

THE SPIRE



JANUARY 2019



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,

Happy New Year!

Thank you all for the care and love you've shown to the church during 2018 and thank you in advance for all of the blessings you will share in 2019. As we start this New Year, I want to lift up how heavily our church (like most small churches) relies on the time and talents of their members to keep things running and growing. It amazes and delights me when I reflect on the ministry of all the people at the Church of Christ, Congregational. Every one of us has the opportunity to make a difference and each week I'm so thankful for the many volunteers who come together to cook food, knit hats, pay bills, manage the property, pass out bulletins before worship and teach Sunday school - just to name a few of the many things happening here.

My prayer is that we make a common New Year's resolution, so in 2019, we will live out the mission of the church; to love others, to worship God and to serve our neighbors. Just imagine the blessings we will be for others when we open our doors and our hearts.

Inside this newsletter, you will find information about upcoming events and opportunities for us to practice our faith together, including the notice about the Annual Church Meeting on February 3rd. Together we ARE the church of Jesus Christ and it takes all of us. Thanks be to God.

With you on the journey,
Rev. Jen

SAVE THE DATE!

**The Church of Christ, Congregational will hold its Annual Meeting
on Sunday, February 3, 2019.**

The Annual Meeting will take place as a part of the 10:00am worship service.

PLEASE NOTE: 2018 Annual Reports from Leadership Team and other groups are due Friday, January 11. Please put them in the folder marked "Annual Reports" in the church office or email them to: millisucc@msn.com



FREE DINNER & GAME NIGHT

Friday, January 18 at 6:30pm

Are you looking for something easy and entertaining to do on a Friday night? Join us at the Church of Christ for a free, delicious dinner, followed by a fun night playing board games and sharing conversation and fellowship. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. Feel free to bring family, friends, and a favorite board game! We'll have games for all ages!

Visitors' Group News

Our next Visitors' Group meeting in the New Year will be on Thursday, January 17 at 10:00am in the Parlor.

Please let us know if you would like to be a visitor or if you know someone who may like to be visited. It is a very enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Best wishes for the New Year!

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

A Special Thank You to the Church of Christ, Congregational

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generosity. We feel very fortunate to be part of such a caring congregation.

Sincerely,
Kerry Sullivan & Eileen Yates



Jolly Holly Fair Candy Table Thanks

"Sweet" Thank Yous to all who donated candy to the table this year!

"Kisses" to the Candy Elves who filled the paper rolls and more than 80 jars!

"Yummy" Thanks to the wonderful Fudge Makers and to the "specialty" Candy Designers. I also want to thank Rick Jones and Myrna Rybczyk for cutting and packaging all the fudge.

The Candy Table is a fun table to work at and I am thankful to have had lots of help this year! Thanks to Ellie Costa, Joan Nichols, Lisa Priest, and Myrna Rybczyk for working with me on Fair Day! I am always looking for glass jar donations and paper rolls as well as bags of Christmas candy as we approach the Fair date.

- Linda Jones



Are You Ready to Laugh?!

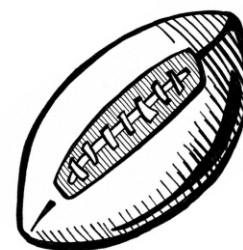
**Comedy Show with Frank O'Donnell
Friday, March 15, 2019**

Save the Date! Details to follow.



The Super Bowl needs Super Chili!

February 3, 2019



**Enjoy the game while dining on the best
Chili made by the youth of the Church of Christ!**

The chili will be made fresh earlier in the weekend and then given some time to let the flavors meld together. YUM!

**Proceeds benefit Youth Service Trips of the
Church of Christ Congregational, Millis.**

Orders due by Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email : _____

Corn Bread \$2 (1 order = 4 servings): _____

Small Chili \$6: _____

Large Chili \$12: _____

Total owed: _____

Please attach payment. Checks can be made out to Church of Christ, Congregational
-Youth Super Bowl Chili, in the memo line

You can return the form and money to the church or by mail:
Church of Christ, attn: Super Bowl Chili, 142 Exchange St., Millis, MA 02054

***Please pick up your chili in Fellowship Hall following 10 am worship
on Sunday, February 3^d.***





Pathfinder's Youth Group

January 4 th – 5 th	CityReach 6:00 PM – 4:00 PM
January 13 th	Youth Group 6:30 – 8:30 PM
January 27 th	Youth Group 6:30 – 8:30 PM

This month we need to plan our spring dinner and prepare for chili sales.
We will still play games, have fun, and pray together.
So save these dates!



Sunday School for grade 3 and under will meet every Sunday this month.

Sunday School for grades 4 through 6 will meet January 13th and 27th.

As usual, Sunday, January 6th, everyone is asked to be in worship in order to take their seat at the longest table in the world, Jesus' Communion Table! See you there!

Our **Safe Church Policy** requires two people to be in a classroom – One adult who has had a CORI check, and one other person, at least three years older than the oldest student. This is a perfect opportunity for high school students to get *community service hours*. Confirmation students and mentors, past or present, are encouraged to sign up together. Serve Jesus, serve our church, serve the youngest members of our church family, and sign up today with Jess Boose!
508.794.9200 or jessalou@me.com

Visit Our Website at www.millisucc.org for more information on our mission, services, outreach and activities.



Church of Christ, Congregational - Welcoming Statement

This Christian congregation is **grounded in our faith in God** and each other. We strive to provide spiritual nurture in a secular world through worship and service, as well as in fun and laughter.

Our **outreach and welcome** puts “love your neighbor as yourself” into practice through our extravagant hospitality, inclusivity, and by “living church” both within and beyond the walls of our sanctuary, following our Safe Church policies.

We strive to interact with honesty and care, and to **speak the truth in love**.

Our **children matter**, and we embrace our shared future by teaching and learning from one another, and by being nimble and responsive to needs as they emerge.

Our church family’s **love for one another** is expressed in these ways.

In faithfulness to our Christian heritage, we promise to provide programs, ministries, and pastoral care to all who seek God in this place.

You are welcome here...

- ...if you are 3 days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old;
- ...no matter your skin tone or nationality;
- ...if you are a United States citizen, a United States resident, an undocumented immigrant, or a refugee;
- ...no matter your sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;
- ...if you are single, married, widowed, divorced, separated, or partnered;
- ...if you are fully-abled, or are living with physical or mental challenges;
- ...if you were raised in another religion or have never set foot in a house of worship;
- ...if you have ever had medical struggles and/or addictions;
- ...if you have ever had legal trouble or a criminal record; or
- ...if you own a home, rent, live with your parents, or are homeless.

Come with your gifts, your pain, your joys, your fears, your hope.

You are welcome here!

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.millisucc.org



Welcome 2019!

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