



United Church of Christ

# *The Federated Courier*

**Federated Community Church  
Hampden, MA 01036**

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United Methodist Church

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## From the Deacon's Bench

As I sit down to write I see progress. We are rising from a place of hurt and mistrust. We are coming together to work as one in the work of our church.

We are blessed to have Pastor Eleanor Kraner with us. Her faith and leadership have been and are a blessing as we prepare for the challenges and opportunities of being Christian.

We look to our future as we live our faith where we welcome all believers in the word of God and His son, our father, Jesus Christ. We seek to be doers of the word not Hearers only.

We come together with many expressions of worship and mission. We are one church to further God's reality and mission. We are one church with a resolute belief that Christ's love is for all. We are one church willing to follow Jesus invitation to "come follow me".

We look forward to welcoming Pastor Patricia Fernandes. Let us do so as we continue our work born in love and guided by the Holy Spirit.

Deacon Hayden Tibbetts

**Summer Worship will start on July 1<sup>st</sup> this year with Worship beginning at 9:30 AM**  
**During July and August** members of the Diaconate will serve refreshments on the back lawn, weather permitting.

### **Summer Kick-off**

Come enjoy fellowship with our Church Family as we celebrate the close of the Sunday School program with the start of the Summer Season and our Hamburg and Hotdog Social. The event will begin immediately after Service on Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Directors will be sponsoring as well as serving for the event. As usual we will have Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Summer Salads, Chips, Punch and Desserts. Weather permitting we'll shoot for a lawn event like last year. Bring your friends and extended family members. We have a great Congregation and want extend our appreciation for all the support we receive.

The Board of Directors

### **Summer Sunday School Program**

We're planning a more structured program for Sunday School for the summer. Mary Howell has graciously agreed to be the coordinator. We are looking for volunteers to help with this program and want to involve young adults, parents and kid enthusiasts of all ages. It is especially important for the young boys to have male role models who exemplify Christian living and would like men to join in as volunteers. The summer program involves covering 11 Sundays - hopefully with pairs of volunteers scheduled each Sunday - and prepared materials to work from. If you are interested in joining the fun, please contact Mary Howell @ 413-426-7724 (cell) or [marylhowell@hotmail.com](mailto:marylhowell@hotmail.com) OR Karen Anable @ 413-267-3377 or [Kanable58@yahoo.com](mailto:Kanable58@yahoo.com). Thanks!



## OUR NEW PASTOR IS COMING!!!!!!

The Transition Team along with members of the Board of Directors, the Board of Deacons, the Property Committee and our Financial Team are working hard to prepare for Pastor Miller Fernandes and her family's arrival. Move in date at the parsonage is June 16<sup>th</sup>! The parsonage is currently undergoing de-leading with additional repairs, painting and plantings being made as necessary. Historical financial records, annual reports and current account listings are being compiled for review by Pastor Pat as well as setting up new insurances and retirement accounts with the United Methodist Church. Move in day assistance and food are being planned as well as a welcome reception.

***We NEED your help!!!!*** Sign up sheets will be in Libby Hall or call the designated team member

**Moving Help @ Parsonage on June 16<sup>th</sup>** - Strong able-bodied folks willing to assist with unloading trucks and trudging up stairs with boxes are needed.

Contact: Jack Germaine @ 566-3933

**Pantry and refrigerator items for Parsonage** – Condiments, pasta, pasta sauce, mac and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, tuna, bread, fruit, veggies, coffee, milk, juice, cream, etc.

Contact: Pamela Rogers @ 566-8081

**Move in day food for Libby Hall on June 16<sup>th</sup>** - Muffins, donuts, quick breads, sandwiches, salads, chips, juice, bottled water, cookies, brownies, etc.

Contact: Pamela Rogers @ 566-8081

**Welcome Basket and information binder** – Take out menus from local restaurants. Donations towards the purchase of gift certificates to local restaurants and stores. Maps and/or information brochures from local attractions (museums, trails, parks, etc.) business cards from your favorite Doctor or Dentist, recipes from congregants, welcome cards, and small toys or books for the children.

Contact: Karen Gatchell at 596-4746

***Pastor Miller Fernandes official first day is July 1<sup>st</sup>.*** Once on board we'll be setting up many events to be held in the coming year.

**Host/Hostess in the Community** – Do you have a connection in the community you can share? Friendly with Lou at the Bagel Nook or Gary at the Village Store? Perhaps you volunteer at the Library or Senior Center. Once Pastor Pat is settled she'll need personal introductions in the community.

Contact: Karen Anabel at 267-3777

**Small Group Fellowship** – Pastor Pat has many new name and faces to learn. Smaller group gatherings are an ideal way to become comfortable with her new parishioners. Over the next year we'd like to organize fellowship opportunities at parishioner's homes, the Senior Center, Library and Centennial Commons. If your interested in hosting an event along with a Deacon

Contact: Linda Hornig at 237-1598

**Welcome to the Community Block Party** – BBQ Picnic with fun and games for all ages. Fellowship and of course FOOD to welcome the Miller Fernandes family to FCC and Hampden. A chance for all to mingle with our new Pastor and for her to meet neighbors and town officials.

*Watch the newsletter and Friday News(email) for more details!*

# ***P*ARISH NOTES**

## **SERVERS FOR THE MONTH**

### **Ushers**

6/3	Dave & Karen Anable
6/10	Amy & Dale Varney
6/17	Bill & Lynn Cunningham
6/24	Elaine DeGray & Ellie Green

### **Summer Ushers**

If you would like to volunteer to usher for the months of July and August there will be a sign-up sheet in the vestibule. It's an easy job and gives the people who volunteer all year a "vacation."

### **Ongoing Ministries**

- Food Drive to benefit the Survival Center
- Men's Breakfast "Open to the Public" every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.
- Tuesday Morning Spirit Chat – 9:30 am
- Wednesday Morning Prayer Group – 11:00am. Meet all year round.

### **Prayer Corner**

Please uphold the following in your prayers:

Evie Meacham	Don Haraty	Audrey Burger
Peg Stearns	Walter Black Jr..	Gail Banning
Judy Ingle	Janet Case	Cindy Desrosiers
Julia Winetrout	Judy Schwabe	Tim Green
Wendy Chadwick	Joyce Libby	Winnie Godek
Heather Walker	Robert Johnston	Peter Bokulic
Phil Stoddard		

### **Scholarships**

This year's scholarships will be handed out during Family Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. We hope that all recipients will be able to attend to accept their certificates

***Sarah Willoughby*** will be entering her Senior year at Bentley University.

***Samantha Quill*** will be completing her Junior year at Westfield State.

## **FROM THE DEACONS' BENCH**

### ***Anniversary***

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

Richard & Sharon DeSanti	06/02
Joanne & David Gernux	06/07
George & Gail Romano	06/12
David & Jane Wyman	06/12
William & Ellen Gatchell	06/14
James & Beverly Brant	06/21
Donald & Joyce Ogonowski	06/27



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

Karen Anable	06/05	Janet Modlish	06/20
Ross Gardner	06/08	Paul Cilley	06/23
Kimberley Mercure	06/08	Alex Smith	06/23
Jacqueline Brusa	06/10	Michael DeSanti	06/24
Betty Sutcliffe	06/14	Jacob Trevallion	06/25
Jennifer Fisher	06/15	Elena Green	06/27
Jacqueline Prior	06/18	Nancy Nelson	06/27
Jean Carroll	06/19	Donald Haraty	06/28
Roberta Grant	06/19	Elizabeth Cilley	06/29
Alison Castellano	06/19	Matt Sterling	06/29
Alicia Richter	06/20		



### **Happy Vaca.....!**

As you're frolicking in the sun this summer (or maybe just sitting in your lawn chair watching the birds), remember that the work of Christ through our church still goes on and relies on your generous support even when you're "out and about". You can always mail your pledges to the church before you leave for vacation.

*"The wise man does not lay up his own treasures. The more he gives to others, the more he has for his own."*  
~ Lao Tzu

Have fun and go with God!

Your Stewardship Ministry Team (Carol Darnley, Linda Hornig)

## Administrative Assistant – Part Time

The Federated Community Church, a vibrant and growing protestant congregation comprised of the United Methodist Church, the United Church of Christ and Community members is seeking a new part time Administrative Assistant. Our Administrative Assistant maintains the church office in an open, friendly and professional manner. Working closely with our Pastor, the Christian Education Directors, Choir Director and Board Chairs, the Administrative Assistant is often the first person to interact with people visiting our church or calling in search of information or assistance.

Duties of the Administrative Assistant include: Gather information for, prepare and print weekly and special bulletins, monthly newsletter. Answer church telephone and review answering machine messages. Check church e-mail and respond to messages as required. Maintain a calendar of all church meetings and events. Maintain a record of all community groups that use the Church facilities. Prepare necessary correspondence and other mailings. Order, purchase and maintain all office supplies, curriculum, study guides and other items. Monitor annual and periodic inspections, licenses and permits. Maintain personal and family membership information in data base. Inform Pastor regarding shut-ins, hospitalizations and requests for visitation or prayer. Assist in the preparation of annual reports. Additional duties as assigned.

We are seeking an individual who has a welcoming personality and is self-directed, organized and flexible. This candidate will demonstrate professionalism, the ability to multitask, and have a high level of discretion over confidential matter. They will possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, proficiency with Microsoft Office, specifically Word and Excel, be internet/website and social media savvy, and experienced in the use of standard office equipment. Strongly desirable skills include experience with Shepard's Staff software and a risograph machine. Applicants should be familiar with and comfortable working in a church environment or similar nonprofit and at ease with people of all socio-economic backgrounds.

Physical requirements include moderate lifting (25lbs) and the ability to negotiate stairs. Must be able to pass a CORI background test and be bondable.

The position is part time 12 hours a week, Monday through Friday and is non-benefited. Additional hours may be required during seasonal peaks in the church year, especially the weeks before Christmas and Easter.

If you are moved to use your administrative and organizational talents in the service of Christ, we invite you to submit a cover letter and resume.

Federated Community Church  
Attn: Administrative Assistant Search Committee  
PO Box 246  
590 Main St  
Hampden MA 01036  
Phone: 413.566.3711

Email: [hampdenfederated@gmail.com](mailto:hampdenfederated@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.hampdenfederatedchurch.org](http://www.hampdenfederatedchurch.org)

## Christian Education

We cannot believe how fast this year has gone by. The children have done many projects and have been on many adventures within the Sunday school classrooms. Our End of Year program is right around the corner. Join us on June 10<sup>th</sup> to see what the children of the Sunday school have been working on all year long. We have been searching for the treasure on a Bible treasure hunt. The kingdom of God is our greatest treasurer.

X-marks the spot, be sure to join us!!!

Blessings,

Kristi & Laurie



### **Sunday School Birthdays**

Samuel Castellano 06/11

Miyani Brown 06/20

### **Name Tags - Get your Name Tags!!**

Pastor Pat will be joining us in a few short weeks. Imagine what it must be like for her - leaving a congregation after four years and starting all over again with us. She is doing so gladly and we in turn need to help her and her family feel welcome.

The Transition Team is asking church members to wear name pins to help smooth the way for the pastor. We will all know who she is but she has many new people to meet. To begin the process of preparing name tags, we are asking members of the congregation to fill out an index card with your name as you would like to have it appear. ALSO, take a minute to update information for the office - new cell phone number, address change, PO BOX. etc - anything that has changed.

Index cards are available in Libby Hall - they're very colorful - hard to miss. You can also email the information to [hampdenfederated@gmail.com](mailto:hampdenfederated@gmail.com).

Thank you!

Prepared by Karen Anable on behalf of the Transition Team

## *Missions*

### Harvest Gifts Update

The Prayer Patch has been tilled and fenced. By the time you receive this newsletter it will have been planted by volunteers from the church, the banner unfurled and the next phase of the project begun. Now comes the challenge.

We need volunteers to till the garden - weeding and watering the garden as needed. A sign-up schedule has been prepared and we need people like you to volunteer. The concept is simple, choose a day that works for you and come at a time that works with your schedule. After Pastor Pat arrives at the parsonage, the schedule will be adjusted with her input as it is important to consider privacy for her and her family.

By late June, early crops will be available and the next wave of volunteers will be needed. The church will become a drop-off spot for produce. Initially, we will open the church on Sundays from 8:00 AM to noon for drop-offs. Later in the season, it may be necessary to add more times for drop-off. Are you willing to help with this??

Of course, when we have produce, it's time to package it and deliver to the charities waiting for our help. Packaging and distribution will be done early Tuesday and Wednesday mornings - with a goal to deliver produce early in the day when the centers open. Are you able to volunteer an hour or two to help with this??

Harvest Gifts is an opportunity to live our faith. It's not about opening your pocketbooks, it's about opening your hearts and giving of your time and energy to serve God's kingdom.

*"for I was hungry and you gave Me food"...*

*Matthew 25:35*

Prepared by Karen Anable on behalf of the Missions Committee

### **Woman's Fellowship Hike Peaked Mountain Monson June 23rd @ 8:00 a.m.**

We'll meet in the church parking lot and carpool over to Peaked Mountain, a short distance away. We'll be hiking the Miller Forest Tract and several of the adjacent trail loops around Lunden Pond where you can glimpse beavers, herons, and other wildlife drawn to the quiet waters. Plan to walk about 2 miles. We'll return to the church in time for a quick bite. For more information contact Pamela Rogers @ 566.8081

## **Thanks to the Menfolk!**

Mother's Day worship included a lovely surprise, especially to the men of the congregation: answering Pastor Ellie's call, the men came forward to grace us with a lovely rendering of "Faith of Our (Mothers)". Thank you for uplifting us, Brothers!

## **\*A Gathering of "Thanks and Farewell" for Pastor Ellie**

**Sunday, June 24**, will be Pastor Ellie's last worship service with us. Following worship, we will come together to share a pot-luck luncheon with Pastor Ellie, in gratitude for her faithful and loving ministry to, and with us over the last six months. At a time when we were broken in spirit and high in anxiety for the future, God chose Ellie to remind us that He is always walking with us, always holding us close to His heart, always guiding us into a blessed future. As a congregation, sharing a meal seems to be our favorite way of collectively praising and uplifting thanks to God. Please gather with us for this very special time in our journey together.

## **\*Last Congregational Meeting of Reconciliation**

Be on the lookout for the date and time of our last meeting with Margaret Keyser. We are in the end stage of the process which began last October, as an intervention in the conflict crisis which had arisen among us over the preceding months. We have shared our confusion, anger, and pain, as the first step in a transformational process designed to move us beyond simply resolution of the conflict, toward stronger connections and relationships: the foundation for more effective and efficient collective ministry.

We have been practicing how to:

- Listen for mutual understanding
- Be "in the feet" of the other
- Bring unwilling parties to the table
- Facilitate difficult conversations
- De-escalate conflicts
- Move polarized parties towards common ground and understanding (from [www.transformingconflicts.org](http://www.transformingconflicts.org).)

The last two sessions have engaged us in identifying and dealing with problem issues, such as general communication, personal handling of difficult situations, trust and relationship building, expectations of the pastor, dealing with differing personal beliefs and values, and more.

One specific focus for our upcoming final meeting will be the purpose and formation of a committee to support open and healthy relationships between the pastor and the congregation, and among the congregants, boards and committees.

In the UCC, this ministry is called a "Pastor-Parish Relations Committee", and in the UMC it is called the "Staff-Parish Relations Council": both perform the same function.

*We hope you will be able to attend this last meeting to learn more about this topic, especially if you may have an interest in being part of this committee, and serving the mission and ministry of our church in a new and vital way.*

You will be notified of the date and time as soon as we have it.

In His service,

Linda Hornig, for the Board of Deacons and the Board of Directors

## *Poetry Corner*

Recipe for Peace by Mattie J.T. Stepaneck (11 yrs. old)  
Written May 12, 2002

*Peace is possible  
Make peace an attitude.  
Want it.  
Make peace a habit.  
Live it.  
Make peace a reality.  
Share it.  
Peace is possible.  
Make peace matter.  
Our matter.  
Make peace a priority.  
Our priority.  
Make peace a choice.  
Our choice.  
Peace is possible.  
We must think gently,*

*Speak gently,  
Live gently.  
Peace is possible.  
Be happy with who you are.  
Be happy with who others are.  
Be happy that we are.  
Peace is possible.  
Role model acceptance.  
Love others.  
Role model forgiveness.  
Encourage others.  
Role model tolerance.  
Treasure others.  
Peace is possible.  
Peace is possible.  
Peace is possible.*

Mattie was the poster child for the MDA in Jerry Lewis time due to his neuromuscular disease. He has been writing poetry since he was 3 yrs. old. He wrote the "Recipe for Peace" when he was 11 yrs. old and two years before he died. I especially liked this poem because it reminded me of Jesus' teaching. In the first part of the poem I see and feel the teachings of having Faith to make peace an attitude, Hope to make peace a reality and Charity/Love to make peace matter, make peace a priority and make peace a choice. Mattie's philosophy about peace was; if I can be peaceful with one other person and we each can be peaceful with another, then peace grows and a domino effect is begun.

In the second part of the poem the sessions with Margaret came to full understanding for me. We need to be compassionate with ourselves and others. When we speak with each other we need to choose our words wisely and pause before we speak so as not to be hurtful or vengeful. And living a peaceful life would mean a life without violence. Yet Mattie went through many trials and tribulations due to his disease and the death of his three (3) siblings. How painful it is to lose your loved ones and yet he believed in their peaceful new lives in heaven with Jesus. Mattie's further philosophy was "after the storms, play." And isn't that what God did after His creation in six days, on the seventh He rested and play is a form of rest.

God's command to "Love God with your whole heart, mind and soul and love you neighbor as yourself" is evident in the last part of the poem. I believe Mattie found the tools for PEACE! Three of them are acceptance, forgiveness and tolerance. It's not an easy road to take but I believe it's the most peaceful road! Don't you think?

# June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10:00 Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	4	5 9:30 Bible Study  6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA Speakers	6 12:00 Prayer Group .	7  7:00 Choir	8	9 8:00 Men's Breakfast
10 10:00 Worship Children's Program Family Picnic	11	12 9:30 Bible Study  6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA Speakers	13 12:00 Prayer Group	14  7:00 Choir	15	16 10:00 Dress A Girl
17 10:00 Worship Father's Day	18 .	19 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA Speakers 7:00 BOD	20  12:00 Prayer Group 6:30 Deacons Mtg.	21  7:00 Choir	22	23 8:00 Men's Breakfast 8:00 Women's Fellowship Hike
24 10:00 Worship	25	26 9:30 Bible Study  6:30 AA Step 7:30 AA Speakers	27  12:00 Prayer Group	28  7:00 Choir	29	30
31 10:00 Worship						



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

**Nonprofit  
organization  
U.S. postage  
PAID  
Springfield, MA  
Permit no. 2702**

Church Staff

<u>Interim Pastor</u>	Eleanor Kraner
<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, June 3<sup>rd</sup>** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: I Samuel 3:1-10  
2 Corinthians 4:5-12  
Mark 2:23-3:6

**Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: I Samuel 8:4-11  
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
Mark 3:20-35

**Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: I Samuel 15:34-16:13  
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17  
Mark 4:26-34

**Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: I Samuel 17:32-49  
2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
Mark 4:35-41