

THE NEW COVENANT



News of the Family from The United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville

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"Homespun Holidays" will be held on Saturday, November 13th in Fellowship Hall from 10:00 to 2:00. Suzanne Santoro is chairing this event. Masks will be required for this Mission Fundraiser. If you want to donate crafts, now is the time to get busy!



Theme baskets will be featured at Homespun Holidays. Suzanne Santoro will have starter baskets available at a later date.



**October
2021**

The United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville

51 Cottage St. (church) - 7 Spring St. (office), Whitinsville, MA 01588

Phone: 508.234.8220 Website: www.whitinpres.org www.facebook.com/whitinpres

Office E-mail: whitinpres@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Susan DeHoff: sldehoff@verizon.net

Office Hours: 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM Monday, & Tuesday

8:30 AM- 12:30 PM Wednesday, & Friday

The church office is CLOSED on Thursdays

If you would like to see the newsletter in color, please view it on the website.

~ **October– November** ~

Ministries	October 10	October 17	October 24	October 31	November 7
Worship Leader	L. Walsh	R. Thomas	J. Finnegan	M. Alling	S. Santoro
Greeters	W. Colonero	T. Morin	B. Giemza	J. Baker	James D. Baker
Ushers	J. Baker	K. Miedema	M. Mercer	D. Baker	K. Miedema
Sound Board	G. Giemza	M. Thomas	G. Giemza	G. Giemza	G. Giemza
Power Point	R. Thomas	K. Bilodeau	K. Mercer	M. Mercer	L. Joyce
Media	K. Mateer	J. Tobin	K. Mateer	K. Mateer	K. Mateer
Coffee Fellowship	Jim & Deb			Heritage Sunday	

October Birthday Corner

Laura Joyce 10/2
 Gabe Stone 10/10
 Cindy Frieswyk 10/12
 Robie Sabourin 10/17
 Madison Ireland 10/18
 Jen Schelin 10/27
 Chuck Phoebe 10/31

October Anniversary Corner

Chris & Rena Matchett 10/3
 Chuck & Susan Phoebe 10/4
 Walter & Lois Convent 10/7
 Mike & Joanne Zeis 10/18
 Matt & Kristen Stone 10/23



*****Sunday Morning Worship Schedule*****

Adult Education 9:30AM - 10:30AM
Morning Worship Service 10:30AM - 11:30AM

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them" Matthew 18:20



Blessings. I see that word a lot around the church. *Someone* clearly wants us to remember that God blesses us and to think about that fact throughout the day. Wise person!

There is a tendency to funnel all our thoughts about our blessings into the month of November. Given that God does not limit the *giving* of blessings to just one month a year, it seems fitting to focus some attention on them in a different month. October seems a fine month for remembering and thanking God for all the many blessings God continually gives to the United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville.

Let's start with the people God has called to be a part of the church family over the years. Take some time some evening (or morning) and make a list of members of the family and the gifts they bring to the work and mission of the church. And list more than just your closest friends! It is truly amazing. No matter what the need, whether it be musical talent, administrative talents, gifts for teaching, leading, fixing plumbing and electrical systems, operating technology equipment, providing child care and care for those in need of food, clothing, and shelter, or a host of other needs, there are enough people in this church family to take care of the needs, and *no one* has to work solo! There are always at least two people with complementary gifts and talents to work together in whatever ministry is needed. Ministry should be and is *shared*.

God blesses this church with opportunities for a variety of ministries. It really is not a blessing to have certain gifts, talents, and abilities if there is no ministry or mission that can benefit from them! God does not give any of us such useless gifts and talents. We are richly blessed with both local and global opportunities to which to give the gifts God has given us to give away. Wouldn't it be awful if you had a gift that no one could use?

God also blesses us with the financial resources that we need. A year ago, when there was fear among several of our leaders that the church would end the year with a \$44,000 deficit, some people kept saying, "No, God will provide. People in the church always rise to the occasion, and the church will be fine." We ended the year with a surplus.

Not the least of the blessings is that God has given and continues to give people strength to carry out the jobs of the ongoing ministry and mission of the church. People donate of their time with a generosity that only God can instill. In April I saw ladies pull together at the last minute to organize, provide materials for, and be on hand to supervise the Easter Festival for the church's children. No one waited to be told what to do or what was needed; each person saw a need, matched it up with her own talents and resources and went to work. Talk about a family project! That coming together has happened and continues to happen at other times, too.

Oh, I know all about the power plays, the jealousies, the temper tantrums, the self-ambitions, and the ostracizing that go on. God knows all about them, too! And those certainly are not blessings. But those problems exist in all families and all churches to varying degrees. They do not and should not mask the overwhelming supply of blessings that God provides in abundance. So make your list of the people and gifts that bless this church, and give God a heartfelt prayer of thanks. Not just once in a while, but at least once a day. And sometime when you see someone who has made a wonderful contribution in some way, say "Thank you! I sure am glad you're part of this church family." You don't need to look far to find someone to thank.

Rev. Dr. DeHoff

Understanding the August Treasurer's Report

At the Annual Meeting there was concern raised about the \$32,735 budget deficit. The following summarizes the changes Session has made to the Proposed Budget to address that deficit. You should refer to the August Budget Report to see the changes made to the 2021-2022 column information that is summarized below:

Page	Change Made	Reason
1	Regular Offerings from \$117,300 to \$126,000	Increase. Compromise between last year's \$135,000 and this years \$117,300.
1	"Total Income" to "Subtotal Income"	Wording change since we will be using money from the New Covenant Fund to help pay for driveway and roof repairs. New subtotal of \$155,765.
2	Christian Ed. Curriculum from \$500 to \$300	Reduced. Amount still more than last year's spending for this item.
2	"Facilities" to "Annual Facilities"	Wording change to highlight type of expenses.
2	Repairs – Church from \$7500 to \$3075	Reduced. Removed driveways repairs expense.
2	Repairs – Manse from \$18,000 to \$2000	Reduced. Removed manse and garage roofs repairs expense.
2	"Facilities Subtotal" to "Annual Facilities Subtotal"	Wording change since header changed. New subtotal of \$41,730
2	New section "Non-Annual Facilities"	Header for new section that lists non-annual facilities items.
2	Repair – Driveway**	Non-annual facilities item with expense of \$4425
2	Repair – Manse and Garage Roofs**	Non-annual facilities item with expense of \$18,000
2	Non-annual Facilities Subtotal	New section subtotal of \$22,425.
2	***Funds come from the New Covenant..."	Comment line indicating where the funding of the budget line item is coming from.
3	Per Capita from \$5376 to \$1930	Reduced. Most of the 2021 Per Capita was paid for in last years budget. The remaining balance for 2021 was \$1930.
3	Annual Operating Expenses	New line that subtotals all annual expenses.
3	Non-annual Operating Expenses	New line that shows subtotal of non-annual expenses.
3	Operating Expense Total	Reduced. New total of \$178,154.18.
3	Income subtotal	New line that shows subtotal of income.
3	Funds for Non-annual Operating Expense**	New line that indicates by the "***" where the funds for non-annual expenses come from.
3	Income Total	New line that shows the total income of \$178,190.
3	Net Operating Income/Loss	New total that shows the church is "in the black" by \$35.82.

So for August we now have a balanced budget under the 2021-2022 column, so you might ask why does our August YTD total now have a deficit? To understand why you need to focus on the last column of the budget report and look at items that have expended over 25% of their budgets.

Line Item	YTD % used	YTD \$	\$ at 25%
Pulpit Supply	57%	\$800.00	\$350.00
Repairs – Office	136%	\$410.00	\$75.00
Furnace Maintenance	44%	\$441.27	\$250.00
Fire Alarm Maintenance and Inspection	47%	\$574.39	\$300.00
Insurance	106%	\$8521.00	\$2000.00
Per Capita	100%	\$1930.00	\$482.50
Offering Envelopes	95%	\$335.74	\$87.50
Total \$		\$13,012.40	\$3545.00

The table above shows that if the 7 items listed had only used 25% of their budgets, the spending would have been \$3545. Instead, what was spent totaled \$13,012.40. This difference of over \$9400 accounts for part of the reason why we are showing a significant deficit at this time. As the year progresses and giving catches up with the money spent, the deficit will decrease and should disappear, like it has in prior years.

Please contact the office if you would like a copy of the
August Treasurer's Report.

Blackstone Valley Crop Hunger Walk

Saturday October 16th, 2021 NEW starting location this year ONLY due to CWS request to remain outdoors 8:30am registration, including Covid waivers Under the portico Village Congregational Church 5 Church St Whitinsville MA 01588 Walk begins 9:00am Rain or Shine Route signs will be posted Three (3) mille walk to the Community House, Uxbridge Center Prepackaged refreshments served outside only donate online: www.crophungerwalk.org/northbridgema contact Coordinator Tanya Morin 508-341-6652 or danvillegirl348@gmail.com. Checks can be made out to CWS and given to Tanya or they can be dropped off at the church office.

Heritage Sunday– October 31st

The church family is once again looking forward to Heritage Sunday on October 31st. We will celebrate our church's heritage along with our denominations Reformations Heritage. There will be special music and stories to share and friends with whom to reconnect. Perhaps some folks who have moved away can return for this special occasion. There will be the gathering of the 50 year members for the annual photo op. immediately following the service. We would also like to recognize whoever has been a member of a Christian church for 50 years or more. Many of you have met that milestone. If you or anyone you know may newly qualify for this recognition please notify the church office.

Sincerely, The Worship Committee

“Homespun Holidays 2021”

Mark you calendars everyone!

People of all ages will have such fun!
Saturday, the 13th of November at 10,
Is when our fair will begin.

Fellowship Hall will burst at it's seams.
Unique crafts dangling from the beams.
Our gifted crafters work throughout the year,
to offer the shoppers some holiday cheer!

Results from the harvests make a great gift
for jams, jellies, and relishes give us a lift.
Shoppers arrive in a holiday mood,
and dash immediately right for the food!

The famous Cookie Walk, the talk of the town.
No greater variety will ever be found.
The seasoned bakers do offer much more.
Cakes, squares, fudge galore,
The variety of pies is quite the thing,
apple, pumpkin, chocolate, etcetera, etcetera are fit for a king.

Why would shoppers go to a mall, when attic treasures has it all?
Jewelry, linens, games, novelties, and more, its better than visiting the dollar store!

Themed Baskets! Themed Baskets! Everywhere!

How about creating one for the fair?

Starter baskets will be available too, contact Suzanne for one to do.

After you shop, get a special treat,
a “To-go Crispy Chicken Luncheon” for later to eat!
If you have questions or can assist in any way,
Contact Suzanne Santoro, Chairperson this very day.

To God Be the Glory!

Our Church's New Covenant Fund

UPCoW has what some might consider a savings account in what is called the New Covenant Fund (NCF). It is an investment account that helps our reserve money grow much faster than it would grow in a regular savings account, certificate of deposit (CD), or money market account. The NCF is managed by the Presbyterian Foundation.

According to its website, “the Presbyterian Foundation is the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s national entity specifically called to offer charitable expertise and services that unite and empower Presbyterians and the ministries about which they are passionate. The Foundation is committed to strengthening congregations, mid councils, and other Presbyterian-related entities by developing gifts and managing funds on their behalf.”

The Presbyterian Foundation manages thousands of accounts of varying sizes for thousands of Presbyterian churches worldwide, and one of the investment programs is the NCF. According to the website, the NCF “is a family of faith-based mutual funds sponsored by the Foundation which are invested in accordance with the social witness principles of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).”

Within the UPCoW account, it is possible to earmark certain funds. For example, on May 31, 2017, when the account was opened, \$9346.88 was put into the account and marked “Capital Account” for future large capital expense needs, such as a new roof. Subsequently, in years when the church ended its fiscal year with a surplus, some of the extra money was put into the NCF so that it could increase by way of capital gains. The total amount currently in the NCF that is earmarked to be used for operating expenses is \$84,190.04.

If anyone has any question feel free to contact one of the elders.

Lynne Walsh, Clerk

Jim Baker

Greg Giemza

Tanya Morin

Ken Remillard

Suzanne Santoro

Mark Thomas

Rev. Dr. Susan DeHoff, Moderator

Church Family News

WE WELCOME ERIN HOWARD



This month we welcome Erin Howard as our new Administrative Assistant. Erin and her husband, Jason, have just celebrated their 21st wedding anniversary. Jason is also a tech professional. They have two daughters, Alexandra (Alex) who is a high school junior, and Ash, who is in the eighth grade.

Erin has two pages worth of experience working in both government and corporate positions, using her computer skills to create internet marketing strategies; manage print and email marketing programs; manage database creation projects; and to develop a new type of personalized email campaign using newly available website tracking technology, to name just a few of the ways she has used her knowledge of technology to address the unique needs of a company. During the pandemic, Erin has done private consulting from home.

She has extensive knowledge and experience using all of the software programs used by UPCoW. After working for almost 20 years in the corporate world and having recently enjoyed volunteer work for non-profit entities, she has been looking for a part time job with a non-profit company or church. Before her interview she checked out the church's website and noticed we have a handbell choir. Erin reads music, has played in a handbell choir, and wants to do that again – Eileen take note!!

Erin will be in the church office on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 12:30 to 4:30 and Tuesday and Friday mornings from 8:30 to 12:30. Stop by and meet her when you're in the area!



Photos from our Rally Day and Grandparent luncheon.

Prayers of Praise and Concern

Our missionaries have requested that we keep those doing God's work in Afghanistan in our prayers for safety and success in their mission.

Missionaries also ask prayers for the people in Lebanon. The news they are getting from Presbyterians who live in Lebanon is that the country is in a very dire situation.

Bev Keeler has sold her car and is experiencing the grief over loss of independence that comes with being unable to drive. Pray for peace and new ways to remain active in social and service events.

Jim Remillard has had a mild case of bronchitis, but seems to be responding to the medication, so we offer a prayer of thanks to God.

Ken Remillard has aortic valve replacement surgery on Sept. 30. Pray for successful surgery and an uneventful recovery.

Harriet has a prayer of joy that her appointment this week with the oncologist showed she remains cancer free.

Eileen Straub's husband is nearing the time when he can have the hip replacement surgery, but first he has a hernia that must be repaired. Pray that Eileen can find a general surgeon at Brigham & Women's quickly.

Also keep Eileen in your prayers, as she works full time as a church Administrative Assistant, part time as Minister of Music for us, and has full responsibility for her husband's care.

Brandy Gienza asks for prayers for healing of her body and spirit.

Judy Salzberg asks prayers for her neighbor Betsy. She is 82 and had knee replacement surgery on Thurs. In addition to that, her recuperation will be at her home, and she lives alone. She will be depending on friends to help out.

Ronda also asks prayers for her Mom. Janet had facial surgery to remove a skin cancer and then she fell in the backyard as she was doing some gardening. Pray for relief from a lot of soreness.

Harriet and Bob Platt ask prayers for their daughter, Patty, who remains in ICU at Milford Regional Hospital. The fluid has been drained from her heart, but they are still draining fluid from her lungs. Pray for relief from discomfort during this process.

Katrina Bilodeau has a prayer of thanksgiving that the specialist said she does not need to take the radioactive iodine pill for now. They will re-evaluate in Jan. So we thank God that her recovery is going well and ask for God's continued healing.

Will Colonero asks prayers for comfort and healing for his Dad, who is undergoing chemotherapy for bladder cancer. He has two more rounds of chemo to go through and then another surgery.

Laurie Sabourin asks prayers of comfort for the family of Jason Carney, who died unexpectedly last Sun. at the age of 41. Jason helped with Peace of Bread and was a member of the Bible Study group held on Wed. afternoons just before the POB meal.

Pearl Morrisette recently a skin cancer removed from her leg, and the site has become infected. Pray that the antibiotic will begin to bring relief from the pain and that the wound will heal well.



THANK YOU, DEBBIE, MALLORIE, & JIMMY!!

Sometimes the whole congregation needs and wants to say thank you, and that is certainly the case this month for three exceptional members of the church who saw the need, heard the call, and stepped up to the plate to carry on the work of one Administrative Assistant beginning in February of this year.

THANK YOU

Perhaps as Pastor, I most especially have appreciated and want to say a huge THANK YOU to Debbie Baker, who volunteered to take on secretarial duties, and to Mallorie Mercer and Jimmy Tobin, who agreed to work as part-time Administrative Assistants (in addition to continuing with school work and at times other jobs), taking care of all the technical needs of communication and program support. It is no exaggeration to say that the work and ministry of this church could not have continued without the help and commitment of these three people. And they did it despite COVID-19!

Many members of the congregation have commented to me during the last several months about how wonderful it has been to have such talent in-house. God does, indeed, bring into our midst the people God has gifted with the abilities needed to maintain and further the church's ministry.

As the torch is passed from these three people to our new Administrative Assistant, we say a heartfelt thank you to Debbie, Mallorie, and Jimmy for all the work they have done since February to keep UPCaW moving along, without missing a beat!

On behalf of the entire church family, Pastor Susan

Upcoming Sunday School Classes

Mark Thomas is teaching a course on prayer. Join Mark Thomas on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:30 AM in the office building Conference Room as we explore how ten figures from Church History prayed. For more information or to sign up for the course, please contact Mark at bookmen3@msn.com.

Austin Reichert's Sunday School Class. Austin Reichert's Sunday School Class will begin Oct 3, 2021. It will be virtual only to start. It will be from 9 am - 10 am. Leslie Reichert will send out Zoom meeting invites. A study, discussion and review of Paul's letters will be what is discussed. We will pick up with 2 Cor. when we begin.

October 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00 AM Reichert SS, Zoom 10:30 AM Worship Service 11: 45 AM Coffee Fellowship	4 7:00 PM Session Prayer Meeting	5	6 5:00 PM Peace of Bread	7	8	9
10 Rev. Amy Fowler Preaching 9:00 AM Reichert SS, Zoom 9:30 AM Thomas SS, Hybrid 10:30AM Worship Service	11	12	13 5:00 PM Peace of Bread 7:30 PM Trustees Meeting	14	15 November Newsletter Submission Deadline	16
17 9:00 AM Reichert SS, Zoom 9:30 AM Thomas SS, Hybrid 10:30AM Worship Service 11:45 AM Coffee Fellowship	18 7:00 PM Session Business Meeting	19	20 5:00 PM Peace of Bread	21	22	23
24 Deacon Offering 9:00 AM Reichert SS, Zoom 9:15 AM Pick- Up Choir 9:30 AM Thomas SS, Hybrid 10:30AM Worship Service 11:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 12:00 PM Youth Bible Study	25 6:30 PM Deacon's Meeting	26	27 5:00 PM Peace of Bread	28	29	30
31 HERITAGE/ REFIRMATION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Reichert SS, Zoom 9:30 AM Thomas SS, Hybrid 10:30AM Worship Service 11:45 AM Coffee Fellowship						



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Thank You Corner-

This month we begin a new section in the Newsletter, The THANK YOU Corner. Notice something really great someone did? Appreciate something someone said or wrote? *This is the place to say "thank you."*

To submit a thank you note to the Newsletter, just email your thanks (no longer than 2 sentences please) to Erin at the church email address: whitinpres@gmail.com. Your thank you will be printed in the next issue.

Here are some thank you notes to kick off this column.

“Thank you Debbie Baker, Mallorie Mercer and Jimmy Tobin for temporarily filling the church administrative assistant position. Your dedication to the job and the extra time you spent was very greatly appreciated.”- Lynne Walsh

“Thank you to the members of the Personnel Committee for reading through resumes and interviewing applicants for the Administrative Assistant position while I was on vacation. That sped up the process of finding our new Assistant.” – Pastor Susan

“Thank you to Don Mateer for seeing to it that the office basement was cleared of a flood of water. We also thank him for fixing the front door knob in a timely manner.”- Debbie

“A big thank you to Kyle Mateer for making it possible for so many people to view, share, and enjoy services at UPCoW. Your knowledge and expertise with all the video equipment, software and internet technology is very much appreciated, as is your dedication.” – Judy Salzberg

“Thank you to the caring people in this church and the pastor for the care, prayers and visit to my mother during this difficult time. Also thank you for the people that so kindly took over the lemonade after church. It is so nice to be able to fellowship after church.” Carol Pilibosian

“A big thanks to all the various committee members who work tirelessly to keep our church open and running smoothly. The amount of time they take out of their personal lives to attend meetings, send emails and make phone calls needs to be recognized.” - Tanya Morin