

*The First Congregational Church, UCC*  
*PO Box 825*  
*Stockbridge MA 01262*



**June 2020**

Pastor: The Rev. Brent Damrow – [bdamrow@stockbridgeucc.org](mailto:bdamrow@stockbridgeucc.org)

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(413) 298-3137

[www.stockbridgeucc.org](http://www.stockbridgeucc.org)

[www.facebook.com/stockbridgeucc](https://www.facebook.com/stockbridgeucc)

Online Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

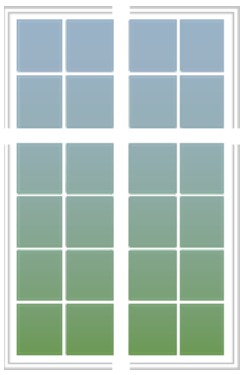
Wednesday Morning Prayer: 8:00 a.m.

Office hours: 9:00-1:00, Monday - Friday

# June 2020

The First Congregational Church, UCC, Stockbridge

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
Online worship is at <a href="http://stockbridgeucc.org">stockbridgeucc.org</a>	1 Calendar is subject to change. Please check the church website for updates.	2	3 Morning Prayer 8 am Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Church Council 7:00 p.m.	4	5 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m.	6
7 Online Worship 10:00 a.m.	8 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Christian Education 5:30 p.m.	9	10 Morning Prayer 8 am Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Mission & Action 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m.	13
14 Online Worship 10:00 a.m.	15 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m.	16	17 Morning Prayer 8 am Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Trustees 5:30 p.m. Deacons 6:30 p.m. Growth & Fellowship 7:30 p.m.	18	19 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m.	20
21 Online Worship 10:00 a.m.	22 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m.	23	24 Morning Prayer 8 am Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m.	25	26 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m.	27
28 Online Worship 10:00 a.m.	29 Pastor Brent's open hour 1:00 p.m.	30				Morning prayers, open hours, and meetings are online, via Zoom.



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Stockbridge, Massachusetts

## June 2020 Newsletter

Dear Friends in Christ,

It started back in September with listening sessions including the congregation and choir. It continued through the appointment of an amazing search committee including chair Miles Wheat along with Ronnie Cunningham, Michael Deegan, Margaret Hornick, Linda Hoddy, Jean Stackhouse and myself. It included long and deep conversations about the role of music in our faith and worship, the diversity of musical expression this congregation finds meaningful, and the leadership needs required at this moment in the church. It required patience and waiting as applications did not begin arriving in volume until after Christmas and the beginning of the new year. It involved sifting through more than a dozen qualified applicants and hosting six initial candidates to hear their playing, their perspectives, and to imagine the possibilities they would bring.

Even as the pandemic lessened our face-to-face interactions, we utilized technology to enable the choir and congregational leaders to meet a man of deep faith, amazing talent, huge knowledge, and even larger heart. It is our great joy to introduce more formally our new music minister, Dr. Sándor Szabó. More information, including a letter from Sándor can be found on page eight of this newsletter.

This process also addresses the compensation and support structures for this position. As we use compensation guidelines from the UCC for my position, we researched compensation guidelines from the industry to put together a package commensurate with his skills and experience. We

are expanding the time for the position to fifteen hours for this first year and to twenty in subsequent years to allow him to utilize his gifts both in music and connection to enliven our programs and strengthen our ties to the community. We are adjusting the support structures within the church as well to ensure he has that challenge and support we all need to thrive. All of this is an investment in our faith, our worship, and our future.

As we make this investment, several members of our church family stepped forward to offer financial support. The changes in compensation and program costs are fully covered through the end of 2023.

This leaves the time for the rest of us to likewise step forward to support the music ministries we cherish here and for the growth that we anticipate through Sándor's leadership and gifts. Over time we trust that this investment will leave us in a stronger position as a faith community and financially too. We all know the power of music, especially when employed beautifully in service and to connect to our larger mission and purpose.

Dr. Szabó will be joining us for a very special streaming service on June 7 as we celebrate Communion and Trinity Sunday. We hope that you will make sure to be in church on that day to take the first step in getting to know him. He will formally begin in mid-July so that we have plenty of time to work and prepare for the Fall. He brings both experience and a proven track record along with a sense of openness and caring. He is a great fit for where we are now and for where we hope to go as a church. I am deeply grateful, thoroughly excited, and broadly hopeful for the days to come!

Blessings, *Brent*



# OUR SHARED LIFE TOGETHER

## HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Please let someone on Growth and Fellowship know if we have not included your birthday.

June 1 Lynda Morse

June 2 Rebecca Hall

June 6 Evelyn Battaglia

June 7 Mary Hoeltzel

Barbara Moore

June 12 Michael Deegan

June 13

June 15

June 16

June 17

June 19

June 24

June 26

June 28

Anne Hutchinson

Karen Lindstrom

Thomas Frelinghuysen

Luke Germain

Fiona Brown

Jean Stackhouse

Ruth Wheat

Anne Fix

Pat LaBagh

Becky Smith

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Doris Schulz, Pat Nowak, Russ Fadding, Cindy Ogulnick, Sibylle Baier, Diane Vogt, Gary and Corinne Burke, Mary Jane Dunlop, Nell Ezequelle, Stan Osak, Jr., Philip Connor, Ronnie Cunningham's son Colin, Gege Kingston, Barbara Bracknell, Meryle Epstein, Lindsay Hermanski, Jeannie Smith, Natalie Newberg, Betsey McKearnan, Alice McKinstry Hawes, and Jeanne Fleming.

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE CHURCH

### The Church Vegetable Garden

In the church garden the chives are back and thriving, a tasty reminder of hope. Claire, of The Lost Lamb, cut a few the other day to use for the Open Table meals.

The garden was started a few years ago by Cary Quigley, who thought it was natural spot to grow food for people who needed it. Children and teachers worked in the garden then, and the children named it "Little Eden." The produce has changed a little over the years. This year we will concentrate on the vegetables and herbs that Community Health Programs in Great Barrington would particularly like. We take vegetables to them mid-week when they do not have any other produce donations. We hope to start giving to CHP by late June or early July. Church members who may need food can arrange that by contacting Will at the church.

### Financial News

Dear Friends, far and near:

We are very grateful for the generosity you have expressed with all your giving. There are multiple needs, but many of you are faithful in giving in many ways as well. Double thanks!

A humble request: It will greatly help the processing of multiple gifts if each gift is made separately. Some of you are doing this already. When multiple gifts are made with one online gift, or with one check, it must be deposited in one bank account and then transferred to other accounts. This involves more bookkeeping; but more importantly, it can delay getting contributions to the destination you have designated.

I hope this explanation is not confusing. Feel free to contact Will or me if you have questions. But however you choose to give we'll make it work, gladly and with grateful hearts!

~ Ron Hanft, Financial Secretary

## The Service League

Is it just me, or have we settled into a new normal? Everyone seems to be getting used to the new routines and finding ways to keep busy and productive. **Ann Brink** reported that she and **Hal** are enjoying hikes and walks around Great Barrington and shared a picture of their socially-distanced Mother's Day with their kids and grandkids (see below). They also give two thumbs up to the reincarnated **Open Table**, where they have picked up meals for themselves and a neighbor for the last two weeks.

**Jackie Hawkins** made us all laugh with some oh-too-true quarantine humor and we'll share the more presentable bits with you:

- Not to brag but I haven't been late to anything in over six weeks.
- Appropriate analogy: "The curve is flattening so we can start lifting restrictions now" = "The parachute has slowed our rate of descent, so we can take it off now."
- People keep asking: "Is coronavirus REALLY all that serious?" Listen y'all, the churches and casinos are closed. When heaven and hell agree on something, it's probably pretty serious.
- Never in a million years could I have imagined I would go up to a bank teller wearing a mask and ask for money.

**Anne Fix** reports that "I'm still working on crafts for the fair I hope we can have. Planted pots of vegetable seeds for same. I sent a check to each of our local pantries, the second this year, as we all felt the need was great to help people out in this traumatic time. Still have some masks I made, **if anyone needs a cloth mask, contact me.**" And of course, **Claire Williams** is "gardening on nice days --already have the cut flower garden planted! Doing puzzles, cleaning house, going to the dump, and lots of reading!" You can be sure those flowers will be turning up on the altar later in the summer.

**Anne Hutchinson** continues to coordinate the People's Pantry, with help from **Nancy Wilcox**, who stops in every week to bring masks and deliver food to a family in need. **Cindy Brown** also shops for some folks. Anne says, "I have crews of volunteers to stock shelves and pack bags - we are getting into a long-term pattern now. I don't think we will move back inside anytime soon." And when not feeding the multitudes, Anne is "...glad to

be gardening, mostly digging out my personal nemesis: goutweed." Good luck with that, Anne. We feel your pain.

My son, **Ted Hornick**, who grew up in this Church back in the day, is graduating this week - virtually, of course - from California State University in Fullerton with an MFA in Screenwriting. Is it sacrilegious to pray to the Gods of Gainful Employment?

And **Ann Brink** says, "I can't wait until we can all get together again." To that, we all say "**Amen!**"

~ Margaret Hornick, for the Service League



## A note from Terry

Thank you to the Service League for the donation of cotton print fabrics for the construction of face masks. After sewing more than 100 masks from these fabrics, and donating most of them to friends and neighbors, People's Pantry workers and shoppers, Austen Riggs housekeeping staff, Riverbrook women, and Stockbridge post office personnel, I have about 20 remaining. If you need a mask, you can take one from the basket on my front porch: 6 Cherry Hill Road in Stockbridge. Please be safe from the virus! ~ Terry Wise

## Art Show News

Olga Schwede plans to have the church's artists each provide one painting to display in the JE Room, hoping that at least a few folks can see them. Fingers crossed! The theme, appropriately, will be "Summer."

## Deacons

As the Deacons continue to discuss the ways that worship services have been evolving through the restrictions of the pandemic, we remain grateful for all who have been making the livestream Sunday services and Zoom groups not only possible, but stimulating and gratifying as well. We are so aware of the need to be in contact as a church family in whatever ways we can.

I have been thinking about the term “reopening,” which has come to signify so much in the past month. Some of the meaning is literal: some hiking trails are no longer chained off, some doors are newly unlocked, some businesses are replacing the “CLOSED” signs with “OPEN” ones. In the next few months, our church is going to be navigating its own stages of throwing off chains and unlocking doors. As I write this, a committee is forming to make the best plans possible for “reopening.” We do not know yet what that will look like, but if the recent past is any indication, our church will reopen sensitively, creatively, and safely. As a congregation we will, no doubt, adapt again, and draw close to one another in new ways.

As we continue to mark the season of Easter, and transition into Pentecost, I have noticed the ways the post-Resurrection world is depicted in the Gospels. Endings and new beginnings, exits and re-entrances are always difficult: full of change, which contains loss as well as growth. Jesus’s life on earth ends; he exits into the grave. The Disciples (and we modern folk too) all grieve. But then the Resurrection opens our hearts to a radically new beginning.

Throughout the Easter season, Jesus identifies opportunities for the Disciples—and us all—to grow. As we move toward “reopening” our society and our church, we have opportunities as individuals to reopen ourselves. As Brent says, we may need to oil the hinges on the doors to our hearts. We each will reopen differently from one another. We will make different choices; we will grow in different ways.

There likely will be stress within ourselves and, perhaps, between us, for that is the way growth works, as we know from our own development (and from our children’s!)

In his life and death and Resurrection, Jesus models human ambivalence, courage, deliberation, compassion, and acceptance. We may feel ambivalent about reopening anything, especially our hearts. We may need courage to even try. We may need time to deliberate and prepare, and we may change our minds repeatedly. We may need to be compassionate with ourselves and with others

as we all weigh the options for opening ourselves up. Throughout the process, we will all need to accept that we are human. And to remember that Jesus teaches us that precisely *because* we are human—fearful, uncertain, vulnerable in all kinds of ways—God loves us and is with us.

The hinges may creak, but God will help us reopen all the doors to our hearts, so that we can let the Spirit in.

~ Elizabeth Young, on behalf of the Board of Deacons

## New Program to Create Space for Kids

You might have noticed the orange cones blocking off the parking areas closest to the JE Room and Education Wing. Others have too! A sign is on the way to label it what families have already discovered – a place for kids to ride bikes or scooters or simply explore. It is hard to find such places in these times and many families have already expressed their gratitude for this blocked off space to let their young ones out and about. If you know of families looking for just such a place, please let them know about it. We are encouraging safe protocols including distancing and masks.



## Covid-19 Program Updates

### Open Table Serving Hundreds!

What started as an idea to feed hungry people, share delicious food, keep a new business alive, and provide an opportunity for service already has evolved into a bit of a tradition here in Stockbridge. For each of the last three weeks more than 100 meals have gone out into the community. Approximately forty to fifty percent of the meals are sent to folks at no cost. We have partnered with local housing agencies, with volunteers calling those who might have needs, and even local teachers have been ordering food for families they know could use it. Thank you to all those who are also ordering meals for yourself and for others.

We are continually trying to evaluate the quantity, quality, and nutrition of the food that is sent out to make sure that it is affordable (for folks and for The Lost Lamb). Changes have been made and are continuing to be made to make this program succeed.

To date the program has been self-supporting due to donations that come in each week as well as larger donations that appear periodically. Thank you to everyone who has supported this program.

Speaking of saying thanks, we could use a couple of volunteers to help make sure that we are expressing our gratitude to those who are contributing to this program. If you might like to help out by writing thank you cards (the church is happy to provide note cards and/or stamps), please contact Pastor Brent.

### The People's Pantry

Our food program in Great Barrington is very, very busy. It's good that we have been able to respond to the growing need for food but it's terrible for the reason: the growing numbers of folks who are not only food insecure but also have trouble paying for rent, utilities, and transportation.

We serve more families each week. We provided food to folks 1800 times last month (calculated by multiplying the

number of times a family member shopped × number of family members). According to the Food Bank of Western Mass we are now a "large" Pantry. We now purchase most of our food from the Food Bank and Guido's (wholesale). Local donors have come through with lots of funds but also cereal, pasta and tomato sauce.

We try to provide 40 to 50 pounds of nutritious food each week to each family. The food includes meat, milk, eggs, cereal and produce (some from local farmers). Donations always welcomed!

Thanks to monetary donations to First Congregational Church's COVID-19 Response Fund and the Food Pantry Fund, we are purchasing 150 to 200 rolls of toilet paper each week. The church orders this greatly appreciated non-food item through Brigham Paper in Pittsfield. Thanks to Gary Schieneman for transporting the cases from Stockbridge to Great Barrington.

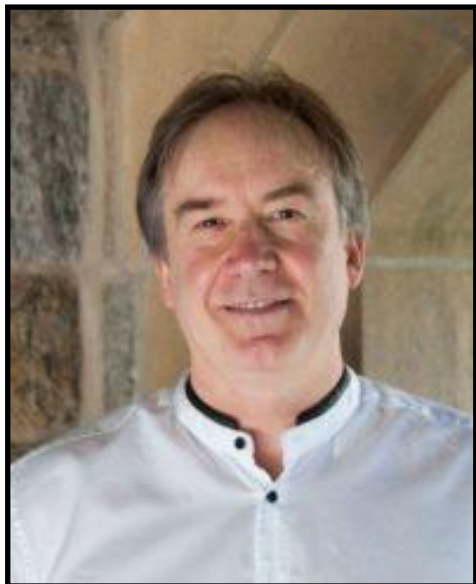
Several folks have made masks (shout out to Terry Wise and Anne Fix). Many have volunteered: Holland Brown, Cathy Clark, and Nancy Wilcox, to name a few.

Sophie Randolph has set up a terrific YouTube video showing the People's Pantry in action. This can be seen by going to our website, [thepeoplespantrygb.org](http://thepeoplespantrygb.org)

~Anne Hutchinson



## Meet Dr. Sándor Szabó



Greetings,

It is with great enthusiasm that I accept the call of Minister of Music at First Congregational Church! I can't imagine a more beautiful and inspiring setting to minister the word of God through music. To serve in a church community is not simply a job for me, but rather an expression of my faith and fulfillment of my gifts. It is my hope that FCC's Music Ministry will draw many people to the Church and to Christ, and inspire them in their worship to God. I invite all those interested in participating in the Music Ministry, from vocalists and handbell ringers to instrumentalists and liturgical dancers, to reach out to me anytime; I not only welcome, but encourage collaboration! As Minister of Music, I will make every effort to ensure that our musical selections exemplify the best liturgical music of all eras and styles, from the Renaissance to the present.

To conclude, I would like to extend a special thank-you to Brent and the entire search committee for their wonderful support and joyful spirit throughout the interviewing process. It will be my privilege and honor to work alongside such dedicated and faithful disciples of Christ. My wife Shelly and I, and our three children Zoltan (age 22), Tibor (age 21) and Szilvia (age 17), look forward to meeting all of you very soon!

Most Sincerely,

Sándor

Dr. Sándor Szabó is actively engaged as conductor, organist, pianist, harpsichordist, vocal coach, arranger, and adjudicator. Choirs and orchestras under his leadership have toured throughout Europe, Canada, and the United States, and he has performed in major concert halls and cathedrals in Europe, North America, and Asia. Dr. Szabó began his musical education in Yugoslavia. He graduated from the University of Novi Sad in 1984 with the diploma "Academic Musician in the Piano Art" and received a Master's degree from the University of Music Arts, Belgrade.

From 1983 until his immigration to Canada in 1988, Dr. Szabó carried on a performing career while teaching piano at the University of Music Arts, Novi Sad, and working as Assistant Conductor/Accompanist at the Serbian National Opera. Dr. Szabó has studied with many distinguished musicians, including conducting with Stanko Šepić, Ann Howard Jones and Joseph Flummerfelt; piano with Bordás Lajos, Jokuthon Mihajlović, Nevena Popović, Anthony di Bonaventura and Tong Il Han; organ with Max Miller, Eugene Roan and McNeil Robinson; and harpsichord with Mark Kroll.

Dr. Szabó holds Master's degrees in organ performance and sacred music from Westminster Choir College, where he was awarded the full-tuition Currin scholarship. He subsequently earned a DMA in piano performance at Boston University. He also holds the Fellowship Certificate (FAGO) from the American Guild of Organists and is a member of Phi Beta Delta, an honor society for international scholars, as well as Pi Kappa Lambda, a national music honor society. Dr. Szabo has held the post of Music Director in prominent churches in Ontario, Canada, MA, NJ, and NY.





## Shutters Going Back Up

The first set is already up and we expect the entire East facing side of the sanctuary to have them within a month. The original shutters have been meticulously restored and painted. The hardware on the building has either been restored or replaced so that the shutters now move easily and smoothly. Finally, the shutters have been secured to the building in a way that keeps them from swinging shut unintentionally and that relieves the pressure on the frames that can result in sagging over time.

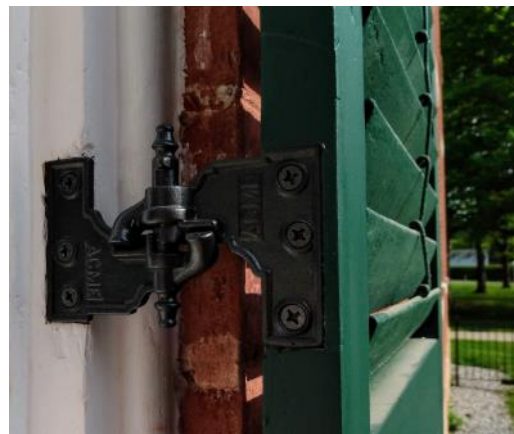
This work is a result of multiple grants that we have received and from the gifts you extended this past Christmas to finish the project. Don Haywood has done an impeccable job. Feel free to come by and take a closer look!

This is part of our responsibility to care for and pass on this building in better and stronger shape than we found it to the next generation. Thank you to Jon Geldert and Ross Jolly for their shepherding of this project (and the restoration of the windows that preceded it).

## Task Force Formed to Address Questions Related to Gatherings and Building Use

When Governor Baker announced a phased approach to “re-opening” the Commonwealth, his administration included houses of worship as entities that can start to resume face-to-face gatherings under certain conditions. It gives us the ability to consider why we might, whether we will, and under what circumstances it makes sense and fulfills our purpose. Just because we can do something does not mean that we necessarily should.

The Southern New England Conference of the UCC has also recently released guidelines and recommendations around this question. Their approach incorporates some of the core values of our faith in helping local congregations discern the path forward. The Conference raises good questions and explores some of the logistical challenges and benchmarks that churches should be able to address and meet to ensure the safety of those who might come.



This task force come from the broader leadership of the church with representation from Boards and Council. Members include Hal Brink (Deacons), Jack Brown (Music), Cathy Clark (Moderator), Michael Deegan (G & F), Will Garrison (Staff), Diane Piraino (CE), and Pastor Brent.

We all know that there will be joy when we are able to be in the presence of one another once again. We also know that we have a responsibility to one another, to our community, our health system, and those most vulnerable to act in ways that are loving and caring.

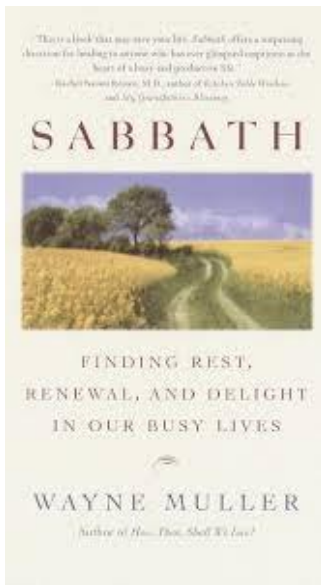
On Friday, May 29, this task force will meet for the first time. Grounded in prayer and guided by resources from State and Conference, the group will first discern the values and philosophy of our approach as well as the most important aspects of our gatherings. This will provide the framework as we then try to answer those questions of why, whether, and how. If you have questions, concerns, or input feel free to contact the church office or any of the members. Thank you for your support.

## Small Groups: SABBATH

During these times of physical distancing, work at home, and staying in there is new energy around the topic of slowing down. Folks are already sharing how they are using this time to connect to people, read a favorite book again or even clean long neglected spots. All are good. Within the Ten Commandments is the teaching to “remember the sabbath day to keep it holy.” Sabbath is a slowing down in an intentional way to remember who we are and to whom we belong. By resting from our compulsion to create, produce, consume or distract – sabbath offers a grounding that will last even when the pace of life resumes (as I promise it will).

Two groups have already launched into this study with amazing results. The conversations have brought us back to our childhoods, into the realness of these moments and toward the future and what we are slowly learning we need. Folks who finished the first group have already had the chance to reflect on their experience which some called life changing. Here are a few:

- For decades, I have tended to overextend myself, get stressed, and then wobble or even break down—a chronic problem for many people. When I joined the Sabbath Group, I did not know that finally I would be able to transform my relationship to time, work, and God. As the group explored our assumptions about rest and relaxation by discussing four illuminating books on the concept of Sabbath, each of us developed individual Sabbath practices. We shared our experiences, reflecting on our own and each other’s ideas, discoveries, and challenges with enthusiasm, compassion and encouragement. As I continue to mark a quiet time of holistic and holy rest every week, I find myself happier and more at ease, and also more deeply connected to the world. (Elizabeth Young)
- Psalm 46:10 says this: “Be still, and know that I am God.” What a blessing to be able to connect with friends from church via Zoom and share books, ideas and feelings around the idea of Sabbath! My concept of Sabbath has definitely expanded to include thoughts from Walter Brueggemann’s book, *Sabbath As Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now*. This was the book (one of four) that I read. Living in the midst of a pandemic, I found the book to be so relevant. In some ways I am living Sabbath seven



days a week in quarantine. It is a period of reflection for me, and a time to reexamine and reorient my life. Brueggemann exposes our consumer-oriented, fast-paced world, which seems to value the economy, competitiveness and greed over human life. He compares our culture to society in Biblical times. I hope to live my life with Sabbath as the center, loving my God and with compassion loving my neighbor as myself. These are Jesus’ commandments to us. I also loved hearing about the other three Sabbath books that members of the group read, and we shared ways we practice Sabbath each week. I am so grateful to have had this small group experience. (Vicky Cooper)

- The most important thing that occurred as a result of our weekly small group meetings with Brent is that it reinstated Sabbath into my life as a *weekly practice*. Who knew? And the effects continue to reverberate throughout my life—learning to slow down, hike, savor the names of birds and trees as I walk (which was greatly aided by my reading of Wendell Berry’s collection of Sabbath poems, *This Day*. And in general release the fear of non-doing while recognizing how that facilitated the experience of *God-doing*. (Jo Ann Levitt)

In groups of eight we will explore this topic from a Biblical/Theological standpoint (Walter Brueggemann), a practical standpoint (Wayne Muller), a poetic standpoint (Wendell Berry), and a close look at the idea of time in our faith tradition (Dorothy Bass). Each participant will pick

one standpoint to engage and read one author. In each group two different people will be reading the same book to make sure we are covered and to allow for different insights to emerge. In our small group time on Zoom we will share what we are learning, challenge ourselves to set aside time for Sabbath, and relate our experiences doing so. We found this approach to offer rich and deep possibilities.

Due to the nature of these groups we need participants to be able to commit to the four sessions and to be able to read their chosen book. To sign up, simply e-mail Pastor Brent. Once we have six to eight people signed up, we will pick dates and times for our gatherings and get started. If we enough interest for another group, we will launch that one too. We have the books in the office and can handle them cleanly and leave yours in a Ziploc bag behind the church for you to pick up.

Questions? Give Brent a call or send him a note.

THE HIGH MEADOW FOUNDATION  
MAIN STREET, BOX 954  
STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262

May 15, 2020

Rev. Brent Damrow, Pastor  
First Congregational Church  
PO Box 825  
Stockbridge, MA 01262

Dear Brent:

We are pleased to enclose a \$6,500 donation from the High Meadow Foundation. The First Congregational Church has played a significant role in the lives of the Fitzpatrick family and certainly the town of Stockbridge. We feel it is fitting that the church receive the last donation from the High Meadow Foundation. Please use the funds where needed most, to sustain the church and its good work.

With our best wishes,

Alexander Brown, President  
Nancy J. Fitzpatrick, Treasurer  
Tamara Stevens, Clerk

enc.

The church is very grateful to have received a wonderful surprise gift with such deep meaning from the High Meadow Foundation.



Celebrations for Erving's birthday and Ted/Diane's Anniversary!





**“Star Baker” contest brings love!** Go to our website to see what people are cooking up and to vote on your favorites related to the theme and/or to what you most want to eat!



## Gardens!

The volunteer crew planted the church’s vegetable garden on May 26, and it’s already looking great.

Alice Collins and her crew volunteered to clean out the flower beds near the church. Thanks!

Note the traffic cones set to create a safe space for kids to ride bikes. See article on page six.