

# THE UNION COURIER

Union Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
The Reverend Gail L. Miller, Pastor

220 Main Street  
Groton, Massachusetts 01450



## September 2014

FROM THE



PASTOR

## Welcome Home Sunday - It's All Joy!

September 7<sup>th</sup> will feel like "Welcome Home Sunday," as it does every year. Many of us have summer places that we go to each year or each weekend. Still others just can't make it to church at the early time (9:00 instead of 10:00). And so, as the Sanctuary and the Parish House classrooms fill, it feels like a "Homecoming" of sorts.

It's nice to have somewhere to "come home to," isn't it? And while the church is far more than the building, there is something comforting and heartwarming about returning to a place we've not been to for a while. (Like when I go home to Wisconsin each summer, I like to drive by favorite places just to see them again.)

But, as I said, we know that church, as we experience it, is much more than the building. Church is not "a place where..." rather it is "a people who..." How I love to hear the lively buzz throughout the building as we greet friends we've not seen for a while; or we see people at church for the first time whom we know from another setting. The children laughing and running in the yard...Welcome Home!

But what if Home is even more than the building AND the people? What if Home is not just where our heart IS, but where our heart BELONGS? What if Home is not just where we are, but where we're going? What if Home is not just who we're with, but the One who created us and enlivens us?

I think our true home is with God in His fullness as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And, because God did not remain removed, aloof, and distant, but came to earth in Jesus Christ; we have a way in. Jesus Christ is the doorway to our home in God. But I imagine this doorway to be like the "door factory" in the movie *Monsters, Inc.*, that is on the move and coming to us as much as we're going toward it. And I'm sure there are no locks!

Because we believe in a God who is incarnate - that means in the flesh - who came in a body; then we too are not fully with God apart from the body - the body of Christ; which for us is what happens when we gather at 218-220 Main St. in Groton. I've heard from people this week who've shared that, while the summer has been a fun-filled, memory-making time; still they've felt scattered or disconnected from the Lord.

It is true that our faith needs other people to thrive. Our true home is in Jesus Christ, whom we cannot know fully apart from the church - the people God calls not just together, but to HIM.

And so as we reconnect to Christ, as the body of Christ, in the days and weeks to come (read these pages to find a number of ways to do that!)...

*Welcome Home! You are invited in, you are invited back, you are invited!*

If you've been away for the summer, we're eager to see you. If you've been away for longer than the summer, we miss you. If you've been here every week, we'll be looking for you again on Sunday. If you're new to the area and to our church, we're so glad you're here!

In the Joy of the Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail".





# Our Church Family



## Our Ongoing Prayer List

(These names are prayed out loud at Open Sanctuary Time each Wednesday.)

Marvin Bernstein	Sean Koller	Leigh Mezzetti	Rudi Schmid
Tony Biegler	Bob Latvalla	Myrtle Murphy	Opal Smith
Kathi Bond	Doris Lewis	Holly Norton	Betty Sowkin
Vinnie Gambuzza	Janet Luttrell	Lynn O'Brien and Family	Joe Swales
Nicole Irvin	Lavon McMurrian	Adriana Piacentini	Lucille Temple
Walter Kelleher	Middlemiss Family and baby Jack	Brent Peters	Liz Waggoner
Corbin Kinkade			

**This list will be refreshed twice a year.** Feel free to contact Gail Miller or Carol Zaiatz (978-448-2091 or [unioncc@uccgroton.org](mailto:unioncc@uccgroton.org)) to add a name to this list.



- Emily and Dominick Biocchi, whose son, Jonah, was stillborn at 20 weeks on July 16.
- Bob Latvalla, recovering from heart surgery (Bob is Lori McElroy's father).

## Address Change

Marlene Byron (Charlene Kelly's mother) has moved to Nashoba Park in Ayer. If you would like to send a card or call, her new address is:

15 Winthrop Ave, Apt 105  
Ayer, MA 01432  
Phone: 978-487-2030



We are grateful for the two families who made donations (\$300 and \$2,000) to offset the cost of our new Sanctuary piano. We thank God for you!

## September Birthdays

Charles Elwood	9/1	Christine Brooks	9/8	Jack Foster	9/23
Julie Sutherland-Platt	9/1	Cheryl Townsend	9/9	Pat Woods	9/24
Gianna Hitsos	9/2	Corissa Robinson	9/17	William Dean	9/29
Paul Meehan, Jr.	9/5	Russell Byron-Kelly	9/19	Jacob Gervais	9/29
Molly Pratt	9/5	Daniel Flynn	9/20	Cathy Rimkus	9/30
Karen Sherwin	9/6	Emily Townsend	9/21	Nathan Townsend	9/30
		Alyssa Hughes	9/21		

If we missed your birthday, it is not in our database. Please email [unioncc@uccgroton.org](mailto:unioncc@uccgroton.org) to give us your birthday. Also, we would like to recognize significant anniversaries — would you share that information with us?

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# Church News

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## Annual Stated Meeting of the Congregation Sunday, September 14 after Worship (in the Sanctuary)

On the agenda for this meeting is a brief financial update (including on Endowment), an update from the GPS Task Force, and two By-Law changes. Copies of the By-Law changes are available in the church office and on the back tables in the Sanctuary. See or email Stefanie Lempp ( ), if you have any questions about the meeting in general.

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### New Church Office Hours

Carol will be back to her four-day work week starting 9/2, but is changing her hours slightly in order to spend more time with her children during the school year. Both Carol's and Gail's hours for the fall are:

**Carol Zaiatz**

**Tuesday—Friday**

8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

**The Reverend Gail Miller**

**Tuesday**

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Out of Office (available by phone/email, or by appt.)

**Thursday and Friday**

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

*The Office will continue to be closed on Mondays.*

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## Union Congregational Church launches its First *Stephen Ministry* Program! Beginning Saturday, September 13 (7 weeks) 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Our church is now one of more than 10,000 Stephen Ministry congregations—from more than 100 denominations—worldwide.

### What do Stephen Ministers do?

Stephen Ministers bring distinctively Christian care to those in need—within our congregation and the community. Sometimes it takes more than a blanket to warm another person. Sometimes it takes the presence of a caring Christian friend. Stephen Ministers share the warmth of God's love with those who need it most: the lonely, the depressed, the grieving, the stressed and strained.

Is God calling you to reach out to those who are hurting? Are you looking for a way to use your spiritual gifts? Consider serving as a Stephen Minister. This may be just the opportunity you've been looking for. Training starts September 13, 2014, and meets once a week for 7 weeks on Saturdays (except the day of the Harvest Fair, October 4). For more information, please contact Andrea McDonough ( ).

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### New in the Nursery – Bitá Reilley

As Danielle heads back to college, we welcome Bitá as our new Nursery Caregiver. Bitá lives in Townsend, is the mother of 8-year old twin boys, and works as a pre-school teacher at the Goddard School in Westford. She loves children and is already fast friends with the “regulars” in the nursery. Introduce yourself to her before church or during Fellowship Hour.

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# Church News

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## Fellowship Hall Ceiling Replacement

During the month of August, Buildings & Grounds has been overseeing work to remove the Fellowship Hall ceiling and replace it with a new ceiling and lighting. After the initial demolition work was completed, it became clear that the existing framing would not be adequate to

properly install a new drywall ceiling. The new framing work would also add another \$6,000 in costs, nearly a 50% increase over what was budgeted.

After weighing the pros and cons and talking with the Church Council and others in the church, B&G has decided to proceed by installing a drop ceiling. While not as visually pleasing as a plaster ceiling, this option best meets the overall needs of the church, including cost, flexibility, and acoustic advantages over drywall.

The project is now expected to wrap-up by September 15, although we hope to have it done before then. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Jeff Kubick ( ) or ).

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## Next Steps for Christina Williams (Our Sabbatical Pastor) You are Invited - Wednesday, September 10, 7:00 — 9:00 p.m. First Parish Church, Westford (48 Main Street)

Our Sabbatical Pastor, Christina, is on the path to ordination and seeking a call to serve as a pastor in a UCC church. There are many steps along this journey and the next step for her is quite significant. She will have an Ecclesiastical Council — a gathering of pastors and churches from the local area to hear her present her theology and faith journey, after which she will answer questions from anyone present. Then we will vote to approve her for ordination, which gives her the ability to actively seek a church. This is the last big "requirement" and an important moment for her and those who have supported her along the way. *Don Kennedy is planning on attending. If you would like to join him, please call him at to coordinate. The plan is to leave for Westford at 6:00 p.m.*

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## Registration Open!

### Super Saturday

**Saturday, Oct. 25**

### Keefe Regional Technical High School, Framingham

Join hundreds of pastors and lay leaders from across two Conferences for worship, workshops, forums, networking, a marketplace and keynote address by the Rev. M. Linda Jaramillo, Executive Minister of the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries. For more information and to register, go to: <http://www.macucc.org> and click on the Super Saturday link.



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## October Courier

Please submit items for the October Courier by Monday, September 15, in order to be sure they get into this issue. All submissions to the Courier should be emailed to Carol Zaiatz at [unioncc@uccgroton.org](mailto:unioncc@uccgroton.org). Thank you.



# Christian Education

## Sunday School Begins September 7

Registration forms can be found on our website ([uccgroton.org](http://uccgroton.org)) or are available at church. We ask parents to complete the Registration Form (New Student or Returning Student), whether your child will attend Sunday School regularly or occasionally. This ensures that we have current emergency information on hand, as well as any allergies. **Please mail this form to the church office (220 Main Street) or bring it with you on September 7.** The forms will also be available on the 7<sup>th</sup>, along with Sunday School packets. If you have any questions, please contact Carol at the church office (448-2091 or [unioncc@uccgroton.org](mailto:unioncc@uccgroton.org)).



## Third Graders to Receive Bibles Sunday, September 28, during Worship

This is a gift from the church, and we hope all families of third graders who consider this their church will be in worship on September 28 for this special day. As of mid-August, our records show the following kids from our church in the third grade:

Georgia Brooks  
Julia Chase  
Catherine Daly  
Eleanor Kubick

Also, if you are new to the church and have children in the upper elementary grades who don't have a Bible and would like one geared toward children (3<sup>rd</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> graders), please let us know. It is important to us that we not miss anyone, so if your son or daughter is not listed, please call the church office (978-448-2091) so that we can make sure they receive a Bible.

—Pastor Miller and the Christian Education Committee



## Confirmation Class (for kids 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Sunday, Sept. 14, 5:00—6:30 p.m. Informational Meeting  
(Fellowship Hall or Sanctuary)**

**Sunday, Sept. 28, 5:00—6:30 p.m. First Class (Parish House)**

This is an opportunity for our teenagers to learn more about the Christian faith, and how it gets lived out in our daily lives and in our church. New this year: We are inviting youth in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade who are ready to go deeper into the faith, to join with the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders, Pastor Miller and another teacher. The Confirmation experience runs from September through the end of May, and involves faithful attendance at worship, engaging with an adult mentor in the church, 15 "class" sessions at the church, and a variety of other activities to give our teens a full and fun year together. ***Be sure to attend the Informational Meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> — Parents and Kids — even if you're not sure if Confirmation is right for your family, come to learn about it and then decide. Contact Gail if you have questions.***

### Christian Education Committee

—Pete Hnath, Acting Chair  
—Dena Hance

—Jean Armstrong  
—Diane Landry

—Anne Cahill



## Wednesday Evening Bible Study Begins September 3

**7:30 p.m. in the Pastor's Office**

We'll continue to read from Haggai as we learn about key aspects to living in a right relationship to God as the people set about rebuilding God's house. Join us on Wednesday nights at 7:30; no preparation necessary as we read the selection aloud together. *Contact: Janet Kennedy*

## Thursday Morning Bible Study Begins September 18

**10:00 a.m. at 26 Court Street**

We will begin with a study of *Christian Disciplines*. One night Jacob put a rock under his head for a pillow. God spoke in a dream saying he and his descendants would be blessed. When he awoke his first words were not "God is going to bless me." His first thoughts and words were, "God is in this place and I did not know it." Spiritual Disciplines help us be more aware of the presence of God with us. Come and join us as we explore a variety of Christian spiritual disciplines this Fall. Tea, coffee, cookies and sparkling conversation. *Contact: Marvin Caldwell ( )*

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# Grotonfest 2014

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## An Opportunity to Reach Out to Our Community

Our church will have a booth at Grotonfest again this year (our third year participating). Groton's churches (and churches from surrounding towns) are well-represented at Grotonfest and this is an important day for OUR church to also be visible in the community. It's also a wonderful way

for people without a "church home" to get information about us, to ask questions, and to make a connection in a casual setting.

**Saturday, September 20 (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).** We are looking for volunteers to greet people, hand out informational cards and answer any questions people might have about life at UCC. You need not be a Groton resident or have any particular involvement in or knowledge of the church — we are simply looking for people with a warm smile and a willingness to engage in light conversation. There will be at least two people at the booth at all times. Kids are always welcome to help as well. So grab a friend or two and sign up together. If you plan to be there anyway, pick an hour to hang out in our booth. The shifts are short and making connections with friends and newcomers alike is a blessing!

Please contact Carol at [unioncc@uccgroton.org](mailto:unioncc@uccgroton.org) or (978) 448-2091 to choose your preferred time slot. *If you have other questions about helping out that day, feel free to contact Stefanie at*



—Stefanie Lempp, Moderator

# Harvest Fair

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## Harvest Fair Saturday, October 4 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Harvest Fair is almost here! It is a great way to work together, have fun and help the church. Please contact the appropriate chairperson directly if you are interested in being a part of this amazing day. Please feel free to contact Lorrie Morgan (978-448-6898 or [lorrie13@aol.com](mailto:lorrie13@aol.com)), if you have any questions or require any assistance.

- **Bake Sale** – Mark Rzeznikiewicz ( ) : The bake table needs much more than the wonderful pies! Home made items, such as quick breads, muffins, coffee cakes, candy, are all popular, as well as cookies and bars. Think new and different! Jams, jellies, pickles, and relishes are always quick sellers. All foods need to be packaged/wrapped and labeled for nuts. Feel free to do your own pricing.
- **Book Sale** – Martha Dean ( 385): A box is available on the table in the hallway of the church for dropping off books. We welcome adult and children's books in good condition, except for textbooks and encyclopedias.
- **Children's Clothing** – Krista Kubick ( )
- **Children's Toys** – Charlene Kelly ( )
- **Church Crafts**—Erica Davenport ( ) : We are looking for some new, fresh items to include on the church's craft table. We have a lot of knitted items, so other types of crafts would be especially welcome.
- **Craft Table** – Bonnie Martin ( )
- **Jewelry Table** – Mary Hanson ( )
- **Kitchen** – Joel Hughes ( )
- **Pie Baking** – Mary Hanson ( )
- **Christmas Table** – Lois Berge ( ), Lori McElroy ( ), Barbara Wyman ( )
- **Silent Auction** – Kristin Ansted ( )
- **Woodworking** – Leon Avey ( )
- **Yard Sale** – John Biocchi ( )
- **Publicity** – Lorrie Morgan ( )

*Thank you* to everyone! Talk to your neighbors, friends, and families to see if they would like to donate gently used toys, books, children's clothing or whatever!

### Fair Set-up

**Sunday, September 28, After Worship**

Help us take apart the nursery

**Wednesday, October 1, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

- Set up tables in Fellowship Hall
- Bring items to the Church from storage in the Parish House

### Saturday, October 4

- Set-up starts about 7:30 a.m. for everything outside – need many helpers for a couple of hours
- Fair tear-down from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.:
  - Help return items to original locations
  - Clean up trash and leftover yard sale items
  - Rebuild the nursery
  - Pack-up/store yard sale items (bring some boxes) and dump all trash from the day





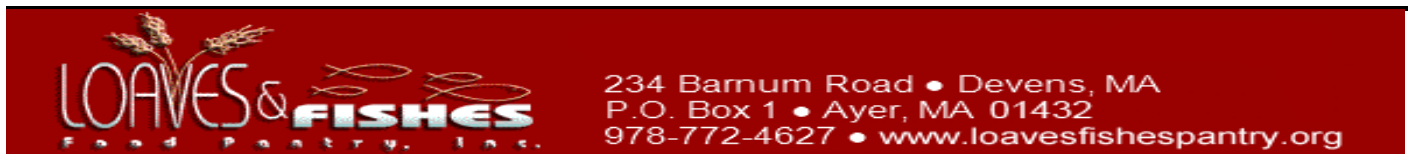
## Inspiration – Joy – Book Swap

### September 21 and 28 during Coffee Hour

On a recent Stewardship Team Retreat, Gail asked a question: “What things in your life spark spiritual growth?” There were a variety of answers, but one of the consistent ones was: ‘from various books that we have read’. As we each told our story of the book that came to mind, we wondered, together, how did those books arrive in our hands? We were also eager to share what we found inspiring in that particular book and the connection we felt to the person or experience that lead us to it.

As we reflected on the discussion we realized that we wanted to share this joy with more of our congregation! And so, on **September 21 and 28**, the Stewardship Team will be facilitating a book swap at coffee hour. The idea is simple: bring to coffee hour any book that you have found to be spiritually inspirational, supportive, centering, or thought provoking, and find another person to give that book to (if you would like your book back, write your name inside the front cover). Share with them what you liked about it, what you found challenging, what you found inspiring. Make the connection — share the joy; and watch the Holy Spirit move among us.

## Missions Committee



**Backpack Drive:** Our annual collection of backpacks and supplies for the 2015 summer delivery to Loaves & Fishes **begins on Sunday, September 7**. During fellowship time following worship, please take an item from the display in the hallway downstairs and return your backpacks or supplies to stairway where you drop off groceries (once Fellowship Hall is completed, the display and returned items will be by the Missions bulletin board). The display will be in place through the month of September. The local area youth are very grateful for these generous donations from our church. *Thanks to Anne Larsen, who has been the organizer for this effort and has delivered the filled backpacks to Loaves & Fishes.*



**Groceries:** Please continue to bring in groceries for Loaves & Fishes. Most needed items currently are:

- |                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Cereal                      | Pasta -Ziti/Rotini/Shells/Rigatoni |
| Hearty Soups                | Pasta Sauce                        |
| Canned White Tuna           | Depends (Lg & XL sizes)            |
| Canned Pasta/Canned Chile   | Feminine Care Products             |
| Helpers and Rice Sides      | Toothpaste & Tooth Brush           |
| Canned Vegetables           | Shampoo/Conditioner                |
| Peanut Butter & Jelly       | Deodorant                          |
| Tomato Paste/Whole Tomatoes | Soap                               |
| Crackers/Snacks             |                                    |

Every little bit helps, so when you are in the grocery store, please consider taking advantage of the specials and donate an item or two. Children love to help in the grocery store. Invite your children to select their favorite cereal or another canned food item to donate.

### Missions Committee

—Janet Kennedy, Chair  
—Janice Flynn

—Tony DiCenzo  
—Larry Robinson



# Music



Here we find ourselves once again: heading back to school, returning from vacations, returning to the regular rhythms of “normal” life. We return as well to the church's regular schedule and to its liturgical year and the observance of God's marvelous plan of salvation — to the unfolding of our Lord's earthly life. We remind ourselves and each other of the old, old story of Jesus and His love, the power of God, the Holy Spirit working in and through us, a new creation, and what that draws forth from us all.

Ultimately, praise and worship is the fruit: bodies presented as living sacrifices, minds and hearts surrendered; willing to think, willing to go, willing to do in accordance with Him who knows our humanness, yet who knows no limitation.

Praise in worship in the church is but a microcosm of this grander “living” worship. We might drill down further and consider praise and worship as a choir or musical group, worshiping on our own behalf yet at the same time laying down the path of worship in sound for others. I am so impressed by the potential I see in our midst. The choral groups, the Bell Choir, all the musicians. We have most recently been blessed with the addition of a marvelous piano, the Pramberger, to accompany us in worship. Also, through the course of these summer days and months, I have come across many marvelous musical pieces that I sense in my mind and spirit are tremendous gifts to us — like letters or messages in the unique language that is music. As such, I believe they are able to deepen spiritual insight in a unique way so that the eyes of our hearts might more fully comprehend who we are in Christ, and what is ours as children of God. Many of these pieces require a certain number and quality of participants to achieve their full potential and communicativeness.

The bottom line: as always, we could use more people! The Adult Choir could use more sopranos, altos, tenors and basses. The Junior Choir can always use new and enthusiastic singers — are there boys out there in the Congregation excited to sing? The Bell Choir is looking for new ringers.

Please give prayerful consideration toward the possibility of joining with us in this unique ministry. I invite you to gather with us for our first rehearsals:

**Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. for the Adult Choir**  
**Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> after worship for the Jr. Choir**

*If interested in the Bell Choir, see Cheryl Townsend; for the Cherub Choir, see Bonnie Marchesani.*

At these times we will have an opportunity to craft a schedule that will meet the needs of the many, and an opportunity to bring forth perhaps greater clarity to what we each and all might contribute to the body of Christ in our unique capacities through the gift of music.

If your unique gifts are in “stained glass,” I invite you to lay down any “lesser materials” you might have been working with, and make haste to join us in crafting a window through which the Son of God will most definitely shine.

Blessings,  
Bernard

## Cherub Choir

**Children ages 3 through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**  
**First Rehearsal: September 14**  
**After Church in the Parish House**



It's time to begin a new Cherub year! After Sunday School, have a drink/snack, then come join us. Learn new songs, sing old favorites and share your favorite songs. Children get paper copies of the music so parents can help them at home. Whenever possible, we also give out a CD of the music. We usually sing in worship 3-4 times a year. Feel free to contact me with any questions (

—Ms. Bonnie

## Junior Choir

**Children 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**First Rehearsal: September 14**  
**After Church in the Sanctuary**



Junior Choir is a wonderful way for young people to participate regularly in worship. We have many new songs and old favorites scheduled. Come join us! Contact me with any question (

Junior  
Choir

—Bernard Crane

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## Music (continued)

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### UCC Faith Ringers. . .“Awesome”

During the Summer, over a four-week session, we had a *Handbells 101* course, which turned out to be a great time. We had seven new people participate, both church members and members from the community. These “rookies” learned the mechanics of the bell, how to ring, mallet, thumb damp, set up the bells and learned a couple of songs.

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, both new and experienced ringers played for the service. All I can say is (much like Gail did). . . IT WAS AWESOME! The choir really played from their hearts and sounded amazing for the little bit of time they had been ringing. So proud of you all!

Looking ahead, the Faith Ringers will play at church once a month thru December, take in a repertory reading session in October, and participate in the GCC Christmas Concert with Edie Tompkins. June 2015 brings us to *Festival Conference at UMass Amherst*. This will be our third time attending this conference, where we attend multiple classes to further our abilities in ringing, hear many concerts by other choirs, and we all join together in a concert on Sunday, June 28. This is open to all, so “*save the date*” and take in an “Awesome” afternoon concert.

—Cheryl Townsend

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#### Music Committee:

—Sheila Mitchell, Chair  
—Jon Morgan

—Paul Brown  
—Bonnie Marchesani

—Heather Houde  
—Barbara Wyman

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## Family Ministry

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Join us as we celebrate Fall with apple picking on September 28 at 2:00 p.m.! There is a fantastic orchard right here in Groton (Autumn Hills) where we can meet, enjoy great scenery and pick some apples together. Contact Corissa Robinson ( ), if you have questions.



# Just So You Know

## Union Congregational Church

### United Church of Christ

220 Main Street  
Groton, Massachusetts 01450  
978-448-2091  
[www.uccgroton.org](http://www.uccgroton.org)

### The Reverend Gail Miller

Cell phone: 978-877-2177

[gail@uccgroton.org](mailto:gail@uccgroton.org)

### Fall Office Hours

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Out of Office\*

Thursday—Friday: 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

\*available by cell phone/email or by appointment

### Carol Zaiatz—Office Administrator

[unioncc@uccgroton.org](mailto:unioncc@uccgroton.org)

### Office Hours

Tuesday — Friday

8:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

*(Church Office is closed on Mondays)*

Music Director: Bernard Crane

Cherub Choir: Bonnie Marchesani

Handbell Choir: Cheryl Townsend

## Church Officers

Moderator: Stefanie Lempp

Treasurer: Kelli Hnath

Clerk: Lori McElroy

Collector: Bob Goudey

## September Deacons

Greg Balligan/Tim Dumont

### Prayer List

Feel free to call the church office to add or remove names from the prayer list.

### Booking Events

When planning meetings, please call the church office to be sure the space is available.

### Sermons

Copies of Pastor Miller's sermons are available on our website.

### Weekly News Email

Gail prepares the email to be sent from the Office Administrator's account, usually on Fridays.

**Name Tags** help us become friends. Please wear yours. Sign up on the nametag list on the small table in the vestibule, call or email the church office. You can use one of the blank name tags in the basket on the table until yours is ready.

## Committee Chairs

### Buildings & Grounds Committee:

Jeff Kubick

### Christian Education Committee:

Pete Hnath (Acting Chair)

### Church Council Member-at-Large:

John Gervais

### Diaconate Committee:

Tim Dumont

### Endowment Committee:

Lorrie Morgan

### Missions Committee:

Janet Kennedy

### Music Committee:

Sheila Mitchell

### Pastor Parish Relations Committee:

Bebe Goudey

### Stewardship & Finance Committee:

Liz Smith

Union Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
220 Main Street  
Groton, MA 01450

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## Welcome to Church!

**September 7:** Worship at 10:00 a.m.

**Start of Sunday School:** (PreK through 7<sup>th</sup> graders)

Registration/Orientation/*The Promise of the Holy Spirit* Lesson

**Joyful Fellowship** after worship on the front lawn

**September 14**

**Junior and Cherub Choir Rehearsals begin** (see p. 9)

**Confirmation Information Meeting at 5:00 p.m.** (see p. 5)

**Saturday, September 20**

**UCC Booth at Grotonfest** (see p. 6)

**Saturday, October 4**

**41<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Fair, 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.** (see p. 7)

**EVERY Wednesday: Open Sanctuary, 7:30—8:15 p.m.**

An opportunity for a peaceful moment in the quiet of our Sanctuary. All are welcome!