

Steeple Talk

First Congregational Church of Littleton
189 Main Street, Littleton, NH 03561

October 2012

PHONE 603-444-3376 FAX 603-444-6589

volume 40, Issue 9

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Pastor's Message

If you're going to read one report in this month's Steeple Talk, you don't want it to be this one. You want it to be the Moderator's Report, which you'll find on page eight of this newsletter. In her report, Alice Muh has done a wonderful job of summing up a set of needs in this church that has been developing for years. She has read and understood the important work of experts who've been working with churches all over the country, dealing with similar needs. And she has laid out in clear and persuasive terms the course of action your church leaders are asking you to consider.

Over the last two years, we've done a lot of reflecting on our sense of calling, our sense of direction, as a church. We started with listening for Jesus' voice, and the voice we heard was saying to us: Feed my sheep, feed my lambs. As we asked ourselves what that would look like, we went on retreat and out of that retreat we came up with our five-fold vision statement. (You'll find that statement on page nine of this newsletter.) Since we arrived at this articulation of our calling, we've been looking at the ways we function as a church, asking people in every setting of the church, in committees, task forces and Sunday school classes, the Ladies' Society and the Men's Group: How do you see the things you do fitting into this five-fold vision? Are there things you do that don't arise from or serve these visions? Can you see ways of getting the important work done with less hassle, less discouraging inertia? Out of these conversations, we've arrived at the place we are today, the place Alice describes in her report.

The leaders of this church all believe that God is calling us into a vibrant, living ministry for Christ and for the gospel. We believe God is able and anxious to bring this church fullness of life (and even fullness of pews). So we're doing our best to discern God's leading, to open our hearts, our lives and our way of doing business to the Spirit that moves through the world with the powerful love of God, making all things new. As Alice has said, we're opening ourselves to that Spirit, hoping to discern God's living will, God's joyful, hopeful, exciting will for us in these transformative times.

In the report on the council meeting, which you'll find on page seven of this newsletter, you'll see that I've been in touch with a minister, Rev. Mary James, who has led her church through a process of re-imagining its structures. In fact, she taught a class based on the work she's done at 'Prepared to Serve', but I hadn't yet realized I would want to take it. It was called "Unleashing Spiritual Gifts with New Structure: Life Beyond Committees." Could anything be more on target with the work we've been doing here lately in our church? Mary and I haven't talked yet, so I'm not sure what will come of it, but it's a start. I'll keep you in the loop.

It feels to me like lots of important things are converging right now. In every area of our lives together, we're looking for ways to open ourselves to the new thing God is doing. This church is fortunate to have many dedicated leaders who are working together to keep this church responsive to the Spirit of God. I hope you'll take time to share your insights, your dreams and concerns with your leaders. And while you're at it, I hope you'll also thank them for their insight, vision and hard work on your behalf and on behalf of the gospel.

And thank you.

*blessings,
david*

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

October 2012



Office Hours: Mon – Fri 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

Pastor's Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Music Director's Office Hours: Wed 4:00 to 8:00 pm, Sun 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall	2 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall 5:00 PM-Property Meeting 7:00 PM-AI Anon/Ladies Parlor	3 11:30 AM-AA – Fellowship Hall 12:30 PM Acts Bible Study/ Ladies Parlor 6:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM-Weds. Night AA	4 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall 1:30 PM-OA Meeting	5 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall	6 <i>5:00 PM & 6:30 PM -Harvest Supper & Silent Auction</i> 7:30 PM-AA – Ladies Parlor
7 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 AM-Adult Bible Study/9:15 AM-Choir 10:00 AM-Worship, Communion & Sunday School Neighbors in Need Offering 11:15 AM- Fellowship Sunday School Family field trip 11:45 AM-Acts Bible Study 7:00 PM-Ballroom Dancing	8 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall 5:30 PM-SLLC Board	9 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall	10 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall 12:30 PM Acts Bible Study/ Ladies Parlor 1:30 PM-Ladies Society Meeting 6:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM-Weds. Night AA	11 7:00 AM-Ladies Ecumenical Breakfast-Methodist Parish House 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall 1:30 PM-OA Meeting 6:00 PM-Christian Ed Meeting	12 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall	13 8:00 AM-Men's Breakfast Fellowship at the Littleton Diner 7:30 PM-AA - Fellowship Hall
14 9:00 AM-Adult Bible Study/9:15 Choir 10:00 AM-Worship & Sunday School 11:15 AM- Fellowship 11:30 AM-Music Committee 11:45 AM-Acts Bible Study 7:00 PM-Ballroom Dancing	15 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall	16 10:30 AM-Riverglen Worship 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm Council Meeting	17 10:00 AM-Clergy Group/Ladies Parlor 11:30 AM-AA - 12:30 PM Acts Bible Study/ Ladies Parlor 6:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM-Weds. Night AA	18 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall 1:30 PM-OA Meeting 5:00 PM-Finance Meeting	19 11:30 AM-AA - Fellowship Hall	20 7:30 PM-AA - Fellowship Hall
21 9:00 AM-Adult Bible Study/9:15 choir 10:00 AM-Worship & Sunday School 11:15 AM- Fellowship 11:45 AM-Acts Bible Study 7:00 PM-Ballroom Dancing	22 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA – Ladies Parlor	23 ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA - Ladies Parlor 5:00 PM WE HOST DINNER BELL 	24 ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA - Ladies Parlor 12:30 PM Acts Bible Study/ Ladies Parlor 6:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM-Weds. Night AA	25 7:00 AM-Ladies Ecumenical Breakfast Methodist Parish House ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA - Ladies Parlor 1:30 PM-OA Meeting	26 ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA - Ladies Parlor	27 ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 7:30 PM-AA - Ladies Parlor
28 9:00 AM-Adult Bible Study/9:15 Choir 10:00 AM-Worship, Sunday School, / Food Collection 11:15 AM-Fellowship 11:45 AM-Acts Bible Study 7:00 PM-Ballroom Dancing	29 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA - Ladies Parlor	30 ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA - Ladies Parlor	31 ALL DAY Fellowship Hall- Rummage sale set up 11:30 AM-AA - Ladies Parlor 12:30 PM Acts Bible Study/ Ladies Parlor 6:30 PM-Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM-Weds. Night AA	SAVE THE DATE: Ladies Society Rummage Sale Nov. 2~ 9am-5 PM & Nov. 3 ~9am-12 PM		



Nourishing Acts

The Christian Ed Committee is pleased to announce that our exciting new Sunday School program is up and running! The kids and adults had a great time making t-shirts! We will be making them throughout the year so no one is left out, just let us know if there is interest. A great team of enthusiastic volunteers will be starting our first unit on September 30th. Our first field trip, which is open to all, is on October 7th (look for more information in our Ad right here in Steeple Talk)

We would gladly welcome help in the following areas:

- 🍎 Volunteers, volunteers, volunteers!! We are delighted to say we have great groups to lead our first two units, but are still in need of some help for the rest of the year. Specifically, at this time we need some help for December. I know it is a busy time of year, but there is no better way to get in the Christmas Spirit than to spend a little time with youth! (And we can work around the schedules of the individuals in the group) Please see the sign up board in fellowship hall!
- 🍎 We could use some old magazines for a craft project on the 7th, especially those featuring food or with pictures of people interacting with one another.

Contributed by Kim Smith, Christian Ed. Chair

A Pumpkin Prayer

adapted from *The Pumpkin Patch Parable* by Liz Curtis Higgs (1995)

(a "caring conversation starter" and fun seasonal activity for grandparents, friends, & parents to share with a little one connecting us with Christ's love)

...As I carve my pumpkin, help me pray this prayer

Open my mind so I can learn about you

(Cut the top off your pumpkin)

Take all my sin and forgive the wrong I do and help me learn from my mistakes
(Clean out the pumpkin....save some seeds for roasting or planting in the spring)

Open my eyes so Your love I will see

(Cut eyes open)

I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at what you've given me

(Cut out a nose)

Open my ears so Your word I will hear

(Cut out the ears)

Open my mouth to speak truth and kindness

(Cut the mouth in a smiling shape . . . or your own unique expression)

Let Your light shine in all I say and do!

(Place a candle or battery powered tea light inside and light it)

AMEN

God said, 'Let the light shine out of the darkness!' And this is the same God who makes His light shine in our hearts. 2 Corinthians 4:6

Ladies Society Rummage Sale

November 2nd (9 - 5) and November 3rd (till noon) have been set aside for the annual Ladies Society Rummage Sale. Not only does this raise money for the Ladies Society mission projects, but it serves the community in providing quality clothing and other items for very reasonable prices. So start cleaning out your closets and setting aside quality clothing, books and games, white elephants items, and linens. There is a special need for children's clothing. No Christmas items or electronic devices will be accepted this year. You may begin bringing in items starting on October 18 to Fellowship Hall.

If you have any questions or would like to help the ladies with the sorting and setting up, please speak with a member of Ladies Society. Contact people are: Judy Warden, Barbara Holland, Emily LaFlam, Joyce Krill, Dottie Bailey.

The Ladies Society meets every second Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM in the Ladies Parlor and ALL women of the church are invited to join.

Contributed by Barbara Holland



“Classifieds and Notices”



Dinner Bell October 23, 2012

We host our first Dinner Bell free community meal on Oct. 23. Watch for sign up poster to provide food and to help setup, serve, and clean up.

Explore the possibilities! *An invitation to join in worship planning*

- ✓ Do you have special music you enjoy in worship?
- ✓ Do you have creative ideas on how to present God’s holy word?
- ✓ Do you love traditional worship services?
- ✓ Do you have a special interest in integrating technology into worship?

Call or email Pastor David if you would like to join him in planning one, two or more worship services.



Adult Bible Studies Check calendar for exact dates

Sundays at 9:00 am: Biblical Ministries through Women~ led by Erma Sheley.

Sundays at 11:45 am: The Book of Acts led by Pastor David

Wednesdays at 12:30 pm: The Book of Acts led by Pastor David

Financial Report

August 2012	YTD
Member support:	\$ 85882.95
Scheduled w/d from trust funds	\$11887.50
Transfer from Missions Capital Camp. fund	\$3200.00
Other income:	\$8230.50
Total Income:	\$109,200.50
Total Expenses:	\$102,514.34
Net:	\$6686.16

Shining Lights Learning Center



We have a few openings in the Toddler program for the upcoming school year. If you know of anyone interested in a Christian Day Care and Pre-school, please let them know.

Contact Dianah Hale at the center for more information.
444-7379

Food Collection Sunday - October 28, 2012

The Food Cupboard suggests the following items:

Shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand/bath soap, toilet tissue, baby diapers, coffee, teabags, hot chocolate mix, canned milk, Dry milk, Jell-O puddings & gelatins, soups, canned meat (turkey, chicken, ham, tuna corned beef, Spam). Dry cereals, instant oatmeal, rice mixes, pasta, canned beans, canned vegetables, cake mixes, frostings, crackers. Dog and cat food- canned and dry.

Steeple Talk Editor Needed!

First Congregational Church of Littleton is seeking a motivated and faithful individual to take over as *Steeple Talk* editor by January 1, 2013. *Steeple Talk* serves as a way of communicating church activities and ideas to the members and friends of this church. Duties include gathering and editing reports and articles and putting them together in a readable format. Whoever feels called to carry on the newsletter should feel free to create a new look if desired and it can be as simple or as fancy as you desire. We could even go to a completely digital and online mode! Please consider taking on this important ministry. Call or email Alice Muh at 444-5228/ alicemuh@roadrunner.com. I would be happy to work with anyone in the transition period.

The Mission Page

Dinner Bell

We have signed up for five Dinner Bell dates: October 23, 2012; December 11, 2012; February 12, 2013; April 16, 2013; and June 4, 2013. We will also be asked to provide two or three volunteers and some food items for the Thanksgiving meal on Tuesday, November 20. Sign-up sheets for volunteers and donations of casseroles and other food items will be posted about three weeks in advance of each meal date. The Dinner Bell community meal is served at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays at All Saints Episcopal Church. There is no charge; all are welcome.



Life Bridge Fundraising Banquet

Life Bridge White Mountains Region will hold its annual fundraising banquet on Friday, October 26 at the Littleton Elks Lodge on the Bethlehem Road. The banquet will feature hors d'oeuvres from 5:00 to 6:00 PM followed by dinner and a program from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. There is no charge for the dinner; at the close of the evening, guests will be asked to make a freewill contribution or a pledge to be fulfilled at a later date. Eleven members of our church attended last year and enjoyed an excellent meal and some very informative and inspiring presentations. Our goal this year is to fill at least two tables (16 people). If you would like to attend, please contact Bob Muh at 444-5228 or muhfamily@roadrunner.com. If you are unable to join us, please consider a donation: Life Bridge, Inc., P.O. Box 187, Wolfeboro, NH 03894. For additional information about our local Life Bridge affiliate and teen mentoring opportunities in the Littleton area, contact Dave Coronato at 387-3472 or mrc@lifebridgementoring.org.

Neighbors in Need

The annual Neighbors in Need offering will be taken on Sunday, October 7, in conjunction with World Communion Sunday. Neighbors in Need is a UCC special mission offering (one of four conducted on an annual basis) that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds raised supports the Council for American Indian Ministries; the remaining two-thirds is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects. Neighbors in Need envelopes will be placed in the church bulletin on September 30 and again on October 7.

Your Mission Dollars at Work

The mission committee voted on September 20 to disburse the following amounts from the discretionary mission outreach line item:

- The Mayhew Program: \$100.00
- Copper Cannon Camp: \$100.00
- New England Disabled Sports: \$100.00
- Life Bridge: \$200.00

Shining Lights Learning Center

Shining Lights started the new academic year with the largest enrollment in our history. We have days where we have a waiting list! We are licensed for 28 and we are close to that on many days. Our dedicated teachers are geared up and ready to go with a curriculum that is academic and faith based. NH Bureau of Child Care Licensing state inspector, Thurlow Rowe, came the end of August to inspect our premises, documentation, and staff and student records. We passed with flying colors! Director Dianah Hale's attention to detail, thoughtful, and careful leadership can be lauded.

Very soon we will be talking about fundraising events with the parents: Do we sell Cookie Dough or Pizza Kits? Weigh in and tell church and SLLC board members Su Schott, Peggy Bromley, Ed Craxton, or Alice Muh your preference. We are anticipating holding our Christmas pageant in the sanctuary due to the impending loss of the stage, but that will open up more seating for all who wish to see it. I would ask for your continued prayers for the health of this important mission of our church, its families and its staff.

su schott, board chairperson

First Sunday School Field Trip of 2012-2013

Don't miss this exciting opportunity for fun and fellowship



What's the date? Sunday, October 7th

Where are we going? Windy Ridge Apple Orchard

What'll we be doing there? Picking apples, exploring the orchard, being outside,
And... eating lunch with our family and friends ☺

Who's invited? Members, Parents, Children and Friends of the FCUCC

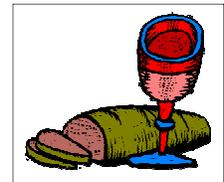
What time will we get ready to go? @ 11:15 AM (*shortly after church*)

What do we need to bring?

1. Dress for the weather/activity
2. Bring a friend(s)
3. Lunch--two options:
 - A) Bring money to buy lunch at the café
 - B) Bring a picnic/sack lunch

Note: Parents will transport their own children, and their children's friends, to and from our destination, and will be responsible for their supervision, while we're at Windy Ridge Orchard. There will be members of the CE committee and Sunday School volunteers to "lend a hand" with supervision of children, too: it takes a village. ☺

World Communion Sunday



World Communion Sunday may come and go without much fanfare, foregoing celebrity hype and lacking attention-grabbing scandal. But in an increasing globalized world, where differences can be divisive, sharing in the elements of the Lord's Supper is the quiet constant that unites believers of Christ – that grace, redemption and healing are afforded through the simple sharing of sacred bread and cup.

On Oct. 7, congregations across the UCC and countless other denominations will celebrate Holy Communion. For some it will be a somber occasion. For others, the elements will be received joyfully. Sue Blain, the UCC's minister for worship, reflecting on the myriad of different ways that Holy Communion is celebrated, shared and distributed among Christians, says, "I think the ideal would be for folks to experience communion in a variety of different ways."

Blain says that when communion is served in the pews, it symbolizes God coming among the people, feeding them. "But having to make a choice to move forward has another level of commitment in some respects," she says. "Both are true, both are valid," says Blain. "I think we could experience all of that and be enriched spiritually."

From www.ucc.org



Music Ministry

It is great to have the choir back from their summer break. We met for the first time on September 5th for dinner and our first rehearsal. We have some new music we are learning and look forward to sharing it with the congregation. In addition we will be using some new rhythm instruments with some of our anthems. We have purchased a set of bongos and a rain stick to go along with our new tambourine.

I would like to welcome Maeghan Clark to the choir. She joins our alto section and is the granddaughter of Rachel Clark. Welcome Maeghan! We continue to need more voices, particularly tenors and basses. Because we are so small, it is difficult to cover all the parts and sound good if we have members absent. As a result there may be some Sundays we are unable to sing. We welcome anyone who would like to join us on Wednesdays at 6:30.

I would like to express my thanks to everyone who provided special music during the summer. We are blessed to have so many talented people sing and play for us. They are all very appreciative of the opportunity to be a part of our worship service and look forward to coming back year after year.

Please don't hesitate to call or stop by my office if you would like to talk. It is a joy for me to serve this church as organist and choir director. Thanks be to God.
Dottie Morton, Music Director

'Music is universal. It speaks to our souls, evoking emotions and memories that can transform not only our worship but also our lives, individually and communally. Let music set the tone and pace for your worship.'

Dorothy Morton - 2012

Church Council

The church council met on Sept. 18 and the following is a summary of that meeting. Full reports and minutes of this meeting and other committees are available in the church office. See also calendar of events in this issue on page 2.

Pastor David report included his contact with the NH conference to find resources for restructuring and the recommendation to call Rev. Mary James. He hopes to contact her this week. He also reported that the task force formed to develop guidelines for facility use met and will continue to discuss how best to proceed. They feel an internal policy is needed, but also guidelines for potential users of the building.

Audio/Visual Update: The audio/visual people are returning on October 10 to help fine tune our new system.

Sign Update: Greg Winn will be starting the excavation of the space for the sign by the first of the week. The sign is still on target to arrive mid-October. J.A. Corey will be doing the electric. We have 10 months 'same as cash' to pay the sign company. We are optimistic that the cost will be covered between our members and friends and the matching funds.

Lift Operation: Pastor David and Alice are planning on meeting with Lawton Contracting about the new lift and the central door rusting. We also discussed having an usher for the lift for Sundays and special occasions. Alice will refer this to the Deacons.

US Cellular: Bob Muh has been working with US Cellular regarding the lease.

Finance: Dudley Bailey reported that the committee met with Ken Kinder of Stifel Nicolaus. The decision was made to keep our investments at the same risk level. Ken would like to see our scheduled withdrawals less than 6%. Currently we are at about 6.1% factoring in the returns to the trust funds at the end of the year. Income is below expectations, but so are expenditures.

Christian Ed: Kim Smith reported Rally Day and first day with the kids went well. Volunteers and kids seem to be really enthusiastic.

Missions: Neighbors in Need special offering will be October 7th. Our first Dinner Bell community meal will be on Oct. 23.

Governance Structure: There was a long discussion about our governance structure and how to best communicate with the rest of the congregation the need to temporarily suspend the by-laws that relate to our committee structure. See article from moderator. Problems identified were around the idea that times have changed and we have too many committee jobs for too few people. There is a lack of enthusiasm about this way to serve God's church and bring our vision to fruition. At some point we will likely want a task force to brainstorm how to restructure.

Stewardship: Tina Peabody is heading up stewardship. Bulletin inserts will start on Oct. 14th with a letter to go to congregation with pledge card that week.

Nominating Plan: Each committee will determine who is planning to stay on the committee and come up with recommendations for new people that could be added.

Next Council meeting is October 16.

From the Moderator

You have heard Pastor David speak about our 'Loving Community in Christ' many times from the pulpit demonstrating how we have been working on putting our newly ratified vision into action. The church council and each committee of the church, with its limited number of members, has been trying to discern what its true function is or should be: what should be kept, what can be let go, what should be added to better support our 'Loving Community in Christ'.

Through these discussions in committees and the council, it has become clear that our church structure is not supporting our vision of what we think God wants us to do. Our by-laws require too many people tied up in the administration of the church and not enough in the mission of the church. Additionally- if you look at the nominating report- clearly what we have set up for 'the work of the church' is not what people are feeling called to do. It is not helping people connect with God, which is really what we are in the business of doing.

Our by-laws were initially adopted in 1934 when we were a thriving community church and in the community, there was the expectation that families would attend one church or another. The number of active members was much greater. Over the years the by-laws have been amended and revised reflecting the changing needs of the church, but the basic structure remained the same.

We are in a very different time and attitudes and expectations are very different. We have experienced a huge cultural shift that started in the 60s and 70s and has not stopped. One of the challenges we face is that the Church is no longer central to people's lives as our global culture encroaches into every aspect of our lives. Church is no longer the only activity on a Sunday. Family time has become so fractured with the multitude of activities and opportunities that have emerged such that Sunday becomes not so much that day of rest, but a day to catch up with each other as well as everything that did not get done Monday through Saturday.

Another challenge is that other social groups offer now what was the primary job of the church; that is, the loving care of the community. Many do not feel the need for a church environment in which to do this and 'good' and 'God' need not be synonymous. Also within the church 'Missions' became a term that described good works happening somewhere else and needed money- but someone else did the job. Missions, therefore, became the work of just a select few. And somehow the work of the church became running the various boards, instead of the caring and teaching of others.

Certainly with our new vision statements we have repositioned ourselves to respond to these challenges and we have made some great strides. So- how to move forward then? We could as we have done in the past, reduce the number of people for each committee, or eliminate one or two and tweak the job descriptions again. But would that really get us to where we need to go? In order to creatively reimagine how we can better fulfill our mission and vision, the council is recommending suspending the part of the by-laws that dictate our committee structure at our next annual meeting. Term limits will be suspended to allow for those who wish to continue to serve in a particular area. Some positions may not be filled and some may be merged with others. This will give us the freedom to explore different ways of looking at how to get the job (God's job, that is) done. We do not wish to throw out the baby with the bathwater and will continue to operate within our congregational polity. We are inviting all members of the congregation to get involved in the discussion. You may speak to any member of the council or Pastor David. It may be prudent to assign a team or task force to come up with some alternatives.

In the meantime- the Deacons, Property, Finance, Mission, Music, Personnel, and Christian Ed committees will be doing their best to carry on, examining and redefining how they support the Loving community in Christ. We continue to look for help from members who are not actively involved in other ways. As a congregational church in the UCC, each member covenants with God and each other to walk together as followers of Jesus Christ, to support this church, each other, and be witness to God's love.

What do you have a passion for? What do you feel God is calling you to do in our body of Christ? How can we make a difference in our community and in our world? How can we be a better 'Loving Community in Christ'?

*Yours in Christ,
Alice Muh, Moderator*



Memorial service and reception for Poppy Clark

Many thanks to the many people who assisted in Poppy's service and reception on September 8th. "Many hands make light work" certainly applied to this very moving service and bountiful reception. The opportunity to meet the family on the Friday evening before was appreciated. The family was very thankful for all the attention to details in honoring their mother.

Ladies Society Pecan Sale

The annual Ladies Society pecan sale, led by Marlene Baker, was a huge success. We sold out very quickly. Thank you for your continuing interest in this project. We sold 48 bags of pecans this year with a profit of \$132.08. The Ladies Society supports a number of ministries within the church as well as local and state. They also annually pledge a portion of their fund raising income back to the church supporting the mission and vision of the church.

First Congregational Church of Littleton: A LOVING COMMUNITY IN CHRIST

Our Vision Statements

- To offer worship that celebrates God's love and inspires us to bring that love into our daily lives
- To engage people of all ages and at all stages of their spiritual journeys in Christian faith formation
- To serve the community with compassionate hearts in the name of God
- To be intentional and consistent in our support and care for each other
- To be living examples of God's love as we have come to know it through Jesus Christ

"You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5: 14 – 16

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STEEPLE TALK OCTOBER 2012



Steeple Talk

A newsletter of the
First Congregational
Church of Littleton

Join the fun!

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Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. W. David Weddington
Administrative Assistant: Pat Whipple
Organist & Choir Director: Dottie Morton

Officers

Moderator: Alice Muh
Vice Moderator: Tina Peabody
Treasurer: Marti Faulkner
Assistant Treasurer: Dudley Bailey
Financial Secretary:

Committee Chairs

Christian Education: Kim Smith
Deacons: Ann Craxton
Finance: Dudley Bailey
Mission: Bob Muh
Music: Tina Peabody
Personnel Relations: Eric Pospelil
Property Management: Art Hunt
Trustee of the Trust Funds: Dick Holland

Shining Lights Learning Center

Board Chair: Suzanne Schott
Director: Dianah Hale



Annual Harvest Supper
&
Silent Auction
October 6th
5:00 pm and 6:30 pm
*Come and bring your family and
friends!*