



First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

in Melrose

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Messenger

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Ordinary Time

If you have a religious calendar of any sort, this time of year is alternatively called the "Season of Pentecost" and "Ordinary Time". Either way, it is the longest season of the church year and takes us right up until December 2nd—the First Sunday of Advent.

I typically call it the "Season of Pentecost" since I believe it is important to place emphasis on the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our church during this extensive season.

So what's up with calling it "Ordinary Time"?

Well, you might think that "Ordinary Time" celebrates the regular, mundane parts of our lives and God's creation. You'd be wrong, though. To get the full answer, you need to remember that the name comes out of the Roman Catholic tradition and its historically favored use of Latin.

Ordinary Time is called "ordinary" not because it is common but simply because the weeks of Ordinary Time are numbered. The Latin word *ordinalis*, which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word *ordo*, from which we get the English word *order*. So the numbered weeks of "Ordinary Time" are to represent the ordered life of the church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in more severe penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in attentiveness to the Pentecost Spirit and in anticipation of the Second Coming of Christ.

It is an interesting history, but I still favor using the "Season of Pentecost". There is value, though, in taking the word "Ordinary" as we commonly use it and remember that it is in the ordinary parts of our lives that the Holy Spirit of Pentecost is present and active.

There should be a season, a long one, to practice that truth!

See you in church,

--Rev. Dominic

Sunday, June 3, 2018 Graduation Sunday

9:00 AM – Morning Star Voices Rehearsal
10:00 AM – Worship
11:15 AM – Coffee Hour
11:15 AM – Teacher's Meeting, Room 7

DURING THE WEEK

Tuesday, June 5

3:00 PM - Circle 4, lounge for annual Wine & Cheese Event.

7:00 PM – RIM meeting, library

Wednesday, June 6

7:15 PM – Bells rehearsal

Sunday, June 10– Church School Sunday

10:00 AM – Worship

11:30 AM - Reflect and Respond--What was intriguing to you about the worship service?

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



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



Circle 4 will meet at the Church on **Tuesday, June 5th at 3:00 PM** for our annual Wine and Cheese Event.



June 3 will be Graduation Sunday! Families of graduating high school seniors, we look forward to celebrating with you! We'll see you at 9 AM Sunday!

Church School Sunday is June 10! Families, please try to be at church between 9:30-9:45 AM that morning so the teachers can work with the kids to get them organized and ready for service!

Also, please be at church this Sunday for final preparation for the June 10 service. Please let your child's teachers know if you'll be here to participate on June 10.

Teachers: We'd like to have a brief meeting after workshop Sunday to review the plan for Church School Sunday. Please come to Room 7 after worship!

Help wanted!

Do you want to spend more time with the children of the church? We're looking for a few new teachers to help us out for the upcoming church year! Please talk to Lisa or Sherri at church, or email us at mlwarner98@verizon.net or sltjmtj@hotmail.com

We will also be looking to hire a nursery assistant for the upcoming year. Do you know someone who would be a great fit in our nursery, and would be able to commit to a Sunday morning job for September through June? Let us know of any referrals you have!

Family services will be held on June 17 and June 24.

Do you have a family member graduating from college this spring?

Please let the church office know, so that we can share in congratulating them with their church family.



FINGERS CROSSED FOR SUNSHINE ON JUNE 24th!

HELLO EVERYONE! THE SIGNUP POSTER FOR THE JUNE COOKOUT ON THE 24TH IS IN THE NARTHEX! PLAN TO BE THERE SO YOU CAN RELAX, SOCIALIZE, AND HAVE SOME GREAT PICNIC FOOD, ALL AT THE SAME TIME! AND SIGN UP TO BRING YOUR SPECIALTY!

~Donna & Ron Miner

Can you help?

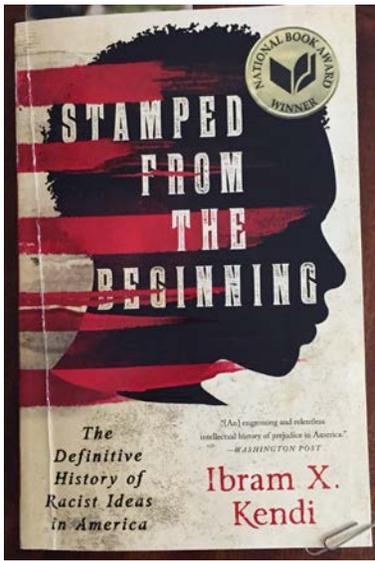
Chelsea Fire Victims Wish List

In addition to the super market and Target-type gift cards (and cash), here are the goods we know they are looking for.

- **Household goods** (kitchen utensils, linens, dishes, etc.) - used is fine but in good condition please!
- **Clothing** - Women's sizes medium and large; men's sizes medium, large, and extra large
- **Functional furniture** (functional basics like lamps, kitchen table, chairs) - used, of course but in good condition.

We will collect on June 3rd and again on June 10th. If you have large items you want picked up and delivered, please notify Kris Carbonneau or Barbara Krol-Sinclair at church or by email. Emails are:

Kris.carbonneau@aecom.com
barbaras@bu.edu

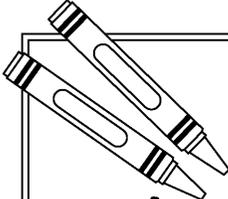


Our next Racial Justice Ministry book discussion will focus on *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* by Ibram X. Kendi. It's a long book so we will hold our discussion after summer break, on September 30 after the worship service. We are also going to open this up to the wider Melrose and nearby communities, so please spread the word. We have two copies of the book on our RJM book rack and there are several in the library system. It is also available from Amazon and other booksellers. I'm looking forward to discussing this book with you. Winner of the National Book Award, it's a fascinating exploration of how racist ideas developed in America. If you have questions or would like further information, please contact Betsy Garrett at betsy.luebbe.garrett@gmail.com.

MESSANGER DEADLINE
for items to go in the last Messenger for the season is **Friday, June 15th**. That Messenger will be sent out by **June 19th**.



We are looking forward to seeing summer items and also previews of upcoming fall events. Please think ahead to your activities that will take place this summer and in the fall and give us information to publicize those activities.



Just for KIDS

God made the seasons

Warmer weather means summer has arrived! God's beautiful creation is always changing, and we can praise God for every season.



Use this code to finish Genesis 8:22, NIV.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A =  | I =  | T =  | S =  |
| E =  | O =  | R =  | N =  |
| U =  | D =  | | |

“   l   g   h     h

     o’

    m    h  v  

c  l   h  

  mm     w   

  y    gh 

w ll   v   c    ”

Genesis 8:22, NIV

Answer: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."



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.