



THE SPIRE

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
35 Conant Street, Beverly MA 01915

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Join Us
for a reception to say

THANK YOU

to

Rev Judy Brain

for her faithful and loving service
to Second Church



Sunday, June 24th at 10:30am
Fellowship Hall

June Worship/Events

- 3 **Communion**
 Message: Rev. Judith Brain
 Lay Reader: Pam Spinney
- 10 **Message: Rev. Brain**
 Lay Reader: Jeanie Murray
 New Members
 2018 Scholarships
- 12 **Church Board Meetings 7pm**
- 13 **Knitting Ministry 1-3pm**
 CE Board Meeting 6:30pm
- 16 **Strawberry Social 3pm**
- 17 **Message: Rev. Brain**
 Lay Reader: Gail Goodell
- 24 **Message: Rev. Brain**
 Lay Reader: Becky Stephenson
 Farewell Brunch Rev. Judy
- 29 **Serve St. Peter's Meal**



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

During June the Church Spire will be illumined in memory of **David Whitaker** by Fran Whitaker.



TREE OF LIFE

Welcome into God's family: Trevor Andrew Buba (son of Christina & Ian Buba) baptized on May 20.

Congratulations & God's Blessings upon Second Church members & friends among the **Class of 2018** graduates!

We lift you up in prayer and ask God's continued guidance and care for you as you travel along life's way.



Message from our Interim Bridge Minister Rev. Judy

JESUS: *"I came into the world, to testify to the truth."*

PILATE: *"What is truth?"*

Pilate is often accused of being cynical and evasive in this conversation with Jesus. In the context of the Gospel of John, perhaps that is the case. But Pilate's question is a good one. Isn't that the primary question that we carry through our lives? What is truth? What are the most righteous ways in which to order our lives? What criteria do we use to judge the truth/value/goodness of any decision whether it involves what we spend our money on, who we vote for, or how we raise our kids.

This summer I'll spend time with an old friend. We are both very strong proponents of our particular positions on politics, gun control, abortion, health care, religion, how we promote a just society. And our deeply held truths are exactly opposite of one another! What do we talk about? God! She is a former missionary so is a woman of deep faith.

But even here, we hit a wall. Christians equate the search for truth with our attempt to know God and therefore God's will for our lives. How do we know what path to take? My friend is a biblical literalist and believes that the only revelation about God is contained in the Bible – and in her particular denomination's interpretation of it. I start from a different place with some excellent help from John Wesley.

Wesley was one of Christianity's most practical theologians. He developed what has come to be known as the "Four Legged Stool." For Christians, the Bible is one source in our search for truth but he turns to other revelations as well.

Scripture

What guidance is offered by the Bible? How do we measure our decisions in light of scripture's stories, the Commandments, and Jesus' teachings and his life?

Tradition

What are the teachings and practices of two millennia of the Christian Church?

Reason

What does our own reason tell us?

Experience

How do our personal experiences inform us? This would include input from nature, the culture, our understanding of the joys and sufferings of others, and information gathered in communities.

To me, one of the primary purposes in being part of a church is to discover the truth. Not "truth" in an abstract form, but truth that guides one's authenticity and the choices we make that enhance life rather than diminish it.

In Second Church's next phase, the search for your truth as a community will be intensified. You've got good leaders and a fine new pastor to lead the way, and more common ground that I have with my friend. I wish you well!

Judy

WORSHIP IN JUNE



JUNE 3 SALT AND LIGHT 9:30 am

Rose Caruso Baptism

You are the salt of the Earth!

JUNE 10 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY, SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY 9:30 am

“Roots and Wings.” How does the church equip us for life?

JUNE 17 FATHERS DAY 9:30 am

Thoughts about God the Father ~ a helpful metaphor?

JUNE 24 GOD IS STILL SPEAKING 9:30 am

The excitement of new beginnings!

Recovery High School

Will be celebrating the

2018 Graduating Class

Wednesday, June 6th at 5:30pm

@ Second Congregational Church



Come and support and celebrate these amazing students
and meet their incredible teachers as well.

Knitting Notes

Summer is just around the corner and I am sure many of us will welcome it with delight. I delivered eight Prayer Shawls and two Baby Blankets to Care Dimensions (Hospice of Danvers) this month. They are so appreciative of our work and very thankful to receive our gifts. It was great seeing Karen Varga back after her illness at our last meeting. We will be meeting on Wednesday, June 13th at 1 pm in the Church parlor. Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation and laughter.

Ruth Moran



Technology help needed.



*Do you have experience in information technology, web design or social media marketing? If so, the Second Church IT Committee needs YOU! Help us shape the way our church reaches the community and each other through technology and media! Please see **Bonnie Molino** or email*

e-communicationsadmin@beverlysecond.com

if you are interested.

Gratitude Extended from Afghanistan

I wanted to take the opportunity to extend a Thank You to the Congregation and to Cub Scout Pack 4 for the recent care packages my team and I have received in Afghanistan. Your thoughts and kindness make our day here, and certainly bring relief to a tense environment - Thank You for remembering us!

Just to tell you a little about our group, we are a mix of Military, US Government Civilians and Contractors who work with the Office of the President of Afghanistan to help strengthen security and capabilities, as well as to help establish and develop Governmental Institutions and the Rule of Law. These past few weeks have been especially challenging here with bombings and the loss of innocent lives, and the sacrifices made by people are always saddening.

Lastly, for Mikey in Pack 4:

My best friend is Dean, I love ice cream (especially Ben & Jerry's Cherry Garcia) and my name is Jeff!

Thank You again and God Bless you all!

V/r, Jeff Mallory

ANDSF Senior Acquisition Advisor, NPA/Administrative Office of the President
Contractor, DynCorp International LLC



2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Scholarship Committee selected four young women to receive this year's \$500 awards. Among the four are three members of Second Church: **Rebecca Drown, Maeve Dineen & Jill Trefry.**



Becca Drown enters her fourth year at Framingham State University focusing on a Sports Dietitian career and will be awarded the Ruth M. Glines Cannon scholarship. *“As a Registered Dietitian my job will be to teach others how to live their best lives free of preventable diseases or complications.”*



Maeve Dineen will be attending University of Maine majoring in Environmental Engineering. *“My goal is to become an environmental engineer who designs ways to help keep the earth clean and its inhabitants healthy.”*



Jill Trefry has her eyes set on a career in Occupational Therapy. *“My desire is to help children with struggles that will become easier with my skills as an OT.”* Maeve and Jill will receive Rev. Robert L. Rasche scholarships.

Receiving the third Rasche award is **Alondra Ventura**, a Danvers High School senior who hopes to attend an area university to focus on her dream of a career in Business Marketing. *“I have chosen to major in business with a concentration in marketing; with my overall goal in life to be a marketing research analyst for a large company.”*



June Church School

Upcoming Events:

We are wrapping up our school year with fun activities for the kids. Remember, friends are always welcome. Please come join us!

June 3 -Cooking with Amanda Wiederhold and serving the baked goods **and** coffee at coffee hour. Many hands needed!

June 10 - After watching the Scholarship Sunday presentations, Melanie Dineen will host an activity in Lower Parish Hall.

June 17 -Come celebrate Father's Day with the "Plant Man" himself, George "Jake" Jacobson

June 24- Ice Cream Social



A reminder we are always accepting donations for Beverly Bootstraps—
Donation Basket is located in the Narthex

Top Food Items Needed

- *Peanut Butter
- * Canned Vegetables
- * Canned Fruit
- * Canned Beans
- * Rice
- * Cereal
- *Tuna Fish
- * Spaghetti Sauce
- * Child Friendly Snacks
- * Soup



Second Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

35 Conant Street

Beverly MA 01915

Strawberry Social

Saturday, June 16—3 pm

Rain or Shine

Corner of Conant St.

and Rt. 97 in North Beverly

Featuring homemade biscuits and
just picked strawberries!



Free Event
All Welcome