

Spire

Barre Congregational Church, UCC

Welcoming & Serving the Quabbin Area

Phone—978-355-4041

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Reflections from the Pastor's Desk

In March I was with a gathering of church leaders and ministers from MA, CT and RI conferences called Super Saturday. In one session we were asking the question “What is God calling Church to do and to be at this time and in this place?” Below is a colleague’s reflection from that day that was shared afterwards:

“Sometimes I find myself guilty of being too much of a “Church Lover” and too little of a “Church Doer.” The time I, and perhaps you, spend at Church is important and meaningful. It helps to clear and refresh my mind. I am at ease and comforted by the predictable progression of the service and calmed by the music ministry we share. I connect to the message of the sermon and sometimes feel it was written just for me. Afterwards I always enjoy our time of fellowship which helps to further strengthen our church as a “greater community of faith.”

You could say that “Church works just fine for this Church Lover!” However, to be all that the good Lord expects, I realize I need to transform into a better “Church Doer”. My definition of a “Church Doer” would be someone who takes his/her faith and puts it in action to fulfill the commandments of the Lord.”

Church is not really about meeting my needs or your needs on a Sunday morning but the everyday needs of those far less fortunate. Therefore, it is what we do with the moments of our lives when we are not in church that matters most. Experiencing God’s love and grace at Church on Sunday is important preparation for the work of living out our faith in action all the other days of our lives. Thankfully the Good Lord has provided us an earth full of unlimited opportunities to put our faith in action and become better “Church Doers”. Of course Jesus said it best when He said “Love one another as I have loved you”. Feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, and visiting those in prison are but the tip of the Holy iceberg for what God is calling us to do and be. My friends, now is the time to become better “Church Doers.”

As we continue to gather in May, June, and July let us also be asking ourselves “what is God calling us to do and to be?” and how can we best be Church Lovers AND Church Doers.

See you in church,

Rev. Dr. Charlotte Wright

Bridge Pastor

Inside this Issue	
Reflections from the Pastor's Desk	1
Concerns/Prayers	2
Congregational Meetings/ Visitations/ Community Friendship Supper/ Women's Fellowship/ Church Supper	3
Church Committee/ Christian Ed/Barre Food Pantry	4
Church Committee/ Church Council	5
Financial Page	6
Calendar/Lectionary	7/8
Children's Page	9

Congregational Meetings

Margaret Keyser, our conflict manager would like to invite everyone to attend the following meetings even if you did not attend the last two:

- Sunday, May 1st after church
- Sunday, May 15th after church

Update from Previous Weeks: During this time together, we reviewed the sources of our conflict that we identified the previous week, discussed the hurts that many people in the congregation are feeling, and began plans to start to move forward. There was an atmosphere of mutual respect and patience. We feel that we are putting our energy in a positive direction. If you attended either of the two previous meetings, please plan to come back. If you did not, please plan to join us. **There are two more meetings scheduled, next Sunday, May 1st and May 15th.** Everyone is always welcome and we encourage you to attend whenever you can. It doesn't matter if you have attended the previous meetings.

Visitations

Toni Brown, as a member of the deaconate is overseeing the visitations of our church, if you know of someone who needs a visit or would like to be put on our prayer list please contact her, 978-355-3095 or call and leave a message on the church's answering machine, 978-355-4041 or email the church at barrechurch@gmail.com.

Community Friendship Suppers

Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend and or family members.

The Community Friendship Suppers are a free supper, our menu changes every month.

Serving time is from 5:30 pm—6:30 pm on the third Thursday of the month

A free will offering may be given. The offering is used by the mission Committee of our church to help those in need in ur community and far away. Next supper is May 19th!

Chicken Barbecue

Saturday, May 21, 2016

5:30 pm

Adults \$12.00 Children under 12 \$5.00

For Reservations please call

Lisa Holloway 978-355-0140 Or the church office 978-355-4041

Women's Fellowship

The last meeting of the season will be our

Annual Meeting & Dinner

Petersham Congregational Church

May 4, 2016

6:00 Appetizers will be served

Lisa Holloway & Wendy Isgro would like to thank everyone who has helped and supported the Women's Fellowship. It is time for them to step down as Co-Presidents and it is their hope there will be someone willing to take over in October when the ladies meet again. Co-Presidents has worked out great, so if there are two ladies who would love the opportunity to work together here is your chance. If you have any questions please call either Lisa 978-355-0140 or Wendy 978-928-5180.

The program committee will meet during the summer to set-up our programs for the fall if you have any ideas please see Marsha Bray, Lois Cooley, Lisa Holloway, Wendy Isgro, Cathy Mikniatis, Deb Page or Irene Stevens

The Women's Fellowship is open to any or all the Women of our church. You do not have to attend all of the meetings. We have some ladies that do not attend the regular meetings but help us with teas, collations, and the fair. It's a great way to get to know the ladies of the church.

Congratulations to Irene Stevens!!!!

The Women's Fellowship would like to congratulate Irene Stevens on Saturday, May 14th the Women's Fellowship will be putting on a tea for the Barre Women's Club at that time they will be honoring Irene Stevens for her 50 years of membership to the Barre Women's Club.

The Supper committee is looking for help! This is our last supper of the season and we will start again in the fall. We need help waitressing, cleaning up. And we can always use help in the preparation if you are interested in helping please see Wendy Isgro Beth Richard

From the Church Committee

All of the Barre Food Cards were sold and we have reinvested \$1,000 into the program. Please see Sarah Dyer or Wendy Isgro, in the church office during Wendy's hours, if you would like to purchase a \$50.00 food card for Barre Foods. Please remember the church will get 5% returned to the operational account of the church. We are looking for someone to start a food card program with one of the other local supermarkets.

You may pay cash or check. Please make checks out to:

Barre Congregational Church
At the bottom put food card.

Lynn Shaw, our grant writer, came to our meeting on April 6th. She will make three more inquiries about grants we may be eligible for. We did not get the Home Depot Grant and now just wait to hear about the others.

The Church Committee has two sub-committees. One is a Maintenance Group—Bob Swindell, Adam Knipe and Steve Morrall. The other is a Finance Group—Jack Lathrop, Sarah Dyer and Steve Morrall. We also have a Fundraising sub-committee as needed. Right now, we do not have one. If you are interested in working with any of these groups, please let Lisa Holloway 978-355-0140 know. You do not have to be on the Church Committee to be a part of the sub-committees.

Christian Education

The Sunday School is hoping to purchase a water buffalo through the Heifer Project. This fundraiser involves filling a tube or maybe two tubes with quarters. As you go through your loose change, please save your quarters. A water buffalo is \$250.00 so please pass your quarters along to any Sunday School student so that the congregation can help them reach their goal. *To answer the question that was asked in church, the church does not need to take care of a water buffalo. The Heifer Project takes care of all the details.*

Upcoming Sunday School Events

- ♦ Youth and Children's Sunday - Sunday, June 5th
- ♦ Heifer Project trip - Sunday, June 12th

Barre Food Pantry volunteer opportunity.

The Barre Food Pantry at the Barre Congregational Church on the common in Barre center welcomes volunteers between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to help set up the room and sort, date and pre-bag donated groceries for free distribution the next day.

Note: We no longer need donations of egg cartons. We have so many at this time that storage is a challenge. When more are needed in the future, we will post a request in our calendar notice.

For more information call Sonja @ (978) 355-6921 or Chuck @ (978) 355-6463.

Wednesday, May 11th, 2016

Barre Food Pantry volunteer opportunity.

The Barre Food Pantry at the Barre Congregational Church on the common in Barre center welcomes volunteers from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon to help staff the tables, help clients "shop" the food bank offerings and help carry groceries to clients' cars.

Note: We no longer need donations of egg cartons. We have so many at this time that storage is a challenge. When more are needed in the future, we will post a request in our calendar notice.

For additional information call Sonja @ (978) 355-6921 or Chuck @ (978) 355-6463.

Barre Food Pantry monthly distribution to clients.

People in need of food assistance are welcome at the Barre Congregational Church on the common in Barre center from 10:00 am to noon for free monthly distribution of fresh, frozen and canned food made available through local and regional donations and state and federal government programs.

Note: The Barre Food Pantry would like to encourage clients to bring their reusable grocery tote bags with them when they come to pick up food at distribution.

For additional information call Sonja @ (978) 355-6921 or Chuck @ (978) 355-6463.

Barre Food Pantry

Collector's Report

Loose	291.00
Current	4,461.00
Missions	296.00
Thursday AA	27.00
Saturday AA	100.00
Tuesday NA	20.00
Farmers Market	250.00
Maplewins	500.00
UCC Dues	240.00
Initial offering	10.00
Window Repair	200.00
Flowers	20.00
Total	\$6,415.00

UCC Dues

The letters for UCC Dues has been sent out. As a reminder each member should pay \$20.00 if you have not sent your dues money in please send them to the collector.

Margaret Marshall
P.O. Box 936
Barre, MA 01005

It is not too late to pledge to our church!! Just fill out a pledge card and return it to the church. Your pledge will help with the many needs of Our church as you can see in the Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report

Expenses: 1/1/16-3/31/16

Payroll	24,609.00
Office Supplies	1,560.00
Telephone & Internet	828.00
Equipment Maintenance	00
Diaconate	104.00
General Maintenance	3,282.00
Christian Ed.	107.00
Miscellaneous	641.00
Flowers	.00
Water & Sewer	203.00
Heat & Gas	1,800.00
Insurance	3,827.00
Electricity	988.00
Snow Removal	840.00
Piano/Organ	1,495.00
Alarm	748.00
Total	\$41,415.00

Income	
Loose	1,485.00
Pledges	22,338.00
Other	3,022.00
Investment Interest	9,929.00
Total	\$36,774.00

Transferred from savings for ordinary expenses: \$3,617.00

Operating deficit \$4,641.00

Beginning balance in checkbook: \$2,504.48

May 2016

The Lord hath done great things for us; where of we are glad. Psalm 126:3

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat															
1 8:30 Bell choir warm-up 9:30 Service/ Communion / Sunday School 11:00 Congregation Meeting w/ Margaret Keyser	2 6:00 Girl Scouts	3 9-1 Wendy’s hours 7:00 Choir	4 9-1 Wendy’s hours 6:00 Women’s Fellowship Annual Meeting & Dinner—Petersham 6-8 Maplewinds 7:00 Boy Scouts	5 9-1 Wendy’s hours 7:00 AA	6	7 10 Memorial Service for Vivian Fielding 7:00 AA															
8 8:30 Choir warm-up 9:30 Service / Sunday school Mother’s Day	9 6:00 Girl Scouts	10 9-1 Wendy’s hours 9:00 Food Pantry set-up 6:00 Food Pantry set-up 6:30 Diaconate 7:00 Choir	11 9-1 Wendy’s hours 10-12 Food Pantry 6:00 Church Committee 6-8 Maplewinds 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 9-1 Wendy’s hours 7:00 AA	13	14 Noon—Barre Women’s Club Tea 7:00 AA															
15 8:30 Choir warm-up 9:30 Service / Sunday school 11:00 Congregation Meeting w/ Margaret Keyser	16 6:00 Girl Scouts	17 9-1 Wendy’s hours 7:00 Choir	18 9-1 Wendy’s hours 6-8 Maplewinds 7:00 Boy Scouts	19 9-1 Wendy’s hours 5:30 Community Friendship Supper 7:00 AA	20	21 5:30 Church Supper 7:00 AA															
22 8:30 Choir warm-up 9:30 Service / Sunday school/Rev. Laura Friedman preaching	23 6:00 Girl Scouts	24 9-1 Wendy’s hours 7:00 Choir	25 9-1 Wendy’s hours 6-8 Maplewinds 7:00 Boy Scouts	26 9-1 Wendy’s hours 7:00 AA	27	28 7:00 AA															
29 9:30 Service/ NO Sunday school	30 Memorial Day	31 9-1 Wendy’s hours 7:00 Choir		<table><tr><td colspan="3">Pastor Charlotte’s Hours</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Wednesday, May 4—11-8</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Tuesday, May 10—11-8</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Wednesday May 18—10-6</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Wednesday May 25—10-6</td></tr></table>			Pastor Charlotte’s Hours			Wednesday, May 4—11-8			Tuesday, May 10—11-8			Wednesday May 18—10-6			Wednesday May 25—10-6		
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Wednesday May 25—10-6																					

Daily Lectionary Scripture References May 2016 (Year C)

Sun., May 1

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

Mon., May 2

Psalm 93

1 Chronicles 12:16-22

Revelation 21:5-14

Tues., May 3

Psalm 93

2 Chronicles 15:1-15

Revelation 21:15-22

Wed., May 4

Psalm 93

2 Chronicles 34:20-33

Luke 2:25-38

Thurs., May 5

Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 or Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

Fri., May 6

Psalm 97

Exodus 33:12-17

Revelation 22:6-9

Sat., May 7

Psalm 97

Exodus 33:18-23

John 1:14-18

Sun., May 8

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

Mon., May 9

Psalm 29

Exodus 40:16-38

Acts 16:35-40

Tues., May 10

Psalm 29]

2 Chronicles 5:2-14

Acts 26:19-29

Wed., May 11

Psalm 29

Ezekiel 3:12-21

Luke 9:18-27

Thurs., May 12

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Isaiah 32:11-17

Galatians 5:16-25

Fri., May 13

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Isaiah 44:1-4

Galatians 6:7-10

Sat., May 14

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

2 Kings 2:1-15a

Luke 1:5-17

Sun., May 15

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21

John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Mon., May 16

Psalm 48

Joel 2:18-29

1 Corinthians 2:1-11

Tues., May 17

Psalm 48

Ezekiel 11:14-25

1 Corinthians 2:12-16

Wed., May 18

Psalm 48

Numbers 24:1-14

Luke 1:26-38

Thurs., May 19

Psalm 8

Proverbs 3:13-18

Ephesians 1:17-19

Fri., May 20

Psalm 8

Proverbs 3:19-26

Ephesians 4:1-6

Sat., May 21

Psalm 8

Proverbs 4:1-9

Luke 2:41-52

Sun., May 22

Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

Mon., May 23

Psalm 124

Proverbs 7:1-4

Ephesians 4:7-16

Tues., May 24

Psalm 124

Proverbs 8:4-21

Ephesians 5:15-20

Wed., May 25

Psalm 124

Daniel 1:1-21

Luke 1:46b-55

Thurs., May 26

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Proverbs 13:1-12

Romans 5:12—6:2

Fri., May 27

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Proverbs 15:1-9

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Sat., May 28

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Isaiah 30:8-17

John 16:1-4a

Sun., May 29

Sirach 27:4-7 or Isaiah

55:10-13

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Luke 6:39-49

Mon., May 30

Psalm 1

Jeremiah 24:1-10

1 Corinthians 16:1-12

Tues., May 31

Psalm 1

Jeremiah 29:10-19

1 Corinthians 16:13-24



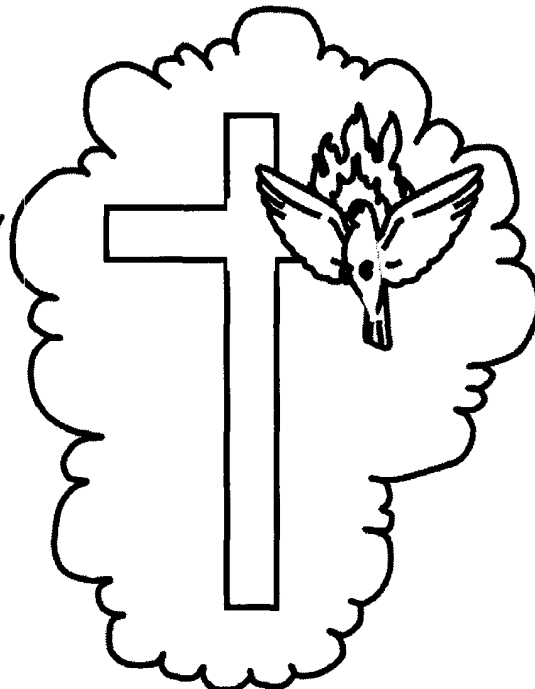
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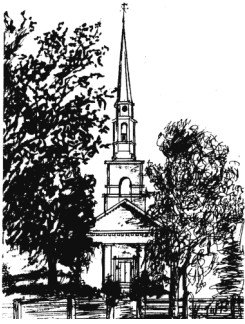
Pentecost Word Search

R E W O P C S M P M T F E S S
B V S E L P I C S I D I C E Y
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CHURCH
DISCIPLES
EXTRAORDINARY
FIFTIETH
FILLED
FIRE
FIRSTFRUITS
HEAVEN
LANGUAGES



OFFERING
PENTECOST
POWER
PRESENCE
SIGNS
SOUND
SPIRIT
SYMBOLIZED
TONGUES
WIND



Barre Congregational Church

P.O. Box 936

Barre, MA 01005

*The world needs the distinct values, vision
and voice of the United Church of Christ–
Continuing Testament.*

Extravagant Welcome. Changing Lives.