



# 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 post-Easter tradition to share the following prayer in this column. The prayer was written by Sir Francis Drake who was an English explorer in the 1500s (Elizabethan era) and 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.

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

Amen.”

See you in church,

--Rev. Dominic

## Sunday, April 8, 2018

**9:00 AM – Morning Star Voices Rehearsal**

**10:00 AM – Worship and Sunday School**

**11:15 AM – Coffee Hour**

### DURING THE WEEK

#### Tuesday, April 10

7:00 PM – Deacons, Library

#### Wednesday, April 11

7:15 PM – Bells rehearsal

#### Thursday, April 12

1:00 PM – Staff Meeting

#### Sunday, April 15 – Baptism Sunday

10:00 AM – Worship and Sunday School

### 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

**Makam Music Group** – Sundays 4:45-6:30 PM – Lounge

**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.** – Sundays 5:30 PM, Library, 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



Ryan Chisholm, Marilyn McComas, Bill Albright, Anne Wing, Bob Hughes, Mary Sakata and Becky Faro (Trish Faro's daughters), Merle Copeland, Bob Pierce.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL:

**This week the PreK-5th grade classes** will be wrapping up the units on Jesus' emotions by talking about stress. This will be an exciting transition to our next series of classes on practicing mindfulness, yoga, and meditation.

\*\*\*Children should bring a yoga mat or beach towel to church on Sunday (4/8), and leave it in their classroom before worship.\*\*\*

**The Middle School class** will wrap up their unit on Using God's Money.

**The High School class** will begin a unit on Stress, Mindfulness, and Meditation.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

May 6-Teacher and Sunday School Volunteer breakfast

June 3-Graduation Sunday

June 10-Church School Sunday

Family Worship services will take place on April 15, May 27, and June 17.



**ALL-CHURCH PASTA PARTY! APRIL 29<sup>th</sup>!  
BE SURE TO SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX!**

What kind of pasta do you think they will serve at the First Annual All-Church Pasta Party?

The identity of that pasta will remain a mystery until right after church on April 29<sup>th</sup>, when ALL ARE INVITED to join in for fellowship and a delicious, family-style pasta dinner.

Beginning April 8<sup>th</sup> there will be the traditional signup board in the Narthex where you can sign up for the pasta party and also see what you can contribute. While the Fellowship Deacons and Fellowship Committee members will be taking care of the main part of the meal, we are asking parishioners to help out by bringing either a tossed salad or a dessert.

To have enough of each, we are asking the families whose last name/names begin with letters A-L to bring a tossed salad. Families whose last names begin with letters M-Z are asked to bring a dessert. Beverages will of course be provided.

So please mark 'PASTA!' on the April 29 square on your home calendar (or your computer) and plan to join us for a fun noontime meal that day.

\*And be sure to sign up in the Narthex and indicate how many people will be coming. It is very helpful to have as accurate a count of people as possible, to ensure that there is plenty of pasta!

Please plan to join us, and sign up!

~ Donna and Ron Miner



*Additional Easter Flowers* were in memory of Bill and Irene Hendy, parents/grandparents, given by Marilyn Boyson.



**YARD SALE – Save  
the Date!**

All-Church Yard Sale  
May 5, 9am – 1pm  
Mark your calendars!!!

**Hallmark Health VNA and Hospice to hold  
annual fundraiser event on Wednesday, April  
25<sup>th</sup> at Giggles Comedy Club at Prince Pizza, 517  
Broadway (Rte.1 S) in Saugus.**

The event will include live and silent auction, raffles, unlimited pizza, a comedy show and more. There are sporting tickets, theatre tickets, weekend get-a-ways, jewelry items and so much more! Come join in a night of fun to help support a worthy cause. All proceeds will go to their Maternal/Child Health Program and their Palliative Care Program. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased online at [www.hallmarkhealthhomecare.org](http://www.hallmarkhealthhomecare.org) (click on fundraiser icon) or by calling 781-338-7902. For more info, please call 781-338-7902.