

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
200 Main Street, P.O. Box 1300 - Wellfleet, MA 02667-1300  
Worship Services – Sundays at 8:30a.m. and 10:00a.m.

**The Rev. Jon Elsensohn**  
Phone (508)349-6877 - FAX (508)349-7732  
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[www.wellfleetchurch.org](http://www.wellfleetchurch.org)

### **From The Pastor's Desk**

When I was 18, I took a cross-country train trip by myself in the early autumn. It was the first time I traveled alone, and the relaxed pace of rail travel allowed me to appreciate the beauty of the landscape. Seeing the Great Lakes, the prairie, Glacier National National Park, and the Columbia River gorge were all breathtaking. But, I also became aware of a different kind of beauty. On the outskirts of towns, along rail sidings and train yards, scrub brush was turning.

I never really gave much thought to scrub brush. I certainly spent a good deal of time clearing brush from the properties I maintained as a landscaper. Even today, I'm not that confident in discerning the species that creep in overgrown lots and abandoned places. But, in October, these nameless plants in forgotten locations show forth their glory. Unlike the riotous colors of maples, sycamores and poplar, brush turns into metallics and pastels, bronze and lavender.

More than 20 years later and this memory stays with me. It reminds me to look for beauty in overlooked places and situations. It remind me that even the things that I deem insignificant or unimportant in my own life can have a beauty of their own. As the year turns ever on and Autumn begins to truly assert itself, I pray that you will have a chance to appreciate the small beauty of the overlooked, in both scrub land and in your own lives.

-Pastor Jon

### **DID YOU KNOW-**

One element of our worship, the "Gloria Patri" has been a part of the Christian tradition since the 4th century, in one form or another. This hymn of praise -*gloria Patri* translates to "Glory to [God] the Father- has its roots in the Councils of the early Church. Listing the 3 persons of the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Ghost/Spirit) was a statement of faith, intended to curb other expressions of faith that saw one or more persons as more important. For that reason, it has been included in services of almost every denomination and sect.

Starting on World Communion Sunday, we are going to take a break from the Gloria Patri for the month of October. In its place during our worship services, we will sing 1 verse of the South African hymn "Siyahamba". This piece, first written down in 1952, likely has roots that are much older. Its simple structure reminds us that we walk, march, sing, dance, and pray, surrounded by the light of God. So, for this coming month, let us remember that all we do, all that we are, is a response to the grace of God, three in one.

Please join us for our free

## *Community Lunch*

Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Noon to 1:30pm



Soup, bread, salad and dessert

Everyone is welcome!

(Lunches will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month, October-May)

First Congregational Church of Wellfleet

200 Main Street, Wellfleet

508-349-6877

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### 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:

*Gary Cooper*  
*Barbara Knapp*  
*Bob Oberding*  
*Todd Roy*  
*Dennis Ubriaco*

*John Garran*  
*Christy Milliken*  
*Candy Potts*  
*Carol Spencer*  
*Fred Vitek*

*Ann Kelley*  
*Gina O'Connor*  
*David Powers*  
*Jack Troxel*

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.**

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*We express our deepest sympathy to Gerry and Rick Nolin on the death of Gerry's brother, Peter Brundage who passed away on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Cards of expression may be sent to: Gerry & Rick Nolin, 125 Rock Harbor Road, Orleans, MA 02653*

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

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### **Remembering the Saints**

All Saints' Day is celebrated on November 1 each year. It affords Christians the opportunity to remember those who have faithfully served Christ in special, often sacrificial, ways. Many of these special people suffered martyrdom for their dedication to Christ our Lord.

Please forward names of those who have passed between November 1, 2022 and November 1, 2023 to the church office, so that they may be included in our list.



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**Stated Fall Meeting**  
**Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> following 10:00a.m. Worship Service**  
**Warrant to be posted**

#### **From the Moderator –**

Hurricane Lee was mostly a non-event on the Outer Cape, and at first glance our church seemed spared; but as was discovered after the storm passed, a tall 15-inch-diameter locust tree fell across the full width of the church's back lot entrance, its branches resting on the back lot power line and its trunk blocking access to the Farmers Market grounds -- and the church members who would normally be first in line to clear the tree were all out of town. Occasionally we hear that our church is regarded by townsfolk as "Wellfleet's Church" whether or not they are actually church members; well, by the evening after the storm, one of our church's many friends in town (with no connection to Farmers Market) had cleared the fallen tree, including removing all the brush, branches, and leaves – a non-member who saw a need and tended to it, anonymously restoring the church grounds to look as though nothing had happened. The takeaway: Our church belongs to a community of people who care about its wellbeing. Ultimately, that caring connection holds promise for the church's future.

Peter Cook  
Moderator

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## Board of Missions and Outreach

Recently one of our church members characterized our Board of Missions and Outreach as ‘an events-driven board’. It is true; our monthly meetings end with a projected calendar of events marking the seasons of the year and of the church. These find their way onto the church calendar, listed in the bulletin, shared through emails, etc. So, instead of listing (redundantly) upcoming events in this month’s newsletter paragraph, I’d like to invite us all to consider that Missions & Outreach is the responsibility of every follower of Christ, individually and communally. Events, projects, and programs are all listed in our Bylaws as the responsibility of the Board, but is there a better way to fulfill our mission than being ‘an events-driven board’?

Possibly, and a good initial step may be to spend some time thinking about and drawing from our individual experiences as church members and volunteers.

I recently read a fascinating analysis of the anxiety we experience trying to be the church in our secular age. A natural response to that anxiety is to try to go faster, get more money, programs, and innovation. The authors propose that the opposite of ‘more’ is, in fact, ‘resonance’. They state, “Resonance is all about connecting with the world, with the people in our lives, and finding a meaning that is greater than what we can see and explain. Resonance is about the sacred, the public, and the transcendent.” \*

If your own experience of resonance, whether in church or not, sparks an idea for Missions and Outreach, please share your ideas with the Board. All members and friends are welcome at every meeting – we can inspire and energize each other as we look for new ways to do God’s work in the world.

\*Root A and Bertrand B. When Church Stops Working: A Future for Your Congregation beyond More Money, Programs, and Innovation. Brazos Press. 2023.

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### The Church Garden Needs Your Help!



The beds are weeded, fertilized and mulched. Hardier shrubs have replaced the heaths that didn’t survive last winter’s cold snap. The lawns are thatched and re-seeded. We have trimmed and pruned. We have bought and planted annuals for summer color. So what’s left? We need to keep the gardens healthy and happy, and to do that we need to replenish supplies. Our fund balance is running low and won’t last through the summer. We can volunteer our time, and we do, but we need your financial support to match our ambitions to our resources! We want to make the outside of your church look like someone cares about it. We are so grateful for your donations over the past three years. **Please don’t stop now!** A good appearance means a lot – “curb appeal” as some call it. Help us by contributing as much as you can: cash, check, or Paypal.

Thank you, from the volunteers who are making it happen:

Dan Wexman	Dot Oberding	Charlotte Hands	Ron Boyles
Nancy Vitek	Cyndy Van Hook	Judie Palleschi	Jen Elsensohn

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## OCTOBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

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



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

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

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## Nauset Neighbors Volunteer Opportunity

Want to make a difference in a neighbor's life? Join us at Nauset Neighbors, an all-volunteer non-profit organization, that helps senior stay in their homes and active in their communities. You can help by providing friendly visits, rides to appointments, tech assistance and simple handyman tasks. Volunteering is easy and flexible. Sign up online to help when it fits your schedule.

The members we help live in your communities of Brewster, Chatham, Eastham, Harwich, Orleans, and Wellfleet. We have a waiting list of seniors who need a hand. You can shorten their wait by volunteering with Nauset Neighbors.

Contact us at: [nausetneighbors.org](http://nausetneighbors.org) or call at 508-514-7067

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## TELL A FRIEND ABOUT THE FOOD PANTRY!

**Open Monday, 3-6; Wednesday 4-6, and Thursday 10-12**

Last year the Wellfleet Food Pantry provided food to 185 Wellfleet families, but we know there are more families who could use a little help. Would you help us by telling your friends who live in Wellfleet about the Food Pantry and invite them to come?

The Wellfleet COA delivers food boxes from the pantry twice per month to seniors who no longer drive, please call the COA at 508-349-0313 to sign up or get more information.

***Our volunteers thank you for your help.***

**WELLFLEET FOOD PANTRY - Food for Neighbors**

25 Lieutenant Island Road  
South Wellfleet, MA 02663

508-349-3036 - Visit our website: [www.wellfleetfoodpantry.org](http://www.wellfleetfoodpantry.org)

LEGACY OF LOVE



We all are grateful for the legacy of love we enjoy from those who worshiped here before us. There are many opportunities to continue this legacy into the future. Last newsletter talked about opportunities for those of us receiving Required Minimum Distributions or RMD's. Another unique opportunity is available for those of us realizing a large capital gain this year from the sale of appreciated property or stock.. The IRS offers an opportunity to deduct three years of charitable contributions this year through a Donor Advised Fund. If

you are interested in learning more, please talk to your tax advisor or Rob Leatherbee, Treasurer, for more details of this and other unique opportunities to continue the legacy of love here in Wellfleet.

2023 Lower Cape CROP Hunger Walk
Save the Date – October 8, 2023 at 1:00p.m.
“How CROP Hunger Walk Funds are Helping.

You can donate online at crophungerwalk.org/lowercape, or with a check made out to CWS/Crop Walk, or by supporting our Restaurant Raffle at the Wednesday Farmer’s Market. Raffle tickets are also available at the church office.

George Vitek

THANK YOU.....



Thank you to John Lasker for notifying us about the tree that fell in the Grove and Pete Cook & a member of the Wellfleet Community for removing it before the next Farmer’s Market



Thank you to those who volunteered for the Community Luncheon on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. The next one is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12:00pm-1:30pm.

BARNSTABLE ASSOC.  
2023 FALL FELLOWSHIP

POTLUCK & PILGRIMAGES

Presenter:  
Rev. Dr. Patty Kogut

OCTOBER 29  
4:00-6:00PM



Dennis Union Church  
Drinks & Place Settings Provided



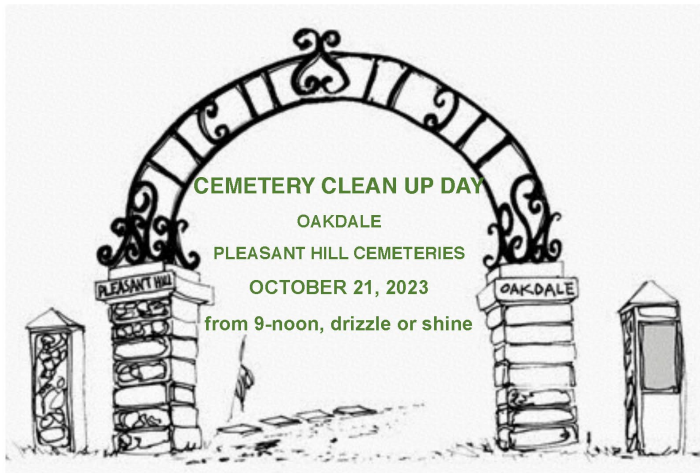
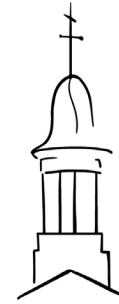

Sunday, October 1, 2023

12:00p.m.

First Congregational Church of Wellfleet

200 Main Street

Wellfleet, MA 02667



The Fall Clean-up at the Wellfleet Oakdale/Pleasant Hill Cemetery (across from the Police Station) will take place on Saturday, October 23, 2023 from 9-noon, drizzle or shine.

To maintain a welcoming, safe, and historically significant environment for visitors, we will be pruning dead and hazardous vegetation, and cleaning up trash and other debris.

Bring protective gloves, favorite hand tools and a friend.

For more information call 508-349-0304

Film Screening:

# Braver Angels: Reuniting America



**Braver Angels: Reuniting America** is a 50-minute documentary about 8 Democratic-leaning voters and 7 Republican-leaning voters moving through a Braver Angels signature Red/Blue workshop in Waynesville, Ohio, from initial skepticism to more profound understanding and empathy. You'll get an inside look at how a Democratic voter went from threatening to cut off relationships with Trump voters to becoming dear friends with one—and how a Republican voter moved from disdaining progressives to taking co-leadership with one in a movement that now spans the country.

*Directed by four-time Emmy award-winner Jim Brown and produced by musician Peter Yarrow.*

**Wednesday October 11 @ 6:00 PM**

Wellfleet Public Library

55 West Main Street ~ (508) 349-0310

Seating is limited, please plan accordingly  
Free to the public ~ Face masks encouraged



# First Congregational Church of Wellfleet – October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30am Early Svc. 9am – Choir reh. 10:00am Worship, Communion 12pm – Blessing of the Animals	<b>2</b> 8-10am – MS  12:00-1:30pm – Community Luncheon 	<b>3</b> 8:00-11am – MS  3-5:30pm - Living Water Acupuncture Clinic	<b>4</b> 8am-12pm- Farmer's Market 9:00-2pm – MS 4:30pm – Mission & Outreach mtg.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Custodian cleans in morning 3pm- Parking lot rented 4:00pm Choir rehearsal 7:00pm AA
<b>8 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30am Early Svc. 9am – Choir reh. 10:00am Worship 11:15am – Council mtg. 1:00pm Crop Walk	<b>9</b> 8-10am – MS	<b>10</b> 8:00-11am – MS  3-5:30pm - Living Water Acupuncture Clinic	<b>11</b> 9:00-2pm – MS	<b>12</b>	<b>13 OYSTERFEST WEEKEND</b>	<b>14</b> Custodian cleans in morning 4:00pm Choir rehearsal 7:00pm AA
<b>15 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30am – Early Svc. 9am – Choir reh. 10:00am Worship	<b>16</b> 8-10am – MS	<b>17</b> 8:00-11am – MS 1:00m FMC 3-5:30pm - Living Water Acupuncture Clinic	<b>18</b> 9:00-2pm – MS 7:00pm – Trustees mtg.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Custodian cleans in morning 4:00pm Choir rehearsal 7:00pm AA
<b>22 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30am – Early Svc. 9am – Choir reh. 10:00am Worship	<b>23</b> 8-10am – MS	<b>24</b> 8:00-11am – MS 3-5:30pm – Living Water Acupuncture Clinic	<b>25</b> 9:00-2pm – MS	<b>26</b> <b>Deadline for Newsletter Submission</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Custodian cleans in morning 4:00pm Choir rehearsal 7:00pm AA
<b>29 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:30am Early Svc. 9am- Choir Reh. 10:00am Worship 11:15am – Stated Fall Meeting	<b>30</b> 8-10am – MS	<b>31</b> 8:00-11am – MS 10:30am – Care Team				AA = Alcoholics Anonymous FMC= Financial Management Comm. MS = Mustard Seed WHS = Wellfleet Historical Society Handicap Accessible