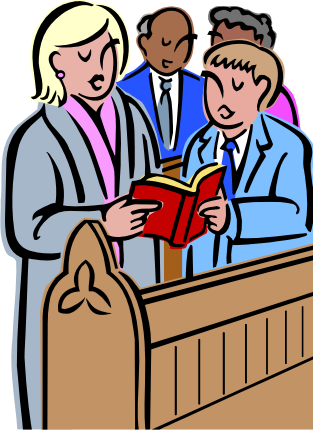


**TEWKSBURY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SUMMER 2006**

Highlights of Summer Worship



July 9th – Scripture text, Mark 4:30-32.
Sermon topic – **“The mustard seed—starting well, spiritual foundations.”**

July 16th - Scripture text from Proverbs.
Sermon topic – **“Friendship”** –
We’ll start off with a hymn sing at 9:15 in the sanctuary!

July 23rd – Scripture text, Mark 4:1-20
Sermon topic – **“Four soils...what doubt can teach us”**.

July 30th – Scripture text, Mark 9:33-37
Sermon topic – **“The lap child...God’s images of strength”**,

August 6th – Scripture text, Mark 7:24-30
Sermon topic – **“Dogs under the table...hungry for good things.”**

August 13th – Scripture text, Mark 11:12-25
Sermon topic – **The withered fig tree...when church isn’t enough.**

August 20th – We’ll start off with a hymn sing at 9:15 in the sanctuary!
Scripture text, Mark 12:13-17
Sermon topic – **The emperor’s face... responsible citizenship.**

August 27th – Scripture text, Mark 11-21
Sermon topic – **The broken bread...generosity as it should be.**



Evening Worship Service

Set aside the date of **Sunday, August 20th** as was held last year, an evening worship service is planned in the **Friendship Garden** at 7:00 PM followed by refreshments in the Vestry. Twilight is a beautiful time to sit in the garden to meditate with prayers and hymns.

Mass. Conference UCC Update

-submitted by Christopher Jenkins, Delegate to the Massachusetts Conference and Andover Association



Conference Filled With Important Events

This year I had the privilege of serving as a TCC lay delegate to the Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, which was also attended by Pastor Jonathan. The weekend of June 9th and 10th was filled with opportunities for learning, discussion, fellowship, and worship, along with of course, the business of the Conference. The highlight of the weekend was the unanimous election of the Rev. Dr. Jim Antal to be our new Minister-President. Dr. Antal has served as a pastor in Massachusetts, but most recently was serving in the suburbs of Cleveland, Ohio, where his church included several staff members of the UCC National Setting.

Other business included the passage of the budget, which is balanced for the first time in a few years. The Conference is facing declining revenues and has had to close offices, including ours in the Northeast Area, and layoff staff. We are continuing discussions of restructuring the Conference to accommodate current realities, as well as making the business aspect more efficient.

Finally, anyone who is interested is encouraged to save the date of June 22-26, 2007. That is the date of the next General Synod of the United Church of Christ. It will be conveniently held in Hartford, CT and is a special 50th anniversary celebration for the UCC. Based on the presentation that was made at Annual Meeting, it will be an event packed with festivities, workshops, and worship that will take over the city! More information will be forthcoming as the year progresses.



Christopher Jenkins shakes hands with the new Massachusetts Conference UCC president, Jim Antal.

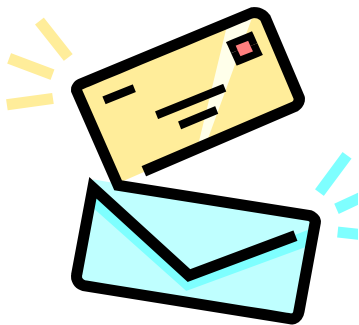
Junior Youth Fellowship

-Submitted by JoJo Scharmer, Youth Advisor

Did we have fun or what!! The season for the Junior Youth Group was short this year, but it was jam-packed full of fun, spirit and community. We are so looking forward to next year. Our last meeting included the sixth grade students who will be members of the group next year. We are sad to see our eighth graders move up to the Senior group but we know that all “little birds have to leave the nest and move on”. So we wish everyone love and good wishes for continued fellowship. And to all sixth and seventh grade youth, if you were unable to attend this year, please join us in September and see what all the fun is about: lots of games, food and worship. Next year we are already signed up for a retreat in the spring and we have many fun and service activities to enjoy! So plan on coming and being part of an amazing group in love with Jesus!

Peace starts with a smile.

Mail bag



From Cindy Antonuk

Letters were received from Cindy Antonuk thanking us for the support we gave her as a church family in her job here as a Student Intern. She said she will miss us but appreciates the members of TCC who took her under their wing to help during her internship at TCC.

From The Hertel Family

Linda Hertel and her husband, Milton Jackson and Leslie Jacob wrote on June 20th to thank Herb's church family for all the support and prayers given Herb over the past few years. After Herb's funeral they were overjoyed at the reception provided in Fellowship Hall where they saw the old 'Hertel Candy' sign and home-made chocolate pops on display. ... "He (Herb) loved the church and you showed your love of him through this great tribute..." Our heartfelt thanks.

From Jean Holmes

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your kind support on Bill's death in June. Your prayers have helped me through these difficult days. Sincerely, Jean Holmes

Membership and Enlistment

-submitted by Jean Metcalf, Chair and Council Representative; Heather Leary, Loretta Miggos, Cathie Seaman, Suzanne Spezzano,

M&E met in June and welcomed two new members to the committee, **Heather Leary** and **Suzanne Spezzano**.

It was agreed that each member of M&E would take two months of the year and be in charge of obtaining greeters and collecting information on the *Friendship Pads*. The committee is planning two potluck suppers next year; one in early fall or winter and the other after Easter next spring. Our last potluck supper was an evening of fun and fellowship and we hope to enjoy this experience again and again!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank **Joanne Myers** and **Bonnie Gallagher** for their many years of service on M&E. I wish them well as they continue doing God's work in other ways.



TCC Missions In Action

- Jean Carr, Chair,
Beth McFadyen,
Secretary, JoJo
Scharmer, Council
Representative, Emir
Galevi, Leanne Keddie
and Eleanor Riddle.



“I am so proud to be a Christian; I’ll say it loud.”

Lyrics from the song, Christian, by Phillips, Craig and Dean

Soap for Hope

As you travel this summer, remember to donate the **little shampoos, conditioners, etc.**, that you find in your motel rooms. This project has become an official Missions ministry under the auspices of Beth McFadyen and will continue throughout the year. There are many places of need where these items are delivered and your donations will be very much appreciated.

Food Pantry Donations

Thanks to **Karen Powers**, who has generously agreed to continue transporting the donated food to its proper home, we will be continuing the **Food Pantry collections** on the third Sunday of every month. Remember, like Karen, you do not have to be a member of the Missions committee to help volunteer for one or two (or more!) projects throughout the year. We gratefully welcome all helping hands. Look for many exciting opportunities coming in the fall!

We would like to take this opportunity to send some kudos to Karen Powers as she leaves our committee. Karen, we appreciated all that you did, and will do, for missions. You listened to and answered the call from God to help do His work here on earth! **Thank you so very much!**

Serving Coffee and Serving Others

Serving coffee and cold drinks on the lawn can be a different way of serving God. As you serve His saints after the service, you are extending the welcome Jesus has given to all of us. Thank you to everyone who has signed up thus far and for those who have not, there are ‘open’ Sundays which need your love. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or speak to any member of the Missions committee.



Clothing Drive an Overflowing Success

Your generous donation of clothing to the victims of the April floods was outstanding. You gave and gave and Tricia Ronningen’s van was overflowing every Monday as we delivered the clothing to the Lowell Wish Project, the clearinghouse for over 80 nonprofit agencies assisting God’s people. As the residents continue to clean up and replace lost possessions, there are still some great ideas for continued help including food gift certificates, department store gift certificates, furniture, furniture and more furniture. The project is outfitting 1-2 homes per day and is

ty obtaining enough furniture. In addition, your help is needed at the warehouse for sorting, bagging and labeling donations and if you have a pick-up truck, the families could use help transferring the items to their homes. Right now, they have to rent U-Hauls using money that could be used elsewhere. Please see JOJO Scharmer if you are able to donate in-kind items, money or time (978-851-5298).



Missions *-continued*

Mexico Mission

The Mexico Mission trips have become an integral part of our church over the last couple of years. Have you spoken to someone who has participated yet? Please do and you may catch the spirit of reaching over the border to some very poor, but proud people. They can use your help, creating a better physical and spiritual life, so please look for information to join this amazing experience. Led by Jean Carr, eight members of our church and two from Chelmsford had such a gratifying and successful experience that they would love to tell you about it and encourage you to sign up for the April trip that is in the planning stages right now. We hope that at least 30 servants of God attend this time!



Helping in Home Repair

This fall we hope to help members of our congregation who need assistance preparing their homes for the winter months. Emir Galevi will lead this project, so please be prepared to offer helping hands as we post “help wanted” ads. The jobs will be small and will not take much of your time, but the rewards will be tremendous as you help create a warm, loving home for someone else. Warmth created by your love and compassion far outweighs the warmth of a tight home.

Ideas Welcome

On missions, we feel that we are a small sample of the whole congregation wanting to do the work of God. We are truly His hands here on earth and endeavor to carry on His mighty love and wonderful, awesome compassion. We await any ideas from you to continue to offer exciting and valuable service to His people. Please see any one of us to share your thoughts and/or needs. Have a wonderful and God centered summer!

Recent fund-raising activities

Heifer Project International - \$2,803.85 donated as of June 30th.

Outdoor Flea Market

Although the weather did not cooperate and the **Flea Market** had to be moved indoors due to heavy rains, **\$277.25** was raised which will go into the General Fund. There were seven rented tables and the TCC table of donated items. Thanks to all who helped, donated items or who shopped with us!



**Ladies Aid,
Friendship
Circle,
And
Holiday
Friends**



All ladies of the church are invited to attend. For more information, please call 978-851-2773.

—
*Victorian Tea
Sunday,
September 24th
from 2:00 to 4:00
PM*

Holiday Friends

Submitted by Jean Metcalf and Marilyn SanClemente

Holiday Friends had a very successful year as we outdid ourselves with our table at the annual fair. We sold just about everything! Now it's time to take out our glue guns and open the doors to the supply closet that has been shut since the day after the fair.

We planned some **SUMMER WORKSHOPS** for those who have the summer off. On Thursday, July 13th and Thursday, July 27th at 9:00 AM, plans are to make holiday corsages and beaded pins. We'll meet again in August on Thursday, August 10th and Thursday, August 24th. Projects have not been determined at this time, but we'll have fun! We'll meet in the Vestry as usual starting with some delicious refreshments and a cold beverage. Come if you can!

We've also planned some **EVENING WORKSHOPS** for those who work during the day and would like to join us. Evening workshops will be held on Tuesday, September 26th and Tuesday, October 24th at 7:00 PM in the Vestry.

If you would like to become a part of our wonderful group, this is a good opportunity and all are welcome. Yes, even the men in our church can become a member of Holiday Friends—just bring your creative skills and a willingness to tackle projects and you can become a member of the Friends!

Save the Date – Sunday, September 24th from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and enjoy tea in the Vestry. This is a fund-raising activity coordinated by Friendship Circle. Both large and small tables will be set up so that you can bring your family and friends to this event. A typical Victorian tea, complete with china cups, tablecloths and great tasting food will be available on that day. More information on the "Friendship Tea" will be forthcoming in our next newsletter.

**God doesn't call
the qualified,
He qualifies the
called.**



Clerk News

From Christopher Jenkins, Church Clerk

On May 21st, the members of TCC gathered for one of the two main times each year to conduct our business. One hot topic was the issue that has been discussed over the past several months regarding **same-gender marriage**. We amended the Bylaws to more explicitly state that we welcome people of all backgrounds, but also adopted a policy proposed by the Board of Deacons which states that we will not be performing any same-gender union ceremonies. Both of these easily passed and seem to reflect where the church is on this controversial issue.

We worked with the **budget** as well. We acted on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to allocate 80% of cell tower revenue to the Building Fund and 20% to the General Fund. We first removed \$5,500 from the equation to pay legal expenses and help the Boy Scouts build a storage shed since the tower will prevent them from using their current storage area in the church known as the 'glory hole'. We also transferred \$1,700 of the Religious Education (RE) account from curriculum to fund the new Jr. High Youth Fellowship, which is off to a great start.

The other significant item was creating the **Safe Church Advocate** as an elected officer of the church. **Steve Trudeau** had already been working with RE and Council to create a policy, which is available on the website. As the Advocate, Steve will be responsible for obtaining and maintaining CORI records in accordance with state law, as well as overseeing the implementation of a Safe Church Policy.

Finally, we took care of the two items required of this meeting in the Bylaws. We **elected a slate of officers and committees**. We also **adopted the Annual Report**, copies of which are available in the church office.

Church Council News

Submitted by Valerie MacKenzie, Church Council, Chair

Members of the **Church Council** met on Tuesday, June 20th and following is a summary of their activities:

- Mary Lou Adams was welcomed as a member-at-large to the Council.
- Council Chair, Valerie MacKenzie; Vice-chair, Yvonne Hall and Secretary, Christopher Jenkins.
- Council Representatives from each committee is as follows: JoJo Scharmer, Missions; Rich Allen, Finance; Jim Carr, Trustees; Christopher Jenkins, Religious Education; Jean Metcalf, Membership & Enlistment; Bob Jenkins, Deacons and Stephanie Muse, Music.
- Discussed status of project to archive old church photos
- Friendship Circle Tea announced 9/24/06
- Clarified the composition of the organ committee.

Here is a summary of the All Boards & Committee Meetings (ABCs) held Tuesday evening, June 14th..

Music

- Elected Jen Brazeau, committee chair.
- Reviewed contemporary worship format.
- Organ move sub-committee to determine if there is any history from the group that investigated the move three years ago.
- Discussed evaluations.

Religious Education

- Elected Christopher Jenkins, committee chair.
- Karen Geier elected committee secretary.
- Eighteen high school grads next year. Will need to do more fundraising.
- Need to amend 'Safe Church' policy for consistency with church Bylaws.

Board of Trustees

- Reviewed responsibilities of each on the Committee – Jim Carr will continue as Chair.
- New members welcomed, Ken Mouser and Steve Raso.
- Discussed carpet in the sanctuary and peeling paint on the ceiling and walls.

M&E

- Welcomed new members, Suzanne Spezzano, Heather Leary and Cathie Seaman.
- Discussed plans for a potluck supper in either September or October.
- Jean Metcalf will obtain greeters for July and August.

Deacons

- Welcomed new members – Pat Takach and Noel Metcalf.
- Developed Deacon-of-the-Month (DOM) schedule for summer and early fall.
- Election of positions.

Missions

- Jean Carr continues as Chair and JoJo as Council Rep.
- Gifts of financial support sent to United Christian Foundation at UMASS Amherst, Habitat for Humanity of Lowell, Indonesia Earthquake relief through Christian World Service.
- Discussed future projects including: sponsoring a child from Mexico, coordinating a trip to our sister church in Lowell, connecting the Youth Fellowship groups with City Mission Society, fundraising for next year's Mexico trip, organizing the school bag program in September, and establishing a relationship with a church in New Orleans.
- Toiletry drive continues this summer.
- Looking for help with Summer Coffee Hour!

Finance

- Election of committee officers – Rich Allen to continue as Chair; Russ Adams to lead Stewardship 2006; Secretary TBD. Liz Doherty was welcomed back as a member of the Finance Committee.
- Budget revisions – Tina Ramsdell to implement budget revisions passed at May 2006 semi-annual meeting as follows: Christian Education curriculum line reduced by \$1,700 to \$3,100. No change in the total CE budget of \$19,887. The new Cell Tower rental revenue at \$2,000 a month to be recognized starting with \$2,000 deposit in June 2006, with first payment expected in July. Initial \$5,500 to pay for legal fees (\$3,500) and Boy Scouts' shed (\$2,000), with succeeding monies split 20% General Fund and 80% James Building Fund. Chair Allen and Trustees Chair, Jim Carr, prepared table showing distribution of rental income for 2006.
- Revenues per Mike Wildeman's report – revenues continued to run ahead of 2005, but slight drop off in May pledge collections. Mike to continue monitoring collections.
- Russ Adams to submit next article for newsletter.

Tewksbury Congregational Church 2005-2006 Elected Officers

2004-2007	2005-2008	2006-2009
Church Council (at large, two-term limit)		
Yvonne Hall	Valerie MacKenzie	Mary Lou Adams
<i>Standing Boards and Committees (two-term limit)</i>		
<i>Board of Deacons</i>		
Susannah Trudeau Bob Jenkins (<i>Council</i>) Julie Marotte (<i>Chair</i>)	Donna Haines Noel Metcalf Pat Takach	
<i>Board of Trustees</i>		
Jim Carr (<i>Chair & Council Rep.</i>) Ken Mouser	Jim Keddie	Steve Raso
<i>Board of Religious Education</i>		
Karen Geier	Jim Kenney Christopher Jenkins (<i>Chair and Council</i>)	Carol Sturtevant
<i>Finance Committee</i>		
Alan Wright Eleanor Corey	Arlene Roux Russ Adams	Richard Allen (<i>Chair & Council</i>) Liz Doherty
<i>Membership & Enlistment</i>		
Jean Metcalf (<i>Chair & Council</i>)	Suzanne Spezzano Loretta Miggos	Heather Leary Cathie Seaman
<i>Music Committee</i>		
	Stephanie Muse (<i>Council</i>) Gail Pendergast	Jen Brazeau (<i>Chair</i>)
<u>Missions Committee</u>		
Jean Carr (<i>Chair</i>) Leanne Keddie	JoJo Scharmer (<i>Council</i>) Eleanor Riddle	Emir Galevi Beth McFadyen (<i>Secretary</i>)
<i>Stewardship Committee (None listed)</i>		
<i>Special Committees</i>		
Memorial Gifts 5-Year Term (<i>May serve on other Boards and may be re-elected.</i>)		
Carolyn Fialkowski (2003-2008)	(2005-2010)	Ann Marie Baldwin (2006-2011)
Pastor-Parish Relations 2-Year Terms (<i>May serve on other committees and be once re-elected.</i>)		
Valerie MacKenzie Ed Henderson	Susannah Trudeau	Linda Bowley
Personnel Committee (<i>Council, indefinite term.</i>)		
Steve Trudeau	Beth McFadyen	
Church Officers – (Elected annually – no term limit.)		
Treasurer	Clerk	Moderator
Kristina Ramsdell	Christopher Jenkins	Pat Baldwin
Assistant Treasurer	Assistant Clerk	Financial Secretary
Russ Baldwin	(Open)	Michael Wildeman
Auditor	Registrar	Assistant Financial Secretary
Matthew Adams	(Open)	Jack Hall
<i>Delegates</i>		
Mass Conf. (3 plus Pastor)	Andover Association (4 plus Pastor)	Institutional Representatives (Council)
Christopher Jenkins	Valerie MacKenzie	Boy Scouts – Bob Stewart
	Christopher Jenkins	Girl Scouts – (None)

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Summer Newsletter
Time-Sensitive Material

Welcome



In This issue -- Lots of news!

- Summer Worship Schedule • UCC Annual Meeting
- TCC List of Elected Officers & • Holiday Friends
- Summer Workshops Scheduled

Staff

Pastor Reverend Jonathan Goodell
 Secretary Sue Howard
 Director of Religious Education Rita Masters
 Director of Music Serena Santoro
 Choirmaster and Organist Craig Seaman
 Sexton Humberto "Gabe" Gabriel

Officers

Moderator Pat Baldwin
 Auditor Matt Adams
 Treasurer Tina Ramsdell
 Financial Secretary Michael Wildeman
 Church Clerk Christopher Jenkins
 Church Registrar Steve Trudeau

Boards and Committees

Deacons Julie Marotte
 Trustees Jim Carr
 Religious Education Christopher Jenkins
 Finance Rich Allen
 Stewardship Committee (Open)
 Membership & Enlistment Jean Metcalf
 Missions Jean Carr
 Church Council Valerie MacKenzie
 Memorial Gifts Carolyn Fialkowski and Ann Marie Baldwin
 Music Committee Jen Brazeau