

VOLUME LXXXVII, No. 21

October 12, 2022

# The Church Herald Newsletter

Office Hours:

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

## Stewardship Month

### Vision Seminar

October 22 at 10am

Sharing our vision for FPCC

*Please plan to attend.*

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:30 am Traditional Service

11:00 am Contemporary Service

**Sunday, October 16, 2022**

**Rev. Richard A. Weisenbach**

**Pastor Emeritus**

**Sermon:** *Does Jesus Care?*

**Scripture:** Mark 4:35-41

**Sunday, October 23, 2022**

**Rev. John Dale**

**Sermon:** *The Heart of the Gospel*

**Scripture:** Romans 1:8-17

The flowers will be given in memory of William Bardet, father of Richard Bardet, grandfather of Sarah Bardet and great grandfather of Julia and William Robertson.

### Flowers for Sunday Services

**Openings: October 30 or November 6**

**Please call the office if you would like to donate flowers on one of these dates. Thank you...**



Rev. John T. Dale

One Church Street

Wakefield, MA 01880

781-245-1644 / [office@fpccwakefield.org](mailto:office@fpccwakefield.org)

Conservative Congregational Christian Conference

[www.cccusa.com](http://www.cccusa.com)



## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, October 2 9:30a - 58

11:00a - 75

Sunday, October 9 9:30a - 42

11:00a - 92



*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, help us to navigate each day.  
Help us to see You in each moment.  
In Jesus Name. Amen.*

## Our Prayer Needs

Please pray for Barbara and her family as she grieves the loss of her husband, James "Jim" Donovan, III. who went to be with the Lord Monday, September 26.

We pray for the Cullen family as they grieve the loss of Betty.  
Please pray for Don Hodgkins and his family, as they grieve the loss of his mom, Connie Hodgkins.

Nancy Adams, Frank Adams, Bob Blaser, Charles Chapman, Douglas Cook, Ed Courier, Teddie Fitzpatrick, Trefina Fox, Gina Gebhard, Lenny Hart, Erin Hefferman, Janet Manning, Abettina Morano, Pat Serrentino, (hospitalized), Lisa Surlles, Stephen Taylor, Samuel, Richard and Pat Weisenbach  
and for all those healing and recovering from illnesses  
and for our missionaries around the globe.

### Monthly Congregational Prayer

**November 6 at 10:30a**

**in the Fireside Room. Please join us.**

**contact Winnie Carpenter at [winniecarpenter@gmail.com](mailto:winniecarpenter@gmail.com)**

Please pray for our Associate Pastor Search Committee as they seek to honor the Lord as they continue to search for the one you have already selected. Guide them Lord.

Committee 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.

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For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,  
plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope..

Jeremiah 29:11





### **Tuesdays at 6:30p**

**Women's Wakefield Bible Study** meets from 9:30 to 11 studying the book of Philippians. Contact Judi Manola at [jbmanola@gmail.com](mailto:jbmanola@gmail.com)

### **Wednesdays at 6p ALPHA starts**

**October 12 - #tryalpha**  
<https://alphausa.org/try>

### **Thursdays (meets weekly)**

**At 9:15a Women's Bible study** in the Fireside Room. Study is: Forgiving, Making Peace with the Past. Contact: Angela Faylor

### **Spiritual Gifts study at 7p.**

Contact: Pastor John or church office

### **Youth & Young Adults**

For information on upcoming events for young adults and youth groups, contact: Julie Bohn.

### **Men's Breakfast Group**

**1st Saturday of the month**  
**9 o'clock**

**Next one is November 5**  
**Come and join us.**



## **The "Vision Seminar"**

**October 22 at 10am**

**A follow-up Vision Seminar will be held on Saturday at 10am in the Vestry. Coffee and snacks will be provided. We will gather to review the results of the first session. If you did not attend the first session, please complete the survey. Scan the code.**

**All are welcome to participate**  
**Please be prepared to share your vision and dreams for FPCC.**

## **Young Couples and Family Fellowship Group**

**Young Couples and Family Fellowship Group:** If you are a family with school aged children or younger or newly married or soon to be, come join us for a simple meal, activity, fellowship, and support. We meet monthly. **Our next gathering is Monday, November 12 from 5-8pm.** Enjoy a night off and support the youth winter event to Camp Berea Snow Camp at the same time! Drop off your kids at the church and the Youth group will play games and have pizza with your children. You are free to have some time off on your own or with your spouse! All donations for the night will go towards the Youth's Retreat - Berea Snow Camp trip. For more info, please email [winnie.carpenter@gmail.com](mailto:winnie.carpenter@gmail.com).

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**Jesus knows me, this I love...**



## *The Pastor's Pen*



### **Preparing for Stewardship Month**

Looking out my window this morning and one of the maple trees is clearly telling me that fall is here; summer is past, Labor Day is over, and we just celebrated National Back to Church Sunday. In the normal church calendar, the next event is our Stewardship Month.

Several years ago, Pastor Rich would remind the church family that the new year was coming and pledging how much we might contribute to the next year's budget so the church leadership could prepare the budget for the January Annual Meeting.

On September 11th, the church met for a financial update. I received a few calls and emails due to some confusion after that meeting. The report noted that church was running behind and that we should all be encouraged to see if we can dig a little deeper for 2023. Especially if we fulfill the desire of the Christian Education Ministry, Search Committee, Diaconate, Vision Team along with our other committees by hiring a full-time associate pastor to work with our younger children and families building growth for the future.

Some projections were less positive than others, but just to clarify, the church generally ends each year a little behind. This is because we passed a deficit budget. Thankfully the interest we receive from trust funds and other investments usually helps to balance things out. It is obvious, if we hire an associate pastor, it will take more creative thinking.

According to the church treasurer, Brian Roden, our current deficit is around \$11,000 from our budget of \$521,000; and we have both restricted and unrestricted trust funds of around 2.4 million. The portion of those funds that are unrestricted comes to a little over \$400,000 and with two recent bequests, we have an additional \$163,000.

I share this information, so you have a little more understanding. As I noted at the special meeting, it would be a good thing to consider starting a building fund, so we don't have to keep chipping away at the trust fund money. Those balances help provide interest to aid us in catching up at the end of the year. The best news of all we heard on Sept. 11th, is that we have the two bequests of \$163,000 and that would be a great help if we go forward with hiring an associate.

If you have further questions, I'm sure the church treasurer would be glad to confirm the unrestricted fund monies and the recent bequest information. Ultimately, this is an exciting time for First Parish as this fall, we will decide the future direction of our congregation. On October 1, at 10:00 a.m., we will gather to share our vision and dreams for First Parish's future. I hope many of you will attend this meeting so you can participate.

In Christ,  
Pastor John



## COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER & CLOTHING CLOSET

NOVEMBER 20, 2022

Our church family will again be hosting a Community Thanksgiving Dinner & Clothing Closet on November 20, 2022, for those that live in Wakefield and surrounding communities. All are welcome. The Clothing Closet will be open from 1-2 p.m. and dinner will be served at 2:00 p.m. in the dining room.

We are seeking volunteers to help set up, serve our guests, clean up and deliver meals to those unable to attend. Many hands make light work!!! If you can volunteer in some way, please see Bonnie Mullen or Linell Nester. If you know of someone who could benefit from a meal and unable to attend, please let Ruthie in the office know their name and address as she will be maintaining the list of meal recipients.

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. Checks may be made out to FPCC with a notation "Community Dinner" in the memo line.

Thank you!  
Bonnie Mullen & Linell Nester



October is  
Pastor  
Appreciation  
Month

*Barbara Flynn honored  
as Life Deaconess*

We have a lot to celebrate  
on October 23 after  
the 11a service



*Alwyn Van Cor  
Turned 100  
on October 2*

Birthday cards may be sent to the church during her birthday month and will be delivered to her.



*"Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!"*

Psalm 46:10



Please Call Today  
to lend a hand.

## WILL YOU PARTICIPATE IN FIRST PARISH'S EFFORTS TO SERVE THE NEEDY?

Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I was sick and you looked after me. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was in prison and you came to visit me."

Since 2003 God has blessed the Clothing Closet, our community dinners & breakfasts too. Apparently, He likes what we've been doing! Only if you help can we continue to serve our community in these meaningful ways.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15 BREAKFAST & CLOTHING CLOSET

Help is needed:

Setting out clothing Thursday, Oct. 13,  
from 11:15 a.m. to noon.  
or the day of the event Saturday  
between 8:30–10:30 a.m.

For the Clothing Closet, donations of in-season, gently-used clothing & footwear are needed. Items donated will be offered free to our guests at future breakfasts and dinners.

There are blessings waiting for you. Come join together with other volunteers who have experience working in the Clothing Closet and at the meals. Participate to the degree that you are able and give whatever time you can. You will be greatly appreciated.

*Carol Freisen, Angela Faylor (781-246-0643), Barbara Flynn (781-246-0957) and Judy Gordon (781-246-0706) will tell you all about the Clothing Closet. Pastor John and Barbara know lots about the monthly breakfasts.*

**They'd love to hear from you.**



Visit our Tech Corner  
happening at the next  
Community Breakfast  
& Clothing Closet  
Event October 15 at 9a

If you would like some technical assistance, please stop by! We are here every month, spread the word!

Again this year, First Parish will be partnering with First Baptist in preparing for Operation Christmas Child. Last year our church families filled 117 boxes with toys and school supplies for children ages 2-14.

**The collection will start on Sunday, October 30th** when folded boxes (or flat if you prefer) will be available. **The last day to return the filled box will be three weeks later, November 20th.**

Samaritan's Purse suggests a "WOW" gift such as a stuffed animal, a doll or a soccer ball with pump. Smaller items might include a jump rope, toy cars, a toothbrush, a solar calculator, and pens and pencils.

It is requested that you send a \$10-dollar donation to cover shipping and other project costs. Use the postage paid envelope which is part of the "How to Pack a Shoebox" brochure which you'll find in each box.

Last request: we're looking for gently used beanie babies which kids can choose to add to their box. Drop off in church office or give to Judy Gordon.

Imagine a child who has never had a Christmas gift opening a box from you! What a blessing all around.

Thank you from Outreach



# THE LION'S DEN

Wednesday Nights  
6pm

*Julie Bohn*

Youth Leader

julie.e.bohn@gmail.com

We worship God with every gift we offer - with prayer, songs of praise, and gifts of time and treasure.

Our church offering is an act of worship and obedience to our loving God. The financial support of cheerful givers, and God's promise to bless our giving, works to further His mission at First Parish. You can give a one-time gift or set up recurring donations online using this QR code or the "GIVE" link at [FPCCwakefield.org](http://FPCCwakefield.org).

Thank you for your generosity, and thanks be to God!

*And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8*

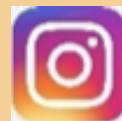


Scan to GIVE

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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**