



United Methodist Foundation of New England  
**Single-Year Grant—2024**

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## IMPACT SUMMARY

The Franklin United Methodist Church (UMC), located in downtown Franklin, Massachusetts, has been a vital part of the community since 1853, when the first class meeting convened in the Franklin Town Hall. Today, standing beside that same historic landmark, Franklin UMC remains a place of connection and transformation—where all are welcomed to love, be loved, and reach out in love to others.

Thanks to a generous \$5,000 grant from the United Methodist Foundation of New England, Franklin UMC launched and rebranded its community-facing efforts under the new initiative: *Community @FranklinUMC*. This reimagined outreach has intentionally opened the church's doors to welcome neighbors of all backgrounds, creating space for people to gather, share with one another, build meaningful relationships, and strengthen the fabric of community life.

The grant directly supported three programs—the Community Closet, Community Concerts, and Community Cookouts—which together served over 1,100 participants in the past year (July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025). These programs have not only boosted church participation by over 50%, but also dramatically

expanded visibility and impact among Franklin residents. Most attendees and volunteers had never previously set foot inside the church—yet now relate to it.

The ripple effect has been extraordinary. Community @FranklinUMC has positioned the church as a trusted partner in the civic life of Franklin. Increasingly, nonprofit organizations seek to collaborate with Franklin UMC to address urgent local needs and extend support to neighbors in tangible, compassionate ways.

This evolving identity reflects the church's faithful commitment to mission and hospitality. While Franklin UMC may be modest in size, it continues to grow in significance—cultivating a thriving community rooted in grace, service, and inclusivity. Through Community @FranklinUMC, church members and neighbors alike are empowered to love boldly, serve joyfully, and build a more connected community in and around the Town of Franklin.

## GRANT BUDGET V. ACTUAL

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Branding/Advertising	\$1,000.00	\$403.32
Comm. Closet (Organization, etc.)	\$750.00	\$796.80
Comm Concerts (Artists, etc.)	\$1,250	\$2,206.00
Comm. Cookouts (Food & Supplies)	\$1,500.00	\$1,182.11
Other Expenses	\$500.00	\$411.77
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>

# Community CLOSET

**31** **600+** **627**  
DAYS OPEN WINTER COATS DISTRIBUTED PARTICIPANTS

# Community CONCERTS

**6** **10** **284**  
CONCERTS LOCAL ARTISTS PARTICIPANTS

# Community COOKOUTS

**4** **300+** **201**  
COOKOUTS BURGERS & HOT DOGS PARTICIPANTS

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	TOTAL
Community Closet	9	32	108	31	52	223	20	22	27	22	8	73	627
Community Concert		46		41	65	38			70	24			284
Community Cookout	32	36	43	90								*	201
TOTAL	41	114	151	162	117	261	20	22	97	46	8	73	1112

\*the June 2025 Community Cookout was cancelled due to wet, dreary weather.





Top-Left participants at the August 2024 Community Cookout  
 Top-Right a candlelight concert by Stickman Blue featuring Kaye Kelly  
 Middle-Left Lola Richardson in concert at the first Community Concert, August 2024.  
 Middle clothing brought downstairs in preparation for the Fall Fashion Fling, a special offering of the Community Closet during the Franklin Downtown Partnership's Harvest Festival  
 Middle Right Michael Rivelis in Concert at the April 2025 Community Concert.  
 Bottom-Left the Padula Bros Trio performing at the March 2025 Community Concert  
 Bottom-Right every seat in the sanctuary covered by 4+ coats in preparation for the first annual Winter Coat Giveaway, an event facilitated by the Community Closet in partnership with New England Chapel.



# Community COOKOUT @FRANKLINUMC

SATURDAYS  
July 27 // August 24 // September 28  
FOOD SERVED 5:30-6:30PM



This event is being organized by the Franklin United Methodist Church (www.franklinumc.org). Everyone is welcome. IN CASE OF RAIN, THIS EVENT WILL BE CANCELLED. Cancellation notices will be posted to the Franklin United Methodist Church website and social media. If you would like to help with or donate to this event, please call Pastor Jacob (508-528-1092).

Lola Richardson  
IN CONCERT ON PIANO & FLUTE

FRIDAY  
August 9  
AT 7PM

## Community CONCERT @FRANKLINUMC

82 West Central St.  
Franklin, Mass.

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

franklinumc.org



## Community FALL FASHION FLING & FIND

SEPTEMBER 28  
2-6P

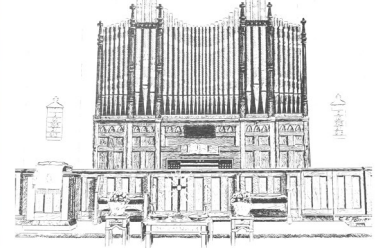
(DURING THE HARVEST FESTIVAL)  
82 WEST CENTRAL STREET  
FRANKLIN, MASS.

Join us at Franklin UMC for a fall fling! Refresh your wardrobe, connect with neighbors, and build community! Everyone's invited to discover new treasures!

Questions? Email info@franklinumc.org

July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025  
Catherine (Cathy) Cargill Koch  
IN CONCERT ON ORGAN

SATURDAY  
October 5  
AT 7PM



## Community CONCERT @FRANKLINUMC

82 West Central Street  
Franklin, Mass.  
THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!  
franklinumc.org

## Community TRUNK OR TREAT @FRANKLINUMC

SATURDAY  
OCT. 26  
4-6 PM

82 W. CENTRAL ST.  
FRANKLIN, MA  
COME DRESSED IN YOUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME. TRICK OR TREAT, AND ENJOY A FREE HOT DOG.



INTERESTED IN PROVIDING A TRUNK? WANT TO DONATE CANDY?  
INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? HAVE QUESTIONS?  
EMAIL OFFICE@FRANKLINUMC.ORG OR CALL 508-528-1092

## Community CLOSET @FRANKLINUMC



FREE NEW & PRE-LOVED CLOTHES  
FOR THOSE WHO EXPRESS A NEED  
AND FOR THOSE THAT NEED A FREE  
THERAPEUTIC SHOPPING EXPERIENCE TO MEET NEIGHBORS.

WANT TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?  
Contact the Franklin UMC Office at  
office@franklinumc.org or 508-528-1092.

WANT TO SHARE?  
Gently used clothing can be dropped off  
inside the main entrance of the Franklin  
United Methodist Church (82 W. Central  
Street, Franklin, MA) Monday through Friday  
(excluding holidays) between 9a-1p.

WANT TO SERVE?  
The Closet is staffed by volunteers, to  
learn more go to franklinumc.org/  
volunteer.

QUESTIONS?  
Email jacob@franklinumc.org

TUESDAYS  
NOV. 5 & 12  
11a-1p

AND BY APPOINTMENT  
AT  
FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
82 West Central Street, Franklin  
(located in the Emmanuel Building)

## STICKMAN BLUE

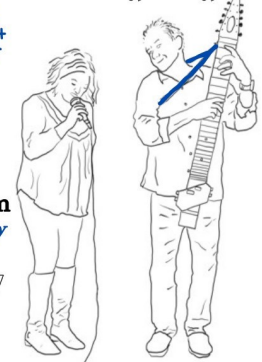
Featuring Kaye Kelly

Join us for an  
intimate, candlelit  
evening of elevated  
duo music

Saturday, November 16th 7pm  
free for the community

## Community CONCERT @FRANKLINUMC

82 West Central Street, Franklin, MA



## WINTER COAT GIVEAWAY



## Community CLOSET @FRANKLINUMC

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14  
10A-2P

82 WEST CENTRAL STREET, FRANKLIN

Come pick out a FREE coat and shop the Community Closet for FREE winter clothing.

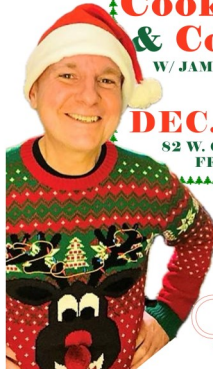
Questions?  
Contact Jacob Junker (jacob@franklinumc.org) or Kim Ma-Chow (mccarres@nechapel.org).

## HOLIDAY Carols, Cookies, & Cocoa

W/ JAMIE BARRETT

SATURDAY  
DEC. 7 AT 7P  
82 W. CENTRAL ST.  
FRANKLIN, MA

franklinumc.org



## Community CONCERT @FRANKLINUMC

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL  
JACOB@FRANKLINUMC.ORG



SHOP. SHARE. SERVE  
THE COMMUNITY CLOSET GIVES FREE NEW AND PRE-LOVED CLOTHING TO ALL:  
THOSE WHO EXPRESS A NEED AND THOSE THAT ARE LOOKING TO SIMPLY GET  
OUT, FIND SOMETHING NEW TO THEM, AND MEET THEIR NEIGHBORS.

THE CLOSET WILL BE OPEN  
Jan. 21  
Feb. 4 & 18 11a-1p

FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | 82 WEST CENTRAL STREET, FRANKLIN

INTERESTED IN MAKING AN APPOINTMENT? LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER?  
CONTACT THE OFFICE@FRANKLINUMC.ORG OR CALL 508-528-1092.

## Community CONCERT @FRANKLINUMC

THE PADULA BROS. TRIO



MARCH 22, 2025  
7:00 PM

82 WEST CENTRAL STREET  
FRANKLIN, MA



MICHAEL  
RIVELIS

APRIL 26  
AT 7PM

FRANKLIN UMC  
82 W. CENTRAL ST.  
FRANKLIN, MA

franklinumc.org/community

## SPRING FASHION FLING

JUNE 13, 4-8P  
(DURING THE STRAWBERRY STROLL)

FRANKLIN UMC  
82 WEST CENTRAL STREET  
FRANKLIN, MASS.

Join us at Franklin UMC for a  
spring fashion fling! Refresh  
your wardrobe, connect with  
neighbors, and build  
community! Everyone's  
invited to discover FREE,  
new-to-them treasures!

Questions? Email info@franklinumc.org

## Community CLOSET

NEW HOURS!  
TUESDAYS, 12-2 PM  
FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
82 WEST CENTRAL STREET, FRANKLIN

COME SHOP FOR FREE!  
Find gently used clothing for all ages.

VOLUNTEER WITH US!  
Help sort, organize, and assist neighbors.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!  
Learn more at franklinumc.org/community/closet.

The Community Closet @FranklinUMC collects and distributes new and gently used clothing, free of charge, to anyone and everyone in the community. The Closet is open regularly and as-needed by appointment. It is sourced and staffed by community volunteers. If you have questions about the Community Closet, email the office@franklinumc.org

Franklin UMC  
82 W. Central Street  
Franklin, MA 02038  
franklinumc.org/community

FREE  
COMMUNITY  
COOKOUT  
82 WEST CENTRAL ST., FRANKLIN  
June 28

FOOD SERVED FROM  
5:30-6:30PM



FREE  
BURGERS, HOTDOGS,  
CHIPS, AND DRINK!  
VEGETARIAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE.  
THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY  
IS INVITED.  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
FEEL FREE TO BRING  
YOUR OWN LUNCHBOX!  
LIMITED SEATING  
WILL BE MADE  
AVAILABLE.

IN CASE OF RAIN, THESE EVENTS WILL BE CANCELLED.  
Cancellation notices will be posted to franklinumc.org and social media pages by The Franklin United Methodist Church.  
If you would like to help with or donate to this event, please contact the office@franklinumc.org