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Congregational
Church**

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*February - March
Newsletter
Time-Sensitive Material*

Celebrating 275 years ...



of faith and community service.

Pastor's Notes...



- **Confirmation 2009.**

Our new class has been launched this month. Eight of our young people, each of them ninth graders, will meet with mentors and attend seven two-hour classes with Pastor Jonathan and Bob Masters. They will work on a mission project this summer and go away on a retreat early in the fall. Their work concludes with a special worship service and their confirmation of faith on Thanksgiving Sunday.

- **Open Door**

This is a discussion group after church from 10:55 to 11:55, often focused on a topic from Sunday morning. You may drop in any week.

Our **Open Door Bible Study** will begin on February 1st. We meet for an hour in the Vestry. Bring a cup of coffee over from Fellowship Hall. We are going to be looking at encounters with Jesus from the gospel of Mark. This study is an important preparation for the Lent series on the parables. Come join us any Sunday that you are free!

- **Lent Program and Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday, February 25th, is a warm, solemn service held to mark the beginning of Lent and to introduce the disciplines of preparation for God's presence. You may receive ashes during this service if you wish. Ash Wednesday worship is at 7:00pm.

On the following Wednesdays ... March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1 ... the Deacons and Pastor will provide a simple meal (two delicious soups provided each evening at 6:30) and a program for growth and reflection. This year's theme is the parables... how do these stories (and the questions they raise for our faith) guide the choices we make in our lives? We promise you an interesting program and the chance to grow spiritually over these Lenten weeks. Try this out for one Wednesday or come for the entire series.

- **Late opening for church**

The next time it snows on Sunday morning we may surprise you with a late opening of worship. Here's how to find out... WBZ or WHDH will carry the news, using radio, television or the web. We will change our message at church and it will be posted on our web page. The decision is usually made by about 7:00am.

- **Sabbath Devotions**

Relaxing, breathing deeply, opening up the heart to God... These are the themes of our Sabbath Devotions. We gather in the parlor about once a month to spend a half-hour listening and sharing, rediscovering the quiet and caring presence of God. We will meet twice between now and Easter, March 7th and April 11th at 5:00pm. All are welcome!

Pastor's Notes continued on page 4.

Tewksbury Congregational Church

January/February 2009

A Message from the Pastor

Dear friends,

We begin a special year of connections with our town as we celebrate its birth 275 years ago. The plans for a new church (and town) sputtered and then came to life just before Christmas in 1734. The founding mothers and fathers had begun planning years before. Once they set their minds to the task of forming a new township they got down to the practical details of calling a minister and eventually building a church building.

We always benefit from taking the long view, as they did. It helps us to gather, to listen to concerns and the impulse of God's Spirit, and to shape progressive plans together. As we plan, the practical details and the energy for new things can emerge! Taking care with first steps builds strength into our future plans.

So let me say a couple of things about this anniversary year. You will notice some wonderful town plans. We are part of these plans in April, May, July and December! Let's enjoy these and lend our voice and help.

But there is more. The Council is hosting a listening and planning process with the boards and committees this year. It will boost our budget process a bit, but it will also help us take the 'long view' as our ancestors did. We will keep you informed in the newsletters about what is happening.

Good things take time. But the strength of the vision of our early steps also guides us in wonderful ways. We are on this path, walking together.

Warmly in faith,

Pastor Jonathan

Look at the calendar inside...

- We will play host to a **history focus** in April, a **town wide recycling day** in May, a **pancake breakfast** July 4th, and a **reenactment** of the signing of the original covenant for the township on December 23rd.
- Beyond this we will hold our own **worship service and luncheon** event in November.
- Mary Lou Adams** and **Yvonne Hall** are links to the town events.
- The pastor will also gather a planning team for the November event. Please consider if you would like to help with either.

Pastor's Notes...

-continued-

- **Progressive Dinner – Saturday, March 14th at 6:00pm.** We will travel to the homes of four families and enjoy a progressive meal starting with appetizers and ending with dessert. More information and ticket sales will be forthcoming in *Faith Notes*. The Progressive Supper is sponsored by members of Friendship Circle.
- **Care Notes:**
Perhaps you have noticed the beautiful rack of titles on self care and caring for others that the board of deacons has prepared. It is called “Care Notes”. These articles are practical and spiritual at the same time. They are available to anyone who would like to take one for themselves or for a friend.
- **275th Committee:**
We hope you will look over the marvelous activities that the town has planned for this anniversary year! Some of them involve us directly!! We also want to shake out our own colors a little so that those who see us can appreciate the direct connection between our church and the founding of this town. Anyone with ideas for a little advertisement of our church should call the office!

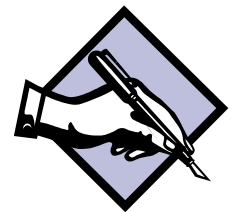
We also want to plan a very special worship service and celebration luncheon for November and are looking for a team of people who would enjoy planning this event around worship and other forms of celebration. Please contact Pastor Jonathan if you are interested.

Membership and Enlistment

Submitted by Ed Spezzano

“Why Friendship Pad Signups?”

Why do we need to sign the Friendship Pads every week? Does anyone really look at them? Yes! Every week the sheets are collected and the information is put into a spreadsheet. It provides valuable information. It helps the Pastor and the Membership and Enlistment (M&E) Committee reach out to people who have not attended services and find out if we can be of assistance. It is also an important part of the church records. Please take the time to sign the Friendship Pads during the service.



Greetings

Every Sunday we have greeters to welcome people to our service. M&E is looking for people to volunteer to greet. It's a great way to start your Sunday morning. Please look for signup sheets at coffee hour or contact Kelly Raso to volunteer.

Junior Youth Group

By JOJO Scharmer



Junior Youth Group gives service...

Exuberant, enthusiastic, lively, high-spirited and eager to help others! Enjoying life, cheerfully participating with their community of peers, excitedly learning about their faith and willingly reaching out to others! Microsoft Word won't take these fragments, but I am using them to describe this year's JYG!

Each group which passes through our youth program has a personality of its own! This year, I cannot help but think that this very special group is "getting it"! By getting it, I mean what God would like from us as helpers here on earth. We have and continue to do so, kept the poor, the lonely and the hungry as a focus this year.

Our fall project this year was to organize a church-wide collection of kitchen utensils. We delivered 12 complete sets of utensils (as well as many loose items) to The Wish Project in January. We also served as volunteers there.

We created reindeer pins to donate to the church fair and to the residents of Blair House.

But I have to tell you, the most exciting project has not reached fruition yet, but it will be thrilling to report on the results in the next newsletter. The youth had a "pumpkin" carving contest (perhaps you generously donated to it) and from that sprang a greater idea on helping others. Each youth was given \$10 from the proceeds and has been challenged to "grow" that money and choose a charity as a recipient. Creativity and a loving heart was all that was needed for this project!!

Future plans will include making something joyful for our homebound friends, a pantry scavenger hunt (for our local food pantry), volunteering at the Chicken Pie supper, helping serve a meal to the homeless and making a dessert for a UMass/Lowell Campus Ministry service.

Working for Christ Jesus, here on earth,
JOJO

Junior Youth Group has fun!...

What an exciting year this has been! We've been on a great spook walk, we had a taco dinner and gift exchange at Christmas time, and our meetings at the church have been great, too. However, even though we've already had lots of fun, there are some things coming up that you should know about.

We are going to the Wish Project in Lowell to help out, sorting and stocking the shelves. Next, we will be helping with the chicken pie dinner. Also, we will be going to see the play Godspell on the eighth. We are going to have a birthday party for all of us, an evening breakfast with a Biblical character, and a spring retreat.

Blessings to all,
Joshua Kenney
Jr. Youth Fellowship

Senior Youth Group

Submitted by Stephen Trudeau and Annmarie Baldwin

The Senior Youth Group (SYG) Calendar of Events is scheduled from January through June.

- February 1 –SYG meeting at TCC at 6:00pm
- Friday, February 7 –Assist at Deacons’ Chicken Pie Supper
- February 15 –Field Trip – Tubing at Nashoba Valley
- March 8 –SYG meeting at 6:00 pm at TCC to collect and package *Military Friends Care Packages*.
- March 29th –SYG Field Trip of their choosing
- Overnight Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11th – Easter Lock-In at TCC
- April 26 – SYG meeting at TCC to celebrate the return of our friends from the Mexico Mission trip.
- May 17 – SYG Field Trip of their choosing
- May 31 – SYG Service Project (Details to be announced.)
- June 7 – SYG End of the Year Cookout

For more information on these events, please call the Sr. Youth Group Leaders, Stephen Trudeau (978-640-9716) or Annmarie Baldwin (978-319-9031).

The Board of Deacons

Most people think of mid-winter as a ‘slow’ time, when you hunker down away from the cold. For Deacons, it is a busy time. We are preparing for the **Deacon’s Chicken Pie Supper**. Right now we are selling tickets, shopping, planning our work strategy, and recruiting help. Next week Thursday, Friday, and Saturday we will be working hard on each of the steps that it takes to have the food ready to go on the tables at 6:00pm on Saturday, February 7th. We are hoping that you will all want to come and enjoy the fruits of our labor.

Another project that we are involved in at the moment is planning for the **Lenten** series held on five Wednesday evenings beginning, March 4th. This year’s theme is “**The Parables of Jesus**”. We invite all of you to share a simple meal of soup and hearty bread and enjoy an hour of study and lively discussion. The meal starts at 6:30pm followed by our study at 7:00pm.

Have you ever wondered who the Deacons are or what the Deacon of the Month actually does? Check the new display on the Deacons’ bulletin board right beside the elevator on the upper floor.

Have you seen our new display rack of “**Care Notes**”? It is just outside the window of the church office. Each note addresses an aspect of a concern that any one of us might have. Please take a look. If you see something that speaks to you, please help yourself. They are for you from us because we care for you.

- Donna Haines, Deacon Chair

Sunday School News



Mission projects

CWS Blanket Sunday

The Sunday School students will be participating in the annual Church World Service (CWS) Blanket Plus project, formerly known as *Blanket Sunday*. Some 8,000 congregations and groups across the U.S. hold CWS Blanket+ events, providing funds to help people in need around the world, including the U.S. For over 60 years, CWS has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources they need to build the foundation for a viable future including blankets, tents, tools, seeds, wells, and literacy training.

To help Sunday School students have a greater awareness about what Blanket Sunday is all about, on Sunday, February 8th students along with any adults are asked to bring their favorite “blankie” to church and be part of the “Blanket Brigade”. Yes, you will take it back home with you! Your favorite “blankie” will be part of the focus during Children’s Time. This coincides with the annual CWS blanket collection. \$5.00 will purchase a CWS blanket for those in need. As we all know, after the cold temperatures of the past few weeks, there is nothing like a warm blanket to warm the body and the soul. Please be generous!

Open Pantry Food Collection

Donations should be placed in the Food Pantry grocery cart located in the Educational entrance.

- Sunday, February 15 - Theme: It’s Valentine’s weekend, think of those who are in need!
- Sunday, March 15 - Theme: It’s St. Patrick’s week-end, think a little Irish!

Please remember Tewksbury Food Pantry requests that there should be **no glass containers**, as they pose a breakage problem.

A special thank you to Bob and Carol Sturtevant who faithfully take food donations to the food pantry.

Communion Sunday

- Sunday, February 1st - Students in Grades 2 & 3 along with their teachers will attend the Communion service together.
- Sunday, March 1st - Students in Grades 4, 5, & 6 along with their teachers will attend the Communion service together. Receiving communion together has proven to be a very special time for the students and their teachers.

Palm Sunday Stoles

Students in Grade 3 will bring designs and make their stoles to be worn during the distribution of palms on Palm Sunday. This has been a long and wonderful tradition at TCC. Mrs. Foss will be helping the students with this project. Work on this project work will run from March 15th to March 29th ending on Palm Sunday with the students wearing their custom designed stoles to distribute palms to the worshippers. Third-grade students will be working on their stoles in room 7 for this special project.

More School News →

Sunday School News and Calendar

-continued-

Mark Your calendars

No Sunday School

February 15, April 12 (Easter) services 9:30 and 11:00 and April 19
Nursery care is available for infants- preschoolers.



TCC Scholarship Pancake Breakfast

March 8

Fellowship Hall

10:30 – 11:30

Free-will offering supports the scholarship fund. Scholarship awards will given to TCC college students

Calendar

Please take a moment to look at the calendar on the bulletin board outside the church office. This calendar was designed by the Junior and Senior High Sunday School class and a calendar was included in the care packages the class mailed to TCC students away at college.

Children's Choir Festival



History

The Southeastern New England Chapter of Choristers Guild was officially rechartered at a Children's Choir Festival on Saturday, April 5th, 2008, the first event for the chapter in nearly a decade. The festival took place at the United Church of Christ in Medfield, MA.

Upcoming Event Here at TCC!

Next month, March 21st the second Children's Choir Festival of the New England Chapter of the Choristers Guild will take place here at TCC! This is an exciting event and a large crowd is expected. Bruce Panilaitis, who conducts our Jr. Choir, is asking for help. He will need at least 15 volunteers to oversee the event that begins at 8:30am and ends at 4:00pm. Volunteers will be needed to help with food service, registration and signing up attendees, leading games, assisting with handbell workshop and general chaperones.

Children in grades 3 through 10 are encouraged to attend a day of music-making and fun! The festival will include games, lunch, snacks, T-shirts and more. The feature conductor is Mark Patterson who is a part-time instructor in the School of Music at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, where he is pursuing a PhD in Music Education. Currently he has over 200 works in print with numerous publishers and has been a frequent winner of the ASCAP Award in Composition. His works are known for their meaningful texts, memorable melodies and rhythmic vitality.

The 2009 Festival Repertoire will include the following: *Create in Me a Clean Heart, Lo, He Comes, Show Me Thy Ways, This is My Father's World and This Little Light of Mine.*

Please get in touch with Bruce if you can volunteer your time. Bruce can be reached by telephone at 978-858-0528 or email bruceandsue.panilaitis@verizon.net.

Missions

Our Biggest Event of The Year...Zero Waste Day -- Saturday, May 16th

We may be a small in numbers, but our Congregation is BIG on giving, and one of the things that we do best is share our Used But Usable items with people in need. It makes perfect sense, then, that our town-wide Mission Project be a grand effort to help our community do the same.



We are co-sponsoring Zero Waste Day with the Tewksbury Recycling Committee, as their ultimate goal is to eliminate usable items from the waste stream. Our event is being advertised on Tewksbury's 275th Anniversary Calendar, and we expect to receive lots of additional coverage as the date approaches.

On May 16th, we will invite 7-10 local charities (and their big trucks!) to Tewksbury to collect usable items for their clients. Volunteers will help to manage a car unloading drop off process resulting in (literally) tons of items being directly delivered to these charities. It's fast and convenient One Stop Reverse Shopping for Tewksbury residents.

Beth McFadyen is coordinating this event and is seeking short-term volunteer assistance. She will be hosting a one hour info session at her home (41 Captain Circle) on Monday evening, **February 23rd, from 7:30-8:30** where she will present opportunities ranging from event day assistance for 30 minutes to publicity help requiring less than 10 hours over the next 3.5 months. Sample jobs include: greeters, set-up/break-down, car unloaders, photographers, on-site nurse, snack table helpers, flier distributors, traffic control, etc...

This is a HUGE opportunity for our Congregation to be visible in the community, to show our commitment to giving, AND to work together in Christian fellowship. If you would like to be involved at any level, please contact Beth at bmcfadyen@comcast.net.

Mission Project Results (November thru January)

- 85 Toiletry Kits to LTLC in November
- 3 Turkey Boxes to Lowell Wish for Thanksgiving
- 200+ Halloween Treat Bags to LTLC in November and December
- 90+ bags of potatoes + full funding for the balance of 150 baskets for Tewksbury Food Pantry
- 18 Thermal and Fleece tops for boys and girls residing at the Solomon Mental Health Center's Pediatric and Adolescent Unit in Lowell
- 100+ Giving Tree holiday gifts to 7 TCC Seniors and 92 children living in foster care and served by the MSPCC and the DCF.
- Purchased new "traje" (skirts and blouses) for Florinda (our sponsored child from Guatemala) and her sisters and mother as holiday gifts
- Added two new TCC servers to our LTLC roster. Welcome to the crew... Cricket Foss and Pam Bussey!
- Served dinner and baked brownies for LTLC in November, December, and January



Upcoming Projects and Events

Baby Kit Project – We continue to collect handmade baby blankets for The Wish Project's Baby Kits throughout the month of February. If you have a blanket to donate (or still wish to donate a package of infant diapers, some baby bottles, or some onesies, please contact Cathie Seaman, our Mission Project Coordinator, at 978-640-0101.

More Missions →

Missions

-continued-

Upcoming Projects and Events

Blanket+ Sunday – February 8th is Blanket+ Sunday (formerly called Tool and Blanket Sunday) when we will have a special collection to purchase \$5 blankets through Church World Service. Last year, \$671 was offered to this ministry. Special envelopes will be available in the pews that Sunday, or you are welcome to send a donation directly to the church office, indicating “Blanket+ Offering” in the memo section of your check. With these uncertain economic times, we would be overjoyed to reach the \$700 mark this year to make possible the purchase of 175 blankets. CWS recently delivered 300 blankets to Children’s Services of Roxbury for distribution to homeless persons living in the Dorchester area.

Toiletry Collection - On Sunday, February 22nd, Laura and Ben Holmes will, again, work with the Senior/Jr High Sunday School class to create Toiletry Kits for local human service agencies. These “baggie” kits contain a travel-sized shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, and dental care products, when we have them. Affixed with a sticker saying “With Love from TCC,” these kits serve as amazing morale boosters to those who cannot afford such luxury items. On your next vacation or business trip, please consider bringing your complimentary toiletries home for this ongoing project.

Save the Dates!

Saturday, March 28th: *Silvertones Dance* to benefit Mexico Trip
Sunday, April 5th: Heifer Kick-off
Sunday, May 3rd: Walk for Hunger
Saturday, May 9th: Church World Service Depot *and* Postal Carrier Food Drive
Sunday, May 10th: Heifer Conclusion
Saturday, May 16th: Zero Waste Day
Sunday, May 31st: Red T-shirt Day (Pentecost Sunday)

Missions Committee Ongoing Project Updates:

LTLC Meal Serving Dates: Sunday, February 8th, Thursday, February 12th, Sunday, March 8th, and Thursday, March 12th. Meet in the TCC parking lot at 4:45 to carpool. Contact Cathie Seaman (Sunday) or Jean Metcalf (Thursday) for info.

Brownie Baking for LTLC: Wednesday, February 11th, and Wednesday, March 11th in the TCC Kitchen from 7:00-9:00. If you cannot bake, perhaps you’d like to donate ingredients? Sign-up sheets are located on the Helping Hands Bulletin Board.

Dorcas’ Kitchen ~ The freezer in the Vestry is loaded with tasty meals just waiting to offer nourishment and comfort to a TCC member in need. If you know someone who is recovering from an illness, celebrating a life event, or just needs some tender loving care, please contact Roberta Kane at 978-667-4923 or Louise Gearty at 978-851-2590 and they will coordinate the delivery of a meal.

More Missions →

Missions

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Missions Committee Ongoing Project Updates:

Psalm 91 Bandana Project ~ TCC is spreading God's Word to our service men and women through distribution of bandanas inscribed with Psalm 91 (the soldiers prayer). If you wish to have a bandana sent to a loved one on behalf of our Congregation, please contact JoJo Scharmer at jojo19@comcast.net.

Mexico Mission Team Prayer Partners

Are you one of the many of us who feel a strong spiritual connection to the work of the Mexico Mission Team but is not able to travel to Mexico. Then join us and do the next best thing... Be a Prayer Partner! By offering your prayer support to a Team Member, you will undoubtedly feel a special tie to this all important ministry. We may have an opportunity to share a meal and some devotions together before the April 18-25th trip. If you would like to be a Prayer Partner (no experience necessary ☺), please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Helping Hands bulletin board and we'll be in touch with more information.

\$250 Mission Grant

The Missions Committee is pleased to announce the recipient of the 3rd \$250 Missions Grant. It has been awarded to *The Michael Carter Lisnow Respite Center* in Hopkinton.

This unique center provides emotional and physical support for families with children suffering with terminal illness or a physical disability. Among their many programs is the Weekend Respite program which provides overnight care of their loved one at the Respite Center so that the family can take a much needed rest and perhaps focus their attention on other children in the family. After eight years, this Center has grown from serving four families to serving 130 families, and it now offers seven different respite programs.

Sue Howard is the sponsor of this \$250 Missions Grant, and she was inspired by a dear friend whose grandson, Timmy, fought a long and courageous battle with leukemia. Ten-year old Timmy passed away in September. Sue's friend said that Timmy never had the opportunity to use the Respite Center because of the severity of his illness, but she knew the center provided a time of rest for many families with children who faced long-term illness. We can all only imagine what a lifeline the Respite Center is to families. And now, our gift of \$250 will serve as a memorial gift in honor of Timmy O'Connell.

For more information about this amazing resource to families, please view their website at: www.hopkintonrespite.com. **The deadline for the next \$250 Missions Grant is March 31st.** Applications can be found online at www.tewksburycc.org in the Missions/Outreach pages under Forms and Documents, or hard copies are available at the mailboxes, outside of the church office.



Mexico Mission Team Will Be on The Road Again

-Submitted by Jean Carr

In just a short while our fourth Mexico Team will be leaving on their trip. What a blessing to have 25 people who either attend our church or are family members going on the trip. We have been planning for over a year now. Many fundraisers have been done which have not only provided us with much needed funding, but have helped to develop our group as a team. We thank all of you for your support whether you ate at Burger King, got your car washed, danced at the Silvertones fundraiser or emotionally supported us. Some of the funds that we have raised will be used to help buy rice, oil and flour to pass out to the needy families and to also help us purchase the supplies we need for our VBS and women's outreach programs.

The team will be arriving in El Paso Texas on Saturday, April 18. After orientation and meeting the Harvest Hands missionaries, we will cross the border into Mexico. Our week will consist of worshipping among the Mexicans, construction, vacation bible school, women's outreach and a cultural day of visiting the Mexicans at their homes in the Colonia.

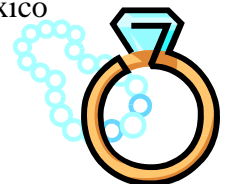
During the course of this year, we have split into different, smaller teams to plan the week. Our devotions team is busy planning an exciting week filled with evening devotions, and the music team is picking out songs for us to sing not only among ourselves, but during the Mexican worship as well. The VBS team has been charged with planning two VBS lessons for approximately 100 children, while the women's outreach teams are creating ways to allow the women an opportunity to not only enjoy fellowship, but to spend some time learning either a new craft or important medical information.

As you can see, this mission trip begins long before we even reach Mexico. It helps us to grow in our faith, and strengthens our relationships with one another before we board the plane! God is good in leading us to find ways of putting our faith into action.

When we return from our trip, we will hold an evening event where the team will talk of their experiences and show pictures. We hope to see you there!

To learn more about Harvest Hands, you may log onto their website: www.Harvesthandsministries.org

Donations Needed for **Women's Outreach and Vacation Bible School**: Old costume jewelry, beads, jewelry making tools such as crimpers, package of 24 crayons per package and rulers with centimeters. If you can provide any of these supplies, please contact Jean Carr or another member of the Mexico Mission Team.



Mission Team

Jean Carr	Pastor Jonathan	Jen Hogan	Stephanie Muse
Mike Charbonneau	Goodell & family:	Trisha Keddie	Sue Panilaitis
Rob Charbonneau	Betsy	Jess Kenney	Jenna Stanley
Carolyn Fialkowski	Brian	Joanne Kenney	Carol Sturtevant
Jackie Fulton	David	Annette MacMullin	Jennifer Sylvester
Karen Geier	Donna Haines	Glen MacMullin	Sue Trudeau
		Tara MacMullin	Mike Wildeman

Ladies Aid

Members of the Ladies Aid did not meet in January. Members plan to meet on February 11th for lunch. Bring two dozen cookies to the meeting as boxes will be filled with cookies and delivered to some of our shut-ins. In March, a food auction is planned. In May Mavis Willegal will provide a program showing members how to paint on candles. Mavis is a well-known local Tewksbury artist known for her vibrant colors and unique painting styles.

All women are invited to attend the Ladies Aid meetings which are held the second Wednesday of the month.

For more information call either Eleanor Corey at 978-851-2773 or Priscilla Edgecomb at 978-663-3343.

What do you dream about?

Church Council Wants to Know

Submitted by Pat Baldwin, Council Chair

In light of the recent celebration in honor of the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the need for us to grow as a community of faith, Church Council is interested in finding out about your dreams for our church. What programs and areas do you most treasure? What programs or areas would you like to see improved, strengthened or more fully developed? Is there something that we should be doing that we are currently not doing?

We are asking you to guide and help us in our work as we seek to strategize about the future direction of church programs. The task of allocating our resources of time, talent and treasure will be strengthened by a clear understanding of the goals and dreams for our future. What kind of church would you like us to be in the year 2015?

In this special year, as we celebrate the 275th Anniversary of the founding of Tewksbury Congregational Church, we are interested in reflecting on where we've been and where we want to go. Please help us in this critical task.

Please speak with any of the members of Council, or Pastor Jonathan. Notes can be left in the Council mailbox outside of the Church office or send your ideas to Pat Baldwin, Council Chair at patbaldwin2@hotmail.com.

This process will only be effective if we hear from you. Those of us who serve on boards and committees certainly have ideas and dreams, but we understand that we need to have input from a wider audience. Please take the time to talk with us. The future of TCC depends on it.