



The First Congregational Church of Reading

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST • AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

Produced by our Church Family

April 2017

Volume 2017, Issue 4



First ChurchNEWS

Statement of Purpose

We gather as a faith community to love and magnify God. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we will love our neighbors as ourselves, advocating for peace and justice. We will go out and share our faith in Christ, inviting others to join us. We will be nurturers of the spirit and teachers of the Word. We will welcome and provide sanctuary to all.

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Welcome!

At FCCR, you will find joyful hearts, open minds and a caring community. If you are a long-time church member, seeking a new spiritual community, or brand new to the very idea of "church"...if you are young or have young children or are mature beyond your years...if you are single, married, partnered, divorced, widowed, or in transition...no matter who you are, at FCCR, you are welcome to join us in celebrating God's love, sharing warm welcome, and offering sanctuary for all.

Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter with FCCR

Palm Sunday—April 9

Sunday, April 9th is the day for a great service of worship, featuring our annual Palm Parade for all ages. In addition, the service that morning will feature the music of our Chancel Choir, Rev. Lisa Stedman preaching, and special activities in the sanctuary for children.



Maundy Thursday Simple Soup Supper and Worship Service—April 13

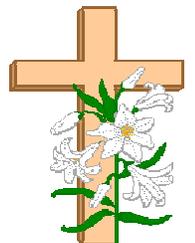
Maundy Thursday is April 13. We hope all members and friends of FCCR will join us for a Soup Supper that evening at 6:00 pm, followed by a simple Worship Service at 7:15 pm, beginning in the chapel and moving to the sanctuary. The service is appropriate for children and youth. All are welcome!

Ecumenical Good Friday Service—April 14

The Reading Clergy Association creates this service each year for the whole community. This year, the 12:15 service will be at Old South United Methodist Church.

Easter Sunday—April 16

Celebrate the Resurrection with First Congregational Church of Reading! Our worship service will include music by the Chancel Choir and the Handbell and Brass Ensembles. There will be in-seat activities for children so that families may remain together to celebrate Easter. An Easter Egg Hunt for children follows the service at approximately 11:30.



Growing in Faith, Going Out to Serve

Church Contact Information: www.churchofreading.org Office Phone: 781-944-0205

Office Email: office1@churchofreading.com

Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 am–2 pm

Pastor's Ponderings – April 2017

April 2017

Dear Friends,

All during this season of Lent, we spend time exploring the stories of Jesus and many other stories of faith, including our own. As a part of Stewardship's Annual Pledge Campaign, we also shared stories of the pleasure and joy our church and faith bring into our lives. And throughout, we are invited to reflect on all the ways we learn about and experience God's love for us.

This wonderful poem from Ann Weems' *Kneeling in Jerusalem*, extends the same opportunity and invitation:

The child comes,
 and we dye eggs and make a cake and decorate.
 "Why are we doing this?" he asks.
 "Because," I answer, "Life is about to happen
 and on Sunday morning we'll catch stars."
 He looks at me quizzically at first, then grins.
 It's then I ask him to tell me the story.
 The only way he'll learn it is to tell it himself.
 The only way we'll learn it is to tell it again...
 And again...

As we move through the last few weeks of Lent, into Holy Week, and to the glorious celebration of Easter, I invite you to join the crowds – the Biblical crowds who are gathering to see where Jesus is headed - and the crowd at FCCR, as we gather to worship, pray, share the story and celebrate the Good News.

With pleasure and joy,

Lisa

Tri-Conference Annual Meeting - Be part of UCC history!

When: Friday, June 16, 2017 to Saturday, June 17, 2017

Where: Connecticut Convention Center Hartford, CT

Everyone (voting delegates and guests) is invited to:

- Worship and share communion with your New England neighbors
- Explore the future of our church with UCC General Minister & President John Dorhauer
- Discern whether to endorse a new conference and move forward: Together, As One

This Annual Meeting marks the first time that our conferences – Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island – will hold our annual meetings Together, As One. And it is the first time since the United Church of Christ was formed in 1957 that delegates will be asked to endorse the idea of joining together to form a new conference.

If you are interested in attending as a delegate for FCCR, please speak to Rev. Lisa.



Worship at FCCR UCC in April

April 2 – Fifth Sunday of Lent - Worship with Communion & Healing Prayers

Preacher: Rev. Lisa
Music: Chancel Choir & Jill's Return!
Nursery Care & Church School
Coffee & Fellowship in the Chapel

April 9 – Palm Sunday with Processional/Parade

Preacher: Rev. Lisa
Music: Church School Singers,
Children's Message: Renee M.
Chancel Choir & Jill
Nursery Care & Activities in the Sanctuary for Children
Coffee & Fellowship in the Chapel

April 13 – Maundy Thursday Service with Soup Supper

6:00 pm – Soup Supper (sponsored by the Deacons)
7:15 pm – Maundy Thursday Service for All Ages
(Chapel & Sanctuary)

April 14 – Ecumenical Good Friday Service

12:15 pm – at Old South United Methodist Church

April 16 – Easter Sunday

Preacher: Rev. Lisa
Music: Chancel Choir, Handbells, Brass & Jill
Children's Message: Renee M.
Nursery Care and NO Church School
Coffee & Fellowship in the Chapel
Easter Egg Hunt for Children (11:30ish)

April 23 – Earth Day Sunday

(Screen free Sunday w alternate seating arrangement)

Preacher: Renee Manning
Music: Creating a Junk Band & Jill
Children's Message: Renee
Nursery Care and Church School
Coffee & Fellowship in the Chapel

April 30 – Second Sunday After Easter

Preacher: tbd
Music: FCCR Orchestra, Chancel Choir & Jill
Children's Message: Renee
Nursery Care and Church School
Coffee & Fellowship in the Chapel

May 7 – Third Sunday After Easter with Communion

Preacher: Rev. Lisa
Music: Handbells & Jill
Nursery Care & Church School
Coffee & Fellowship in the Chapel

Share the date for the annual Bike Event

May 5th and 6th at RMLD
Donate your old bikes, in good working order
Shop for a new bike, at no cost
Look for a part-time bike for a grandchild or visitor.
Drop off times are Friday, May 5th. 11am-12:30pm and Saturday, May 6th, 9-11am.
Donors receive a voucher for early admittance to the bike give-away.
Free bikes available Saturday, May 6th, 12-12:30 for donors, and 12:30-1:30 for general public.



This is a ReadingCares event, hosted by RMLD, cosponsored with the Reading Climate Committee, and staffed by volunteers. You can help! Sign up to help receive donations, clean up bikes, help people select bikes. Training provided! Contact Betsy at betsyschneider7@gmail.com with questions.

Learning Ministry News

Church School Schedule in April

April 2 – Prepare for Palm Sunday – The combined class will learn about Palm Sunday and prepare for the Palm Sunday processional the following week. The children will also learn a song to sing during the service on Palm Sunday.

Apr 9 – Palm Sunday – This is a family service. The children will participate in the service by leading the processional and singing. Activity books will also be available.

Apr 16 – Easter Sunday – This is a family service followed by an Easter egg hunt for the children.

Apr 23 – Earth Day Service with a Junk Band and activities in the sanctuary.

April 30 – The combined church school class meets to start preparing for Children's Sunday.

Save the Date – Children's and Confirmation Sunday is May 21st.



Easter Egg Hunt

Please join us after worship on Easter Sunday, April 16th for an Easter Egg Hunt. Children from pre-school to 4th grade are invited to the Sanctuary following the Easter service to search for eggs filled with treats! All participants should go the coffee hour following the service so our Easter bunnies (children and youth in 5th grade and up) can hide the eggs immediately following the service.

Spiritual Stewardship Opportunities

We are looking for assistants in the Nursery and the Church School class. No preparation is required. Please help us fill the white space and sign-up for a week on the Spiritual Stewardship sign-up chart outside the office! Contact Lesley Kerr at Lesley.kerr@comcast.net or Melissa Carpenter at mjcarpenterot@gmail.com with any questions.

Getting Involved in the Learning Ministry

The purpose of the Learning Ministry is to provide opportunities for people of all ages, with a focus on children and youth, to learn about God, Jesus Christ, and the Bible; develop personal beliefs; and put faith into action. We usually meet the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm during the program year to plan programs to support this purpose and would love your input.

Please Join Us for a Green Initiative Concept Meeting

I would like to invite any and all interested to our second meeting to discuss, and put into action long lasting "green" initiatives here at FCCR. Every action large or small is a win-win for us as a church and for all who inhabit this beautiful planet Earth.

Our NEXT exciting meeting will be **April 2nd at 11:30** in the conference room. I ask that you come with some ideas as to how we can make this church "ECO Friendly."

Please bring your coffee and goodies from coffee hour as we investigate all the wonderful possibilities.

Renee Manning – student seminarian



Beginning April 2nd thru April 26th our church will again be collecting supplies to fill 5 gallon Emergency Cleanup Buckets for Church World Service. These buckets are distributed immediately to people anywhere in the United States who face the overwhelming task of cleaning up following a natural disaster.

During 2016 there were many floods and tornadoes impacting the United States. Hurricane Matthew arrived in October and was one of the worst striking storms in the past decade. Five of our southern states were hit hard. Because of the generosity from churches like ours, 8,236 Cleanup Buckets were provided to the communities affected by this hurricane. However the warehouse is now close to empty. Help is needed to restock the shelves in order to be able to respond to future emergencies in 2017. Our support of this program can make the difference with so many people who need an incentive to help them put their lives and homes back together. Our goal this year is to fill as many buckets as possible. CWF Circles 5 & 10 have already committed to filling 3.

- Four scouring pads
- Seven sponges, assorted sizes, including one large
- One scrub brush
- One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- One 12-16 oz. bottle of liquid concentrated household cleaner that can be mixed with water (no spray bottles) like Lysol
- One 16-28 oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap (like Dawn)
- One package of 48-50 clothespins
- Clothesline, two 50ft. or one 100 ft.
- 5 dust masks
- Two pairs non- surgical latex gloves (like Playtex)
- One pair work gloves, cotton with leather palm or all leather
- One 6-9 oz. bottle non-aerosol insect repellent



If you don't wish to purchase any of the above items, money donations will be appreciated and needed to purchase items that were not donated. There is also a \$3 per bucket shipping charge.

All liquids should be in new, unopened plastic bottles and all other materials new. Donations can be placed in the Collection Box outside the music room no later than April 26th.

You will be able to sign up for any of these supplies in 3 different ways.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office.

You can either call or email Carol Patterson (781-872-1752); cpat2@comcast.net

You can sign up on line by going to: <https://tinyurl.com/Buckets2017>

Blood Drive April 10



Our church will be hosting a Red Cross community blood drive on Monday April 10th, from 2 to 7 p.m. Guild Hall and the Dining Hall will be set up for this event.

The need for blood is constant, even in the absence of disaster. Please call 1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome, although 6:45 is the latest one will be accepted.

All donors should drink plenty of liquids beforehand, and should bring a photo ID with them.

The State of the Endowment at the End of 2016

April 2017

This is a report from the Finance Team on the church's Endowment Funds. For the calendar year 2016, the endowment is up 2.8% due to a generous donation of \$50,000 from the estate of Norma Charles Cripps. At the end of 2016, the endowment balance was \$1,286,603 which is up \$35,273 from our balance of \$1,251,330 at the end of 2015. In 2016, investment gains of \$128,895 (+10.3%) and donations of \$55,000 were offset by withdrawals of \$148,622.

Withdrawals for the 2016 calendar year included \$ 85,282.44 for the 7% draw which was voted by the congregation at the June 2015 and June 2016 annual meetings. The remaining \$63,340.02 withdrawal was voted by the congregation at the 2016 annual meeting to cover the church operating deficit for the fiscal year.

At our June 2014 meeting the congregation voted to exclude restricted funds in the endowment from the calculation of the draw and to only take the draw from the unrestricted funds. At the end of 2016, the restricted portion of the endowment was \$160,012 (12.4% of the endowment).

Earnings from a portion of the restricted funds in the endowment are available for expenditure by the church for their particular, restricted purposes as stipulated by the donors. In 2016, the overall gain in the restricted portion of the endowment was \$24,602.66. Of that, \$8,791.29 may be withdrawn and used by the church in 2017.

In summary, 2016 was an excellent year with investment gains exceeding 10%. However, our rate of withdrawal to cover our operating budget was even higher than that. Because we also had donations, the endowment increased in value in 2016. If we suffer worse returns in the future or do not have the serendipity of additional donations or need to withdraw even more from the endowment for, say, building repairs or other unexpected expenses, then we will not be able to sustain the value of the endowment. For now, we still have a healthy amount in the endowment, but we continue to spend it at an unsustainable rate.

David Zeek, Dan Swalom, Doug Rogers, Jane McCord

Master Planning is Underway!

On March 4 2017 our first intensive "day of conversations" process began. Local town civic leadership, youth groups, arts and music organizations, and many more are signed up to discuss how our building can be used to serve the broader community. From this, Oslon Lewis will compile into a narrative reflecting the underlying themes of the community, helping us at FCCR to develop our first conceptual plans for how best to use and improve our wonderful building here at 25 Woburn. Detailed information about the proposal and our process are posted on the 2020 Bulletin Board near the conference room.

Thanks to the entire 2020 Building Team, but particularly Betsy Schneider and Kathy Guyott.

Deacons Wanted Needed . . . We are looking for **four** deacons beginning July 1!

Salary: Incredible satisfaction in helping do God's work.

Term Limit: Three years in the ideal world, negotiable for circumstances beyond our control.

Working Conditions: First Congregational Church of Reading, UCC sanctuary and surrounding support structures.

Benefits: Be instrumental in planning and carrying out worship services. Meet and work with other faithful congregants who share an enthusiasm to serve others.

Experience Required: Current faithful participants in worship service, enjoy meeting new people, willingness to learn and participate in worship services on Sundays.

Overheard: *"Being a Deacon is the most rewarding position I ever served in my church . . . "*
"I signed up with the understanding that I wouldn't have to speak in front of people . . . look at me now . . . "

"Yes, I can still sing in the choir, or play in the band . . . "

You, too, can enjoy the satisfaction of being a Deacon . . . at the First Congregational Church of Reading, UCC. Speak to anyone of us and we will give you our testimony as to why we are Deacons . . .

Beverly Cook, Beverly Erickson, Keith Pedersen, Joann Sanford & Craig Vickery

Immigration Detention Visitors Needed in Plymouth County

Training sessions for Spiritual Care Givers, Mondays in May 2017

The [Massachusetts Council of Churches](#) hears the desire of many Christians across the Commonwealth to offer meaningful gestures and helpful actions to people being detained. And so, we've partnered with [Refugee Immigration Ministries](#) to provide meaningful opportunities for service that meet a real need.

Who should volunteer? Adult lay leaders and clergy willing to visit detention center in Plymouth, MA once a month. A second language is helpful, but not required.

Register online here: <https://goo.gl/forms/ifDNmhfKLR8PysEm1> by April 24, 2017.

When & where will we be trained? 4 Monday evenings in May 2017, hosted by Church of the Pilgrimage, 8 Town Square, Plymouth, MA.



Faith In Action: Self-Help Groups

As we all know, our church seeks to make known God's love in the wider world – not just on Sunday mornings during worship. We see this throughout the year with collections benefitting numerous organizations, in our monetary gifts to non-profits, and many more ways of reaching out. Most recently we saw this over pasta and meatballs, as Connie Corey invited us to help youngsters in Tennessee.

Faith in action is evidenced in making space in our building available to a number of self-help groups at a modest cost and/or donations. It is indeed an act of faith to do what we can, to support those in the midst of human struggles. We have three groups, meeting during the week in this church:

Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who have had a drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, multiracial, apolitical, and available almost everywhere. There are no age or education requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem. *Meetings take place at FCCR on Sunday at 6:30 pm, and there is a men's meeting on Thursday nights at 7 pm.*

Debtors Anonymous also meets here. This group's purpose is threefold: to help members stop incurring unsecured debt, to share experiences with newcomers, and to reach out to other debtors. *Meetings take place here on Saturday mornings at 9 am.*

Overeaters Anonymous is a fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength and hope are recovering from compulsive overeating. The group welcomes everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively. There are no dues or fees for members; they are self-supporting through their own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. *Various meetings take place here throughout the week: Saturday mornings at 7:30 and 10 am; and Thursday evenings at 7 pm.*

We give thanks for open doors at FCCR.

Opportunities beyond FCCR

April 2017

BRICKS AND MORTALS

Andover Newton Theological School

Fri., May 5: 10am – 5:30 pm & Sat., May 6: 9am – noon

Church buildings: For almost 400 years, they have served as sanctuaries and public markers of place, anchoring town squares across America and fostering the nation's spiritual development. Perhaps because so many of our churches - especially in the Northeast - are historic, we admire them and hold them close. They not only help us feel connected to God, but also remind us of our spiritual ancestors. We rightfully see our churches as beautiful, and significant, and important. But they also may be old - and too big for a congregation's current needs. Because so many New England churches were constructed long ago, in a different era - when worshiping congregations were larger and infrastructure wasn't so expensive to maintain - we may find ourselves wondering whether/how they can serve contemporary spiritual needs. We may ask: How can we successfully maintain our buildings, when financial resources are dwindling? How can we be good infrastructure stewards, when it's difficult to tell what roles our buildings may play in the shifting landscape of 21st-century ministry and religion?

Participants will explore the following questions:

- What are sacred sites for? To what extent are they real estate, and to what extent are they potter's clay? If they are both, how do we steward them?
- What should we be doing with our beautiful, expensive buildings?
- What are best practices for re-positioning them as the needs of ministry change?
- What constitutes "deferred maintenance" - spiritually, organizationally, and materially?
- Are our buildings assets, deficits, or both?

The Rev. Dr. Donna Schaper will lead a series of large-group conversations and peer-to-peer discussions. She also will provide participants with mini-consultations regarding their unique contexts and situations. Collectively, workshop activities will emphasize both the *why* and the *how* of securing the past and opening the future for our church buildings, which Donna considers "treasures in earthen vessels."

WORKSHOP GOALS

Through this workshop, participants will:

- become part of a cohort of people who glimpse the future (for their buildings) and know how to use the resources of the past to chart a pathway forward.
- learn how innovative ideas for building use can help faith communities flourish.
- begin to consider action plans for their own locations.

REGISTRATION

- **Individual Registration**

\$75 Early Bird Registration (available through April 23)

\$100 Regular Registration

- **Team Registration (for churches that send two people)**

\$125: Early Bird Registration (available through April 23)

\$175: Regular Registration

more info: <https://thebtscenter.z2systems.com/np/clients/thebtscenter/event.jsp?event=32&>

If you are interested in attending with others from FCCR, please contact Rev. Lisa.

A Conversation Piece : Submitted by a FCCR Member

BY PAUL PRATHER MARCH 10, 2017 3:04 PM

Lately, I've read a couple of insightful articles that address a recurring spiritual question: If you consider yourself a Christian, must you go to church?

I've expressed my thoughts before about this issue. My answer, unfortunately, tends to make people mad.

My answer is, yes, you have to go to church. That is, if you want to progress in your faith — if you hope to become a mature, actualized, fully functioning Christian.

You must join a congregation, stay there for the long haul and become an active participant. You must not only attend but get involved. Church must become a central priority in your life.

There, I said it. Fire up the emails.

Before I explain why attendance is required, there are caveats here.

First, I'm not saying non-believers should go to church. They're under no obligation.

Second, I'm not addressing the worship habits of those who belong to non-Christian faiths — Jews, Hindus or Muslims. I'm not familiar enough with their rules about attendance to offer an opinion.

Third, I'm not saying that if you're a Christian and rarely attend church, you're a "fake" Christian, whatever that means, or that you're a bad person.

Fourth, I'm not implying that non-attenders are bound for hell. Deciding who goes to heaven or hell is way above my pay grade.

Fifth, I'm not saying you should stick around some toxic congregation led by a manipulative cult-leader just to punch your ticket as a churchgoer. Exercise common sense. If you're being abused (as opposed to merely being irritated), leave.

But here are the reasons why, all things being equal, Christians must go to church:

Christianity is a team sport. Permit me a humble analogy. You might see yourself as a terrific baseball pitcher. But if you only throw baseballs in your backyard at a plywood cutout, you won't progress. You're not even really playing baseball.

To discover the full extent of your abilities, to understand the true game, you need a catcher, a coach, infielders and outfielders — and even someone standing in the batter's box ready to swat your best fastball right back at you.

Same with being a Christian. You can't do it well by yourself.

Communion is among our faith's central sacraments, a ritual that celebrates Christians as members of a spiritual, God-ordained community. We're many individuals who, joined together with Jesus and each other, form one great cosmic body. It's in our spiritual DNA that we rely on one another; no one stands alone.

Attendance is commanded. The writer of Hebrews, for instance, warns us never to forsake assembling together with our brothers and sisters.

It's not all about you. We're sent to church to serve others as much as we're sent there to be served. Believe it or not, you possess gifts and talents your brothers and sisters need. If you're not present, you're denying them benefits God intended them to enjoy.

Your fellow parishioners, including your pastor, will make you mad, hurt your feelings and get on your last nerve. This is exactly what's supposed to happen. Finding ourselves offended and disappointed lets us see just how shallow and petty we are. It sands down our rough edges. We discover that, by gosh, we're no better than all those other hymn-warbling yahoos!

Also, watching God work miracles through the smelly, imperfect, hypocritical men and women who make up a congregation reveals to us the unfathomable depths of God's grace and love. It renews our faith. We realize he can use anybody — even us.

Your fellow Christians will reveal aspects of the Lord you've never seen. As we get to know our fellow pilgrims, as we hear them tell and retell their sordid stories while they're bumbling along, we find they've experienced God in ways we haven't. They've seen revelations we've never imagined. Over time, all these very different visions merge into a greater portrait of him than we'd ever otherwise behold.

Your fellow churchgoers will inspire and comfort you. Sure, some Christians will let you down, because they're human and that's what humans do. But you'll also find disciples who'll sit beside you in court when your kid's up on drug charges, and who'll hold your hand when your spouse is lying in a coffin, and who'll bring you soup when you're sick with the flu. When everything's going wrong, they'll assure you it's going to be OK in the end, because they — and God — have your back.

To the extent you honor your church, you honor Christ. "In as much as you've done it to the least of these my brothers and sisters," Jesus said, "you've done it unto me." When you dishonor or ignore his church, you're dishonoring or ignoring him.

You'll get plenty of laughs. You'll sing and pray, sure. You'll snore. You'll grow fidgety. But as much as anything, you'll experience joy — and mirth. Each church is a microcosm of the human comedy. When you're not cussing about it, the sheer surreal madness of it just leaves you clutching your rib cage, shaking with laughter, tears of gratitude streaming down your cheeks.

Paul Prather is pastor of Bethesda Church near Mount Sterling, KY.

<http://www.kentucky.com/living/religion/paul-prather/article137730183.html>

Memorial Easter Plants Order Form

April 2017

I would like to order an Easter Plant to decorate our sanctuary. Please order the following:

Name: _____

Email or Street Address: _____

Flowers Given in Loving Memory of: _____

Flowers given in Honor of: _____

Flower Distribution

I would like to take flowers home after Easter Service

I would like to donate flowers to a homebound friend

Would you like your name printed in the bulletin, or remain anonymous

Print my name

Remain Anonymous

Qty.

Price

_____	Daffodils	\$10.00 each
_____	Lilies	\$10.00 each
_____	Tulips	\$10.00 each

EASTER
Flowers



Ordering deadline is Saturday, April 8th.

Any questions can be directed to Andi or Kristin in the FCCR office, 781-944-0205.

Reminder from Stewardship – Please Return Your Annual Pledge Card to FCCR



The theme for this year's campaign is "Faith into Action"! If you have not yet acted by returning your pledge card to the church, please do so as quickly as possible. If you need them, brochures and pledge cards are available on the sanctuary entry table near the offices. We are counting on all our FCCR members and friends to help the church continue to provide excellent ministries and mission aid to our community and our world. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Stewardship Chair, Julie Redard at jdredard2@gmail.com. Thank you for your act of support!

Dear Members of the First Congregational Church,
Thank you so much for your blankets donation. These blankets will bring joy into the lives of some very ill children and their families. People like you help make Project Linus so successful. Please give these cards to anyone who may need our services.

Thanks again,
Carol Cynan
Volunteer of Greater Boston Chapter of Project Linus

A NOTE OF



Dear Church Family,

The Altar Flowers that Meg delivered to me after my surgery were beautiful - thank you.

Lisa, I can't thank you enough for the hospital visit; it meant so much to me. Also thank you for the cards and prayers that you sent.

Sincerely
Lorraine Oliphant

Emmaus Linen Collection Recap

Nine new pillows and a large garbage bag-ful of sheets and towels were collected in February. These essential white goods will be used by the homeless families served by Emmaus, Inc. Thanks to all who donated!



ful

Flowers for March were given:



February 26—Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Our Mothers by John and Shirley Fairchild.

March 5— Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Cliff Allen with love from Lee, Scott, Dawn and all the grandchildren.

March 12—Altar Flowers are given in loving memory Loved Ones by John Myers.

March 19— Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Robert Forsberg by his wife, Nancy, and family.

March 26 — Flowers on the altar are given by Carol Patterson in loving memory of her husband Bruce.