

The Flame



F U M C N e w s l e t t e r

J u n e 2 0 0 9

On Sunday May 31, 2009 we celebrated two significant events. The first was the Confirmation of seven of our brothers and sisters – Ryan Sharp, Craig Maloney, Shannon Cardinal, Kevin Cardinal, Kerri Ann Cardinal, Michael Harrigan, and Teddy Lindblad. For several months they have grappled with what it means to be a Christian sufficiently enough to confirm the decision of their parents to baptize them, and they have made a personal commitment to follow Jesus Christ all the days of their lives. The second event is the celebration of the Church’s birthday. While we may not have a calendar date, Pentecost is the effective birthday of the Church Universal.

Methodists, since the days of John and Charles Wesley know a lot about Pentecost – after all it was on May 24 that Wesley had his “heart strangely warmed” experience. Methodists empowered by the Holy Spirit spread the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ like wildfire all over this land and around the world.

Unfortunately, in the past few decades, we seem to have forgotten the Holy-Spirit-filled enthusiasm of our forebears; we seem to have settled to the comfort of anonymity rather than being in the forefront of sharing the gospel; we seem to have hunkered down in our small pretty buildings and asked the Holy Spirit to leave us alone.

But there is a strong wind coming; a rushing wind bringing with it the fire that will refine us and embolden us, the empowering fire of the Holy Spirit who will turn our world upside down.

I tell you this to give you fair warning – those who love the Lord, get excited for we are about to embark on a whirlwind of a journey.

Three conditions for this journey: first, the Church must have a clear all-consuming sense of mission. Secondly, united in mission, we acknowledge that we have not been an obedient Church and we repent of our individual and corporate sin. Thirdly, we do this by prayer corporately, constantly, intently and with submission. You will be hearing more about this.

As many of you already know, God is working all around us and God invites us to partner in the transformation of the world. This is when we put aside and forget “what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, we press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

continued on page 3

In This Issue

Page 1 Calendar

Page 2 Committee of the Month

Page 3 Youth Group

Page 3 Church News

Page 6 Inspirations

Page 9 Birthday Corner

Page 10 Kids Korner

June

Franklin United Methodist Church

Jun 2009 (Eastern Time)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
[31] Confirmation Pentecost 10am - Sunday 10am - Worship 5:30pm - Mystic	[1] 4:30pm - Brown 8pm - Girl	[2] 10:30am - Hym 4pm - Daisies @ 7pm - Stephen	[3] 7:30pm - Prayer	[4] 7pm - FPU @ 7:30pm - Choir		[6] 8am - Men's
[7] 10am - Sunday 10am - Worship 7pm - Youth	[8] 4:30pm - Brown 8pm - Girl	[9] 4pm - Daisies @ 7pm - Book	[10] 7:30pm - Prayer	[11] 7pm - FPU @ 7:30pm - Choir	[12] Fairway	[13] Car Wash 9am - Children
[14] 10am - Sunday 10am - Worship	[15] 4:30pm - Brown 6pm - Girl 7pm - Trustees	[16] 4pm - Daisies @ 7pm - Stephen	[17] 12:30pm - Lunch 7:30pm - Finance 7:30pm - Prayer	[18] 7pm - FPU @ 7:30pm - Choir	[19] 4pm - Daisies	[20]
[21] Father's Day 10am - Sunday 10am - Worship	[22] 4:30pm - Brown 8pm - Girl	[23] 4pm - Daisies @	[24] 7:30pm - Prayer	[25] 7pm - FPU @ 7:30pm - Choir	[26]	[27] 1pm - Troop 29
[28] Youth Group 10am - Worship	[29] 4:30pm - Brown	[30]	[1]	[2] 7pm - FPU @ 7:30pm - Choir	[3]	[4] 4th of July

Committee of the Month

Committee of the Month: Stephen Ministry

First off, Stephen Ministry isn't a committee, it's a team, a team comprising of Stephen Leaders, Stephen Ministers and the pastor. Stephen Ministry is one on one Christian caregiving where our Stephen Ministers have at least weekly contact with their care receivers. Usually this contact is an actual visit but sometimes may be a telephone call. Having been formally commissioned by this church a year ago your Stephen Ministers continue to receive formal training and added supervision if they have a care receiver. They have been trained to bring Christ's healing love to people who are grieving, in crisis, or experiencing other stresses in life. Their caring commitment with their care receiver may last anywhere from several weeks to a couple of years, whatever is needed. Besides our one on one Christian care giving, the Stephen Ministry team also sends out a series of booklets (4) called "Journeying Through Grief," to those whom they are made aware of as having lost a loved one.

Who Benefits From Stephen Ministry?

Everybody benefits from Stephen Ministry. Those receiving care benefit because they receive prayer and support throughout the crisis they face. Stephen Ministers benefit through the spiritual growth they experience from being involved in a meaningful ministry. Our pastor benefits because caring ministry at Franklin United Methodist Church is expanded, and fewer people will slip through the cracks. Most of all you benefit from the knowledge that special care is available to you should you need it. In addition, you now have a place where you can refer a friend, coworker, relative or anyone else you know who is going through difficult time.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is the cornerstone of Stephen Ministry and a good guide for all of us to live by. When someone tells you something private, resist the temptation to pass it along. Keep it confidential. In the event you really believe someone else needs know encourage the person who told you to tell that person, or get his or her permission to pass it along. You'll feel better in the long run and you'll have earned the trust of a friend.

What can you do to Support Stephen Ministry?

Pray! Pray for our care receivers and our Stephen Ministry team. Prayer is an integral and highly important part of Stephen Ministry. Also, if you feel that God is calling you to do more, you may consider becoming a Stephen Minister; just contact either of our present Stephen Leaders, (Tanya Bouwman-Wozencraft or Debra Boyea). Finally and on a lighter note you can support the ministry by making or buying cookies at our annual Cookie Walk held in December, where all proceeds go to support this ministry.

Presently your Stephen Ministers are Dawn Harlow, Ted Lindblad, Brenda Maloney and Camille Remus. Check out the Stephen Ministry bulletin board in the back of the vestry for helpful and uplifting information.

Thank -You

Finally we would like to extend a big thank you to Bryan Clements who has been a Stephen Leader for the past two years. Bryan has been instrumental in the formal training and Continuing Ed. of your Stephen Ministers. Having fulfilled his two year commitment to Stephen Ministry, Bryan has chosen to go in a different direction in his ministry within Franklin United Methodist Church. Thank you Bryan for all you have brought to this ministry. May God continue to bless you for using your God given talents to bring this very special ministry to our church.

continued from cover page

“What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ (Philippians 3:8)

To the Glory of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

Pastor Abraham

PS: Keep the NEUMC in prayer as we go for Annual Conference.

Youth Group

Car Wash

June 13th from 11AM-3PM at the church, to fund youth activities. Come and get your car expertly washed by the youth.

Fair Trade Coffee/ UMCOR Coffee Project

The Youth Group will be selling coffee as an on-going fund-raiser for our activities this year. Fair trade products provide a much larger proportion of the cost of a product to the growers or pro-

ducers. For the average pound of coffee, only 2% is returned to the growers and 64% to the processors. UMCOR has joined with a distributor called Equal Exchange to bring coffee to be sold so that 1/3 of the cost returns to the grower and 1/3 to a cooperative which provides infrastructure support to the growers' community. Five percent of the Equal Exchange portion will be donated to UMCOR. We will buy the coffee at wholesale prices and sell it (ground or whole bean) at a small profit. We plan to sell during the fellowship hour on the third Sunday of each month. You may buy what we have available or place an order

for a specific type of coffee. In addition to coffee, Equal Exchange sells tea, hot chocolate, baking cocoa and chocolate bars. They also sell snack products like pecans, dried cranberries and almonds. Stop by the table and pick up a brochure, try a sample cup of the coffee, and decide whether you would like to buy a pound.

Church News

Interfaith Council

The Franklin Fourth of July Planning Coalition is planning a Franklin Community Choir performance on Sunday July 5th, 2009, in the afternoon, as part of the festivities. All singers of all ages are welcome to join this non-denominational community choir, which will be directed by the very dynamic musical director of the Boston Community Choir, Brother Dennis. If you are interested in more information, contact either Deb Boyea or Kate Finemore.

Relay for Life

It's Relay time everyone. Once again we will have our own Relay for Life team. This is a wonderful opportunity to raise money for the American Cancer Society and connect with your fellow church and community members. Contact Andrew or Emily Finemore with any questions. Everyone one is welcome to participate. The date of the event is June 12-13.

Save the date!

It is **Paw Sox** time again. This year's FUMC outing is Sunday July 12th @ 1:05. We have 25 tickets. Contact John Chickering if you are interested in either of these events.

Local Mission Project

The Outreach Committee has started a new local mission project. The purpose of the project is to provide assistance to the elderly, widows, financially challenged families or individuals that need help inside or outside of there home or apartment. The assistance can range from changing light bulbs, installing or removing air conditioners, cleaning gutters, moving heavy items inside the house from your car or trimming shrubs.

Donna Dunwiddie <gram07dld@comcast.net> has agreed to be the contact person to scheduled work that needs done. She will then contact a volunteer from the church to do the requested task.

If you would like to volunteer, we will be handing out a skills assessment sheet in church. This will help us assign the correct skill level to the task to be done. We hope that if you have a need for help in your home that you will let us help you.

New Time! Hymn Sing

There will be a hymn sing at the Franklin Healthcare/Skilled Nursing facility on the **first Tuesday of the month at 10:30am**. We need help to sing. Please see Donna Dunwiddie if you are interested.

Christmas Shop For Maine Economics Ministries

Start your shopping now. We will be collecting new items on August 23 to be sent to Maine. More reminders and information will follow in the coming weeks. Please see Donna Dunwiddie if you have any questions.

Fairway Fellowship- Friday June 12th

The Men's group is organizing it's annual Spring golf outing on Friday afternoon, June 12th at Bungay Brook in Bellingham. It will be a 9 hole, best ball, scramble format. Cost remains the same as last year at \$35.00/person. Includes golf and cart. Sign-up sheet is in the vestry. All (men and women) are invited to attend and why not bring a friend along. Questions? Please contact Debra Boyea at 508-528-5424 or at dboyea00@comcast.net

Children's Sunday

June 13th - Rehearsal from 9-10:30 for all preschool, elementary, junior and senior high. Youth group will be able to leave at 10:00 for car wash

June 14th - Children's Sunday and Teacher Appreciation. Children please arrive at 9:30. Ice Cream social to follow. This is the last day of Sunday School

Penny Challenge

The Conference Council on Youth Ministries is sponsoring the Penny Challenge again this year. Because of the shorter conference time, we will collect pennies and other coins and bring a check to Annual Conference. All loose coins may be placed in the big jar, and rolled coins may be placed in the basket. The last day to bring your coins is June 7th. The district with the most money raised and the district with the most participating churches will receive an extra portion for a youth event in the district. Let's help Central Mass District to earn extra youth ministry money!

Women's Book Club

The FUMC book club enjoys reading a different book each month and then meeting in our homes for discussion and Christian fellowship. All women are invited to join us. For June we are reading *Riding the Bus With My Sister* by Rachel Simon - copies are ready for us at the Franklin library. We will meet Tuesday, June 9 at 7 pm at Kate Finemore's house, 7 Padden Road, Franklin.

Food Pantry Collection

We will collect Ensure for the Food Pantry on the last Sunday of the month. We have been supplying the Food Pantry with Ensure for those clients that are extremely ill. We will continue to purchase Ensure with the collections we receive. We will give the Food Pantry any monies in excess of that purchase for their use in purchasing healthy, nutritional food from the food bank. We have been informed that their need for support has increased, as they not only help those in need from Franklin, but in the surrounding 16 towns. The client income has decreased while the cost of living has increased. The Food Bank has lost

one large supporter that enabled them to purchase food items at the food bank at very reasonable prices. Please look for the Outreach member holding a green canister. Checks should be made out to FUMC with Food Pantry written on the memo line.

Web Site Info

In addition to the announcements, you can now access FaithLink, the weekly bulletin and the Flare on the web. Visit www.frankilnumc.org to print out your own bulletin for Sunday worship.

Lunch Bunch

The LUNCH BUNCH will be gathering at Applebee's on Wednesday June 17th at 12:30. Join us for good food and great company. Please let Donna know if you can come.

Peace With Justice Sunday Is June 7th

Your gift offers The United Methodist Church a voice in advocating for peace and justice at home and around the world. There is a special envelope in the box of envelopes or special envelopes will be at the church.

Inspirations

Quotes & Comments

It is a wise father that knows his own child.

- William Shakespeare

It doesn't matter who my father was; it matters who I remember he was.

- Anne Sexton

The word "Trinity" is never found in the Divine records, but is only of human invention. Far better would it be to say "God" than "Trinity."

- Martin Luther

All my life I have tried to pluck a thistle and plant a flower wherever the flower would grow in thought and mind.

- Abraham Lincoln

If the new American father feels bewildered and even defeated, let him take comfort from the fact that whatever he does in any fathering situation has a 50 percent chance of being right.

- Bill Cosby

Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it.

- Mark Twain

What Makes a Dad
God took the strength of a mountain,
the majesty of a tree,
the warmth of a summer sun,
the calm of a quiet sea,
the generous soul of nature,
the comforting arm of night,
the wisdom of the ages,
the power of the eagle's flight,
the joy of a morning in spring,
the faith of a mustard seed,
the patience of eternity,
the depth of a family need.
Then God combined these qualities -

when there was nothing more to add,
he knew his masterpiece was complete,
and so, he called it . . . Dad.

- Author unknown

Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn, or consumed.

Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude.

- Denis Waitley

God doesn't look at how much we do, but with how much love we do it.

- Mother Theresa

Sometimes I lie awake at night, and I ask, "Where have I gone wrong?" Then a voice says to me, "This is going to take more than one night."

- Charlie Brown

The problem to be faced is: how to combine loyalty to one's own tradition with reverence for different traditions

- Abraham Joshua Heschel

When men destroy their old gods they will find new ones to take their place.

- Pearl S. Buck

Any fool can count the seeds in an apple. Only God can count all the apples in one seed.

Robert H. Schuller

Some children's answers to church school questions - from the Church of England:

* Noah's wife was called Joan of Arc.

* Henry VIII thought so much of Wolsley that he made him a cardigan.

* The fifth commandment is "honor thy father and mother."

* Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.

* Holy acrimony is another name for matrimony.

* The pope lives in a vacuum.

* The patron saint of travelers is St. Francis of the sea sick.

* Abraham begat Isaac and Isaac begat Jacob and Jacob begat 12 partridges.

* The natives of Macedonia did not believe, so Paul got stoned.

* The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.

* It is sometimes difficult to hear what is being said in church because the agnostics are so terrible.

- Source unknown

Don't question God, or you might be told, "If you're so anxious for answers, come up here."

- Anonymous

Home & Family Getting to Know the Gospel of Mark

Each of the three lectionary years we focus on the stories from a different synoptic Gospel. Synoptic is a word that means "similar." The first three Gospels - Matthew, Mark, and Luke - are called the synoptic Gospels because they have a lot in common. This is Year B (until next Advent at the end of November) and so the Gospel is Mark.

Mark is an interesting book. It is the shortest of the Gospels - only 16 chapters - and most scholars think that it was the first Gospel to be written, probably sometime around the year 70. This means that, like all of the other Gospels, the book was written by someone who did not know Jesus personally. However, they undoubtedly heard stories that had been passed along by Jesus' closest friends. Nowadays, when we share stories we may not be too concerned about the details, because we know we can probably find written material to back us up. In those days, people told stories a little more accurately because

they knew that most of the time they were the only source of a story.

Because it is such a short book, Mark does not contain many of the stories and sayings that appear in Matthew and Luke. However, there are also times when Mark tells a story with details that are unique to that book.

Bible detectives will sometimes wonder things like: Why did this person take this out of a story? Why did this person add this to a story? What made this author change this story?

No one will ever know the answers to these questions but sometimes through good research we can come up with ideas. Most important of all, however, is simply knowing that each Gospel tells us wonderful things about Jesus. They are all unique and all very special.

Be a Mark Detective

In June the lectionary offers three readings from Mark. Here are some interesting things about the stories:

June 14 - Mark 4:26-34

* Verses 26-29 are unique to Mark - he seems to be setting up the story of the mustard seed.

* Verses 30-32 - Mark's story of the mustard seed is slightly longer than either Matthew 13:31-32 or Luke 13:18-19. They all say the same thing, but Mark's story is a little fuller.

* Matthew gives several parables about the kingdom or empire of God, but Mark offers just these two.

* In Jesus' time, images of trees suggested great empires - thus the mustard tree is a good image for the empire of God. Also, the "birds of the air" represent poor and oppressed people, who find a place in God's empire.

June 21 - Mark 4:35-41

* Matthew, Mark, and Luke all include this story of Jesus calming the storm.

* Mark gives more little details than the other Gospels: the storm is "great;" Jesus is asleep on a cushion; the words Jesus speaks to the storm ("Peace! Be still!") are included.

* When Jesus speaks to the disciples, he says something a little more intriguing than in the other Gospels: "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" That word still suggests that Jesus thinks their faith should be growing. Jesus suggests that that is the direction they should be going.

June 28 - Mark 5:21-43

* Matthew, Mark, and Luke include both of these stories about the woman who has had a hemorrhage (had been bleeding) for 12 years and about Jesus restoring life to a little girl.

* Mark offers more details than the other writers, including much more about people's feelings.

* In verse 40 Jesus takes only the girl's parents with him into her room. Matthew suggests that Jesus went alone and Luke is ambiguous, suggesting that either Jesus went on his own or had some disciples and the parents with him.

* The image of Jesus and the girl's parents seems tender and personal.

* Mark includes a couple of intriguing little details about Jesus and the little girl. In verse 41, he includes Jesus' Aramaic words *talitha cum* which mean "Little girl, get up." In verse 42, Mark tells us that the girl got up and walked about and that she was 12 years old, which makes the story seem more real.

* The girl's age is the same as the number of years the woman mentioned earlier had been ill - perhaps signifying "a lifetime." Jesus heals and brings new life to both of them.

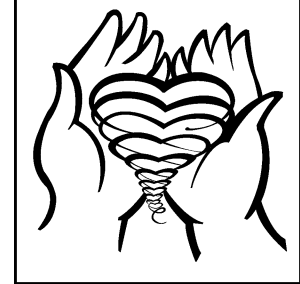


Table Grace

God of goodness, bless
our food,
Keep us in a cheerful
mood.
Bless the cook and all
who serve us.
From indigestion, God,
preserve us. Amen.
(From an Anglican mon-
astery kitchen at
Brisbane, Australia.)

Birthday Corner

June

- 2 Marilyn Sharp
- 3 Jacquelyn Rondeau
- 4 Heidi Mikesh
Hannah Barrows
- 7 Carrie Mikesh
- 9 Ryan Cornelius
Tyler Fausnacht
- 13 Emily Finemore
Tracy Gage
- 16 Shelley Barrows
- 17 Henry Barrows
- 20 Judy Hall
- 23 Kate Finemore
- 25 Helen Chaulk
- 28 Jason Pinckney

July

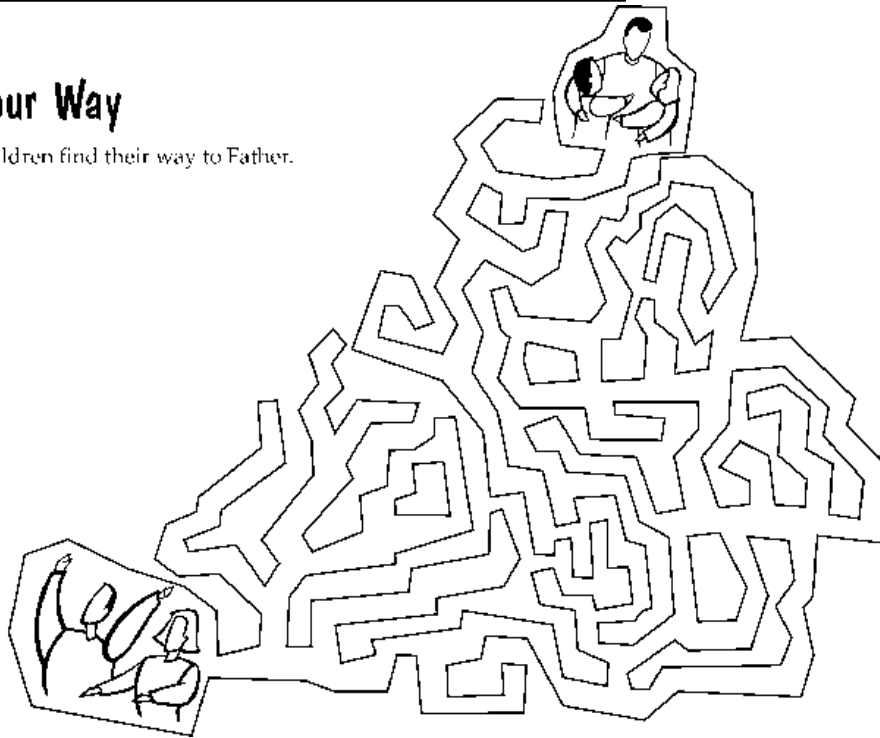
- 1 Tyler Spendlove
- 4 Brenda Maloney
Linda Zardeskas
Tom Hutchinson
- 5 Barbara Cochran
Ashley Thompson
- 10 Crystal Ray
- 11 Stuart Ferguson
- 17 Steve Lincoln
- 20 Debbie Roberts
Ryan Sharp
- 23 Kate Finemore
- 24 Pamela Roberts
- 25 Carolyn Varner
- 31 Jason Tarulli
Ken Schmauder



Kids Corner

Find Your Way

Help the children find their way to Father.



Recipe Box

Here's something you can make for your dad, or someone special, on Father's Day. Each box has words from the recipe. Find the boxes with 1s and write the words in the order given on another sheet of paper. Do the same for 2s, 3s, and so forth.

3 When bottom	2 Heat small skillet	1 Beat well	4 Loosen egg mix	3 of mixture
1 2-3 eggs	4 on the	2 on low.	3 is firm	1 in bowl,
4 unjellied	2 Melt 1 Tbsp butter	4 front half.	1 add small amount	2 and pour in eggs.
3 and top is soft	4 Tip pan	3 (not runny).	4 away	4 from you
4 and flip	1 of salt and pepper.	4 front half	3 spoon 2 Tbsp jam	4 over back.
3 evenly over	5 Serve on	3 back half of egg.	5 buttered toast.	

Answer: 1. Beat well; 2-3 eggs in bowl; add small amount of salt and pepper; 2. Heat small skillet on low; Melt 1 Tbsp butter and pour in eggs; 3. When bottom of mixture is firm and top is soft (not runny); spoon 2 Tbsp jam evenly over back half of egg; 4. Loosen egg mix on the unjellied front half; Tip pan away from you and flip front half over back; 5. Serve on buttered toast.

Cartoon

Book of Timothy



Franklin United Methodist Church

82 W. Central St.

P.O. Box 313

Franklin, MA 02038

508-528-1092 office

508-533-2650 parsonage

e-mail: franklinumc@verizon.net

awaya@bu.edu

web site: <http://www.franklinumc.org>

Non-Profit Organization

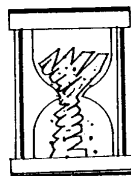
US Postage Paid

Franklin, MA 02038

Permit #153

The Flame

June 2009



Church Office Hours

Pastors Office Hours: call for appointment

Rev. Dr. Abraham Waya

Church Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 9-1pm

Deidre Bassignani

Service: Sundays 10 am