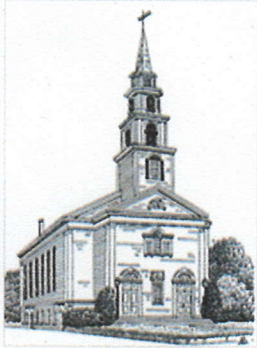


# The Steeple

A monthly publication of  
The First  
Congregational Church  
of Milford,  
Massachusetts.  
A member of the United  
Church of Christ.

November 2024

Volume 11 No. 2024



~From Pastor  
Rev. Greta MacRae

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” First Thessalonians 5: 16-18

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so, I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.” Psalm 28: 7

My dear congregation,

What a celebration installation Sunday was! The feeling in the sanctuary for the installation of a new pastor is beyond joyful and that is how I felt that day. For almost two years I have ministered to you, and with you, at the First Congregational Church of Milford. We have done good work together and it is with gratitude that I celebrate with you an official settling in as designated term pastor.

Having the blessing of our local clergy as well as representatives from the wider church strengthens our commitment to one another. It means we have support from outside our own congregation and that we commit to supporting other churches in return. The motto of the United Church of Christ is “That all may be one”. We are better together.

Thank you all for the hours of thinking through hosting the installation including planning the service and the celebration afterwards. Our leadership did an amazing job participating in leading the service and working behind the scenes to create a feast to share as well as making the building pretty and welcoming. Thanks for welcoming my family, as you always do, with kindness and inclusion.

Thank you for your enormously generous monetary gift. As a congregation, we have been giving and giving as we commit to improving the church building and our outreach ministries and still, you dug deeper for this gift. The bonsai tree sits happily in our living room- a daily reminder of your love. Thank you.

Now we will move forward together continuing to remember to thank God for every little thing. Tonight, Governing Board gathers to attend to the everyday-ness of things we must do but also to begin to map a way forward in the coming years. May God continue to bless us in our ministry with one another. May we give thanks in all circumstances- the joyful and the difficult, for God is truly our strength and our shield.

*With peace and thanksgiving,*

*Pastor Greta*

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

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

First Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ  
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(508) 473-5259

[milfordcongregational@gmail.com](mailto:milfordcongregational@gmail.com)

[milfordcongregational.org](http://milfordcongregational.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/church.milford>

Pastor: Rev. Greta MacRae  
Gretamacrae1@verizon.net  
508-816-6866

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

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**Sunday, November 3rd**

**Don’t Forget to Fall Back!**



**Daylight-Saving  
Time Ends**



*Happy Holidays*

&

*goodbye*

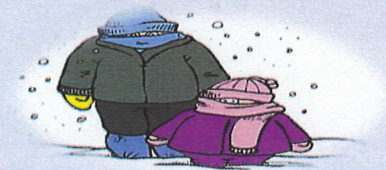
As the holidays are approaching so is my retirement date, November 21 (*as announced in the October Steeple*).  
I wish you all a blessed Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year filled with joy and love and all the best that life can offer!

Good bye may seem forever,  
Farewell is like the end, but in  
my heart is the memory and  
there you will always be.

*Sue Capistran*

*Walt Disney*

## **Annual Coat, Mittens, Hat, & Boot Drive!**



With the weather getting colder, we are all starting to unearth our winter gear. Often we find things in good condition that we don't really use anymore. Please take this opportunity to share your gently used items with those in need in the community. From Sunday, November 3 through November 24, the Missions Committee will be collecting winter gear for children and adults, specifically:

- Winter coats (new or gently used)
- Winter boots (new or gently used that still can stand up to the cold and wet weather)
- Mittens (new)
- Hats

We will place a coat rack and boxes in the back of the Sanctuary and will put a box near the office to place your items. Thank you for helping to keep our neighbors warm this winter.

*The Missions Committee (Nara, Kim S. and Kim E.)*

## **Founder's Day Potluck Breakfast and Jeopardy Game November 17, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**



Our Founder's Day will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning with a potluck breakfast and continuing with a Jeopardy game that will include part worship and part teaching through Jeopardy categories.

We are still brainstorming categories! If you love Jeopardy and you have a category or special questions, we might include please offer your ideas!

The Governing Board has come up with some categories. We thought they might include biblical trivia, FCCOM church history, Prayer, and Christianity. What are you knowledgeable about? Make it a category! Come up with some questions! Would you like to be the host? Volunteer!

Let's talk about it at coffee hour or send Pastor Greta your ideas at [Gretamacrae1@verizon.net](mailto:Gretamacrae1@verizon.net).

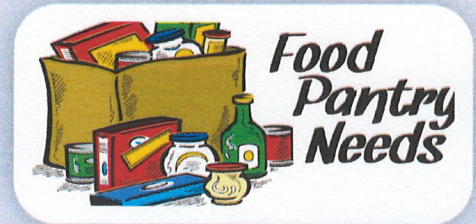
Founder's Day will be fun!



# STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Season is upon us. The letters will go out later this month with a faith pledging card enclosed as well. We will have the boxes we have used in previous years in the Sanctuary for your faith pledge cards. Of course, you can always mail your faith pledge cards to the church office. Watch for updates in your weekly E-Blast.

## Daily Bread Food Pantry Collection



We will be collecting food for the Daily Bread Food Pantry 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)



## Santa Parade Open House

**Sunday, December 1, 2024**



Our tradition continues! We will host the community, and hopefully the high school band, at the end of the town's Santa Parade. Help is needed to provide cookies, to serve as a friendly face, to make cocoa and for set up and clean up. Come anytime from 3 PM on to participate. Cookies can be dropped off that morning or after 3.

This is a great way to get that holiday feeling.



New Ways November 2024

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



1 Make a list of new things you want to do this month

2 Respond to a difficult situation in a different way

3 Get outside and observe the changes in nature around you

4 Sign up to join a new course, activity or online community

5 Change your normal routine today and notice how you feel

6 Try out a new way of being physically active

7 Be creative. Cook, draw, write, paint, make or inspire

8 Plan a new activity or idea you want to try out this week

9 When you feel you can't do something, add the word "yet"

10 Be curious. Learn about a new topic or an inspiring idea

11 Choose a different route and see what you notice on the way

12 Find out something new about someone you care about

13 Do something playful outdoors - walk, run, explore, relax

14 Find a new way to help or support a cause you care about

15 Build on new ideas by thinking "Yes, and what if..."

16 Look at life through someone else's eyes and see their perspective

17 Try a new way to practice self-care and be kind to yourself

18 Connect with someone from a different generation

19 Broaden your perspective: read a different paper, magazine or site

20 Make a meal using a recipe or ingredient you've not tried before

21 Learn a new skill from a friend or share one of yours with them

22 Find a new way to tell someone you appreciate them

23 Set aside a regular time to pursue an activity you love

24 Share with a friend something helpful you learned recently

25 Use one of your strengths in a new or creative way

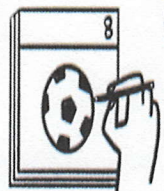
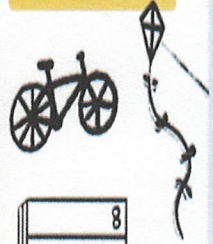
26 Try out a different radio station or new TV show

27 Join a friend doing their hobby and find out why they love it

28 Discover your artistic side. Design a friendly greeting card

29 Enjoy new music today. Play, sing, dance or listen

30 Look for new reasons to be hopeful, even in tough times



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.

### Buma-Sargeant Funeral Home

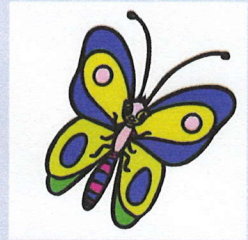
42 Congress Street  
Milford, MA 01757  
(508) 473-5511  
[www.bumafuneralhome.com](http://www.bumafuneralhome.com)

### Watson Colonial Funeral Home

Dwight L. Watson, Funeral Director  
24 Congress Street  
Milford, MA 01757  
(508) 473-0282  
[www.watsoncolonialfuneralhome.com](http://www.watsoncolonialfuneralhome.com)

### Whitinsville Monumental Works

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



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Martha Sawyer  
3 Aaron Spratt  
11 Paul Tamagni  
12 Katie Kroesen  
12 Emily Mancini  
12 Isabella Mancini

16 Cailyn Paccico  
16 Lucas Spratt  
17 Beth Rayner-Zyskowski  
25 Timothy Rose  
30 Glenn Rouleau



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



# NOVEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>* AOG = Assembly of God Church</p> <p>* INE = Iglesia Nueva Ecuatorian Church</p>					<p>1</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>2</p> <p>-6am-9pm AOG (Pastor Angel)</p>
<p>3</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-1-3pm Girl Scouts</p> <p>-8-10am Ecuatorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>4</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>5</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>6</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-5:30-7:30pm Brownie Troop</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>7</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>8</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>9</p> <p>-9am-6pm Ecuatorian Adult Religious Class</p>
<p>10</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-8-10am Ecuatorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>VETERANS DAY CHURCH OF FICE IS CLOSED</b></p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>12</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>13</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>14</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>15</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>16</p> <p>-10am-11pm Pastor Val for Pastor Renaldo</p>
<p>17</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-11:30am Sharing Coffee Hour</p> <p>-8-10am Ecuatorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>18</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>19</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>20</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-5:30-7:30pm Brownie Troop</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>21</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>22</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>23</p> <p>-6am-4pm Ecuatorian Church Vigil</p>
<p>24</p> <p>-10:30am Worship</p> <p>-8-10am Ecuatorian</p> <p>-12-2:45pm Spanish</p> <p>-5:30-8:15pm Brazilian</p>	<p>25</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-6pm Governing Board Meeting</p> <p>-6-9:30pm INE</p>	<p>26</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7:30pm AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>27</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b></p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7-9pm INE</p> <p>-7-9pm AOG</p>	<p>29</p> <p>-8-10am AA</p> <p>-7pm AA</p> <p>-7:30-9:30pm AOG</p>	<p>30</p>