

The Elm Leaves

October - 2014

The days may not be so bright and balmy— yet the quiet and melancholy that linger around them is fraught with glory. Over everything connected with autumn there lingers some golden spell— some unseen influence that penetrates the soul with its mysterious power.

Northern Advocate



From the Chairman of the Leadership Board

Announcing an All-Church Meeting October 5, 2014

On October 5, 2014, the Leadership Board invites everyone to join us in Fellowship Hall for a pot luck lunch following the worship service. We will be enjoying each other's company while we eat lunch. We will also be discussing and voting on church goals for 2015.

Please plan on attending and bring the following food to share:

First letter of last name

A - H
I - P
Q-Z

Dish

Dessert
Main Dish
Salad / Appetizer

From the Pastor

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Mid-Week Worship Service is moving to Mid Week!

See page 4 for more information!



Our Vision Statement:

*"As a committed Christ-centered community
we make real the call of Jesus through faith, fellowship, and outreach!"*



Dear Friends:

One of the books of the Bible with which I am least familiar is the Book of Proverbs, but my friend Bob Wiles knows it well and quotes from it quite often. One of his favorite quotes from Proverbs is, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. Acknowledge him in all your ways, and he will make your paths straight (Pr.3:5-6)."

These verses can serve as a guide for us as we approach our first all church goals meeting under our new system of church government. The Leadership Board has been meeting to discuss possible goals for the coming year. They will bring their choices to the goals meeting on Sunday, October 5th. All of us, voting together, will choose the goals we will work on in 2015. Our fall stewardship drive will focus on these goals, asking the members and friends of the church to be generous in their giving so that our goals can become a reality.

Nothing we choose will become the reality we dream of, however, unless our choices reflect God's will for his church at Elm Street. As it is written in the Book of Psalms, "If the LORD does not build a house, then those who build it work in vain. If the LORD does not guard a city, then the watchman stands guard in vain (Ps.127:1)." It is tempting to approach a goals meeting by making a list of our problems and deciding that our goals must address these problems, but if we go no further than that in our thinking then we may miss the bigger picture. God sees the bigger picture. He sees the whole arc of our church's life, from past to present to future. He also sees where we fit in the wider spiritual life of our region. He knows his plans for us, but do we know them? His plans go beyond any one person, church, town, or state. We need to know what he wants us to do for him. We need to know where we fit in.

Since we are God's people and seek in all ways to serve him, our number one task both before and during our meeting is one of discernment. We need to know God's will for us. If we acknowledge our need for his guidance and seek to follow his plans he will make sure we take the right paths at the goals meeting. To this end I suggest three spiritual tasks we can engage in both now and at the meeting itself. First, in our time of daily prayer we can ask the Lord to be our shepherd and to make his will known to us. We need to begin praying now so that we will be in a receptive frame of mind at the meeting. Second, we need to promise God that we will listen carefully to everyone at the meeting. And third, we need to promise God that we will treat each other with love and respect, as we have at recent church meetings. In an atmosphere of prayer, love and mutual respect, the will of God can be both discerned and followed, to the glory of his name. In all things all that is required is to let the love of Jesus be our guide. As it says in the Book of Proverbs, "Do not let truth and mercy leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart (Pr.3:3)."

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the meeting!

Your in Christ,
Pat



Greetings from the Worship Committee!

The Leadership Board has asked each committee to write a small description of what each committee does.

When the new church government was formed, it was decided to split the duties of the original Diaconate Board. The two committees that do these duties now are the Hospitality Committee and the Worship Committee. As there is much work to be done, this split has helped tremendously for our committee to focus mainly on worship.

We oversee any areas of Worship, for instance, the Mid week worship service, the Worship leaders, and any special services. For special services, such as Christmas or Easter, we are in charge of finding readers, advent candle lighters, and do planning for the over all service. Our regular Sunday services also fall under us. We have organized the Lay readers, worship leaders and we make sure that we have teams for Communion. We also intend to take a look at our Sunday services as to the flow of it. Are there any changes that we can do to make the service flow smoother?

So, all in all, we are here for the Congregation, working alongside Pastor Pat to ensure that all of the Worship services go well. If you have any ideas or questions, please see any one of us.

Thank you, and God Bless!

The Worship Committee

Marcy Menard
Karen Fournier
Renee Smith
Dianna Silverman
Barbara Lammert



I would like to thank everyone for their cards, visits, prayers, and most recently, the gift card and money. I impressed both my doctor and my physical therapist by my quick recovery, and I know it was the Power of Prayer! Thanks again!

Dianna Silverman



Did you know?!

For those of you that do not know...we have a drop box for empty ink cartridges. It is located on the table inside the entry on Park Street.

We recycle these cartridges at Staples and, in turn, receive "rewards" that we purchase office supplies with. Because of those of you who bring in your cartridges we are able to purchase supplies at a great discount. A couple of examples are: an order for \$122.37 ended up costing the church \$37.97; one for \$85.66 costs \$8.36.

It is through the generosity of this church family that we are able to keep the church office in supplies.

I ask you to continue with this project so we may continue purchasing what is needed to run the office.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Hospitality Committee Notes

The Hospitality Committee originally was part of the Diaconate Board. When the new way of government was voted on last March we became an arm of the Leadership Board.

We are responsible for coordinating with the Office Administrator to make sure there are readers, ushers, and coffee providers, as well as the mailing of cards and correspondence.

We are looking for woman and men to be part of this energetic and exciting team. If you are interested in becoming part of the team please contact Kathi at 508-347-3359 or one of the members listed below.

This is a great way to give some of your time to the church and get to know each other better.

We invite you to join our team.

Your Hospitality Committee:

Kathi Ekenbarger - Chair
Anne Shaw
Fran Lamprey
Althea Clemence
Sharon Bond - **Task Team**
Judy Rask—**Task Team**

Mid-Week Worship Service is moving to Mid Week!

Beginning in **October** the Mid-Week Worship Service will move to Wednesdays! This month they will be held on the **1st**, and the **15th**, and will continue to be held on the first and third **Wednesday** of each month. Service begins at 6:30pm and is held in the Church Vestry.

Are you having a great week, or are you just "getting through?" Do you find that you sometimes need extra encouragement or fellowship? You may discover that you are not alone in the way you feel. The Elm Street Church Mid-Week Worship Service is designed with you in mind. We come together to worship, pray, sing and fellowship with one another. We leave refreshed and prepared to face the remainder of the week. We were created to be in community; we thrive when we support each other in our Christian walk. Won't you join us? For further information or questions, please call Karen Fournier, 508-347-3996.

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." Romans 15:5-7

2014 Simple Suppers

Free - All are invited

3rd Saturday of every month ~ 4:30 - 6:00pm

October 18 **Minestrone Soup**

November 15 Shepherd's Pie

December 20 Beef Stew

Elm Street Congregational Church
508-764-8058

Served with Salads, Breads & Spreads,
Beverages and Desserts.

Menu subject to change without notice.

FOOD FOR THE BODY - FELLOWSHIP FOR THE SOUL

*As a committed Christ centered community,
We make real the call of Jesus*



From the Leadership Board

As you are aware, the Church government structure was changed early this year to have a Leadership Board and standing committees. Included in the edition of the Elm Leaves are three more articles which provide a description of a Standing Committee, an overview of its duties, and list its members.

The following is a list of all of the standing committees which will be covered in the coming months:

- ✓ **Finance Committee**
- Education Committee
- ✓ **Missions Committee**
- Property Committee
- ✓ **Hospitality Committee**
- Music Committee
- ✓ **Generosity Committee**

The **Generosity Committee** is spearheaded by Sharon Bond. The members are Dave Bond, Joe Fournier, and Louise Walker. We guide the yearly pledge drive for the church which we will be gearing up for in October.

At the October 5th church meeting, members of the congregation will be asked to decide on three major goals for the 2015 church year. Your pledges will help to fund these goals, along with maintenance of the church structure, the heating of the church, and paying the church bills.

If anyone would like to help out on the Pledge Task Committee, please see Sharon.

Also, we are looking for one more church member to do a short talk at the start of one of the Sunday services in October. The talk should be about how the church has affected you, your life, your family members, and anything else you deem important, and why you were attracted to this church in the first place.

May God Bless you all.

Sharon Bond, Chair
Generosity Committee

October 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ~ 9:00 -12:00

Closed: Monday and Friday

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;">Choir Rehearsal every Sunday at 9:00am</div>			<p>1 WF Installation 5:30pm</p> <p>Mid-Week Worship 6:30pm</p>			
<p>5 All church goal-setting mtg. & Pot- luck</p>	<p>6 New Begin- nings, Women's Recovery Group 6:00pm</p>	<p>7 Visitation Planning mtg. 10:15am</p>	<p>8 Bible Study 10:00am</p>			
<p>12 Men's Breakfast Club 8:00am</p> <p>Bible Study 6:00pm</p>	<p>13 New Begin- nings, Women's Recovery Group 6:00pm</p>	<p>14 Leadership Board mtg. 7:00pm</p>	<p>15 Mid-Week Worship 6:30pm</p>		<p>17 Pie Making 9:30</p>	<p>18 Simple Supper 4:30pm</p>
<p>19 WF special budg- et mtg. 11:45am</p> <p>Bereavement Group meets Noon</p>	<p>20 New Begin- nings, Women's Recovery Group 6:00pm</p>	<p>21 Lunch Bunch Noon - Women's Fellow- ship Ex. Brd. 7:00pm</p>	<p>22 Bible Study 10:00am</p>			<p>25 Pie Making 9:30</p>
<p>26 Resurrection Recovery Group 11:45am</p> <p>Bible Study 6:00pm</p>	<p>27 New Begin- nings, Women's Recovery Group 6:00pm</p>					

The meetings and or events shown on this calendar reflect information available to the office at the time of printing.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

October

10/2 Joseph Leaming, Dave & Lou-Ellen Corkum; 10/3 Bill Olson; 10/4 Patrick Leaming, Eliza Jane Wandear; 10/5 Jamey Burns, Barbara Lammert; 10/7 Julie Travnicek Burns; 10/8 Laura Prue 10/9 Debbie Bonin, Renee Giroux; 10/11 Pane Sadachanh; 10/12 Richmond & Althea Clemence; 10/14 Cheyann Dumais; 10/15 Scott Grenier; 10/16 Mary Zarazinski; 10/19 Amy Garello, Marsha Olson; 10/21 Dick & Pat Taylor; 10/22 Renee Smith; 10/25 Marjorie Bastien; 10/26 Dana & Christine Arsenault, Eric & Alison Wilhelm; 10/27 Harriet Lacasse; 10/28 Dorothea Pulsifer; 10/30 Eric Wilhelm



All the men of the church are invited to partake in the Men's Breakfast Club on Sunday, October 12, at 8:00 AM. The breakfast will be at the Elm Centre Café. Invite a friend along.



Please keep the Church Office updated regarding your prayer requests. **Only the names in bold will remain on next month's list.** If you need continued prayers please let the office know.

Gaelle McCloud

Joan BeJune

Millie Broughton - recovery

Swan Mills - healing

Tom Hardy - cancer

Bob - continual healing

Dana & Christine

Parson family on the death of Bill

Jim Lammert, brother-in-law of Barbara, long recovery from stroke

An end to violence around the world

Stella Anderson

Robert, legs

Art & Jean - healing

Risa & Megan Falvo

Millie Broughton

Nancy Chicoine

Jenelle - healing

Carol Filer - healing

All servicemen and women

Karen Horton - up coming surgery

Peace to all families who are still awaiting word on their loved ones who are missing.

Women's Fellowship



Women's Fellowship's will hold their installation of Officers and Pot-Luck dinner on October 1, 2014, at 5:30pm. If you have any questions please call

Karen Horton at 413-245-3000.


Watch for the October issue for a line-up of interesting programs for the 2014-2015 year.

New members are always welcome!

It's That Time Again! Apple Pie Time...

Women's Fellowship is selling frozen apple pies in time for Thanksgiving! Orders forms are on the green table. The last date to order by is November 16 and the last pick-up day is November 23; the cost is \$12.

Order your pies early, 

you don't want to have to bake your own. 

Thank you,
Harriet Lacasse
Fundraising Chair



Thoughts for the Day

God offers to let us start over when we make mistakes.

The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.
Deuteronomy 33:27



Communion Team

Richmond Clemence and Hamer Clarke



Date	Ushers	Scripture Readers	Coffee Hour	Worship Leaders
10/5	Joe & Karen Fournier	Amaret Johnson	All Church meeting and pot-luck luncheon	Karen Horton
10/12	Rich & Althea Clemence	Christine Arsenault	Kathi Ekenbarger	Karen Fournier
10/19	Christine Arsenault & Mike Stoliker	Debbie Bonin	Sue Ohman & Carol Filer	Sidney Bradley
10/26	Dean & Cassie Cook	Karen Horton	Beverly Thomas & Mike Stoliker	Marcy Menard



Altar Flowers

October 5 - Available

October 12 - Flowers on the altar are in loving memory of Butch Bonin, from his wife, Debbie.

October 19 - A donation has been made to the discretionary fund in memory of Nat Curboy by his wife, Gloria Curboy.

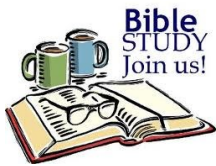
October 26 - Flowers on the altar are in honor of Gaelle McLoud from her parents.



The Lunch Bunch group will be going to Dad's Restaurant on route 20 in Charlton on **October 21**, at noon. Hope you can make it! If you have any questions or need a ride, please call Karen Horton at 413-245-3000.

For this event, cash only please!

All are welcome!



Sunday Evening Bible Study

Bible Study will be at 6:00pm on October 12 and 26 at the home of Al & Joan BeJune. Please call Pastor Pat at 508-764-7569 with any questions.

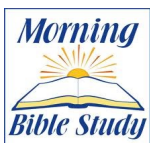


Faith Formation Journey to Confirmation



Faith Formation classes begin on October 19th. We will be meeting in the Conference Room from 6-7pm.

We have a great group of people already signed up for class, but there is still time to join! This year we have a great mix of adults and young adults. If you are interested, or want to know more, please call Karen Fournier (508-347-3996) for more information.



Wednesday Morning Bible Study

This Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am in the church conference/library room. The studies for the month of October are on the 8th and 22nd. Please call Karen Fournier (508-347-3996) to express interest or if you have questions. All are welcome!

Third Quarter Treasurer Update

Below is a quick look at the current state of the Operating Budget as of September 26th. Expenses to this point have been \$114,212.15, which includes the past due annuity payment for Pastor Pat. We continue to barely manage to make the payments for our monthly bills. In early September, the Leadership Board voted to transfer a total of \$5,467.34 from the Capital Campaign and the Special Funds account, to the Operating account. Without this transfer, we would not have been able to cover the expenses for Weekly Payroll, the Pastor's Health Insurance, and the Property Insurance. On average, our expenses to operate the church on a monthly basis are \$11,800.00. We currently are not taking in enough money in pledges to cover our expenses. It is of vital importance that all church members keep up with their pledges in order to pay our bills on time. If enough funds do not come in to cover our expenses, we will once again need to look at transferring funds from other accounts.

Operating Account Balance on 9/26/14
\$4,172.00

Upcoming October Bills

Pastor' Health Insurance 10/1/14	1,784.61
Pastor's Annuity 10/1/14	1,000.00
Property Insurance 10/1/14	982.00
Workman Comp. Insurance 10/1/14	368.25
Parsonage Equity 10/1/14	275.00
Payroll 10/10/14	2,600.00
Utilities 10/15/14	400.00
Other Misc. Bills 10/15/14	400.00
Payroll 10/24/14	2,600.00

Grand Total To Be Paid **\$10,409.86**

Thoughts For the Day

God's dream for us exceed
our best expectations.

Loving one another is the right thing to do.

I Believe

The following are verses that were sent to me that I believe are worth repeating.

I Believe...

That just because two people argue,
It doesn't mean they don't love each other.
And, just because they don't argue,
It doesn't mean they do love each other.

That we don't have to change friends if
we understand that friends change.

That no matter how good a friend is,
they're going to hurt you, every once in a
while and you must forgive them for that.

That you can do something in an instant
that will give you heartache for life.

That it's taking me a long time to become the
person I want to be.

That you should always leave loved ones with
Loving words. It may be the last time you see
them.

That you can keep going long after you think
you can't.

That either you control your attitude or it
controls you.

That heroes are the people who do what has
to be done when it needs to be done,
regardless of the consequences.

That sometimes the people you expect to
kick you when you're down will be the ones
to help you get back up.

That maturity has more to do with what types
of experiences you've had and what you've
learned from them and less to do with how
many birthdays you've celebrated.

That it isn't always enough, to be forgiven by
others. Sometimes, you have to learn
to forgive yourself.

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the
best of everything; they just make the most of
everything they have.

Daily Lectionary Scripture References October 2014 (Year A)

Wed., Oct. 1
Psalm 42
Exodus 19:9b-25
Matthew 9:2-8

Thurs., Oct. 2
Psalm 19
Exodus 23:1-9
Colossians 2:16-23

Fri., Oct. 3
Psalm 19
Exodus 23:14-19
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

Sat., Oct. 4
Psalm 19
Exodus 23:10-13
John 7:40-52

Sun., Oct. 5
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Mon., Oct. 6
Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:1-21
1 Peter 2:4-10

Tues., Oct. 7
Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Wed., Oct. 8
Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 6:10-25
John 11:45-57

Thurs., Oct. 9
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:1-8
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

Fri., Oct. 10
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 13:1-10
James 4:4-10

Sat., Oct. 11
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:12-18
Mark 2:18-22

Sun., Oct. 12
Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Mon., Oct. 13
Psalm 97
Exodus 32:15-35
Jude 17-25

Tues., Oct. 14
Psalm 97
Exodus 33:1-6
Philippians 3:13-4:1

Wed., Oct. 15
Psalm 97
2 Kings 17:7-20
John 6:25-35

Thurs., Oct. 16
Psalm 99
Exodus 33:7-11
3 John 9-12

Fri., Oct. 17
Psalm 99
Exodus 31:1-11
1 Peter 5:1-5

Sat., Oct. 18
Psalm 99
Exodus 39:32-43
Matthew 14:1-12

Sun., Oct. 19
Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Mon., Oct. 20
Psalm 63:1-8
Exodus 40:34-38
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

Tues., Oct. 21
Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 12:1-9
Revelation 18:21-24

Wed., Oct. 22
Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9
Matthew 17:22-27

Thurs., Oct. 23
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 31:14-22
Titus 1:5-16

Fri., Oct. 24
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

Sat., Oct. 25
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:44-47
John 5:39-47

Sun., Oct. 26
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Mon., Oct. 27
Psalm 119:41-48
Numbers 33:38-39
James 2:8-13

Tues., Oct. 28
Psalm 119:41-48
Exodus 34:29-35
James 2:14-26

Wed., Oct. 29
Psalm 119:41-48
Deuteronomy 26:16-27:7
Matthew 19:16-22

Thurs., Oct. 30
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Joshua 1:1-11
Romans 2:17-29

Fri., Oct. 31
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Joshua 2:1-14
2 Peter 2:1-3



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The **Elm Leaves** is a publication of the
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