

The Spire

From Your Pastor

May 2011

FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

PLANT THREE ROWS OF LETTUCE:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient

NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:

1. Turnip for meeting
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE THYME:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends

WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE.
THERE IS MUCH FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN BECAUSE YOU REAP
WHAT YOU SOW.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

May's Deacon of the Month is Jim Findlay.

Congregational Meeting May 15th

There will be a special meeting of the congregation after church on Sunday, May 15 to vote on the proposed by-laws as amended at the April 17th quarterly meeting.

Board of Mission and Social Justice One Great Hour of Sharing

When Sue Davis talked about Habitat for Humanity last month, she talked about its offering us an opportunity to help our neighbors in need with action beyond putting pen to check. She spoke of the opportunity for hands-on work in our community to assist in Habitat "community builds". When our neighbors in need are on the other side of the globe, however, especially in emergencies, donating dollars through organizations already on the ground is practical. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is part of the UCC's contribution to a wider mission for people in more than 80 countries. The UCC works with international partners to support health, education, refugee, and agricultural initiatives as well as emergency relief. Part of the OGHS offering – 17% – is used for disaster preparedness and response. Because of our own annual donations to One Great Hour of Sharing, we know that our mission dollars are already in motion making a difference where help is needed when it is needed. This year, our KCC One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be in May.

SCRIP - JUNE - JULY

THINK AHEAD

FATHER'S DAY

BROOKS BROTHERS 16%, LL BEAN 15%,
ORVIS 17%, NIKE 12%

GRADUATION

BARNES & NOBLE, AMAZON, HOME GOODS, BED BATH & BEYOND

WEDDINGS

POTTERY BARN, CRATE AND BARREL

WILLIAMS-SONOMA

**COME VISIT OUR TABLE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL EVERY SUNDAY.
CHECKS AND CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED**

Blue Jean Sunday is May 1ST

Everyone is encouraged to stay after church on May 1st to help the Trustees and Andy spruce up the church. Helpful items to bring include rags, cleaning/wax supplies, step ladders, rakes, gloves, trash bags, canister vacuum cleaners, floor mops, spray/dusters, etc. It would also be helpful to have a few pick-up trucks available for moving leaves. Lunch will be provided to all workers. Please come and help with the Spring Cleaning!

Annual Meeting of the Congregational Society in the Pettaquamscutt Purchase

The 192nd Annual Meeting of the Congregational Society in the Pettaquamscutt Purchase will be held on Wednesday, May 11 at 7:00 PM in the Fireplace Room of our church. All members of the Kingston Congregational Church are also members of the Society. The Officers are President Elizabeth McNab, Secretary Delight Carpenter, and Treasurer Dick Geisler. The Society owns and manages the KCC Cemeteries; until 1960 it owned the Church Meeting House. This meeting will be followed by the regular monthly Trustees' meeting.

Church Women United

Church Women United of South County is sponsoring May Friendship Day on Friday, May 6, 2011 at Christ United Methodist Church, 2291 Kingstown Road, South Kingstown. Women and men from all faith congregations and other interested individuals are cordially invited. Participants are asked to bring a salad and a place setting for the noon luncheon. Any questions, please call Diane Jacobson 783-8725.

RICUCC Lay Women Honoree

On March 26th the UCC RI Conference held a Lay Women of the Rhode Island Conference breakfast for all the churches at Central Congregational Church in Providence. For this event our KCC Honoree was Delight Carpenter.

From the program:

“Delight Carpenter – Delight is active in the music ministry of Kingston having served as organist, chair of the music committee and substitute choir director. She was instrumental (pun intended) in raising money for our new organ, chaired the concert committee, was church school director, and serves on the church’s by-laws committee. She has been active in the Women’s Fellowship, as a leader and team player. Delight is always there to help, giving her best with a loving, positive attitude, a cheerful smile and a laugh! She lives and sings her faith – she truly is a Delight!”

“The Family”
A Musical about the Mob

June 2 – July 1, 2011

Performances at The Lederer Theater Center,
Home of Trinity Repertory Co.

Written by: Arlene Violet
Composer and Lyricist: Enrico Garzilli
Director: Peter Sampieri

Tickets and Info: TrinityRep.com
Box Office: 401-351-4242

The Rhode Island Audubon Society and Wind Power

Clarification of the Audubon Society’s position regarding wind energy (following a discussion at the Women’s Fellowship March meeting with Senator Sue Sosnowski)

From Executive Director Lawrence J. F. Taft:

“Audubon’s position on wind energy is simple. We strongly support properly-sited wind power as a clean alternative energy source, which along with conservation and other alternative energy sources will help reduce the threat of global warming.

Studies have clearly shown that Rhode Island has sufficient wind resources to make wind power an economically viable alternative.”

“As concerned stakeholders Audubon staff have spent much of the past year participating in an exhaustive planning process, coordinated through the Coastal Resources Management Council, for the proposed off shore wind farm. We will continue to do so in the coming year. However, the situation of land-based turbines appears to be moving along in an ad-hoc fashion.

We would support the adoption of comprehensive guidelines here in Rhode Island on the study, siting, operation and mitigation of all wind power as well as other alternative energy sources (e.g. solar, hydro and wave energy).

Guidelines should provide developers, permitting agencies, and conservation groups with the legal, technical and practical steps needed to minimize impacts on birds and other wildlife as we work toward our mutual goal of reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and reducing greenhouse emissions.”

Elizabeth Metz McNab

Elizabeth was born in Madison to Dr. William and Clarice Metz when her father was working on his doctorate degree at the University of Wisconsin. When he then accepted a history position at RI State College (now URI), the family moved to Kingston in 1945. There Elizabeth and younger brother, Bill, attended the College's Nursery School in the Watson House. This writer probably watched them through the one-way window used by student observers in Child Development courses. Sister Margaret joined the Fortin Road family (later on Cherry Road) and the three children attended schools in the South Kingstown School System. Elizabeth went on to Bates College in Maine majoring in English. She always wanted to be a teacher and took education courses there and at URI's summer school. It was at Bates that she and David met while both were in theater. They were married here at KCC after her graduation and went on to become house parents at the Hinckley School in Maine where David taught. With both of them teaching (Elizabeth in Skowhegan) it was an interesting year for the newlyweds living with teenagers.

Although their son, Allan, was expected momentarily they decided to move to the University of Alaska in Fairbanks to earn masters' degrees. Allan was born at South County Hospital while Dave was en route to Alaska. Elizabeth and six week old Allan flew north much to the dismay of Elizabeth's mother who hated to see her first grandchild leave. Soon after arriving Elizabeth joined the University orchestra and because of the extreme cold needed to wrap her violin case in a wool blanket to protect the instrument. While earning her M.Ed. she worked in the English Department and taught part-time in the North Star Borough School System. She soon decided that she had energy enough to run a home nursery school!

Two years after Allan's birth Elizabeth and Dave adopted a baby girl. They traveled 1000 miles to Ketchikan, Alaska by VW bus, ferry, and seaplane. Debi was just a month old. While Dave loaded U of A supplies in Juneau to transport back, Elizabeth and Debi flew back to Fairbanks.

After three years the family moved to Rhode Island where Dave studied in Oceanography with Dr. John Sieburth. Elizabeth hoped to substitute teach while the children were little, but was offered a contract immediately by the SK School Department working with Tony Faella who was principal at West Kingston. Elizabeth's mother happily offered to take care of her grandchildren so Elizabeth started her long career teaching for the next 34 years at West Kingston School.

The family had many outdoor interests, enjoying hiking parts of the Appalachian Trail, camping across the United States, and canoeing. They ran a tent campground for the AMC on the Saco River in Maine for over ten summers. Another interest is travel; Elizabeth has visited all 50 states and the Canadian provinces. Trips have taken her to the Far East (China, Japan, and Korea), Central America (working with leatherback sea turtles) and the Caribbean, Mexico, Venezuela, northern Europe and Russia. This February she journeyed to Cambodia with son Allan. She thoroughly enjoys her adventures with her four grandchildren (Douglas, William, Zachary, and Clarice) and their visits to Cherry Road.

Elizabeth has been a very active volunteer. For over 43 years she has been a member of the URI Orchestra. Among other activities she was a Girl Scout leader and Southgansett Neighborhood Chair, served on the Boards of the Friends of the Kingston Library, the Courthouse Center for the Arts, the DAR, the retired teachers' organization, and the Kingston Fire District, and worked with local historical (South County Museum and Pettaquamscutt Historical Society), environmental and social concern groups. She has served as President of Special Ministries (an ecumenical church group) and on numerous KCC committees including the Cemetery Committee, taught Sunday school, been a Delegate, and much more. She has been a member of the Kingston Congregational Church since 1956, some 55 years.

Pat Weeden, April 2011