



First United Methodist Church of Marlboro

The Link - May 2008

Service of Animal Companion Remembrance

In Genesis, humankind is given dominion over all living things. So, we are called to love and care for the environment and especially for our animal companions who give us unconditional love and joy throughout their lives. For most of us, our pets are just like family members. And for those who are blessed with service animals, lives are made immeasurably fuller and more functional due to the special God-given talents of animals.

When we lose an animal companion, we grieve that loss just as we grieve the loss of a human relationship. Unfortunately, our busy culture does not often recognize or allow holy ways of thanking God for the blessing of shared lives and purpose.

If you or a family member, a friend or colleague, has suffered the loss of an animal companion, please consider joining us for a special service of Animal Companion Remembrance. This second annual service will consist of music, prayer, and readings. It is at North Grafton UMC, 10 Overlook Street, North Grafton, MA 01536. It begins at 10 AM on **May 10th** and will last approximately 30 minutes. We will then walk a block to inter the ashes of Emma, a kitty companion to a sister in the North Grafton Church. Refreshments will be served immediately following the service. A love offering will be taken, to benefit the Pet Bereavement Hotline of Tufts Cummings Veterinary School in Grafton.

Those attending are encouraged to bring photos or other small mementos of the deceased animal companion. We will place the mementos near the altar and celebrate the unique story of each animal companion.

Register Now for Vacation Bible Camp

Children entering grades K – 6 are invited to “SonWorld Adventure Park” a Vacation Bible Camp to be co-hosted this year by our church and Holy Trinity Anglican Church. This exciting and spiritually uplifting camp experience happens July 28 – August 1, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Children will enjoy daily Bible lessons and games as well as crafts, skits, snacks, and outdoor activities. The cost is just \$5 per child for the whole week. Please see Lee Caissie or Alyson Cox for more information.

WHO News

The ladies of WHO (Women Helping Others) met on Saturday, April 19 to prepare an excellent meal for Roland's House. Many thanks to all who came and contributed to this worthy mission.

WHO's next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 21, at 7:15 PM in the meeting room. All women are welcome! In the meantime, please mark your calendars for our next "Tea", scheduled for Sunday, June 22 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in the lovely gardens of our own Ann Edelman. You won't want to miss it!

Reminder: Annual Pillow Drive to Benefit Homeless Shelter

W.H.O. (Women Helping Others) is again sponsoring the spring pillow drive to benefit Roland's House, Marlborough's homeless shelter. We need at least 24 pillows. To date, we have half of what we need. Please bring new standard sized bed pillows and pillow cases to the church office BEFORE May 18. The pillows and cases will be presented to staff of Roland's House, who will be our special guests in worship on May 18.

We are hosting the Community Veterans' Memorial Service on May 25

The Marlborough Veterans' Council has invited FUMC to host the annual community-wide service honoring veterans on the Sunday before Memorial Day, May 25. As always, we will light candles remembering the saints who have gone before us from our families and our congregation. Additionally, we will welcome veterans from all branches of military service as they memorialize their comrades. Please make a special effort to be present to help greet and escort these veterans, many of whom are elderly and will be in need of our assistance.

Calling All Hands!

Our annual church cleanup is Saturday, May 10 (next Saturday!). Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on **Saturday, May 10, 1:00 – 5:00 PM**. We will clean both inside and outside the church, weather permitting. Our goal is to have our church sparkling clean and flawlessly maintained before we host the entire community on the last Sunday of May for the Veterans' Memorial Day service.

There are tasks for all age and ability levels. As we all know, it takes many hands and many hours to maintain a building as old as our historic church building. Let's show our community how much pride of ownership we have! Please bring your favorite rakes, tools, brooms, and gloves. The Trustees will provide cleaning materials and a pizza dinner.

Pentecost Sunday is May 11

Along with our annual celebration of Mother's Day, we also celebrate the birthday of the Church at Pentecost. Fire (like the Methodist flame) is a predominant symbol for Pentecost. So, we invite you to bring bouquets of red, orange, yellow or blue flowers to decorate the church. Also, search your closets for red, orange, yellow or blue clothing to wear. Let us surround ourselves with a spirit of thanksgiving for our mothers and a spirit of joy for the birthday of the Church!

vacation Bible Camp: Help wanted

Did you know that you don't have to be available during Vacation Bible Camp in order to be an important part of Vacation Bible Camp? It's true! Vacation Bible Camp needs lots of support, beginning now to prepare the way for this important ministry. Prior to Vacation Bible Camp, we are looking for Decorating Helpers, Grounds Maintenance, and T-Shirt makers. We're also looking for a coordinator and helpers for a car wash fundraiser on Saturday, June 14. And of course, if you are available during the week of July 28 – August 1, we still need lots of helpers for lessons, crafts, snacks, and the all-important daily clean-up effort. If you can help with any of this, please see Lee Caissie or Alyson Cox for more information. Also, please come if you can to our next meeting on **Friday, May 9 at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall.**

**Mother's Day Carnations
For the Altar Sunday May 11th**

Name/From _____

Telephone Number _____

Payment enclosed _____ check _____ cash

QTY	COLOR	PRICE	AMOUNT PAID
	WHITE (In memory of)	\$1.00 ea	
	RED (In honor of)	\$1.00 ea	
		Total	

In Memory of (white): _____

In Honor of (red): _____

Place all orders in collection plate or send/mail to the church office. Orders must be in not later than 05/06/2007. Please take your carnation(s) following the service.

Church Calendar for May 2008

1	Thursday	9:00 AM	Membership Committee, home of Jean Dorchester
		7:00 PM	Worship at New Horizons with Holy Communion
3	Saturday	1:00-4:00 PM	Lay Speaking School, all classrooms
		4:00 PM	Graduation and Closing Worship for Lay Speaking School with Holy Communion
4	Sunday	11:00 AM	Ascension Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
		Noon	Coffee Hour Fellowship, Vestry
5	Monday	10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study, home of Bess Cowan
7	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Trustees, Meeting Room
8	Thursday	9:00 AM	Membership Committee, home of Jean Dorchester
		7:00 PM	Worship at New Horizons
10	Saturday	10 AM	Service of Animal Companion Remembrance at North Grafton UMC
		1:00-4:00 PM	Cleanup Day, inside and outside of church
11	Sunday	11:00 AM	Pentecost Sunday with Holy Communion
			Mother's Day celebration with flowers
		Noon	Coffee Hour Fellowship, Vestry
12	Monday	10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study, home of Bess Cowan
15	Thursday	7:00 PM	Worship at New Horizons Assisted Living
17	Saturday	8:30-1:00 PM	Annual Conference Briefing, Westborough UMC
		2:00 PM	Preparation of Homeless Shelter Meal, church kitchen
18	Sunday	11:00 AM	Sunday Worship, Sue Lodi guest preacher
			Guests are staff from the Homeless Shelter as we bless Pillows from our annual pillow drive for the shelter
		Noon	Coffee Hour Fellowship, Vestry
19	Monday	10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study, home of Bess Cowan
21	Wednesday	7:15 PM	W.H.O. (Women Helping Others), Meeting Room
22	Thursday	7:00 PM	Worship at New Horizons
25	Sunday	11:00 AM	Memorial Day Worship, Community-wide Worship with Veterans
26	Monday	10:00 AM	Adult Bible Study, home of Bess Cowan
29	Thursday	7:00 PM	Worship at New Horizons

SPRING YARD SALE - May 17th, 9 am - 3 pm

The Youth Groups Annual Spring Yard Sale is happening soon. Start your Spring cleaning all donations may be left in the storage room-right-hand side behind the stage Thanks in advance for all your help!!

Set-up will be Friday night, May 16th, 5 - 8 pm. All are welcome to help us set up and work the sale. Come early and get first look at fine treasures!



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Address Correction Requested

Pastor Linda Stetter

