

VOLUME LXXXVII, No. 6

March 15, 2022

The Church Herald Newsletter

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 10:30a-4:30a

Worship Schedule

9:30 am Traditional

11:00 am Contemporary

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Rev. John T. Dale

Sermon "The Ultimate Test"

1 John 4:1-6

The flowers will be given in loving memory of
Scott Michael Connolly by his parents and his
brother Tanner.

Sunday, March 27, 2022

Rev. John T. Dale

Sermon "God's Love"

1 John 4:7-21

Sunday April 3 at 6p

Presentation: by Jews for Jesus

Christ is in the Passover:

An Alternative Experience

followed by communion

sponsored by the Diaconate

(soup supper included)

Palm Sunday, April 10

(2p Community Ham Dinner)

Good Friday Service, April 15 at 7p

Easter Sunrise Service at 6a by the lake

Easter Sunday - One service at 11a



Rev. John T. Dale

One Church Street

Wakefield, MA 01880

781-245-1644 / office@fpccwakefield.org

Conservative Congregational Christian Conference

www.cccusa.com



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY March 6 9:30a - 52

11:00a - 83

SUNDAY, March 13 9:30a - 37

11:00a - 89



*Do you need a ride to church?
Please call the office.*

**Our mission is to reflect the love of God by welcoming all people into a
life-changing, ever growing relationship with Jesus.**

The power of prayer...

Dear Lord, new life is in the air. Spring is upon us. The flowers will soon appear and the birds will sweetly sing again. Thank you for all Your hand provides.

In Jesus Name. Amen.

Pray for the safe and healthy gift of new life
as we await the arrival of baby Barden into the world.

Our Prayer Needs

Nancy Adams, Bob Blaser, Charles Chapman, Douglas Cook,
Ed Courier (Ruth's dad), Jim Donovan, III, Teddie Fitzpatrick,
Trefina Fox, Gina Gebhard, Lenny Hart, Erin Hefferman,
Fred Howland, Abettina Morano, Sr. Sandy Serrentino, Lisa Surles,
Stephen Taylor, Samuel and for all those healing and recovering from illnesses
and for our missionaries around the globe.

Monthly Congregational Prayer

April 3 at 10:30a

in the Fireside Room. Please join us.

contact Winnie Carpenter at winniecarpenter@gmail.com

Associate Pastor Search Committee has been established. Members include: Doug Jackson, Julie Bohn, Kellie Roden, Angelin and Wayne Cocorochio, Donna Nicolai, Pastor John Dale. Tom Martin serving as alternate if needed. Please keep this team in prayer.



Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing a crisis or going through a difficult time. Stephen Ministers meet weekly with their care receiver for around an hour to listen, care, encourage, pray and provide emotional and spiritual support for the person. Caring relationships last for as long as the person's needs persist.

Stephen Leaders: Pam and Ken Hodgson

Stephen Ministers: Bob Blaser, Barbara Flynn, David and Susan Frey,
Judy Gordon, Abettina Morano and Donna Woodland.

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence,
if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Philippians 4:8



Pastor's Pen



“Russia in the End Times”

Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39, prophesies about a future world war where the primary players are, Iran, Libya, Ethiopia and Russia. According to Ezekiel this war culminates with an invasion of Israel, who at the time are living in relative peace.

Ezekiel 38:1,2 reads: “The word of the Lord came to me: “Son of Man, set your face toward Gog in the land of Magog, the chief prince of Mesech and Tubal, and prophesy against him.

Ezekiel 39:1, states: “And you O’ Son of Man, prophesy against Gog and say, “Thus say’s the Lord God: “Behold, I am against you, O’ Gog, Chief Prince of Mesech and Tubal.”

According to these verses, Gog is a prince or ruler of Mesech, or some say, Russia. Ezekiel 38:5, adds, “Persia, Cush, and Put are with you.” Today we know these countries as Iran, Libya and Ethiopia.

Careful reading of these chapters reveals another principal character that will be involved in this end time war, Israel. These chapters describe a time in the world where Russia and her allies will invade an unsuspecting Israel. We read this in 38:8b, “It’s people were brought out from the peoples and now dwell securely.” (Also 38:14)

As we examine the current invasion of Ukraine, at this point it is clear that it does not fulfill the pattern of prophesy as outlined in Ezekiel. Israel does not currently dwell in safety, in fact, Israel must be ever vigilant due to the regular skirmishes with Palestinians and others.

This means that the current invasion may be a prelude to a future third world war, or it is setting the stage for that war. If Russia, after an invasion of Ukraine is successful, will there be an invasion of Moldova or other former Soviet Satellites? Would Russia then stop this current advance and rebuild their military and economy?

Daniel chapter nine verses 24-27 may also relate to the Ezekiel prophecy. A time will come when a prince rises, an anti-christ, who will make a peace treaty with Israel and subsequently break it, leading to an invasion of the Holy Land. (Dan.9:26,27) This treaty is made at the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel or the seven-year tribulation.

Jesus told his disciples in Matthew 24, that near the end of the age, prior to His return, there would be wars and rumors of wars. This of course continues to be true today. As Christians, we should be studious of prophecy, especially as it relates to Israel.

Please continue to pray for Ukraine and the people there. We are praying for an end of this unethical invasion, and for peace. This may not be the fulfillment of Ezekiel, but these current events may certainly be a prelude of the events he describes.

Pastor John

Blood Drive

Friday, March 18
1p to 6p

Scan QRCode below to schedule
an appointment with
American Red Cross



Community Breakfast 9-10a & Clothing Closet 9-10:30a

Saturday, March 19

Tech Corner at Community Breakfast: Need assistance with phone or laptop issues, such as network connectivity issues, software installation issues, viruses? Visit the Tech Corner at FPCC Community Breakfast and our technicians will take a look.

Men's Breakfast Group

1st Saturday of the month
9 o'clock

Next one is
April 2
Come and join us.



Left to right: Brian Carpenter, Mark Hatheway, Jim Fosnock, Larry Lyons, Frank Brown, Tony's friend Paul, Tony Caruso, Phil Gindi, Tom Folger, Phil Pace and Wayne Cocorochio



SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH SAVE THE DATE

The Fundraising Committee is holding a sale for our First Parish Congregation only on Sunday March 20th after both services. The sale will be held in the vestry and will include: leftover items from the old Antiques Fair, higher-end items that were not appropriate to sell at the Yard Sale, and other unique donation items we have received. Please plan to stop by and find a treasure! Items not sold will be posted on eBay and/or Facebook Marketplace with all proceeds going to the church.

In-door Yard Sale May 14.

The fair committee would like to encourage donations to arrive sooner rather than later allowing enough time to organize. Donations can be left in the storage closet at the bottom of the stairs to the left before entering the dining room. Please see Beth Rollins or Courtney Hatheway if you have any questions.

Donations of the following items are now being accepted: Household & kitchen goods, small electronics, i.e. coffee makers, skillets, clocks, radios, lamps, air purifiers, humidifiers, etc. home décor & knick-knacks, Kids toys, games & puzzles, Holiday items, Jewelry. If not listed above, we cannot accept it.

Thank you.

UKRAINE AID, HOW CAN I HELP...

FPCC WILL OFFER AN OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY TO AID UKRAINE BY WAY OF SAMARITANS PURSE'S OPERATION IN POLAND. THEY ARE SETTING UP TENT HOSPITALS TO AID THE REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE. A SPECIAL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN ON MARCH 20TH.

Every day is scary when your mom and your siblings are writing you how much they love you because they know there might be no tomorrow. Yet, despite the hunger and sleepless nights spent underground, their determination to conquer the evil is becoming stronger and they say: "If we can make it through, we will have the country we have always dreamed of." Please help us to have the country we have always dreamt of .

"Sunflower of Peace" is asking for help through IJM (International Justice Mission) Email: sunflowerofpeace.ukraine@gmail.com Contact: Katya Malakhova 714-600-9199

Needs: a warehouse, people, services, items... so much to pray for...

- A warehouse location in Newton area. Preferably a governmental location, so it can be accessible and safe for donated items on a 24/7 basis.
- Executive level UPS, FedEx connections. We have a shipping company in New Jersey for larger shipments. Trying to decrease the time to deliver medical backpacks. Sunflower of Peace ambassadors are on the ground with organized transportation in Poland and Romania meeting the supplies for same day delivery to Ukraine through green corridor.
- Executives from Delta airlines that are flying to Poland daily. To transport 20 to 50 medical backpacks to Poland. Time is essential and whatever we can get over there will be helpful--goal to become extremely efficient.
- Sellers of bulletproof vests and helmets to local law enforcement to be distributed to doctors, paramedics and civilians. Majority of them are unprotected and are being targeted.
- Suppliers/donors of insulin and antibiotics.
- VOLUNTEERS on standby to pack and sort stuff out, once a warehouse.

Once again, thank you, thank you, thank you for being amazing people that care about brave and selfless people of Ukraine and your willingness to do so much for them. For updates on this project please go to

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/507886070680475/?>

fundraiser_source=external_url Also check out Sunflower of Peace of Facebook.

Please share this message in as many groups as possible.

Let's Reach Out

Sharing Inc.

A few weeks ago First Parish received a card from Kay Doherty "Giving thanks and praise for the awesome fact that Sharing has given away \$4,501,000"!

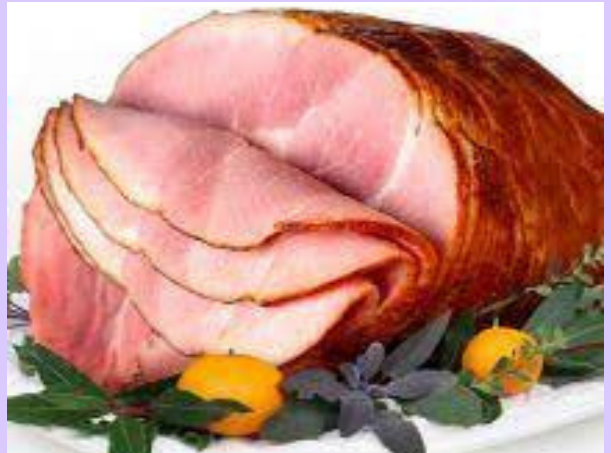
A little history. In 1972 Kay read an article in the Boston Globe talking about racial inequality in Mississippi and the impact it had on the children. The Holy Spirit moved her to try and help these kids. She and a few friends chose to walk on Good Friday and Sharing Inc. was born.

Kay visited Greenwood Union Church in 1988 to encourage others to have a local walk to support Sharing. In 1992 Pastor Rich Weisenbach starting walking 20 miles (6 times around the Lake). These are his words. "Two Sundays prior to the Walk I had a table in the vestry. I called out to whoever passed me and invited them to contribute to my effort". Over the years...20 to be exact, with the generosity of the church family and friends in the community he raised over \$30,000.

Over the years Kay has established relationships with folks in Mississippi who have become a second family to her. She travels there most years to visit and encourage the three organizations that are helping African-American children from economically poor families living in the rural south.

As a mission commitment and to maintain the tradition, several members have continued to walk on Good Friday and with sponsors, continue to contribute to this amazing charity. If you would like to support this endeavor with either your feet or your finances, please see Judy Gordon for more information.

We walk with Jesus.



COMMUNITY SPRING DINNER

APRIL 10, 2022 at 2p

Our church family is hosting a Community Spring Dinner. This dinner is for those in need, the elderly and the lonely that live in Wakefield and surrounding communities. The dinner will be at 2:00 p.m. in the dining room.

We will serve dinner buffet style so we are seeking volunteers to serve our guests. We will also need volunteers to work with us to set up, clean up and deliver meals to those unable to attend or provide transportation that may be in need of a ride. Many hands make light work!!! If you can volunteer in some way, please see Bonnie Mullen or Linell Nester.

We rely on monetary donations to make this dinner possible. If you would like to make a donation, it will help to defray the costs of this dinner and/or help out towards the upcoming costs of the next community dinner.

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



Bible Studies

Thursday evenings at 7p A study on Daniel
Contact: Pastor John

Bible Studies for Men

Men's Bible Study on Parenting at 6:30p (Meets the 4th Wednesday of the month (**next study March 23**) studying Bible passages on what Jesus spoke to Parents. We will use the book *Parenting by Faith* by Patricia Batten.
Contact: Ian Carpenter

Bible Studies for Women

Tuesdays

Women of Wakefield meet from 9:30-11
Please join our inter-church group as we begin a new study of the book of Esther. We meet weekly from 9:30 to 11 am in the Fireside Room. Child care is provided. For more information, please email Julianne Johnston (julianne.s.johnston@gmail.com), Carlana Miller (Carlana.miller@gmail.com), or Judi Manola (jbmanola@gmail.com).

Bible Studies for Women cont.

Thursdays

(meets weekly)
Women's Bible Study at 9:15a
Contact: Angela Faylor

(meets monthly)

Bible Study on Parenting 3rd Thursday of the month from 6:30-8p (meets next March 17) studying Bible passages on what Jesus spoke to Parents. We will use the book *Parenting by Faith* by Patricia Batten.
Contact: Winnie Carpenter

Youth & Young Adults

Wednesdays

Teen ALPHA from 6:30-8:30p (grades 6-12)
Contact: Julie Bohn

Sundays

Young Adult Alpha (18-30) at 6:30 -8p
Contact: Julie Bohn

How sweet it is to know Him better.

Easter Lilies to Beautify the Church on Easter Sunday



If you would like to donate an Easter Lily for Easter Sunday, please send your payment of \$18 to the church office. A portion of this cost supports FPCC. Please include the names of your loved ones you would like included in the bulletin. Names may be either in memory of or in celebration of. Also, please note if your plant is to be gifted or you will pick up your plant after the Easter Service. Deadline is April 13.

Young Couples and Family Fellowship Group

Young Couples and Family Fellowship Group: If you are a family with school aged children or younger, newly married or soon to be, come join us for a simple dinner, fellowship and support.

We typically meet the 2nd Friday of the month.

Our next meeting will be Friday, April 8.

Hope to see you then.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Winnie Carpenter.

winnie.carpenter@gmail.com

Please fill out this short survey even if you cannot attend the next meeting so we know how to serve your family and marriage: You can simply scan the QR code.



BE A BLESSING

Our search committee is underway as we prepare to secure an Associate Pastor of Children's and Family Ministries. This is to ensure a hope for our future. May the Lord bless the growth of our church.

Please plan to support First Parish in any way you are able. Thank you to all those who have stepped out in faith to be committed. If you need a pledge card you will find them on the table in the vestry.



You can scan this code, or click the "Give" button on fpccwakefield.org.

*The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.*

Zephaniah 3:17



Be Bold

Be bold in the face of uncertainty; be bold in the face of adversity; be bold by taking refuge in the Lord.

That was the message this year at the youth retreat to Camp Berea and it could not have come at a better time. Today, students are faced with circumstances both normal to their ages and unthinkable due to the state of the world. They face college admissions, new jobs, challenges with their friends, and the internalizing of their faith; and as they witness the world changed by a pandemic, as they witness nations rise against nations, and as they watch uncertainty unfold in their own country and communities, we learned that we can have strength and we can be bold in the face of all this unknown because there is one thing that we can always be sure of: We can know that God is the Great I Am. That He is who He says He is. He is victor. And in that knowledge, we can be still, and we can be bold.

At Camp Berea, new connections were made within our group and among others through worship and sermons, through paintball, the giant swing, ping pong, plenty of snowball fights, and car rides full of singing (screaming) '90s classics. Our energy and our faith were revitalized after what has been an admittedly difficult couple of years since we last went away. Conversations from the weekend are ongoing, and being applied by the students in their lives. It is easy to see retreats as a mountain top that we exist on only while we are away. It is refreshing to see that this retreat was not left behind in New Hampshire, that it is staying with us as a group- that we are applying our newfound knowledge, and our reiterated understanding that God is worth our time, resources, and energy even when things are busy. We are so grateful for the beautiful, hilarious, and unforgettable memories and connections made. Thank you to our church family for helping make this happen and for all of your prayers leading up to, and during our time away. We are so blessed to have you backing the spiritual journeys of this generation.

Follow us on Facebook



and



Instagram!

WCAT: View 11a service on Sunday (previous week)
Sunday 7pm (Sunday morning service)
Monday 8pm, Wednesday noon, & Friday at 7pm
Channel 3 for RCN & Comcast/Channel 40 for Verizon