

VOLUME LXXXI, No. 01

December 29, 2015



SUNDAY, January 3, 2016

Worship Service – 9:00 & 10:30 am

Sermon: Rev. Nick Toroni
Preaching on the Gospel of Luke
Chapter and Verse

Calendar for Sunday, January 3, 2016

9:00 am Worship Service in the Covell Chapel
10:00 am Prayer in the Chapel
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship
(Infant and toddler care provided)
10: 45 am (approx.) Church School
11:45 am Fellowship

Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the will be given in loving memory of loved ones by the D'Agostino family.

Greeters: Russ and Judy Fanjoy

Ushers: Linda D'Agostino (captain)

Joseph D'Agostino, Barbara Flynn, Stephen Gates, Dexter Wheeler

Coffee Hour Hosts: needed. Please contact Janet Hurren if you would like to host this Sunday.



SUNDAY, January 10, 2016

Worship Service – 9:00 & 10:30 am

Sermon: Rev. Nick Toroni
Preaching on the Gospel of Luke
Chapter and Verse

Calendar for Sunday, January 10, 2016

9:00 am Worship Service in the Covell Chapel
10:00 am Prayer in the Chapel
10:30 am Sanctuary Worship
10: 45 am (approx.) Church School
(Infant and toddler care provided)
11:45 am Fellowship
Noon: informational meeting will be held in the
Sanctuary by the Search Committee
for the Settled Pastor
All are encouraged to attend.

Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the right will be given in loving memory of Carolyn MacEachern by the Jones Family.

Greeters: Ruth Ross and Joanne Peavey

Ushers: Linda D'Agostino (captain)

Joseph D'Agostino, Barbara Flynn, Stephen Gates, Dexter Wheeler

Coffee Hour Hosts: Thursday AM Bible Study

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

Prayers for healing:

Stephen Donovan, Ed Foley, Gina Gebhard, Nancy Gould, Anne Hulse (Heather's Sister-in-law is facing cancer surgery on January 7), Elsie Laboy, John Oliphant, Richard Pratt, Dan and Nancy Rearick and Peter as he cares for them, Warren Reeves, Geraldine Russell (in hospice care), Jean Sabatula, Albert Simkins, Walter Smith, Teri (Qualters) Stanley, Steve Taylor, Michael Watt, Arthur Wessels, Janice Whitehead (facing hip surgery), Irene Whitehead (recently had a fall)

Please also pray for:

Roy Evans, Bud Thomas and
the Search Committee...

...our missionaries around the globe: Gordon & Ellyn Sturgeon, The Rideouts, The Mindlings,
and The Soderbergs

CHAPEL PRAYER

Prayer for our church needs will begin in the Chapel at 10 am every Sunday. Please join us.
Thank you, Lisa Carpenter

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

	Sanctuary	Total
December 20	194	194
December 24 @ 5p	257	257
December 24 @ 11p	105	105
December 27	102	102

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

December 20 + 27 Family Sundays



SNOWSTORMS

Regarding Worship Services

If there is a snowstorm on a Saturday, please call the church office. The outgoing message on the office telephone will be updated to inform callers of any cancellation. You may also check the website www.fpccwakefield.com. The 10:30 am service will usually be conducted. **If the 10:30 service must be canceled in the event of a severe storm, the cancellation will be announced on the WBZ Storm Center (TV Channel 4 in Boston).**

SETTLED PASTOR SEARCH UPDATE

The Settled Pastor Search Committee posted the call (job) of Senior Pastor on December 7th. This was done on Gordon Conwell's Ministry List web site. And we are also networking through the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. We have already received a few resumes!

The Committee will be holding an informational meeting on the search process. The meeting will take place after worship service on Sunday January 10, at approximately 12:00. Hope to see you there!

Please keep us and our church family in your prayers.

In His service,

Rod Illanes
Settled Pastor Search Committee Chairman
978-808-1994
rillanes@ymail.com

Thank You's To the Church Family,

On Sunday last I had flowers from the church altar delivered to me by Carol Callan. It was lovely to see her. We enjoyed a nice visit and I've been enjoying the beauty of the bouquet—thank you so much.

*In appreciation,
Alwyn Van Cor*

On behalf of the Wakefield Unit of the Salvation Army, I want to thank members of the First Parish Congregational Church for the generous monthly support donations of \$110, given to assist Wakefield's neediest. Many of your parishioners also gave donations in loving memory of Irene Schmidgall this summer, and we're so grateful to be able to carry on her work.

Sincerely,
Trudy Delroy

FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee wanted to give you an update on the various positions and committees that are still available. They are as follows: *Assistant Treasurer, *Assistant Treasurer of Trust Funds, *Auditor, *Diaconate, *Advisory Committee of Trust Funds, Antique Committee, *Board of Trustees, *Christian Education, *Council member at large, Fair Committee, Flower Committee, *Music Committee, *Outreach Committee, *Personnel Committee, Usher Committee, and Wood Tupper Scholarship Committee.

(*needs to be a church member)

We strive to elect qualified individuals to fill the vacancies and seek to involve new members, young adults and veteran church members. Please think about what you can do to SUPPORT your church. Please talk to us in church or contact any of the committee members by email:

Bonnie Mercurio bmer207@yahoo.com
Joanne Peavey jpeavey@gpinet.com
Linda D'Agostino joedagl@verizon.net



MEETING & LUNCHEON

Please keep the following dates in mind regarding our Annual Meeting and the Annual Report:

Sunday, January 17, 2016

Deadline for submission of reports
for the Annual Report

Tuesday, January 19, 7:00 pm

Church Council Meeting

Sunday, January 31

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Book Shelf News

In January we are featuring devotionals to start off the New Year closer to God.

See our shelf in the Vestry for these selections:

- Day Light by Samuel Bagster
- Perhaps Today: Living Each Day in the Light of Christ's Return by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins
- Bread for the Journey by Henri Nouwen

Please come check out our books! Just fill out the orange card! Happy Reading!



- 2 – Heather Livingston, Benjamin Parish
- 3 – Heather Hulse, Robert MacDonald
- 4 – John Applin
- 6 – Paula Maxwell
- 7 – Trefina Fox
- 8 – Joyce Langone
- 10 – Thomas Martin
- 11 – Herold Doherty, Joanne King
- 12 – John McKeown
- 15 – Thomas Callaghan, John Sarno
- 16 – Joanne Frey, Connie Mpontsikaris
- 17 – Amanda Fitzgerald
- 19 – Ethel Wallace
- 20 – Linda Byam
- 22 – Matthew Jackson, Anderson Illanes, Carol Callan
- 23 – Annemarie Rosa
- 24 – Janet Martin
- 26 – Benjamin Bossi
- 27 – Madison Albushies, Sofia Bacci
- 28 – Amber Hansen, Ryan Pollock, Marilyn Trubiano, David Whitehead
- 29 – Brynne Curley



Calling all those that helped construct the crèche: you are needed on Saturday, January 9th at 9 am to disassemble the crèche. Thank you, Steve Gates

Dear First Parish Church Family,

We are about to enter a brand new year. It is also a new year of giving. We trust as we go forward, we are moving with a *renewed* sense of giving into 2016. God is good. God is *so* good. His presence is undeniable. Love always surrounds us. *He* is with us always each and every step of the way. One of my favorite promises is that He promises to never leave us. (*Joshua 1:5*)

I am grateful to be given another opportunity to give to the fruitful endeavor of our growing, thriving First Parish home. May we trust we see God at the center of who we are and why we do what we do. The closer we move towards Him, the more we see His hand and how He provides for us in our home and in our church. We see the blessings He sends as they spill over from our abundant, exponential Giver.

As our church family continues our walk in these days that are ever changing, the one thing that truly remains certain, is that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow (*Hebrews 13:8*). Our Heavenly Father, the Creator of the Universe, will lead us by His Holy Spirit into this brand new year. Together we will *grow* to know Him better and to reflect Him more clearly to one another.

Please be reminded our Church Council has set our pledge goal at \$270,000 for 2016. This is only a portion of our goal. As we look to Him, the Caretaker of the details in our lives, our church, our family, our workplace, our community and our world, may we completely trust Him as He lives and breathes in the details. May our resolution in this New Year ahead be to cling to His hand as we seek Him for guidance. He will surely light the way. Each year, I give a bit more than the last. This year is no different. It is an exercise God has taught me through the years. He makes it possible, but I have to step out and do it. I encourage you to as well.

As you prayerfully consider all you have been given, may your portion that you decide to give back reflect your gratitude to your Lord and Savior. Sometime we wait to see what we have left over first. But I believe God would want us to decide at the beginning and then in faith, trust Him. Not from what is left over, but off the top. May we relay to Him in our giving our trusting steps in faith.

God holds for us amazing gifts, we just have to receive them. Don't forget to open them!!!

Ruth Ross for Stewardship

If you would like pledge envelopes, please fill out a pledge card and return it to Eleanor Elliott, even if you received envelopes in the past. This begins a brand new year of pledging. A new pledge card for 2016 is needed.



First Parish Congregational Church

One Church St, PO Box M, Wakefield MA 01880-0301 (781) 245-1539/1644

*If you would like pledge envelopes, please fill out a pledge card and return it to Eleanor Elliott.
 Pledge cards along with envelopes for returning them can be found
 on the Williams Table in the rear of the Sanctuary.
 Even if you received envelopes in the past,
a new pledge card for 2016 is needed.*

		No.....
THE FIRST PARISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH		
Wakefield, Massachusetts		
In grateful recognition that all my time, treasure, and ability come from God, I gladly join with others in the support of Christ's church.		
Total Gift \$.....	Cash Paid with pledge \$.....	
The full amount or balance of pledge will be paid as follows starting January 1, 2014.		
<input type="checkbox"/> 52 Weekly payments of	\$.....each	Envelopes will be supplied.
<input type="checkbox"/> 12 monthly payments of	\$.....each	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 quarterly payments of	\$.....each	Statements will be mailed to you.
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 semi-annual payments of	\$.....each	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 annual payment of	\$.....each	
For local ministries, including worship, education, pastoral service, church care and upkeep and the world outreach of the church.		
Mr. / Mrs. / Miss.....		
Date.....Street Address.....		

THE CHURCH HERALD

First Parish Congregational Church
 PO Box M, Wakefield, MA 01880-0301
 Phone: 781-245-1539/1644
 FAX: 781-557-1000
 E-mail: FPCCX1644@aol.com

December 29, 2015

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DEADLINE FOR NEXT CHURCH HERALD

Thursday, January 7, 2016

(will cover the dates from
 January 17 - 30, 2016)