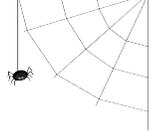


OCTOBER 2022



Ham & Bean Dinner
Saturday, September 15th
See Page 9

THE BEACON



First Church Congregational *United Church of Christ*

26 Pleasant Street
Methuen, MA 01844-3199
Telephone: (978) 687-1240

Rev. William D. Ingraham, Senior Pastor
pastor.bill.ingraham@gmail.com

Roberta Jurovich, Office Manager
firstchurch.roberta@gmail.com

www.firstchurchmethuen.com



Worship on Sundays at 10:00 AM
In person & on Facebook Live



* * * * *

“GETTING PARSONAL” *Rev. William D. Ingraham*

What a difference a month can make! Since the last issue of this newsletter was published, a number of wonderful, even dramatic things have happened at First Church Congregational. If you've been present in worship, no doubt, you're aware of it. It's been exciting, for sure.

Welcome Sunday on September 18 was remarkable! We had the largest crowd for worship since the pandemic began. The excitement in the church was palpable. The service included an infant baptism and all the joy that entails. But the day started much earlier. People were hard at work in the kitchen, Parish Hall and outside in the corner of the parking lot, getting things ready for the newly re-established annual cookout, another first since the pandemic began. There was chatter and joy

everywhere you turned as adults, children and youth greeted one another, some we've not seen for a long time. There was a lot of handshaking, hugs, laughter and catching-up stories being shared throughout the building. It was brilliant!

All the while, in the sanctuary, the Chancel Choir was hard at work, having begun their rehearsal at 8 a.m. It was the first Sunday for our new Minister of Music, Mike Boutin, and the first time the choir had gathered since last spring. Mike and the choir wasted no time in preparing music for that day's worship and beyond. At 9:30 the rehearsal ended. The choir scurried out to robe and get ready for worship. After setting up his music for the coming service on both the piano and organ, Mike sat down at the piano and started to play. From then on, until the time for the prelude, beautiful, contemplative music filled the sanctuary, setting the mood for worship as people arrive and settle themselves. This happens now each and every Sunday. It's lovely!

Needless to say, the picnic was delicious. We had a lot of happy people!

The next two Sundays were remarkable, too. We had another infant baptism on September's last Sunday with just about every member of the Amis family here to celebrate it. There were as many in worship that day as we saw on Welcome Sunday! The first Sunday of October was a bit smaller, but it was a special day. Returning communion to service in the pews, we used the historic Nevins trays and chalices. The larger communion table once again was set in the apse, just like old time, with the Deacon of the day helping me to lift the beautiful cloth cover and fold it in preparation for the eucharistic liturgy. It felt "just like old times." It was beautiful!

More traditions return this month. The Ham and Bean Supper will be on Saturday, October 15, and preparations are *well* under way. To secure the hams, volunteers had to drive all the way to Rhode Island! And every store in the region has been scoured for cans of brown bread. (We got them all.) We have everything we need, including a whole slew of enthusiastic volunteers. All that remains is for a good showing at the dinner. *Have you bought your tickets? Have you talked to your friends, your neighbors and your colleagues to invite them to come?* While Ham and Bean Suppers used to be very common around here, we are highly unusual in being able to undertake one again. *Please* let people know! We want this supper to be a huge success, not only raising money, but also raising people's spirits, our own included!

Our annual Stewardship Campaign comes next, beginning on Sunday, October 23. I'm so enthusiastic for the Stewardship Ministry Team's plans for us. Our theme is *Forward Together... Joyfully, Faithfully, Gratefully*. It will help us to celebrate how far we've come, and the faith we have moving forward together into God's future. Our church is richly blessed, as are all of us. We've been through hard times of late, but we've made, and we are well poised for what is next to come. It will be a blessing to find our way there, together.

This is an exciting time at First Church. You don't want to miss a thing!

See you in church!

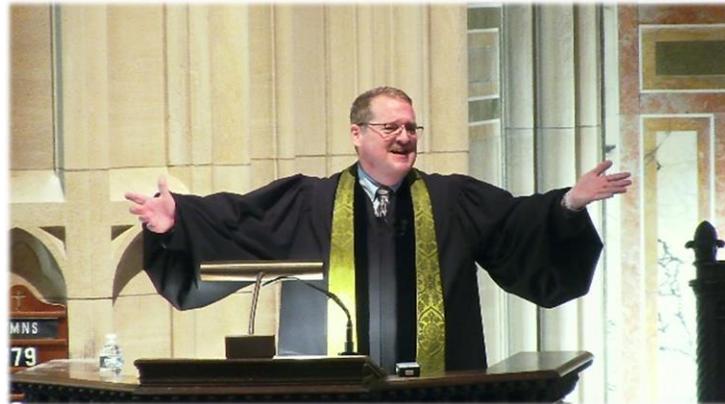
~ *Bill*



Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 AM

Hope you will join us!



For those who cannot attend in person, worship will continue to be broadcast each Sunday, at 10:00 AM, on Facebook Live ([facebook.com/FirstChurchMethuen](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchMethuen)). It will also be posted following the worship service on our YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/channel/UCfLSjhXs9UG8yC89aB8evrA).

The service can be viewed at any time on either platform.

* * * * *

Breakfast with Bill



Join Pastor Bill for ***“Breakfast with Bill”*** – an informal time for friendship and conversation on any topic. We will gather on **Wednesday, October 12th at 8:00 AM**, at Sammy J’s, 144 Main Street, Salem, NH. And remember, it’s dutch treat!

Prayer and Visit Requests

If you, or someone you know, is need of prayer or a visit, please contact Rev. Ingraham at pastor.bill.ingraham@gmail.com or 978-687-1240.

To have someone included on the bulletin prayer list, please let Roberta in the Church Office know at firstchurch.roberta@gmail.com or 978-687-1240. No request is too big or too small!



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First Church was well represented at the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Annual Gala and Auction on September 16th. Jen Borislow, Bill Ingraham, Deb Brown and Billy Bennett.

Jen served the MVYMCA on the Board of Trustees, and Bill Ingraham is Chair of the Methuen YMCA Branch Board and Vice Chair of the MVYMCA Corporate Board.

* * * * *



We have a Published Author in our Midst!



First Church member Jamie Blanco Gallant has published a remarkable book, co-authored with her late father, Jimmy Blanco. *Hope for the Hopeless* is the inspiring story of her father's battle against the world's most aggressive and deadly form of brain cancer. Against all odds he managed to live more than 8 years. It afforded him precious time to share with his family, as well as giving him the chance to chronicle of his journey. His manuscript was discovered decades after his death and passed to Jamie, a writer and a journalist. She applied her skill to research current trends in the alternative treatments her father had pursued. She also explores the impact of faith on health and wellbeing, the cornerstone of her father's success for nearly a decade.

I had the honor of attending the book's debut at The Nevins Library on September 20 and was inspired by the story Jamie has to tell. Her father was a man with a deep and abiding faith – a faith he leaned upon and made the foundation of his healing journey.

Jamie has generously agreed to present her book and share her story with us following worship on December 4. We'll figure out the details as the date gets closer. Watch this space for more information in coming issues of *The Beacon*.



From the Chair of the Church Board

Greetings all from your chair of the church board! Your First Church Congregational board is working hard in all their committees and for our church in general. I certainly have been feeling the excitement growing in our church family with all the activities coming and closing. To sum up a portion of all of the wonderful items:

- Welcome Sunday was welcoming indeed! As is our tradition, we had an old-fashioned cookout with burgers, dogs, vegetarian options, chips, and... an ice cream truck! It was a potluck as well, and I personally tried as many sides as I could (all so good!). Thank you all who helped out – it was a whole church event with so many people lending a hand.
- We also introduced our Minister of Music – Mike Boutin – on Welcome Sunday! I personally find it heart-warming to see our choir back in action and sounding as lovely as ever – a true blessing! With Mike both directing and playing, it was phenomenal to hear as well.
- Introduced on Welcome Sunday was the exciting Outreach program launch – “Just Book It!!” It’s a fabulous book drive for our area youth. If you would like to contribute, donate, or help, please talk with any of our Outreach team.
- The tower repairs are complete! If you haven’t seen the pictures in Parish Hall, I highly recommend taking a look. The extent of degradation and subsequent repair is breathtaking. I cannot thank the trustees enough, so please let them know how appreciated they are.
- Chapel renovations are complete, and school is back in session! Take a look in the classrooms off the Parish Hall – new floors, furniture, paint, and more. All the changes certainly lead to a wonderful learning experience. Chapel is still enrolling, so spread the word to any and all parents that may be interested.
- ...and so much more!

Looking forward, I am excited that the Ham & Bean Dinner is back on October 15th. One of our newer traditions, the First Church kitchen team is back to make a classic New England dinner, with so many treats to tempt you with. This is a full fellowship event, so please contact me on how to help. There’s a lot of moving parts, so anyway you can assist, we will be grateful.

As always, all are welcome to chat anytime with me. I love to hear your ideas and suggestions. We also have a lot of other activities and missions scheduled, so I would love your input. I know you all work so hard to make our church a blessing to our families and neighbors, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Let’s keep the energy and drive, continuing to seek God, care for each other, and improve our community.

God bless!!!

Josh Ferry



From the Stewardship Ministry Team...

FORWARD TOGETHER... our Stewardship Theme for this year points toward our intention to progress forward to continue the path our church walks along in worship, in fellowship and in the community. We have begun to move forward together with a wonderful Welcome Sunday with many families returning to in person worship followed by a delicious barbeque lunch. We also welcomed our new Minister of Music and enjoyed the inspiring music he offered. We will continue to move forward in the coming months with a Ham and Bean Supper, the collection of food for Thanksgiving Meals to be donated to NIN, the return of a full music program and the reimagining of our Christian Education program as well as the return of other projects and activities that were put on hold during the pandemic. It takes everyone together to support our mission of *“Seeking God, Caring for Each Other, and Improving Our Community.”*

Plans for our Stewardship Campaign are being completed. Later this month we will be mailing out this year’s campaign materials. We ask that you consider how you can support moving Forward Together with your weekly pledge or monthly e-gift. We will celebrate with a luncheon following worship on November 6 which will include the chicken pot pie meal that is again being provided monthly to Bread and Roses. We will celebrate being Together and moving Forward.

Stewardship Ministry Team:

Kathy Romano – Chairperson

Rev. Bill Ingraham, Irene Maggio, Ken Peck, Marilyn Peck, Robyn Sliney and Kim Valcourt

* * * * *

The Stewardship Ministry Team

cordially invites you to a luncheon, following worship, on

Sunday, November 6, 2022

Come join us as we share a meal together in fellowship to celebrate and give thanks for all of God’s promises and blessings to us at First Church!

Forward Together

		
Joyfully	Faithfully	Gratefully

From the Outreach Ministry Team

Samaritan's Walk for Hope



The Family Services' Samaritans program is hosting its 6th Annual Walk for Hope on October 22. Many people in our community are struggling with mental health challenges. The Walk for Hope offers everyone a way to be part of the solution. Please consider joining the **"First Church Stride Team"** to help raise awareness and support for those who have been affected by trauma, loss and suicide. See the flyer for this event in the October Beacon

If you are not able to walk, please consider making a donation to our team or directly to the Samaritans. In the past First Church has held our **"Stride into the Light 5K Walk/Run"** the first Saturday in May to raise funds for the Samaritans. We were unable to host that event this year. But the Samaritans still need our financial support, and we as a church community have been committed to supporting them in the past.

Lazarus House Hike for Hope

The Hike for Hope was held Sunday, September 25. Seven people from our church family participated and they raised \$1,001 for the Lazarus House Ministries. The money raised this year will be used to support Lazarus House's food pantry and soup kitchen as they work to address the needs of the increasing numbers of food insecure families in our community. We thank Becky Smith for heading up this Outreach event for us.



Let's Book It!



Our Book Drive to collect new and gently used books for grades kindergarten through 6th grade at the Tenney Grammar School continues through Sunday, October 16th. So you still have plenty of time to donate. We have an "Amazon Wish List" which enables you to purchase books, have them sent to your home and then bring them to the church. We have also prepared a list of "Authors and their book series" from which you can choose books to purchase. There is a flyer in the October Beacon about the Book Drive. We also accept monetary donations and purchase the books for you, if you prefer.

Bread & Roses

On September 19th, our Bread & Roses Ministry Team made the first meal they have made in 2 years for Bread & Roses. They made 7 trays of Chicken Pot Pie and they also provided the Bisquick for the crust and pudding for dessert. During the Pandemic Bread & Roses discontinued serving "in person" meals. They have now resumed "in person" dining.



NIN Tuesday Evening Food Pantry



On Tuesday, September 27th, our NIN Food Pantry served 278 families.



Ham & Bean Dinner

First Church Congregational

26 Pleasant Street, Methuen

Saturday, October 15th

4:30 to 6:30 PM



Buffet Style Menu



Ham and Baked Beans,

Hot Dogs, Macaroni & Cheese, Tossed Green Salad, Potato Salad,
Coleslaw, Brown Bread, Rolls and Butter

*Mini Vegan Buffet – Vegan Dogs, Baked Beans, Tossed Green Salad,
Potato Salad, Coleslaw*

Dessert – Apple Crisp with Whipped Cream

Beverages – Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

Tickets available at the Church Office (978-687-1240) during the week
and Sunday mornings, following (10:00 AM) worship.

Adults: \$12 (Advance Purchase) **or \$14** (At Door)

Children 6-12: \$8 Under 6: Free

Cash or Checks accepted.

A time for great food and fellowship.

Walking Group for Fitness and Fellowship

Tuesdays in October

Fall is in the air! Come join us along the Merrimack River as the leaves begin to turn. Due to current road construction on Riverside Drive, we will walk at the Loop on 10/4, meeting in front of the AMC Theater at 10:00 AM. We will hopefully return to the Riverside location on 10/11, 10/18 and 10/25 at the Raymond Martin Park, 971 Riverside Drive in Methuen. If there is a change, we will post a notice in the bulletin.



Sunday Walk on the Methuen Rail Trail

Come join us for our monthly Rail Trail Walk on Sunday, 10/16 at 12:00 PM. We meet in the back of the MSPCA parking lot where we access the Rail Trail. We usually walk south to the Lawrence/Methuen line and back, approximately 3 miles roundtrip, but walkers can shorten their walk by turning back at the old train station. Please join us in enjoying fall on the Rail Trail!

* * * * *

A Note from your Historical Committee:



We are planning to move forward with recording for a First Church Congregational, Methuen documentary. Tom Gradzewicz has initially proposed October 4th and 5th to meet at the church with anyone who would like to share a bit of their First Church history. It could be short anecdotes or special occasions, events, or experiences. Pictures/documents are welcome--they should be in an envelope with your name and phone number on it and will be returned after scanning. This should be a fun, informative and entertaining experience, so come and share a bit of your history with First Church. Please contact Leslie Shea or Bobbi Barlow for more information.

Let's Book It!!

"Enjoy watching our bookcase come alive!"

The Outreach Ministry Team, in collaboration with the Tenney Grammar School, will be hosting a month-long book drive which kicked off on Welcome Sunday, September 18th.

The Tenney Grammar School has approximately 1,000 K-6 students, with over 50% in low-income status. Tenney is the school for children in the MAN program which FCC has had an outreach commitment for over 10 years. In addition, many teachers purchase books independently throughout the year for their classrooms.

How will the Book Drive work? Each Sunday, until October 23rd, bring your books to worship (10:00 AM) and place them in the bookcase in the sanctuary. Watch our bookshelves fill with new and gently used (English and Spanish) books.

Not sure how to get involved, here are some ideas:

- First Church has set up an Amazon Wishlist, follow this link to purchase: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3RS6VJMNR45HA?ref=cm_sw_em_r_un_un_3VyJUnhPEAf3O
- You could purchase new books at retailers, such as: Barnes & Noble, Target, Walmart, www.ScholasticBookClub.com (in conjunction with the Chapel School), www.BookBundler.com, etc.
- Check your own bookshelves, visit flea markets or the Nevins Library book sale to donate gently used children's books.

• Requested authors & book series:

Tedd Arnold	Kate DiCamillo	Dav Pilkey
Annie Barrows	Rebecca Elliot	Mary Pope Osborne
Aaron Blabey	Jory John	Tracey West
Katrina Charman	Jeff Kinney	Mo Willems
Beverly Cleary	Lois Lowry	"Who Was ..." Series
Roald Dahl	Eric Litwin	"Who Would Win" Series

Help us fill our bookcase and bring the joy of reading to children's hearts!

The Outreach Ministry Team

Cynthia Causbie (Book Drive Leader), Lori Bennett, Cindy Bateson, Jo-Ann Crosby, Barbara Donaghue, Ken Peck, Marilyn Peck (Outreach Chair), and Becky Smith

6th Annual Walk for Hope

Samaritans of Merrimack Valley

October 22, 2022

Willows Professional Park
(811 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA)

Now more than ever, the Samaritans need our help to continue to provide trainings, community awareness events and support services for loss survivors and attempt survivors. Due to the national implementation of 988 – Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, their crisis lines are now staffed 24/7/365. Also, COVID-19 continues to have a significant impact on our communities and our help is needed to be able to meet these needs.



Registration: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Speakers: 9:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Walk: 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM

(If you have pre-registered, please arrive by 9:45 a.m.)

Registration Fee: \$30.00

(Children 12 and under do not need to pay and do not get a t-shirt)

**First Church Congregational has a Walk for Hope team.
It is called *First Church Stride Team***

The links and information below enable you to **either register as a walker or to make a donation to the team.**

<https://fsnv.org/walk-for-hope>

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/WalkForHope/team/FirstChurchStrideTeam>

- On the right side of the page, choose to DONATE or JOIN the TEAM to walk
- If walking, first select the number of walkers to be registered (1 to a maximum of 4 per page) by hitting the “ + ” sign
- Then select First Church Stride Team from the drop-down menu that asks you to attribute your support to
- Complete the rest of the information that follows and submit the entry. An acknowledgement will be sent to the registered email. Contact bbdonaghue@comcast.net if you need help registering.
- If you would like to donate, follow the same link, hit the donate button and choose First Church Stride Team from the menu to add the donation to our goal

Thank you for your help and generosity!

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets year-round and always welcomes anyone who wishes to be part of this ministry. Knitting or crocheting experience is not a prerequisite to becoming a member. Come for the fellowship and someone will be glad to help you if needed. Please contact Anne Benedix or Carol Gray for more information.

We invite you to join us on **Wednesdays from 1:00 - 3:00 PM**,
in the parlor of First Church Congregational.



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Original Artwork by Emily Jurovich

Musical Musings

I'm glad to say I survived my first Sunday at First! It was great to be a part of the energy of Welcome Back Sunday: it did my heart good to be in a church with people in it, singing and praying in real time. I'm grateful to be here, to work with the choir, and to get to know all of you. I hope you'll share your thoughts with me often about how the music program is going, what you'd like to see or hear, or not!, and I hope you'll consider getting involved. We especially need men in the bass and tenor sections. If you like to sing, and especially if you read music or sang in a choir or glee club or chorus before, we'd love for you to get involved. Our ability to grow as a church choir is really only limited by the lack of basses and tenors. You don't have the time to commit weekly? Talk to me...maybe we could create a once a month or twice a month choir that would meet your needs. Play an instrument? Let me know so that we can program an instrumental prelude or some special music. Have a young person away at college who's a musician? Let me know when they're home on break and we can get them involved! There are so many great opportunities for music making here.

I'm happy to report that Foley Baker, the organ maintenance company, has scheduled a couple of upcoming visits to do some much-needed repairs and tuning. You'll notice the difference immediately once the work is done. The Treat organ is a "treat" for me to play, but it does need some attention and love! Such a great organ needs regular maintenance to keep it in tune and to attend to parts that age or break from use. We'll also be scheduling a tuning for the piano as we get closer to Christmas.

Finally, I'm hoping that some of you will be willing to help me with a music library project. We have a great collection of choir music, BUT we really don't know what we have because none of it has been catalogued. I'd like to create a digital catalog, by using a simple Google spreadsheet, that would allow us to catalog all our choir music and then it would be searchable online by author, liturgical season, voice type, instrument type, etc. My plan is to create the spreadsheet then I could share the link to the document and a group of us could spend a few afternoons with our laptops getting all the music catalogued. Stay tuned for more details!

Meanwhile, thanks for the great welcome!

Peace and all good things,

Mike Boutin



The Chapel School



We have new sand on the playground!! It's the little things that get Preschool teachers excited. We needed to build up the "Fall Zones". That's the perimeter area around the play structure. The children are already enjoying the fluffy soft sand. We tend to extend our outdoor play time in the Fall Season. The weather is crisp and clean!!

The children are busy making the centerpieces for the Annual Han and Bean Dinner coming up this month. I think the teachers are enjoying the process more!! It will be colorful for sure!!

We are enjoying our new renovated space in the classrooms. What a difference it has made. The new vinyl flooring is light and easy to clean. The new rugs are so colorful. The tables and chairs are bright and clean compared to the old furniture. Especially the huge wear and tear they got during Covid. The bleach took its toll on everything. We hope to put new counter tops in all four classrooms if the grant money continues!!

Our two-year licensing is coming up this month. We are ready with all our updated paperwork, and we will be expecting an onsite unannounced visit by the state at some point. We are ready!!

Once we finish with licensing, we will be preparing for the annual Festival of Trees!! I think we will be doing a dinosaur theme this year!!! This is always a tough decision deciding on our tree theme. Stay tuned for more as we create our next tree for all to see!!

We still have a few openings in our classrooms. If you know of anyone still looking for a quality preschool program, please let us know. We will be happy to give anyone a tour.

Covid is still not behind us. The children that are eligible to receive the vaccine, are getting it. That's a good thing. Our families are very supportive of keeping children home when they are ill for any reason. If there is a Covid exposure, they let us know so that we can continue to follow our health and safety protocols. We are working together to keep everyone safe.

Enjoy the Fall season. The changing of the leaves, the cool days! It truly is the prettiest season. Pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks, apple cider, apple crisp, apple pie, and let's not forget pumpkin spice coffee at Dunkin Donuts! The teachers run on it!!

Cindy Mazella
Director



Welcome Sunday

September 18th



Our "First Church Methuen" Walkers Represented at the Annual Hike for Hope!



What's the REACH Ministry?



Do you know of someone facing surgery, recovering from surgery or living with a long-term illness? Do you know someone who has recently lost their job or could use financial support? Do you know someone who suffers from depression or is often down in the dumps around the holidays?

Maybe this person is you?

If so, we can help. Our new **REACH** Ministry wants to make sure that members of our community have a place to turn for support in their time of need. The term **REACH** stands for -- **R**eliable, **E**ngaging, **A**ble, **C**aring and **H**earfelt support.

Contact Judi Boyko or Pat King for more information.

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Need Financial Help?

If you, or another member of First Church you know, is need of some temporary financial assistance, please contact Rev. Ingraham at pastor.bill.ingraham@gmail.com or 978-687-1240.

Due to the generosity of Thomas Longworth, through his estate plan, there are some funds available for short term financial assistance of our members.

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Would you like to make an electronic donation to the church?



Use your smart phone or tablet by scanning this QR code!

Or visit our website at www.firstchurchmethuen.com and click the "Ways to Donate" page.

Thank you for your support.



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References – October 2022 (Year C)

Sat., Oct. 1

Lamentations 3:19-26
Lamentations 1:7-15
Matthew 20:29-34

Sun., Oct. 2^S

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 1:1-6
Lamentations 3:19-26 or
Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

Mon., Oct. 3

Psalm 137
Lamentations 1:16-22
James 1:2-11

Tues., Oct. 4

Psalm 137
Lamentations 2:13-22
1 John 5:1-5, 13-21

Wed., Oct. 5

Psalm 137
Lamentations 5:1-22
Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

Thurs., Oct. 6

Psalm 66:1-12
Jeremiah 25:1-14
2 Timothy 1:13-18

Fri., Oct. 7

Psalm 66:1-12
Jeremiah 27:1-22
2 Timothy 2:1-7

Sat., Oct. 8

Psalm 66:1-12
Jeremiah 28:1-17
Luke 5:12-16

Sun., Oct. 9

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

Mon., Oct. 10

Psalm 102:1-17
Jeremiah 29:8-23
Acts 26:24-29

Tues., Oct. 11

Psalm 102:1-17
Jeremiah 29:24-32
Ephesians 6:10-20

Wed., Oct. 12

Psalm 102:1-17
Jeremiah 25:15-32
Matthew 10:5-15

Thurs., Oct. 13

Psalm 119:97-104
Jeremiah 26:1-15
Acts 17:22-34

Fri., Oct. 14

Psalm 119:97-104
Jeremiah 26:16-24
2 Timothy 2:14-26

Sat., Oct. 15

Psalm 119:97-104
Jeremiah 31:15-26
Mark 10:46-52

Sun., Oct. 16

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

Mon., Oct. 17

Psalm 129
Jeremiah 8:14-17; 9:2-11
Mark 12:41-44

Tues., Oct. 18

Psalm 129
Jeremiah 39:1-18
James 5:7-12

Wed., Oct. 19

Psalm 129
Jeremiah 50:1-7, 17-20
Luke 22:39-46

Thurs., Oct. 20

Psalm 65
Joel 1:1-20
2 Timothy 3:1-9

Fri., Oct. 21

Psalm 65
Joel 2:1-11
2 Timothy 3:10-15

Sat., Oct. 22

Psalm 65
Joel 2:12-22
Luke 1:46-55

Sun., Oct. 23

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Mon., Oct. 24

Psalm 87
Joel 3:1-8
1 Peter 4:12-19

Tues., Oct. 25

Psalm 87
Joel 3:9-16
1 Peter 5:1-11

Wed., Oct. 26

Psalm 87
Joel 3:17-20
Matthew 21:28-32

Thurs., Oct. 27

Psalm 119:137-144
Jeremiah 33:14-26
2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Fri., Oct. 28

Psalm 119:137-144
Habakkuk 1:5-17
2 Peter 1:1-11

Sat., Oct. 29

Psalm 119:137-144
Habakkuk 2:5-11
John 8:39-47

Sun., Oct. 30

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

Mon., Oct. 31

Psalm 142
Habakkuk 2:12-20
1 Corinthians 5:9-13

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Happy Birthday!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Irene Maggio
- 04 Lauren Borislow
- 05 Brenda Michaud
- 07 Joyce Koop
- 12 Cynthia Causbie
- 13 Jessica Brown, Daniel Pavlenkov
- 16 Paul Webster-Greene
- 20 Kerri Bedard, Alexandra Casey
- 23 Dennis Lang
- 24 Patricia King
- 30 Brenda Adametz, Carolyn Casey
- 31 Sabrina Buck



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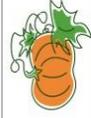


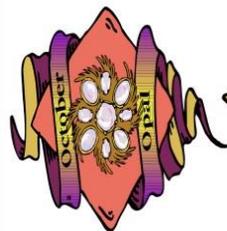
OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 10/4 | Michael & Cynthia Causbie | Married 36 years |
| 10/6 | John & Carole Silva | Married 32 years |
| 10/12 | Thomas & Leslie Shea | Married 48 years |
| 10/14 | Martin & Brenda Killourie | Married 55 years |
| 10/15 | John & Sarah Pavlenkov | Married 18 years |



October 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Service Sundays at 10:00 AM <i>In-Person & on Facebook Live</i> www.facebook.com/firstchurchmethuen		 October Calendar		 October Open		1
2 Communion 11:15 AM Fellowship Time	3 4:00 PM Chapel Staff 6:30 PM Finance	4 10:00 AM Walking Group (The Loop, Methuen)	5 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 PM Church Board	6 6:30 PM First Church Bell Choir	7	8
9 11:15 AM Fellowship Time	10 Columbus Day Church/School Closed 6:30 PM Outreach	11 10:00 AM Walking Group (Riverside Park, Methuen)	12 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Diaconate	13 6:30 PM First Church Bell Choir	14	15 4:30 - 6:30 PM Ham & Bean Dinner
16 11:15 AM Fellowship Time 12:00 PM Walking Group (Rail Trail, Methuen)	17 6:30 PM Stewardship	18 Chapel Picture Days 10:00 AM Walking Group (Riverside Park, Methuen)	19 November BEACON deadline Chapel Picture Days 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 PM MDCC	20 6:30 PM First Church Bell Choir	21	22 10:00 AM Walk for Hope (Willows Professional Park, North Andover)
23 Stewardship Sundays 11:15 AM Fellowship Time	24	25 10:00 AM Walking Group (Riverside Park, Methuen)	26 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry	27 6:30 PM First Church Bell Choir	28	29
30	31 					

Dates and times are subject to change

First Church Congregational

United Church of Christ

26 Pleasant Street

Methuen, MA 01844-3199

Address Service Requested