

**United
Congregational
Church**

The Commons
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Tues – Fri, 9 AM – 3 PM

**Worship Service:
Sundays at 10 AM**

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2015

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Chiming in...

"You're a life saver!" Have you ever heard that said to you? When I first heard this phrase, I thought it had to do with lifesaver candies. Since 1912, these candies that look like little life preservers have been sold in rolls with 5 flavors (or more). From 1942-1945, 23 million were put into G.I.'s ration packs to remind them of home. For a long time, they remained the candy of choice for children for only 5 cents a roll.

When I was young, there was a Television commercial about lifesavers. You may remember it. It was in a church. A young boy was fidgeting in the pews and his mother gave him a cherry lifesaver. It was supposed to calm him down. That is how I thought of lifesavers. They were used in churches to save you when you couldn't sit still. They certainly "saved" me in church. It was a gift of calming.

When I got older and went to summer camp, I learned how to swim, took advanced swimming classes, and then became a lifeguard. Now the word "lifesaver" came to mean something else to me. I ended up diving into the lake more than once to pull a young camper out of the deep water. One day, while home from the camp, I ended up giving mouth to mouth to a young child next door who had stopped breathing. I was able to revive her until the medics arrived. I just happened to be there. We all know how that works! A reporter heard about it and printed an editorial a week later calling me a lifesaver.

When I went into ministry, I began to see this phrase, "you're a lifesaver" in a new way. Now, it was about reviving the spirit. Many people will tell stories of how another person brought them back from the brink, or saved them from "drowning". Some will say that just by coming to church, they received the gift of calming. It certainly "saved" me. Once you have received that "saving" how can you not respond?

Though I still train to be a lifesaver for the heart (with CPR classes), I also train as a disciple to be a lifesaver in faith. We are all called to be lifesavers. Sometimes we are called to be the one who calms a person who is anxious or can't sit still amidst their fears and concerns. Sometimes we are there at just the right time to save a person who may be drowning in their tears. God may even call us to save a life!

When I learned how to be a lifesaver at summer camp, I trained. I practiced. I was ready at every turn to dive in to help. I watched the waters with focus and readiness. As disciples we too can prepare ourselves. We can be open to the cry for help, and be ready to dive in to be that lifesaver for another. This church has been saving people for generations. I pray that you will forever be a lifesaving station for the lost, for the lonely, and for all those who can't sit still!

Rev. Sue

~IMPORTANT~

If you have a **pastoral emergency, and cannot reach Rev. Sue through the office, you may call her at 781-724-9831**, or call Deacon Debbie Kelchner at 401-524-2007.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE NEWS

For more information on any of the following committees, please contact the church office at 635-8472 or email Dawn at dawn@ucc.necoxmail.com

Board of Deacons

Geoff Taylor & Lily Derbyshire

We have 6 Confirmands invited to join our church on May 3rd, Madison Moy, Isabel Medeiros, Catherine Sawoski, Cooper Carlson, Richard McGee and William Rapoza.

For the past 9 months the kids have been meeting biweekly to discuss various topics such as prayer, God, Jesus and how the church is defined. Part of their curriculum was participating in activities with their leaders Louise Goodman, Heather Helger, Rev. Sue and their mentors.

Members of the church mentored the Confirmands and provided advice on their own religious journey. The mentors this year were Colleen Sweeney (Isabel), Bill Ryan (Richard), Peter Fallon (Will), Jane Lorch (Catherine), Frank DiMauro

(Cooper), and Marsha LaPointe (Madison).

Confirmands explored the different aspects of the Christian religion and part of their journey which included visiting a synagogue. This experience was one of Isabel Medeiros' favorite along with the Stations of the Cross walk in Tiverton. A group of people walked through Tiverton near Holy Trinity Church and stopped at various locations while doing readings.

One of their trips was to a UCC retreat in Charlton, MA. The retreat was titled "Embracing and Embodying" and was mainly focused on Jesus. Will Rapoza shared his guitar talent while singing with a member of a church in Barrington who was also attending the retreat. The group got to know each other through various team building exercises.

Students also participated in our church services doing readings. Cooper Carlson was greeted with friendly faces while reading his call to worship. They also participated in the RI UCC Youth event and a Confirmation Mission event as well. They are each also writing a Statement of Faith and painted a Confirmation tile (with something significant of their faith journey or spiritual self) that will be displayed in the Youth Room.

The Confirmation program is a great experience for youth to get their feet wet in participating in the church prior to becoming members. We welcome them with open arms and look

forward to their continued presence in the church.

Bells are ringing...

Baptisms

A warm welcome from our church family to:

Juliana Grace Appleton

Daughter of Scott & Melissa Appleton. Baptized on April 19, 2015.

Board of Trustees

Ted Merriman, Chair

The trustees would like to remind people that we will be having an important Quarterly Meeting of the congregation on Sunday, May 31st directly after church. We will have updates from committees and boards and will also make a presentation to the congregation for discussion concerning some capital projects that are on the horizon. The goal will be to discuss these projects together and be prepared to vote on the way to move forward. A handout will be provided the week before the meeting so that you can come with the information in hand. Please make every effort to attend as this will be an important meeting of the congregation. We promise to have great goodies!

Finance Committee

Bob Hartnett, Chair

Finance continues to meet regularly reviewing daily operating income and expenses as well as the Church investments. Like everyone else we are very grateful that Spring has finally arrived. Lower church attendance during the winter along with added heating costs associated with the cold is what we did not need. We have met with several committee chairs which has been very rewarding and we will continue to reach out to all committees as the year proceeds. It is a pleasure to work with everyone involved in the well-being of our lovely Church.

Health & Wellness Ministry / Shawl Ministry

Karen Corrigan



The library cart is a great resource for all of you book lovers out there, please stop by and check out our wonderful book selection. Also, if you want to donate books, just see a Health and Wellness member. We welcome used books and new books any time.

I spoke with Holly Billings recently about a couple of new books she has recently read and I wanted to feature them here, thanks Holly!

Life Gets Better, by Wendy Lustbader, is written by a social worker, who has worked with an older population all of her working life. So she has a lot of information, and experience about the aging process, various concerns of older people, social needs and strengths of older people. She has a whole chapter about Attitude Adjustment. There are a lot of positive, thoughtful, sensitive suggestions about how we age, and how we can be happier as we approach these years.

Being Mortal, by Atul Gawande, is written by a practicing surgeon, who is also a faculty member of a medical school, and a writer of several books and articles in *The New Yorker*. He feels strongly that the medical profession does not do very well by our older population, especially as it edges closer to death. He feels personally remiss that he has not taken more time to discuss end of life issues with patients, and is trying to promote more focus on this area in our medical schools. Since he is a physician, he includes considerable information about the physical aspects of aging, which I found interesting as a nurse. He writes well, and I would highly recommend it in general, but also particularly for the new directions in living situations for the elderly (i.e. the Eden Project, the Green House Movement).

Happy Reading!!

Our deadline for the June Newsletter is Friday, May 19th.

Membership Committee

Marty Fisher, Chair

We would like to warmly welcome Cameron Clark, Paul Golembeske, and Bill Ryan to our church family. Cameron, Paul, and Bill joined our church on Sunday, March 29th.

Sunday School

Heather Helger

Director of Children & Youth



S.S. Faithful

April was a short month for Sunday School.

Easter Sunday there were no workshops, but instead there was a variety of Easter Cross craft options available for kids to make downstairs in the vestry after the Children's Message. The empty cross is a reminder to us of the amazing miracle of Jesus' resurrection. It serves as a reminder to us that Jesus died from his efforts of trying to bring people back to God and of his work to make the world a better place. Special thanks to Emily & Bob Johnson and Louise Goodman who led this activity for the children.

Sunday School time for the remainder of the month consisted of Children's Church in which the children were introduced to our last rotation story of the year: Creation (timely for Spring and Earth Day) and practicing for their

Children's Sunday "Creation Celebration" presentation which will take place on May 17th. There will be theme related end-of-the-year gifts, special coffee hour treats and a short Creation Creature Adventure for kids after the service. Any child or youth who wishes to lead a part of this special worship service or play music, should contact Heather as soon as possible. A reminder that Children's Sunday will be the last official day of Sunday School for the remainder of this academic year.

Before Sunday School is out, we are hoping that all parents and youth over the age of 13, will please sign-up to man a Children's Game for one shift (1 ½-2 hrs. only, leaving plenty of time to enjoy the day with your family) for our upcoming Summer Fair to be held on July 11th this year. If you cannot physically volunteer for whatever reason, you are out of town or have to work, then we ask that you please consider a financial donation to sponsor a game instead. There is a bulletin board for sign-ups located in the vestry – you can't miss it!

Youth Group

We only had one Youth Group meeting the last Sunday of April. We decided to meet outside in honor of Earth Day to enjoy the beauty of God's Creation. We had a special Graduation Blessing for our graduates, planned for the Mother's Day Coffee Hour that they will be hosting, signed up to volunteer at a Children's Game for the Summer Fair and were led by Emily Goodman in a simple

exercise about how to include prayer in every day and to increase awareness of God in our every day lives: the Daily Examen from the Spiritual teachings of St. Ignatius; she learned it in a class at college and wanted to share it with all of us.

Confirmation Class

Despite the rain, on Good Friday the Confirmation group attended a Stations of the Cross Walk at Holy Trinity Church in Tiverton. Our Confirmands carried the cross on three treks of the walk and read three of the readings. This symbolic event made for a much more meaningful Easter for all of us who attended.



The Confirmands also had their last official class in April in which they participated in an activity along with their mentors to help guide them in the writing of their Statement of Faith papers and they painted their Confirmation

Tiles (something significant of their spiritual journey of spiritual self.) The tiles will be displayed along with their explanations on Confirmation Sunday on May 3rd and then find a permanent home in our Youth Room. Copies of their Statements of Faith will also be available on Confirmation Sunday for anyone interested in reading them. We hope everyone will join us on May 3rd to support these youth as they make the decisions to affirm their baptism as Christians and to join our church family.



Thursday Thrift Shop

Nancy Webb

Hooray! The Thursday Thrift Shop opens for business on Saturday, May 2nd!

Already, racks and tables are filling up with clothing and items priced by volunteers who are working each Monday of April.



Consignments and donations continue to be accepted on Mondays from 1:00 – 3:00, and with opening day, items are accepted from 10:00 – 12:00 each Saturday as well.

Thrift shop hours are Thursday and Saturday, 10:00AM – 3:00PM. The Thursday Thrift Shop is made possible by church and community volunteers, and offers shopping fun and thrifty treasures to locals and visitors.

Office News

THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY IS HERE!

You can pick one up at the church office during office hours (Tues. – Fri.- 9am -3pm). We will be asking for a voluntary donation of \$10 to help defray the cost of printing. If you would like us to get the directory to you another way, please let us know.

IMPORTANT

Please inform the church office if you know of anyone who may be in the hospital or if any member or friend has passed away. Also, please let us know if you know of any members who are planning to relocate.

Please feel free to fill out a yellow **KEEP IN TOUCH** card (KIT) [which can be found in the pews] if you need to update your information with us and place them in the offertory plate.

Coming in Our Next Issue...

- Committee News
- More news and fun
- Blasts from the Past
- Children’s Page
- June/July Calendar



DO YOU HAVE A FEW MINUTES FOR PRAYER?

Our last time together will be on **SUNDAY, MAY 17TH** in the **Parish House Conference Room** from 11:30am – 1:00pm. All are welcome!

A Special THANK YOU

We warmly thank Rev. Beverley Edwards for preaching at our church on Sunday, April 19th.

The Greater Tiverton Community Chorus joins with The South Coast Community Chorale

Cherubini's REQUIEM

A second half of contemporary music followed by a reception

OVER 100 VOICES • FULL ORCHESTRA

Saturday, May 16th at 7:30 pm

Sunday, May 17th at 4:00 pm

Good Shepherd Parish
1598 South Main St., Fall River

Tickets: Adults \$18 (\$15 in advance)
Students and Seniors: \$3.00 off

BROWN PAPER TICKETS FOR TICKETS
www.brownpapertickets.com

www.gtcchorus.org

A Blast From the Past!

Marjorie Simmons, Church Historian



The Confirmands in traditional “Crossing Over” (Year: early 2000’s).

The United Congregational Church is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Visit the church website at www.ucclcri.org



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2015!



**Tell your friends,
tell your family**

**We are excited to announce that
Haitain Hoopla 9
will be back again this year on
Sunday, June 21st from 4 – 8:00pm at
Greenvale Vineyards, Portsmouth, RI**



*We walked among the crosses
Where our fallen soldiers lay.
And listened to the bugle
As TAPS began to play.
The Chaplin led a prayer
We stood with heads bowed low.
And I thought of fallen comrades
I had known so long ago.
They came from every city
Across this fertile land.
That we might live in freedom.
They lie here 'neath the sand.
I felt a little guilty
My sacrifice was small.
I only lost a little time
But these men lost their all.
Now the services are over
For this Memorial Day.
To the names upon these crosses
I just want to say,
Thanks for what you've given
No one could ask for more.
May you rest with God in heaven
From now through evermore.*

~C.W. Johnson

Some dates to remember...

**THRIFT SHOP OPENS
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
BLESSING OF THE SHAWLS
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY
ECP PRAYER GROUP
GUEST PREACHER
QUARTERLY MEETING
JUNIOR CHOIR CONCERT**

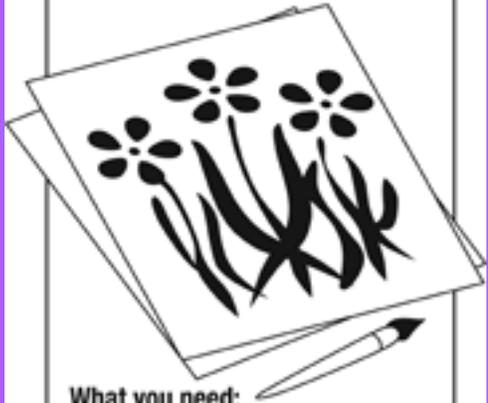
**SATURDAY, MAY 2ND
SUNDAY, MAY 3RD
SUNDAY, MAY 10TH
SUNDAY, MAY 17TH
SUNDAY, MAY 17TH
SUNDAY, MAY 24TH
SUNDAY, MAY 31ST
SUNDAY, MAY 31ST**



Oh sing
to the Lord
a new
song

SPRING

Make this beautiful craft to remind you of God's gift of new life at springtime.



What you need:

- White 11" x 17" paper
- Acrylic paint (various spring colors, including green)
- Paintbrush
- Empty two-liter plastic bottle
- Paper plates
- Paper towels

What you do:

1. With the paper placed vertically, paint stems and leaves with green paint.
2. Pour a different color of paint onto a paper plate. Then place the bottom of the bottle into the paint.
3. Using the bottle as a stamp, press it onto the paper to create a flower atop a green stem.
4. Repeat with different colors on different plates, cleaning the bottle each time, to create a beautiful spring bouquet.



Spring has sprung!

God created all the seasons, and each brings unique visuals that remind us of him.

Directions: Unscramble each phrase to complete Song of Solomon 2:12, NIV. Use the pictures as hints.

earth on appear the Flowers

" _____ ;

singing come the of has season

the _____

heard the land our in is of cooing doves

the _____



SONG OF SOLOMON 2:12, NIV

Answers: "Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land."

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Bible Trivia

*Stones, Rolling and
Nonrolling*

How many of the following did you answer correctly?
(Answers in red).

1. Who used a stone for a pillow? *Jacob (Genesis 28:11-22)*
2. Who rolled the stone across the tomb when Jesus was buried? *Joseph of Arimathea (Matthew 27:59-60)*
3. Which disciple was called a rock? *Peter (Matthew 16:18)*

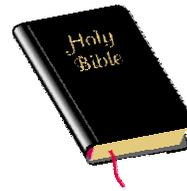
The prayer of "Wow"

When we are stunned to the place beyond words, when an aspect of life takes us away from being able to chip away at something until it's down to a manageable size and then to file it nicely away, when all we can say in response is "Wow," that's a prayer.

~ Anne Lamott, *Help, Thanks, Wow*



"I'm going into all the world to make disciples of all nations. So I might be a little late for dinner."



Did you know?

Mother's Day became a recognized holiday in 1914 in the United States.

In the Bible, Eve is credited with being the "Mother of All the Living".

The longest word in the Old Testament is mahershalhashbaz (Isaiah 8:1)

The word "AND" appears 46,277 times in The Bible.

The last word in The Bible is "Amen".



Stuffed Strawberries

(Recipe by IMVINTAGE, allrecipes.com)

Ingredients:

- 1 pint fresh strawberries
- 1 (8 oz.) package cream cheese, softened
- ½ cup confectioners' sugar, or to taste
- 2 tablespoons orange flavored liqueur, or to taste.

Directions:

Cut the tops off of the strawberries and stand upright on the cut side. Make a cut $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way down from the tip of the strawberry towards the bottom.

Beat together the cream cheese, sugar, and liqueur until smooth in a mixer or a food processor. Place into a piping bag with a star tip. Pipe into each strawberry and arrange on a serving platter.

PREP TIME: 30 min.

READY in 30 min



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The Commons

P.O. Box 506

Little Compton, RI 02837

Non-Profit Organization
BULK MAIL
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Permit No. 2
Little Compton, RI

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Happy Mother's Day!

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Junior Choir Director

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MAY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Outreach Committee Mtg. 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry 4:00 PM Musica Maris</p>	27	<p>28</p> <p>11:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Adult Choir</p>	29	<p>30</p> <p>3:00 PM Junior Choir 6:00 PM Confirmation Mentor Dinner</p>	1	<p>2</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Mam's Day Out!</p> <p>RICUCC Annual Meeting @ Riverside Cong. Church THRIFT SHOP OPENS!</p>
<p>3</p> <p>CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>	4	<p>5</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> 7:00 PM Adult Choir</p>	6	<p>7</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>There is no Junior Choir rehearsal today.</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Religious Ed</p>	8	9
<p>10</p> <p>Blessing of the Shawls Communion Sunday No Shawl Ministry today 10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>	11	<p>12</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> 7:00 PM Adult Choir</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> 3:00 PM Junior Choir 6:00 PM Board of Deacons</p>	15	16
<p>17</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Children's Sunday</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry 11:30 AM ECP Prayer Group</p>	18	<p>19</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> FINANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10:00 AM Visiting Committee 6:30 PM Finance Committee 7:00 PM Adult Choir</p>	20	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 PM Fair Captain's Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Junior Choir</p> <p>3:00 PM Junior Choir</p>	22	23
<p>24</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Shawl Ministry</p> <p>Guest Preacher 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> memorial DAY</p>	<p>26</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> 7:00 PM Adult Choir</p>	<p>27</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Trustees Meeting</p> <p>6:30 PM Board of Trustees</p>	<p>28</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Junior Choir</p> <p>3:00 PM Junior Choir 6:30 PM Fair Committee Meeting</p>	29	<p>30</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> With Sympathy</p> <p>11:00 AM Memorial Service "Lorch"</p>
<p>31</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Baptism Bloom</p> <p>Baptism "Bloom" Junior Choir Concert - Time TBD QUARTERLY MEETING 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p>	1	<p>2</p> <p>11:30 AM Staff Meeting/Luncheon</p>	3	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 PM Religious Ed</p>	5	6

JUNE 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31 Baptism "Bloom" Junior Choir Concert - Time TBD QUARTERLY MEETING 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p>	1	<p>2</p>  <p>11:30 AM Staff Meeting/Luncheon</p>	3	<p>4</p>  <p>7:00 PM Religious Ed</p>	5	6
<p>7</p>  <p>Communion Sunday 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p>	8	9	10	<p>11</p>  <p>6:00 PM Board of Deacons</p>	12	13
<p>14</p>  <p>"COLLEGE SUNDAY" 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p>	15	<p>16</p>  <p>10:00 AM Visiting Committee 6:30 PM Finance Committee</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30 PM Fair Captain's Meeting</p>	18	19	20
<p>21</p>  <p>SUMMER BEGINS! 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p>	22	23	<p>24</p>  <p>6:30 PM Board of Trustees</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30 PM Fair Committee Meeting</p>	26	27
<p>28</p>  <p>10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Shawl Ministry</p>	29	30	1	<p>2</p> <p>No Religious Ed Meeting tonight</p>	3	4