

**NOVEMBER
2019**



*Happy Thanksgiving!
To You And Your Family*

What's new at

THE OLDE WHITE CHURCH

Love in Action



Greetings Friends!

As the fall colors arrive and surround us with changing leaves and chilly air, we turn our thoughts to the upcoming holiday celebrations. This month, we joyfully gather together to witness God's abundance all around us and give thanks. Thanksgiving is an important celebration here at The Olde White Church. We have a rich history of celebrating Thanksgiving with many of our fellow churches in the greater Swansea, Somerset, and Fall River area. This year is no exception. In addition to our Sunday Thanksgiving celebration on November 24th, we are gathering together here at The Olde White Church, with all of our friends in the community to share in an ecumenical worship service of thanks on Tuesday, November 26th. But why? Why do congregations from churches all around gather on this day above all others? Let us look at the spirit of Thanksgiving to find out...

What is now known as Thanksgiving actually began as a day of fasting and prayer. American history orients this holiday around the year 1621 when the English Pilgrims, founders of a colony of Plymouth, had a celebration with Native Americans who brought them gifts of food as a way of showing friendship. Two years later, as these Christian Pilgrims had a day of fasting and prayer to end a period of drought, this day became a day of giving thanks to God because rains came during their prayers. With time this day became a time of celebration and praise to God for all that we have been given - around the world. Countries far and wide celebrate similar feasts of gratitude and harvest in a variety of different traditions.

This feast, where two groups from two very different ways of life, came together in common spirit of thanksgiving, can teach us how to celebrate with one another. Regardless of specific beliefs or ways of life, they found communion with one another in thanks to God. This is what we are called to do, to come together in the spirit of thankfulness, with our brothers and sisters in our community and give thanks for our many blessings, give thanks for one another, and give thanks to God. Let us not only be thankful one day a year but celebrate the greatness of our God with thanks every day!

My challenge to us this Thanksgiving, find someone with whom we have never celebrated the spirit of Thanksgiving; and celebrate. Celebrating the spirit of Thanksgiving in a way that is new, with those who are new, will deepen our understanding of true gratitude and open our eyes to the innumerable possibilities of worship with our greater community.

“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed we were all called to be one body; and to be thankful.” - Colossians 3:15

Blessings,

The Reverend Doctor Holly Norwick

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

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

Pastor Holly's church office hours will be 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.

**No more egg cartons needed until Spring!
The hens are in Aruba for the winter!**



Special Request of Leftover Yarn

Deb Athearn is working on making “crazy quilt blankets” for babies and toddlers to donate to Salvation Army for children in need. Deb is looking for any leftover yarn that you may have lying around that you are no longer using or need. She will accept all types of yarn except for chunky. Please bring the yarn to church and leave in the office or back kitchen. Thank you for your support!!

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!!

IN OUR PRAYERS:

- **Arthur Irwin**, who is at Clifton Rehabilitative Nursing Center, 500 Wilbur Avenue, Somerset.
- **Jeff Douglass and Nancy Richards**
- **Bob Eddy**, who was in the hospital and may be returning to Fall River Healthcare, 1748 Highland Avenue, Fall River, MA 02720, for continued medical care.
- **Rosemary Marshall**, who is currently at Warren Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, 642 Metacom Avenue, Warren, RI.
- **Bernice Church and Rosemary Marshall**
- **Wallace and Diane Lake of Warren, RI.**
- **Toosie Margolies, Becky Chace, Edna Cartin, Dot Wiggins and Marie Erickson**
- **Hope Douglas, Betty Stiles, Ken and Nancy Bosworth**

Wedding Celebration

Katherine Place and Alexander Astle were married in our sanctuary on October 12, 2019 by Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick. We wish them a lifetime of beautiful memories together!!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

- **To Chris Roy, the Deacons and the volunteers** who helped with the Car Wash on October 5th and the Trunk-or-Treat Movie Night on October 26th. A great time was had by all!
- **To Karen Rebello, John Carlson** and all the volunteers and participants who enjoyed the fellowship at the Fall Breakfast on October 19. We are able to add \$600 to our general budget needs due to all their efforts!
- **To Matt Botelho and his Praise Team** for leading us in a wonderful Praise & Worship Night on October 10th.
- **To Sara Lundquist, Mark Burden and all the wonderful volunteers** who are soliciting donations for the Veterans' Supper here on Friday, November 8th.
- **To Martha Curtis**, for continually working to keep our property in tip top shape and for overseeing our balcony project renovation.

**THE OLDE WHITE CHURCH'S
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY SERVICE
to be held on Sunday, November 24
at 10:00 am**

All are welcome to join with your family and friends here at The Olde White Church for a special service celebrating all the blessings of the season.

Thanksgiving Offering Envelope

You will find a Special Thanksgiving Offering Envelope for your gifts for the church.

Please bring this offering to worship or mail to the church office.

Thank you for your contributions!!

**The Greater Fall River Council
of Churches Ecumenical
Thanksgiving Service**

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

**Tuesday, November 26
7:00 pm**

Each year, clergy from Fall River, Somerset and Swansea gather together to provide one worship service for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ. This year we are hosting our brothers and sisters at The Olde White Church. Join with us for this unique opportunity to worship God in the true spirit of thanksgiving and unity.

**A Community Choir will gather to sing during the service.
Choir Rehearsal will take place at 6:00 pm.
Fellowship to follow.**

DEACONS NEWS.....

The Deacons would like to thank everyone who supported the Car Wash on October 5; we washed about 40 cars and raised \$460.00 which was a great success. The monies that we raised helped us to fulfill the pledge of \$400.00 that we gave for the Veterans' Supper.

We encourage people to bring in canned goods, or everyday items for the food baskets, and again want to thank those who have already donated food. We will be collecting until November 17, and the baskets will be prepared on November 18. All baskets will be distributed on Sunday, November 24, prior to Thanksgiving.

The Trunk-or-Treat Event was a fun filled night for our children. We had 6 cars set up around the parking lot; fun and treats were enjoyed by kids and adults alike.

Going forward in December, the Deacons will be having our first ever Giving Tree for the Christmas Season. You may select a name of a needy child and purchase a gift for them. More details to follow.

May God Bless You All.
Peace & Love,
Deacon Chris Roy, Co- Chairperson



Easy Online Giving to The Olde White Church Available Now!!!

Greetings,

The First Christian Congregational Church is excited to announce our new online giving program!

Give Online Now!

You can now easily make one-time gifts and recurring automated payments with our online giving tools. By using your own computer or mobile device, you can make an online contribution in just 3 easy steps!

1. Go to our website, <https://www.theoldewhitechurch.org/>, and click the GIVE button.
2. Create your profile.
3. Select the amount and frequency of your donation.

Need Help?

We can also set up automatic giving for you! Simply print and return the completed Authorization Form to the church office in person or by mail. Unable to print? That's okay; they are available on the narthex table and by mail upon request. We will set up automatic withdrawals for the amount of your choice on either the 1st or the 15th of each month.

For any further questions about Online Giving, please give me a call at 508-673-7179!

And, as always, thank you for your generosity and support of the ministries here at The Olde White Church!

Deb Gray
Office Manager

Stewardship News...

Thank you to all the members and friends who returned your Commitment to Giving Card on Stewardship Sunday, October 20th. Your gifts of time and money will enable The Olde White Church to continue to grow in faithfulness to God's vision of what it means to be an active and vibrant church.

If you have not returned your Giving Card, please do so at your convenience. It helps our Finance team to plan a budget for 2020.

Thank You,
The Stewardship Team

Treasurer's Corner

Help us Help the Church!!!



Did you know that when you shop for the holidays at smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2396571, AmazonSmile donates to First Christian Congregational Church of Swansea?

This is a great way to get all the things you want online AND support the church at the same time without any additional cost to you. Please share this with your family and friends, so they can help us too!

Here is how it works. AMAZON donates 0.5% of your purchase to the church as a charitable donation. This will NOT increase the price of your purchase at all. AMAZON is donating the 0.5% and will do so as long as you choose The First Christian Congregational Church of Swansea as the charity of your choice.

Since joining this program in 2017, we have earned \$159.26 in charitable donations based solely on the normal spending habits of everyone who has signed up. We receive this money each quarter without spending any extra money; only purchase those items you already purchase from Amazon. smile.amazon.com will do the rest for us!!!

Here is how you can do that. Take a moment to register on Amazon Smile using this link

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2396571>

or simply log onto Amazon and search for Amazon Smile. Find First Christian Congregational Church of Swansea and click on us as your choice of charities. Then, use smile.amazon.com to make your Amazon purchases; Amazon will then donate 0.5% of anything you purchase from that moment on. smile.amazon.com and amazon.com are the same website, but in order for the church to receive the donation, you must be on smile.amazon.com space to make your purchases – once you sign up to help the church, Amazon will help you do this.

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to call the church office at 508-673-7179. It is a free and easy way to help the church! Thank you in advance!!!

John Chace
Treasurer, FCCC

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 will be 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 November, Karen and Joyce are collecting pie recipes. Please ask Karen or Joyce for your recipe card if you have an awesome pie recipe you would like to share.

Thank you all for your help!

Thrifty Shoppe News....

We hope you are all enjoying the start of another wonderful season of fellowship in our Shoppe!

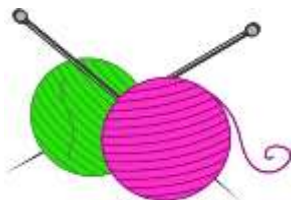
We would kindly request that you do not leave any bags or donations in the building or outside when the Thrifty Shoppe is not open. Bags can only be accepted on Wednesdays and Saturdays when the store is open unless you call Joyce Buxton (508-679-7907) or Karen Rebello (774-644-4178) to make other arrangements. Any bags left unattended will need to be discarded.

Thank you!!
Thrifty Shoppe Volunteers

Our Crochet/Knitting Class will continue to meet each Tuesday 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.

There will be no class on Tuesday, November 26.



MUSIC NEWS....

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Choir

We are hosting The Greater Fall River Council of Churches Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 26th which will include a combined choir piece “A Call to Thanksgiving”. You are invited to join us, even if you don’t usually sing with the choir. Contact me for sheet music and practice recordings and/or come to rehearsal. Our usual choir rehearsal on Tuesday, November 19th at 7:00 pm will be open to participants in the joint choir. On the night of the service, November 26th, the joint choir will practice at 6:00 pm in preparation for 7:00 pm worship. All rehearsals will be in our sanctuary.

Come sing Praises!
Blessings,
Danielle Avery-Desmarais
508-844-9611

Fellowship News.....

We are so blessed to have such a meaningful worship service and then have time to enjoy our friends at fellowship every Sunday. We are very fortunate to have dedicated people to provide excellent snacks for our enjoyment. We have had some “surprises” this month that were delightfully enjoyed.

Did you know there is a “kitchen angel” among us who loves to make sure we have “back up” desserts like devil dogs, packages of cookies, coffee, etc.?! I’ve been told she can’t pass up a good sale – aren’t we lucky!!

Thank you to our faithful friends for providing desserts for us; Ron Desmarais, Karen Rebello, Simone Neilan, John & Joyce Wilson, Charlotte Carlson, Madeline Carvalho, John Correia, John Marshall, Al Church, Lisa Thomas, Louise Slowe, Renee Nunes, Pauline Viveiros, and Shirley Kenyon.

Thank you to Bob Paige for the new first aid kit that stays on the kitchen counter. We needed a good one like that.

Sara Lundquist

The Sunday School Scoop -- Here's What Been Happening!

Shortly after the resignation of Deb Allard, our previous Director of Children and Youth Ministry, members concerned about the religious development of the younger members in our church family stepped up to fill the void. Under the leadership of Jill Tavares and Toosie Margolies, two things have happened: Volunteers have staffed the Sunday School every Sunday since September 8. This is made possible by different teams of 4 or 5 members who “worship” one Sunday a month or more with the children. There is a different lead teacher each Sunday. The lead teachers, in addition to Jill, are Susan Boucher, Charlene Orton, and Toosie Margolies. They are assisted by Janina Asselin, Justin Boucher, Charline Brodeur, Madeline Carvalho, Karen Coffey, Kristen Coffey, Carol Correa, Phyllis Fitzgerald, Jen Hurley, Naomi Imbeault, Sara Lundquist, Elizabeth Rudis and Nancy Smalzel. Thanks to all of them! Secondly, a Faith Formation Team, consisting of Susan Boucher, Becky Chace, John Chace, Martha Curtis, Sara Lundquist, Toosie Margolies, Nancy Smalzel and Jill Tavares, has been meeting bi-monthly whose immediate task is to develop job descriptions for the projected paid positions of the infant/toddler care provider and the director of children and youth ministry. This team will continue to support the faith formation of this age group.

A typical Sunday morning goes like this. After Children's Church, the kids go downstairs to learn and worship in their own way. A special space is set up for infants and toddlers in one of the Sunday school bays. There are bins with age appropriate toys and a rack with board and "touchy/feely" books surrounding a matted, no shoes, area. We would love to welcome your little one(s) here. For the others, after a period of singing together, it is time to divide by ages for more learning experiences. Then, before parting, the group sings a closing benediction. Children over the age of 10 may leave by themselves; the others will remain in the area until a responsible adult comes to get them.

Looking ahead to Christmas, December 22 is the date for Children's Christmas Sunday. Tentative rehearsal dates are Saturday mornings December 14 and 21. More definitive information will be available during November. It is our desire to have all children participate. If you would like to help with this event, please speak with either Jill or Toosie or leave a message in the office.

Will we see you in Sunday School soon?

Jill Tavares & Toosie Margolies

Save the Dates!!!

“It's Advent! Series”

Thursdays, December 5, 12 & 19 starting at 6:00 pm with a light meal

December 5 – “Advent for Dummies”

Join us in an evening of wreath making and learning all there is to know about Advent!

December 12 – Grief Workshop & Comfort Service

Join Mary Finnin and Rev. Holly Norwick to acknowledge your grief, share memories, challenges and affirm new growth and possibilities when you are grieving a loss during the holidays.

A Comfort Service will follow in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm

December 19 – “Great Expectation”



**In Honor of Our Past and Present Veterans
ALL are invited to Attend Our
12th Annual Veterans' Meat Pie Supper
Friday, November 8th from 4:00 – 7:30 pm**



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

Donations Only!!!

We are requesting donations of assorted individual desserts.

Please see Sara Lunquist if you are able to help or donate a dessert.

All volunteers are asked to speak with Sara for your volunteer time and job.

Monetary donations are being accepted by Sara Lundquist or you may call or stop by the church office on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Please help out by bringing a friend or neighbor and enjoying a wonderful evening.

All proceeds go to needy Swansea Veterans and their Families.

We have Waring-Sullivan Home for Funerals providing men in the parking lot to help organize the parking again this year. All volunteers, and those that are able, please help us by parking further away from the church near the trees. Thank you!!!



**HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR
& QUILT SHOW**

**Saturday, November 23
9 am - 2 pm**

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



**Over 25 Crafters, Baked Goods, Unique Jewelry, Ham & Beans,
Holiday Cards and Decorations, Paintings, Honey, Jam & Chocolates**

Please donate a Basket or Items to a Basket

We are in need of Raffle Basket Donations with themes such as

- Baking, Beer
- Car, Toys
- Wine & Cheese, Coffee & Tea

Please drop off items at Thrifty Shoppe on Wednesdays and Saturdays or leave in church office. Thank you!!
For questions, call or text Karen Rebello at 774-644-4178 or Nancy Smalzel at 617-335-9014.

Thanksgiving at The Olde White Church

1113 G.A.R. Highway, Swansea, MA

Thursday, November 28, 2019

Dinner served at 1:00 pm

**All are invited to join us as we
come together and share a day
of Thanksgiving as one
big Family!**



Arrive after 10 am for fun,
fellowship and snacks!!
If able, please bring your
favorite side dish to share!!

TV will be available to enjoy a
day full of Parades, Football
and More!!
Leftovers will be available at
end of day!!

**A traditional Thanksgiving Meal will be served
including turkey, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, squash,
corn, other veggies, desserts & drinks!!**



If you are planning to attend this **FREE EVENT**,
please RSVP to the church office at
508-673-7179 or Bob Paige at 508-514-0840
so that we can plan on enough food for all!

Feel free to bring a friend or family with you to
celebrate the day!

Strictly Sentimental Swing Band Christmas Concert



Monday, December 9 from 5:45 – 6:30 pm

Meet & Greet the Band in fellowship hall

6:45 pm Concert in the Sanctuary

The Strictly Sentimental Swing Band, which is a local 19-piece band with 1000 big-band songs, rehearses in our hall on Mondays. This Concert will give all of us a chance to meet them and enjoy a night of music and fellowship.

NOVEMBER

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 Wednesday available by appointment***</p>					<p>1</p> <p>AA 7 – 8:15 pm</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Sunday School Volunteer Meeting following worship</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am</p> <p>NA 7:00– 8-30 pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Deacon Team Meeting at 6:00 pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Crochet Class 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe <u>10 am – 4 pm</u> Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm</p> <p>Dunkin’ Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. 5 -6 pm</p> <p>Property Team Meeting at 6:15 pm AT CHURCH</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Faith Formation Team Meeting 7 pm at Cedars</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12th Annual Veterans Meat Pie Supper 4 – 7:30 pm</p> <p>AA 7 – 8:15 pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am</p> <p>NA 7:00– 8-30 pm</p>	<p>11</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>Crochet Class 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe <u>10 am – 4 pm</u> Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm</p> <p>Dunkin’ Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. 5 -6 pm</p> <p>Finance Team Meeting at 6:15 pm AT CHURCH</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>AA 7 – 8:15 pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am</p> <p>NA 7:00– 8-30 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Executive Council Team Meeting at 6:00 pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>Crochet Class 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe <u>10 am – 4 pm</u> Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm</p> <p>Dunkin’ Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. 5 -6 pm</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>AA 7 – 8:15 pm</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Holiday Craft Fair 9 am – 2 pm</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Thanksgiving Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am</p> <p>NA 7:00– 8-30 pm</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service HERE- 6 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Service followed by fellowship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe <u>10 am – 4 pm</u> Quilt Club 1 – 3 pm</p> <p>Dunkin’ Ministry at DD on Wilbur Ave. 5 -6 pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Thanksgiving Dinner at Olde White Church 10 am Arrival Dinner at 1 pm</p> 	<p>29</p> <p>AA 7 – 8:15 pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Thrifty Shoppe 9:30 am – 1 pm</p>

First Christian Congregational Church

The Olde White Church

1113 GAR Highway

Swansea, MA 02777



**NOVEMBER
2019**



*First Christian Congregational Church
The Olde White 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
Crochet/Knitting Class	Each Tuesday from 6:30 – 8 pm
Sunday School Volunteer Meeting	Sunday, November 3 following worship
Deacon Team Meeting	Monday, November 4 at 6:00 pm
Property Team Meeting	Wednesday, November 6 at 6:15 pm AT CHURCH
Faith Formation Team Meeting	Thursday, November 7 at 7 pm at The Cedars, 628 Old Westport Rd, Dartmouth
Veterans Meat Pie Supper	Friday, November 8 from 4 – 7:30 pm
Finance Team Meeting	Wednesday, November 13 at 6:15 pm AT CHURCH
Executive Council Meeting	Monday, November 18 at 6:00 pm
Holiday Craft Fair	Saturday, November 23 from 9 am – 2 pm
Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service -- HERE	Tuesday, November 26 at The Olde White Church – 7 pm Service
The Olde White Church Thanksgiving Dinner	Thursday, November 28 after 10 am Dinner served at 1:00 pm