	Laurie Schoolcraft Kristi Tessier

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Federated Community Church of Hampden is to unite as one body the followers of Jesus Christ in the worship of God and to make God's will dominant in the lives of all people. This will be done by following our church covenant, and through this mission build a firm foundation that will morally support not only this generation but generations yet to come.

Worship Schedule

Worship: 10 am - Sunday School: 10 am

Sunday, May 4th 3rd Sunday of Easter
Scripture: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
I Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

Sunday, May 11th 4th Sunday of Easter
Scripture: Acts 2:42-47
I Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

Sunday, May 18th 5th Sunday of Easter
Scripture: Acts 7:55-60
I Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

Sunday, May 25th 6th Sunday of Easter
Scripture: Acts 17:22-31
I Petr 3:13-22
John 14:15-21