

# THE UNION COURIER

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

220 Main Street  
Groton, Massachusetts 01450



## November 2014



Your "front page" this month comes from David Lose. David used to be a preaching professor where I went to seminary, and is now the President of The Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia. If I could have written this, I would have! I share his thinking 100%.

Margaret Atwood's poem *The Moment* expresses a beautiful understanding of stewardship as far more than having to do with our finances. Here is David's reflection:

*A sense of ownership, of deserving, of having earned the good we enjoy in this life is, I believe, the mortal enemy of gratitude. For gratitude recognizes our empty hands and can only give thanks for what has filled them. Gratitude looks around in wonder at all that furnishes our life and feels no sense of accomplishment, only a surprised delight in good fortune. When we feel grateful it is hard to be mean or cruel or indifferent, for we perceive that all of life is a gift, and gifts make us feel special and capable and both responsible and responsive. How can we not give back when we realize how much has been given to us?*

*But the moment we've decided that we are not stewards but owners, not recipients but creators, not blessed but entitled, all the wonder and magic of the world vanishes, leaving us alone with our self-satisfied hearts, grateful to no one but ourselves, connected by no obligation of love or duty, triumphant in our loneliness.*

*May we never tarry in such moments for long.  
Not on Thanksgiving. Not at Christmas. Not  
even on our birthday or the day of our  
promotion or retirement. No, not ever.*

*God has blessed us, sought us out, and found us.  
And acknowledging that in grateful surprise is  
surely the beginning of both wisdom and  
happiness. Which, when you think about it,  
means that perhaps the most important words  
to say across the journey of our lives is not,  
finally, "I love you," but the shorter, sweeter  
phrase, "Thank you."*

Thank you, David Lose, for your good words.

And thank you God for everything!

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

### The Moment

*The moment when, after many years  
of hard work and a long voyage  
you stand in the centre of your room,  
house, half-acre, square mile, island, country,  
knowing at last how you got there,  
and say, I own this,*

*is the same moment when the trees unloose  
their soft arms from around you,  
the birds take back their language,  
the cliffs fissure and collapse,  
the air moves back from you like a wave  
and you can't breathe.*

*No, they whisper. You own nothing.  
You were a visitor, time after time  
climbing the hill, planting the flag, proclaiming.  
We never belonged to you.  
You never found us.  
It was always the other way round.*



# Our Church Family



## Ongoing Prayer List

**Our Ongoing Prayer List:** (These names are prayed out loud at Open Sanctuary Time each Wednesday.)

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

This list is 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.

### Confidential Prayer Chain

**Need prayer and need it now?** Simply email [prayer@uccgroton.org](mailto:prayer@uccgroton.org) and your request will go to the confidential pray-ers; or call Lori McElroy (978-448-2841) and she will put your prayer request in motion for you. Prayer requests are held in confidence among those who are praying for you, and you may request that your name be withheld.



**PRAYERS**  
*of the*  
**CHURCH**

- Skip and Peg Lloyd and family, in the death of Skip's mother, Priscilla, on October 7.
- Arthur Smith (Liz Smith's father), home after being hospitalized.
- Bill Shute, home recovering from surgery.
- Peg DeBruyn, a former member of our church, undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- Family and friends of Alice Vlahos, who died and was buried October 23.
- Dick and Andrea Burrier — Dick is receiving treatment for cancer.
- Howard, Laura and the Hecht family, in the death of Howard's grandfather in Minnesota.

### New Opportunity: The Birthday Fund!

This is a fun way to contribute above and beyond your regular giving to the church to something above and beyond our normal operating budget. Simply make a donation on (or around) your birthday in the amount of your age (Memo: Birthday Fund)! Did your kids receive birthday money from Grandma and Grandpa? Have them share with the church \$5 or \$10 or \$15! If everyone participates, this will add up to a significant amount. The Church Council and the Finance people will work out the details around deciding what the Birthday Fund Gift will be at the end of each year. We are grateful to Helen Misselhorn for planting the seed of this idea at her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration at church in October. Let's join her and watch our gifts grow! Birthday Fund to date: \$168.

## November Birthdays

Lisa Hitsos	11/02	Liam Colbert	11/07	Kelli Hnath	11/19
Makayla Hughes	11/02	Phil Pratt	11/08	Michael Gambuzza	11/20
Caroline Caiozzo	11/03	Halsey Platt	11/10	Bryce June	11/21
Julia Chase	11/05	Emma Chase	11/11	Robert Rosenfeld	11/22
Hailey Sullivan	11/05	Jacqueline Gervais	11/11	Sally Waite	11/22
Connie Wall-Haas	11/06	Erica Davenport	11/12	Izzy Smith	11/24
Austin Hance	11/06	Samuel Landry	11/13	Briana Manalo	11/25
Ken Hance	11/06	Heather Houde	11/16	Barbara Gale	11/26
Liam Colbert	11/07	Kim Daly	11/18	Martha Foster	11/27
Anna Noelle Rimkus	11/07	Bonnie Chase	11/18	Scott Delandy	11/29
Emily Grace Rimkus	11/07	Leon Avey	11/19	Diana Mendel	11/30

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?

# Church News

---



## Congregational Budget Meeting Sunday, November 23 Sanctuary (after Worship)

The Church Council and the Stewardship & Finance Committee invite all members to review and approve the 2015 budget. **Copies of the proposed budget will be available in the Sanctuary and the Church Office beginning November 9**—please read it!

Questions may be directed to our Treasurer, Kelli Hnath (

), Liz Smith, Stewardship & Finance (

), Moderator Stefanie

Lempp (

), or Reverend Gail Miller.

---

## Church Council

## October Meetings

---

The Church Council held two meetings: October 8 (budget discussion) and the 22<sup>nd</sup> (regular business).

The 2015 budget was reviewed. The congregation will approve it on November 23 at the Congregational Meeting; it will be available to the congregation November 9.

The current budget is on track; the contingency fund has not been used.

The use of Robert's Rules in a church setting was discussed. Does the use of Robert's Rules facilitate or hinder us as we are lead by the Holy Spirit?

The Nominations Task Force is being formed.

---



## Decorate the Sanctuary Saturday, November 30 9:30 a.m.

Kick off the holiday season with the Deacons for the annual decorating of the church Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Bring the whole family for a festive morning of beautifying the church. There will be special treats and hot cocoa available. Please join us, everyone welcome!



---

## December Courier

Please submit items for the November Courier by Friday, November 14, 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.*

---

## Recent Births and Baptisms

---

### Congratulations:

- **Bill and Kristin Colbert** in the birth of their daughter, **Marin Alane Colbert**, born on September 3.
  - **Janet and Don Kennedy** in the birth of their first grandchild, **Amelia Charlotte Spencer**, on October 28.
  - **Barb and Ken Lefebvre** in the birth of their first grandchild, **Emma Margaret Lefebvre** (born to Ben & Sarah Lefebvre — Ben is a member of our church), on 10/24/14. The name Margaret is after Barb's mother, who passed away this year.
  - **Dylan Scott Hughes and the Hughes Family** — Dylan was baptized on Sunday, October 26.
-

# Knitting Group / B&G / Sunday School



## Wednesday Morning Knitting Group Every Wednesday in the Church Parlor 10:00 a.m. to noon

This gathering is for anyone who likes to knit, crochet, needlepoint, embroidery. All are welcome! Contact Erica Davenport ( ) or ( )



## Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Winter Shoveling

As you know, winter is coming and with it comes snow. Buildings and Grounds will be prepared, but could use some help. We'll have shovels, salt, and sand at church — when you finish your driveway, lend a hand here on Sunday mornings to clear a sidewalk or two. Contact Jeff Kubick (978-448-2589, [jpkubick@gmail.com](mailto:jpkubick@gmail.com)) or any member of the Buildings & Grounds Committee.

### Buildings & Grounds

—Jeff Kubick, Chair  
—Chris Sullivan

—John Brooks  
—Joe Zambuto

—John Biocchi

## Sunday School Schedule



November 2—All Saints Sunday  
*Be Humble* Matthew 23:1-12

November 9—*Ten Bridesmaids*  
Matthew 25:1-13

November 16—Pledge Sunday  
*Parable of the Talents* Matthew 25:14-30

November 23—*Sheep and Goats*  
Matthew 25:31-46

November 30—Carols and Crafts  
Fellowship Hall



## Can You Help?

We need volunteers to spend one hour doing some of the most fulfilling work of the church—teaching our children about God's love. We still have lots of openings on the calendar. Please sign up on the white-board in the hallway downstairs or by email to Carol Zaiatz in the Church Office ([unioncc@uccgroton.org](mailto:unioncc@uccgroton.org)).

### Christian Education Committee

—Anne Cahill, Chair  
—Diane Landry

—Jean Armstrong

—Dena Hance

# Stewardship & Finance

# Treasurer Position

---

## Stewardship & Finance

---

The FY2015 proposed budget will be ready for review on November 9<sup>th</sup> and the all-church meeting to approve the budget will be on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please take the time to read through the proposed budget and let us know your questions. Any of us can answer them or refer you to someone who can. There are a few proposed changes from 2014 that we would like to highlight:

1. We recommend hiring a clerk to assist with accounts payable, bookkeeping, check preparation and other similar duties. The cost for this is \$3,000.
2. We are anticipating income of \$1,000 from sale of the piano.
3. We have an accrual for future pastor sabbatical of \$2,500.
4. We have added a new line for Stephen Ministry (under Diaconate) to cover materials for the new Stephen Ministry program.
5. The U.C.C. Massachusetts Conference has modified their request for contributions from member churches as follows. No annual dues per member will be charged, this amount has been combined with Our Church's Wider Mission and together they are a contribution that will help the U.C.C. fund mission-related work. We are calling this new line U.C.C. Contribution and the amount for 2015 is \$9,240. (Compared to \$8,000 combined in 2014.)
6. Our 2015 Budget funds operating expenses, but not capital requests.

---

## Treasurer Position

---

In addition to the changes above, we are looking for a volunteer to serve as Treasurer starting a three-year term in January. After five years of dedicated service, Kelli Hnath is "retiring" at the end of this year. They are big shoes to fill, but we just know that there is someone in our congregation with the skills, aptitude, and desire to serve in this way. The duties of the Treasurer include the following and take about 8-10 hours per month (somewhat more at budget time in the fall and Annual Report time in December/January).

- Accountability for all church finances
- Ensure complete record-keeping of receipts and expenditures
- Provide an itemized report of funds at the Annual Church Meeting
- Support the preparation of the annual budget
- Present current financial reports to the Church Council, and church ministries and committees at Council meetings
- Present all financial reports to the Church Council upon request or to legal successor at expiration of term
- Member of Stewardship and Finance Committee
- Member of Church Council
- Serve as one of the Church Officers

The following qualifications are important for the Treasurer:

- Strong analytical ability and attention to detail
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively
- Comfortable presenting to small and large groups
- Proficiency in Excel and Quickbooks required
- Background in finance or accounting

If you have any questions regarding the budget or any of the changes outlined above, please contact Kelli Hnath ( ), Liz Smith ( ) or any of the Stewardship & Finance Committee.

---

**Stewardship & Finance**

—Liz Smith, Chair  
—Don Kennedy

—Scott Burgess  
—Liz McQuillin

—Drew Davenport  
—Bruce Wyman





## Stewardship: Finding the Joy

The Stewardship team is very excited to share with you a new approach to giving this year....and at the same time, we wonder how ready we are to receive it. Our message is radically different from anything that we have done before. Our approach this year is the result of four years of prayer, reading and research, thinking together, and talking with you. We finally feel like we have quieted our own voices and listened to God. And we hope that, through our efforts, you will be brought closer to God, as we de-emphasize funding the budget and emphasize giving to God as a way to grow closer to God. This is a radical idea! Stewardship bringing each of us closer to God?? How could that be?? Why should that be??

Well, we believe that it can be and should be. This is what every committee, task force, and individual in our church is to be working toward: growing closer to God, and inspiring others into closer relationships with God as well.

So how do we wrap our minds and hearts around this new way of thinking about stewardship? Pray. Then read the stewardship letter (posted on the main page of the church's website), slowly, carefully. Pray, again. Think about the fact that in the letter is a radical, beautiful, grace and joy-filled way of thinking about stewardship. Re-read the letter. Pray about what dreams you have for the church, listen to hear what dreams God has for our church. Realize that the seeds to fulfill that dream are in our midst; they are right here. We simply need to receive the gifts of God's grace and blessings and respond with joy in our giving back to God. What a great idea!

In joy and hope,

Your Stewardship Team

*Be Inspired! Share The Joy!*

Pledge Sunday

November 16<sup>th</sup>

**The 2015 Stewardship Team**

—Bob Goudey

—Liz McQuillin

—Gail Miller

—Halsey Platt

—Craig Smith

## Bible Study

### Wednesday Evening Bible Study

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

We begin a new book in The Present Word series titled *Sustaining Hope*, which is "a study of the hope Israel will experience as seen through the eyes of the prophet Jeremiah as told to him by the Lord. Israel will be brought back from captivity. Restoration is coming." Join us on Wednesday evenings as we read the scripture and lesson together followed by discussion. No prior experience needed. All are welcome.

Contact Janet Kennedy if you are interested in joining.

### Thursday Morning Bible Study

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

Thursday Morning Bible Study wraps up its investigation of Christian Spiritual Disciplines in mid-November with Simplicity. Advent is in the offing, so we will begin our preparations in Isaiah using an Advent devotional booklet by the UCC Still Speaking Writers Group. As always, conversation abetted by coffee, tea and cookies will be penetrating, meaningful and lively. Come join us. Contact Marvin Caldwell ( )

# Missions



On November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, the Missions Committee is organizing the Thanksgiving food drive to benefit *Loaves & Fishes*. The need has never been greater. Let's commit to bring in bags of food to make local families' Thanksgiving holiday feast a memorable one. See the list below for most-needed Thanksgiving items. ***Turkeys (over 16 lbs.), hams (3 lbs, 5 lbs and larger), and frozen fruit pies are needed also; but these items need to be dropped off at Loaves & Fishes during open pantry or food collection hours.***

The following items can be dropped off at church on the landing leading to the Sanctuary:

- Supermarket Gift Cards (\$15 & \$20)
- Stuffing Mix
- Turkey or Chicken Gravy
- Turkey or Chicken Broth
- Cranberry Sauce
- Holiday Snacks (Fancy crackers, nuts, candy)
- Olives & Pickles
- Canned Yams
- Canned Pumpkin
- Canned vegetables
- Coffee/Tea/Cocoa
- Juice

**Thank you** to all who gave their time at the Ayer-Shirley recycling event on Oct 19<sup>th</sup> packing boxes of donated food. Your efforts were greatly appreciated!

-----

## The Giving Tree Tewksbury State Hospital Residents

Are you beginning to think about Christmas gifts for your loved ones? Can you add one more name to your list? The Giving Tree, located in the back of Fellowship Hall, will feature the name of a patient and the gift he/she would like to receive. Many of these residents no longer receive support from their families. Our generous gifts are a substantial part of their holiday celebration. Please consider taking a patient's "wish" gift from the tree later this month, signing the itemized list at the Missions table, and returning your unwrapped gift to the designated box by December 14<sup>th</sup>.



## Missions Sunday November 2



**Our Own Youth Missionaries Preaching and Slide Show during Worship** This day gives us the opportunity to learn about the organizations and projects our church supports through your generous pledge and contributions. After worship, join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall at our Missions Market to learn about each organization in more detail. There will be crafts for the kids, including an opportunity to color a picture and write a note to Carlos, who lives in El Salvador. The Church sponsors Carlos through a donation to the Unbound organization.

-----

**Missions Committee**

—Janet Kennedy, Chair  
—Janice Flynn

—Tony DiCenzo  
—Larry Robinson

## Harvest Fair



## The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Harvest Fair

Another success—the numbers aren't finalized, but it looks like we received around \$8,000 profit. A special thanks to Joel Hughes and his kitchen helpers for providing delicious treats, soups, sandwiches, Rappie Pie and desserts; to the Grill Team (Jon Sjoborg and Bob Goudey); Liz McQuillin and Barbara Wyman for Attic Treasures; Krista Kubick and her helpers for Children's Clothing; Martha Dean and her helpers for Books; John Biocchi and his helpers for the Yard Sale; Charlene Kelly for Children's Toys; Rev. Skip Lloyd and Drew Davenport for the moon bounce; Erica Davenport and her helpers for the Craft Table; Leon Avey for Woodcrafts; Mark Rzeknikiewicz and his helpers for the Bake Table; Bert and Edie Tompkins for generously opening their kitchen to us for pie baking, to all the pie bakers, and Mary Hanson for coordinating it all.

Thank you to Kristin Ansted and Ginny Fraser for the Silent Auction. There were many beautiful items and the table generated quite a bit of interest. As always, it brought in a nice profit for the fair!

A special thank you to Bonnie Martin for her guidance and work behind the scenes helping to make this a successful day!

Finally, thank you to all those who took time out of their day to help us set up and clean up and to the bakers and crafters and floaters. We couldn't do what we do without your support!

---

## Clothing Drive for City Reach

***Bring your donations to Church by Sunday, November 9***



## Donations for the Homeless

***This homeless ministry in Boston is in particular need of winter coats, backpacks and socks (new white).***

### ITEMS NEEDED

- Backpacks, tote bags, fanny packs, small suitcases with wheels (used and in good condition)
- Travel-size toiletries such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, lotion, Chapstick, toothpaste, and shaving cream in small sizes, as well as tooth brushes and disposable razors, and tampons in small quantities (please no aftershave or mouthwash containing alcohol)
- New white socks (there can never be too many of these)
- New underwear (again, there can never be too many — 80% for men, 20% for women)
- Sleeping bags and blankets (clean and in good condition)

### **USED CLOTHING, including:**

- Nylon jackets and pants, ponchos, and raincoats for Spring & Fall
- Warm coats for Winter
- Sweat shirts and sweat pants (especially hooded sweatshirts)
- Sweaters
- T-shirts
- Long-sleeve shirts
- Jeans, khakis and other casual pants (80% for men)
- Waterproof boots, comfortable shoes, and sneakers
- Hats, waterproof gloves, coats
- Belts

***Donations can be dropped off in the alcove adjacent to the nursery in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning or in the Parish House mid-week.***



## You are invited to Serve the Homeless in Boston City Reach

**Friday-Saturday, 11/14-11/15**

*Reserve your spot via email to Gail Miller ([gail@uccgroton.org](mailto:gail@uccgroton.org)).* The trip will cost \$100/person—\$65 is a required donation to City Reach to fund their program and \$35 is for transportation, food, etc. The official departure and return times will be finalized later, but plan on approximately 5:00 p.m. Friday to 5:00 p.m. Saturday.

---

## GPS—God's Purpose Seekers

---

For the past year, we have spent time reading, praying, listening, discussing and discerning.

### Reading

Since we began, we have been reading *What's Theology Got To Do With It?*, by Tony Robinson, discussing about a chapter a month, and are nearly finished with it. We also read articles we found along the way, some written by Christians for the church, some by experts in the fields of organizational management and leadership.

### Prayer

We spend a lot of time in prayer — sometimes we pray through the church directory for each person by name; sometimes we pray the Scriptures and let the Holy Spirit direct our thoughts; sometimes we visualize the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning and pray for the people who come to our minds eye; sometimes we pray silently.

### Listening

The first half of 2014 was spent on the Congregational Inventory: preparing it, administrating it, and then gathering the results into a shareable document (handed out at the GPS Open House Wed., Oct. 29, and available in the church office). We have also met with the Church Council twice and held an Open House on October 29.

### Discussing

We have talked about our history and our hopes for the future. We have talked about where we as a congregation are most alive and where we are getting tired. We talk about our life together and what Christ wants for his church in general, and specifically for us. We talk about leadership and change, about caring for the congregation we are and serving those God brings our way. We talk about the joys and the cost of discipleship.

### Discerning

Put all this together and we are discerning what God wants for us as the Body of Christ. We listen for the Holy Spirit to speak through each person at our meetings, and through everyone we talk with at church.

We are grateful for the 20 people who attended the Open House. The conversation was spiritual, thoughtful, and uplifting. Please continue to pray for us as we are humbly serving as God's Purpose Seekers; and find any of us at any time to learn more, share your thoughts, ask your questions.

---

GPS Task Force	—Bonnie Biocchi	—Tim Dumont	—Mary Hanson	—Pete Hnath
	—Gail Miller	—Halsey Platt	—Larry Robinson	

---

# Middle School / Committees / December

Join Us!



## Middle School Youth Ministry Party at the Pastor's House!

**Tuesday, November 11 (Veteran's Day)**

**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**14 Howard Rd., Maynard**

Need something for the kids (grades 5-8) on the "no school" day? Send them on a field trip to Pastor Gail and Sophia's home. We'll play group games and enjoy a simple lunch together. Contact Kelli Hnath ( ) or Leslie Row ( ), who are coordinating transportation to and from Maynard. See you then and there!



## Serving on Committees and Ministries

As we prepare for the Annual Meeting in early 2015 (when the "turnover" of committee members occurs), The Church Council invites you to let us know your interest in serving on Committees and Ministries. *Committee* positions require formal membership in the church and *Ministry* positions allow for anyone to serve. The current Committee/Ministry Roster can be found inside the blue Church Directory (available on the back tables in the Sanctuary).

Feel free to approach Stefanie Lempp (Moderator) or Pastor Miller with your questions or to express an interest in a particular Committee or Ministry.

## Coming in December

### Cookies 'N Carols

**Sunday, December 7 after Church**  
**Mark Your Calendars!**

We'll be looking for bakers and **SINGERS!**  
Watch for details in the weekly emails and Sunday morning announcements.



**Sunday, December 14**  
**2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.**

**Monday, December 15**  
**7:30 p.m.**

Come and enjoy the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Groton Community Christmas Concert. There will be wonderful music of the season, sung by children and adults from Groton and 11 surrounding communities; Edie Tompkins, Director. This concert is held in our Sanctuary and is free (though donations will be accepted at the door).

# Daylight Savings

# Just So You Know



## Daylight Savings Ends Sunday, November 2

Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 1!



### 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**

### October Deacons

Martha Dean/Brenda Semienko

### Committee Chairs

**Buildings & Grounds Committee:**

**Jeff Kubick**

**Christian Education Committee:**

**Anne Cahill**

**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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
GROTON, MA 01450  
PERMIT #23

**DATED MATERIAL**  
**PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

[ ] *PLEASE REMOVE ME FROM YOUR MAILING LIST*

## **November Highlights**

### **November 2—All Saints Sunday/Missions Sunday**

- ♦ Youth Missionaries preach and slide show in worship
- ♦ We ring the bell for those who have died this past year
- ♦ Holy Communion
- ♦ Senior Choir sings
- ♦ “Ministry Market” in the Fellowship Hall (see p. 7)

### **Tuesday, November 11 (Veteran’s Day)**

**Middle School Youth Ministry—Party at the Pastor’s House**  
(see p. 10)

### **November 16—Pledge Sunday** (see p. 6)

- ♦ We bring our Pledges forward in worship as an offering to God
- ♦ Senior Choir and Handbell Choir

### **November 23**

- ♦ Senior Choir sings
- ♦ Congregational Budget Meeting after Worship (see p. 3)

### **November 30**

- ♦ First Sunday in Advent (Thanksgiving weekend)

