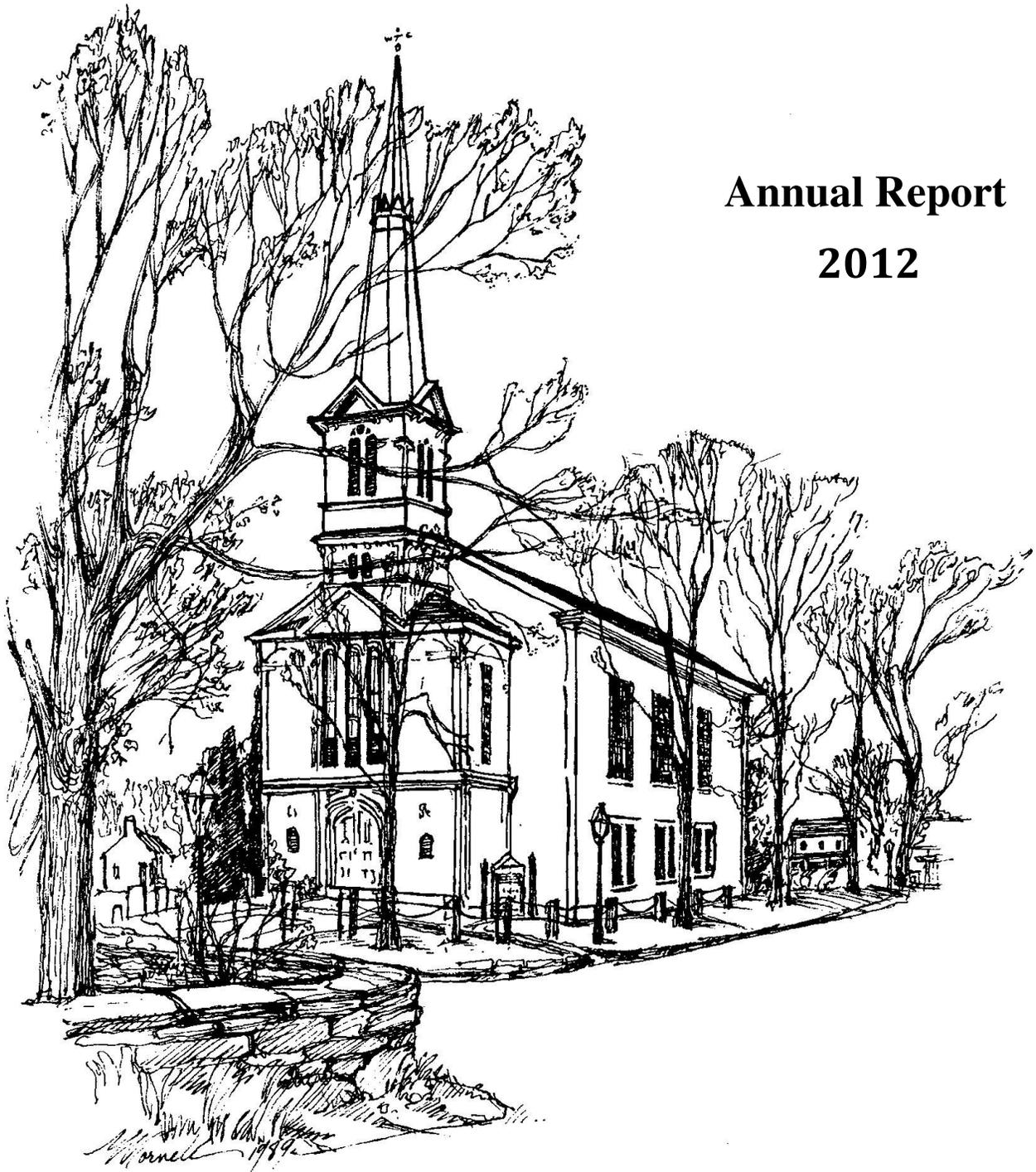


# THE UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Little Compton, Rhode Island

**Annual Report**  
**2012**



GATHERED 1704

RESTORED 1974

## **AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING — MARCH 3, 2013**

- I. The Moderator’s call for the meeting
- II. Constituting Prayer — The Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda
- IV. Acceptance of Annual Reports
- V. Election of Officers and Committees for 2013
- VI. Other business which may properly be brought before the meeting
- VII. Benediction — The Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.
- VIII. Adjournment

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## **UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**1704 308<sup>th</sup> 2012**

In November of 1704, a small group first gathered to form what would become Little Compton's beloved United Congregational Church. The first structure went up in 1724, served the parishioners for over 100 years, and was demolished in 1832.

Its timbers, and all the history absorbed in them, were used for a simple, single-story church — the foundation of the one we worship today.

As the years passed, the building survived multiple renovations and natural disasters. The congregation survived changing lifestyles and attitudes. Thirty-two ministers have helped write our magnificent history.

Throughout this journey, our faith has deepened. Today, our illuminated church steeple symbolizes the love in our church, and in our hearts.

May it forever shine.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We gather in Christian faith to seek the light of God and to reflect it in the world.

We affirm the worth of all people and nurture each individual's spiritual journey.  
Awakened and inspired by the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we face our future with hope and confidence in God's purpose.

Sent forth, we use a diversity of gifts to extend Christ's love  
by sharing our faith through word and action, teaching the Christian faith to all ages,  
and serving neighbors in a ministry of caring and justice.

### **UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF**

**Tele: 401-635-8472 Fax: 401-635-8473**

**Website: [www.ucclcri.org](http://www.ucclcri.org)**

Senior Minister — Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

Associate Minister — Rev. Michael A. Frady

Church Secretary — Dawn Ross

Church Bookkeeper — Maureen Cook

Director of Children & Youth — Heather Helger

Music Director — Michael Bahmann

Junior Choir Director — Stephanie Derbyshire

Service Coordinators — Amy Edwards

Heather Helger

Parish Nurses — Wendy Merriman

Annie Ellis

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508-679-5381

**UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING  
MARCH 4, 2012**

Moderator Jon O'Brien called the meeting to order and asked our Rev. Richard DenUyl to lead us in prayer. The minutes of February 27, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

The Moderator read the names of eight Church members who passed away during 2011, while Michael Ellis, the outgoing Chair of Deacons, lit a candle in each member's memory. One candle was lit in memory of the twelve friends of the Church who passed away during the year. Members were asked to observe a moment of silence in their memory.

Pastor's Report – The Rev. Richard DenUyl reported that we have had a very good year. Membership has increased as has annual giving and other gifts. He said that we are blessed to be in such a good position when many other churches are having difficulties. Emailing notices of Sunday Services has improved communication. He also said that the Trustees have a heavy slate of upcoming decisions ahead of them. One in particular is the issue of renting space to the Wilbur Elementary School while renovations are going on.

**Committee Reports:**

The Moderator acknowledged that Committee Reports were contained in the written Annual Report that was distributed both prior to the meeting and as a handout this morning. He called for questions or comments on reports and approval of each report as follows:

Report of the Clerk - Approved

Report of the Board of Trustees – Approved

Chair, Jane Lorch, announced that for the first time ever the Annual Report was published and distributed a week before the Annual Meeting for reading by the membership. As a review of the year, she reported that the Long Range Planning process went well, the Sunday school is flourishing, and that sixteen children were confirmed last spring. The church is blessed to be on firm ground financially and to have substantial endowment and a number of designated funds including the Steeple Painting Fund, the Carillon Fund underwriting the new carillon in memory of Richard's father and in honor of Richard's many years of service to our Church. Many updates and improvements have been made to the Thrift Shop. As usual, the Fair was a great success. Jane thanked all members of Committees and other volunteers who contribute so much to the church and our greater community.

Buildings and Grounds – Richard DenUyl (Acting Chair) – Approved

Board of Deacons – Approved

Church Historian – Approved

Finance Committee – Approved

Debby Ladd reviewed the financial report that was presented today. She noted that a deficit appears as of the end of 2011, but it is really not a deficit in terms of actual monies. Some members pay their 2011 pledges in January of 2012 and once these pledges are accounted for, there is no longer a deficit.

She announced that the Finance Committee recommended the freezing of salaries in 2012 because it felt that our salaries were in line with the recommendations of the RI UCC. They gave a 2 raise to staff members in 2011. Debby thanked Richard for his leadership and all the members

and friends of the church for their continued generosity. She extended a special thanks to Ed Cissel who after twenty-years has stepped down from the Finance Committee.

Flower Committee – Approved

Greeters Report – Approved

Health and Wellness Ministry Team – Approved

Chair, Wendy Merriman mentioned the Blessing of the Shawls at last Sunday's Service. She said how much they mean to those people who have received them. Her committee is working on a new program called the Second Hour, which will be a discussion of cancer in the congregation. She also thanked Sharon Sheldon who takes care of all the pre-school children in the Vestry during Sunday services. She announced that Marcia La Pointe and Shirley Hardison are joining the Health and Wellness Committee.

Hospitality Committee – Approved

Junior Choir – Approved

The Ladies' Aid Society – Approved

Membership Committee – Approved

Memorial Garden – Approved

Outreach Committee – Approved

Religious Education – Approved

Stewardship Committee – Approved

Chair, Edie Forrester reported that Stewardship has raised \$256,000.

Summer Fair – Approved

Summer Fun Camp – Approved

Thursday Thrift Shop – Approved

Visiting Committee – Approved

Nominating Committee – The Nominating Committee report contains the list of Officers and Committee members proposed to serve the Church in 2012. A motion was made to accept the slate of candidates. After a second, the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Judith Anderson, Mary Derbyshire, Steve Bentley and Charles Thomas would be Deacons serving a three-year term. Deirdre Marsters will be the Chair of Deacons for 2012. Ted Merriman is a newly elected Trustee.

New Business –

A member raised the question about having news of our Church published in the Sakonnet Times. Richard answer saying that the paper will not do anything more than print times of church meetings. He will ask the Times once again if they would include a section on church news for all the churches.

Old Business – None

Bill Makepeace made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A lovely coffee hour was held in the Vestry to recognize The Ladies' Aid Society that is disbanding after 170 years and to honor its remaining members Muriel Medeiros, Inger Ormston, Marjorie Simmons, and Virginia Watt.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan D. O'Brien

for Richard Fisher, Clerk (who is currently volunteering his medical services in Ghana)

## NECROLOGY 2012

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### Members

Dean Charles Kelchner	January 29
Rachel B. Malenfant	May 25
Dr. Joseph Forest Sherer, Jr.	June 20
William Franklin Yates	July 27
Elizabeth Brayton Dawson	September 14
Leonard Beeber Colt, Jr.	September 26
Alan Stubbs Trueblood	November 10

### Friends

Damaris Sayre. Atwater	January 6
Donald G. Martin	March 29
Spencer Gladding Pitts	April 15
Bradford Badger Livingston	May 19
Robert Fairchild Porter	May 23
David H. Atwater, Jr.	June 1
John V. Kean	June 4
Nancy A. Harrop	August 29
Harvey Hill Thayer	September 6
John W. Edwards	October 18
David Whelpley Allen, Jr.	November 2

## MEMORIAL GIFTS 2012

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Bud Barbee	Dr. Joseph F. Sherer, Jr.
Lydia Poole Barker	Cabot Russell Squire
Harry S. Gill	Sarah D. Test
John V. Kean	Alan S. Trueblood
Frank L. Kubik	William F. Yates

**BAPTISMS  
2012**

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**Child's Name**

**Parent's Name**

Theodora Eleanor Watson  
Birth date: October 22, 2011

Elizabeth Livingston Watson & James Blake Watson  
Baptized: June 3, 2012

Nicholas Brickhill Warren  
Birth date: December 17, 2011

Jennifer Brickhill & Dennis Warren  
Baptized: June 24, 2012

Tyler Theodore Nocon  
Birth date: November 16, 2011

Stephanie Ann Nocon & Joseph George Nocon  
Baptized: July 15, 2012

Callie Jane Uon  
Birth date: July 25, 2011

Emily E. Uon & Sakhon Uon  
Baptized: July 15, 2012

Cooper James Uon  
Birth date: July 25, 2011

Emily E. Uon & Sakhon Uon  
Baptized: July 15, 2012

Roger Cooley Blake  
Birth date: May 12, 2005

Julia Chase Hopkins Blake & Robert Richard Blake  
Baptized: August 19, 2012

Catherine Nottingham Richardson  
Birth date: May 6, 2008

Emily Hopkins Richardson & John Scott Richardson  
Baptized: August 19, 2012

Phebe Manchester Richardson  
Birth date: May 6, 2008

Emily Hopkins Richardson & John Scott Richardson  
Baptized: August 19, 2012

Abigail Elizabeth Wisbach  
Birth date: May 2, 2012

Kristina Peterson Wisbach & Gordon Gale Wisbach III  
Baptized: August 19, 2012

## WEDDINGS 2012

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Erin Elizabeth Blake & Peter Sawyer Elefante	May 27, 2012
Emily Katherine Kitchen & Evan Reynolds Weibel	June 2, 2012
Victoria Susan Loughlin & David Michel Salibi	July 7, 2012
Ruth Morton Hough & Robert Ashton Compton	July 21, 2012
Cassandra Clark Reish & James Matthew Bodington	August 4, 2012
Amy Gratton Small & Trammel Allan Martin	August 18, 2012
Lydia Nicole Chandler & Peter Francis Fontaine	August 24, 2012
Whitney Sherer Turner & David Bradley Rolfs	August 25, 2012
Hilary Slade Jansen & Indrajeet Debnath	September 15, 2012
Alexandra Chase Silverman & Scott Mitchell Thursby	October 6, 2012
Candace Elizabeth Taylor & James Bradford Patchett	October 13, 2012
Erin Kennedy Hoye & Randall Leonard Souza	October 27, 2012
Stacey Lyn Borges & Jerome Mitchell Chapman	December 1, 2012

## NEW MEMBERS 2012

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### Affirmation of Faith

Gordon Duquenoy	Thomas Schmitt
Lisa Duquenoy	Katharine Schmitt
Rev. Beverley Edwards	Richardson Smith
Elizabeth Lane	Geoff Taylor
Gardner Lane	Joan Underwood
John Petty	

### Transferred from:

Wayzata Community Church, Wayzata, MN	Paul & Sigrud Hommeyer
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### Transferred to:

Waquoit Congregational Church, Waquoit, MA	William & Jean Westwater
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## **PASTOR'S REPORT**

Dear Members and Friends,

At a time when main line churches around the country, both rural and urban, are struggling to survive, I am pleased to report that The United Congregational Church of Little Compton continues to grow and thrive. Our Sunday morning services have the highest consistent record of people attending in the 300 year history of the church. In addition, I continue to receive positive comments from people visiting on Sunday mornings as well as cards and emails from people who have attended memorial services. If I were to describe our church in one word it would be "enthusiastic", the root of which comes from, "in Theos" or God inspired.

Speaking of enthusiastic, I am so pleased to have our very "enthusiastic" Associate Minister, Michael Frady on staff. Michael has done a wonderful job working with Heather on the Confirmation class as well as singing in the choir, preaching, visiting and chairing the Music Committee. The Associate Minister position has been a real gift to me personally. It is so helpful knowing that when I am out of town, and in the event of an emergency, there is someone available who knows people by name.

Last year was the first time in eighteen years that I was able to walk around our annual church fair the whole day talking with and encouraging people. I enjoyed planning the fair with Heather who organized it and kept me organized in the process. I am the dreamer and Heather is the doer. We work very well together, all of which is beautifully translated into various programs, posters and ads by our beloved secretary Dawn.

I am also grateful for the rest of the staff, including Michael Bahmann and his adult choir who did a fantastic job at the 10:00 Christmas Eve service; Stephanie Derbyshire and Colleen Sweeney whose Junior Choir is nothing short of fantastic; Amy Edwards our Service Coordinator and enthusiastic Member-in-Discernment; Sharon Sheldon, our quiet, consistent head of childcare; Maureen Cook who is the most efficient and happiest bookkeeper I have ever worked with.

In addition, I want to thank all the committee chairs, committees' members and Thrift Shop staff, who volunteer their time and talent to our wonderful old church. And lastly, to the members and friends who pledge their emotional and financial support, without which none of the above would be possible.

As we begin a new year together, I would love to hear your ideas about how we can work together to expand the "enthusiastic" ministry of The United Congregational Church in our community and our world.

Faithfully,

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.

## **ASSOCIATE MINISTER'S REPORT**

Brothers and Sisters in Faith,

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, I began serving as your acting Associate Minister. Your call has been a blessing and I am grateful for the exciting challenges, the rewarding experiences, and the loving support that you have provided me. It was wonderful to have so many of you participate in my Ecclesiastical Council in October 2011, and attended my ordination / installation service on June 24, 2012. Both events were held in our church sanctuary.

I am fortunate to have the opportunity to develop my preaching style here where our Senior Pastor, Richard DenUyl, has set the bar so high! Your honest feedback keeps me grounded and your kind words encourage me to reach higher. Thank you for your trust and your patience in allowing me to experiment with new things in worship and beyond.

Delivering children's messages, teaching our kids in Sunday school, and working with the Confirmation class have provided many opportunities to develop my skills in teaching the Gospel. Our Religious Education Committee and our Children & Youth Programs Director, Heather Helger, have been generous in their sharing and support.

I'm pleased to be part of developing the TLC Youth organization this year. TLC, the Tiverton-Little Compton Youth organization provides our youth group opportunities to learn, work, and have fun with youth from Amicable Congregational Church, St. Andrew's Church and Holy Trinity Church. We had a very successful fundraising dinner in the autumn to raise funds for our mission trip to New York this summer.

Visiting church members in their homes has been a rewarding and enlightening part of my ministry this year. I love to hear the stories some of our senior members have shared about life's joys, trials endured, and how faith supported those experiences. It has been a delight to work with Kit Lawrence and the members of the Visiting Committee to coordinate our visits to members in hospitals, nursing homes, and rehabilitation centers, too.

My work with Deirdre Marsters and our Board of Deacons has been exciting! The Deacons have many on-going projects; including the on-line directory that Pastor Richard and I are working on with Deacon Charlie Thomas. The Deacons have been supporting the involvement of our children in worship; one practice introduced this year is to have children light candles to welcome the congregation into our time of quiet preparation for the service to begin. Additionally, the Board of Deacons has formed a sub-committee to support and guide our Member-in-Discernment, Amy Edwards, in her process of preparing for ordained ministry.

I am grateful to the many people who have been working to revitalize our Music Committee: acting co-chairs, Peter Fallon and Steve Walker; our Music Director, Michael Bahmann; Junior Choir Director, Stephanie Derbyshire; pianist, Colleen Sweeney, and the other dedicated members. There was limited response to our music survey, but enough to give us some direction in charting a future course for the music program. Occasionally, I am able to experience the joy of singing with the choir. They are a warm, welcoming, fun-loving group who will make room for you if you are interested in joining us — full time or fill-in!

Recently, I have begun working with Wendy Merriman and our Health & Wellness Committee. I am eager to find ways to support their ministry. We will soon be offering a quarterly Service of Healing and Hope, incorporating some elements of previous healing services, as well as offering some new liturgy and rituals.

### **Associate Minister's Report (continued)**

In the coming year, I plan to begin meeting with the Stewardship and Outreach Committees to learn about their work and to discern how I can contribute to their efforts. Also, I will be working with Ted Merriman and his Buildings and Grounds Committee.

You might be interested to know that I have been representing our church and the Rhode Island Conference of the UCC serving on the Governing Board of the RI State Council of Churches. Our recent work has included drafting a statement to present to the RI General Assembly regarding the RI Marriage Equality Act. In the near future, we will be addressing immigration issues from a faith perspective. I am passionate about each of these social justice issues as well as environmental justice.

The work I am doing in and on behalf of our church enriches my personal faith journey and each of you is shaping my ministry. I hope and pray that my work is enhancing the growth and vitality of our church. Thank you for your personal support and for your continued support of the existence of the Associate Minister position.

May God bless each of you as you grow in faith, and may God bless the United Congregational Church of Little Compton as we continue to reflect the light of Christ in our community and into the world.

Peace,

Rev. Michael A. Frady

## **REPORT OF THE CLERK**

The Church membership for 2012 was 588, a slight increase from 584 in 2011. Thirteen new members joined the Church, two transferred to another Church and seven members passed away. There were thirteen weddings and nine baptisms. The Sunday School enrollment increased to eighty five up from sixty in 2011. The Board of Trustees met monthly except for February, July, and November and there were additional meetings held to discuss special issues on October 14<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup>. The Annual meeting of the congregation was held on March 4, 2012 with Quarterly Meetings taking place on May 6, August 19, and November 18. Minutes of all Trustee and Quarterly meetings are on file in the Church Office for reference.

It has been a successful year for the Church with many ongoing activities. The newly updated Thrift Shop had their most successful summer yet and the Summer Fair was as good as ever under the direction of Richard and Heather. The Ecumenical Service with St. Andrew's was held in July, and the 'One Book - One Community' program was successfully initiated.

As called for in the Long Range Plan, the Discernment Committee was formed to make recommendations concerning hiring additional pastoral staff to assist Richard and Heather. Their recommendation was that the Church would benefit most with a full time Associate Minister holding a Master of Divinity degree. With established funding for two years, it was decided this should be an interim position to test the concept without making a permanent commitment and to allow time to secure long term funding. At the May Quarterly Church Meeting, the congregation voted unanimously to hire Michael Frady as the Interim Associate Minister and form a search committee to begin the process of selecting a permanent Associate Minister over the next year. Michael accepted the position and began working in earnest on June 1, 2012.

This was also a steeple painting year. Many watched as the painters repelled down the steeple with brushes and buckets high above the Commons. In addition to paint, their close inspection also revealed some decay in the wooden structure, which needed repair. This unexpectedly increased the cost but the work was completed along with a refurbishing of the weathervane. The steeple looks great. Other maintenance included new Church signs, remolded bathrooms, and needed improvements to the front and back doors.

Much discussion was generated at Trustee and Congregation meetings about the use of Church facilities as temporary classrooms during renovation of the Wilbur-McMahon School. As deliberations progressed and an evaluation of Church facilities was performed, it was determined that the Church water supply would not support such heavy use of the property. Other arrangements have now been made by the School Committee.

Looking forward, several projects were begun in 2012, which will be important activities for the next year. These include the initiation of a new web based Church directory, further updates to our aging buildings, and finalizing the Associate Minister position. We look forward to another eventful year.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Fisher, Clerk

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Board of Trustees of the United Congregational Church, Little Compton held its meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month during 2012 except for the February meeting that was held on March 1. There were no regular meetings in July and November. Two special meetings were held in October and November. The minutes of the Clerk are on file and available in the Church Office. The Board members are entrusted with handling the secular affairs of the church and are responsible for the following active committees: Buildings and Grounds, Fair, Finance, Historian, Long Range Planning, Memorial Garden, Nominating, Personnel, Stewardship, and Thrift Shop.

The Trustees for 2012 were Executive Committee members Rev. Richard DenUyl, Chair of Deacons Deirdre Marsters, Chair of Trustees Jane Lorch, Moderator Jon O'Brien, Treasurer Hiram Emery, Clerk Richard Fisher, Chair of Finance Committee Deborah Ladd, Chair of Buildings and Grounds Ted Merriman. Members-at-Large were Sue Hutson, Tod Moore, Joan O'Brien, Donna Stewart, and Gurdon Wattles.

Now in his nineteenth year as our beloved minister, Richard DenUyl continues to grow the church. Sunday morning worship attendance averages at approximately one hundred forty members and friends. At the Quarterly Meeting in May, Michael Frady was elected to serve as an Associate Minister for one year. He was ordained at our church on June 24 and has assumed his duties with enthusiasm. The Associate Minister position is a complement to the Minister and provides consistency in preaching when Richard is away, participation with various committees, and leadership for the confirmation class. A Pastoral Search Committee is in session to find a permanent Associate. Michael is eligible to apply for that position if he so wishes.

A major issue this year was the request by the Wilbur School to rent our Sunday School facility in the Education Building to house Grades K, 1 and 2 for a year or two while the school underwent major mandatory renovations. The proposal came to the church early in the year and was on and off the table as the school deliberated on what arrangement, among several, that they would decide to make. In late fall, the School Department proposed to rent our building for Grades K & 1 and its accompanying staff. Upon further investigation of our facilities it was found that the church well and water supply was not adequate to handle the use that this would require. By vote of the Trustees, the Church had to deny the School Department that use. Plans are underway to once again have an early childhood program rent the first floor of the Education Building for use during the week beginning in September 2013.

The Long Range Planning report for the church was finalized and presented to the Board and then to the Congregation at the May Quarterly meeting. Three categories were reviewed: Growth, Maintenance and Improvement of Properties; Financial Health of the Church; and Church Life and Governance. Some initiatives that resulted from the report this year have been a new and improved web site, the hiring of an Associate Minister, and the successful One Book/One Community reading of Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks.

The church is very stable financially, thanks to the steady guidance of Debby Ladd and the Finance Committee. The endowment and other special funds remain in line with the general trends in investments and the church is also blessed to receive generous gifting and bequests during the year. Chair Edie Forrester and the Stewardship Committee continued to steer the pledging activity this year and held a second annual thank-you party and raffle on a Sunday evening to recognize the importance of stewardship and keep the 'fun' in fundraising. Everyone enjoyed the event and the fellowship with members.

Our new chair of Buildings and Grounds, Ted Merriman is right on the job and has established a maintenance schedule for our antique church and three other buildings, old and new, that is

### **Board of Trustees (continued)**

keeping up with the regular maintenance schedules of cleaning and repair. The painting and repair of the steeple was completed and it shines ever so brightly as the new Verdin carillon rings the hour and plays a hymn in the late afternoon. Some repairs that were accomplished this year include replacement of the bathroom floors and toilets in the Vestry. The main doors of the church were resealed and painted and a replacement door was installed at the side Vestry. Exterior signs were either refurbished or replaced.

The Thrift Shop was up and running on schedule with its improvements inside and out, thanks to an energetic committee, the many volunteers, a new brochure and increased marketing, and the funding from two generous benefactor members.

The annual Church Fair was a big success again this year with Richard DenUyl and Heather Helger as new and very capable co-chairs. The committee chairs performed their tasks smoothly and all had a good time. Thanks go out to all the volunteers who contributed to make the Fair the wonderful event that it continues to be.

After a very long history of service to the church, The Ladies' Aid Society has disbanded. A reception was held after the May Quarterly Meeting to honor its four remaining members, Marjorie Simmons, Ginny Watt, Muriel Medeiros, and Inger Ormston. The Society has designated the funds in their account amounting to \$10,000 to the refurbishing and redecorating of the Ladies' Parlor in the Vestry.

Thank you to Head Deacon, Deirdre Marsters for her loyal service on Trustees during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Lorch, Chair

## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

*(Sub-Committee of the Board of Trustees)*

2012 was a productive year. The most notably completed project was the repair and painting of the church steeple. Generous donations were made to fund the project which, at first, appeared to be a standard painting job. Once work was underway, however, it was found that the years of Little Compton weather had taken its toll beneath the layer of visible white paint. In order to keep the structural integrity of the steeple, significant wood rot had to be removed and the wood replaced in many areas. Luckily the vendor who has worked on the structure for many years was able to do the work for an acceptable amount and it must be said that it looks beautiful. Going forward the steeple will have a detailed inspection performed every two years so a proper preventative maintenance schedule can be followed. The long term goal is to never have to make significant preventable repairs to the steeple.

One additional large project was the replacement of the rear door by the elevator. The door had to be custom made due to the dimensions and fortunately the locking hardware was able to be transferred. It is well built and will last several generations.

In addition to the larger projects, there were other items completed which include;

- Church bathrooms were remodeled with new toilets installed.
- The two front doors were stripped, sealed and painted to prevent further swelling
- A new cleaning company was hired for both buildings
- A monthly building inspection process was started to correct issues before becoming visible to the congregation
- A new dishwasher was installed in the church kitchen
- A new sign was erected in the front of the church (the old was rotten)
- The two signs on either side of the church entry were re-painted
- The floors between the pews were re-painted

2013 looks to offer many opportunities for further improvement. This beautiful church of 300 years stands in the center of the Commons as a recognized iconic symbol of the town. It welcomes everyone to photograph it, navigate by it, be wed in and have the end of fulfilled lives celebrated within it. The goal of the Building and Grounds Committee is to not only have the structure still standing 300 years from now, but also ensure that it continues to look just as beautiful and welcoming for everyone.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Merriman, Chair & Richard DenUyl, Vice Chair

## **BOARD OF DEACONS**

The 2012 Deacons were given many opportunities to support creative and leadership roles within the church. We worked well and efficiently as a group always remembering that our duty was to support our pastors and lead the worship of our wonderful, old church.

### **January**

- It was agreed that Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks will be the focus of our One Book, One Community initiative this spring.
- Deacons Meetings will henceforth be held the first Wednesday evening of the month at the request of the Board of Trustees.
- Front door greeter should collect the offertory on the balconies.

### **February**

- Deirdre Marsters has been asked to be the Deacon Chairperson and she has accepted. Other new Deacons are, Mary Derbyshire, Judith Anderson, Charlie Thomas, and Steven Bentley.
- The Deacon Handbook is being updated.

### **March**

- The church website is being modified and should be online by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Front door greeters will be responsible for counting service attendance and recording in book in upstairs closet.
- Wendy Merriman will be setting up a CPR course open to the community. Three Deacons will take part.

### **April**

- Jen Thomas is ready to launch new church website. Heather Helger is the other "go to" person for website inquiries.
- Easter Service had record crowd (505).
- Deacons are encouraged to seek out new faces at coffee hour.
- There are many improvements needed to the music program. Associate Minister, Michael Frady will be leading this initiative.
- Charlie Thomas and Richard to create new, online membership directory. Hard copies will become available for non computer members.
- Judith Anderson reports the Wellness Committee would like to lead a Cancer Support Group after church.

### **May**

- Discussion about favorable outcome of One Book, One Community event.
- Beach Sunday planned for August 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Ecumenical Service planned with St Andrew's for July 8<sup>th</sup>. The theme is our mutual interest, Haiti.
- Discussion of importance of revamping the music program top to bottom.

### **June**

- The Ladies' Aid Society has disbanded and contributed \$10,024.46 for the renovation of the Ladies' Parlor.
- Michael Frady's ordination (June 24<sup>th</sup>) will be supported by full roster of Deacons.

## **Board of Deacons (continued)**

### **July**

- Welcome our new Associate Minister, Michael Frady.
- Chose a “Bring Your Friend to Church” Sunday for fall (Sept 30<sup>th</sup>) — invitations distributed week before at church.
- Redesign pew cards. Deirdre and Trina agreed to look into this with a way to collect data for membership record on card.
- Agreed that next July we do not need to meet as a committee due to Fair and summer schedule.

### **August**

- Charlie Thomas demoed the new online directory. The Deacons will provide a beta testing.
- Michael Frady will take responsibility of lighting of candles from Service Coordinator and give to a selected member of our Youth Group each Sunday.
- Confirmation class will go on a retreat to NH August 18-19, team building.
- Richard and Heather were congratulated on a successful Fair. Final numbers not available, but will be competitive.
- Michael Frady is joining the choir and is working on reforming the committee.
- When there are five Sundays in a month, one Sunday will be identified as Family Sunday. The format will be informal and the music new.

### **September**

- Amy Edwards has identified herself as a Minister-in-Discernment as described by the RI UCC. Deirdre will schedule a meeting with her for the Deacons to explore her motives and the plausibility of this action.
- Michael has reconstituted the Music Committee and its first meeting will be Sept 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Rally Sunday will focus on our outreach to Haiti. Small buckets will be distributed to collect change.
- TLC Youth is the name of the new Youth Group formed by St Andrews, Holy Trinity, Amicable and ourselves. Various programs will be hosted by each church through the school year.
- Judith reported our Congregational Care and Cancer program will take place October 21<sup>st</sup> after church

### **October**

- Michael announced that the new Youth Deacons for this year are Maggie Bodington and Ben Wilson.
- Charlie Thomas has bought new software for the online directory and will report back once tested.
- There was a brief discussion about our classrooms possibly being used in 2013-2014 while Wilbur-McMahon School is rebuilt.
- Deacons used this meeting to question Amy Edwards regarding becoming a Minister-in-Discernment.

## Board of Deacons (continued)

### **November**

- The next installment of Congregational Care and Cancer will be put off until the New Year. We did not have the responses to the first meeting we had hoped for.
- Deacons will no longer be asked to provide coffee hour set up when we have communion.
- A subcommittee consisting of Michael Frady, Deirdre Marsters, Charlie Thomas, Maggie Thomas and Ted Merriman is in place to support, guide Amy Edwards

### **December**

- An Ecumenical Service with St Andrew's was proposed for February 10<sup>th</sup> (later moved to February 17<sup>th</sup> at St Andrew's).
- The Board of Trustees has approved the use of our school building for Cindi Raposa's Montessori preschool beginning September 2013. Maximum enrollment is 18 and our building meets all codes for that type of school.
- April 1<sup>st</sup> has been targeted for the completion of the online and paper-based data collection for the Membership Directory. Charlie Thomas and Michael Frady are sharing the work. There will be a fun photo section in the directory.
- Christine Merriman has accepted the chair for the Hospitality Committee commencing 2013.
- There seems to not be huge enthusiasm for repeating April's One Book, One Community. Instead we are looking into a possible mental health initiative. Richard will take the lead.
- There is a caroling event on December 22<sup>nd</sup> followed by a potluck dinner (the latter did not happen).
- Richard had a safe "sandbox" made for receiving lit candles during the Christmas Eve service. It was a success and could be larger for next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre Marsters, Chair

## CHURCH HISTORIAN

During the year 2012, I have continued working on the history of our church and plan to have more items of interest to file at the office in year 2013.

Reverend Richard Billings  
1704-1748

Rev. Richard Billings (Ebenezer, Roger), born 21 Sept. 1675 in Dorchester, Mass., died in LC 20 Nov. 1748 ae 74.

He married Sarah Little, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Gray) Little, born 23 July 1685, died 19 March 1742 in LC ae 57. Both are buried in Old Commons cemetery.

He was attending Harvard College in 1698 and graduated at the foot of his class, having been dropped in three places. He began work at the Congregational Church of LC. Three years later, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 1704, the parish was constituted and he was then ordained. He served from 1704 to 1748. Filled with missionary zeal and an interest in medicine, he seems to have been much beloved by his own people as well as by the Indians of the region. He was a justice of the peace and as such performed many marriages, officiating at ceremonies for some of his own children.

His will, made in LC 14 Nov. 1748 and proved there 6 Dec. 1748: "... to son Richard all real and personal estate and he to be executor. To daughters Sarah, Hannah, Elizabeth and Mary small sums of money. To granddaughter Mary Throop 60 pounds...". He had two negroes worth 300 pounds. His library was valued at 100 pounds.

Children, recorded in LC:

- i. Sarah, b. 14 Sept. 1704; m. 20 Jan. 1726 in LC Nathaniel Coggeshall.
- ii. Richard, b. 20 April 1706
- iii. Hannah, b. 18 Feb. 1708; m. Cornelius Collick; d. in Lewes, Del.
- iv. Elizabeth, b. 18 Dec. 1709; d. 25 Feb. 1754 in LC; m. 24 Oct. 1728 in LC Henry Tisdale of Freetown, Mass., died 25 Feb. 1754; m. (2).
- v. Mary, b. 19 Oct. 1712; m. 6 March 1733 in LC Thomas Troop Jr. of Bristol.
- vi. Abigail, b. 3 Dec. 1714; m. (intention 17 May 1735) John Treedy. According to will, m. Nathaniel Foster.
- vii. Comfort, b. 2 Dec. 1716; d. 23 Feb. 1802; m. (1) 2 May 1734 William Bailey; m. (2) 22 Oct. 1741 Richard Grinnell, born 8 March 1717, died 15 March 1789.

From book: "Little Compton Families"  
Compiled by Benjamin Franklin Wilbour

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie E. Simmons  
Church Historian

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Finance Committee is happy to report that FY 2012 ended with a small surplus. Operating income projections exceeded our expectations due to several very generous gifts from friends and members. Expenses, with the exception of the unexpected church steeple repairs, were within budget. The unanticipated cost of the steeple repairs were in excess of \$21,000. This cost was absorbed with funds from our Rhode Island Foundation accounts.

During FY 2012 the church received \$65,300 in bequests, which includes two very generous gifts from friends of the church with a combined income exceeding \$55,000. \$60,000 of these gifts have been transferred into the Endowment Account. These gifts, along with monies from the Ministerial Account, have funded the newly created Interim Associate Minister's position during its trial period.

As we go forward into 2013, the attached budget represents the immediate needs of the church. Our steady outside sources of income — the thrift shop, rental properties, church fair, and cell tower continue to contribute a significant portion of our budget. Today, the church is in sound fiscal condition. However, we walk a fine line; a bad weather day at the fair could have a \$43,000 negative impact on our budget, approximately 10% of our operating budget. So again, while the Committee is pleased with the attached financial report, the staff and committees must continue to carefully monitor income and expenses.

Luke Sweeney, an invaluable member of the Committee will be resigning as of this Annual Meeting. In 2004 when a new bookkeeping system was implemented, Luke was there with his superb Excel skills and keen background in finance, providing the church with an excellent method of financial reporting. I thank him for his hours of tedious work and a format that is easy to comprehend. At the same time, Maureen Cook has risen to the occasion and will continue to provide the Committee with its monthly financial reports.

Finally, after chairing this Committee for the past eight years, it is time for me to step aside. Bob Hartnett, a member of Finance, will be the new chair. It has been a pleasure working with the staff, the Trustees, the Finance Committee, and membership. I wish you all well.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Ladd, Chair

UCC Summary ~ Financial Reporting by Year

Account Breakdown	Total	Total	Cum DEC	Variance	Total
	*2011*	*2012*	*2012*	*2012*	*2013*
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Actual	To Budget	Pro Forma
<b>Income</b>					
Pledges	227,053.10	245,712.86	260,347.80	14,634.94	238,817.00
Collections	16,873.62	17,320.48	15,869.32	(1,451.16)	16,371.10
Summer Fair	74,881.86	76,310.53	77,632.88	1,322.35	76,257.00
Thrift Shop	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	-	25,000.00
RI Foundation Re-Imbursement	8,000.00	-	-	-	16,024.00
Parsonage Rental	13,680.00	9,120.00	13,680.00	4,560.00	13,680.00
Parish House 2nd FI Rental	13,039.00	15,024.00	15,072.00	48.00	15,072.00
Use of Church	10,123.50	10,373.50	11,080.75	707.25	10,601.76
Tower Income	27,999.96	27,999.96	27,999.96	-	27,999.96
Summer Camp Income	15,898.35	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Income/Donations	6,271.00	4,258.50	12,730.91	8,472.41	9,500.96
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>438,820.39</b>	<b>431,119.83</b>	<b>459,413.62</b>	<b>28,293.79</b>	<b>449,323.78</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>					
Summer Fair	30,133.69	33,208.35	34,145.27	(936.92)	32,139.48
Wages, Taxes & Benefits	270,236.92	273,017.40	304,548.27	(31,530.87)	342,429.59
Ministerial Other	3,959.11	4,757.56	10,942.14	(6,184.58)	11,520.34
Office	13,649.87	14,409.57	15,211.74	(802.17)	16,169.72
Music	5,004.58	4,826.74	5,830.66	(1,003.92)	5,850.00
Buildings & Grounds	75,853.68	73,573.46	115,882.89	(42,309.43)	72,953.77
Missionary Outreach	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	-	10,000.00
UCC/RI Conference	15,212.00	15,248.00	14,906.00	342.00	15,248.00
Religious Education	6,084.86	6,137.75	4,212.08	1,925.67	5,646.38
Hospitality Committee	1,525.07	1,167.63	1,379.67	(212.04)	1,350.00
Visiting Committee	46.16	71.62	182.78	(111.16)	200.00
Health & Wellness/Steward/	-	-	1,319.48	(1,319.48)	1,850.00
Church Expenses and Supplies- misc.	2,180.35	2,252.07	644.70	1,607.37	2,296.34
Summer Camp Expense	10,783.94	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>442,670.23</b>	<b>436,670.15</b>	<b>517,205.68</b>	<b>(80,535.53)</b>	<b>517,653.62</b>
<b>Operating Budget Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(3,849.84)</b>	<b>(5,550.32)</b>	<b>(57,792.06)</b>	<b>(52,241.74)</b>	<b>(68,329.84)</b>
<b>Non Budgeted Income</b>	<b>6,042.99</b>	<b>2,315.08</b>	<b>680.00</b>	<b>(1,635.08)</b>	<b>350.00</b>
<b>Non Budgeted Expense</b>	<b>7,609.86</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>NET NON BUDGETED</b>	<b>(1,566.87)</b>	<b>2,315.08</b>	<b>680.00</b>	<b>(1,635.08)</b>	<b>350.00</b>
<b>Revised Church Income/Loss</b>	<b>(5,416.71)</b>	<b>(3,235.24)</b>	<b>(57,112.06)</b>	<b>(53,876.82)</b>	<b>(67,979.84)</b>
<b>Funds Transfer into Operating</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,027.05</b>	<b>58,027.05</b>	<b>68,855.34</b>
<b>Revised Church Income/Loss</b>	<b>(5,416.71)</b>	<b>(3,235.24)</b>	<b>914.99</b>	<b>4,150.23</b>	<b>875.50</b>

ASSETS	12/31/2011	12/31/2012	CHANGE
<b>CHECKING &amp; SAVINGS</b>			
100A · Checking.New Oper. Acct.#9667	87,965.39	26,207.32	(61,758.07)
102 · 300th Building Fund #0237	462.03	462.03	-
107 Frank L. Kubik Mem. Fund #0658 & CD	18,025.95	18,546.17	520.22
Thrift Shop		17,045.87	
<b>TOTAL CHECKING &amp; SAVINGS</b>	<b>106,453.37</b>	<b>62,261.39</b>	<b>(61,237.85)</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
130.02 · End.Fund(Smith Bar)#28625	881,452.38	1,051,633.00	170,180.62
130.04 · Hawes Brayton Fund (S.B) #28617	29,448.33	30,729.00	1,280.67
130.06 · 300th BldgFund (Smith Ba)#28621	58,614.15	58,209.00	(405.15)
130.08 · Ministry Fund (Smith Ba) #28620	75,537.30	68,758.00	(6,779.30)
130.20 · UCC Fund (RI Foundation) #405700	270,562.93	287,879.00	17,316.07
130.22 · Singesen (RI Foundation) #406300	14,767.75	15,758.00	990.25
130.24 · Almy Fund(RI Foundation)#452400	97,277.30	103,108.00	5,830.70
Cobb Fund (RI Foundattion)#465200		48,249.00	
Ladies Aid	10,024.46	0	
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>1,437,684.60</b>	<b>1,664,323.00</b>	<b>188,413.86</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,544,137.97</b>	<b>1,726,584.39</b>	<b>127,176.01</b>

## **FLOWER COMMITTEE**

The Flower Committee is responsible for the flowers on the Altar every Sunday except when Communion is served. Each member of the committee is responsible for a particular month, contacting previous donors to ask if they wish to contribute flowers again, and if so, how they would like the information to be in the bulletin. On occasion, the chairperson for the month will solicit new donations of flowers to fill an open spot. The schedule of flower donations should be submitted to the church office two weeks before the actual month.

Many thanks to all the creative people who give their time and skills to help make our church beautiful! The plants, flowers, and arrangements honor those still a part of our church family, celebrate the fellowship of friends who come together, and remind us of all those saints who have gone before.

The Flower Committee is also responsible for arranging flowers for special church events and the Christmas and Easter displays. Each month, the chairperson also places a plant on the Narthex table, to be cared for jointly by the church staff and the Flower Committee. Currently, we are very lucky to have Marsha La Pointe and Elizabeth Derbyshire taking care of the urns outside the church doors. They have done a wonderful job of planting and watching over these plantings, which are such a visible sign of our Church's welcome presence in the community.

We have many loyal contributors of flowers from our congregation, but we always need more donors! Flowers may be given to commemorate any occasion: baptisms, birthdays, spring, graduation, and peace. If you would like to join us, please call Holly at 635-2451.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Billings, Chair (635-2451)

## **GREETERS REPORT**

<u><b>MONTH</b></u>	<u><b>ATTENDANCE</b></u>	<u><b>AVERAGE</b></u>	<u><b>SPECIAL OCCASIONS</b></u>
January	614	123	New Year's Day 90
February	559	140	
March	364	91	
April	1,190	170	Palm Sunday 138 Maundy Thursday 77 Easter Sunrise Service 75 Easter 505
May	553	138	Mother's Day 140 Children's Sunday 153
June	508	127	Father's Day 129
July	618	124	Tent Sunday 175
August	485	121	Beach Sunday 85
September	602	120	Rally Day 146
October	690	173	
November	853	171	Thanksgiving 125
December	1,256	179	Children's Pageant 195 Christmas Eve 5p.m. 306 Christmas Eve 10 p.m. 252
<hr/>			
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>8,292</b>	<b>140</b>	

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Derbyshire, Chair

## **HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY TEAM**

Formed in October of 2005. We are accountable to the Board of Deacons.

The ministry formed as an opportunity to connect with one another around the wider dimensions of "Health". We seek to become partners in our health care and connect one another in a continuum of physical, social and spiritual well-being.

### **Some Paths of Connection 2012**

#### **The Shawl Ministry— Elizabeth Derbyshire and Pam Church Meets after church in the Ladies' Parlor.**

This is an evolving group that gathers to knit, to share concerns, and to enjoy the company of one another. Completed shawls are blessed and gifted to others. New knitters and/or those who crochet are always welcome. Yarn, needles, and teachers are available.

We share quarterly blessing shawls during the worship service.

#### **Library— Amy Edwards and Karen Corrigan**

The library cart with a variety of health and wellness books is now available for browsing in the church vestry. This is also a lending library.

#### **Cancer Care and the Congregation— Wendy Merriman**

How can the congregation reach out to those with the cancer experience? A powerpoint and dialogue offered by two students from Yale Divinity School. A wider conversation is needed. We look ahead.

#### **Blood Pressure Screenings— with Parish Nurse Annie Ellis**

Third Sunday of Month in back of sanctuary

**Support for Health and Wellness Issues** — Members of this ministry with life and/or professional experience in a variety of health and wellness issues were available to talk and meet with individuals seeking help with life challenges. These include mental health and bereavement. One may also contact our pastor, the Parish Nurses, Annie Ellis and Wendy Merriman and/or members of the Health Ministry. We have an informational table in the vestry with related information.

#### **Church website— with Pam Church**

We are planning to submit information and photos

### **Health Team Members 2012**

Judith Anderson, MA	401-829-2750	Elizabeth Derbyshire	508-636-5589
Susan Chase	401-635-2879	Amy Edwards, LICSW	508-493-2116
Pam Church	401-635-4641	Annie Ellis	401-635-8472
Karen Corrigan	401-635-2857	Wendy Merriman, FCN, MA	401-635-0161

### **Looking Ahead in 2013**

We welcome additional members

Walking Group

Service for comfort and healing

Nutritional Seminar

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy H. Merriman, Coordinator

## **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

During 2012, there were 44 coffee hours. On these Sundays, we served Fair Trade decaffeinated and regular coffee that Coastal Roasters sold to the church at cost, along with juice and a variety of pastry and fruit provided by generous hosts and hostesses.

During the summer months, Lees Market sold us lemonade, ice tea and cookies at a reduced price. These refreshments were served outside in front of the church.

Church committees hosted coffee hours on a flexible monthly schedule: January-Trustees; February-Thrift Shop and Memorial Garden; March-Visiting; April-Stewardship; May-Religious Education; June- Music and Hospitality; July-Flower; August-Hospitality; September-Outreach; October-Membership; November-Deacons; December-Hospitality.

In June, a reception was hosted by the committee for Michael Frady's ordination.

Thanks are given to all the committees and the hosts and hostesses for making each coffee hour pleasant and welcoming. Thank you to Heather Helger, Amy Edwards and Dawn Ross for their support. Thanks to Coastal Roasters and Lees for their generosity.

At this time, I feel that I should resign as the Hospitality chairperson. I leave knowing that the committee is in excellent hands with Christine Merriman as the new chairperson.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Talbot

### 2012 Hospitality Committee Members:

*Deanna Almeida*

*Carol Appleton*

*Ellen Brayton*

*Susan Chase, co-chairperson*

*Karen Corrigan*

*Nancy Easman*

*Ann Flather*

*Anne Hopkins*

*Elizabeth Johnson*

*Jennifer Killenberg*

*Marjorie Lack*

*Victoria Talbot*

## **JUNIOR CHOIR**

The Junior Choir of the United Congregational Church of Little Compton has 12 members currently. Eleven members are returning from last year and one new member just joined two weeks ago. Her name is J'amia. She is new in town and was introduced to the Junior Choir by Angie Gardella.

It seems that every year the members of the Junior Choir love to sing more and more and are incredibly musically talented. The children love when we divide into smaller groups and do harmony and echo songs. It continues to amaze me how quickly the children learn the new music allowing us time to learn harmony and additional parts. The congregation has commented on the choir's improvement. Mrs. Sweeney is still with us adding her musical talent. She has retired from teaching at the Lincoln School for Girls in Providence and now attends every rehearsal and performance!! Her presence is much appreciated. I believed her participation has been a big part of the choir's noticeable improvement this year!

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Junior Choir and many members of the church boarded a bus and traveled around Westport and Little Compton Christmas caroling. This is always a huge success and this year was no different. We attempted to have a potluck immediately following the singing. Christmas commitments forced us to just have a small pizza party for the kids. I think we will stick to just singing for the Christmas caroling evening in the future.

In January the choir performed a concert at Sakonnet Bay Manor. The choir was well received and frankly, their performance impressed the residents. My mother, who really doesn't compliment anyone in the music world couldn't say enough about the children. How professional they looked, how professional they conducted themselves, how wonderful they sounded!! She said, "They could have gone on singing for another hour. I was so sad when it ended!!" Here is the list of songs that were performed:

- 1. Come Celebrate**
- 2. The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy**
- 3. Christmas Canon**
- 4. Angels Among Us**
- 5. Heart to Change the World**
- 6. One Big Halleluiah**
- 7. Head to the Promise Land**
- 8. The Journey**
- 9. Shine a Little Light**

I will list the songs that the choir has sung during the seasons. They sang "Love your Neighbor" on Rally Day. During the Fall they sang "Heart to Change the World." "Shine a Little Light", "Come Celebrate" and "The Journey". For Thanksgiving they sang "Thanksgiving Calypso" and "We Give Thanks" which is an echo song. During the Christmas Eve service they sang "Christmas Canon" with Charlie Callahan accompanying us on the violin. Isabelle Brimacomb and Liam Craffey had a duo usually reserved for older graduated choir members. Keegan Page assisted with directing. The choir also sang "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" and "Angel's Among Us' dedicated to the poor children who left this earth much too soon on December 14, 2012 at the Sandy Hook School in Newtown, CT.

At the February 24<sup>th</sup> service, they shall sing, "A Light Inside". There will be a potluck that evening and the children will be surprising the congregation with a flash mob singing "Getting to Know You". During the open mic portion of the evening, the children will sing "One Big Halleluiah."

For Easter we shall sing the echo song "Isn't He". We used to sing it with the Adult Choir but now sing with two groups of the Junior Choir. "Christ Arose" and "Halleluiah" are other Easter favorites.

### **Junior Choir (continued)**

Thank you again for supporting the Junior Choir as you do and giving me this wonderful opportunity to share music with the church through the children!

This year's members are (*the number in parenthesis represents their ages*):

<i>Keegan Page (16) Assistant</i>	<i>Liam Craffey (9)</i>	<i>Addison Page (9)</i>
<i>Isabelle Brimicombe (9)</i>	<i>Angie Gardella (9)</i>	<i>Aimee Solomon (9) (fall session)</i>
<i>Charlie Callahan (9)</i>	<i>Delaney Lippert (9)</i>	<i>Ursula Talbot (8)</i>
<i>Lily Callahan (7)</i>	<i>Kalli Mataronas (9)</i>	<i>Martha Wilson (8)</i>

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie von Trapp Derbyshire (53)  
Junior Choir Director

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Membership Committee we are pleased to report that we have welcomed 13 new members into our Church family during the past year.

The Membership Committee's ongoing primary mission is to contact prospective new members, introduce them to our Church, explain our structure and long history and invite them to join our faith journey.

The induction is a two step process:

1. On the Sunday prior to the induction, Richard, prospective members and invited Church representatives meet informally after the Service for an orientation session followed by light refreshments.
2. On the Sunday of induction, (and for several weeks thereafter) photos are on display in the Narthex, so that all existing members will be able to recognize and warmly welcome the new members into our Church. During the Service, the new members are formally welcomed by the entire congregation and together all celebrate communion.

Starting in 2011, the Membership Committee Co-Chairs, with Richard's guidance, identified the need to upgrade and modernize our Church nametags. Several possibilities were considered as well as several styles, colors, and vendors. The final choices were made in 2012 and the process was begun over this past summer. It was determined that the cost for the initial nametag for each member would be borne by the Church, but that replacements and/or duplicates would be at member expense. The basic style is magnetic, although a pin-back style is offered to those members who, for medical reasons, cannot tolerate magnets (particularly those wearing heart pacemakers). Boards were purchased for the storage of the nametags in the entrances to the Church (both front and rear). As of this date, more than 200 nametags have been produced and distributed.

If you have relatives, friends or acquaintances who may be interested in Church membership, contact Dawn in the Church Office (635-8472) who will relay the information to us. We will be delighted to follow-up, answer any questions or concerns and invite them into our Church community.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Lofsky and Norman P. Lofsky, Co-Chairs

## **MEMORIAL GARDEN**

The Memorial Garden Committee had a good year in 2012. A total of 9 bricks were ordered for the garden. All 9 bricks have been installed in the garden and all purchasers have been notified by postcard. Bricks can be ordered by calling the church office or filling out an order form which is printed periodically in the church bulletin. The cost of ordering a brick is \$100.

The Memorial Garden Committee maintained the garden during the growing season. Maintenance includes opening the garden, mulching, planting around the center stone, weeding, watering and closing the garden at the end of the season. Next year, we hope to add some additional plantings to the garden.

The Committee is currently working on a complete grid of the garden with the placement of all bricks. Our hope is to complete this grid in 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Sherer, Co-Chair

*Members of the Committee:*

*Deirdre Marsters, Co-Chair*

*Trina Sherer, Co-Chair*

*Anne Tillinghast*

*Karla Young*

## **MUSIC COMMITTEE**

After last convening in 2010, the Music Committee resumed monthly meetings in September 2012 and has been re-energized and constituted with new membership thanks in large part to coordination provided by Pastor Michael Frady. After initiating general discussion on the music offerings of the church, the committee executed a survey to the congregation that sought to collect general comments to facilitate future direction. The survey also helped identify favorite hymns and the information obtained has formed a starting point for our future planning.

Among the 2012 music program highlights – our organ received its annual tuning, a robust Holiday music month included a variety of additional musicians including, Jen Thomas and her sister, Megan Winslow on strings, Pam Church on hand bells, Allison Messier (Alto vocalist), Margaret Ziemnicka & Judson Griffin (Violin and Cello) and the fantastic Children’s Choir. Christmas Caroling took place on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and thanks to the efforts of Stephanie Derbyshire and Pastor Michael, there was a full bus of adults and children who embarked on a 2 hour trip which spread much holiday cheer. Post-caroling pizza was graciously donated by a generous member.

Special thanks to Colleen Sweeney who has continued to provide exceptional accompaniment for the Junior Choir along with other beautiful performances during the Sunday services.

Michael Bahmann and Stephanie Derbyshire continue to provide leadership and guidance that result in very high quality music; we offer them our thanks for 2012 and support for 2013. Meanwhile, the Adult and Junior Choirs are always seeking new singers and the Music Committee is also open to those that would wish to join us.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Fallon and Steve Walker, Co-Chairs

Members of the Committee:

*Peter Fallon, Co-Chair*

*Steve Walker, Co-Chair*

*Michael Bahmann, Director of Music*

*Stephanie Derbyshire, Junior Choir Director*

*Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.*

*Rev. Michael A. Frady*

*Cam Church*

*Susan Emery*

*Keegan Page*

*Colleen Sweeney*

*Jennifer Thomas*

*Joan Underwood*

*William White*

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

### **Summary**

The Outreach Committee (MOC) continued to work on several on-going projects and spent the year exploring several new projects. The committee enjoyed the support of many volunteers from the church. This report will describe the projects that were conducted, the organizations that received contributions, and additional contributions made by the congregation in response to several special situations.

### **Members**

As of the end of 2012, the members of the committee included: Marsha LaPointe, Co-Chair; Shirley Hardison, Co-Chair; Graeme Bell; Sue Chase; Cam Church; Elizabeth Derbyshire; Amy Edwards; Peter Fallon; Kit Lawrence; Jane Lorch; Tod Moore; Lease Plimpton; Deb Ross; Hope Taylor; Nancy Thompson; Nancy Watson; Karen Corrigan, Victoria Talbot and Ed Cissel. In 2012 we welcomed two new members, Victoria Talbot and Ed Cissel.

### **Budget**

The Outreach Committee budget for 2012 was funded at \$8,000. This budget funds several local and global projects which will be described in greater detail below. Again this year, the congregation was extremely generous in its response to several additional requests for support outside the regular budget:

One Great Hour of Sharing

One 5-gallon Bucket at a Time (Haiti)

Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets

Those responses will be described in a later section of this report.

### **Outreach Projects —**

**Outreach Committee Potluck Supper:** On Sunday evening, May 6, 2012, the Outreach Committee conducted the annual Potluck Supper. Approximately 60 people attended the dinner and supplied delicious dishes. The speakers for the evening were representatives from each of the organizations to which the Outreach Committee contributed: Star Kids, SHARE Foundation, Parent Partners, Little Compton Assistance Association, and the Westport Council on Aging. Each representative gave a brief explanation of their organization's mission and explained how the funds we contribute are being used.

**Circle of Friends Dinner:** In September, the Committee sponsored a dinner for the Circle of Friends that meets at the Little Compton Community Center on a monthly basis. Several committee members participated in a cookout for the members of the Circle of Friends.

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** This project is sponsored by the United Church of Christ. This annual fund drive is an offering to help people in need both near and far. It provides disaster relief, funds for economic development and basic needs, such as good shelter, tools, medicine and literacy. As usual, our church's response was generous.

*Donation Amount: \$745.00*

**Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets and the Giving Tree:** These community sponsored projects, organized by the Little Compton churches, the LC Food Bank and the Wellness Center provide a complete meal for approximately 50 eligible families at each holiday. This year Wilbur's General Store donated all the turkeys for the Thanksgiving baskets. An individual from the community donated the turkeys for the Christmas Baskets. Before the holidays, the Boy Scouts delivered hundreds of pounds of food that was used to complete the 'baskets'. The remainder of the

## **Outreach Committee (continued)**

food was used to stock the shelves at the food bank. Our donations were also used to supplement those needs.

Again this year, the congregation donated hundreds of gifts through the Giving Tree Project enabling every family to have at least one and in many cases two gifts at Christmas. Volunteers from our church helped to distribute the food baskets at the Wellness Center and delivered baskets to those who were unable to pick them up.

*Donation Amount: \$889.00*

**Little Compton Food Bank:** This is a collaborative project along with St. Andrews and St. Catherine's churches in which members of the congregation donate food and household supplies during the year to help members of Little Compton and surrounding communities who are in need. Volunteers from all three churches staff the Food Bank during the hours when it is open from 9-10 a.m. on Friday mornings and 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturday mornings. The food donations that are left in the "Little Green Wagon" in the entryway of the church are delivered to the Food Bank weekly and used to restock the shelves. Thanks to Sue Chase who delivers the bags to the Food Bank weekly.

### **The Outreach Committee's 2012 Local Contributions —**

**STAR KIDS:** Scholarship Programs to provide educational opportunities, after-school and summer programs, tutoring and mentoring for high-risk, low-income children who have a parent with a history of incarceration and/or substance abuse. Programs range from K – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade with the goal being the completion of high school and continuing to higher education.

*Donation Amount: \$500*

Target Area: Newport County, Rhode Island and Fall River, MA.

Founded by: Timothy Flanigan of Miriam Hospital and Brown University

**SHARE Foundation:** Provides technology for enabling persons with conditions such as ALS, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis and Machado's disease and visual impairments to speak, write and access the internet and live a more independent lifestyle.

*Donation Amount: \$700*

Target Area: United States

Founded by: UMD Foundation, U MASS Dartmouth

**Little Compton Assistance Association:** Formed in 1981 as a non-partisan, non-profit, charitable group supported by four local churches, UCC, St. Andrews by the Sea, St. Catherine's and Old Stone Church to provide an ecumenical outreach in Little Compton and nearby communities. The organization provides support to Little Compton's Director of Social Services and funding to meet emergency assistance for residents with the intent to complement and/or support existing social service activities provided by state, county or town governments.

*Donation Amount: \$1,400*

Target Area: Little Compton

Founded by: Local churches

**Parent Partners:** Non-profit, parent to parent, mentoring program. Through weekly mentoring, experienced volunteers share their parenting experience with young families in need of support. The mission of the program is to enable quality parenting and life skills. Through role-modeling and positive encouragement the organization strives to advance children's health, well-being and academic performance and to build the confidence that enables young parents to reach their own personal, educational and career potential. Parent Partners serves at time of this report, 13 parents and 34 children in Newport County (three of the Moms reside in Little Compton). Several members of our congregation volunteer as mentors with this group.

### **Outreach Committee (continued)**

This year, the request from this organization asked that our donation be in an amount sufficient to support one parent -- \$1,400. The Committee voted to make our donation in that amount.

*Donation Amount: \$1,400*

Target Area: Newport County (including several clients in Little Compton)

Founded by: Elizabeth (Dabba) Sterns

**Little Compton Wellness Center:** This year we were asked to donate to the Wellness Center to provide funding for a study of the transportation needs in Little Compton. This is a need that the committee has discussed on many occasions. We voted to provide some financial support for that study.

*Donation Amount: \$500*

Target Area: Community-wide study of transportation needs in the community.

Administered by: The Wellness Center

### **The Outreach Committee's 2012 Global Contributions**

**RIC UCC Haiti Task Force:** This Task Force provides support for several schools, churches, and a clinic and several orphanages throughout. It is supported by numerous churches throughout the RIC UCC. In addition to the contribution from the Outreach Committee Budget, we conducted a special Sponsorship Sunday and a Haiti Sunday to inform the congregation and promote the mission's work.

*Donation Amount: \$2,500*

This year, the committee participated in an ecumenical service focused on our missions to Haiti with St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea. At that meeting, we began a campaign that would continue throughout the year called: One 5-gallon Bucket at a Time. The Sunday School children also participated in this project. Members of the congregation each took 'miniature 5 gallon buckets' home and filled them with change. The miniature buckets were returned to fill a 5-gallon bucket that sat outside the sanctuary.

*Donation Amount: \$1,135*

**Haiti Sunday:** Over \$450 worth of Haitian Crafts were purchased. These funds were donated directly to the RIC UCC and were immediately used to purchase medical supplies for the clinic in Haiti.

**Student Sponsorships:** Sponsorships for 38 Haitian students were provided by members of our congregation through the MEBB & RIC UCC Conference.

*Donation Amount: \$8,215.00*

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha LaPointe, Co-chair

Shirley Hardison, Co-chair

**Outreach Committee (continued)**

**2012 Missionary Outreach Expenditures**

<b>Budget</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Haitian Mission Project – General Support	2,500.00
Scholarship for Adult Student Wisley Joseph	213.49 <i>(includes cost of wiring funds)</i>
SHARE	700.00
Star Kids Scholarship Program	500.00
Little Compton Assistance Association	1,564.21
Little Compton Wellness Center	500.00
Parent Partners	1,400.00
Postage	72.03
Pot Luck Supper Reimbursement	196.83
Circle of Friends Dinner	153.44
Drummer for Haiti Sunday	200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>
<b>Other donations from the congregation</b>	
One Great Hour of Sharing	745.00
Holiday Baskets	889.00
Haiti Crafts Sale (given directly to RIC UCC)	445.00
Haiti 5 Gallon Bucket Campaign	1,135.00
Haiti student sponsorships (given directly to RIC UCC)	8,215.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,429.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>19,429.00</b>

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **RE Committee —**

The Religious Education Committee continues to meet the first Thursday of the month at 7pm. The following is a current list of active committee members:

Hope Ryan ( <i>Chair</i> )	Heather Helger ( <i>Director of Children &amp; Youth</i> )
Annie Ellis	Will Ryan
Rev. Michael Frady ( <i>Assoc. Minister</i> )	Jen Thomas
Louise Goodman	

We are always looking for new volunteers to join and contribute to our committee. This committee guides the Director of Children and Youth in all programming efforts for the children, youth and families of the church. If anyone is interested in becoming involved, please contact any RE member.

### **Education Building —**

Three prayer quilts now adorn the walls of the downstairs room of the Education Center. The quilts were made during a previous year's rotation on prayer, as part of a workshop, which was based on Tibetan prayer flags. Children, as well as many other members of the church contributed flags. Ginny Watt came up with the idea to sew them into quilts. She made two of the quilts and the third was made by a co-worker of an RE Committee Member. The quilts look beautiful and really warm up the space.

The Air Hockey table that was donated and once located in the Youth Room was removed and sold as part of the Fair's Live Auction. The youth rarely used it and it took up a lot of space. Tables now fill this area and are much more conducive to projects and sitting.

### **Programming —**

**Childcare:** Childcare continues to be available for infants and toddlers 0-3yrs. old (0-5yrs. in the summer). We are blessed that Sharon Sheldon continues to serve as the main caregiver in the Childcare area. We also continue to ensure a second caregiver is always present in accordance with our safe church policy.

**Sunday School:** The workshop model continues to be the mode of teaching for children 4yrs. old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade during the academic year (September – June). Topics of the rotations that were taught this past year included:

#### **Spring 2012:**

John the Baptist/Jesus' Baptism  
The Paralyzed Man (Miracle)  
Parable of the Sower  
Psalm 100: Make a Joyful Noise

#### **Fall 2012:**

Parable of the Good Samaritan  
Jesus Feeds 5000 (+)  
Advent & Jesus, Prince of Peace

**Children's Sunday (May):** This year, Children's Sunday was highlighted by a Psalm 100, "Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord" presentation. The worship service was opened by a drumming piece, lead by guest drummer Ben Paulding and the Youth. Each part of the service was based on music. For the main presentation, each Sunday School class presented one story from the academic year in a visual way, while the Junior Choir sang an accompanying song about the story. It was concluded with the all the kids leading the congregation in hand motions to the song "Lovely Noise," which

## **Religious Education (continued)**

was sung and played live on an electric guitar by another guest musician, Nick Deysher of “In the Nick of Time Music.” At Coffee Hour, cupcakes with music notes on them were served. Homemade CD’s containing faith filled music were given as gifts to the children and adult volunteers.

**Rally Day (Sept.):** This year we had a Good Samaritan theme for Rally Day to kick off our first rotation story of the year. Rev. Frady presented the scripture using the Good Samaritan Beulah felt story. The meditation was a modern skit “Spilt Milk” based on the parable and was presented by Rev. DenUyl, Rev. Frady, Heather Helger and Louise Goodman. The children were each given a mini bucket with some candy in it and were asked to use it to collect money for their Circle Time offering each week. It was a take on the 10 gallon buckets used in Haiti and a reminder that our Circle Time Offering is used to sponsor 2 children, a way the children are being Good Samaritans.

**Christmas Pageant:** This year’s pageant was a presentation of “The Twelve Days of Christmas.” The familiar carol has two levels of meaning: each day’s gift is a code word for a religious hidden reality. Each gift was presented visually and its religious meaning revealed and then followed by singing of the accompanying verse. Over 30 children and youth participated in this special service. We celebrated as usual with a “Happy Birthday Jesus” cake.

**Youth Class:** The Youth Class continues to prepare our oldest elementary and middle school aged participants for their upcoming Confirmation journey. Their classes, held consistently in the Youth Room, often cover the same rotation topics and stories that the younger children are learning, but in a more mature manner encouraging more in-depth discussion and projects. This year during a World Communion Sunday lesson on the injustice of food availability in some parts of the world, the youth were inspired to do something about it. Hope Ryan came up with the idea to have the class make homemade Christmas Gift tags and to sell them at Coffee Hour. They raised over \$160 and purchased an animal through Heifer to help the cause.

**Confirmation:** In the Fall, a new Confirmation class of 14 began an important step in their faith journey. They were introduced to the congregation on Rally Day. They had class twice monthly in the Fall and covered topics including “Why Church?”, God and Jesus. They were each also paired with a church member Guide, to learn more about what it means to be an official adult member of the congregation.

**Youth Group:** Youth Group continues to be open to any youth in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. They meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month in the Youth Room after church. Participation has continued to be strong with double digit attendance. They continue to have appointed officers (President Andrew Schofield, Vice President Will Ryan, Secretary Alex Bodington & Treasurer Meg Donahue) and there continues to be two confirmed teens that represent the group as Youth Deacons (2011-12 Academic Year Deacons were Meg Donahue and Eli Roeske). Events they participated in over the last year included: a fun field trip to Lazer Gate, a Valentine Cupid Delivery Fundraiser, a Easter Bunny Hop Fundraiser and participation in the Relay for Life of Aquidneck Island in which they raised a few thousand dollars for the American Cancer Society, sponsoring a Circle of Friends dinner in October, sending All Saint’s cards to our college kids and participation in the Family Christmas Eve service as readers. Again this year, we honored a senior youth that showed outstanding youth participation post their confirmation, with a \$500 Frank L. Kubik Memorial Scholarship. Megan Kelchner was the senior who received this annual award.

## **Attendance —**

We currently have approximately 45 active families in our Sunday School program, this is up a little from last year, due to it being a confirmation year. Please refer to the attendance chart below for a more detailed description of group numbers and attendance.

**Religious Education (continued)**

Please note the numbers for Spring 2012 do not include the 14 confirmation participants, which increases the percentage of attendance you see in the Fall figures.

<b>Sunday School Attendance Records for Jan - May 2012</b>								
Total probable attendees	10	7	13	10	9	13	62	
Group	0-3yrs	3-5 yrs	6-7yrs	8-10yrs	11 yrs-6th	Youth Group	Total	% Attend
01/08/12	2	4	4	3	6	8	19	31%
01/15/12	3	6	4	3	4	4	20	32%
01/22/12	3	5	5	7	4	6	24	39%
01/29/12	4	5	4	5	9	9	27	44%
02/05/12	2	4	6	4	6	3	22	35%
02/12/12	5	5	0	5	7	5	22	35%
02/26/12	6	4	4	2	6	9	22	35%
03/04/12	4	6	8	6	5	3	29	47%
03/11/12	1	1	4	2	3	7	11	18%
03/18/12	3	3	4	2	5	7	17	27%
03/25/12	3	7	6	8	7	7	31	50%
04/01/12	7	0	7	5	5	5	24	39%
04/15/12	5	5	6	2	3	1	21	34%
04/22/12	6	6	4	3	6	8	25	40%
04/29/12	5	3	4	1	4	10	17	27%
05/06/12	4	4	4	2	0	2	14	23%
05/13/12	4	5	3	3	7	11	22	35%
	67	73	77	63	87	105		
Avg/wk	4	5	5	4	5	5	24	39%
31								

No SS on 1-1-12 (New Year's), 2-19-12 (Winter School Vacation), 4/8/12 (Easter)

**Religious Education (continued)**

<b>Sunday School Attendance Records for Sept - Dec 2012</b>									
Total probable attendees	10	7	8	9	4	14	13	65	
Group	0-3yrs	3-5 yrs	6-7yrs	8-10yrs	11 yrs-6th	Confirmation	Youth Group	Total	% Attend
09/16/12	8	6	8	12	5	12	3	54	83%
09/23/12	3	6	6	4	1	11	5	36	55%
09/30/12	6	4	6	1	3	6	3	29	45%
10/07/12	5	5	4	4	2	13	2	35	54%
10/14/12	5	5	6	4	4	11	8	43	66%
10/21/12	2	5	7	4	2	12	0	32	49%
10/28/12	7	1	6	12	3	6	3	38	58%
11/04/12	5	6	7	5	2	12	2	39	60%
11/11/12	5	3	4	6	4	2	0	24	37%
11/18/12	2	6	7	10	4	13	8	50	77%
12/02/12	4	5	6	7	3	14	2	41	63%
12/09/12	3	5	7	9	3	4	8	39	60%
12/16/12	4	4	7	11	3	14	0	43	66%
	59	61	81	89	39	130	44		60%

No SS on 11-25-12 (Thanksgiving), 12-23-12 (Christmas), 12-30-12 (New Year's)

**Special Events —**

Religious Education would not be complete without the numerous special events that accompany each Sunday School year. The following is a list and description of these events:

**Shrove Tuesday:** This year's event was again a potluck dinner. Since it fell on the school winter vacation week; we amped up the entertainment bringing in local Illusionist Lynn Dillies.

**Mother's Day:** The Youth Group hosted the Mother's Day coffee hour again this year.

**Advent Wreath Making:** The RE Committee hosted this event after church on the first Sunday of Advent (which did not fall on the Thanksgiving weekend for a change) which was extremely well organized and attended. We received lots of compliments.

**Fundraising Efforts —**

**Cupid Deliveries:** This was a fundraiser for our Youth Group for the second time in 3 years, we skipped last year as to not overuse the idea. Congregation members, for a fee of \$20, could order a Valentine to be delivered by Youth Group cupids to anyone in the Little Compton, Westport and Tiverton areas. All deliveries were accompanied by a red heart Mylar balloon and people could choose from either a heart box of chocolates or a small flowering plant to accompany their Valentine message, many of which were given from secret admirers. This fundraiser was again a success as it was two years ago.

## **Religious Education (continued)**

**Feinstein Challenge:** For the fourth year in a row, during the months of March and April, Sunday School families and other church members were encouraged to bring extra food for the already established weekly local food bank collection. The effort was in conjunction with Alan Shawn Feinstein's Annual Million Dollar Giveaway to Fight Hunger. We received a \$250 donation from Mr. Feinstein for our efforts and the food bank benefited from increased donations. This year to increase donations by the kids and families, we again held a friendly color group competition, offering a pizza party reward to the members of the group who brought in the most donations.

**Holy Smokes:** Holy Smokes were sold for the fourth year in a row as a Sunday School Fundraiser. Church members again saved and donated many pounds of wax, which greatly discounted our initial purchase price of Holy Smokes, allowing the Sunday School to make an extra profit on the sale of these great fire starters. Special thanks to Sayles Livingston for her incredible wax donation for a second year. The members of the congregation continue to purchase the fire starters throughout the winter months and so this continues to be a great general fundraiser for the Sunday School.

### **Children's Outreach —**

The Sunday School continues to sponsor 2 children through their weekly Circle Time offertory collection, one girl in Haiti through the UCC Haitian Task Force and a young man in Indonesia through PLAN.

In addition, we are quite proud of the other outreach activities in which the children participated this year.

**Valentine's Day/College Kids:** The Youth Class made Valentine's cards and mailed them with a sweet treat to the college kids of our congregation.

**Thanksgiving:** This year, families donated cans of cranberry sauce which were put in Thanksgiving Food baskets delivered to local families in need in collaboration with our Outreach Committee, the Wellness Center, Food Bank and the two other local churches.

**Christmas:** Donations of toiletries were collected again this year to accompany the Christmas gifts and food baskets given to those locally in need.

**All Saints' Day/College Kids:** The Youth Group for All Saints' Day reached out to the college students of our congregation with cards, candy and a faith filled message to remind we were thinking about them and remembering them as a part of our church family.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Helger, Director of Children and Youth

## **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Pledges and gifts for 2012 are in the amounts listed below:

MEMBERS	\$207,703.80
FRIENDS	<u>44,060.00</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$251,763.80</b>

We thank our members and friends for their increased giving during the year. The goal of \$250,000 was achieved! Members contributed \$7,500 more than the previous year and our friends also had a generous increase in giving over 2012.

General contributions in the amount of \$15,869.32 added to the above total provides a grand total of \$267,633.12.

A “thank you” party was held in November for those members and friends who had returned pledge and gift cards. During the party, cards were drawn from a basket and more than 13 prizes were won by the members and friends in attendance. It was a lot of fun!

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I wish to thank the office staff, Dawn, Maureen, and Heather for all their efforts on our behalf throughout the year.

Many thanks to the Stewardship Committee for all their work and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith B. Forrester, Chair

Committee Members:

<i>Jack Angell</i>	<i>Mel Platte</i>
<i>Don Conaway</i>	<i>Hope Ryan</i>
<i>Mary Derbyshire-Petty</i>	<i>Christopher Smith</i>
<i>Hiram Emery</i>	<i>Carlton Thompson</i>
<i>Peter Fallon</i>	<i>Christine Waring</i>
<i>Janet Lofsky</i>	<i>Kathleen Wattles</i>

## **2012 SUMMER FAIR**

The 2012 Summer Fair started out with very light drizzle during early morning set-up, but gave way to bright sun which once again led to another successful and fun fair day. Despite competition in neighboring Tiverton Four Corners as they hosted their Cultural Bazaar and a Book Fair in Westport, large crowds covered the Commons as usual enjoying the quintessential country fair. Here are some highlights:

- A folk/rock concert by Sarah Lee Guthrie & Johnny Irion with an intermission hosted by the Smith's kicked the Fair off on Friday night!
- 456 adult runners finished the Road Race. The race smoothly followed Chair-Wayne Curtis's Plan B, as the school renovation prevented use of the gym for registrations, food and awards. The Community Center and Grange were used for registration and t-shirt distribution respectively and a tent was erected on Pike's Peak for food and awards. 127 children were registered in the Kids' Race, which for a second year was held on the baseball field for safety as it prevents skinned knees if any kids fall.
- Jewelry hosted a record year, as Chair-Peggy Mercer thought outside the box, selling broken pieces the committee had saved for years for scrap!
- The Silent Auction was extremely successful, it showcased many amazing experiences most of which were organized and obtained by Kathy Wattles and had many beautiful pieces of art and other miscellaneous items which were surprisingly donated by members and friends and not artists. There was even a diamond bracelet!
- We held the Live Auction for a second year in a row, but back in its original location of the Parish House driveway.
- Children's Games showcased new signage and a new token prize system.
- The Pie-Baking Contest was much more visual as it took place right on the front lawn of the church.
- The Raffle was expanded beyond Friday night and an I-Pad Grand Prize generously donated by Waring-Sullivan Homes of Memorial Tribute contributed to its success.
- We had 62 art and craft vendors!
- A mechanical bull was a new attraction for children and youth and located behind the Children's tent, next to the bouncy house.
- Mary Derbyshire chaired the Lobster Luncheon, while Richard co-chaired the fair, quite a reversal in roles from the norm of the last 3 years.

It was a busy and productive day! Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time! Thank you to everyone who volunteered (we hope you enjoyed a piece of cake on Tent Sunday). Special thanks to this year's Fair Committee Chairs:

Russell Bodington	Candy Fish	Marsha La Pointe	Lease Plimpton
Cam Church	Annie Flather	Kit Lawrence	Jill Schofield
Ginny Curtis	Edie Forrester	Janet & Norm Lofsky	Chris & Marlene Smith
Wayne Curtis	Michael Frady	Jane Lorch	Dabba Stearns
Mary Derbyshire	Andy Goff	Peggy Mercer	Tony Thompson
Peter Derbyshire	Win Hall	Wendy Merriman	Judy Wagner
Joyce Dunagan	Shirley Hardison	Will Newman	Virginia Watt
Michael & Annie Ellis	Bob Hartnett	Keegan Page	Kathy Wattles
Peter Fallon	Sue Hutson	Margery Phinney	

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Richard DenUyl & Heather Helger, Co-Chairs

**UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
SUMMER FAIR - JULY 14, 2012**

<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>NET 2012</b>	<b>NET 2011</b>	<b>NET 2010</b>
Baked Goods	1,140.80	0.00	1,140.80	1,257.00	1,088.00
Banana Splits	340.00	0.00	340.00	422.00	537.00
Books	2,771.00	0.00	2,771.00	2,835.96	1,953.75
Children's Games	4,805.89	2,621.28	2,184.41	2,777.26	2,095.98
Mechanical Bull	715.00	550.00	165.00		
Church Table - Hats & Prints	902.62	62.60	840.02	500.00	230.00
Concert	3,698.00	2,433.40	1,264.60		
Concert Ads	985.00	0.00	985.00		
Cotton Candy	230.00	0.00	230.00	261.00	303.00
Craft Booths	8,210.00	170.70	8,039.30	8,396.62	7,247.88
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Drinks - Water/Soda	88.00	0.00	88.00	(735.77)	0.00
Dunk Tank	182.00	0.00	182.00	367.30	0.00
Food Vendors	800.00	0.00	800.00	797.80	800.00
Jewelry	2,735.21	0.00	2,735.21	584.00	1,387.50
Ladies' Aid	0.00	0.00	0.00	406.75	776.00
Live Auction	2,536.24	499.94	2,036.30	3,370.00	0.00
Luncheon	3,870.00	1,700.36	2,169.64	1,994.82	2,079.54
Meredith's Prints	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	585.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-561.07
Raffle	1,524.80	118.14	1,406.66	747.40	795.00
Road Race - Adults	18,695.50	10,795.59	7,899.91	9,254.35	5,950.92
Road Race - Children	1,366.50	1,205.93	160.57	1,594.70	0.00
Rock Wall (included in Children's Games)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	710.00
Silent Auction Preview Party	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,039.40	784.55
Silent Auction	14,374.51	770.40	13,604.11	12,968.25	16,766.80
Sponsor Ads	2,110.00	1,973.85	136.15	(1,032.29)	9.07
White Elephant	5,051.81	0.00	5,051.81	6,712.95	5,525.95
<i>Events subtotals</i>	<i>\$77,132.88</i>	<i>\$22,902.39</i>	<i>\$54,230.49</i>	<i>\$54,519.50</i>	<i>\$50,064.87</i>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Building Permit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dumpster	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Misc. Expenses	0.00	2,641.94	(2,641.94)	(2,335.21)	0.00
Music (Win Hall)	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pod	0.00	0.00	0.00	(307.40)	0.00
Police, Fire Details	0.00	700.48	(700.48)	(1,011.36)	-925.17
Porta-Johns	0.00	1,703.75	(1,703.75)	(1,493.75)	-1,493.75
Postage	0.00	183.96	(183.96)	(8.36)	-266.20
Promotions & Ads	0.00	346.50	(346.50)	0.00	-31.25
Hats	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-879.75
Signs	0.00	0.00	0.00	(230.00)	-378.30
Tents, Chairs, Tables	0.00	5,166.25	(5,166.25)	(5,045.25)	-4,644.25
<i>Expenses subtotals</i>	<i>500.00</i>	<i>\$11,242.88</i>	<i>(\$10,742.88)</i>	<i>\$54,519.50</i>	<i>\$50,064.87</i>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$77,632.88</b>	<b>\$34,145.27</b>	<b>\$43,487.61</b>	<b>\$44,088.17</b>	<b>\$41,446.20</b>

## **THURSDAY THRIFT SHOP**

The Thrift Shop had another good season. We have a wonderful staff and a dedicated group of volunteers. It is with their help and expertise that we are successful.

We are thankful for our volunteers - we could not do it without them. They are men and women, from our church and other churches in the community, surrounding towns and summer residents. We are a community-active shop and it works well.

Thank you to the Consignors. Their donations of good quality clothes (adults and children), shoes, pocketbooks, glassware, housewares, jewelry, toys, etc. help to make the shop attractive and profitable.

Our Managers, Anne Tillinghast and Melony Poirier oversee the day to day operations of the shop, are there when items are dropped off, that clothes are sorted and marked, prepare for sales and assure that the inside is appealing to our customers and so much more. Pooka Truslow schedules the volunteers each week, calls each one to remind them, in addition to doing our window displays. Donna Stewart is responsible for marketing, maintenance and finances.

Visit our shop when we open May 4<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to another good year.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Watt, Chair  
Thursday Thrift Shop Committee

Board Members:

<i>Dianne Booth</i>	<i>Anne Tillinghast</i>
<i>Ruth Brower</i>	<i>Pooka Truslow</i>
<i>Helga Nicoles</i>	<i>Virginia Watt</i>
<i>Melony Poirier</i>	<i>Kathy Wattles</i>
<i>Donna Stewart</i>	<i>Nina Young</i>

## **VISITING COMMITTEE**

The Visiting Committee members communicate and visit with parishioners and friends in hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, assisted-living residences, and at home. We try to provide assistance to individuals and families and to reassure them that our Church is always there for them.

We are very grateful for the addition of Rev. Michael Frady to our team. He has been available to make many visits and keeps in contact with those in need. Members of our team communicate by telephone, written notes, and personal visits.

In November, the Visiting Committee assembled and delivered fruit baskets to homebound members, staff, and those who are in need of cheer.

One of our services is Kitchen Angels. The “angels” prepare and deliver meals to provide assistance and relief from the concern of cooking. Please let the office or any one of us know if you would like to become an “angel” or know of someone that would benefit from this service.

Many parishioners help us to spread some cheer with their donations of flowers at Christmas, Easter, and with the Altar flowers. Our committee’s services are greatly enhanced by many of you who visit their friends and neighbors in times of need. We appreciate all who help us with our mission and to you, we say “Thank You.”

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Lawrence, Chair

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee proposes the following persons to serve the Church for 2013. Those proposed have expressed a willingness to serve. Reverend Richard S. DenUyl, Jr. is an ex-officio member of each committee.

All Officers and Trustees, except the minister(s) and the current Chair of Deacons, shall be elected for a term of three (3) years and can serve for no more than two (2) terms.

<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expires February of:</u>
Minister – Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.		
Chair of the Board of Deacons – Margaret “Maggie” Thomas		
Chair of the Board of Trustees – Jane Lorch	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term	2016
Treasurer – Hiram Emery	1 <sup>st</sup> Term	2014
Clerk – Richard Fisher	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term	2016
Moderator – Jon O’Brien	1 <sup>st</sup> Term	2014
Chair of the Finance Committee – Robert Hartnett	1 <sup>st</sup> Term	2016
Chair of the Buildings & Grounds Committee – Edward “Ted” Merriman	1 <sup>st</sup> Term	2015

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES — 13 (8 Officers and 5 Members-At-Large)

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr. – Minister  
 Chair of the Board of Deacons – Margaret “Maggie” Thomas  
 Chair of Trustees – Jane Lorch  
 Treasurer – Hiram Emery  
 Clerk – Richard Fisher  
 Moderator – Jon O’Brien  
 Chair of the Finance Committee – Robert Hartnett  
 Chair of the Buildings & Grounds Committee – Edward “Ted” Merriman

<u>TRUSTEES MEMBERS AT LARGE</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expires February of:</u>
Susan Hutson	2 <sup>nd</sup> term	2016
Everett Moore	2 <sup>nd</sup> term	2016
Joan O’Brien	1 <sup>st</sup> term	2014
Donna Stewart	1 <sup>st</sup> term	2014
Gurdon Wattles	2 <sup>nd</sup> term	2016

### BOARD OF DEACONS — 12 (three-year term)

	<u>Term expires February of:</u>
Margaret “Maggie” Thomas, Chair	2014
Judith Anderson	2015
Tara Bradley	2016
Mary Derbyshire	2015
Robert Hartnett	2014
Deborah Kelchner	2016
Edward “Ted” Merriman	2014
Blair “B.G.” Shanklin	2016
Catherine “Trina” Sherer	2014
Ronald Tammaro	2015
Charles Thomas	2015
Steve Walker	2016

**YOUTH DEACONS (October through September)**

Maggie Bodington  
Ben Wilson

2013  
2013

**DELEGATES TO THE RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.  
Rev. Michael A. Frady  
Wendy Merriman

**COMMITTEES**

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS (Sub-committee of Board of Trustees)**

Edward "Ted" Merriman

**FAIR COMMITTEE**

Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr., Co-Chair  
Heather Helger, Co-Chair

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Robert Hartnett, Chair	William Stewart
Hiram Emery, Treasurer	Ronald Tammaro
Deborah Ladd	Samuel Thomas
Swift Lawrence	Thomas Schmitt
Marjorie Simmons	

**FLOWER COMMITTEE**

Holly Billings, Chair	Susie Emery	Marlena Smith
Jane Belling	Nancy Fontaine	Susan Talbot
Edith Borden	Elinor Gavin	Nancy Thompson
Tara Bradley	Marsha LaPointe	Kathy Wattles
Elizabeth Derbyshire	Deirdre Marsters	Douglas "Dougie" Whitmarsh
Pat Dillon	Aphrodite "Ditie" Platte	Nina Young

**GREETERS COMMITTEE**

Marjorie Simmons, Chair

**HEALTH & WELLNESS MINISTRY TEAM**

Wendy Merriman, Chair	Karen Corrigan
Judith Anderson	Elizabeth Derbyshire
Susan Chase	Amy Edwards
Pam Church	Marsha LaPointe

**HISTORIAN**

Marjorie Simmons

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE (Coffee Hours are hosted by different Standing Committees each month)**

Christine Merriman, Chair	Edith Forrester
Deanna Almeida	Anne Hopkins
Carol Appleton	Elizabeth Johnson
Ellen Brayton	Jennifer Killenberg
Karen Corrigan	Marjorie Lack
Nancy Easman	Victoria Talbot
Martha Fisher	Nancy Thompson
Ann Flather	

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Janet Lofsky, Co-Chair  
Norman Lofsky, Co-Chair  
Elizabeth Derbyshire  
Martha "Marty" Fisher

**MEMORIAL GARDEN**

Deirdre Marsters, Co-Chair  
Trina Sherer, Co-Chair  
Anne Tillinghast, Co-Chair  
Karla Young

**MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Peter Fallon, Co-Chair	Susan Emery
Steve Walker, Co-Chair	Keegan Page
Michael Bahmann, Director of Music	Colleen Sweeney
Stephanie Derbyshire, Junior Choir Director	Jennifer Thomas
Rev. Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.	Joan Underwood
Rev. Michael A. Frady	William White
Cam Church	

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE (by Office)**

Minister – Richard S. DenUyl, Jr.  
Present Chair of Trustees – Jane Lorch  
Past Chair of Trustees – Paul Suttell  
Present Chair of Deacons – Margaret Thomas  
Past Chair(s) of Deacons – Deirdre Marsters  
Membership Chair – Janet Lofsky and Norman Lofsky  
At Large Members – Marjorie Simmons (Historian)  
Susan Hutson  
Others – To be determined

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Marsha LaPointe, Co-Chair	Elizabeth Derbyshire	Deborah Ross
Shirley Hardison, Co-Chair	Amy Edwards	Victoria Talbot
Graeme Bell	Peter Fallon	Hope Taylor
Susan Chase	Kathryn Lawrence	Nancy Thompson
Cameron Church	Jane Lorch	Nancy Watson
Ed Cissel	Everett Moore	
Karen Corrigan	Lease Plimpton	

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Sub-committee of Board of Trustees)**

Joan O'Brien, Chair  
Margaret Thomas  
Carlton Thompson  
Kathleen Wattles

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Hope Ryan, Chair	Louise Goodman
Heather Helger, Director of Children & Youth	Will Ryan
Annie Ellis	Jennifer Thomas
Rev. Michael Frady	

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Edith Forrester, Chair  
Jack Angell  
Donald Conaway  
Hiram Emery  
Peter Fallon  
Janet Lofsky

Melvin Platte  
Hope Ryan  
Christopher Smith  
Carlton Thompson  
Christine Waring  
Kathleen Wattles

**THRIFT SHOP COMMITTEE**

Virginia Watt, Chair  
Dianne Booth  
Ruth Brower  
Helga Nicholes  
Melony Poirier

Donna Stewart  
Anne Tillinghast  
Pooka Truslow  
Kathy Wattles  
Nina Young

**VISITING COMMITTEE**

Kathryn Lawrence, Chair  
Judith Anderson  
Edith Borden  
Tara Bradley  
Rev. Michael Frady  
Shirley Hardison

Elizabeth Johnson  
Jane Lorch  
Margaret Thomas  
Virginia Watt  
Barbara "Bambi" Wisbach