

The Spire

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN WINCHESTER, UCC
An Open and Affirming Congregation

JUNE 2016
VOLUME 63, NUMBER 6



God Doesn't Take the Summer Off... And Neither Does the Church!

Summer Worship at 10 AM in the Sanctuary

This summer, worship will be held at 10 AM in the main sanctuary. We will create a more intimate worship space by leading and preaching from the main floor, using piano, guitars and other instrumentation, and tastefully involving the TV monitors as well. Our simple fellowship time will be held in the back of the sanctuary for accessibility sake.

Keep an eye out for wonderful guest preachers and musicians (your own fellow community members) and a few special treats like post-service sundaes, mimosas, and a volleyball game on the town common.

Interested in helping out with preaching or music? Please see the article on page 4.



Welcoming All with Joy!

Join us for Town Day on June 4

Welcoming all with joy is what Town Day is all about at FCCW! Just like last year, we'll offer free cold drinks, access to our restrooms, and a shady spot to picnic. There are some new ideas too: tours of the sanctuary and Reno Garden, children's games, and a sing-along of camp songs. We'll go ahead with these new ideas if you have the energy and enthusiasm to sign up. Will you give one hour to help our neighbors get to know us a little? Most tasks only require a small effort to combine for a fun, easy event.

Can't be here June 4? No problem. There are several crucial preparation tasks that should be accomplished in advance. Sign up online at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949a8a729a1f58-rest>

Many hands make light work. Thank you!



Summer Tuesdays with Jesus

June 21-August 30 @6PM

On Tuesday nights over the summer you are invited to gather with Rev. Will and Rev. Jena for an hour of Centering Prayer and communion together from 6-7 PM in Rev. Will's office. We'll begin on **Tuesday night, June 21st** and pray together each week until August 30th. Come whenever you can!

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH IN WINCHESTER, UCC**

An Open and Affirming Congregation

www.fcc-winchester.org

Church Phone Number: 781-729-9180

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The Congregation, Ministers to the World

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Moderator—**Penny Sparrow**

Treasurer—**Bruce Lauterwasser**

Assistant Treasurer—**Keith Russell**

Church Auditors—**Bruce Alexander,**

Becca Beltz, Ted Lamson

Clerk—**Anne Hoenicke**

Librarian—**Leslie French**

Historian—**Bill McCarter**

Delegates to MBA—**Bill McCarter,**

Laurie Roby, Jena Roy

Spire Editor—**Nancy Kneiss**

Our purpose is to be a Christ-centered, nurturing community, growing in faith, serving in love, welcoming all with joy.

The Spire is Going Digital!

Hopefully by this time, this isn't news, but *The Spire* will be migrating into a digital newsletter sometime this spring (really!). A digital newsletter will increase online engagement, deliver news faster and more efficiently, and reduce our resources and production costs. Its a win-win!

But in order to make it work, we need your help to make sure you're included in our distribution list. **If you currently receive emails about the Spire being published and/or weekly news emails from the church, you're all set.**

If you don't receive weekly news emails from the church, please let me know at newsletter@fcc-winchester.org, or contact Sarah Marino at first.congregational@verizon.net or by phone at 781-729-9180 so that we can include you. We don't want you to miss out on all the fun!

For those without online access, **we will produce and mail a limited number of printouts.** If you or someone you would know would benefit from that, please let me know.

Do you have something you'd like to include in next month's *Spire*? Please send your submissions to newsletter@fcc-winchester.org by the 15th of each month. For example, to include an article in the July/August issue, please submit by **June 15th**. Please note that submissions may be gently edited for length and clarity.

Bulletin and email blast requests should be sent to Sarah Marino, our Office Manager, at first.congregational@verizon.net by **Thursday at 9:00 AM.**

—NANCY KNEISS, EDITOR



Spirit-Filled Opportunities

Dear Friends,

I know you'll be reading this in June and beginning to anticipate summer plans. We have exciting plans, too, that cause me to daydream a bit. This will be the first trip abroad we'll have with Autumn. As we've planned things, I can hardly wait for her reaction to geysers in Iceland and mountains in Switzerland. I don't know what it will be, but I can guarantee you that sometimes it will be what we've hoped for and other times not so much. I'm sure she will barely glance at what I've deemed spectacular and linger over other things that to me seem pointless.

Some of these reactions will be directly related to her being a teenager, others will just be the natural differences between people. It's hard to negotiate an itinerary with just three people. How do we manage it with a congregation full of people? The Serving in Love survey that people filled out at the Annual Meeting will help in designing the church's itinerary for the coming year. The responses were imaginative, faithful and representative of our commitment to service. Members of the Leadership Team are working on making them into a manageable document to share with you.

It will be exciting to find ways to put all that love and energy into practice. Like with my little family of 3, the congregation will respond with varying degrees of enthusiasm. Some will relish swinging a hammer for Habitat, some will feed others from behind the scenes with sandwiches for

Outdoor Church, others will find Christ before them as they share meals on the streets of Cambridge. Wherever the energy goes, the Holy Spirit will be among us. However we choose to serve, it is the same God we are serving.

I think the same is true of our Music and Worship Arts Project combining the Organ renovation and a Ripley Chapel reconfiguration. Some have asked to have the two separated but it feels like the Holy Spirit is calling us to these two worship related projects together as it calls us to service. For many people, the organ is the heart and soul of our Sunday morning worship. It is majestic and powerful. For others, though, a different kind of worship—one with movement and natural light—may feed their soul. Still others find the Holy Spirit in community, this community. The possibility that we could worship in a circle, facing one another, feels like a gift. Worship can take many forms, but wherever people gather to praise God—in whatever form—the Holy Spirit is there.

So, it might be early to start thinking about the Fall. I'm still day dreaming about summer. But anticipating these spirit filled opportunities—service and worship—will make it a little easier to leave the Alps behind and to return to our shared ministry with joy.

Peace,

—REV. JUDY, FOR THE MINISTRY TEAM

Holy Ground Project

**"Remove the sandals
from your feet,
for the place on which
you are standing
is holy ground."**

Exodus 3:5, NRSV



Will you be standing on holy ground at some point this summer?

- A favorite beach that you have visited since you were a child,
- A spot deep in the forest on a favorite hike,
- An ancient sacred site like Jerusalem or Stonehenge,
- Your backyard or the church's front yard?

We invite you this summer to take a picture of your feet (and your family's feet) standing on holy ground, wherever that is for you. Then send the picture with your name and the location to the church office at fccwinchester@gmail.com. As we gather back together for the fall, we'll share a slideshow of our feet on holy ground all across this sacred earth.

Summer Preachers Sought

A highlight of our summer worship tradition is the preaching. Members of our congregation share faith experiences and their interpretation of scripture with us. This makes worship an opportunity for church members to get to know each other better and to deepen our faith by hearing about the struggles and triumphs of those who share the pews throughout the rest of the year. These preaching spots are open to anyone in the congregation. Without exception, these sermons have been received with appreciation and encouragement. Perhaps you have a message to share. If you do, call or talk with Judy and we'll find a date that works

Summer Preachers



Call for Summer Musicians

It is time to think of summer at First Congregational Church—rich, unique summer services led by the talents and contributions of the lay congregational community. I am looking for volunteer summer musicians! Summer services are held each Sunday at 10:00 AM. If you would like to contact me directly, I would be happy to add your name to the list of summer musicians for 2016. Otherwise, the traditional sign-up sheet will be available outside the Music Room. Thank you in advance for sharing your time and talents. Keyboards, guitars, vocalists, any instruments will do! Please, please sign up if you are interested in providing music for the services, July 3–September 4. There are 10 Sundays available: 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31, 8/7, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28, 9/4.

My friend and colleague, Todd Gordon, Music Director of Second Con-

gregational Church and keyboardist extraordinaire, will be available to support the services this summer. Todd will gladly accompany a solo, fill in where/when necessary and in



general, support any of the volunteer musicians who would like to participate. Have you ever wanted to offer a solo or a small amount of music, but

have been overwhelmed by the task of providing all of the music for the service? Todd will give you a chance—you do not even need to rehearse in advance of Sunday morning. He is a *superb* sight reader and will cheerfully help you on your chosen Sunday morning. I understand that a few of you might not need Todd's services - please mark on the sign-up sheet if this is the case (or let me know). Todd is happy to do as much or as little as needed!

Get ready, you will probably hear from me in person as well!

If you have any suggestions or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jringfrank@comcast.net. Thanks!!

—JANE RING FRANK, MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP ARTS

I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June.

—L.M. MONTGOMERY



Summer Office Hours

Summer office hours begin **June 27th**. The office will be open Mondays-Thursdays from 8AM-1PM, and closed on Fridays.

PERSONNEL

Ministry Team Vacation Schedule

Rev. Will Burhans	June 30-July 14
Rev. Judy Arnold	July 16-August 1
Ben Pulaski	June 20th-25th and July 16th-24th Pilgrimage: Jun 26th-Jul 2nd The Philadelphia Project: Jul 31st-Aug. 6th
Jane Ring Frank	July and August
Kathleen Zagata	July and August Summer Contact: arrangements made via church office; Return date: Tuesday, September 6th
Sarah Marino	July 9th-16th and August 13th-20th

TREASURER

Greetings from the Treasurer

I want to touch on three items this month. First, we have hired a new bookkeeper to fill an expanded role (approximately 8 hours per week) in an effort to relieve Sarah, our office manager, of some financial tasks that she had been covering. Clarinda Massengill, our new bookkeeper, lives in Billerica and provides contract bookkeeping services for several small businesses, including a church in Boston. So she has knowledge of, and experience with, the peculiar financial issues connected with running a church. She can generally be found in the treasurer's office on Tuesdays, preparing checks for the treasurer's signature, reconciling monthly bank, payroll, and credit card statements, and entering all of our financial transactions into the church's database. If

you happen by the church on a Tuesday, introduce yourself and welcome Clarinda aboard.

Speaking of the church's financial database, we have moved our host software from a local desktop computer to the web, which provides both remote access for users of the database and automated, secure and regular back-ups to the cloud. Later this year the Leadership Team will be evaluating our overall information technology (IT) infrastructure and developing a plan to keep us current with evolving technology.

Finally, a quick word about pledges. To date our members have collectively done a great job keeping up (and even slightly ahead) of planned pledge giving, thereby alleviating some of my earlier concerns about cash flow.



However, the summer months are just around the corner, so I'm making a special appeal to everybody to think about getting your pledge contributions for the summer into the collection plate before you head off on vacation. And don't forget to consider automated giving using electronic funds transfer from your financial institution. For more info on electronic giving, contact the church office.

—BRUCE LAUTERWASSER, TREASURER

Seeking a New Clerk Recording Secretary



Starting this September, a new clerk recording secretary is needed. Do you like watching and listening to the deliberations, debate and witty banter of a good discussion? Participating in and having a front row seat as a decision making

process unfolds? (Think Nina Totenberg as she gives the 'play by play' recap of the Supreme Court deliberations. Well, maybe not quite that exciting, but you get the idea!)

Do you also want to participate in the prayerful process of discernment? More than the decision making described above, the Leadership Team and our Annual and Special Congregational meetings are gatherings of a Christian body that discern paths to follow.

Is having a leadership voice interesting to you? Do you like to affirm good ideas, ask good questions, listen carefully, and speak, perhaps fearlessly when necessary?

Do you believe that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, that capturing the rich dialog of discussion of multiple viewpoints can improve a result, enrich a solution, produce a better decision, and aid the discernment process?

Do you like the idea of contributing to the institutional memory of this congregation? We stand on the shoulders of all of the saints before us and guide those who come next by being good stewards of our current story.

Do you like taking notes, preparing minutes, assembling supporting documents and helping to plan the agenda of the LT and Annual/Special Congregational meetings? Or least, like that doing so helps the church and is a helpful way to contribute to it?

Well, have we got a volunteer opportunity for you. **You'd be great as the next Clerk-Recording Secretary of the church.** Please contact Lead Pastor Will Burhans or Moderator Penny Sparrow if you'd like to find out more.

Being Mortal Discussion Well-Attended and Meaningful

In April, the Adult Faith Exploration Ministry sponsored an 11th Hour discussion of the book and DVD *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande. "A deeply affecting, urgently important book—one not just about dying and the limits of medicine but about living to the last with autonomy, dignity, and joy." (Katherine Boo, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist.) Gawande is a surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, a staff writer for *The New Yorker*, author of several books and a professor at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health.

This program was part of a larger effort at church to bring about a greater comfort level in talking about death and dying. Through Health Ministry 11th Hours conversations about hospice and palliative care, conversations about placement of ashes in the Reno Garden, and this book discussion, we are beginning to explore meaning, faith and values in our lives.

For those who couldn't join the April session, here's what we learned:

- Discussing death and how we prepare for it doesn't come naturally to most of us.
- Both patients and doctors have difficulty talking about death and dying. Much of the book is about the medical profession and the need to better equip doctors to be able to discuss diminishing abilities and the dying process with their patients.
- Elisabeth Kübler-Ross' cycle of grief—denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance—wasn't emphasized in the book and DVD, especially the need to come to acceptance of death and then live the fullest, best quality of life one can have even in the midst of that acceptance.
- Without honest conversations among patients, family members and doctors, opportunities for 'living to the last with autonomy, dignity and joy' can be missed. Naming and discussing hopes, fears and dreams are

vitaly important. Dignity is a very personal thing and varies widely by individual.

- Quality of life can include music, skyping with relatives, scripture, reconciling relationships, ice cream!
- There is a program, “The Conversations Project” (<http://theconversationproject.org>), that focuses on bringing conversations about wishes for end-of-life care to gatherings at the dinner table—not the intensive care unit—with the people we love, before it’s too late.

Atul Gawande’s suggested questions for patients, families and doctors to discuss:

- What are your fears and worries about dying?
- What are your priorities if time is short?
- What are you willing to sacrifice and what are you not willing to sacrifice?
- What are your wishes for after your death?

We were grateful for the level of trust and honesty in the room at this session, for the willingness of participants to share experiences, hopes and fears. Those who felt comfortable sharing did. Those who didn’t want to share personal experiences didn’t have to. It was a time of listening, learning, sharing, and communing. It was one step on the path of making conversations about death less socially, and personally, uncomfortable.



Passages

Births

Aaliyah Olivier, daughter of Tatiana Loughlin and Tyler Olivier was born on February 9.



Baptisms

Benjamin Shannon, son of Marissa Whitten and Timothy Shannon, was baptized January 10.

Anara Kolb, daughter of Julianne and John Kolb, was baptized on January 10.

Melina DeSousa, daughter of Laura and Stephen DeSousa was baptized April 3.



Marriages

Michelle Caruso and Brian Lynch were married on March 5.

New Members

Joined on May 15

Rev. Will Burhans

Leigh and Jon Carlisle

Liz and Andy Copeland

Michelle and Rich Crawford

Betsy and Rev. Jonathan Goodell

Maggie and Ben Keeler

Patricia Brady-Kuchma and Dan Kuchma

Rev. Jessica McArdle

Ben Pulaski



In Memoriam

Christopher Righter died on January 27.

Ralph Stone died on January 31.

Suzanne Moore (Tourtelott)

Shelton died on February 17.

Marilyn White died on March 8.

Elaine Valende died on April 26.

John Sawyer died on May 19.

Celebrating Five Years of the Reno Garden

Honoring Contributors

Suzie and Jack Reno

Ann Marie Anderson

Jamie Chatfield

Judy Collier

Tom Dunn

FCCW Poduska Fund

FCCW Ruth Group

FCCW Youth Groups

Joan and William Ford

Anmarie and Jon Galli

Martha George

Shannon Gilmour

Dana and Steve Haggett

Janet Hall

George Hebb

Debbie Johnston

Karen and Bruce

Lauterwasser

Susan and David Leathers

Lisa Loughlin and Tamara Murray

Terry and David Marotta



Maryann McCall-Taylor and Doug Taylor

Kris and John Montgomery

Jean and David Mortensen

Cindy Mutterperl

Kaye and David Nash

Elinor Neville

Dan O'Grady

The Page Family

Gail and David Peretti

Wendy and Roy Procops

Paul Rahmeier

Mike Redding

Sybil and Buck Richardson

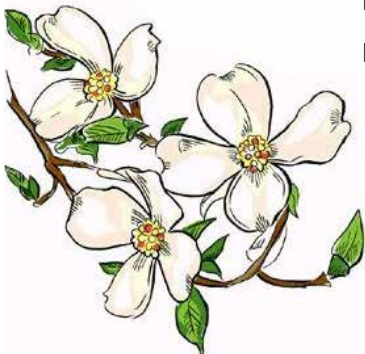
Jena Roy

Liz and Dick Sayre

Helen Syrjanen

Lucy Willoughby

Kathleen Zagata



An Afternoon of Fellowship,
Song and Refreshment

Wednesday, June 1st at 2 PM

Hosted by the Health Ministry
for our church seniors, their families and friends.

We will gather in the Palmer Room,
where The Sounds of Grace will perform.

If the weather cooperates, we plan to conclude
with a visit to the Reno Garden.

RSVP: 781-729-9180 ext. 16

Rides are available on request.



I believe in Christianity
as I believe that the sun
has risen: not only because
I see it, but because by it
I see everything else."

—C.S. LEWIS

Ruth Group

The June meeting of the Ruth Group will be held **June 26th** in the Tucker Room at church right after the worship service. This is our annual planning meeting where we discuss 20-30 book recommendations put forth by our members and choose nine for the September 2016-June 2017 year. All women of the church who are book lovers are invited to join us. We will share a potluck brunch. For additional information, contact Joyce Mills 617-835-4692 or joycemills1966@hotmail.com.

New Forum Room?

This Spring, the youth have decided it is time to make over the Forum Room. We have loved and used all of the donated furniture (which we will be giving away or throwing out depending on the state of it.) Thank you for all who have donated it all. We will be getting new furniture, a new paint job, and other things to make it ours. Be sure to stop in the room this coming September to check it out. Keep your eyes peeled for the weekly emails to any updates or plans we have.

Men's Group

The monthly Men's Group will meet on **Sunday June 5th**, from 7:30-9 PM in the Palmer Room. All FCC men and their guests are welcome. We discuss matters that are personal and spiritual. This month's topic will be on Friendship—how it starts, where it takes us, and why it ends. Pot-luck beverages or snacks are welcome but not expected. Questions? Contact Chris Noble at chris.noble@yahoo.com.



SAVE THE DATES

- 6/5 Last Day of Rite 13 and J2A classes
- 6/12 Stepping Stones Sunday
- 6/12 All town Youth Worship (TBD)

Spread the Open and Affirming Word

On Saturday, June 11, the Massachusetts Conference of the UCC will be one of the communities of faith that will be marching (or more like strolling) in the Boston Pride Parade. Our group is a lively and popular part of the parade—with our rhythm band, welcoming chants and a big crowd of marchers. It is a wonderful feeling to proclaim God's love for all people, publicly and with pride. Members of the Ministry team are planning to go and welcome any and all to come along. The march is from 12 PM to 3 PM. There is a worship service preceding the march at Old South Church, which is usually held at 10:00 AM. Details to follow. Want to come? Let Judy know even if you think you will travel on your own, so we can meet up before it begins. Please contact Judy at 781-820-2410 or jarnoldfccw@verizon.net



SAVE THE DATE

**Boston Pride
Parade**

Saturday, June 11



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.

MATTHEW 22:39

Wondering About Wonder

“Concepts create idols. Only wonder comprehends anything.” These words attributed to Gregory of Nyssa, who lived in the 4th Century, may help us navigate our own spiritual paths in these uncertain, complex, ambiguous, and sometimes volatile times. June offers me opportunities for wonder if I take the time to be in the glorious “growing season” of New England, when all of nature seems to ask me to stop my fretting and practice “considering the wondrous works of God.”

Sitting on a bench in our beautiful Reno Garden while pondering the beauty of Wedge Pond behind our church, wandering through the amazing Fells just up the street, listening to the little waterfall in the Aberjona in Winchester Center: all these are only physically steps away from me. Yet often I let my too-full agenda and constant daily routines keep me distracted and far away from these small wonders that surely are invitations from God to “taste and see that the Lord is good.”

What precedes heartfelt faith is reverence and awe. We can domesticate God. Our routines and rituals can limit even God to “more of the same”: more of the same sense of our unexamined selves and communities, more of the same of almost anything can inure us for good or ill to things, actions, ways of being in our lives.

But God invites us out of our unconsciousness into the new consciousness of wonder, love, and praise. There is a passage in Exodus (33:7-11) that says: “And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp.” This meant that people needed to go outside of their ordinary, daily rituals at times in order to meet God. Can we let June and the invitations of summer lead us “outside our camp” of our old ideas and expectations and learn to love, not disregard or fear, what lies beyond our control? God’s love is beyond anything we can get used to. God’s love is not



in our control, our earning, even our deserving. It is amazing, wondrous, full of reverence and awe! It is God who makes of our own lives, with all of their chasms and precipices, Grand Canyons of grace and beauty. Are you willing to “hike the Grand Canyon” of your own fully lived experience this June, even here in Winchester or wherever you find yourself?

God invites us
out of our
unconsciousness
into the new
consciousness of
wonder, love,
and praise.

I must admit to enjoy the ways my routines help me “float” through the day. But I also know that sometimes the “white-water rafting” that God is placing before me asks me to be more conscious, more loving, more courageous, more generous than I had planned. To be invited to practice “wonder and adoration” of life itself, all of its mountains and valleys, its vast oceans and small streams is a spiritual discipline that June always reminds me to practice. And the more I can practice it, the more I may be able to build the courage to enter these unknown places beyond my control

in which I can trust God to be in control and show me a whole new way of being. A way hinted at by my friend in hospice as he took his last breath and exclaimed, “There’s wonder in this, too!” God help us live in wonder, love, and praise. Amen.

—REV DR. KEN ORTH, PASTORAL COUNSELING AND SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AFFILIATE.

Meet Our New Members

On Sunday, May 15, we welcomed fifteen new members to our church! We thought you might enjoy getting to know them a bit. We asked a few basic questions and here are their responses.

Rev. Will Burhans

Rev. Will was raised in Richmond, VA and is married to Tracy Vartenigian Burhans. They live in Winchester. They have three daughters—Haliana (19), Naomi (17), and Augusta Claire (14). When he is not ministering to us all, he likes to snowboard, swim, read theology, play guitar, sing, and listen to music!

Jon and Leigh Carlisle

Jon is from Bangor, Maine, and Leigh grew up in Duxbury, Massachusetts. They live in Winchester with their two children. Grace is 11 years old and George is 8 years old. In their free time, they love to spend time together as a family. Jon also likes to ski and play golf, while Leigh likes to run and read.

Andy and Liz Copeland

Andy and Liz live in Winchester with their two sweet and energetic kids; Scarlett is 5 and Kevin is 2. Liz grew up in Newton and Andy grew up in Alabama. In their free time, they love spending time with our kids, friends, and family.

Michelle and Rich Crawford

Michelle and Rich live in Winchester with their three children: Rosie (16), Ceci (14), and Anton (11). Rich is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, and Michelle was raised in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, and Memphis, Tennessee.

Michelle likes to play cards and board games with family and friends, walk in the Fells with their sweet dog, Marley, and read in her spare time. Rich likes to spend his free time beating Michelle in cards and board games and coaching Anton's baseball team.

Betsy and Jonathan Goodell

We welcome Betsy this Sunday, and Jonathan will be joining as well. Jonathan was born in Afghanistan and raised there, Scotland, and in Connecticut. Betsy was born and raised in Michigan. They have lived in Winchester since 1992.



The Goodells have three children. Sarah is 27 and became engaged two weeks ago—she lives in Wisconsin and will be moving to NYC. Brian is 25 works at John Hancock but will be working on a farm in Montana this summer while he studies for the LSAT. David is 19 and finishing his sophomore year at Carleton College.

Jonathan is a UCC minister currently serving as an interim in Scituate. Betsy works at Year Up which helps urban young adults move from poverty to a corporate career in one year. In their spare time, they like to travel, have parties, explore, hike, and do anything fun!

Benjamin and Maggie Keeler

Ben was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and grew up in Brookline and Cambridge. Maggie was born and raised in a small town in North Carolina called Bostic. They have lived in the Boston area since they graduated from college, but just moved to Winchester last year. They have two children; Georgia (9) and Nathan (7) who both attend Lincoln Elementary School.

When Maggie is not busy working or chauffeuring the kids around, she enjoys curling up with a good book, trying a new recipe, doing science experiments with the kids, and working on her green thumb in the garden. In his free time, Benjamin enjoys playing, watching and coaching sports, traveling with his family and taking walks with their dog, Lucy.

Dan Kuchma and Patricia Brady

Dan is from Toronto, Canada. Patricia is from Chicago. They lived in Illinois for most of their marriage and now live in Winchester. They have 3 children: Ben (7th grade), Mark (5th grade), and Alex (1st grade). They enjoy camping, hiking, and outdoor recreation in general.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Jessica McArdle

Jessica was raised in Southern California, specifically Anaheim which is home to Disneyland. Some years back she and Barry moved to Winchester. Jessica is also a UCC minister.

The McArdles have three grown children: Kevin (age 30), Jenny (age 28) and Brian (age 26). They also have a daughter-in-law, Yosra, who is married to Kevin and a son-in-law, Iskander, who married their daughter, Jenny, the same year. Their son, Brian, has a long-time girlfriend, Mary, whom they also consider as family.

In her free time, Jessica enjoys playing the guitar, writing, reading, hiking and hanging out with Barry—be it in their garden or listening to live music. Visiting with their grown children also is a real highlight.

Ben Pulaski

Ben was born and raised in Harrisburg, PA, and currently resides here in Winchester where he has been for 3 years. He and his wife Kerri have a 4-year-old black cat named Molly and they are part time puppy owners of a 6-year-old Havanese dog named Jackson. When he is not ministering to our youth, Ben enjoys reading current event news, figuring out how to use the newest, coolest gadgets, playing guitar, cooking, winning at board games and just relaxing.

June 2016

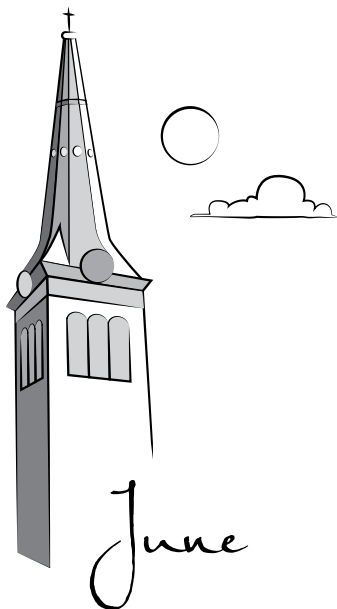
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Flower Committee Project 11:30 AM Outdoor Church 4:00 PM Girl Scouts	30 Memorial Day Office Closed 7:00 PM Carilloneers	31 7:30 PM Boy Scouts	1 8:30 AM Men's Coffee & Conversation 10:00 AM FAN Toddler Playgroup 10:00 AM Ministry Team Meeting 2:00 PM Time of Fellowship & Tea 5:30 PM Deacons Dinner	2 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	3	4 Winchester Town Day
5 10:00 AM J2A Class - 9th & 10th Grades 10:00 AM Rite 13 Classes - 7th & 8th Grades 10:00 AM Worship: Communion 10:15 AM Stepping Stones (Church School) 11:30 AM Flower Committee Luncheon 4:00 PM Girl Scouts 4:00 PM Sounds of Grace 7:30 PM FORUM (High School) 7:30 PM Men's Group	6 6:00 PM Adult Faith Formation Ministry	7 7:30 PM Boy Scouts	8 8:30 AM Men's Coffee & Conversation 10:00 AM FAN Toddler Playgroup 10:00 AM Ministry Team Meeting 6:30 PM Health Ministry 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM Facilities Ministry 7:30 PM Personnel Ministry	9 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10	11 10:00 AM FAN Weekend Playgroup 12:00 PM Boston Pride Parade
12 10:00 AM Worship: Stepping Stones Sunday 11:30 AM Leadership Team Meeting 4:00 PM Girl Scouts 4:00 PM Sounds of Grace 7:30 PM FORUM (High School)	13	14 7:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM Mission & Outreach Ministry	15 SPIRE DEADLINE 8:30 AM Men's Coffee & Conversation 10:00 AM FAN Toddler Playgroup 10:00 AM Ministry Team Meeting 4:00 PM WSCC Graduation Party 7:30 PM Worship Committee	16 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	17	18 5:00 PM The Dwelling Place
19 Father's Day 10:00 AM Worship & Baptism 4:00 PM Girl Scouts	20 First Day of Summer	21 6:00 PM Tuesdays with Jesus 7:30 PM Boy Scouts	22 10:00 AM Ministry Team Meeting 7:30 PM Purpose Forum	23	24 Last Day at Winchester Public Schools	25
26  J2A Pilgrimage to New Mexico 9:15 AM Summer Bible Study 10:00 AM Summer Worship 11:00 AM Ruth Group - Planning Brunch	27  Summer Office Hours Begin Mon-Thur 8-1 Fridays Closed	28 6:00 PM Tuesdays with Jesus	29	30	1 Church Office Closed	2

The Spire

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We Need You!

Do you have an hour, an evening, or a weekend to give? Here are a few opportunities to serve your church and community.

Summer Preaching and Music

Share your story and lead us in worship during one of our summer services! Your talents and voice are very much needed and appreciated by our community. Please see page 4 for more information.

Town Day: June 4

Can you give one hour to help our neighbors get to know us a little? Most tasks only require a small effort to combine for a fun, easy event. See the cover article for more info.

Seeking a Clerk Recording Secretary

Starting this September, a new clerk recording secretary is needed. Can you help with this important officer role? Please see page 6 for more details.

Boston Pride Parade: June 11

Come join our UCC community as we spread the open and affirming word at the Boston Pride Parade. It is a wonderful feeling to proclaim God's love for all people, publicly and with pride. See page 9 for more details.

A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.

—ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

