

PARISH POST

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHESHIRE
CONNECTICUT

Volume XXIII

September, 2006

No. 7

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Church School for Pre-school 3 through Junior High and Nursery/Toddler care are at both hours beginning **September 10, 2006**

Sunday, September 3 – (Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost): Communion and Food Offerings; Rick Dacey will preach; Summer Church School Program & Nursery/Toddler Care; the lessons are Song of Solomon 2:8-13 & Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 OR Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 & Psalm 15; **James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.**

Sunday, September 10 – (Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost): Rick Dacey will preach; Coffee hours at 10 & 12 hosted by Christian Education; the lessons are Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 & Psalm 125 OR Isaiah 35:4-7a & Psalm 146; James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17; **Mark 7:24-37.**

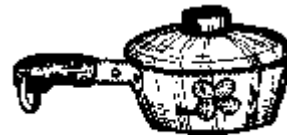
Sunday, September 17 – (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost): Rick Dacey will preach; Coffee Hours at 10 & 12 hosted by Executive Board; the lessons are Proverbs 1:20-33 & Psalm 19 OR Wisdom of Solomon 7:26-8:1 OR Isaiah 50:4-9a & Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; **Mark 8:27-38.**

Sunday, September 24 – (Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost): Rick Dacey will preach; Coffee Hours at 10 & 12; the lessons

are Proverbs 31:10-31 & Psalm 1 OR Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22 or Jeremiah 11:18-20 & Psalm 54; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; **Mark 9:30-37**

PARISH CARE

Thank you to the Meal Providers



Thank you to the following people for providing meals to others this summer: Diane Barnes, Gretchen Bates, Debra Bond, Pam Capiello, Pam Euerle, Karolyn Glatt, Barb Grudzias, Faegh Hakim, Susan Hunter, Gordon Hurlbert, Annette Kelly, Grace Knipe, Nancy Linton, Sue Mancinelli, Sue Mattson, Lisa Mendez, Judy Ozdemirer, Helen Prince, Beth Rojas, Lynn Ryan, Kess Scharff, Jennifer Smaldone, Janell Smith Janes, Kirsten Sullivan, Melinda Van Der Beek, Amy Webb-Mower, and Ellen Wright.

2.

A TIME OF OPPORTUNITY!

We at First Church face two wonderful opportunities! The first is the opportunity to support our current senior minister and his family in his transition (possibly life changing) to a new position in Australia. The second is to embrace the opportunity that we have, as a church, to take the time to look at who we are and to ascertain where God is calling us to go next. During these next few months we will undoubtedly experience a wide range of emotions, whether it be sadness at Rick's departure, confusion as we work through who we are, or excitement as we make plans to move ahead. During that time, we need to remember who we are as a church and what is important.

We look to our church Bylaws to remind us of that purpose:

"The purpose of this church shall be to worship God; to preach and teach children, youth and adults the good news of Jesus Christ; to celebrate the sacraments; to encourage individual growth in Christian fellowship; to continue the church's rich heritage in this community; to render loving service toward all people; and to strive for righteousness, justice and peace."

We are not in a position today to speak of the plans for the future as discussion by and with church members has yet to occur. However, by the time this message reaches you, Senior Deacon Susan Mancinelli and I will have had a preliminary meeting with Reverend Kent Siladi, our Regional Conference Minister. A second meeting will also have taken place that will include Reverend Siladi and the Deacons, the Board which is responsible for initiating and recommending a pastoral search committee. It will be during those meetings

that the planning process will begin. The plans will include a mechanism to gather opinions from church members and friends. I can assure you that we will share the plans with you in September.

Our First Congregational Church of Cheshire was chartered in 1724 and incorporated in February 1887. We have nearly three hundred years of history behind us and many years of planning and change ahead of us. For those of you who are relatively new to this church, please know that a plan will be put into place which will carry us through the coming months. For those of you who have been members of this church for a number of years, I am sure that you can attest to newcomers that our search processes have yielded excellent results for our church in the past.

In the meantime, it is important to remember that we are blessed with a wonderful staff. There is serenity and strength in our Associate Minister Alison McCaffrey. We are very fortunate to have dynamic Debbie Gravell, the Minister of Christian Education, as well as our gifted Director of Music, Joe D'Eugenio. In addition, our church staff (Judy Monarca - administrator, Jessie Waszmer - secretary, and Fred and Pat Turner - sextons) complete a stable, dedicated, and organized church structure. Finally, we are blessed with each other. According to our church Covenant:

We bind ourselves in the presence of God, to be the people of God's covenant, to live and grow together in God's way as revealed in the Bible, to serve and support this church, and to love one another after the example of Jesus Christ.

Peace be with us all in this exciting time!
Susan Hostage, President



COME ONE COME ALL!!!

1st Annual Church Family Picnic

WHO: Every one! Including **YOU!**

WHERE: Mixville Park

WHEN: Sunday, September 17th

TIME: 2pm – 6pm

VESPER SERVICE at 5:30

Come for the fun & Fellowship!

Activities include:

*Softball*Basketball*Fishing*

Swimming Sand castle contest!

And whatever else you might want to do. This is your chance to be spontaneous!

Grills available under the pavilion.

Bring your own food & charcoal and please bring a dessert to share with the church family.

3.

SMALL GROUPS

Welcome the fall in here at First Church at the Small Group Expo, Sunday, September 10 at both Coffee Hours. Small Group leaders and leaders of other groups in the church will be on hand to share their group's ministries and plans for the fall, and to answer your questions. Look for a detailed listing in the *Parish Life Opportunities* booklet available September 3. If you any questions, please ask Alison at 272-5323, ext. 12.

Some of the Groups for this fall include:

- Charles Jones' Four week study on Christian Financial Planning
- Spiritual Direction, led by John Afman
- The Mark Project: led by the Scripture by Heart group and Rick Dacey
- Coffee Break: A Friday Morning gathering at Greenwich Coffee: Katie Worden, Donna Andrews, and Ellen Wright
- The Heart of Christianity: led by Matt McCaffrey
- Is God Calling? Discerning God's Call in Your Life: led by Alison McCaffrey

NOAH'S ARK NURSERY

NURSERY CAREGIVERS NEEDED!

Noah's Ark Nursery is looking for volunteer caregivers to work 1 time/month, in the Nursery as part of a 3

4. person team. Currently, there are openings at both the 9 & 11 o'clock services. **Currently, we have eight openings- four for the 9 o'clock service, and four for the 11 o'clock service.** We offer childcare for ages 6 weeks up to age 3 years old. If you enjoy babies and toddlers, this is a wonderful way to minister to the youngest members of our church family! We welcome and encourage caregivers of all ages and genders. If interested, please contact Elaine Daly (Nursery Coordinator) at 272-8646 or Debbie Gravell (Minister of Christian Education) at 272-5323, ext. 16.

Interested in joining a playgroup?

The Nursery Committee is planning to start a playgroup for nursery-aged children (0-3 years) and their parents this fall. The group will meet weekly in the church nursery (days/times to be determined). If you are interested in learning more about the group, please contact Anne Eisbach at 639-9900 or by email: Anne.Eisbach@quinnipiac.edu.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

BIBLE JOURNEYS ORIENTATION

*Thursday, August 31, 2006, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
in the Parish Hall*

All people who signed up to be Shepherds, and Workshop Leaders for Bible Journeys

grades 2-6, are asked to plan to attend this evening of orientation.

PS 3 – 1ST GRADE/TEACHER AND HELPER ORIENTATION

*September 6, 2006 at 6:30 in the Parish Hall
New Teachers/Helpers*

*September 6, 2006 at 7:30 in the Parish Hall
All Preschool – 1st grade Teachers, Helpers,
Substitutes*

All teachers, helpers, and substitutes who signed up to be in this ministry for the next church school year are asked to plan to attend this evening of orientation.

You can get into your rooms to decorate bulletin boards on:
Sunday, September 3 from 11 to 1 and/or
Thursday, September 7 from 7-9

THIRD GRADE COMMUNION POTLUCK

Students in grade three and their families are invited to attend a potluck supper in Parish Hall on September 24, 2006 from 5:30 – 7:30 to discuss communion.

Children will begin receiving communion with their families on Sunday, October 1. A letter will be sent to each Third Grader. If you don't receive a letter, please call the church office at 272-5323.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION MEETING

Confirmation is for 9-12th graders who are interested in exploring their faith and church membership. The Orientation session for parents/students will be

Monday, September 25, at 7:00 in the Parish Hall. Classes will begin on Monday, October 16 at 7:00.

CHRISTIANS IN ACTION

A Fellowship Group for 5th & 6th graders

Led by: Marge Williams and Jim Parys

We are still looking for 2 other adults to help with this ministry. Other parents will be asked to help out as needed. This group meets once a month on Friday nights.

The first meeting will be Friday, September 22nd from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

This will be a getting acquainted meeting with games and snacks.

Parents with 5th grade youth are asked to send drinks for the meeting.

Parents with 6th grade youth are asked to send a snack for the meeting.

Any questions, please call Debbie Gravell at 272-5323 ext. 16 or Jim Parys 699-9929.

BIBLE JOURNEYS

GRADES 2-6

This workshop rotation Church School program is for children and youth entering grades 2-6 this fall. Children will know what workshop they will go to by the schedule below, the bulletin, or the Bible Journeys Board in the hallway across from Room 8.

Grades 3-6 will go to class when dismissed from the church.

Grade 2 (9:00 service only) will leave for Chapel in the early part of the service. After Chapel they will go with their Shepherd to their Bible Journeys workshop. Parents may pick up their

5.

children in their classroom when Church School ends. The classrooms are listed in the bulletin.

Grade 2 at 11:00 will go directly to their Bible Journeys workshop room from the sanctuary.

SUMMARY OF HOW THE BIBLE CAME TO BE

SEPTEMBER 2006

Thou Art Room 8

Children will use scripture references to help them determine ingredients in Bible Brownies. They will look up different Bible passages in the Old Testament and will play some Bible games to learn more about the books of the Bible

Red Sea Productions Room 9

In this activity, students will create a video newscast interviewing various types of people associated with the discovery and study of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Desert Tales Room 10

Students will learn songs about the books of the Bible.

Gospel Games Room 11

In this workshop, students will use a computer program and their Bibles to work on basic Bible skills.

9:00

Date	Thou Art	Red Sea Prod.	Desert Tales	Gospel Games
Sept. 3	Summer Program	Summer Program	Summer Program	Summer Program
Sept. 10	Grade 5&6	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 2
Sept. 17	Grade 3	Grade 2	Grade 5&6	Grade 4
Sept. 24	Grade 4	Grade 5&6	Grade 2	Grade 3

11:00

Date	Thou Art	Red Sea Prod.	Desert Tales	Gospel Games
Sept. 3	Summer Program	Summer Program	Summer Program	Summer Program
Sept. 10	Grade 4	Grade 3	Grade 2	Grade 5&6
Sept. 17	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5&6	Grade 2
Sept. 24	Grade 2	Grade 5&6	Grade 4	Grade 3

YUTES NEWS

**FAREWELL LETTER FROM THE
YOUTH DIRECTOR**

Dear Brothers and sisters in faith:

Over the past five years, I have had the privilege to serve as the Director of Youth Ministries at the First Congregational Church of Cheshire. I believe God has blessed this congregation and the Youth Ministry in some remarkable ways. We have experienced steady growth in youth participation, the variety of activities offered, and the depth of spiritual commitment among participants.

Whether it is a Sunday evening program with focused discussion groups or a mission outreach project, the youth of our congregation have come out in impressive numbers, growing in faith as they continue their spiritual journey. Adults have also shared in this positive growth as we have added “resource adults” to our ranks of youth ministry volunteers. When compared to other congregations in Connecticut or New England, our youth ministry serves as an example of what can happen when a congregation is willing to invest in its youth and their futures.

I have been grateful for the opportunity this congregation and God have given me to serve as leader of the Youth Ministry. However, my family’s needs have grown and this has led me to accept a full-time

position in another setting. This decision has not been easy but it was one I had to make as I move forward on life's journey and it is with regret that I say good-bye.

Respectfully yours,
Glenn D. Root

CHANGES IN YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

All YUTES and their families have received a letter from Glenn Root indicating his resignation effective August 31, 2006. We are all saddened by this news but rejoice with him in his new path in life.

You may now have some questions about YUTES and who will lead. Debbie Gravell will act as the coordinator and resource for the Resource Adults who have been leading as well as new Resource Adults who will be invited to join the team. The Resource Adults are meeting in mid-August to plan for the year. We will send out information to you about the first meeting. You can also check on the website at www.yutes.org. We will continue to post information about the YUTES there.

A YUTES handbook is being mailed out to families in late August. Please know that the calendar will change as the planning takes shape and especially when a new Youth Director takes over. Please feel free to call Debbie Gravell at 272-5323 ext. 16 with any questions or concerns.

7.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 10

4:30 p.m.

Picnic for both Jr. & Sr. High Youth

Location: David and Karen Brunetti's house, 30 Minna Court, Cheshire

Directions: available on the YUTES website or on the table in the church lobby.

Please bring a side dish, snack, or dessert to share. Bring your bathing suit and a towel if you want to swim.

September 17

NO YOUTH GROUP due to church picnic at Mixville Park from 2-6.

See you all there!

September 18 (Monday)

7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

IMPORTANT PARENT/YOUTH MEETING - To talk about YUTES and the upcoming year

September 24

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting for Jr. and Sr. Youth Groups

Please bring \$3 for dinner contribution

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Topic: Hope

Leader: Debbie Gravell

Begins: Wednesday, September 27

Time: 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor

8.

We will use a study guide from the Life Guide Bible Study series for this on Hope in God. We will explore different scriptures about Hope each week as we walk through this series. Join us for this study which is sure to give you the reassurance of hope in God.

We use a study guide each week which is available to purchase throughout the study. The cost of the study book is \$5.00

You are welcome to join us when you can and be away when you must. Each week stands by itself. We read the scriptures together, share reflections on the scripture and close with prayer requests. All women of the church are welcome.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

OUTREACH

THANK YOU FOR REACHING OUT

Here are some letters received recently by the Board of Outreach:

From the Executive Director of Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury, responding to May's "Mission Day" activities there: "I want to thank all of you who helped spruce up the Safe Haven office and shelter. Both yards look terrific! I really appreciate your getting rid of all those weeds and debris around the office. No one ever has the time or energy to tackle those jobs. The outside painting on

the railing and sign looks great too. The shelter plantings look beautiful; the clients commented to staff on how much nicer it looks. Thanks so much for taking the time on a spring weekend to help Safe Haven, when I'm sure that you have plenty to do at your own homes. I am very grateful for all the financial support, as well as this hands-on outreach that you have given Safe Haven."

From the Food Pantry Coordinator of Greater Waterbury Interfaith

Ministries: On behalf of the Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries, we extend our deepest thanks for your generous contributions to our Food Pantry. Both the GWIM staff and the clients we serve sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness. We greatly appreciate your monetary donation of \$125. The support we receive from churches, schools, synagogues, mosques, colleges, local and civic organizations, businesses and individuals allows us to consistently fulfill our mission of serving the poor and disadvantaged people in the Greater Waterbury community. Our labor of love assists an average of 600-plus families each month with a three-day supply of food."

From Christian Community Action of New Haven: "Thank you for your recent donation of \$433. As you know, we are a faith-based social service agency with a variety of programs, focused on offering help, housing, and hope. With the continuing support from churches like yours, and caring individuals in our community, we have been able to continue providing vital housing and food services

while adding other much needed programs for family members with other needs.”

From the Executive Director of Church World Service: “Let me thank you for your kind generosity. Yours is a gift from the heart, an act of compassion that springs from your faith and love. With your support, our humanitarian programs of disaster relief, economic and social development, education and advocacy, and refugee assistance are addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty.”

Remember: We’re not just a Board of Outreach. We’re a Congregation of Outreach!

COVENANT TO CARE

Thank you to so many for the donations of requested items. The response has been prompt and overwhelming. Three car seats, a stroller, a bouncy seat and other assorted baby items were made possible by Julie Witte and family.

Thanks to Mark Hall, Steve Holtman, Nancy Brunetti, Ruth Gleeton, the Gordon family, and the Grudzias family for providing a dining room table, kitchen table and 4 chairs, changing table, dresser, rocking chair, living room chair, clock, futon, glasses, curtains, towels for bath and kitchen, silverware, and rugs. We have served several social workers and their clients so all of these wonderful items are being used and enjoyed. Our Outreach mission continues to reach out further and further thanks to our church community.

9.

And...

We continue to serve a multitude of individuals and families through the Covenant to Care program. Requests in the bulletin continue to evoke an overwhelming response by our congregation, eagerly wishing to serve others. Recently delivered were: 3 booster seats, dishes, a coffee pot, pots and pans, bedding, a twin bed, a box spring frame and mattress, 3 bureaus, a love seat, couch, and end table, a lamp and assorted kitchen items, baby boy clothes. The people we give thanks to are: Patti Dickinson, Betsy Adams, Regina Hackett, Tina Consella, Grace Knipe, Terry Hamley, Barb and Rich Grudzias, Rick and Anne Dacey, and Peter Gadsby.

Items for the school supplies were delivered on 8/28. Thank you to Jane Richards, Audrey Finkenstadt, and Janet Gordon.

Blessings to all in our mission to serve one another.

Jan Cowles

‘MISSION DAY’



SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 28, 2006

Set aside part of Saturday, October 28 for your participation in Mission Day, a

10.

continuing initiative sponsored by the Board of Outreach.

On that Saturday, members and friends of First Congregational Church will visit several local social service agencies to work on tasks such as painting, cleaning up, and packing food. We support these agencies financially, but Mission Day will give us an opportunity to get to know them better and to participate in “hands-on” outreach.

The Board of Outreach is currently working with executives of the agencies to determine exactly which activities will be done and how much time will be needed. When these details are finalized, they will be made known to members and friends.

Remember: As a Congregation of Outreach, we can make a difference!

FOOD OFFERING

The Outreach food offering was **171** for **July** and **157** for **August**. The Food Pantry request for the month of **September** is **spaghetti sauce**.

BOARD OF MUSIC

Music Happenings in September

September is a busy month for music as the choirs start up. Here are the details - all are welcome to join us!

Wed., Sept. 6: Senior Choir Rehearsals Begin in the Choir Room

7:30 – 9:30 Adults and High School students are encouraged to join

Wed., Sept. 6: Bell Choirs Begin in the Parish Hall

5:15 – 5:45 Hand Chimes, Boys and Girls in Grades 2 and 3

5:45 – 6:30 Junior Bell Choir, Boys and Girls in Grades 4 – 8

6:30 – 7:30 Senior Bell Choir, High School Students and Adults

Wed., Sept. 13: Youth Choir Rehearsals Begin in the Choir Room

6:00 – 6:30 Primary Choir, Boys and Girls in Grades K – 3

6:30 – 7:15 Junior Choir Rehearsal, Boys and Girls in Grades 4 – High School

Sun., Sept. 10: Senior Choir will be singing at 9:00 and 11:00 services.

Come find out more about the choir at the **Small Groups Expo** between services.

Wed., Sept. 13: Choir Academy starts.

Need a little extra coaching? Come at 7:00 and Senior Choir members Megan Stephan and Joan Benedetto will be on hand to help!

Sun., Sept. 24: Choir Room Open

House. Always curious about what goes on in the choir room? Interested in joining any of the choirs? Are your kids interested in singing and playing the hand bells? Come upstairs between services and have some refreshments

while meeting Joe, Marianne, parent representatives of the Youth Choirs, the Senior choir and our friendly section leaders. Pick up schedules for the year and have all your questions answered.

Meet our Section Leaders

The Music Board is pleased to announce that Patricia Barbano will be joining us again this year as soprano section leader. In addition, Paul Laurence Fletcher of Middletown will be joining us as our bass section leader. Paul will be joined by his wife Jessica, who is a wonderful alto. Many of you last heard Paul sing with Patricia on the green this summer. Also, Paul has sung with our choir as a soloist and ensemble singer for Memorial Music Sunday as well. We are delighted to welcome both Paul and Jessica to our choir.

NOMINATING

WHAT ARE YOUR GIFTS?

The church is continually looking for people with a variety of talents and interests to staff the various boards and committees. The Nominating Committee has been in contact with various leaders and asked for succession suggestions. If you have an interest and/or skill in a given area, please call Roy Pritchard at 272-1133 or Cheryl Guetens at 272-8054.

The Board of Christian Education is in serious need of volunteers, especially men to serve on the Board. CE hosts potluck meals for church school families and

coffee hours; the Board also offers special programming. CE needs new vision and new ideas to make education fun and exciting.

Additionally, financial/accounting people are most needed and welcome.

All terms begin in January 2007.

FELLOWSHIP

Would you like a chance to participate in Coffee Hour? We are starting Alphabet Sunday and we are asking for people whose names begin with:

A to G to help host coffee hour on November 19, 2006

H to O to help host coffee hour on February 4, 2007

P to Z to help host on June 10, 2007.

Please consider signing up to help in whatever way you can to support this Ministry of fellowship. See us at the Small Group Expo on Sept 10 or call June Webster at 272-5163 if you don't want to wait to sign up.

MISCELLANEOUS

CARING CRAFTS

On Monday, September 25 at 7, Caring Crafts will be meeting at Donna Mead's home - 15 Conifer Drive, Hamden.

Since this is the first meeting in the fall, we will have a blessing of the hands of 12.

our crafters. Anyone who has an interest in crafts - of any kind - is welcome to come. If you would like to learn to knit/crochet, we would love to teach you. If you have any questions about our group, call Donna at 248-9576.

THE PRAYER NET

For the last few years, members and friends of First Church have been part of a network of prayer, called the Prayer Net, an email Prayer Chain. We invite you to become part of this ministry of prayer. It works like this: someone with a prayer concern or joy is in contact with me, and I send the prayer request to our group via email. When they receive the request, they pray for the request in their own personal prayer time. All prayer requests are treated confidentially. Generally, requests come to us several times a month.

If you are interested in joining, please send me an email or speak with me and I can give you more details. The Apostle Paul reminds us to pray without ceasing, and to let all our requests be made known to our 12.

God. Please join us in the powerful ministry.

Blessings,
Alison McCaffrey
amccaffrey@CheshireCongregational.org

VOCATIONAL PRAYERS

We believe that God is creating
in the clay of a potter
in the music of an orchestra,
in the bread of a baker.

We believe that Jesus Christ is present
in the hospitality of a waitress
in the care of a social worker,
in the voice of a teacher.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is moving
in the healing touch of a doctor,
in the actions of a peacemaker,
in the laughter of a child.

~Worship & Daily Life

This fall, we begin a new prayer practice in our Sunday morning worship. On the last Sunday of each month, we invite your participation in the blessing of our members and friends in their particular occupations and vocations, whether volunteer or employed. For example, on September 24 we will pray for all our members and friends who are teachers: in day care, preschool, public school, college and university, church school, teachers anywhere! All who work in the field are invited to bring an object or symbol of their work and place it on the Communion table. Prayers of blessing will be included in our prayers of intercession. Each month on the last Sunday, we will lift up a different vocation, which will be listed in advance in the bulletin and Parish Post.

September: All who are educators

October: All who work with their hands:
artists, electricians, plumbers, etc.

November: All who work in sales and retail
December: All who care for others: from infants to our elderly
January: All who work in offices and support services
February: All who work in the medical professions
March: All who work in the financial field
April: All who work with the earth
May: All who work in human resources and helping professions
June: All who are students
July: All who work in computer and other technologies
August: All who work in field of law

If you don't see your occupation listed, please let us know as we will continue to develop this rotation. If your occupation spans several categories, you are welcome to bring your symbol for those months. Your suggestions are welcome.

Blessings, Alison

MALAWI MINISTRY TEAM

The Malawi Ministry Team asks you to redeem your cans and bottles at your favorite grocery store and bring the credit slips to church on Communion Sundays (the Lord has need of them!). Leave them in the MMT mailbox located in the parlor, bring them to the office, or drop them in the offering plate. The funds raised will feed hungry school children in Nthandizi, Malawi.

13.

Women's Book Discussion

We invite all women "readers" to join us for any or all of the following book discussions. We meet at 7:30 p.m. for a short social time, followed by discussion, ending at 9:30 p.m.

Monday, September 11, A Month of Sundays by Julie Mars at Betsy Adams'

Even if you haven't finished the book (or haven't read it), join us for the fellowship and lively discussion.

Please call Martha Lape, 272-9327, or email her at mlape@aol.com if you have any questions about the group or the books.

NEW CHURCH CALENDAR

Check out the new church calendar on our website: www.cheshirecongregational.org. It's interactive so it can be changed from any computer, at any time, by the office administrator. Frequent calendar changes seem to be the norm so this should help to provide a better overview of what's happening day to day.



14.

PERSONALS



**HAPPY 60th WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY to
Mary and Bob Johmann on
September 14, 2006...**
from Pat Croteau

Thank you from...

- Marge Beard

Dear friends,
I just received a lovely bouquet of flowers from my friends at church. Several aides have stopped in just to smell the wonderful fragrance from my room. Thank you all again for thinking of me.

- Sally Blakely

Thank you for the flowers brought to me by Robin Sellati for my birthday. We had a most enjoyable visit. Also, I wish to thank Martha Lape for the telephone call wishing me a Happy Birthday.

- Kara, Marc, & Colby Fasano

To our friends at the First Congregational Church:
Thank you so much for the beautiful baby blanket that you made for Colby. It is adorable and so nice and warm! We really appreciate it.

- Roland B. Fowler

Since my stroke in April there have been many hospital and rehab visits, flowers, cards, lovely shawl/throw, and thoughts and prayers. It has been a long road to recovery and still some progress to be made but I am basically able to get around some. We enjoyed the delicious meals that were most appreciated by both of us! My wife, Lorna, has been extremely important in my recovery. We hope to be back in attendance soon. Many thanks to all of you.

- Dot Hazard

Dear friends,
During a recent hip replacement, I welcomed a visit from Alison with a prayer shawl and later a lovely bouquet from the church. It really made me feel a part of my church community. Thank you. I'll be back as soon as I'm able.

- Doris and Fred Mullaney

To thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers for Fred's 87th birthday. Really cheered him up! He is feeling quite well right now but his activities are limited! Thank you all.

BAPTISMS

- June 25

Nichole Alexandria Stuart, daughter of Chris Eugene Stuart and Marlene Merriman.

- July 16

Colby Bryce Fasano, son of Kara Dickinson and Marc Christopher Fasano;
Mason Christopher Graham, son of Carly Hebbard and Dan Earl Graham

- July 30

Whitney Ann Milton

- August 20

Jordan Keith Hallett, son of Kristen Curley and Keith D. Hallett; Calvin Ikaika-Loa Suarez, son of Danielle Laupola and Fernando Caunabot Suarez

MARRIAGES**- July 15**

Sharlene Brennan and Peter Savage

- July 29

Kristen L. Heiligman and James J. Shanley

DEATHS**- June 23**

Barbara "Muffy" Merrill

- June 26

Elenor Knickerbocker

- July 22

David Euerle, Jr.

- August 23

William D. Ferguson

HOSPITAL STAYS

If you are hospitalized, it is important that you or a family member call one of the ministers or the church office to let us know so we can visit and care for you properly. A new federal law prohibits hospitals from giving us any patient information so we will not know you are there.

Emergency Pastoral Care

After office hours, you may call Rev. Dacey at 250-1623, or Rev. McCaffrey at 272-3233.

Please be mindful of their family time and call only in an emergency or crisis

