



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
200 Main Street, P.O. Box 1300 - Wellfleet, MA 02667-1300

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WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY & NEIGHBORS-IN-NEED OFFERING

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4: 4-6)

This year, Sunday, October 2, 2022 is World Communion Sunday. Every year on the first Sunday in October, we join with other Christians in a worldwide celebration of the Lord's Supper. On this day, Christians gather to celebrate "one Lord, one faith, and one baptism" in the breaking of bread and sharing of the cup and in faith to receive a common grace. World Communion Sunday reminds us that differences do not have to divide; indeed, that differences often complement and that it is in embracing our diversity that we find our fullest unity.

I give thanks to God for the unity that marks our life together as the people of God at the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ of Wellfleet: for the grace to speak the truth to one another in love; for the joy of seeking together to discern the future God has planned for us; for the mutual regard that grows out of our love for one another in Christ; for mutual forbearance and forgiveness, for a common hope and a common grace. We do not agree in all things and never will. God help us, if we did! Rather, out of our diverse experiences of God's grace and our differing convictions, priorities, hopes, and aspirations, we recognize that in Jesus Christ, God has made us one. Our unity in Christ is not something, which yet must be attained, a goal, which has yet to be achieved, but it is a gift to be cherished, honored, and cultivated. Nowhere, perhaps, is that better recognized than at the Table of our Lord. So, please join us for worship on October 2, 2022 at 10 a.m. as we in gratitude and praise, share that gracious gift with one another.

Also, on this day, we receive our Neighbors-In-Need annual special offering to support UCC ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries, justice and advocacy efforts, and other direct service projects. The special NIN offering envelopes will be in the bulletins for the next three Sundays. We are grateful for the leadership of Dr. Margaret Tilton, for initiating a direct service project, offering a free, Living Water Acupuncture Clinic for three years now, and it has served not only the greater Wellfleet community but also put us on the map. As you think about this ministry to those in need, may I remind you of the words of our Savior Christ, who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35b) Please give generously and be blessed in our gratitude.

I am pleased to inform you and am grateful that for the third year, one of our members, Dr. George Vitek, has once again taken the initiative to organize a Hunger Walk, also known as Crop Walk sponsored by the Church World Service, to alleviate hunger of the needy on the

Cape and in the world. The walk will be held on Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 1 p.m. for those who wish to walk. We invite you to join the other enthusiastic participants in our third annual attempt to reach out to the food insecure in our region through this walk to alleviate hunger. And if you would like to simply write a check instead, please do so by sending them to the church's address at PO Box 1300, Wellfleet, MA 02667 with a memo for Crop Walk. Any amount will be greatly appreciated and gratefully received.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Sheila



We express our deepest sympathy to the family & friends of Sueko Hall who passed away on September 6, 2022. Sueko joined the church in 2005 and was active until her health declined.

A grave-side service was held on September 19, 2022.

We express our deepest sympathy to the family & friends of Betsey Patterson who passed away on September 21, 2022. Betsey joined the church in 2000.

A memorial service is schedule for October 7, 2022 at 11:00am at our church.

“In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!”

From the Moderator....

Let's be grateful for our blessings here in this special place—an historic church in a unique village nestled in the National Seashore. Wellfleet is a town of hard-working fishermen, trades people and service employees, mixed with retired professionals and seasonal visitors -- a growing and changing community, which presents our long-serving church an opportunity to grow and to re-center itself in the life of its neighbors.

Our church's identity intertwines with the history of Wellfleet. The dedication and service of church members over three centuries have laid the church's bedrock presence in Wellfleet. Those forebearers were confident in their faith and in their future. We must carry their optimism forward as our church strengthens old connections, builds new ones, and expands its welcoming reach in the modern Wellfleet community.

As we look to our church's future, and particularly as we seek our next settled pastor, let's do so with confidence in the opportunity our church presents its next pastor to grow a vibrant and thriving Wellfleet parish. We will attract the right candidate who values that opportunity, appreciates our circumstances, and whose faith and vision can guide our church to new heights.

Peter Cook
Moderator

Stewardship Sunday, November 13, 2022

*Stewardship is a faith response, a way of living and giving,
and not simply a means of paying church bills.*



The 3rd Annual Lower Cape Crop Hunger Walk is set for October 23, 2022 at 1:00p.m.

The problem of food insecurity continues to grow around the world. The war in Ukraine has had a devastating impact on both food availability and fertilizer availability. The economic situation and inflation have had a significant effect on family budgets. On top of all that, climate change is having an increasing effect on food supply. There is a serious famine in East Africa. Floods and drought are affecting food supplies in India and several other parts of the world. That brings us to the Lower Cape Crop Hunger Walk. Last year we raised \$8,200 and hope to build upon that. We ranked 70th among hundreds of Crop Walks nationwide. Each year 25% of the money we raise goes to food programs here in Wellfleet and the Outer Cape.

We will be raising funds through individual donations and through the Restaurant Raffle. Donations can be made online at www.crophungerwalk.org/lowercape or by a check CWS-Crop Walk. Tickets for the Restaurant Raffle may be purchased at the church office or during the Farmers Market on Wednesdays from 8:00am-12:00pm.

In the meanwhile, money that was raised in the Crop Hunger Walk for Ukraine is being put to use in Moldova. Money supports communities and facilities that are home to many refugees. Money has provided needed services, food and support for refugees, as well as, support for community infrastructure including several new centers for children and families.

This is the first of several descriptions of how the money raised in the Crop Hunger Walk is used around the world. Based on Pastor Sheila's sermon on Sunday, July 10, 2022, I am calling it Who Is Our Neighbor.

Jorge and Leidy Sarmiento are our neighbors. In November 2020 Hurricanes Eta and Iota tore through Honduras and destroyed their home and farm. Along with 1,000 other families they lost everything they had. Church World Service, through its local partners, made a rapid needs assessment and started an emergency response project. The first phase of the project provided temporary housing, food, hygiene kits, and psychosocial support. The second phase of the project helped Jorge and Leidy rebuild their home and restart their farm. Thank you to all who support Crop Hunger Walks from Jorge and his community!

Thank you for all your support in our previous walks and thank you for supporting us again. Watch for more information over the next 3 months, as I give information on specific ways our funds help people.

George Vitek

JUST PEACE SUNDAY 9/18/22
Mission Moment, Rev. Susan Eenigenburg

As many of you know, our 1st Congregational Church in Wellfleet belongs to a larger church, the denomination United Church of Christ, or UCC. In 1985, the UCC national synod passed a resolution declaring the UCC a *Just Peace* Church. Our church is a *Just Peace* church by the actions of some members—unfortunately we lack a record of who the members were—who met in 1988 to study *Just Peace*. They then brought this issue to the church’s Annual Meeting in 1989 and our church voted to become a *Just Peace* church. Since the 1980’s, many denominations have followed the UCC’s leadership and have become *Just Peace* churches. In fact, the World Council of Churches has declared the importance of all churches becoming *Just Peace*. I am slowly learning what *Just Peace* means, and I invite anyone interested in this to let me know—we can learn together.

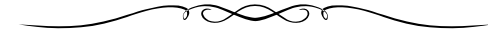
What I’m learning is that *Just Peace* means far more than a declaration of no more war as well as nonviolence to settle disputes, for it says in Mt. 5:9: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” I’m learning that *Just Peace* sums up the whole of the Biblical record, beginning in Creation: God the creator declared God’s creation that he had made, “very good.” (Gen 1:31). In the beginning God “created humankind in God’s image…” (Gen. 1:27). God gives this amazing creation to humankind to keep and to care for and to thrive in (Gen. 1:28-30). *Just Peace* is grounded in God’s creation which displays God’s desire to sustain the world. And God, having created humankind, seeks relationship with humans through the covenant relationship. When humankind responds to God’s blessings with the desire to live in peace, we greet one another with the Hebrew word “Shalom.”

But humankind sins again and again, and so God’s son Jesus Christ is sent into the world to reconcile humankind to the friendship it had with God, returning humans to God’s covenant, commands, and ways of peace and justice. Before Jesus prepares for the cross, he says, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid (Jn14:27). At the same time, Jesus promises an Advocate, the Holy Spirit to continue Christ’s ministry on earth. And so, the Holy Spirit is also a sign of *Just Peace*. Christ’s message of *Just Peace* and hope is “not of this world,” for it transcends this world. It is given so that all Christians, with the help of the Holy Spirit, may be ambassadors of *Just Peace* in this broken world.

As you can see, there is many ways to practice *Just Peace* in the world. One way I have found to begin is to practice Isaiah 26:3: “Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace—in peace because they trust in you.” I enter each day aligned with Jesus. We can only be Christ’s peacemakers when we practice the central commandment of the Christian faith, in Jesus words from Luke 10:27: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” For it is God’s perfect love that sends us on our daily journey to practice *Just Peace*. I like this joyous verse from Ps. 85:10: “Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and

peace will kiss each other.” In keeping with our pledge to care for our neighbor as a *Just Peace* act, a reminder that on October 2, we will take a special UCC offering for neighbors-in-need.

I'll close with the World Peace Prayer which the Benedictine Sisters pray each day at 12 noon:
Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust,
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace,
Let peace fill our heart, our world, our universe.



Board of Missions & Outreach

We continue our presence at the church's Farmers Market table every Wednesday morning. We provide information about our church, do fundraising for Crop Hunger Walk, and raise money for church programs with quilt raffle tickets, sales of church coffee mugs, Victor Rubdi's beautiful Wellfleet photograph calendars, and Charlotte Hands' lovingly hand-made doll clothes. We've handed out questionnaires to families with young children and asked for their insight as we look to develop outreach activities targeted for their needs. We see many of the same friendly faces week after week and have had interesting conversations with visitors from all over. I have been surprised and pleased by how many people want to share their own church experiences and are curious about what we're doing here in Wellfleet.

The Board will be meeting next on Wednesday, October 5 at 2:00. We will be discussing our recommendations to Council for this year's donations from the Missions budget. We have appeals from various locally active agencies we have supported in the past and welcome suggestions on worthy organizations and causes for us to consider.

The Crafts Fair and Pre-Thanksgiving Pie Sale will take place on the morning of Saturday, November 19th. A big thank you to Charlotte Hands and Nancy Porteus for leadership on these events. We expect hordes of eager buyers! As the time gets closer, please let Nancy know if you can contribute a pie or two. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted. We awarded 2 scholarships in 2022 and our 2023 awards will be from the proceeds of the July and November pie sales and donations. Please help us continue to support our local graduating high school seniors in need.



Living Water Acupuncture

Our Tuesday afternoon free clinic has had a busy summer, with regular referrals from healthcare agencies, recovery programs, and local nonprofits who provide direct services to people in need. In recent weeks we've been averaging over 20 people per clinic. Participants find the treatment helpful for a variety of concerns, including maintaining sobriety, managing stress, decreasing anxiety, and dealing with chronic pain. Some come nearly every week, others for a session or two or for a couple of months. I hear so many expressions of gratitude

to our church for offering this ministry. Some folks serve regularly as volunteers to help set up and to assist with check-in. One weekly attendee goes up into the sanctuary to pray after every session and once left a note with a prayer request on the pulpit. I like to think we're projecting a welcoming, nonjudgmental, and consistent presence that is helping people as they navigate life challenges and shows that we, as a church, care about them.

...From the Church Garden....

“Christ hath a garden walled around, A paradise of fruitful ground, Chosen by love and fenced by grace, From out the world’s wide wilderness.”

This first verse of a well-known hymn/anthem pretty much sums up your Garden Team’s inspiration and guidance for the work we’ve attempted and (in large part) completed in this and past years. We finally finished “civilizing” the borders of our parking lot by weeding and then planting Lilies of the Valley and Ferns on the north side and tucking them in for the winter with a generous supply of wood chips.

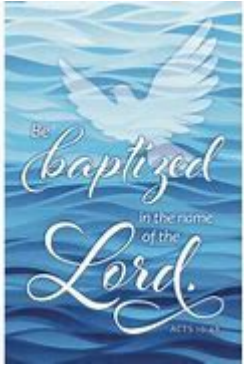
Future planting for the rest of the garden will consist of filling in sparse areas with sun-loving perennial donations from other gardens. We will tackle that endeavor next spring, along with cultivating, fertilizing, dividing and mulching. For now, we are beginning the process of shutting down for the winter: final weeding, trimming plants back, and performing other routine maintenance.

I want to thank our active Garden Team members for their hard work and sincere interest. There is no substitute for dedication; we can all look around the garden and see how our efforts have paid off! I also want to thank our supporters for their generosity. Your donations create the foundation for our efforts; we can’t do it without you, and we appreciate it.

We will be back in touch in the early spring to let you know how you can support our work. I will leave you with a by now well-known quotation from Audrey Hepburn: “To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”

Until next time, stay safe, healthy and happy. With best regards and sincere thanks from your Garden Team

Dan Wexman (Team Leader)
Dot Obderding
Charlotte Hands
Ron Boyles
Cyndy Van Hook
Nancy Vitek
Judie Palleschi
Jane Corbin
Rick Nolin
Victor Rubdi



We rejoice with the family of
SAJIV ANAND HUFF

&

SONALI SHAMALA HUFF

Upon their baptism when we welcomed and received them
Into our church family on August 10, 2022.

“There is one body and one spirit. There is one
hope in God’s call to us. There is one Lord,
one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator
of us all.” ~ Ephesians 4:4-6

We extend our congratulations to the Huff Family of Scarsdale, NY. Sajiv and Sonali are the children of Dr. Anjali Rozario and Neal Huff and grandchildren to Dr. Rodney Rozario and Ursula Huff. Dr. Anjali Rozario is the goddaughter of Pastor Rubdi.

Choir Practice

Sundays at 9:00a.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Saturdays at 7:00p.m.

Mission & Outreach Meeting

October 5, 2022 2:00p.m.

Council Meeting

October 23, 2022 following worship.

Stated Fall Meeting

October 30, 2022 following worship



Thank you....

The Board of Trustees and our church members and friends would like to express our gratitude to J.F. Young and his crew for the generous contribution they have given us by maintaining the parsonage grounds for this past year at no cost to us. His time and resources are valuable, and we appreciate Jeremy sharing them with us for the church's wellbeing.

THE CLEANEST AIR AROUND!

To any of you who may be feeling hesitant about returning to in-person services, please remember that we have newly installed filtration upgrades for both air conditioning and heating systems that are designed to inactivate 99.4% of virus molecules! In addition, masks and sanitizers are easily available, and there is plenty of room to observe social distancing.

Tell your friends!

PRAYER LIST

Please contact the church office to add a name or update this list.

“If one member suffers, all suffer together...If one member is honored, all rejoice together.”(1 Cor. 12:26) May the presence of Jesus Christ be with those on our PRAYER LIST and with those who care for them. Pray for:

<i>Jean Cooper</i>	<i>Ruth Anne Dykeman</i>	<i>Barbara Knapp</i>	<i>Christy Milliken</i>
<i>Barbara Nowell</i>	<i>Gina O'Connor</i>	<i>Ruth Pearce</i>	<i>David Powers</i>
<i>Todd Roy</i>	<i>Carol Spencer</i>	<i>Jack Troxel</i>	<i>Dennis Ubriaco</i>
<i>Fred Vitek</i>			

And for those who are chronically ill and confined to their homes, nursing homes and hospitals. **Please notify the Pastor or the church office when family or friends are hospitalized.**

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

10/7 Holly Lajoie & Judith Palleschi
10/12 Barbara Nowell & Margaret Tilton
10/14 Declan White & Frank Thomas
10/15 Rose Young
10/18 Rooney Rubdi & Susan Smith
10/21 Rick Nolin & Kathryn Smith
10/26 Ernest Rossi

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

11/1 Donna Grout
11/8 Paul Souza
11/13 Kendra Lindberg
11/14 Sarah Multer
11/16 Dot Oberding
11/22 Juniper O'Campbell
11/24 Lillian Young
11/28 Nancy Porteus



OCTOBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

10/07 Geraldine & Richard Nolin
10/21 Todd & Mignon Barry
10/22 Amanda (Carriero) & Robert White
10/25 Debra & Paul Souza

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

11/2 Tom & Charlotte Murphy
11/7 Jane Corbin & Ken Oxtoby
11/27 Bill & Cyndy Van Hook

*Savory & Sweet Holiday Pie Sale
College Scholarship Fundraiser
Saturday, November 19, 2022*

10:00a.m.

*On the outside grounds of the First Congregational Church of Wellfleet, UCC
200 Main Street, Wellfleet
www.wellfleetchurch.org*



Craft Fair – held inside during pie sale

10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m.

*Knitted items, Crafts, Jewelry, Handmade doll clothes,
2023 Wellfleet Calendars*

If you would like to volunteer to help at the fair or to bake a pie or two, please contact the church office at 508-349-6877 or wellfleetchurch@gmail.com