



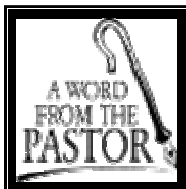
THE TOWER TIMES
THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
28 Green Street, Gardner, MA 01440
JUN/JUL/MAY 2011



Email: office@fccgardner.org

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Dear Friends,

On June 12th we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday. This is one of the most important days on the Church calendar. It is on this day that God sent the Holy Spirit into the world and especially into the hearts of Jesus' disciples.

As the Spirit came to Mary of Nazareth and she conceived and she gave birth to Jesus (bringing fourth "Christ" into the world), so at Pentecost the Spirit comes to us; that we too may conceive and give birth to Christ, for our day and time. At Easter we remember that Christ was raised from Death: At Pentecost as it says in the Bible, the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead comes to dwell in us.

You may remember learning in Sunday school that Pentecost is the "birthday" of the Church. There would be no Christianity without the gift of the Spirit and no Church without Pentecost. It is like our own personal Christmas and Easter rolled into one. It is a time of potential personal enlightenment and transformation. At Pentecost we celebrate the heavenly gift that keeps on giving.

Over and over again, Jesus promised the coming of the Spirit: "You shall receive Power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you." This power for living life is available if we would but open our hearts to receive it.

May Christians everywhere, the 1st Congregational Church, and you personally receive a double dose of the Holy Ghost this Pentecost: an overpowering, indwelling, thirst quenching, earth shaking, truth revealing experience of the Risen Christ by the working of the Holy Spirit.

Come Holy Ghost Creator Blest
And in our hearts take up thy rest
Come with thy grace and heavenly aid
To fill our hearts which thou has made
To fill our hearts which thou has made

Happy Pentecost.
In Jesus' love,
Pastor Frank

News from the Trustees

HELP WANTED

The church needs volunteers to help work on a few seasonal projects...

- 1) We need to restore the hallway by the entrance next to the coat rack.
- 2) We need to paint the exterior entrances and marine varnish sanctuary doors.
- 3) And we need to scrape, glaze, and paint the exterior windows starting with the large stain glass windows located near the driveway.



You do not need to be highly skilled to help with these projects for we have committee members willing to lead. The hallway needs to be addressed in June and July when things are

slow, before the August V.B.S. In the future, maintenance free storm windows over the sanctuary stained glass windows are needed. To finish the decade and a half of old project, also replacement windows on the second floor Sunday school classes, funding is an issue. Until then we need to maintain the exterior windows in place. If you are able to help, please speak to your local trustee.

We plan on installing an outdoor water faucet near the bulk head to assist the Diaconate Mission Garden.

Three new mandated exit signs have been installed, thank you Pete and Mel! We hope to see you at the church.

For the Trustees,
Dale Rader, Chair

June



News from Cherub Choir

How lovely our Cherub Choir performed this year! Big, big thanks to parents who accommodated our rehearsals after church. Having consistent rehearsals is the best way for kids to learn, especially if they haven't learned to read yet. We had a large group of enthusiastic kids who like to perform, and that's not common. Feeling comfortable performing in front of large groups at an early age really helps kids later when they have to give presentations and reports in school.

Karen Lenthall and I are planning to teach choir chimes during Sunday school this summer to kids who'd like to learn how to read music and perform in a group. Learning music at an early age is much easier than trying to learn later in life. Karen and I are excited to work with our children to open up more opportunities for them to participate in worship. This is an important ministry in our church and will hopefully give new families even more to be involved in.

Make a Joyful Noise!
Carol Bailey and Karen Lenthall

From the Deacon's Corner for June, July, and August

As you can see this is the last Tower Times for the summer! The life of this church is very busy, that's a good thing.

The Deacons are happy to welcome Amy Leblanc to the committee. If you have not spoken to Amy, you should seek her out. She is funny and very enthusiastic. We are very happy she has joined us!



June 5th our church family will be celebrating the three high school senior's graduation. Tom Moretti, Rebecca Ruston, Amelia Farrell, and Justin Woodward.

CONGRAULATION, GREAT JOB!

June 12th Pentecost Sunday, This will be new members Sunday. We have one new member joining the church. If this is something that you would like to do, please call the church, Pastor Frank, or contact a Deacon. Also Joshua Mills will be Baptized.



June 18th June Fair The Deacons are going to put on the Lunch, What are we having? I'm glad you asked! We will be serving (get it, Deacon means to serve) Sausage Peppers and onions in a bun, Hot dogs, cole slaw (it's the receipt we use every year, Thank you Diane Moretti). If everything works out we will have fresh squeezed lemonade, along with other drinks.



June 19th Father's Day, That says it all! Happy Father's day to all!

June 26th we will be going back to our summer schedule, service starts at 9:30.



July 22nd weekend there will be a church camp out at Dennison. If you are interested, please call the church or speak to Sue Rader.

August 14th There will be a joint service with our church and the Baldwinville Congregational church at the Cathedral of the Pines at 10:00 am. For more information call the Church office 978-632-1242. That week we will not be having service at our church.



Want to know who your deacon is?
Larry Abbott – Sherri Brooks

Marg Whittemore

Stephen Brooks – Jane Drake

Karen Lenthall

Jay Drake- Roger Hall

Faith Glover

Linda Harris - Gretchen Kelley

Cynthia Henshaw

John Kelly - Patrick Mckeogh

Kristy Casey

Joan Mellanson- Taylor Orwig

Carol Smith

Amy Parker - Justina Ruston

Brenda Laroque

Rebecca Ruston - Joan Storm

Jane Drake

Julie Streb - Sarah York

Amy Leblanc

We hope you have a great summer!
God Bless, Faith Glover Deacon Chair



Christian Education News

It has been a joy working with everyone this past year and truly Amazing to have so many wonderful teachers sharing their time and talent through teaching. On behalf of the C.E. committee, thank you....It speaks very loudly to the whole church body to have so many committed to the Christian education.



We got to hear the splendor of the cherub choir on Children's Day. Thank you children, Carol Bailey and Karen Lenthall for sharing your musical gifts. We are looking forward to more....

This summer we will continue to offer a one room Sunday school during worship should they like to participate. Nursery care is also provided weekly.

Upcoming summer events during worship on June 5th during worship we will be recognizing our High School graduates and their accomplishments.



July 22-24 Camping at Lake Dennison -we have the group site reserved. The C.E. committee is bring the smore ingredients.

Please sign up if you are planning to sleep over; otherwise just show up for fun and fellowship.



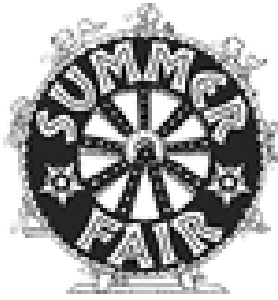
August 1-5 "Pandamania" Vacation Bible School ,Where God is wild about you" 9am-12noon. Anyone willing to assist in this wonderful ministry please see Sue Rader. On the Thursday the 4th Tom Ricardi will be coming to share his Birds of Prey with us from 12-1:30pm

September 11-9:00am
Pancakes for Rally Sunday



May this summer be blessed,
Sue Rader





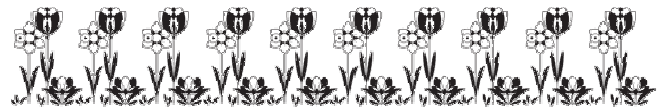
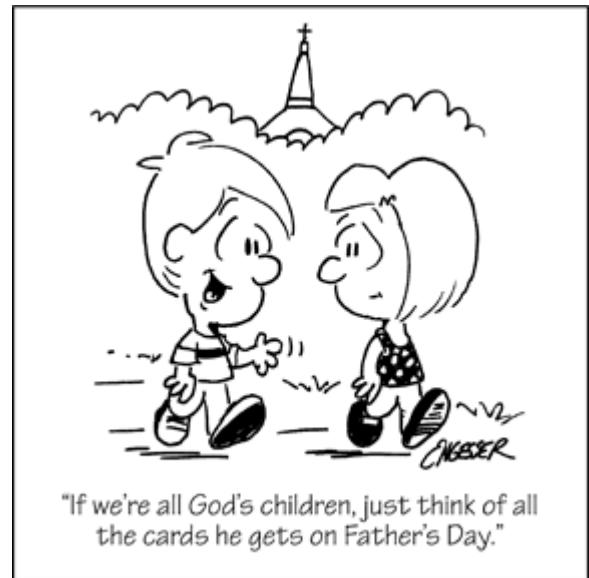
The June Fair-on-the-Green will be held Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 9:00am-2:00pm. Thank you to all who have stepped up to help! Here is the current list of organizers:

- Vendors – Lauren Bastien
- Baked Goods - Marge Whittemore
- Entertainment (Wolf Talk, Live Music, etc.)- Victor Gartner
- Karaoke – Dedee Williams
- Wind Chimes – David Smith
- 50/50 Raffle – Mission Council
- Luncheon – Deacons
- Crafts – Sandy Stevens
- Take a Chance Raffle – Lauren Bastien

We still NEED people to organize any/all of the following:

- Advertising*
- Games/ Kids' Activities*
- Face Painting*
- Strawberry Shortcake*
- Plants*
- Contests (Baby, pie eating, pie baking, coloring)*
- Cotton Candy/Popcorn/Sno-Cones*

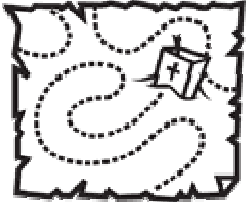
If you can help, please contact Lauren Bastien at 630-3433 or laurenbastien@msn.com. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall.



Calling all Crafters and Vendors! We need you for the June Fair! If you have a product to sell, or know someone who does, please contact Lauren Bastien for a vendor form (978-630-3433 or laurenbastien@msn.com).



**Bible Study
with
Pastor Frank
on
Wednesdays at 7pm**



**LOOKING for A
Bible Study?**

GARDENERS!!



Come young and old.



Garden installation party on Saturday May 28th at 9am.

The deacons are starting a church garden with an eye to growing healthy vegetables for our community and promoting healthy bodies and spirits in the process. Can you help?

Having a productive garden takes sustained attention and a willingness to get engaged with the soil. Donations of used garden hose, soil, compost and plant seedlings are welcomed with a particular desire for tomatoes, onions, peppers and basil.

Flowers are nice too! A garden journal will be established to track progress and harvest parties will be planned for the fall. Don't miss your chance to share in God's bounty. If you have donations or questions please contact Cynthia Henshaw at c.henshaw@comcast.net or 978-939-2473 or Karen and Dan Lenthall at lenthall15@msn.com or 978-632-6995.

YOGA FROM THE HEART

Naida Johnson R.Y.T.



I recently attended a week long yoga training at Kripalu in Western Massachusetts.

The focus of the training was on proper alignment and muscle strengthening to provide SAFE yoga (skeletal alignment for everyone). I look forward to passing along the knowledge I gained to all who come to my yoga classes.

For the next five weeks, yoga will be moving to **Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 p.m.** Classes will end for the summer on June 22 and start back up in the fall. In the fall, I would like to offer more yoga classes but **need feedback from any person interested in coming so I can set up times that work for people.**

The cost is \$8.00-\$10.00 a class with half of the money going to the church Please contact me at 978-630-1182 or 978-870-0326 if you have any questions or have an interest in future classes.



JUNE

June 1	Sean Rosati
June 5	Kiff Crandall
June 7	James Gale
June 9	Linda Hofhaug
June 11	Kerry Bettez
June 12	Megan Haley
June 12	Keira Kickey
June 13	Brian DeReda
June 13	Cherie Haley
June 14	Carissa Manca
June 17	Gavin Berg
June 17	Alyssa Logan
June 18	Emily Thompson
June 20	Melissa King
June 20	Bradley Logan

June 23	Zachery Orr
June 28	Nancy Dell

June 30	David Gale
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JULY

July 2	Anita Ray
July 5	Kenneth Crafts
July 6	Dianne Lozeau
July 6	Gabriella Hanshaw
July 7	Robert Brown
July 7	Martha Trepanier
July 8	Justina Ruston
July 9	Waite Crandall III
July 9	Nicholas Halfrey
July 10	Evelyn Anderson

July 12	Jamison Fougere
July 12	Samuel Phelps
July 12	Jenny Nardone

July 14	John Whitemore
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July 16	Amy Parker
July 18	Reese Taylor
July 19	Michael Smith
July 20	Susan Crandall
July 20	Thomas Moretti
July 22	Richard Barrell
July 23	Matthew Rader

July 27	Brandon Mills
July 28	Isaac Brooks
July 30	Chelsea Kelley

July 31	Alwyn Martin
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AUGUST

August 1	Lauren Bastien
August 1	Thomas Kelley
August 1	Timothy Macomber
August 3	Abigail Saner
August 4	Dorothy Leblanc
August 9	Robert Sprague
August 11	Ruth Crafts
August 11	Sandra Orwig
August 16	Mara Paul
August 20	Doris Morrissey
August 21	Eric Mansfield
August 22	Shayne Paul
August 22	Mykala Beauregard
August 24	Julie Stevens
August 24	Ernest Bettez
August 26	Andrew Ruston
August 29	Gwen Phelps
August 29	Sean Bastien
August 29	Thomas Salem
August 30	Carol Rader (Sue)
August 31	Philip Baczewski

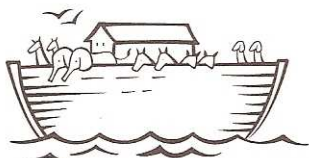
Our Vision:
An Active, Welcoming and
Growing Community of Faith



NURSERY WORKERS

June 5 th	Amy Parker
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June 12th Sherri Mills
 June 19th Denise Smith
 June 26th Lauren Bastien



Nursery volunteers needed

Please contact Sherri Mills at
 978-632-8040 or

SherriMills13@yahoo.com

if you'd like to help out in the nursery.

- ❖ All the families and members of the armed forces.
- ❖ Prayers of celebration that Michele Smith's Mother, Barb, completed treatment last week, and is doing well!
- ❖ Continued healing prayers for John Whittemore.
- ❖ Thankful prayers for Sue Rader and Kim Villeneuve for their love and dedication to our children as they participated in Communion Class.
- ❖ Prayers for youth and children everywhere.
- ❖ Prayers for teachers among us.
- ❖ Prayers for Marion Jacosen, who is in need of healing.
- ❖ Please pray for baby Riley who is in Boston Children's Hospital with seizures of unknown cause.
- ❖ Prayers for Emily and Jason.
- ❖ Healing prayers for all who are in the hospital.

From the Pastor



"Please call the church office (978-632-2142) if you would like to meet with Pastor Frank or have any pastoral needs. If there is any way the church or pastor can be of help, just let us know. We are always available to minister to you in Jesus' Name."



God Hears and Answers Prayers



God Hears and Answers Prayers



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing, Comfort, and Peace for:



FLOWER COMMITTEE NEWS

- ◆ In honor of
- ◆ In celebration of
- ◆ In loving memory of

Fresh flowers in the Parish Hall are a welcome addition to our Sunday service this winter. You have the choice of taking them home with you or having the Deacons deliver them to the “joys and concerns” of church members. Flowers can be ordered for \$30.

**Call the Flower Committee,
we'll do the rest!
Sue Menard at 978-632-5586**



June

- 06/01 Yoga @ 10:00am
- Bible Study with Pastor Frank @ 7pm in the Parlor
- Al-anon @ 7pm
- 06/02 CAC Meal 4:30pm
- Choir @ 7pm



- 06/05 Worship Service @ 10:30am
- Graduation Sunday

- 06/07 CE Meeting and VBS Decorating @ 7pm



- 06/08 Yoga @ 10:00am
- Bible Study with Pastor Frank @ 7pm in the Parlor
- Al-anon @ 7pm

- 06/09 Last CAC Meal for the summer 4:30pm
- Trustees @ 7pm
- Choir @ 7pm



- 06/12 Worship Service @ 10:30am
- New Member Sunday



- 06/15 Yoga @ 10:00am
- Bible Study with Pastor Frank @ 7pm in the Parlor
- Al-anon @ 7pm
- 06/16 No CAC Meal
- Choir @ 7pm

06/18 June Fair on the Green – please see article on page 5 for more information



- 06/19 Worship Service @ 10:30am
- Father's Day

- 06/21 Council @ 7pm
- 06/22 Last Yoga for the summer @ 10:00am
- Bible Study with Pastor Frank @ 7pm in the Parlor
- Al-anon @ 7pm

- 06/26 Worship Service @ 9:30am
- Summer Worship Hours Begin Today



- 06/29 Bible Study with Pastor Frank @ 7pm in Parlor
- Al-anon @ 7pm

July

- 07/05 Worship Service @ 9:30am

- 07/06 Bible Study with Pastor Frank @ 7pm in the Parlor
- Al-anon @ 7pm

07/10 **Worship Service @ 9:30am**
07/13 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in the Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**

07/17 **Worship Service @ 9:30am**
07/20 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in the Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**



07/22 to 07/24
Camping Lake Dennison –
Please call the Church if you are
staying over at 978-632-2142

07/24 **Worship Service @ 9:30am**
07/27 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**

07/24 **Worship Service @ 9:30am**

August



08/01 – 08/05 “**Pandamania**”
Vacation Bible School ,Where God
is wild about you” 9am-12noon.
On the Thursday the 4th Tom
Ricardi will be coming to share his
Birds of Prey with us from 12-1:30pm

08/07 **Family Worship Service @ 9:30am**

08/10 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in the Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**



08/14 **At the Cathedral in the**
Pines @ 10am no service here –
more info to come in
announcements as the date nears.

08/17 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in the Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**

08/17 **Worship Service @ 9:30am**
08/20 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in the Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**

08/21 **Worship Service @ 9:30am**

08/23 **For the SEPTEMBER TOWER TIMES**
is August 23rd. Please
submit via email to
office@fccgardner.org
Thank You!

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

08/24 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**

08/28 **Worship Service @ 9:30am**
08/31 **Bible Study with Pastor Frank**
@ 7pm in Parlor
● **Al-anon @ 7pm**



If you are interested in be an Acolyte
and you are in 3rd grade or above
please see a Deacon. Thanks!

