



Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC
142 Exchange St., Millis, MA 02054
www.millisucc.org (508) 376-5034

An Open and Affirming Congregation
Church of Christ Vision Statement:
Worship God, Serve our neighbors, Share God's love.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

After much waiting and contemplating building an ark to deal with all the rain, spring has arrived! Thanks Be to God! The church is in the midst of wrapping up the programs that run during the academic year and looking at the offerings we share during the summer months.

At the Church of Christ, Congregational, we will be experiencing some changes here. First, on June 23rd at the End of Year Picnic, we will say Goodbye to our Youth Director, Jessica Boose. Jess and her family will be moving out of state so, please come by and wish them well on their Journey and thank her for her service to the youth and children of the church. Also, Rev. Scott Cousineau will be leaving the Norfolk Federated Church at the end of July to begin serving a church in Maine. This means our traditional summer church sharing will be put on hold this year. All summer services will be held in Millis.

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Sunday, June 23rd Children's Sunday & End of Year Picnic

The 10:00am worship service on June 23rd will be a special celebration of the youth of our church, with all ages participating in the service. You will also have a chance to say good-bye to our youth minister, Jessica Boose, who is moving out of state. Following the service, we'll hold our End of Year Picnic! Men's Fellowship will provide burgers, hot dogs, chips and sodas. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship Hall.



Summer



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Rev. Scott Cousineau is moving to serve a church in Maine, so our usual tradition of sharing worship with the Norfolk Federated Church has been put on hold.

This summer, ALL Sunday worship services will be held at 10:00am in Millis.

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A Summer Discussion Group will be held at the church on Wednesday, June 26 at 10am in the parlor. The evening group will meet on Thursday June 27th at Mickey Cassidy's at 6:30pm. The reading material will be the "Still Speaking Writers Group" daily devotional for June. I'm including the link so you can sign up to receive the readings by email. I find that some of them are amazing and really speak to my soul. My idea for this program is that we all read the daily devotionals. If you discover one that really speaks to you, print it and bring it with you to share with the group.

Here is an example of one of the devotions:

Threat
May 16, 2019
Written by Mary Luti

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.
- Revelation 3:20 (NRSV)

Jesus was always standing at people's doors, ready to eat. Whenever he got invited to a meal, he went. He didn't care who the host was or who else was on the guest list.

But some people disapproved. "He's eating with tax collectors and sinners!"

His critics weren't the first or last to discourage indiscriminate dining. Not the first or last to demand obedience to the age-old law of non-engagement. If you want to keep your own kind safe, pure, and clear about their place in the world, be careful who you eat with.

Because you might catch their cooties. They might learn your name. They might tell you stories. You might like their stories. You might start wondering what all the fuss is about. And what begins as "Please pass the ketchup" becomes "May I have one of your fries?" and before you know it, everybody's having sex and babies. There's a reason some of the nastiest violence of the civil rights era was unleashed on people integrating lunch counters.

When Christ says, "I'll come in and eat with you," it sounds like a tender pledge. But it's more threat than promise. A threat of barrier-breaking intimacy. A threat to share fries and marry outside the family. A threat to blow up every kind of caste and distinction.

If you eat with him, you might come down with something. Who knows where it will end?

Prayer

I hear you knocking, dear dangerous Christ. Come in. Break bread. Tell me stories. Unprotect me, taint me, share my fries.

To sign up to receive these daily devotionals please follow this link:

https://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional

With you on the Journey,

Rev. Jen



The Visitors' Spring Luncheon Was a Breath of Fresh Air

After a spring filled with cloudy gray skies and endless days of rain, we were gifted by a gorgeous, sunny day smack in the middle of May. As though to celebrate it, the Visitors' Luncheon on May 16th brightened dampened spirits with an abundance of food and delightful decorations. You can always tell that an event is a success when the crowd lingers on; reluctant to leave one another and the soft pastels hues that surround them.

The noise level was quite high creating a merry buzz; a measure used by restaurants to gauge liveliness. Old friends greeting one another, wanting to catch up and chat and hoping to be able to spend time with each other as well as meeting new friends. There were a number of "new" guests which was welcome and surprising since advertising was only through The Spire and word of mouth.

The abundant hospitality of the Visitors' Group was seen in the wide variety of choices on the buffet table. Fresh fruit, sandwiches of all kinds, salads, and the old favorites - stuffed eggs and jellied salads. The dessert table was filled with mouthwatering treats so lavish that there was more than enough to make plates for take-home. And as if that were not enough, lovely floral decorations made by June Murphy went home to grace many tables.

This celebration of spring and fellowship was even more memorable in that it was the fifteenth anniversary of the Visitors' Group. The group was started by Ginny Krohn and Ellie Costa in March of 2004, when they began making meals for people. Ellie recalled how much her father had enjoyed visits from the former visitors' group and Reverend Sally McLean, recognizing the importance of this ministry, suggested a gathering in the church for those who were visited. The gathering began as a tea. After two years, as numbers increased, the decision was made to hold a Spring Luncheon. Since then, the luncheon has become an annual event; much anticipated and greatly enjoyed. And although Ginny Krohn is no longer with us, the Visitors' group led by Ellie Costa has continued to offer this very special occasion.

Thanks to all who helped make this possible through outreach, support, contribution, decoration, and set up. The Visitors' Group has increased in number this year and welcomes anyone who feels called to join. The next meeting is on Thursday, June 20th at 10:00am in the church parlor.

Written: by Myrna Rybczyk

The Visitors: Judie Ackerman, Ellie Costa, Ginny Demery, Pam Johansson, Linda Jones, Judy Kosinski, Shirley Rowley, Pat Spearing, Kathy Stevens, Rev. Jennifer Munroe Nathans

Women's Fellowship is Celebrating its 60TH Birthday with the Annual Salad Supper & Yankee Swap



Tuesday, June 11th 6:30pm

in Fellowship Hall



Bring a salad for the buffet table and a Yankee Swap gift, placed in a brown grocery bag. This event is always full of laughs, great conversation and delicious food! Sign up in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour, or call the church office at (508) 376-5034.

All women of the Church of Christ, Congregational are automatically members of Women's Fellowship, so we hope you'll join us!

Pride Day Parade, Saturday, June 8

You are invited to join church members at the 2019 Boston Pride Parade on Saturday, June 8! We will be marching with the UCC/ONA group.

If you are interested in marching with us, contact Marguerite Monahan at 508-277-4115 or tiariri@gmail.com to get details of where to meet up.

You do not need to RSVP. Feel free to join us day of the march.

Photo by Nadine Shaabana on Unsplash



PIPS

Parents of Infants and Preschoolers Social Group

**Next Dates:
June 13 & 27**

The PIPS group was formed to provide a shared and supportive space for parents to visit, exchange ideas, and connect.

The group meets in the church parlor from **9:30-10:30am on the second and fourth Thursday of the month**. Visit millisucc.org for details.

SUMMER DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesday, June 26 – 10:00am in Church Parlor

Thursday, June 27 – 6:30pm at Mickey Cassidy's, 116 Main St., Medway

Rev. Jen will lead two Summer Discussion Groups – one will meet at the church on Wednesday, June 26th at 10:00am in the parlor, and the second will meet on Thursday evening June 27th at Mickey Cassidy's in Medway at 6:30pm.

The reading material will be the “Still Speaking Writers Group” daily devotional for June. Rev. Jen says, “I find that some of them are amazing and really speak to my soul. My idea for this program is that we all read the daily devotionals. If you discover one that really speaks to you, print it and bring it with you to share with the group.”

To sign up to receive these daily devotionals by email, please use this link:

https://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional

A Note from the Collector:

The first of four statements for your 2019 contributions are in the mail. Please take a moment to read the note at the bottom, as our timing for these statements will change this year. Each one (as always) will be cumulative from January 1st to the current statement date. These dates will be Easter Sunday (4/21); end of summer (9/1); Thanksgiving (11/24); and year end (12/29). This change from the historic “quarterly” timing is intended to help you track your church pledge and other contributions. The year-end statement will be sent out immediately after New Year's Day to allow you to make any final adjustments before the church books close for the year.

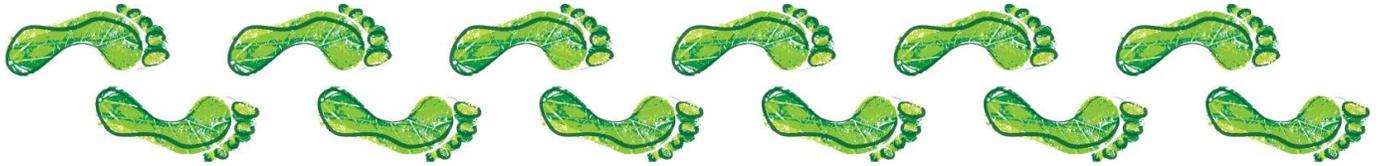
Brooks Corl, Collector

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the generous birthday gift. I'm using it to splurge on several books that I've had my eye on for a while, including a new preaching commentary! I am very blessed to be serving the Church of Christ, Congregational in Millis.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Jen





Flat Jesus is Back at the Church of Christ, Congregational!

We know that God is with us no matter where we are and what we are doing. But carrying Flat Jesus along helps us remember.

This summer we invite all members of the church family to take a Flat Jesus with them and send pictures of your adventures together, back to the church.

When you visit other churches, enjoy a morning cup of coffee, or any other moment, use Flat Jesus as a reminder that the moment is a gift from God, and share that gift in photo form with the church.

Copies of Flat Jesus will be available at the church. Also, details on where to share your photos will be provided soon!



Youth and Children June and Summer Events!



Our last regular Pathfinder's Gathering will take place
Sunday, June 9th, 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Dinner, Games, Plans for next year, will all happen.

Please bring a dessert or side dish to share.

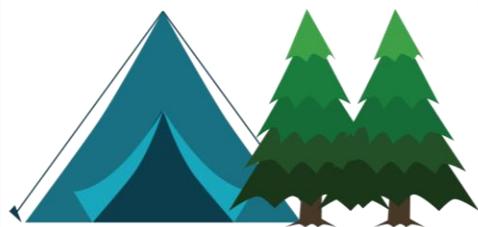
Sunday, June 23rd, Children's Sunday

Children from age 2 to 18 are asked to participate in this special worship service. Everyone is invited to come and worship and rediscover our God through the eyes of our church family's children! If you wish for your student to participate, please reach out to Jess by June 3rd. There will be an all church picnic following worship. Bring your favorite side dish or salad to share!



June 23-27 Pathfinders are going to Maine!

A huge THANK YOU to the Briggs family for inviting the group to their family cabin. All Pathfinders are invited. Permission Slips should have arrived via email. Reach out to Jess ASAP if you have not received one!



Youth Hiking Camp is happening July 14 – 19

Cost: \$275

Flyers and registration forms can be found at church or reach out to Jess.

Church of Christ
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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.millisucc.org

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