

**JANUARY
2020**



What's new at
**FIRST CHRISTIAN
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**



“A Church Where Faith Is Active In Love”

Greetings Friends in Christ!

What a fantastic year here at The Olde White Church! 2019 was filled with many blessings that we can look back on and celebrate. We have many new family members, we forged many new relationships here at the church and in the community around us, and we continue to find new and exciting ways to worship and fellowship together! The Spirit is alive and well within the hearts of this amazing congregation and I am genuinely excited to see what 2020 has in store for us!

As we move into this new year together, let us take a moment to really think about what a beginning might mean. Beginnings can be both an exciting and a daunting occasion for many of us. Some of us will create (or renew) a New Year's resolution; we will choose a change that we want to make in our lives and we go for it! Some of us have brand new beginnings this year that was not our choice to have. Perhaps this is our first year without someone we love, perhaps this is our first year in a new place, perhaps this is our first year at a new church.

2020 has come, and it has brought with it newness and change for each and every one of us. Along with the excitement and the anxiety over new beginnings, isn't it wonderful to know that there is something in our lives that can never change? Isn't it comforting to know that we have something over which earthly time and space has no governance? This gift, my friends, is the love that God has for each and every one of us. God's love dwells within our very souls, regardless of year, time, or circumstance. It is a love that eludes conditions, and overpowers prejudice. It is a love unscathed by the transitions of our lives. It is a love that is wrapped around every fiber of our being.

2020 is a gift yet to be unwrapped, a mystery yet to be explored; but the good news for us, is that we do know one thing for certain; the love of God that was given to us even before time itself, is waiting there, like it has been each new year past and will be each new year to come. So, celebrate with me! Celebrate the love of God that is waiting for us just each moment of this new year!

Blessings in Christ,

The Reverend Doctor Holly Norwick

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

All are invited to the Annual Meeting of First Christian Congregational Church that will take place on Sunday, February 9 immediately following morning worship.

Update on Snowstorms: In case of a major snow storm on a Sunday morning, please check our website, our FaceBook page, or call the church office for an announcement regarding any cancellation.

Wedding Celebration

Robert Paige and John Correia were married in our sanctuary on Sunday, January 5, 2020 during worship by Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick. Congratulations and best wishes!!

DEATH IN OUR FAMILY

James L. Borden,
father of Deborah Desjardins and
grandfather of Ben Simbro,
passed away on December 16, 2019 at the age of 72.



His Celebration of Life Service was held on Saturday, December 28, 2019 in the First Christian Congregational Church. Our thoughts and prayers are with Deb, Ben and their family. Cards of condolence may be sent to Deborah Desjardins, 323 Thelma Avenue, Somerset, MA 02726.

Church Office Hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Pastor Holly's church office hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 – 3:00 pm and she will be working from home on Wednesdays available by appointment.

Pastor Holly would love to have you over for a visit; please call or text her at 808-371-4701 to let her know your coming!

Please call the church office at 508-673-7179 or Pastor Holly at 808-371-4701 for assistance.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

- **Bob Eddy**, who is at Fall River Healthcare, 1748 Highland Avenue, Fall River, MA 02720, for continued medical care.
- **Lloyd & Shirley Kenyon and Gerrit Sanford**
- **continued prayers for Bernice Church, Rosemary Marshall, Becky Chace, Edna Cartin, Dot Wiggins, Hope Douglass, Betty Stiles, Ken & Nancy Bosworth, and Wallace and Diane Lake.**

Celebration of Baptism

Makensie Ann Simoes,
daughter of Alicia And Brad Simoes,
was baptized in our sanctuary on Sunday,
December 8, 2019 by Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick.

Jesse Philip Haslehurst,
son of Jessica and Andrew Haslehurst,
was baptized in our sanctuary on Saturday,
December 21, 2019 by Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick.

Congratulations to Makensie and Jesse,
and their families!

MUSIC NEWS....

A special thank you to all the choir members and volunteers who worked so hard throughout our holiday season to add beautiful music to all our worship services.

Choir is starting work on a whole new batch of music. Now is a great time to join!!

Choir rehearses Tuesday 7 – 8:30 pm and
Sunday 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Have you been considering trying tone chimes but not sure you want to join the group long term? How about committing to one song? We will start working on an arrangement of Amazing Grace in January. The time commitment would be 3 Wednesday nights (January 15, 22, 29 from 7:00-8:00 pm) and Sunday morning February 2nd at 9:00 am to prepare for morning worship.

Interested? Let me know and I'll have music ready for you.

Sing to The Lord a new song!

Danielle Avery-Desmarais
Director of Music Ministry
508-844-9611 -- danidandco@yahoo.com

ALL CONGREGATION PHOTO!!

The First Christian Congregational Church is planning to take a group photo on **Sunday, February 2, 2020** immediately following worship which will include Pastor Holly Norwick, our members and friends.

Please plan to be present if you are able.
We'd love to have you join us!!

Thank you!

DEACONS NEWS.....

The Deacons would like to thank the congregation for all the donations of toys that were given in our first Giving Tree. It was a smashing success; with all 30 tags taken on the first day. We will make this an annual event for sure. May God Bless you all for making a child a little happier on Christmas Day.

In other Deacon News....at our Annual Meeting we will be welcoming 3 new Deacons to our Team. Names to be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Happy, Blessed New Year to All,
Peace 'n Love,
Deacon Chris Roy, Co- Chairperson

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

- **To Bob Paige, John Correia, and Janina Asselin** for all their work in providing dinners and fellowship for Thanksgiving and Christmas!
- **To Toosie Margolies, Jill Tavares and our children** for our Children's Christmas Sunday Service.
- **To Everyone who dedicated a poinsettia plant,** and a special thank you to **Karen Rebello** for decorating the sanctuary with all the beautiful plants.
- **To Charline Brodeur-Smith and Bob Smith, Janina Asselin, Ron and Carol Correa, and Cheryl Crossley-Simmons and Don Simmons** for lighting our Advent Candles during worship.
- **To Rev. Dr. John Wilson** for leading us in worship on December 1.
- **To the Strictly Sentimental Swing Band** for allowing us to meet them and enjoy a Concert by them on December 9.
- **To Mary Finnin and Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick** for leading us in our Grief Workshop and Comfort Service on December 12.
- **To the Deacons** for hosting the Cookie Swap & showing of The Polar Express on December 8.
- **To Danielle Avery-Desmarais and all the Choirs** for the beautiful music during our Christmas Services.

The Sunday School Scoop

It's January, and I feel like we are at a new beginning. (I know, officially the church year begins the first Sunday in Advent.)

The name for the support team of the Sunday School is now the Children and Youth Ministry Team. Since August, this team consisting of Susan Boucher, Becky Chace, John Chace, Martha Curtis, Sara Lundquist, Toosie Margolies, Nancy Smalzel and Jill Tavares have met almost biweekly to create a job description for our prospective Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator. Applications are now being sought. The team became very aware that a successful program for our youngsters depends not only on the coordinator but willing volunteers, good communication with the entire congregation, and a good monitoring and support system. The team is continuing to define its role to make this happen.

The lead teachers, Jill Tavares, Susie Boucher, Charlene Orton and Toosie Margolies have decided to try something a little more ambitious: So January is Moses month.

If anyone has a disc player that could be donated or lent to the Sunday School it would enhance the program. Remember, there is a place for infants and toddlers in the Sunday School area as well as classes for the other children.

Until next month,

Toosie Margolies
for the Children and Youth Ministry Team

Dunkin' Ministry

All are invited to our Dunkin' Ministry each **WEDNESDAY** from 5 – 6 pm in the lounge area of the Wilbur Avenue Dunkin' Donuts in Swansea. Stop in and enjoy a cup of coffee and fun fellowship with Pastor Holly and your friends and family. All are welcome!!



Alzheimer's Association

Know the 10 Signs of Early Detection

A Workshop presented by the Alzheimer's Association will take place on

Sunday, January 26, 2020

**1:30 – 3:30 pm
at**

**First Christian Congregational Church
1113 GAR Highway, Swansea**

**Pre-registration is required at
800-272-3900**

3rd Edition of The Olde White Church Cookbook has Begun.....

The process of collecting recipes for the 3rd edition of The Olde White Church Cookbook has begun. Each month we are asking for different types of recipes. We ask that you write or type out your recipe on a specific card which Karen Rebello and Joyce Buxton will give you when requested.

For the month of January, Karen and Joyce are collecting your Favorite recipes. Please ask Karen or Joyce for your recipe card if you have a Favorite recipe you would like to share.

Thank you all for your help!


Our Crochet/Knitting Class will continue to meet each Tuesday, January 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in fellowship hall at a cost of \$10 per class.

Come join us for fun, fellowship, snacks and instruction.

Any questions, please speak to Karen Rebello.



JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>***Church Office Hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am – 3 pm***</p> <p>***Pastor Holly Norwick will be in the office on Tuesday and Thursday and will be working from home on Wednesdays available by appointment***</p>			1 	2	3 AA 7 – 8:15 pm	4 Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm
5 Worship Service 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am NA 7:00– 8-30 pm	6 Deacon Team Meeting at Chris Roy's home at 6:00 pm	7 Crochet/ Knitting Class 6:30 – 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 – 8:30 pm	8 Thrifty Shoppe 10 am – 4 pm Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm Dunkin' Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. <u>5-6 pm</u> Finance Team Meeting at 6:15 pm at Church	9	10 AA 7 – 8:15 pm	11 Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm
12 Worship Service 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am NA 7:00– 8-30 pm	13	14 Crochet/ Knitting Class 6:30 – 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 – 8:30 pm	15 Thrifty Shoppe 10 am – 4 pm Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm Dunkin' Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. <u>5-6 pm</u> Property Team Meeting at 6:30 pm at Church Tone Chimes 7 – 8 pm	16	17 AA 7 – 8:15 pm	18 Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm
19 Worship Service 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am NA 7:00– 8-30 pm	20	21 Crochet/ Knitting Class 6:30 – 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 – 8:30 pm	22 Thrifty Shoppe 10 am – 4 pm Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm Dunkin' Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. <u>5-6 pm</u> Tone Chimes 7 – 8 pm	23 Newsletter Deadline Executive Council Team Meeting at 6:00 pm	24 AA 7 – 8:15 pm	25 Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm
26 Worship Service <u>10:00 am</u> Choir Rehearsal <u>11:30 am</u> Alzheimer's Association Program 1:30 - 3:30 pm in Hall NA 7:00– 8-30 pm	27	28 Crochet/ Knitting Class 6:30 – 8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 – 8:30 pm	29 Thrifty Shoppe 10 am – 4 pm Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm Dunkin' Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. <u>5-6 pm</u> Tone Chimes 7 – 8 pm	30	31 AA 7 – 8:15 pm	

First Christian Congregational Church

The Olde White Church

1113 GAR Highway
Swansea, MA 02777



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First Christian Congregational Church

"A Church Where Faith is Active in Love"

1113 GAR Highway
Swansea, MA 02777

Church Phone: 508-673-7179

Email: swanseawhitechurch@meganet.net

Website: www.theoldewhitechurch.org

Facebook: [FirstChristianCongregationalChurch ofSwansea](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChristianCongregationalChurchofSwansea)

Twitter: @Pastor_Holly

The Reverend Doctor Holly Norwick, Pastor

Pastor Holly's Phone: 808-371-4701

Worship Service at 10:00 am

Sunday School and Child Care provided

Coffee and fellowship following worship

Church Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday from 9 am – 3 pm

Pastor's Home Work Hours –

Wednesday by appointment

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

All are Welcome!!

Dunkin' Ministry at Dunkin Donuts on Wilbur Avenue	Each Wednesday from 5 – 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Each Tuesday from 7 – 8:30 pm and Each Sunday at 11:30 am
Tone Chimes	Wednesday, January 15, 22 & 29 from 7 – 8 pm
Crochet/Knitting Class	Each Tuesday from 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Deacon Team Meeting	Monday, January 6 at 6:00 pm at Chris Roy's home, 77 Edwards Ave, Swansea
Finance Team Meeting	Wednesday, January 8 at 6:15 at Church
Property Team Meeting	Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 pm at Church
Executive Council Meeting	Thursday, January 23 at 6:00 pm
Alzheimer's Association Program	Sunday, January 26 from 1:30 – 3:30 pm in fellowship hall