



First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

in Melrose

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Messenger

Rev. Dominic Taranowski, Pastor

Mariko Matsumura, Interim Music Director

Dunia Velez, Administrative Assistant for Youth Programs

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Welcome Dunia Velez!

After an extensive Search Committee process of job description revision, job posting, interviewing and contract finalization, we are pleased to welcome Dunia Velez to the position of Administrative Assistant for Youth Programs at First Congregational Church.

Dunia will act as support staff to our Deacons of Christian Education, our Deacons of Youth Ministry and the entire Sunday School and Youth Ministry program at our church. You are sure to see her on Sunday mornings as she attends to Sunday School classroom space and provides support to our Sunday School teachers and their students. She will also act as a liaison to our Nursery program and to the wider church staff regarding our dynamic Christian Education and Youth ministries.

Dunia has been an active Christian her whole life and is very familiar with the ins and outs of children and youth ministries. She brings strong administrative skills and speaks Spanish as well. She also has a thriving business as a dog walker! She has two teenage children and is very interested in mission work (something she plans to pursue more intentionally when she retires). Dunia lives in Lynn and is active in a church there (although this will not preclude her involvement as a staff person here).

I am extremely grateful for the work of our Administrative Assistant Search Committee which included Becky Fuentes, Nancy Brincheiro, Frank Brincheiro, Lisa Warner, Sherri Jackson along with myself. We were a great team! And our work continues...

Dunia is now in a period of orientation as she learns the ropes of our church and you can help! Take a moment to welcome her and introduce yourself during coffee hour. She will be a great asset to our church now and in the years ahead!

See you in church,

Sunday, May 7, 2017

Food Pantry Sunday Walk for Hunger

9:00 AM – Morning Star Voices Rehearsal

10:00 AM – WORSHIP and Sunday School

11:15 AM – Coffee Hour

1:30 to 3:30 PM – Fitch Home Annual Spring Tea

1:00 PM - Music Director Search Committee Interviews
Please attend all three

3:00 PM - Music Director Search Committee Interviews
Please attend all three

Saturday, May 6

2:00 PM - Music Director Search Committee Interviews
Please attend all three

DURING NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, May 9

7:00 PM – Deacons and Trustees with Confirmands, Library
7:15 to 8:15 PM – Morning Star Voices Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 10

7:00 PM – Racial Justice Ministry, Library
7:15 PM – Bells rehearsal

Friday, May 12

1:00 PM – Staff Meeting

Sunday, May 14 – Mother's Day

10:00 AM – Worship



Anne Wing, David Gauvreau, 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 Griffen, Bill Copeland, Merle Copeland, Gem Colvin, Dot Allen, Bob Pierce, Scott Chisholm.



YARD SALE IS COMING!!

Saturday, June 3rd

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

More Info to follow.



Welcome Spring! Flowers for Sale

Proceeds go to
Refugee
Immigration Ministry

*“Building Community with Uprooted People to
Serve the Common Good”*

Orders will be taken through May 7th

Flowers will be delivered on May 14th

Refugee Immigration Ministry is a non-profit, interfaith organization which provides community-based services to refugees, asylum seekers and asylees. Programs include community-based Clusters, ESL tutoring, chaplaincy services and case management.

Visit our web-site for information: www.r-i-m.net



The RIM Walk is Saturday May 20th

Join us to walk three miles at your own pace around beautiful Lake Quannapowitt at 10 am to show support for asylum seekers and refugees in nearby communities. If you can't walk and want to support our team of walkers, directions are below. Thanks for your continued support!

To register or to donate online go to www.r-i-m.net
Click on *A Walk for Refugees*, click *Sign Up Online*,
click either *Join Now* or *Donate*, click *Choose a Team*,
click *MetroNorth Cluster*! Or see Debbie Anderson, Bill
Chetwynd or Nancy Toney at Coffee Hour. Thanks
No fees to register



We are excited to welcome Dunia Velez to support our roles as Deacons of Education as well as the Deacons of Youth Ministry

On May 7 directly after service all teachers, (want to be teachers, curious about teaching and second adults) are requested to attend a brunch to meet Dunia and discuss next year's Sunday School ideas.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Coming up in Sunday School

Toddlers thru 5 will start a series titled "The Rest of the Story". We will talk about how the disciples and followers of Jesus carried out Jesus mission to spread God's message over all the Earth.

Middle School will be led by Beth Hampson. The topic will be Winning, Competition and Faith.

High school is welcome to join Jen Crain for discussion in the Spollett room on refugees and immigration.

Please join us in welcoming Dunia!

Lisa and Sherri



FOOD PANTRY

SUNDAY – MAY 5

This mission of our church is a great way to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors! You can involve your whole family by talking about the food you are donating and discussing how it will help others.



Circle 4 certainly knows how to brighten up a dreary day in May, with their especially creative fine millinery.



***FITCH HOME
Annual Spring Tea***

***Sunday, May 7
1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
75 Lake Avenue, Melrose MA***

Please join us in visiting our beautiful retirement Home. Our residents look forward to this special occasion to greet you and your guests. Enjoy dessert with a cup of tea or coffee. You are also invited to tour our home.

Sponsored by the Fitch Home Association and Kappa Delta Psi



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 one of the committee members:

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

Church Women United



The First Baptist Church
29 Oakland Street -- Medford, MA
Saturday -- May 13, 2017

Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. (Suggested donation \$5.00)
Program at 10:00 a.m.

Accessible Entrance at the rear of the church.

For reservations and further information,
please contact Luci Rexroad at 781-856-3218 or
LMREX@yahoo.com

Spring has finally sprung. The April showers are bringing the May flowers! That means we will be having our May Friendship Day celebration of Church Women United. This year's theme, "Kindling New Fires of Love," is scripturally based on parts of Matthew, chapters 18 & 19.

Also note, this is our annual collection for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Come be fed, both physically & spiritually, warmed by the Fires of Love & Friendship! Please help spread the word. All are welcome - both young & a little less young; women, children & men!



By Lighting our Church Steeple in memory or in honor of loved ones, you can help our church financially. Contact the church office (781-665-2111 or info@fccmelrose.org) to sign up for a week beginning on a Sunday. Your gift will be announced in the Sunday Bulletin and "*The Messenger*". A \$25.00 per week contribution is suggested.

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 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