

Forest Street Union Church
15 Forest Street
Methuen, MA 01844
(978) 683-8523
foreststreet15@verizon.net
www.foreststreetucc.org



Forest Street *Footprints*

JANUARY 2009



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK.....

Dear Friends in Christ,

Perhaps you have heard about the poor guy who dialed his girlfriend and heard this message, "I am not available right now, but thank you for caring enough to call. I am making some changes in my life. Please leave a message after the beep. If I do not return your call, you are one of the changes."

The new year is upon us and many of us are making changes in our lives, some in the form of resolutions. It is good to make changes, for the most part. I am going to quote you some words from Buck Rogers in one of his books:

"We live in a time of paradox, contradiction, opportunity, and above all, change. To the fearful, change is threatening because they worry that things may get worse. To the hopeful, change is encouraging because they feel things may get better. To those who have confidence in themselves, change is a stimulus because they believe that one person can make a difference and influence what goes on around them. These people are the doers and motivators."

In the words from a poster we had around the church for a while, "Change is inevitable; transformation is possible." Christian faith isn't just about change; it is about transformation!

Scott

The Hospitality Committee



The year 2008 is now a memory and the new year 2009 is here, with many hopes and plans are in your thoughts.

Our many, many thanks to all who have provided and served refreshments for the past year. Many have been hosted not only one time but many many times, we are most grateful to you all !!!

On December 14th, this committee coordinated the Pot Luck Church Party. Thank you to all who brought wonderful casseroles, soups, salad, yummmmy desserts. And special thanks to Sparky for his wonderful Christmas wreath ! Not only was it beautiful but was soooo good !. Our church is really blessed with so many many wonderful cooks. Thanks too, who all helped clean up after the party, Jeff had his hands in the dish water again, thank you !!

Serving as **Hosts** in the month of December are:

December 7th: Nicolas Walko, assisted by his mom

December 14th: Pot luck church party

December 21th: Christian Education Committee

December 28th: Missions Committee

May the year 2009 be a very healthy, year with many many, wonderful things happening for you !!!

The Hospitality committee:

Charlotte Eichner, Ruth Yanagi, Carolyn Keating, Ruth Hattori

Liturgists

are needed to read at Sunday service.

Please sign up
on the sheet on the board
outside the sanctuary.



We need your voice!

ANNUAL MEETING

January 25, 2009

RAIN DATE February 1, 2009

Deadline for Annual Reports is January 14, 2009.

This is so we can have the reports ready for distribution on January 18, 2009.

As we have done for the past two years, we are asking people to bring finger- foods (sandwiches, etc.) for an expanded coffee hour.

Christian Ed/Sunday School

The youth of the Sunday School had a great time practicing and performing "An Old Fashioned Christmas Pageant", thanks to all for their hard work. The children also enjoyed the pot- luck dinner and visit from Santa. We look forward to celebrating Epiphany this Sunday. Two of our confirmation students will be attending a confirmation retreat in late January, and in February the Sunday School youth will be making Valentine Cards for our friends. Please remember to bring in your gently used coats as we continue our coat drive. A large bucket can be found upstairs in Fellowship Hall for your donations.

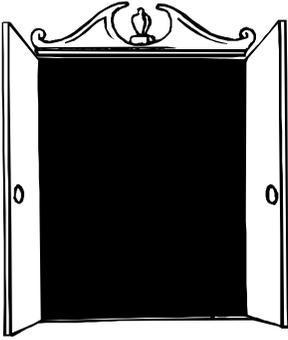
From the Trustees—

The Trustees would like to thank all who have so generously donated to our "Heat" fund throughout 2008. Your generosity has gone a long way to keeping us all warm.

Those of you who use offering envelopes will find several special "Energy" envelopes included in your box. Please keep in mind that anyone is welcome to make a donation to our heat fund at any time during the year. If you don't have a special "Energy" envelope you need only mark your donation "Heat" and it will be applied appropriately.

Again, thank you for your generosity.

Barry Reich



FROM THE DEACON'S CLOSET

The deacon's welcome all who wish to join in visitation to the Berkley Home to be part of a short worship service with the residents please see Mary-Ann Thibeault-Vandette for more information. It would be wonderful if we could bring music to this time with them!

POINT TO PONDER.....
How will you spend eternity,
smoking or non-smoking?



Council Meeting

January 12, 2008

7:00PM

Looking forward to seeing someone from every committee at the meeting.

Nancy Pollock, Moderator
978-681-8976 or nancyandjim95@comcast.net

WORSHIP WATCH

January 4 Epiphany
Communion Sunday
Best Wishes
Food Cart
Scripture for the Day: Matthew 2:1-12
Sermon: "Look Up "
Mary-Ann Thibeault-Vandette preaching



January 11 Baptism of Christ
Scripture for the Day: Mark 1:4-11
Sermon: " A Powerful Sacrament"
Liturgist: Nancy Pollock

January 18 Second Sunday after Epiphany
Scripture for the Day: I Corinthians 6:12-20
Sermon: "Sex In The Church"
Liturgist: Trudi Driscoll

January 25 Third Sunday after Epiphany
Scripture for the Day: Jonah 3:1-5,10
Sermon: "The Most Stubborn Man in The Bible "
Liturgist:
Annual Meeting
Potluck- Coffee Hour (Please bring Finger Foods to Share)

SCOTT SEZ.....Bless you and thank you so much for the Christmas gift. It was very much appreciated. I used the money to purchase a much-needed humidifier for my home.

CORE COMMITTEE: Core Committee is finalizing the process forward with the steps to be presented

At annual meeting on January 25th.

Meanwhile

Our Church History will be re-compiled from original

Information in place, new material discerned from the historical conversations

That we enjoyed and additional input from work done by Mary-Ann Thibeault Vandette

For a research project.

The first piece needed to offer a prospective pastor in order to present a 'picture' of Forest St Union Church.

The next Core Committee meeting will be held Monday January 26, 2009

Anyone interested in the work of the committee is invited to attend.

Friendship Circle

does not meet during January and February.



Meetings :Thursday 6:00PM

weigh in starts at 5:30PM

Friday 9:30AM

weigh in starts at 9:00AM