THE VISITOR

TOWNSEND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

At the Heart of the Community - With the Community in Our Hearts

November 2019

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By appointment, or check the weekly *Spirit.*

Visit our web page at www.tccucc.org

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: MONDAY, NOV. 25 - NOON

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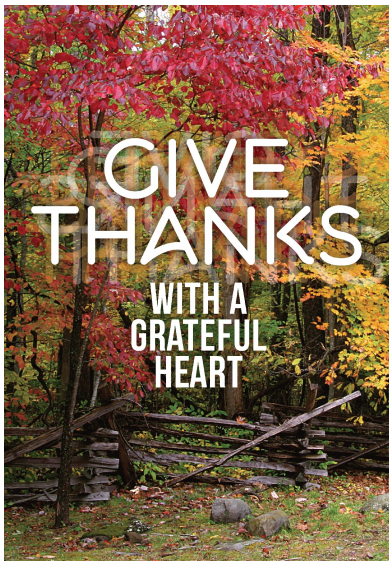


Daylight Saving Time Ends November 3

Remember to Fall Back early on Sunday morning November 3 and enjoy an extra hour of rest. Don't worry! If you don't set your clock, you'll be coming to TCC an hour early-we'll be glad to welcome you helping out in the Church School where we have four wonderful classes of kids! Come and see!

There is still no leader for our Advent Wreath Workshop on Dec. 1. Sarah Goyette will be happy to bring you up to speed on this fun and rewarding program. Please understand that it will not happen without leadership.

HOLIDAY FAIR

There are so many ways you can help with the Holiday Fair – small ways and large. As of October 23, we have 4 weeks until November 23. Many of our needs are covered on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter. Take a look. You might be surprised at what calls to you.

According to Mark

November's fall colors at our house were a little bit short this year due to a couple of strong storms. The good news is that I was able to get my leaves raked a little early. But it made it feel like winter was coming a little sooner than hoped, despite the warm temperatures and the late frost that gave a few more days of growing tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers. And I'm grateful for another season of garden bounty and God's graces to the succulents, even if it was a record year for squash bugs.

And so November makes me reflect on what I'm going to do with my time. Digging in the dirt is a favorite pastime, because soil is the basis for all life. After all, plants can't grow without it, and if plants don't grow, then the animals go hungry in a hurry. The Bible is full of agricultural analogies, parables, and allegories for a reason - that these images have a resonance to our souls even if most humans are apartment and city dwellers these days. We long for a connection to our natural world; it's why trees are planted not just in parks but along the most busy city streets. So what's a nascent gardener to do after the first frost? (Ok, besides vacation in a sunnier locale. Stick with me.)

We can feel a little bit lost when we lose access to things and people we love. Change comes in our lives from many directions, and it doesn't always follow the gentle rhythms of the seasons. Loved ones, jobs, friends are all doing their own thing and it doesn't always jive with our thing or what we want. Just like an untimely windstorm, we can feel on edge, uneased, disrupted when things don't go our way and we see someone move on, or fall ill, or become removed from our daily lives in one manner or another. The soil of our lives which seemed so fertile and planted seems to have changed from something life-giving to something entirely different. And the problem with life's changes, just like the seasons, is that there is no going backward to that time when we felt all was right with the world. Or as my Grandma so famously said to me, "you can't go home again".

So what do we do with the shifting, unsure soil in which we now stand and are planted? What do we do when we can no longer count on the soil bearing fruits as it once did? When life begins to change in ways we don't understand, how do we respond?

The truth is that the Bible teaches us the best lessons in these circumstances. When the stump is cut off, somehow a new shoot comes out and up. When we feel we are out of food for our spirits and souls, somehow we are given enough for today. As we begin to worry about things that haven't even happened, we are reminded that we are given sufficient for what we need, and in that, we can find that we have more than enough loaves and fishes to share with one another so that all are fed.

The Bible is paradoxical like that, isn't it? There is strength in weakness. The first shall be last. Blessed are those who mourn, who are poor in spirit, the meek, for it is they who inherit the earth. Why? Because when we are thankful just for today and being upright and breathing, that we seek God's grace (which is right there, each morning for our hearts to have) before our own wants and glories then aaall those changes in the world and expectations we have seem a little easier to bear. We finally understand that we don't stand in bad soil. We just stand differently, but with even more life-giving force than we knew was possible.

Even if the leaves blow away early. Or the frost comes. Or the squash gets eaten against all our efforts.

We can still have a good day, even when staring at frozen ground. Because Spring does come, and with it, another chance to grow a blessed (although different) bounty.

Pastor Mark

Pastor Mark is on Holiday ... Guest Pastor 11/17 and 11/24

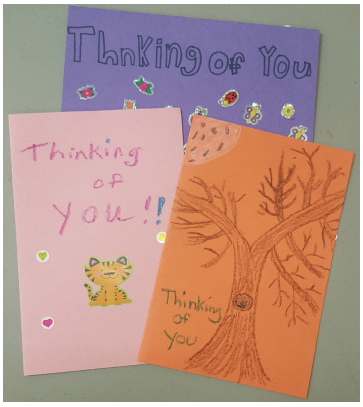
Taking a well-deserved holiday is something we all should do, and Pastor Mark will be out for the last 2.5 weeks of November. In his place, Marvin Caldwell will be preaching November 17 and 24. Marvin always enjoys preaching on Reign of Christ Sunday, so please don't forget to come to TCC and hear a change of pulpit for a few weeks! You'll be glad you did.

If you have any pastoral emergencies, please contact Dr. Brad Bauer, our Minister of Congregational Care, or Gini King, our Stephen Ministry Leader.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School FUN!!

In October our Sunday School children made cards to be included with 1300 care packages (by Pink Revolution Breast Cancer Alliance - benefitting patients with all types of cancer) that will be distributed to patients undergoing chemotherapy during the holidays. We really hope that these cards will bring them some peace and comfort! Our children are learning about ways that they can make a difference and bring happiness to others!



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Sunday, Nov. 3: 9 am, **Sunday School Meeting** in the vestry for all Sunday School parents.

Sunday, Nov. 17: TURKEY HUNT Following worship, children should gather in fellowship hall to participate in this annual event!

Saturday, Dec. 14: 5 pm, **7th Annual Live Nativity** on the lawn behind the church, followed by hot soup and goodies in fellowship hall! Join us as we prepare for the anticipated GIFT FROM GOD... the birth of a KING! Hear the narrated story and sing familiar carols as you watch the nativity come to life! This is a community event so please invite your neighbors to celebrate the story of Christmas with us!

Many small tasks are necessary to run this event, so please see how you can help!!! We are looking for helpers in the following areas:

- ★ Nativity setup/cleanup (to be put together and taken down on back lawn)
- ★ Costume organization
- ★ As people arrive hand out bulletins and set up a few chairs for elderly/handicapped
- ★ Point of contact for animal owner
- ★ Food donations: soup, bread, desserts, cider, etc.
- ★ Hall setup/cleanup
- ★ ADVERTISING - newspaper, Facebook, fliers

Please let me know how you would like to be a part of this faith-filled tradition! For more information see me after worship in fellowship hall, or I can be reached during the week at swgoyette@gmail.com.

Tuesday, Dec. 24: 4 pm, **FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** Join us for a half hour service on Christmas Eve!

Blessings,

Sarah Goyette
Sunday School Superintendent

Remember to check the members-only portion of the TCC website for updated reports.

Preparing for Turkey!

We will probably be having about three more turkey dinners this church year. We can save lots of money when donating turkeys if we buy frozen turkeys during the holidays.

They are usually as low as 49¢ a pound! The problem is we need freezers to store them until they are needed. So... if you have extra freezer space and would be willing to store a turkey or two, let Wanda Wilson know so she can keep track of where the birds are! If we buy ahead we will get a cheaper price for those who want to donate at the lower cost later! If you are planning on donating later yourself, this is a reminder...buy now and save!

Thanks, *Wanda*

HOLIDAY FAIR

Sat., Nov. 23, 10am - 3pm

As of this writing, our annual church fair is about four weeks away; the Saturday before Thanksgiving. These weeks of preparation will seem to fly by so fast. Thank you to all our chairs who have stepped forward again for this festive day.

The fair is being chaired this year by June Cloutier and Michelle Enright, with Cathy Hill assisting; there is a sign-up poster for you to review and pick a favorite place to work that day, even for just an hour or two. The day goes by quickly and extra helpers allow everyone the time to enjoy a Bistro lunch and browse the wide variety of crafters and church tables!

If you would prefer, you may email June about what you can do on fair day, junecloutier@verizon.net.

Also, remember to pick up a copy of the Holiday Fair flyer after worship to post at your favorite places.

RAFFLE BASKETS

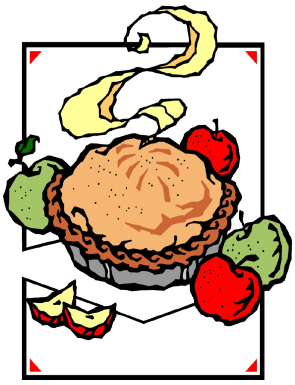
These stunning baskets have always been a focal point of the fair thanks to all the members of the congregation. Whether you are an "old hand" at this or want to jump in for the first time, please participate by picking a theme and filling a basket with creative items. If you would like to participate, look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall after church. It really helps our chair Beth Klein to know ahead of time how many baskets she has for display - donald.klein2@verizon.net.

BAKE TABLE

What's your baking/kitchen specialty? Cookies, brownies, breads, muffins, coffee cakes, jams, fudge (always sells out!). Whatever it is, please consider bringing something to the bake table Friday or Saturday morning. We have many fabulous cooks in our church; let's make it look like an irresistible bakery. You can make holiday assortments or package for individual sales, if you wish. Questions? Call Karen Baer 978-597-2192 or email at kbaer71@yahoo.com.

CASH RAFFLE!

Louise and Bill Coalter are starting up the Fifty-Fifty cash raffle again. The raffle tickets are ready and we now need everyone in the church to help sell tickets so friends can take a chance on winning! See Bill or Louise any Sunday after church. We do need an energetic person to oversee this table the day of the fair since the Coulters have a family function that day.



APPLE PIES

Apple Pie Night will be Friday, November 8 from 6:00-8:30ish. No matter what baking skills you have, you will enjoy this high-spirited evening filled with fun and fellowship. Bakers of all ages gather together as our apple peelers, slicers and crust rollers make over 50 pies that will be frozen and sold on the day of the fair. Whether or not you can come on NOVEMBER 8 there are a variety of items we need: flour, sugar, butter, or to provide freezer space, or plan to help at the bake table the day of the fair. REMEMBER TO ORDER YOUR PIE EARLY! Put a pie on hold for you and your family to enjoy! Sign up at coffee hour after service or by contacting June Cloutier.

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

We have volunteers for our popular children's room but could use a chair to oversee the area that day. We still need more people to make this successful; it is a happy, busy area which lets our guests shop or stay and have fun with their children. We would like volunteers to help with crafts and children for an hour or so. We also need volunteers to bake sugar cookies for one of the activities.

BOOKS

Don't forget to go through your bookshelves and bring us all those gems that you are ready to pass on to another avid reader! Thanks to Jody Burnham for taking charge of this again; call or email the church if you have books to donate and someone can pick up. It's another fabulous area of our fair.

RE-GIFTING TABLE

Back by popular demand, this table consists of re-gifted items in like-new condition that you are happy to pass along. It is a good place for kids to shop for family members, too. Your items could be brought in early and we'll save them until the fair. Thanks to Lee McTighe who will chair this area. You could call the office if you need us to pick-up treasures.

CHURCH CRAFT TABLE

Please think of donating something handmade to our TCC craft table. Last year our church table was more beautiful than ever. Our craft nights are creating some treasures and others are working on their own; whether it be knitting, sewing, painting, toy making, jewelry, etc. We are a very talented church and we'd like to show the community. The donation may be priced by the artist and will be returned if not sold.

JINGLE BELL BISTRO

Our Jingle Bell Bistro is a savory and popular area to rest and have a delicious lunch! Gretchen Churchville will be chairing this area with her elegant expertise. She will be asking for kitchen help soon and requesting some of our delicious soups, desserts, morning muffins, etc. We always have people rave about our offerings; we would be lost without our in-house restaurant that day.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact June Cloutier at junecloutier@verizon.net or, for questions about crafters or church tables, contact Cathy Hill at chill01469@gmail.com.

GREENS-GREENS-GREENS!

We will be collecting greens during the first weeks of November when the weather is good. Many hands make light work, so if you would like to help, tell Wanda Wilson at wswilson7652@yahoo.com, so she can call you when we cut greens. We will also need people to make the arrangements on Thursday night, November 21st at 6 pm, in the old vestry. We usually make 100 items which are sold at the fair, $5 on the Sunday after the fair, and sent to shut ins after that weekend. Once again, many hands make this fun night go smoothly. There is Christmas music, lots of greens, chatter and laughing. Don't worry if you don't know how to make arrangements, there is always someone very willing to guide your creativity! Hope you can join us for either activity!

Wanda Wilson

1-MaryBeth Collins; 2-Grant Bruns; 4-Claire Nixon; 6-Stephen Gay; 8-Kim Wojcuilewicz; 11-Danielle Beauchesne and Beth Klein; 20-Dick Lee; 23-Bailey Mulrenan and William Myers; 24-Jennifer Climo; 29-Holly Card (nee Gustafson)

The Birthday Fund

This is a fun way to contribute above and beyond your regular giving to the church to something above and beyond our normal operating budget. We appreciate those who have participated so far. Simply make a donation on (or around) your birthday in the amount of your age (Memo: Birthday Fund)! Participate and watch our gifts grow!

The Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for November 10 this year. It will take every member working together to meet the challenge of creating a balanced budget for 2020. Come join us!

Village Common Children's Center

Hello TCC Friends!! Happy November from VCCC!!

Our new school year is well on its way-hard to believe that we are moving towards the end of the Fall season already! The staff and children definitely celebrated the joys of the Fall season with all its colorful splendor! The children went on nature walks and brought back beautiful colored leaves, acorns, pine cones, bark and sticks which they then used to create some wonderful pieces of nature inspired artwork. In the Preschool/PreK classroom the children also used these

items of nature in the Math & Science Center where they worked on the concepts of sorting and classification. Parents very generously donated apples to our classes which allowed for apple taste tests and more math-based sorting and classification activities! There were LOTS of Fall cooking projects that went on throughout the month with the Toddler class making yummy pumpkin spice cookies, and the Preschool/PreK class making equally yummy apple cake, apple crisp and homemade applesauce!!! Donated pumpkins allowed for some fun, messy science and sensory explorations in all of the classrooms as well as some very tasty pumpkin seeds!

The big highlight of the month of October however had to be our annual "Halloween Stroll" where the staff and children dressed in costume (as well as some parents!) went "Trick-or-Treating" on Main Street to our generous business neighbors! Back in the classrooms they then participated in lots of fun Halloween themed activities and games! November will find us all looking forward to the Thanksgiving holiday, which allows us further impress upon the children the importance of family and friends. The children will also explore curriculum themes about farming, the harvest, and colonial days! We will also once again host our now annual "Thanksgiving Feast" where all the VCCC families will contribute to a lunchtime "feast" where all three classrooms of staff, children and any parents/grandparents who can attend will share lunch together upstairs in Fellowship Hall. We are very grateful to TCC for allowing us to use that space so that the entire school can make the Thanksgiving holiday a little more special by sharing that lunchtime "feast" together.

Before I close, I would like to mention that Townsend's own Sophia's Pizzeria has once again very generously agreed to donate pizza to us every month for our PIZZA

TUESDAY fund-raiser. This not only allows the children to have a special pizza lunch on the last Tuesday of each month, it allows us to purchase additional new materials and equipment for the classrooms with the money this fund-raiser brings in. We most appreciate Nick and Kristin's ongoing kindness and generosity. So if your family is having a pizza craving, please consider giving them your business! Thank you!

From all the VCCC Staff, the VCCC Board of Directors and myself, we wish you all a healthy and happy month of November, and a very Happy Thanksgiving!!!

Carol Ciccolini, VCCC Director

LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER...

Annual Tree Lighting Event on Sunday, Dec. 1

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Giving Tuesday - December 3

About 7 years ago, in response to the shopping crazed days of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, a few people got together and started a movement which encouraged people to give

back-in time, talent, and treasure - that helps others. Last year alone, Giving Tuesday raised $1B for charitable causes and untold numbers of volunteer hours. So wondering what to do after Thanksgiving weekend's binges? Give outside yourself, love your neighbor, and take time to do something worthwhile.

Get an Early Start on Ordering Your 2019 Christmas Altar Flowers!

Michele Enright will be placing the order for these beautiful plants and she says that if you want a choice in what color or size you get, then she must order by **December 2**. She can place a secondary order after that date for anyone who needs it, but she will not be able to guarantee availability, color or size.

Michele will be collecting orders after worship, and you may pay by cash or check (made out to TCC). Please contact her if you have any questions, michelleenright25@comcast.net.

Poinsettias:

6" - $8.00 Colors: red, white, pink, ice crystals, cinnamon.
8" - $19.00 Colors: red, white, red & white, pink.
10" - $28.00 Colors: red, white, pink.
16" bowl - $50 Colors: red, white, red & white.

Cyclamen:

4½" - $5.00 ; 6" - $9.00 Both sizes come in red or white.

6" Christmas Cactus - $9.00 - Assorted colors.

Prayer Requests

OUR BLESSINGS:

We give thanks for "119 Connections", a local outreach group that developed after the apartment fire this past winter. We are thankful for having Louis DuBreuil in worship with us; he will be turning 93 in January. We give thanks that Chris Clish's 20 year-old nephew is basically uninjured after another car collided with his at full speed. We celebrate with Jessie Marshall's extended family on the recent arrival of a great granddaughter. We celebrate with Michelle Enright as her grandson turned 18 on 9/29. We join with our youth in giving thanks for the opportunity of going on the amazing mission trip to Providence RI; the experiences shared with the congregation during the October 6 worship service reinforced our faith in the youth of our church. This mission experience was shared with youth from the Nelson (NH) Congregational Church; representatives from this church joined us for worship and shared their thanks for the mission opportunity and for the joy of working with all the awesome kids on the trip. Kim Nicholas gives thanks for being able to visit with her daughter before she headed off to college. We celebrate with Rosie Snaith who had a good experience with meeting her half-sister for first time. We give thanks for all the volunteers and contributors who helped make this year's Greg's Run another successful community event; and congratulations to Ben Mulrenan who finished in 7th place. We share in the joy of marriage anniversaries in October as Pen and Jody Burnham celebrate 42 years, David and Dede O'Hair celebrate 28 years, Jon and Cheryl Borko celebrate 10 years, and Rob and Becky Burnham celebrate 7 years. Kathy Duckett gives thanks for having her friend George Gagliardi visiting from Texas. Cathy Hill gives thanks that her stomach perforation was relatively small and a straightforward repair (according to her surgeon).

OUR CONCERNS:

We offer prayers for all those who lost their homes in the Fitchburg condo on Sunday, 9/22, including our children's librarian (Molly) and relatives of the Misner family; we give thanks for the community response to help Molly and her son. We offer prayers of consolation for the extended DuBreuil/Desrosiers family on the passing of Steve Desrosiers. We keep Chris Clish's neighbor, John, in our prayers; he has been battling bone cancer for some time and recently entered into hospice care, we pray that his remaining time be as pain free as possible. We keep Carol Ciccolini's husband (John) in our prayers; he is home from the hospital but needs to go through a special regime to get his body ready for much needed surgery. We keep Dorothy DuBreuil in our prayers as she continues to do poorly and misses her church family very much. We offer prayers of consolation for the extended family of Barbara Goodwin's nephew who passed away on October 4; Barbara gives thanks that his suffering is over. We continue to pray for Tracy Winslow's mother, Meryle and her Aunt Sylvia. We pray for all those traumatized and left homeless by the CA wildfires. We pray for the Windham family as they grieve after the passing of their adult son; he died from a fast-moving form of leukemia after only 3 months. We offer prayers of consolation for the extended Rochette family on the passing of Tad's uncle. Tad's parents are moving to this area (from Florida) and will be staying with Tad and Heather while they house-hunt; we pray that this is a good experience for all. We pray that Charlie Duckett's arm continues to heal rapidly, and that he does not lose any ground

with his school work. We pray for Kathy's friends, Toni & Alex; they made their move to Texas, but are in a hotel until they find a permanent home. We offer prayers of consolation for Ken Reed and his extended family on the passing of his wife, Nancy, on Oct. 15; Nancy was the sister of Bill Eisner and we also keep him and his extended family in our prayers.

OUR HEALING PRAYERS:

We offer healing prayers for Leigh-Ann Johnson's mother who is recovering after being injured in a fall; for Madison who is only in fourth grade but is in intensive care with an undiagnosed illness; Madison is the daughter of a friend of Kim Emerson; for William Myers' father who is recovering from shoulder surgery; for Cathy Hill who is recuperating from abdominal surgery, and for Elaine D'Angelillo who is recuperating after a bad fall that resulted in a head injury - both Cathy and Elaine are doing well.

OUR CANCER FIGHTERS:

We offer prayers of healing and hope for all those in our immediate and extended families who are in the midst of battling cancer, and for all those who care for and support them. Dorothy DuBreuil, breast cancer; Lorraine M, cutaneous T cell lymphoma; Cathy Hill's sister, Morag, lymphoma; Barbara Goodwin's step son, Tyler, Non-Hodgkins lymphoma; Meg Genoter's friend, Heather; Kathy Duckett's friend, Caroline, jaw cancer; Charlie Hersey's Dad, Fred; John Ciccolini (Carol's husband), liver cancer; Cindy Miller's mother-in-law, Lynne Donnelly, breast cancer; Maureen (family friend of the Emersons), brain cancer; Tricia (friend of Paul Martineau), breast cancer/brain cancer; John Cochran (Chris Clish's neighbor), bone cancer; Bill Jordan (Carole's brother), chronic lymphocytic leukemia; Kerry Thrasher; Steve Meehan, stage 4 lung cancer; Tracy Winslow's Aunt Sylvia, breast cancer.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MSPP INTERFACE

MSPP INTERFACE is a mental health referral service that is available for all residents in Townsend, Pepperell, and Ashby. Just call 888-244-6843 x1411 during normal business hours (M-F, 9-5) and you will be able to speak with a licensed mental health professional, or an advanced level graduate student, who will discuss the situation with you, and then call you back with a referral which meets your therapeutic needs, insurance, schedule availability and immediate openings.

This service was made possible by Teenage Anxiety and Depression Solutions (TADS) through a grant from the Nashoba Valley Community Healthcare Fund. Check out TADS web site at www.tadsma.org and check out the web site for MSPP INTERFACE at msppinterface.org

Submitted by Pam Snaith

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT?

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LECTIONARY, NOVEMBER 2019

November 3, 2019 - *21st Sunday after Pentecost*

First reading and Psalm: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144

Alternate First reading and Psalm: Isaiah 1:10-18; Psalm 32:1-7

Second reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

November 10, 2019 - *22nd Sunday after Pentecost*

First reading: Haggai 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98

Alternate First reading and Psalm: Job 19:23-27a; Psalm 17:1-9

Second reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

November 17, 2019 - *23rd Sunday after Pentecost*
First reading and Psalm: Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12
Alternate First reading and Psalm: Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98
Second reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

November 24, 2019 - *24th Sunday after Pentecost*
First reading and Psalm: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79
Alternate First reading and Psalm: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46
Second reading: Colossians 1:11-20
Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5pm Pie making	**2** 8am Saturday work team *Open Mic Night*
3 Worship/SS 9am Sunday School meeting ***COMMUNION***	**4**	**5** 7pm Craft Night	**6** 5:30pm Genesis Handbells 6:30pm Agapé Handbells 7:30pm Snr Choir	**7**	**8**	**9**
10 Worship/SS	**11**	**12** 7pm Craft Night	**13** 5:30pm Genesis Handbells 6:30pm Agapé Handbells 7:30pm Snr Choir	**14**	**15**	**16**
17 Worship/SS	**18**	**19**	**20** 5:30pm Genesis Handbells 6:30pm Agapé Handbells 7:30pm Snr Choir	**21** 6:30pm - Holiday Greens making	**22** All day - Holiday fair setup	**23** HOLIDAY FAIR 10am-3pm
24 Worship/SS	**25** ***NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – NOON –***	**26**	**27** 5:30pm Genesis Handbells 6:30pm Agapé Handbells 7:30pm Snr Choir	**28** *HAPPY THANKSGIVING* *TCC OFFICE CLOSED*	**29**	**30**

TO CONTACT THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR, CATHY HILL:
email: chill01469@gmail.com
or call 978-337-0638

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING

Please go to the online calendar at www.tccucc.org for up-to-date entries.

Townsend Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
3 Brookline St., PO Box 487
Townsend MA 01469-0487

Sunday School at 9 am & Worship at 10:15 am

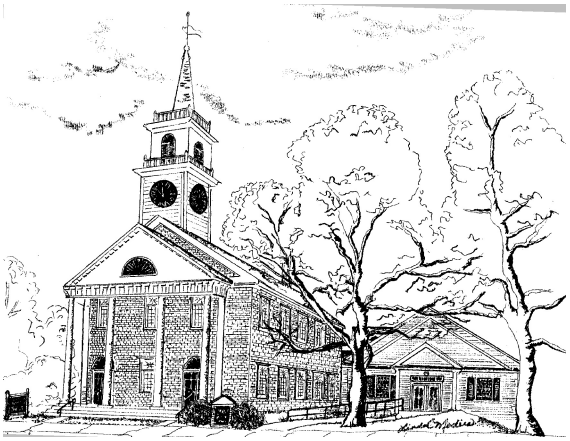
SHARING OUR SPACE WITH THE COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS

Weddings, Child Dedications, Holiday Parties, Baby and Wedding Showers, Family Reunions, Organization Meetings

We are blessed with a beautiful sanctuary and great space within our building for use that we are able to share with others. If you or someone you know is looking for a location for an event, contact our church secretary at 978-597-8925. This use of our building helps support the maintenance of our facility.

OUR COMMON PURPOSE STATEMENT

Being in an intimate relationship with God in the present, we are an ever-learning, action-oriented, justice-seeking, community-caring church. Our purpose is to use our gifts to make God's love real and alive for everyone.

We are committed to ministering through the use of our gifts, learning to live the Christian way of life, and being together in Christ by seeking to fulfill these three commandments of Christ:

- *To love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30)*
- *To love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:31)*
- *To love one another as Christ has loved us (John 13:34)*