



# The Messenger

Volume 55 No. 8

First Congregational Church

Fairhaven, Massachusetts

October 2006

## The First Congregational Church

34 Center Street  
Fairhaven, MA  
02719

Tel: (508) 993-3368

e-mail: fccof@juno.com

www.firstcongfairhaven.com

### Pastor

Rev. Bette McClure  
508-990-7513  
bettemc2@juno.com

### Student Minister

Greta MacRae

### Director of Music

Matt Richard

### Administrator

Sharon M. Dorian

### Office Hours

Mon thru Fri  
9:00am - 12:30pm

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



**God is Still  
Speaking,**



## Renovation Committee Update

- Flagship Roofing has been chosen as the contractor for the roof work.
- Work will start on the tower roof first.
- Staging is required and will be started the week of Oct 2.

■ In addition to roof work, some masonry repair will be done while staging is in place.

■ Main roof replacement will follow as soon as possible and be completed this year weather permitting

■ A bid package is being worked on and we will be ready to go out for bids on the elevator work by the end of September. As mentioned at the Sept 10 Church meeting work on the elevator will not be started until after the Christmas Season due to the disruptive nature of the work inside the church.

## Walking Meditation Offered During October

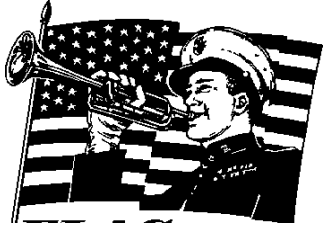
- Greta MacRae

It's wonderful to be back among you all at First Congregational. Thank you for the warm Fairhaven welcome home. **Beginning October 1 at 2:00 p.m.**, I would like to invite anyone and everyone to join in a spiritual practice that may be new to you. On Sunday afternoons throughout October I will lead a **walking meditation**. Changing the environment or posture of prayer can change our prayer lives. Not everyone can pray in stillness or even indoors!

The walks will be structured to include some time for fellowship and some time for prayer while we walk in the neighborhoods of Fairhaven. No experience is necessary. This does not require a commitment of a whole month; join us for one walk or all of them. Wear comfortable, weather appropriate clothing and meet at church at 2:00 p.m. The walks will be geared to the level of activity of those who participate. I have access to a wheel chair so if you have been house bound and wish to participate I would be glad to accommodate that need.

I invite input on great places to walk in Fairhaven. If you would like to introduce the group to your neighborhood or a favorite walk I would be very appreciative. I look forward to seeing you for the first walk Sunday, October 1.





## Our Men & Women in Service

*Do you have a relative or friend who has been activated? Let us know. We are creating this list of service men and women so that we can stop each month to remember them and pray for their safe return.*

**L.Cpl. Tyler Tripp, USMC**  
**Operation Iraqi Freedom**  
*Grandson of Joe & Juliet Tripp*

**Sgt. Jonathan M. Rice, ARMY,**  
**Afghanistan**  
**P.O. Christopher H. Rice, NAVY,**  
**Brunswick NAS**  
*Betty Monk's Grandsons*

**Casey Crandall**      **Iraq**  
*Nephew of Barbara Penman (Bette's sister)*

*"Our mission is to provide opportunities to experience God's presence and in humble and caring ways to use all of our resources to welcome, love, challenge, and equip each other for Christ's ministry in our community and the world."*



*-Rev. Bette McClure-*

Dear Friends,

Since 1962, our church has been a member congregation of the United Church of Christ (UCC). The UCC is a relatively new denomination, formed in 1957 through a merger of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed

Church. With roots that go back to the Protestant Reformation, and, especially here in New England that have their history in the Congregationalism of the Puritans and Pilgrims, we are a united and uniting church that declares itself to be part of the Body of Christ. Our motto, "That they may all be one" (John 17:21) speaks to that belief and to our prayer that whatever divides us from other denominations might be healed and that we may find unity. We are a denomination that respects individuals and their ability to responsibly determine God's will for their lives while including all people as ministers within the priesthood of all believers. While our faith has strong roots in the ancient church of the New Testament, as the UCC's recent national campaign has emphasized, we also believe that God is Still Speaking, revealing God's love in new and transforming ways, breaking through barriers of hate, distrust, sin, and all those things that separate us from God and one another.

A hallmark of the UCC is the covenant we enter with sister churches within the denomination, locally and nationally, promising to support one another in faith, share insights, and work together, under the authority of Christ, for the good of all people. Here in Massachusetts we are part of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church (MACUCC) of Christ comprised of 411 UCC churches stretching from the Berkshires to Cape Cod. In our annual meeting this past June, the Rev. Dr. Jim Antal was elected to be Minister and President of our Conference. We have the great honor of welcoming Jim to our church when he preaches here on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Most recently having served a church in Ohio, Jim has roots here in Massachusetts. He received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Andover Newton Theological School in 1998, was Senior Pastor of Newton Highlands Congregational Church from 1986 to 1995 and has also served as Chaplain at Northfield Mount Herman School in Northfield.

Jim has experience in leading vital churches and providing a public voice on peace and justice issues. **I hope that you will make every effort to join us in worship on October 15<sup>th</sup> so that you can meet Jim, offer him an extravagant welcome, and help strengthen our covenant with all others in the UCC.**

Blessings,

*Bette*



The Women's Fellowship had a very friendly, enjoyable evening on Sept. 13th. A delicious supper of lasagna, salad and lemon desert was served. This was prepared by Carol Gage, Marge Jones and Mabel Filipek. A business meeting followed and a Yankee Auction (which was

fun) ended the evening. We welcomed four new members - Susan Burr, Ruth Cree, Polly Hood and LeeAnn Wood.

It is now time for our October 11 gathering. At 12:30 p.m., a lunch of baked chicken breast prepared by Alice Cooney and Polly Hood will be served. Cost is \$7.00 and reservations should be made by October 8th with Alice 508-993-8668 or Polly 508-999-6771. A program will follow.

If any one would like to join us for just lunch, you are more than welcome.

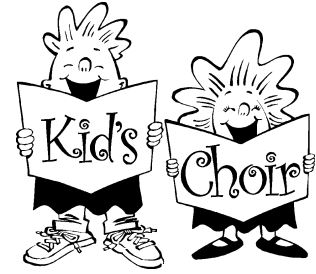
## Preservation Committee

*-Susan Burr, Chair, Preservation Committee*

The Preservation Committee has mailed out 4 grant requests in the past two weeks. It continues to research and compile information for further mailings this fall. We are anxious to get Minard Lafever's (the architect of our church) name publicized wherever we can. He was very prominent in his day and our church is one of just a few of his buildings still standing. Mr. Lafever was born in upstate New York and later moved to New Jersey. He began as a builder and later became an architect. Carpenters carried his pattern and instruction books with them on jobs. Ever been to the Salem Witch Museum? It was formally a church designed by Minard Lafever!! Got a minute? Google Minard Lafever.

## A Warm Welcome Back to Our Student Minister

We are very happy to welcome back, for a second year, our Student Minister, Greta MacRae. Having the same student with us for two years is a new and exciting experience for us and we are delighted that Greta wanted to return. Working with the Teaching Parish Committee (TPC) and Rev. Bette, Greta will be drawing up her Learning Agreement (required by her seminary, Andover Newton Theological School), spelling out the areas she will focus on to enhance her learning and experience. Greta plans to continue her work with children and youth through Kids Supper Klub, Youth Group and Confirmation, and also gain some experience in our Sunday School. She will also continue to help lead worship, this year preaching once a month and is hopeful you will candidly share your feedback on her sermons with her. You will also find Greta at some of our Committee meetings, and walking the streets of Fairhaven with others for prayer and meditation. Additional learning areas are also being considered – keep your eyes open, Greta may pop up anywhere!



*-Peg Rogers and Pam Kuechler*

A meeting of those interested in singing in the Kid's Choir will be held on October 1st after worship. The Kid's Choir is open to children age 5 and up.

It is also our goal to have a Jr. Choir of the 6-8th graders if there is enough interest. Meet in Maddaford Vestry to plan a convenient rehearsal time.



## Indoor Yard Sale

Another indoor yard sale will be held at the church on

Friday October 13 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and on Saturday Oct 14 from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Furniture, household items, knick-knacks, toys, books, tools, clothes (clean and in good repair) etc. will be accepted.

**Items can be brought in during the week of October 8th!** Come shopping for those little treasures you simply can't live without! For more information or if you would like to help, contact Peg Rogers (508-994-3607) or [mrogers261@verizon.net](mailto:mrogers261@verizon.net). Proceeds will benefit the annual budget.

## Pulpit Flowers



On September 17th -- In celebration of Hope, by Carol Lawton.

On September 24th -- In loving memory of Warren H. Monk on his birthday by his family.

## Congratulations

To Kelly (Wood) & Niall Guilfoyle on the birth of their first child, Oliver Patrick Guilfoyle on September 1st at 10:49 p.m. Oliver weighed in at 7lbs, 9 oz and was 21" long. New grandparents David & LeeAnn Wood are starting to warm up to the idea of being grandparents!

To Amy (Waddington) & Mark Harger on the birth of their first child, Alexander Michael Harger. Alex was also born on September 1st at 11:54 p.m. and weighed in at 9lbs. 4oz., at 22" long. Amy, Mark, and baby are all doing fine in Cedar Rapids, IA and will be visiting here at Christmas. Grandparents are Ron & Lynda Laverdure and great-grandmother is Dot Pflug.

To Shawn & Wendy Goldstein on the September 17th baptism of their daughter Hailey Rae. Shawn is the nephew of Sharon Dorian. The family lives in Dartmouth.

To Jennifer & Gene DaCosta on the birth of their daughter, Kyah Jean DeCosta, on Monday, September 25th at 11:10 a.m. Kyah is the granddaughter of Jerry & Sally Wheeler.



## Boy Scouts/ Cub Scouts

Troop 55 is open to boys 5th grade or older than 11 to join them. They hold their meetings on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall. Contact Norman Burr at 508-993-2171

Boys between the ages of 4 and 11 are invited to join Pack 55 Cub Scouts. We are also looking for adults to help us run the Pack or troop. There is training provided by the District and Council. A rally meeting will take place on October 19th. Contact Scott Fernandes at sjfern20@comcast.net

## Church Women United to Worship at Tifereth Israel Synagogue

On November 3 at 7:30 p.m., the Tifereth Israel Friday Night Interfaith Service, 145 Brownell Avenue, New Bedford will host Church Women United in honor of CWU's World Community Day—an annual worship celebration experience in local communities nationwide that confirms CWU's commitment to justice and peace among all peoples and nations.

Tifereth Israel, an egalitarian congregation affiliated with The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, is dedicated to cultivating, developing and sustaining Judaism within a joyful atmosphere which is nurturing, supportive and responsive. Church Women United is a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive Christian women's movement, carried out by volunteers in the United States and Puerto Rico, celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice.

This traditional Friday evening service in Hebrew and English will be enhanced with explanations for those of us who are interfaith guests. In preparation read Psalms 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 29, and then 92, 93 (Psalms for the Sabbath). This is a wonderful opportunity for Confirmation classes, youth, and renewal study groups to attend. If you would like to attend, please let the church office know so we can arrange car pooling opportunities.



## Concert Series Kicks off 4th Season with

*Christine Fawson &  
Mark Shilansky  
Jazz Quintet*

**Sunday, October 22nd 7:00 p.m.**

Ms. Fawson is a gifted vocalist and trumpet player who will be returning to our concert series having sung with the vocal ensemble SYNCOPATION in 2004. For this program she will be joined by the multi-talented pianist Mark Shilansky and his dynamic quartet featuring Jon Hazilla on drums, Greg Holt on acoustic bass, and special guest Nir Naaman on saxophone.

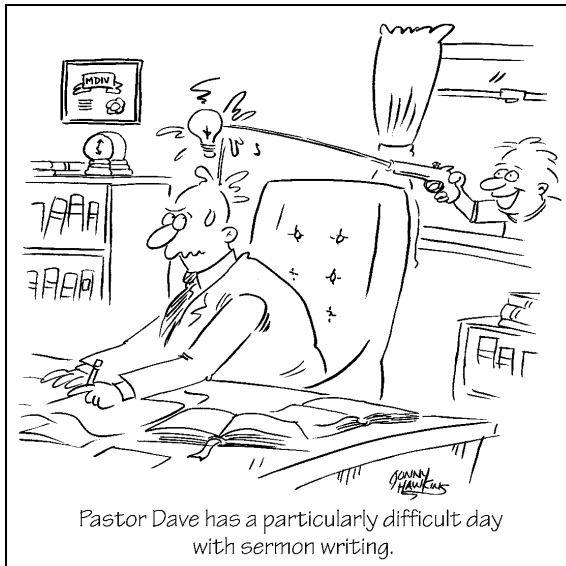
This concert will be preceded by a delicious meat pie dinner prepared and served by the concert series committee. Adult tickets for concerts and dinners will be \$10. Kids dinner tickets are \$5 and children are admitted free to all of our concerts.

Season Ticket Packages include 7 concerts and 3 dinners for our spectacular fourth season and are only available until October 22nd.

**PACKAGE 1: All seven concerts: \$63**

**PACKAGE 2: All seven concerts and three dinners: \$90**  
(Season ticket holders save 10% off of "door" prices)

Individual Tickets: Concert \$10 Dinner \$10



## Fairhaven Community Concert Series



<http://home.comcast.net/~fccs/>

### Scheduled Concerts for Our 4th Season! 2006-2007

*Dedicated in loving memory of  
Mr. Donald Cree*

**October 22, 2006 7:00 p.m.**  
**Christine Fawson & Mark Shilansky  
Jazz Quintet**  
**Meatpie Dinner 5:30 p.m.**

**November 19, 2006 2:00 p.m.**  
**Shipyard Wreck Unplugged**  
**Fairhaven's Own Blues/Rock Duo**

**December 17, 2006 2:00 p.m.**  
**Sarah Manning & Joann Goldstein**  
**Harp & Flute Duo**

**January 28, 2007 2:00 p.m.**  
**New England Conservatory's**  
**Honors String Quartet**

**February 18, 2007 7:00 p.m.**  
**Paul Nossiter Jazz Band**  
**and Mardi Gras Dinner 5:30**

**March 25, 2007 2:00 p.m.**  
**Boston Vocal Artists**  
**Patrice Tiedemann & Paul Soper**

**May 20, 2007 7:00 p.m.**  
**Dori & Donn Legge**  
**Jazz/Blues Quartet**  
**Italian Feast 5:30**

## COMING SOON – TO A CHURCH NEAR YOU!

(Our Church, Actually)

### "*LOVING GOD BACK*"

This year's Stewardship Campaign will be in full swing during October. Be sure to make every effort to attend worship each Sunday to hear inspiring messages from fellow church members and learn more about all the great ministries this church provides. Special music and exciting artwork will help us to focus on how God blesses us each and every day. Pledges will be made in a special service on October 29<sup>th</sup> and we will celebrate with a "Thank You" luncheon on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Join us as we celebrate and find new ways to offer love back to God with our time, talent, and treasure.



## Fabulous Fun Friday!

Friday, October 13, 2006

5:30pm-8:30pm

Reynard Hall

Mattapoisett Congregational Church

All ages welcome! Costumes optional, contests & prizes! Hot dog dinner, games and lots of laughs!

Admission:

\$4.00 for adults

\$2.00 for children

\$10.00 family maximum

\$1.00 off if you bring non-perishable donation for the St. Vincent DePaul's food pantry

Any questions, please call:

Kim Field – 508-758-8993 or

Sharon Pinard – 508-758-3227



based on the theme

## Attention.... Creative People of All Ages!!

As part of our upcoming stewardship drive a MULTIGENERATIONAL ART EXHIBIT has been planned. All members of the church are invited to submit a work of original art

### "*MY DREAM FOR THE CHURCH*".

Art work may be any size and any material, such as drawing, painting, pastels, quilting, clay sculpture, yarn craft, wood sculpture or carving, embroidery, photography, stained glass...whatever sparks your creativity. Collaborative art works (made by more than one person) will be accepted as well!

Artwork will be displayed in Babbitt Hall on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> and will be moved to the sanctuary for the remainder of the Stewardship drive.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Kris Daniels at 508-996-0541 or [artgirlkris@comcast.net](mailto:artgirlkris@comcast.net) for more information and so that we can plan display space.

## Bible Adventures

### Sunday School



October is Stewardship Month and the children will be learning

about Stewardship in Sunday School just as we will learn about it during worship. What is a Steward anyway? Find out on October 15, 22, 29, and November 5.

YOUR HELP is needed to teach the children for most of the upcoming units. Please speak with Rev. Bette or any member of Christian Ed.

## Children/Youth Activity Schedule

### Kid's Supper Klub - 4th & 5th Graders Sundays 4-6 p.m.

October 15th  
November 12th  
December 10th

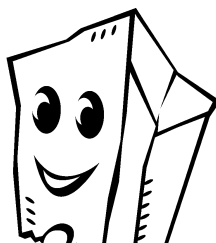


### Youth Group - Middle & High School Sundays, time varies

|                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| October 1st 6:30-8:00   | Plan Hall. Party   |
| October 15th 6:30-8:00  | Plan Hall. Party   |
| October 22nd 5:00       | Serve Dinner       |
| October 28th 2:00-3:30  | Halloween Party    |
| October 28th 6:00-8:00  | Scary Movie/snacks |
| November 12th 6:30-8:00 | Thanksgiving Proj. |
| December 16th 4:00-8:00 | LaSalette          |
| January 21st 6:30-8:00  | Lip Sync           |
| February 4th 6:30-8:00  | Game Night         |
| February 18th 5:00 p.m. | Serve Dinner       |
| March 11th 4:00-6:00    | Movie              |
| April 22nd 3:00-4:30    | Yard Clean-Up      |
| May 6th 6:00-8:00       | Walk the Bike Path |
| May 20th 5:00           | Serve Dinner       |
| June TBA                | Year End Outing    |

## Youth Group to Host Halloween Party!

The Youth Group will once again host its annual Halloween Party for children on **Saturday, October 28th from 2:00-3:30 p.m.** Dress up in your favorite costume and bring some friends. Games, food, prizes and FUN for all.



## The Cupboard Corner

The Pantry was used **10** times in September and continues to see steady usage. Items needed include pasta, pasta sauces, tuna fish, soups (no tomato please), canned meats, stews, toothpaste, paper products, fruits and crackers.

If you can't get to the church with your offerings, please call the office or LeeAnn Wood (508-997-3851) to arrange a pick-up.

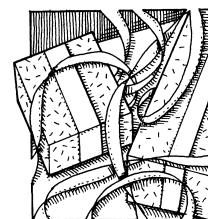
## Old-Time Holdiay Fair

December 9th marks the next Old-Time Holiday weekend and the church will once again be having its annual fair at that time. We are looking for someone to help coordinate the craft tables with Sharon. It is fairly simple. Most of the process involves sending out invitations and fielding calls from interested crafters. The other part is being here at 8:00 a.m. the day of the fair to get the crafters in and settled. If you are interested, please speak with Sharon Dorian in the church office 508-993-3368 or at home 508-991-5845.

The Women's Fellowship will once again be coordinating a cookie walk; cranberries have been donated by Bill Vining; and we usually sponsor a chance auction. If you are interested in any of these activities or have another idea, please speak with Sharon.

Wish Figri, our foster child, a Happy 10th birthday on November 2nd at the following address:

Figri Abdyansayah  
132/340204/00154  
Proyek Panti Nugeraha 3795  
P.O. Box 1364  
Jakarta 10013 - Indonesia





## Thanks & a Tip of the Hat to...

To everyone who helped the process to bring the September 10th special meeting together.

To Matt Richard and Kristine Daniels for making two new banners.

To Bette McClure and Kristine Daniels for the new Sunday School Curriculum.

To Sharon Dorian for updating the church's web site.

To Janet Young, Jean Arbec, Pam Kuechler, Linda

Ferland & Debbie Cordeiro for teaching Sunday School.

To Debbie Cordeiro for her continued comittment to Youth Group.

To Jean Arbec for making Halloween lollipops with the youth group for a fund raiser.

To Ron & Bev Johanen, The Rogers Family, Alice & Jim Cooney for greeting and hosting coffee hour in September.

To Bev Johansen, Betty Monk, and Bob Heskett for their worship leadership in September.

**Jazz Vespers  
Sunday, October 1st  
5:00 p.m.**

Please help us  
welcome...

**The Rev. Dr. Jim Antal,  
Minister & President of the  
Massachusetts Conference  
of the  
United Church of Christ.**

**He will preach in our  
pulpit on Sunday,  
October 15th.**

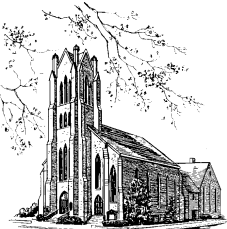
*"That they may all be one."  
(John 17:21)*



**Next Messenger Deadline: October 20th**

### ***The Messenger***

First Congregational Church  
34 Center Street  
Fairhaven MA 02719-2931



**EST 1794**

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