

The Chimes Newsletter



***Federated Church of Ashland
118 Main Street
Ashland, MA 01721***

~ November 2022 ~

A November Prayer

Loving God, Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives. Thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you for the hope you bring through even the toughest of times, strengthening us for your purpose. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you that you are always with us and will never leave us. Thank you for your Son Jesus, for the truth of his word and the example of his life. Replenish our spirits with new strength and prepare us to meet each day with renewed gratitude and joy. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. May all of our words and actions give you praise and glory. May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7 In Jesus' Name, Amen.

~The Church of Corpus Christi

Dear Friends,

In my new Hospice position, I now have the responsibility and the privilege of regularly leading worship in some of our area nursing homes. I'm always surprised and humbled by the responsiveness of these elders, and their ability to enter into dialogue. Messages such as asking them, how can we rejoice in all things, as St. Paul exhorts us from prison, amidst our own challenges and struggles? Today I chose the Two Great Commandments as the text, and asked the circle of residents, what does it mean to love our neighbor as ourselves? "To be friendly--kind--to help one another--to greet each other with a Good Morning--to care about each other...." Yes!!! To treat others as we would want to be treated--to care for others as God unfailingly cares for us...to share God's compassion, forgiveness, and hope in us with those we share our day to day with, and those we may just meet once--at the market, in a meeting, at the post office or at school. We meet God face to face everywhere!



As we move into November and naturally toward a season of Thanksgiving, I invite us all to make this a month of Giving Thanks, not just a day. May November be a celebration of and a looking forward to the blessings daily renewed in our lives. Gratitude opens our hearts, minds, and hands like nothing else to grace upon grace--thanks be to God!

Blessings, Katie

**Electronic Recycling Day
Federated Church of Ashland
Saturday, November 12
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

This event will be held rain or shine!

**They will accept all Electronics, Bikes,
Appliances and More!**

**There will be a small cost to you for
recycling your items.**

**There are flyers posted at the church. If you have any questions,
please email Linda at fcoaoffice@verizon.net**





Just a Note!

As I write this note, I am wearing several hats! As a Deacon, we are so pleased to have had 3 Baptisms recently. It is such a pleasure to see young families bringing their children to receive the sacrament of Baptism. Rev. Katie brings all the children to the altar to participate in this joyous occasion. Such fun for all.

Switching now to Family Promise, our host week will be starting on November 13th. We will once again be asked to provide meals and a host for 4 evenings. Our support churches have already signed up to deliver meals on Monday and Wednesday. That leaves only Tuesday and Thursday for us. Please consider providing at least part of a meal. We will also be asked to bring some groceries and gift cards. There will be more information coming in the next couple of weeks.

Family Promise is also sponsoring their big fundraising event of the year. Keeping The Promise will be held virtually on November 12th. There will be a concert and an auction. More to come on that also.

On to our Pumpkin Patch....once again a big success. This year, as you know, we added a bake and craft sale on the weekends. With huge help from Peg Daly this was also a very big success. Special thanks to Gina Guidi McCleary for providing a day of family photographs. Gina donated all of her profits to the church.

Great things are happening here at FCOA and many thanks to all those who have contributed in any way. We could not do these things without the support of this tireless congregation.

With great hope for our future,

Pam Dunham, Co-chair of the Deacons

**Holiday
~ Office Closed ~
Veterans Day – November 11th**



Ukraine Fundraisers

Show your support for the People of Ukraine!
Purchase heart shaped pins in the Ukrainian national flag colors, Flag pins, Sunflower pins or
or
Silk sunflowers.

Small pins (Hearts or Flags) - \$5 each
Large pins (Hearts or Sunflowers) - \$10 each
Silk Sunflowers - \$10 each

If you would like to purchase any of these items, please leave a message in the Church Office @ 508-881-1355 or call Rev. Katie Keene @ 617-721-2002. You may also purchase them at the Thrift Shop on Wednesdays or Saturdays.

100% of All proceeds to benefit the People of Ukraine through the work of the World Central Kitchens in the Ukraine and neighboring countries.



Christmas Boutique
Saturday, December 3
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

There will be crafts, knitted items, jewelry and a food sale. We hope everyone will attend.

Pam Dunham and Melanie Conner

Church Office

The Church Office remains closed.

Linda continues to work from home. If you need to reach her, please feel free to leave a message at the church office 508-881-1355 or send an email to fcoaoffice@verizon.net

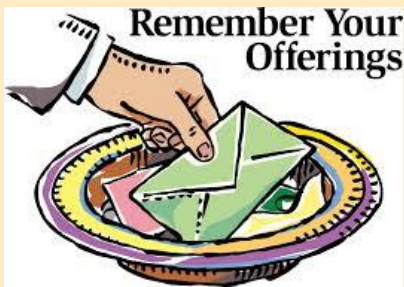
Stay safe and be well, Linda :)



Thanksgiving Holiday
~ Office Closed ~
November 24th and 25th



Church Pledges



Thank you to everyone who continues to faithfully send in their pledges.

If you are able to keep up with your pledge, we would appreciate you mailing it to the church.

For those of you who are unable to contribute at this time - we do understand.

Thank you for your continued support!

Prayer Requests

Prayer needs, concerns and thanksgivings: the prayer life of our community is as vibrant as ever. If you would like to add anything to our weekly prayer list, please leave a message for Linda in the church office 508-881-1355 or send an email to Linda at fcoaoffice@verizon.net



Our Thrift Shop is OPEN ...

Wednesdays 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
AND

Saturdays 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Masks are Required to Enter the Thrift Shop

Donations are accepted the days we are Open.



Sunday Worship Service

We continue to hold in-person worship services at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings in our Sanctuary.

Our worship service is also available live at 10:00 AM on YouTube FCOA.

You may also view any of our past services on YouTube.

Brown Bag Sunday

The Ashland Food Pantry continues to accept donations.

Would you please consider picking up a few extra non-perishable food items while you are grocery shopping?

Donations may be brought to the Church on Sundays between 10:00 -11:00 AM. If you would like to drop off your donations directly at the Community Center, there is a bin located outside.

Thank you for your continued support!



Our Members' Birthdays

November

11/15 Arlene Ripley

11/23 Pam Dunham

December

12/31 Laura Conner



"Thankfulness creates gratitude which generates contentment that causes peace."

~ Todd Stocker

Pastor - Rev. Katheryn Keene
617-721-2002 --- kkeene@townisp.com
Office Manager - Linda Iarussi
Church Office: fcoaoffice@verizon.net
Web Site: federatedchurchashland.org