



First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

in Melrose

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Messenger

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Disturb Us, Lord

It has become my tradition to share the following prayer in this column the week after Easter since it speaks of our calling as people of the resurrection. As I re-read the nautical imagery this year, I could not help but think of Rick Mockler who so loved the ocean.

The author is Sir Francis Drake who was an English explorer in the 1500s (Elizabethan era) and who led the second expedition to successfully circumnavigate the globe. The exact date of the prayer is unknown.

“Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,

When our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too little,

When we arrive safely because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess,

We have lost our thirst for the waters of life,

When having fallen in love with life,

We have ceased to dream of eternity,

And in our efforts to build a new earth,

We have allowed our vision of a new heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,

To venture on wider seas,

Where storms will show your mastery,

And where, losing sight of land,

We shall find the stars.

We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes,
And to push us into the future with strength,
courage, hope and love.

We ask in the name of our Captain, who is Jesus Christ.

Amen.”

See you in church,

Sunday, April 23, 2017

9:00 AM – Morning Star Voices Rehearsal

10:00 AM – WORSHIP and Sunday School

11:15 AM – Coffee Hour

DURING NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, April 25

7:15 to 8:15 PM – Morning Star Voices Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 26

7:15 PM – Bells rehearsal

Saturday, April 29

THE CLIMATE MARCH TAKING PLACE IN BOSTON ON SATURDAY, APRIL 29, FROM 12-3 WILL BRING TOGETHER MANY ENVIRONMENTAL, FAITH-BASED AND JUSTICE GROUPS TO STAND AS ONE COMMUNITY TAKING ACTION FOR THE SAKE OF OUR EARTH AND THOSE WHO INHABIT IT.

Whether you are concerned about the threatened cuts to the EPA, the greenlight given to the Keystone XL pipeline, or other climate news stories, the Climate March will give you an opportunity to make a strong and vibrant presence to stand up for stewardship to our earth.

The UCC Council for Climate Justice and the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries are official co-sponsors for the Washington DC March. Knowing that many of you would have trouble getting to DC, we are also organizing a local contingency to attend the Boston sister-march also on April 29. Please contact Lori Timmermann if you would like to attend (MelroseSolarCoach@gmail.com). Logistical details soon to follow.

With gratitude that you are willing to join me for making a difference in the future of our planet, the safety of our communities and the health of our families.

Best, Lori

Sunday, April 30 – Earth Day

10:00 AM – Worship – Stewardship of the Earth

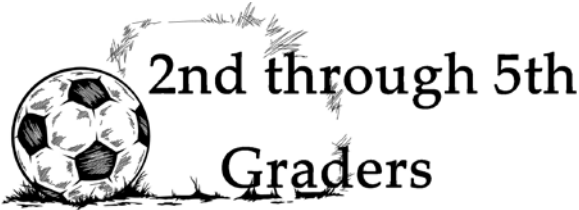


Lorine Timmermann (mother of Lori), Bob Hughes, Ray Luebbe (Betsy Garrett's father), Mary Sakata and Becky Faro (Trish Faro's daughters), Nyal Fuentes, Claire Griffin, Bill Copeland, Merle Copeland, Gem Colvin, Dot Allen, Bob Pierce, Anne Wing,

Ella Boyle, Scott Chisholm.



SUNDAY SCHOOL:



You are invited to participate in 2 soccer skills sessions Led by the Middle and High School Church Youth

When? During Sunday School on 4/23 and 4/30

What to Wear/Bring? Comfy clothes and sneakers, water bottle, soccer ball if you already own one.

Where? The Basement. The youth will escort the kids down. Parents can pick up there after service.

How? The youth have planned drills to work on passing, dribbling and shooting.

Why? We have a VERY active group of youth this year and they have been reviewing the role that coaches and other activity leaders play in their lives. We noted that they may spend as much time with these leaders as any other role models.

The youth compared positive & negative experiences to prepare for their role-reversal and came up with some coaching goals:

- To Be Positive**
- To Be Prepared**
- To Try to Coach to Each Child's Level**
- To Listen**
- To Give Equal Attention to All**
- To Balance Competitive with Encouraging**
- To Keep It Fun**



The Music Director Search Committee is happy to announce that it has selected three candidates to interview.

In the first 45 minutes of each interview, we are asking the candidates to perform some hymns and provide sample music instruction to those present.

We invite you to be part of this important element of the interviewing process. We ask that you participate only if you can attend ALL THREE interviews so that you'll be able to provide feedback for all candidates.

The candidates are being interviewed:

- **Saturday, May 6 at 2:00 pm**
- **Sunday, May 7 at 1:00 pm**
- **Sunday, May 7, at 3:00 pm**

If you have any questions, please contact of the of the committee members:

Ann Ahlin, Tom Foth, Betsy Garrett, Beth Grzegorzewski, Bob Jamison, Lisa Jamison, Michael Leskiw, Jaime McAllister-Grande, Rev. Dominic Taranowski.

The following groups meet here regularly:

- Boy Scouts** – Tuesdays at 7:00 PM in the basement
- Girl Scouts** – Sundays, 3:00 to 5:00 PM
- Al-Anon** – weekdays at 12 noon, Sunday at 1 & 7 PM – Rm. 8
- Blue of a Kind** – Mondays at 7:00 PM in the Music Room
- S.A.R.P.** – Mondays 6:30 PM, Lounge
- Tai Chi for Arthritis** – Wednesdays at 10:00 AM, Room 8
- A.A.** – Mondays at 4:30 PM, & 7:00 PM (men), Tuesdays at 4:30 PM, Wednesdays at 4:30 PM & 7:30 PM, Thursdays at 4:30 PM and 7:00 PM, Fridays at 4:30 PM and 8:00 PM and Saturdays at 9:00 AM (men) and 3:00 PM – Rm. 8
- Makam Music Group** – Fridays 7:00-9:00 PM – Lounge and Rm. 1