

VOLUME LXXXI, No. 06

March 3, 2016

Note: Easter Sunday, March 27
One Service will be held at 10:30 a.m.



SUNDAY, March 13, 2016

Worship Service – 9:00 & 10:30 am

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

Calendar for Sunday, March 13, 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 (approx.) Church School
11:45 am Fellowship

Memorial Flowers

The flowers are given in memory of loved ones by
Joan Potter.

Greeters: Catherine & Tim Callaghan
Ushers: Frank Brown, Leith Jones, Bill Watt, Tom
Martin, Tom King, and Herold Doherty(Captain)

Coffee Hour Hosts: The Confirmation Class

SUNDAY, March 20, 2016

PALM SUNDAY

Worship Service – 9:00 & 10:30 am

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

Calendar for Sunday, March 20, 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
Noon Junior Choir Rehearsal

Memorial Flowers

The flowers on the left will be given in loving
memory of Fred E. Hitchins, Kathryn L. Hitchins,
and Nancy L. Hitchins by Mr & Mrs. Wayne
Maguire and family. The flowers on the right will
be given in loving memory of Scott Michael
Connolly by his parents and his brother Tanner.

Greeters: Donna & Pat Conlon
Ushers: Frank Brown, Leith Jones, Bill Watt, Tom
Martin, Tom King, and Herold Doherty (Captain)
Coffee Hour Hosts: The Reid Family



Celebration of Life
 Service for
Arthur Wessels
 Saturday, March 12,
 11 am
 in our sanctuary.

**PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER
 PRAY FOR HEALING**

Linda Byam, Stephen Donovan,
 Roy Evans, Russ Fanjoy, Ed Foley, David Frey,
 Kathy Lyons (upcoming heart procedure on March 17),
 Marilyn Jackson, Matthew Jackson,
 Elsie Laboy, Richard Pratt,
 Warren Reeves, Jean Sabatula, Sandy Serrentino,
 Albert Simkins,
 Walter Smith (recovering from brain surgery),
 Stephen Taylor, Michael Watt,
 Janice Whitehead (hip surgery on March 14),

Please also pray for:

Dan and Nancy Rearick and Peter as he cares for them,
 Nancy Gould, John Oliphant, Bud Thomas, Irene
 Whitehead, the Search Committee...
 ...our missionaries around the globe: Gordon & Ellyn
 Sturgeon, The Rideouts, The Mindlings,
 and The Soderbergs.
 All those participating in the production He's Alive.

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

	Chapel	Sanctuary	Total
February 28	22	69	91
March 6	22	103	125

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

February 28	49
March 6	43



The Sanctuary Choir once again invites anyone interested in singing with them for Palm Sunday and Easter to come to two rehearsals, March 16 (7:30 pm) & 23 (8:15 pm), and sing for those two Sundays. It's always so much more exciting to worship God on these very important Sundays with all the voices we can muster! For further information about this opportunity, please speak to Don Hodgkins or any choir member. Join us and help make a joyful noise to the Lord for Easter!



We could still get snow you know!!!

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).**

Our FPCC Food Pantry is getting low on the following items: spaghetti sauce, Chef Boyardee products, baked beans, peanut butter, and jelly. We also need more pasta products, just not spaghetti. Please consider picking up a few of these items next time you're grocery shopping and bringing them in for the Food Pantry grocery basket in the vestry. Thank you and God bless.

Jim Fosnock



ACCEPTING DONATIONS

The House Committee has been busy making a list of supplies that are needed for our spring cleaning. When you're out shopping if you could pick up one or more of the following it would be very helpful to our church. Donation receipts are also available. Our wish list consists of the following: sponges, rubber gloves, Windex, paper towels, Dawn detergent, cleaning rags, Swiffer refills, liquid cleaner and cleaning buckets. Please leave any supplies on the stage in the vestry and label them House Committee.

Thanks in advance,

The House Committee

COMMITTEE OPENINGS STILL AVAILABLE!

We'd like to fill these positions as soon as possible in order to give each committee the full slate of personnel to do their work. Please consider any of the following:

- *Assistant Treasurer of Trust Funds,
- *Advisory Committee on Trust Funds,
- Antique Committee,
- *Delegate to the New England Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (4C's)
- *Outreach Committee
- *Personnel Committee
- Usher Committee

*Required to be church member

If you would like to know more about any of the above committees, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Bonnie Mercurio, Joanne Peavey and Linda D'Agostino (Chair)

Thank you for considering service to your church!

COMMUNITY SPRING DINNER

Our church family will be hosting the next Community Dinner on Palm Sunday, March 20. This dinner is for those in need, the elderly and the lonely that live in Wakefield and surrounding communities, and will start at 2:00 p.m. in the dining room. The Clothing Closet will be open that afternoon as well.

We rely on monetary donations, as well as donations of gift certificates (BJ's, Costco, and Market Basket) and centerpieces (Easter-themed) to make this dinner possible. We also seek volunteers to work with us in the kitchen or to provide transportation to our guests. Many hands make light work! If you would like to make a donation, volunteer your time, or know of someone in the community who would benefit from this dinner, please contact Steve Gates 1-339-927-4148.

When you put on a luncheon or a dinner, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Then at the resurrection of the godly, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you.

Luke 14: 12-14

NEW BIBLE STUDY

Starting up

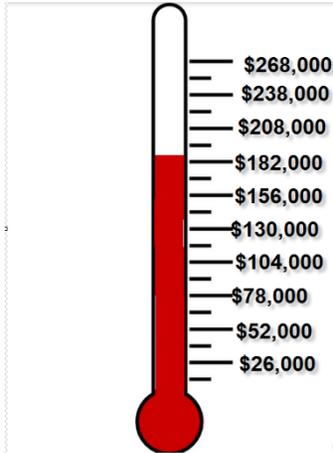
Beginning March 30, Wednesday nights
7:00 p.m.
in the church library,

I CORINTHIANS - THE WISDOM OF GOD AND THE POWER OF GOD

Paul's letter to the church at Corinth dealing with questions and problems in the church that were affecting their unity and witness, offering solutions; teaching believers how to live for Christ in a corrupt society.

Nicki McLennan/Leader

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



There has been no change in the pledges received since the figures that were available on February 24. As you may know, the 2016 budget that was approved at the annual meeting was balanced by the inclusion of **\$268,000** as the pledge amount estimate. An additional amount of \$46,000 for Plate Giving was also used.

As of the latest figures, **85** pledge units have been received, totaling **\$185,000**. Plate giving is harder to project; as of January 31, the amount is \$3,169.00. At this pace, the yearly total will be **\$38,028**, a potential shortfall of almost **\$8,000**. **At these levels, barring other income sources, budgeted 2016 spending will exceed income by \$75,028.**

FPCC cannot spend what is not supported by our income sources. The Annual Meeting voted to **freeze spending authority on April 15th. On or about to that date, a revised view of budget and income will be provided to the congregation, and a Special Congregation meeting held. The meeting will potentially suggest additional cuts required and/or funding available.**

In past years, we have had as high as 140 pledge units. If you have not pledged as yet, please consider doing so as soon as possible.

From the Trustees,
Joe D'Agostino

Calling all Passion Play Helpers

We have a few areas that we're looking for leaders and helpers. As you all may know, we'll be hosting tables in the Vestry after the Passion Play each night (March 24th and 25th). We're also offering child care (for 7 year olds and younger). It is our hope that our church youth and children take an active role in this outreach opportunity with Hospitality and Child Care. Our goal is to encourage ALL of our children to serve others and to realize they are an important part of this evangelistic event.

1. Hospitality: we're going to offer refreshments, so we'll need a leader and helpers in serving. We'll also need baked goods donations. The leader will need to make sure we have proper donations and helpers. This is a great place for the Youth of our church to get involved.
2. Child Care: we're looking for 2-3 adult supervisors and at least 1-2 youths for each night. The adult supervisor will need to make sure we have proper coverage so that no one misses the play. Activities will need to be set up: suggestions are Bible Bingo and/or give the children a coloring book about the Easter Story. We plan to have child care full due to the fact that many of our church family children will be in the child care room until after the play when they are needed to serve refreshments (or help in another way) in the Vestry. If you know a teen that loves playing with kids and would enjoy helping out one of the evenings, please let Jo Lynn know.
3. Bible Study Table: This table will show all the bible study options at First Parish with opportunities to sign up for them or get more information. This team (1 or 2 people) will make sure the table has signup sheets for each of the bible studies. We will provide the list of studies (in process right now).
4. Video Training: We're looking for a Wakefield High student who is interested in being trained in videoing our services. There's a training class that is from 9-3 on Saturday March 5th at WCAT. Mary Ann Londino and Jo Lynn Foster will also be attending the training. This individual will assist Mary Ann and Jo Lynn in videoing our Passion Play and future church services. This is a larger commitment than just the Passion Play, as it will be an ongoing ministry. This individual may already be taking the video / tv production classes at Wakefield High.

If you're interested in helping in any of the above areas, please see Jo Lynn Foster or email her at:

jolynn_foster@yahoo.com.

Angelique Toroni & Jo Lynn Foster



TREASURES AND ANTIQUES SHOW SPONSOR

Members and friends of our church – we cordially invite you to sponsor our 45th Annual Treasures and Antiques Show being held Friday, April 1st and Saturday, April 2nd here at First Parish Congregational Church. The Antiques Show brought in more than \$5,000 in much needed revenue for the church last year.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Amount _____

Your name will be listed in our Treasures and Antiques Show Program.
(Please indicate if you do not want your name listed in the directory to be distributed at the show).

Please make checks payable to First Parish Congregational Church (write Antiques Show in the memo field) and mail or bring to the church office.

Thanks from all of us on the Antiques Committee.

The Antiques Show Committee would like to remind everyone that they are accepting donations for the church table at the Treasures and Antiques Fair; they would also be grateful for donations of baked goods for the desserts table. In addition, many volunteers, including strong helpful kids, are needed as porters to help vendors move their items, and to take orders and serve food at the kitchen. Please talk to Donna Nicolai or any other members of the Antiques Show Committee if you can help.

Thank you.
Antique Committee: Stephen Gates, Leith Jones, Carol Logan, Mary MacDonald, Tom Martin, Stephen Taylor and Ray Toothaker

Easter Lilies

It is time to order memorial Easter lilies. Our sanctuary will again be beautiful on Easter Sunday, March 27th due to the generosity of our church family who give donations to purchase lilies in memory of their loved ones. Contributions will be received through March 20. After that date, names received cannot be listed in the order of worship bulletin. The plants will be distributed by the Flower Committee, the Diaconate and other volunteers. Please complete the following:



I/We wish to contribute memorial Easter lilies in memory of:

Amount enclosed:

Donor

Please enclose \$4 for each name (Mr. and Mrs. counts as two names). Checks may left in the church office or mailed to

First Parish Congregational Church
P. O. Box M
Wakefield, MA 01880-0301.

Also, I will be in the vestry after church on March 13 and 20 to accept your contributions.

Any questions, just call my cell 781-258-8867.
Thanks,
Linda D'Agostino

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



- 2 Timothy Callaghan
- 3 Victoria Haley, Olivia McGrath
- 4 Angelin Barton, Cynthia Bossi
- 6 Amanda Martin, Brian Foster
- 7 Elaine Thibodeau, Wendy Gabriel
- 9 Mark Hatheway
- 10 Cheryl Recko
- 12 Richard Covell
- 13 Christopher Faylor, Douglas Howard
- 16 Christopher Nielsen, Heather MacDonald,
Richard Testa
- 17 Donald Hodgkins, Jo Lynn Foster
- 18 Louise Netten
- 19 Warren Reeves
- 20 Sandra Serrentino, Kristina Major, Sheri
Prosperi, Susan Peterson
- 21 Erin Gates
- 22 Laura Kunz
- 23 Marcia Phinney, Janet Manning
- 24 Bruce Netten, Scott Bossi
- 26 Steven Racamato
- 27 John Ludlow
- 28 Beverly Oliphant, Rodrigo Illanes, Dana
Bernabeo
- 29 Michael Watt
- 30 Douglas Fifield, Tyler Fifield, Karen Griswold,
Pamela Hodgson,
- 31 Barbara Hammond, Pamela MacFarland,
Candice Picard

Settled Pastor Search Update

The Settled Pastor Search Committee has spent the last three Friday nights reviewing candidates for the call of Senior Pastor. We are happy to report that we are in the process of scheduling phone interviews for a number of candidates on the weeks of March 7th and 14th. We ask for your prayers for the candidates, the search team, and our congregation as we continue through this process. Please know that we are relying on The Holy Spirit to help us discern God's will for our church.

Book Shelf News

In March we are featuring books by Charles Swindoll.

See our shelf in the Vestry for these selections:

- [Growing Deep in the Christian Faith: Essential Truths for Becoming Strong in the Faith](#)
- [Hope Again: When Life Hurts and Dreams Fade](#)
- [Living on the Ragged Edge: Coming to Terms with Reality](#)
- [Rise and Shine: A Wake-up Call](#)
- [Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives](#)

EXCITING NEWS:

You can now view the listing of the books available in our library online! Please go to the FPCC website at <http://fpccwakefield.com/resources/library/> and view the books that are available. You can search by title, author, and category: Christian Living, Christian Fiction, Audio Video, Youth and Other. We do not have the resources to view if a book has already been checked out of the library; however you can view our wonderful book selection!

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



2016 PASSION PLAY

HE'S ALIVE!

Come and be changed...

**Maundy Thursday, March 24,
and Good Friday, March 25
7:00 pm**

Please be sure to bring someone with you.

The play tells of a mother and daughter who are struggling with their feelings of grief, anger and sadness due to the passing of their husband and father, have a conversation about those feelings that all of us have dealt with at one time or another. The mother draws her daughter's attention to people in the Bible who have experienced exactly what they are experiencing. The monologues, portrayed by our church family members tell their story from those closest to Jesus. Music will be weaved throughout the presentation with vocal and instrumental performances.

It's getting close. Revival is in the air. Our God is doing amazing, wonderful, incredible things here at First Parish. Please be sure to take a few *He's Alive* postcards to invite someone. Recruitment is under way for greeters and prayer warriors. Tables will also be set up in the Vestry after the presentation where those attending can be welcomed by our church family to can learn about First Parish and its ministries. We will be offering refreshments after the event. If you can bake or can bring something to be offered on our refreshment table please see Jo Lynn Foster. If you cannot bake or bring something, monetary donations are being accepted to help supply refreshments.

It's hoped that this community outreach will be a whole church effort with each member of the church family deciding where their particular gifts and skills can be used and blessed by God.

Please pray for Pastor Nick, all of the participants, Director, Angelique Toroni, the publicity team and the support teams. And also pray that the sanctuary will be filled each night with members of our church family and those in our community who are looking to fill that which is missing in their lives – a personal relationship with our awesome God!

Mother – Erin Bacci
Daughter – Brittany Dilley
Martha – Nancy Jackson
Sister Mary – Elaine Sciascia
Peter – Doug Jackson
Jesus – Mark Hatheway

Judas – Paul Somers
Soldier – Matthew Jackson
Woman at the Well – Bonnie Mullen
Mother Mary – Ruth Ross
Pilate – Dom Mercurio



First Class Herald Subscriptions for 2016 Form

In an effort to be good stewards of what God gives us and to keep costs down, we have been making an effort to go paperless with the Church Herald. We are happy to report that we are sending out half as many Heralds via First Class mail as we were last year at this time.

If you would like to receive the e-mail version of the Herald free of charge, you can do so through our website, FPCCWakefield.com, or by calling the office and giving us your e-mail address.

If you would like to subscribe to the Herald via First Class mail, please fill out the form below and either mail it back to the church or place it in the collection plate.

Please note that it costs the church at least \$25.00 to produce a hard copy and mail a subscription. If you are able, please consider a donation to help defray the cost. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 781-245-1539. (Please make check payable to First Parish Congregational Church)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____

Donation of \$25.00 enclosed Please circle: cash check # _____

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

March 8, 2016

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DEADLINE FOR NEXT CHURCH HERALD

Thursday, March 17, 2016

(will cover the dates from
March 27 – April 9, 2016)