



The M e s s e n g e r

SEPTEMBER 2010

Newsletter of the First Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ, Lee, Massachusetts

God is still speaking in Lee!

September 11 and 12, 2010

STEPPING OUT STEPPING UP TO RENEW, RECHARGE AND REALIZE

RENEW OUR COMMITMENTS TO EACH OTHER

RECHARGE OUR HEARTS AND MIND AND BODIES

REALIZE OUR DREAMS AND GOALS

-----> **Saturday, Sept. 11 10AM-2PM**

Stockbridge Sportsman Club Route 102

(On the right going toward W. Stockbridge after the overpass and before W. Stockbridge)

Lend your heart, hand, voice, and mind. Join us and be one of the architects of our future. We need each of you. Youth invited to contribute. The Leadership has worked hard all summer laying plans.

NOW WE need input from you in order to REALIZE our goals.

RECHARGE, RENEW, REALIZE: Join us for a joyful, prayerful informational gathering.

Your input needed for the stepping up and stepping out.

RENEW 10-11:30 information and play

REALIZE 12:30-2:00 create and play

RECHARGE 11:30-12:30 eat and play

God is still speaking here in Lee!

Lunch will be \$6 per adult \$3 per child no more than \$18 for a family.

Lunch is catered so that we are free to attend to the Spirit moving amongst us! Child care provided.

Scholarships available-no one turned away ~ Handicapped accessible

-----> **Sunday, Sept. 12 10:30AM Worship**

-----> **3:00PM Installation of The Rev. Bill Neil as our pastor**

Followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall

Renew our covenant with each other ~ Recharge our hearts together in worship ~ Realize the dream through our commitments to our settled pastor, our association, our community.

Celebrate! Praise! Thrive!

"It is the aim of this church to present a religion as considerate of persons as the teachings of Jesus; as devoted to justice as the Old Testament prophets; as responsive to Truth as science; as beautiful as art; as intimate as the home and as indispensable as the air we breathe." ~ Statement by the Founders



Reverend Bill Neil, Pastor; Elaine Miller, Director of Christian Education; Jim Morrison, Music Director; Michelle Bouché, Administrative Assistant; Glenn Withers, Sexton

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From the Pastor

As most of you know, I served as a United Methodist pastor until 2005. Methodists tend to move often from church to church. If you count my two field education placements in seminary, I am now working in my 10th setting as a pastor. The best thing about moving is tossing the long ‘To-Do’ List of all the undone tasks I never got around to. A new church means a new set of people to visit and projects to work on.

In one of my churches I was given a coffee mug that proclaimed, “The Sooner I Fall Behind, the More Time I Have to Catch Up.” Since my arrival here at Lee that slogan has proved all too true. This summer has been busy and filled. The Church Council met several times between May and July. Long-Range Planning has been meeting every other week. Our Facilities have been generously used – rooms for meetings and exercise, the Park for art, sales, and movies. Our choir provided anthems all summer along with several special musical guests. The Youth Mission Trip to WV was a profound spiritual adventure for all the participants. Their sharing in worship and their slide show has inspired me more than words can say.

Now comes September with an exciting set of new opportunities for worship, spiritual growth, and service to others, I continue to offer a time for small group sharing at 9 am on Sundays in the Parlor. We are planning a church-wide Retreat on Saturday, Sept. 11. Everyone is encouraged to come to the Installation Service on Sunday, Sept. 12. Our Sunday school Rally Day and Potluck is on the 19th. We are entering a Float in the Founders’ Day Parade. There is the Tag Sale and the Latino Festival. The Youth are busy planning several activities.

My ‘vision’ for this fall is to focus on discipleship. A disciple is one who is following The Way of Jesus. I’d like us to explore our spiritual experiences in order to deepen and strengthen our inner lives as spiritual beings. I’d like us to challenge ourselves in the area of stewardship as we examine our financial and personal commitments to our shared ministry as a church. And, I’d like us to discover our gifts so we can find our personal ministries – those places of service to God and others to which we are called. Spirituality, Stewardship, and Gift-Based Ministry are three aspects of discipleship we can grow into over these next few months.

So there you have my current ‘To-Do’ List. Along with church meetings, pastoral visits, prayer group, worship preparation, family, household projects, and self-care I think I have enough to keep me occupied for a while. May God’s Best be yours and may we each offer our best to God.

Rev. Bill Neil, Pastor



To: Members of the First Congregational Church of Lee

From: Members of the Long Range Planning Committee

The members of the Long Range Planning Committee have been meeting regularly over the past several months. One of our first accomplishments was to complete a thorough review of the Church's current situation, focusing on our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. This analysis is critical for the development of the necessary goals for our church to achieve **Church Viability by 2013**. We need your assistance to do this and we are asking you to review the attached list (on pg 5) of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats that we have developed and give us your response to the following questions.

1. Do you feel that the Strengths represent areas that our Church does well in fulfilling its mission? What additions, deletions or changes would you make to these?
2. Do you feel that the Weaknesses represent areas where our Church can improve in fulfilling its mission? What additions, deletions or changes would you make to these?
3. Do you feel that the Opportunities represent areas that our Church should pursue in fulfilling its mission? What additions, deletions or changes would you make to these?
4. Do you feel that the Threats represent areas that will affect our Church's ability to fulfill its mission? What additions, deletions or changes would you make to these?
5. What specific goals do you feel the Church needs to adopt to achieve **Church Viability by 2013**?
6. Are there any other areas that you feel the Committee needs to consider?

Please provide your responses on the reverse side of this form and return by Friday, September 10, 2010, either by e-mail or directly to the Church Office. Including your name on the response is optional.

We had an information session during Coffee Hour on Sunday, August 29, 2010 to give the members an opportunity to speak with us about these or any items they wanted to discuss. If you were not able to attend this, you may contact one of the members of the Committee about any of the above questions or any other items you want to discuss.

Thank you.

Long Range Planning Committee

Rick Chrisman

Dee Dee Fraser

Jane Gleason

Don Mahony

Dave Markham

Judy Morehouse

Walter Pyle

Ed Rizzardini

Long Range Planning Committee - input

“Our members are the trustees, not of this church, but of the possibilities for this church.”

Long Range Planning Committee

Strengths

1. Inspiring worship service
2. Strong Christian Education programs for children and youth, Number of children
3. Loving relationships among members, Welcoming with hospitality
4. Core group of dedicated members
Good secondary group of members
5. Music program
6. Involved lay leaders
7. Historical building and location
Openness with use
8. Community Suppers
9. Behavioral covenant

Weaknesses

1. Insufficient financial resources that cripple ability to reach out and to maintain building
2. Inability to attract new members
3. Organizational structure - need to streamline and clarify
4. Lack of planning and accountability
5. Size of core and secondary group of members is small (need to expand)
6. Use of technology
7. Lack of adult education
8. Exterior condition of church and other areas of deferred maintenance

Opportunities

1. Expand ministries to meet needs of community
 - a. Youth programs/partner with Lee Youth Association/tutoring/mentoring
 - b. Outreach to senior population/partner with Council on Aging
 - c. Summer residents
 - d. Summer nutrition program for children
 - e. Hispanic population/literacy
 - f. Welcome Wagon for new members of the community
2. Strategic partnerships with other churches and community organizations
3. Building/community resource
 - a. Arts and cultural programs
 - b. Movies
 - c. Labyrinth
 - d. Group homes
4. Create data base on various experience of members. Use to provide life skill training to community

Threats

1. External forces
 - a. Declining importance of church in our culture
 - b. Sunday morning athletic practices.
 - c. Changing lifestyle
 - d. Perception that church is not an inviting place
2. Unfavorable economy and demographics
 - a. Lack of growth in area
 - b. Lack of good employment opportunities
 - c. Lack of affordable housing
3. Important factors in youth culture
 - a. Technology
 - b. Instant gratification
 - c. “Me-generation”

“Our members are the trustees, not of this church, but of the possibilities for this church.”

Facilities Management Committee

ANNOUNCES

a Church WORK-Day

Saturday, Sept. 18

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

{ rain date Oct. 2 }

Bring a bag-lunch

Refreshments provided.

Childcare available.

2 painting projects—

rear accessible ramp and
upstairs classrooms in CE space.

Regular yardwork.

Come for the fun, come for the fellowship.

Help out your church.

For more info—

Rick Chrisman, chair

243-6555

Berkshire & Massachusetts Association Dues

One of the obligations of being in the UCC is our annual requirement to financially support the Berkshire and Massachusetts Associations of the UCC. The support (dues) are assessed on a per-member basis (adults and children); our dues total is \$2,060. Since we have 114 members the per capita amount is \$18.00. For the past two years we have received member contributions that represent 20-25% of what was owed; the balance of dues owed comes out of our operating budget. I hope we can do better this year!

~ Al Trivers, Treasurer

CHURCH CLOCK

Thank you to all who have climbed the steps to wind our clock. The clock, wound weekly, is tended by a small contingent of volunteers:

Bill Fennelly

Bill Klahn

John Arnold

Tim Martin

Others are welcome to volunteer. Please contact John Arnold if you are interested in hearing more & possibly volunteering.

On for September: week 1: B Fennelly; week 2-5: John Arnold

On gorgeous, sunny July 31st we held an **Arts & Craft Festival in the Park** with over 40 booths. Our fair made \$2,114.75 for the church which includes a participation fee for each booth and proceeds from our church bake sale and concession stand. Thanks to the participants without whom there would be no fair, to those who donated of their time and talent, to the loan of a grill on which to cook, to the many volunteers who helped before, during, and after the fair, and of course, to my wonderful committee – all who helped make this possible. ~ Dottie D'Elia

Calendar - September 2010

1 st & 3 rd Tues	12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
2 nd & 4 th Thurs	1:00 pm Prayer Ministry

Day	Date	Start	Calendar item
W	1-Sep	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
M	6-Sep	HOLIDAY - OFFICE CLOSED	
Sa	11-Sep	10:00 am	All-Church Retreat
Su	12-Sep	2:15 pm	Ecclesiastical Gathering
		3:00 pm	Installation
W	15-Sep	8:30 am	UCC Clergy Training
Th	16-Sep	8:30 am	UCC Clergy Training
Sa	18-Sep	10:00 am	Work-Day
Su	19-Sep	10:30 am	CE Rally Day & Potluck Lunch
Tu	21-Sep	1:00 pm	Red Cross Blood Drive
F	24-Sep	9:30 am	Setup for Tag Sale
Sa	25-Sep	9:00 am	Tag Sale - Cookie Walk
Su	26-Sep	10:30 am	First Day of Sunday School
M	27-Sep	10:00 am	Deadline for October Messenger
Tu	28-Sep	8:30 am	Federation for Children with Special Needs (program continues on Tuesdays through Nov. 16)
Sat	2-Oct	10:00 am	RAIN DATE for Work-Day

WEEKLY ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Sun	9:00 am	9AM With Bill
Sun	10:30 am	Worship Service
Mon	5:00 pm	Weight Watchers
Tues	9:00 am	WIC
Tues	5:45 pm	ZUMBA fitness ⁽¹⁾
Tues	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Wed	8:00 am	College Internship Program
Wed*	5:30 pm	Community Dinner
	* dinners	begin Sept. 15
Wed	6:00 pm	The Shape Club
Thurs	7:30 pm	AA
Sat	8:00 am	AA
Sat	10:00 am	Weight Watchers
Sat	11:00 am	Church Tours

(1) no class on 9-21 (Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall 1pm-6pm)

The Church Calendar and the current issue of this newsletter are available online at: www.ucc-lee.org.



First Congregational Church of Lee Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry meets the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Perkins Chapel to pray for each person whose name appears below. **Everyone is invited to participate in this Prayer Ministry.** If you have names for the prayer list, please complete form on the next page and place in offering plate or submit to the church office. Names will be kept on the Prayer List for two months unless otherwise advised. 08.30.10

WE PRAY FOR

Our Friends and Members:

Janice Allen (sister of Faith Neil)
Roy Andersen (member of church)
Norma Berry (member of church)
Bob Bark (grew up in Lee area, now a member of UCC church on Long Island, asked for prayers for himself)
Dolores Birch (member of church)
Robert Birch (member of church)
Bill Blakeslee (son of Carol Blakeslee)
Marion Carrington (member of church)
Ray Cimonetti (friend of Sandy Cozzaglio)
Candace Coco (friend of Judy Morehouse)
René DeCelles (aunt of Robert Matarazzo)
Barbara Decker (member of church)
Corky D'Elia (member of church)
Donald Hanson (friend of Al Trivers)
Jeffrey Harford (son of Lynn Lanoue)
Phil Hayes (brother-in-law of Karen and Ed Rizzardini)
Barbara S.B. Henry (member of church)
Yvonne Howard (aunt of Robert Matarazzo)
Grace Ketchen (member of church)
Kip and Sue Keiper (friend of Martha Congdon)
Mary Kinne (sister of Gerard Miller)
Matthew David Loring (cousin of Jean Spalinger)
Amy Loungway (member of church)
Ruth Lowry (member of church)
Harold MacDonald (member of church)
Elizabeth Mack and family (friends of Sandra Cozzaglio)
John Macy (friend of Faith Neil)
Michael Mahony (brother of Don Mahony)
Rosie Mahony (niece of Don Mahony)
Blanche Matarazzo (mother of Robert Matarazzo)
Beverly Miller (member of church)
Merrill Morehouse (member of church)
Marian Greenleaf Ochs (member of church)

Doris Race (friend of Barbara Mahony)
Walter Rathbun (friend of Judy Morehouse)
Robert and Lori Richmond and family (friend of Bonnie Tillotson)
Judy Rosley (friend of Michelle Bouché)
Jay Rossier (son of Marilyn and Stan Rossier)
Tony Simotes (friend of Barbara Mahony)
Jean Smith (aunt of Robert Matarazzo)
Pat Stephenson (friend of Robert Matarazzo)
David Stone (member of church)
Webber Stone (member of church)
Claire Tisdale (mother of Sheila Maroni)
George Wall (former member of church, friend of Jean Spalinger)
Irene Wall (former member of church, friend of Jean Spalinger)
Doug Wilcox (friend of Don and Barbara Mahony)
Henry Zukowski (husband of Joan Zukowski)

Sympathy

Extended to the Lanoue family upon the death of Robert Lanoue

Extended to the Woodin family upon the death of Bill Fennelly's cousin Robert E. Woodin

Our Shut-Ins at Care Facilities: Doris Clark (Providence Care Center), Marjorie Fillio (Laurel Lake), Ida Hitchcock (Centerville on Cape Cod), Phyllis Judd (Laurel Lake), George Sampson (Kimball Nursing Home), Marge Szewczak (Cameron House), Lois Wade (Kimball Nursing Home)

Our Church: My prayer and yearning for this church is _____ (please fill in the blank). Bill Neil and his family, our Staff, our congregation, Committees, Council, children around the world supported by our church.

Our Local Community: For those who are in need of employment, food, shelter, financial assistance, friendship

Our Country: For wisdom for President Obama, his cabinet, other elected and appointed leaders in handling the many problems we are facing, the economy and financial difficulties, global warming, energy, health, oil spill; also state and local leaders facing many of the same problems and specifically hold close the members of Congress that they may be guided to pass legislation for the common good. Lord, forgive those who express their anger in a violent way and who take refuge in partisanship. In your grace and wisdom help them to bring their voices to an effective dialogue without violence.

Our Military: Andrew Gebo (grandson of Faith Neil)

Our World: For people impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world, the flood victims from Pakistan and India, people displaced by ethnic violence, all those whose lives are affected by war

Please pray for _____

Requested by _____ Telephone _____

Reason for request (will not be printed on Prayer concerns) _____

please place prayer request in offering plate or submit to the church office

Church Ministry Schedule for Worship

	2010 Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour	Diaconate	Hospitality	Usher
Sep.	J. Morehouse	Diaconate	S. Rossier/M. Pyle	J. Gleason; J&G Arnold	C. Clifford
Oct.	M. Trivers	Christian Ed.	J. Gleason/S. Rossier		B. Matarazo
Nov.	M. Trivers	Stewardship	D. D'Elia/N. Tucker		D. Markham

Jacob's Ladder Trail celebrates their 100th Anniversary on Saturday September 25th at the Summit in Becket MA (junction of Rte 20 & Fred Snow Rd). Itinerary: 11a-Noon: antique cars & guests arrive; 1-2pm centennial celebration includes music & dedication; opening reading & Master of Ceremony: Vincent Dowling; vendors on-site for general fare and refreshments

Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity Wed., Sept. 15 – Community Care Day – in partnership with Berkshire United Way
Meet at 7 Winter St, Pittsfield, 8:30-3:30, lunch will be provided

Sat., Sept. 18 – *First Annual Bike2Build* – a benefit bike ride fundraiser, 9a-4p
Ashuwillticook Rail Trail in Cheshire

Contact Bill Marco at 684-1779 if interested in volunteering; Registration forms in Fellowship Hall or contact chabitatbike2build@gmail.com

Lee Founders' Day Sept. 25

Donations needed for:

~ **COOKIE SALE** ~

We are looking for donations of generously sized cookies, but nothing gooey please (they attract the bees!). Call Judy Morehouse if you would like to donate at 243-2891.

~ **TAG SALE** ~

Soon we will begin collecting items to go in our annual Founders' Day Tag Sale; however, with the Installation approaching and limited "out-of-sight" storage, we ask that you:

wait until September 13 to bring items to the church (the day after the installation)

Donations may be left in the Parlor on the right side of the room. No clothing, no furniture, no electronics, and no large items.

Please contact Dottie D'Elia (269-4854) with any questions or if you can help out for a few hours.

~ **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** ~
DEADLINE for the
October issue of *The Messenger* is
SEPTEMBER 27 at 10 AM

From the Moderator

It is already September!! Our 6th month with Pastor Bill, September heralds 4 months left in the year. With the Installation of Rev. Neil on September 12, we celebrate the covenant we made with him—and implicitly with ourselves—in calling him as our full time pastor. Now the next **4 months** are crucial.

Last month I reviewed the long list of things that are moving right along, an exciting and a happy perspective. We need each and every one of us to be involved in something sustained over the long term. It could be a commitment to a task, OR a single action like the things you already do: make something for the craft fair, go on a mission trip, ask a question, encourage each other, send a note, make a call, say a prayer. Then take it a step further: for example, if you can't come to the prayer group, take the list and hold those on the list in your private devotions – and take a moment during the week to email or call the principals and let them know that you are participating. By sharing this information you help build community and energy that connects us.

One of the biggest factors in the success of the change we seek is being connected to each other in a **deliberate** way. That connection, our relationships, is the place where Spirit resides. It is a very active place that requires truth telling (and seeking) as well as taking responsibility to be clearly heard even in disagreement. Daily communicate with others by encouraging, inquiring, listening, and letting God move us forward. This is risky business, of course, but it gets us to the place that we aspire to—our mission statement.

This is something we need to do **EACH DAY**, of course. It needs to be our practice daily.

Then, we reunite on Sundays when we celebrate our community in the Spirit. Without you in church on Sunday, our fullest joy is diminished. With you there, we are complete and go out rejoicing into the week ahead. We need YOU here to support the leadership with your interest, curiosity, ideas, energy, and community building. Sundays are the day, the Lord's Day!

So let's use the next 4 months to make our mission statement, our vision statement, our behavioral covenant, and our core values all come alive. There are great things happening this fall – no shortage of things in which to participate, support, encourage, question, love, pray, be in community. Our church needs you to keep the wind beneath our wings.

~ Martha Congdon

Community Dinners is an important ministry of this church - important to the people who come each Wednesday evening to share food and conversation, to experience hospitality and care. It is also important to the team members who shop, cook, set up, serve and clean up each week, who also experience hospitality, food, conversation and care.

This is an invitation to become part of the Community Dinner Ministry.

We currently have two teams from our church. Judy Morehouse leads one and Marilyn Rossier the other. They do the menu planning and most of the shopping. Team members set up the dining room, prep food, serve and clean up. The time investment for a team member is about 3 hours once a month.

With enough volunteers we will be ready to start a new season on Wednesday, September 15. **Call** Judy Morehouse, 243-2891, to become a part of the Community Dinner Crew.

From the Music Director...

OK, so where did the summer go? I know we had an abundance of warm humid air, but still in all, the summer months always seem to fly by for me. We have had a great time with the music this summer, and were blessed with some special guests that showed up to join us.

But summer is over and hopefully our choir will soon be at full strength again. Although Bill and Karl have been steady as cement pillars, it will be good to have 4 or five men again to keep up with the ladies. We are planning a nice variety of music for the fall months, and we are hoping that you will enjoy the selections. Thank you to all who sent in their favorite hymns. I have compiled them and passed them along to Bill.

On behalf of the music department, we want to officially congratulate all of the kids and adults that represented us so well in West Virginia. You make us all proud to be a part of this church.

Finally, we look forward with great anticipation to our special service on September 12th when Bill will be “officially” installed as our pastor, even though I know we already acknowledge him as the head of our church family. The Search Committee certainly did their job well. I hope you all had a wonderful summer and join me in looking forward to a great fall.

Jim Morrison

Super Saturday Workshops

The Massachusetts Conference is offering two Super Saturdays with a wide variety of workshops for church folks from all over the commonwealth.

The dates are October 2, 2010 and March 5, 2011. On Saturday, October 2, the Workshops will be held in Franklin, MA. The cost is \$49 which includes two workshops and a catered lunch.

Workshop topics include: Stillspeaking: Come and See; Provoking the Politicians: A Primer for Faith-based Activists; Provoking Better Ministry through Evaluation; Money Autobiography: Connecting Our Faith to Our Money; Youth Group is NOT Youth Ministry; The Nuts and Bolts of Christian Education; Demographics: Your Changing Community; Discipleship and Small Groups; Growing Together as a Community of Faith; Town by Town: Organizing Prophetic Environmental Ministry; Facebook How-to's; and Latest Trends in Hospitality.

The deadline for registrations is September 20. Registration forms are available at the church office or directly from the MACUCC Website.

Southern Berkshire Education Collaborative needs volunteer tutors and classroom assistants to give invaluable support to adults in our community who are learning English. No previous teaching experience is required. Your commitment is to attend an initial training and to give one hour of your time each week at your convenience. They provides training and ongoing support. For additional information, call Teresa at the Collaborative 528-6263 or sbec@educationalcollaborative.org.



*“Living is Giving.
Giving is Living.”*

God is calling us to see ourselves as God sees us, as people of abundance.

God is calling us to:

- Set aside fear in favor of trust
- Replace secrecy with transparency
- Shift from pleading to balance the budget to offering personal, inspiring leadership by testifying to our own increased pledges
- Discover how freeing it is to honestly own up to how much “stuff” we really have - and use that recognition as a springboard to generosity
- Explore the unfamiliar territory of sacrifice, sufficiency, sharing, and simple living so that others may simply live.

(from the address to the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Conference by Conference Minister and President Jim Antal)



Worship Attendance

Jul 4	48	Aug 1	65
Jul 11	64	Aug 8	61
Jul 18	53	Aug 15	52
Jul 25	56	[5 in nursery]	
		Aug 22	48
		Aug 29	59



HUGE, HUGE Thanks to all who supported the youth summer mission trip to Bluefield, WV. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our slideshow and celebratory dinner. What an amazing trip we had!!!! The youth should be extremely proud of the work they did and their inspiring attitude and spirit during the week. Also a huge thanks to co-leaders Margy Ohman and Elaine Miller as well as our two chaperones Denise Harwood and Matt MacNayr for taking the journey. Plans are in the works for next summer!!! NO, we can't wait two years to go back. ASP inspired us all to make this a yearly trip whatever it takes to get there.

Rally Day Sunday, September 19th Join us for a potluck lunch in the courtyard following service. Relay games and a scavenger hunt have been planned. Potluck assignments: Last name starting with A-D Desserts, E-R Main Dish, S-Z Side Dish. Hope to see everyone to help us kick-off our new Christian Education year.

Founder's Weekend: C.E. will be working on the church float. We are looking for children and youth interested in riding on the float. Please see Elaine, Michelle Moore or Denise Harwood if you are interested.

First Day of Sunday School is scheduled for Sunday, September 26th. This year those youth in Grade 6 and up will be meeting down in the parlor every other week for a scripture lesson and bible work. On alternating weeks youth in grades 9 and up will attend worship. More info. to follow for those in grades 6-8.

A big thank you for all your prayers and well wishes during **William Hack**'s foot injury and recovery. The bones have healed in their proper places, and Will continues his physical therapy as he heads back to the University of Michigan. Tari Roosa

Michael Roosa will be **performing** in the Berkshire County **production of "ANNIE"** at the **Berkshire Theatre (Main Stage)** in September. The shows are Sept. 10, 11, 17, and 18 at 7:30 PM or Sept. 11 & 12 at 2:00 PM (Church conflicts with the matinee shows). All seats are \$25 through the BTF box office 298-5576 or berkshiretheatre.org

The Lord be Praised

The weather was glorious, the water warm, the food delicious, conversation friendly and informative, facilities clean and comfortable, parking convenient and an unexpected bonus – music by our Latino friends.

Thanks to:

1. All who came to celebrate our first community picnic at Sandy Beach at Laurel Lake.
2. Jane and Ralph Gleason for purchasing cookout supplies.
3. John and Gloria Arnold for reserving the tables on Saturday evening.
4. Margaret and David Markham for bringing the Neils' and Stones' grills to the beach.
5. David Markham and John Arnold for grilling.
6. Bill and Faith for bringing their kayaks to the beach so others could use them.

God is Good



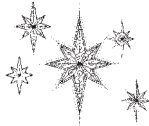
Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 Michael Markham, Sheila Maroni, Marian Ochs
- 3 Joshua Brazee, Lauren Rizzardini
- 5 George Sampson
- 8 Laura Martin
- 10 Beth Moore
- 12 Charles MacDonald, Dan Spalinger
- 13 Stanley Rossier
- 16 Sydney Herland
- 18 David Markham

- 20 Stephen Daoust, Kate DelSignor, Benjamin Snow
- 22 Eternity Williams
- 27 Gerard Miller
- 29 Brian Bailey, Michelle Moore
- Anniversaries:**
- 4 Danna & Brian Snow
- 8 Marilyn & Stan Rossier
- 17 Amy & Josh Williams
- 23 Catherine Fennelly & Brian Bailey
- 28 Marilyn & Bill Fennelly

Mile of Pennies report, August 2010

We actually reached the FIFTH mile in May, 2010. We now have \$59.01 toward the sixth mile. The August collection was \$15.14.



CHRISTMAS FAIR DECEMBER 4 HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Set-up is Friday, Dec. 3 9:30am until finished

Fair is Saturday, Dec. 4 10-3pm

Wanda Klahn is having some health issues and we need someone to step forward and co-chair the fair with Judy.

Our tables are: raffle, handmades, Christmas ornaments, baked goods, candy-fudge, jams – jellies and home canned goods.

Prepared – frozen – nutritious meals-to-go – containers will be provided in November. Meals with beans do not sell well.

Many hands make light work – we always have a good time at the fair. It is a wonderful time to reach out to the community.

Please offer your help – any way you can!
~ Call Judy 243-2891

Clean, quick and friendly describe the *dream painters* from **Height Painting** who recently painted our Parlor and vacuumed the rug before moving furniture back into position. Job well done!

Revised Common Lectionary Year C



"Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words."

Jeremiah 18:2

September

5 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

12 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

Timothy 1:12-17

19 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

26 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

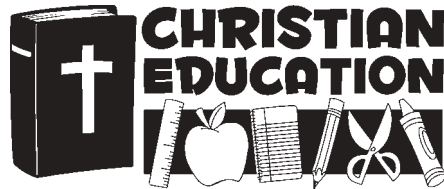
First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
25 Park Place, PO Box 395
Lee, MA 01238-0395

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Association Dues	6
Calendar	7
Christian Education	13
Christmas Fair, Dec. 4	15
Church Clock	6
Church Family News	14
Church Retreat, Sept 11	1
Church Tag Sale & Cookie Walk, Sept. 25	10
Community Dinners	11
Lectionary	15
Long Range Planning, due Sept. 10	3-5
Messenger deadline: Sept. 27	
From the Moderator	11
From the Music Director	12
From the Pastor	2
Prayer Ministry	8-9
Service of Installation, Sept. 12	1
Steward Ship	13
Super Saturday Workshops	12
Work Day, Sept. 18	6
Worship Ministry Schedule	10

Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 a.m. ~
Nursery Care Available (Church
School resumes in September!)



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