

FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH
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The Federated Courier

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March 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings in the Name of Christ!

Ash Wednesday was February 26th. Historically, many folks give up something for the Lenten season as a way of making time in their schedule and/or focusing their attention on drawing closer to God. I challenge you this year not only to give up, but to take up something. If you are giving up sweets or candy, then also put aside the money you would spend on the candy or sweets and donate the money to help someone else or a charity close to your heart. The same goes whatever else you are giving up : drinking, overeating, buying new clothes or other non-essentials, etc. Whatever you give up for the Lenten season, share the money you save with a charity or person/family in need. If you are still undecided on what you will be doing this Lenten season to make this season mindful of Jesus' journey towards the cross, I suggest taking something up. If you do not read the Bible or a Spiritual Devotional book, then put aside a time daily to do so. *The Upper Room Daily Devotional* is a good place to start. It is a small book with only one page assigned each day for reading, which also includes a scripture to go along with the reading. Copies are in the church front hall and in the fellowship hall. If you haven't been to church lately, choose to mark the Lenten season by doing so. Another Lenten practice might be sharing. Share your time and go visit someone you haven't seen in a while. Prepare double the recipe of a meal and bring the meal to another to make life easier for them. Sign up to

host a fellowship hour at church following worship or speak with Rita Spencer or Karen Anable on how you might assist with our *Wonderful Wednesday Worship* in preparing or serving the light lunch.

Fellowship has added a game night held on the last Friday of each month. It is a time to share laughter and fun as we deepen our knowledge of one another and create memories of our church family. Come join us.

The Missions Committee will host a *Baked Potato Potluck Dinner* followed by a Talentless/Talent Show on March 28th at 5:30pm. The committee will provide the potatoes and you are invited to bring in a creative topping to share with others for the potatoes. (Ideas: chili, sour cream and chives, bacon, veggies and cheese sauce, etc.). A talentless/talent show will follow. This means you do not need to be a professional to have an act. We are seeking singers, musicians, dramatists, poets, tap dancers, karate demo, skits, comedians, or whatever you can share in good Christian fun to have some fellowship. We will have a free will offering to support *One Great Hour of Sharing* for both UCC and UMC denominations. Sign up in the fellowship hall of what you are bringing for the potato share and what talent you might offer. Of course, we also need an audience so don't feel you have to perform in the talent part.

Our Lenten worship series will focus on risks: *Risking Reputation, Risking Righteous Anger, Risking Challenge, Risking Rejection, Risking Loss of Friends, and Resisting Temptation*. The series is based on the book, *Entering the Passion of Jesus* by Amy Jill Levine, a favorite scholar of the Wednesday study group. As we look at Jesus' journey through Passion Week, you are invited not to look at the story as history, but to find yourself in each scene. We will have picture frames around the church to take pictures and use during worship. If you participate in missions, please capture the moment and send a copy to the office so we can use it during worship. May you move closer to God through this journey with Jesus to the cross.

See you in church.

Pastor Pat



From the Deacons' Bench

Do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. - Matthew 6:34 (NIV)

There's something about winter that makes everyday worries larger than life. Perhaps, we're missing sunlight or spending too much time bundled up against the cold away from activities and friends that lift the spirit. Whatever the reason, it's time to recharge our batteries and reflect on the great gift of God's presence in our lives. Take time each day to give over our worries to Him, to live in the joys of each new day.

I was inspired by a reading in the Jan-Feb Upper Room. The writer was an early riser, up when the woods at the back of her house were dark and forbidding - the dark trees like ghostly silhouettes - that allowed negative thoughts about tomorrow to creep in. This became the time for her daily appointment with God - reading, reflecting, praying, meditating - continuing until the first hint of morning sun appeared on the horizon; opening her spirit to the power and presence of God in her life - finding hope in God's light.

Pastor Pat has urged us to prepare a special place in our homes - an "altar" with meaningful objects, a Bible, inspirational readings, candles, whatever helps us open ourselves to God. Perhaps, it's time to make this a reality in our homes. Let us feel the power and presence of God in our everyday lives - and find hope in God's light.

God Bless!

Deacon Karen Anable

Servers for the Month

Deacons

March	Dave Anable
April	Hayden Tibbets
May	Linda Hornig



Ushers

3/1	Regina & Jack Germain
3/8	Elaine DeGray & Ellie Green
3/15	Bill & Lynn Cunningham
3/22	Amy & Dale Varney
3/29	Joyce Ogonowski & Mary Howell

Thank you for the prayer shawls that were left in the office by a mysterious person – if you would like to identify yourself – we would love to thank you personally!

**thank
you!**

Anniversaries

David & Susan Quill	03/05
Carol & George Quinlivan	03/18
James & Laurie Bliss	03/21





Sunday School Birthdays

Joseph Tessier

03/06



March Birthdays

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

Bonnie Watson	03/02
Robert Green	03/02
Elizabeth Taylor	03/02
William Gatchell	03/04
Carol Darnley	03/08
Robert Powers	03/09
Kellie Hummel	03/11
Beverly Brant	03/11
Geoffrey Sterling	03/15
Dennis Chaffee Jr	03/15
Nancy Quill	03/17
Virginia Richter	03/17
Jesse Lee	03/17
Mary Drozdowski	03/20
Pamela Rogers	03/20
Anne Collins Jr	03/22
Elizabeth Warner	03/23
Emily Warner	03/23
Lauren Hummel	03/23
Ronald Richter	03/24
Sandra Richter	03/24
Jarrold Smith	03/26
Erik McKeone	03/27
Jolette Germain	03/28
Glenn Olesuk	03/28
Patricia Ritz	03/30
Dale Varney	03/31
Barbara Panek	03/31

Sympathy Extended To...

Janet Modlish's mother, Rita Smith, passed away on February 17th. Please continue to hold the family in prayers.



Prayer Corner



Evie Meacham

Joyce Libby

Peg Stearns

Walter Black Jr.

Julia Winetrout

Gail Banning

Judy Ingle

Ethel

Audrey Burger

Christopher

Barbara Bennett

Carol Darnley

Maggie Waugh

Gwen Wills

Sarah

Lelum

Kayla

Winnie

Winn

Jackie Prior

Pat Safford

Beverly Pease

Bob Green –surgery 3/17

Dennis

Frank Watson

Beverly Brant

Janet Brehaut

Jim

Dave Cummins

Emerson Miller

Otto Kern

If you have an announcement to share of a birth, death, long time anniversary or want to add a name to the prayer list, please contact the office.

Flower Committee

If you would like to put flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of loved ones, please contact the Flower Committee member assigned to the current month.



November/December- Regina Germain

January/February – Ellie Green

March/April- Janet Libby

May/June- Elaine DeGray

July/August – Cheryl Fonda

September/October – Phyllis Watson

The Flower Committee will be beginning to take orders for Easter flowers. Please look for the order form in the April Newsletter (forms will also be available in church).

Wonderful Wednesday Worship

Come and join us for a light lunch and worship on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Lunch will be served at 12:30 pm followed by worship at 1:00 pm-ish. If you need transportation please call the office.

Game Night

Friday, March 27th
6:00 PM

Bring along your favorite game or
join in with others!

Please bring a snack to share and a
non-perishable food item to donate to the local food bank.



Saturday Watercolor Classes

12:30 -3:30 pm in Libby Hall



March 7th

March 14th

March 21st

March 28th

There will be a cost of \$10 per session to cover class
material and some watercolor paint supplies. Contact
David Spencer to reserve your spot.

Children's/Youth Bell Choir

Following Sunday worship, a 10-15
minute rehearsal is held in the choir room
for our newly formed bell choir. A few
adults are needed to play with and assist.
Any person interested, please speak with
Faith Thompson, Music Director.



Scholarships

Summer camping schedules are out. If you are interested in attending camps this summer, please see Kristi or Pastor Pat for suggestions and websites. Partial **Camperships** are available for those attending a Christian camp. Applications are available in the office.

Are you a member of the church? Attending college? We have **College Scholarships** available for members. Please note that you must be present in worship to receive your scholarship. Ask for an application in the church office and see if you qualify. Deadline is April 15th.

Christian Education

What are your gifts? God gives us all special gifts. Sometimes we don't know what they are and sometimes they can change. A gift is not always a talent. In Sunday School we have been talking about the gifts that God gives us. Some gifts that God gives us are compassion, serving others, helping, faith and many more.



As we move into the Lenten season, we will be talking about how we don't need to always give up something like chips or chocolate. We can also give our time and share our gifts to help others. God wants us to share what we have with others.

In Sunday School we will be encouraging the children to reflect on helping others. Both Jesus and God want us to spread our Christian faith by helping others with our gifts.

Blessings, Kristi and Laurie

Opportunities to Serve

- We are looking for people to bring collected food and/ or clothing to the Community Survival Center once a month. We are also looking for someone to purchase items needed for Fellowship/Coffee Hour and cleaning supplies from Costco. Reimbursement is available from the Assistant Treasurer.



- We are seeking cooks and /or bakers for our Wednesday Worship service as well as people to provide transportation.

Lenten Lunches at Trinity United Methodist

Every Friday during Lent

*FCC members are invited to join the Pastor and others
on March 20th.*

February 28th – April 10th

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Homemade clam chowder, lobster rolls, sandwiches,
salads, & a variety of homemade pies!

Trinity Church is located at
361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA
413-266-9692

Missions

As we walk through the journey of Lent this year, we want to help our neighbors in need. The Missions team is organizing a “Blizzard” to benefit men of the Springfield Rescue Mission. We are asking each Sunday if you could bring in “white” items that the homeless men in our communities may be without. These items are simple everyday ones for us and yet precious items for others. Some items include but are not limited to:

Toothpaste	Undershirts
Toothbrushes	Hair combs
Gum	Shampoo
Mints	Soap
Underwear	Deodorant
Socks	Razors

The children of the Sunday School will count the number of items donated we will bless the items. After Easter we will deliver them to downtown Springfield.

The Missions committee has some wonderful things in the works. Look out for our “Talentless-Talent Show” on March 28th at 5:30pm. We will also be hosting a “Baked Potato Potluck”. Potatoes will be provided and we are asking everyone to bring a “topping” for our potato bar. The entertainment for the evening will be talent from our congregation. If you have a talent or gift, please see the Sign-Up sheet in Libby Hall. We are looking for all types of talents to grace us with your gifts. It will be an evening of fun.

Blessings,

Your Missions Committee

**TALENT
SHOW**

“Talent-less Talent Show” & Baked Potato Potluck”

Saturday, March 28th

5:30 pm

Freewill offering to support *One Great Hour of Sharing*

A Message from Rev. Dr. David Calhoun, District Superintendent



Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors



CTWMA District
New England Conference
310 Hartford Tpke., Suite 1
Vernon, CT 06066

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JoAnn Watson, Administrative Assistant
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January 22, 2020

Rev. Pat Miller Fernandes
Federated Community Church
P.O. Box 246
Hampden, MA 01036

*Dear Pat and the Federated Community,
Thank you for your faithfulness
and leadership in the conference.
God bless you all!*

Dear Pat and members of the Church Council,

Grace and Peace in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Blessings to you for all your extraordinary ministry on behalf of the connectional ministries funded through Mission Shares. Significant ministries within our conference and around the world have been made possible because of your faithfulness.

Enclosed with this mailing you will find a certificate acknowledging your churches Mission Shares paid 100%. On behalf of Bishop Devadhar and the New England Annual Conference, I say, 'thank you!'

As United Methodists, we accept and affirm that the primary task of our church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ, to proclaim the Gospel and good news, and to seek, welcome and gather people of faith into the body of Christ. When one joins a United Methodist congregation, one becomes a member of the total United Methodist connection. And when you join the journey of united Methodism, you help make mission and ministry possible!

Each congregation in the United Methodist system is expected to pay mission shares. When people give to the local church, a portion of your gift goes toward these mission shares, which help in a variety of ways. For example, when you give, a portion of your money helps with the development and maintenance of our church camps in the New England Annual Conference. Our Mission Shares help underwrite a variety of youth ministries, camp workshops, and training events. You provide Schools of Christian Mission and spiritual growth for your church members. Our Mission Shares also provide health insurance premiums and partial funding of pension for retired pastors and their survivors. You provide funds for support and assisting to develop new congregations in the New England Annual Conference. You furnish salary and other support for local churches unable to meet minimum standards for pastoral support. You provide administrative and spiritual leadership through the ministry of our Bishop and District Superintendents.

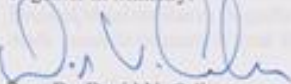
You fund professional counseling for pastors and/or their families when needed. You supply a campus ministry and Christian presence through United Methodist in Higher Education at Boston University and other colleges throughout the conference. You champion over 1,000 missionaries around the world and in our own country. You endow more than 10,000 mission projects around the world. You support 13 United Methodists seminaries as they train future pastors and other church leaders. You help sustain 11 predominately Black colleges as they equip a new generation of leaders. You strengthen the vital work of United Methodist-related hospitals, homes for the aged, and community centers around the world and in our own country.

Your Mission Shares help distribute Bibles throughout the world. You help support UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) which maintains a network to channel relief and aid to disaster victims around the world and in our own country. United Methodists are building new congregations across the world. Your Mission Shares provide ongoing support for the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky, and much, much more!

As you can see, your congregational Mission Shares are vitally important to the local, national, and worldwide mission of the United Methodist Church. I commend all congregations for their efforts large and small. Please be in prayer about your Mission Shares for 2020. Together we can be the place where Jesus is visibly active in the world.

Again, thank you again for you 100% commitment.

Together in Ministry!



Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun
District Superintendent
Connecticut/Western Massachusetts District

WORLD PARISH CITATION

Working Together Toward a Common Vision

THE NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE
of
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
recognizes

FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH (HAMPDEN)

for achieving
100% Mission Share in 2019

in support of
WORLD MISSIONS
MINISTRY SUPPORT
NEW ENGLAND MISSIONS



New England Conference
The United Methodist Church

*By collaborative support of United Methodism, your church,
along with thousands of others, makes the World Our Parish.*

Presented this 1st day of February 2020


CFWMA District Superintendent



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 9:30 am Spirit Chat 6:30/7:30 pm AA	4 10:30 am Bible Study	5	6	7 12:30 pm Watercolor Class
8 10:00am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	9	10 9:30 am Spirit Chat 6:30/7:30 pm AA	11 No Bible Study 12:30 pm Lunch/Afternoon Worship	12	13	14 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Women's Fellowship 12:30 pm Watercolor Class Super Saturday
15 10:00am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	16	17 9:30 am Spirit Chat 6:30/7:30 pm AA	18 10:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Retreat, Simple Faith	19	20 Lenten Lunch @ Trinity Methodist	21 10:00 am Dress a Girl 11:00 am Women's Retreat 12:30 pm Watercolor Class
22 10:00am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery 2:00 pm Knit, Stitch, Pray 6:00 pm Annual Meeting	23	24 9:30 am Spirit Chat 6:30/7:30 pm AA	25 10:30 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Lunch/Afternoon Worship	26	27 6:00 Game Night	28 8:00am Men's Breakfast 12:30 pm Watercolor Class 5:30 pm Baked Potato Pot Luck & "Talents;" Talent Show
29 10:00am Worship, Sunday School, Nursery	30	31 9:30 am Spirit Chat 6:30/7:30 pm AA				

TALENT SHOW

“Talent-Less Talent Show” & Baked Potato Potluck

Saturday, March 28

5:30 pm

Potatoes will be provided- bring a Topping!

Entertainment will be talent from our congregation. If you have a talent or gift, please see the sign-up sheet in Libby Hall.