

The Steeple

A monthly publication of
The First
Congregational Church
of Milford,
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October 2024

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~From Pastor
Rev. Greta MacRae

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” Hebrews 13:2
“...for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not

give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Matthew 25:42-44

My dear congregation,

Rev. Patty Kogut wrote a letter to some of our area churches this week urging folks to have a look around their buildings and to see them through the eyes of someone visiting for the first time. Her point was that at this time of year churches do get visits from strangers (angels?!) and that there are things we can do that will help people feel more welcome.

This had been on my mind even before I read Patty’s letter. With our sign out front inviting children to enroll in Sunday School on Rally Day, my upcoming installation service and especially those people who use our building day to day from A.A. to Girl Scouts to the nesting churches to our cleaning people to workers who come in to service the AT&T tower or our boiler, we have the opportunity to make anyone feel more comfortable in this house of God.

The second passage calls those ancient people who came before us to task for not doing what they could have done to welcome and heal and minister to those in need. The two passages hold up mirrors for us to take a good look and to respond.

Now, I am not scolding. Our congregation has turned itself inside out accepting with good grace and generosity how our church is changing even when it has been hard and uncomfortable. What I am asking is for us to look at signage for entrances and exits as well as bathrooms, which could be more helpful in several languages. I have been walking around the church and looking at bulletin boards that have not been changed in years. I have encouraged people to see the old name tag boards that serve no purpose but to remind us of long -ago days. All these things could be freshened up and made more current with just a little effort and would more accurately reflect what goes on in our church these days.

Jeff Kroesen and Sue Capistran recently updated the leadership bulletin board. Take a look! Now we can easily see who represents our church on boards and committees. Today a bulletin board with pictures of Luis and Carmelita’s house went up. The front foyer is next. Let’s make it warm, current, and helpful. Perhaps we could even make a sign saying, “Angel’s welcome here.”

Peace and prayers,

Pastor Greta

**Doing God’s work by filling needs in
our community.**

**Office Hours
9am-12pm Mon.-Wed.**

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Gretamacrae1@verizon.net
508-816-6866

**Worship Service 10:30am
& Sunday School**



Trick or Treat Anyone?



This year our church will again participate in the annual Trick or Treat Down Main Street on October 26th from 12pm to 3pm. We will have more details soon. What we need now are donations of CANDY!!! We will be putting the candy in bags for the kids after worship on October 20th. If you are able, please stay & help us fill the bags. We expect to fill 200 bags. Thank you in advance for your time!

Daily Bread Food Pantry Collection



We will be collecting food for the Daily Bread Food Pantry on **the first Sunday of the month**. Our Missions Team has decided to have a collection on the first Sunday of the month. We know you may have multiple opportunities to support our local food bank. If you have donations, you are welcome to drop off any donations at the church on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays between 9am & 12pm.



Additional Items Always Needed:

- ♥ Dish Soap
- ♥ Baby Wipes
- ♥ *Diapers*: Especially sizes 4, 5, and 6 (generic is fine)

A NOTE FROM SUE CAPISTRAN

As some of you already know, I have decided to take early retirement. My husband makes retirement look so good that I want to get in on the fun!



These last 5 years as your office administrator & bookkeeper have been the most enjoyable years I have ever spent at a job. That is due to the friendship & love you have given me which I will carry with me into the coming years! I'd like to thank all the church members I have worked with thru the years. You made my job so much easier to do with all the help you gave to me. You're all wonderful people! God bless you & good luck in the future! My last day will be November 21st. Feel free to stop by & say goodbye before then.

Love & thank you, Sue



PS: A special thank you to Karen Russo! You have been a JOY to work with & I will miss our weekly emails & occasional venting sessions. Continue to make beautiful music!



Optimistic October 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	
7 Look for the good in people around you today	8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing
14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation	15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time
21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you	22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face	27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time
 28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?	29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month			

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS **Happier · Kinder · Together**

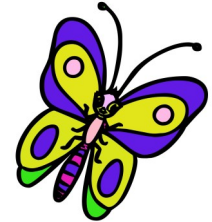
Member Owned Businesses

We thank the following member-owned local businesses who contribute each year in support of the Church. If you are a business owner who would like to contribute, please contact the Church office.

Tamagni Wealth Advisors LLC
Buma-Sargeant Funeral Home
42 Congress Street
Milford, MA 01757
(508) 473-5511
www.bumafuneralhome.com

Whitinsville Monumental Works
1312 Providence Road, Rte. 122
Whitinsville, MA 01588
Thomas C. Delfanti, Proprietor
Mary Delfanti, Manager

Watson Colonial Funeral Home
Dwight L. Watson, Funeral Director
24 Congress Street
Milford, MA 01757
(508) 473-0282
www.watsoncolonialfuneralhome.com



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Susan Lewis
8 Mark Delfanti
8 Kevin Sawyer
9 Louis Miano
12 Richard Sawyer

18 Sandy Bertulli
23 Dean Cooper
24 Thomas Wright
29 Alice Wright
31 Kim Homer

Happy Birthday

If your birthday isn't listed and you'd like it to be included, please notify the Church Office at milfordcongregational@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>* AOG = Assembly of God Church</p> <p>* INE = Iglesia Nueva Ecuadorian Church</p>		<p>1</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>2</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-5:30-7:30pm Brownie Troop</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>3</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>4</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>5</p> <p>-6am-9pm AOG Pastor Angel Event</p>
<p>6</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-8-10:15am Ecuadorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>7</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>8</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>9</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>10</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>11</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>12</p> <p>-6am-9pm AOG (Pastor Val)</p>
<p>13</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-8-10:15am Ecuadorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>14</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>15</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>16</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-5:30-7:30pm Brownie Troop</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>17</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p>	<p>18</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Decorating for Pastor Greta Installation Service</p>
<p>20</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-11:30am Sharing Coffee Hour</p> <p>-1-3pm Girl Scouts</p> <p>-3pm Pastor Greta Installation Service</p> <p>-8-10:15am Ecuadorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>21</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>22</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>23</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>24</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>25</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>26</p> <p>-6am-9pm AOG (Pastor Val)</p>
<p>27</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-8-10:15am Ecuadorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>28</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>29</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>30</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>31</p> <p>HAPPY HALLOWEEN</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>		