



The Mary Lyon Church First Congregational Church of Buckland

17 Upper Street

P.O.Box 87

Buckland MA 01338

Church 413-625-9440

Pastor 413-634-5451

www.marylyonchurch.org

info@marylyonchurch.org

July 2020

Above image: "Heart of New England" painted in 1939

by Robert Strong Woodward (1885-1957)

Used with permission: <http://www.robertstrongwoodward.com>

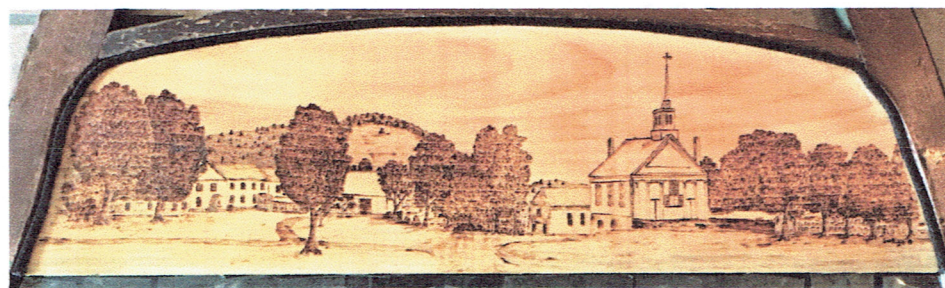


Photo at left is of an etching by church member Sue Chadwick. Sue donated this work of art a year ago to the Cemetery Assoc. as a raffle prize

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Independence Day - July 4th - celebrating the the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 by the Continental Congress.			1 Happy Birthday Jennifer L.	2	3	4 July 4 th
5 10:30 Worship	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 10:30 Worship	13	14 Happy Birthday Eric T.	15	16	17	18 Happy Birthday Pastor Rich
19 10:30 Worship	20	21	22 Happy Birthday Paul A..	23	24	25
26 10:30 Worship	27 Happy Birthday Melissa G..	28 Happy Birthday Jim C.	29	30	31	

Spirit of '76

WORSHIP SERVICES: We announced at our Zoom virtual worship on 6/21/20 that we planned to try in-person worship this week 6/28 in our beautiful sanctuary. Later on, it was decided to postpone the plan and hold the 6/28/2020 worship via Zoom. Across our church community there are many different reactions – from great relief to great disappointment, from determination to frustration. Pastor Rich said, *“I know the process toward discerning this Sunday (6/28) was varied and confusing, but I’m hoping and praying that we all come together enough so we can continue to be the community we all love.”*

Members of the Worship & Spiritual Life and the Buildings & Grounds Committees have had many meetings since 5/18/2020 when Gov. Baker lifted closure of church buildings to allow face to face worship provided the gatherings adhere to a number of requirements and guidelines. There are many things to consider and many procedures to be put in place. Committee members have done much research and it is still ongoing. Costs are being evaluated regarding holding in-person worship and being able to simultaneously have the service recorded and sent out over the internet either live or on a later date. These options are great for our members and friends who have technology capabilities but it leaves out those who only have the option of using their telephones. Costs and logistics are being researched that would allow us to hold worship services outside from the safe social distancing of being in our cars similar to what other churches have been doing. Research includes studying best practices suggested by boards of health, town officials, janitorial services, and other churches of many different denominations both locally and nationally. The committee members are grateful that individuals have offered to help cover the costs for technology and/or equipment that might be needed, this is so generous and appreciated. However, what exactly is needed to have the best outcome is still being determined. The decision on what to set in place that will be inclusive of everyone, that will result in all our members and friends having the opportunity to join us, is complicated.

The committees are going to continue to meet every week to determine each Sunday’s worship offering. Whether it is determined to be in-person worship or Zoom worship or something in between, we will notify everyone either by email or by telephone to keep you informed. If you would like to share how you are feeling about this, please contact Pastor Rich 413-634-5451 or chair persons Pat B. on Spiritual Life or Carl N. on Buildings & Grounds, or email them: info@marylyonchurch.org. Your input is important and we want to hear from you! Thank you for your patience as we figure this out together in prayer and the loving community we strive to be.

“Such chaotic times, and I see the cracks of divisiveness forming in our community and it concerns me. And yes, I too wonder what it’s all about, how did we get here? A lot of it is from our own worldwide human choices and failings. But despite that, I still trust that the God force is working through this mess trying to bring about, through the hearts and hands of compassionate and loving people, a better world, a more united humanity, and all of us will be, and are already, conduits and channels of the healing God-force and Christ Spirit.” – Pastor Rich

Call To Worship 6/28/2020:

O God, we come before you with open hearts and ears. Please speak to us your life-giving word in these bewildering times. Speak through our silence and worship, our singing and praying, spark in us the spirit of oneness. There is nothing that does not contain your spark ready to be kindled to abundant life and love. So, this morning, whether we are in the physical church or a “virtual church,” help us to know that we are church when we are together in oneness with the Christ Spirit. Keep us faithful, patient, trusting, and loving, as together we traverse this wilderness of pandemic, confusion and challenge. We may not know what the future holds right now - but we know WHO holds the future – God. Amen

Thoughtsnlife.com



As you enter the unknown future, you may need faith to meet its challenges. A faith that can move mountains, a hope that keeps you going and above all love which keeps all relationships well-oiled can be so helpful.



*Thank you to all who sent
birthday greetings. I truly
enjoyed each and every one!
Where did one hundred years
go? Hope you all are as lucky as
I am. Thank you again.*

Alta

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Telephone Charges & Zoom

If you call in to Zoom via your home "land line" telephone, you may incur long distance charges on your monthly phone bill. Charges depend on your own personal long-distance plan. The area code 929 used to call into our Zoom worship is actually New York City. We regret if coming to church with us is costing you a higher telephone bill. Please don't stop joining us because of the cost of the phone call – we can work out the cost together! There are options for you to join us! Reach out to us via calling the pastor at 413-625-5451. Your name will be kept in complete confidence.

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Flowers for Worship

July Cyndie S.
Aug Sue A.
Sept Luahn

BOOK NOOK

What are you reading these days? Luahn plans to start the book, "Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation" by Cokie Roberts. Published in 2004, this book covers the period of 1775 - 1797. A review on Amazon.com says, "[This book is] about the incredible women who ran the households, businesses, crops, plantations, and children of the men who were forming the backbone of this nation..." Luahn has selected it to read in the hopes, "to gain inspiration from strong women who managed a lot more than I am right now! I often think of the first women who occupied this 1779 house that we live in and how utterly hard life was..."

Tina just finished reading Richie Davis' collection of stories titled "Inner Landscapes" available at Boswell's Books and Sawyer News, both in Shelburne Falls, World Eye Bookshop in Greenfield and Broadside Bookshop in Northampton, as well as online [here](#) or visit Davis' website: richiedavis.net. It includes interviews of local people Davis' has interviewed over the forty years he was a reporter at the Greenfield Recorder.

Share your book recommendations with us. Call or email Luahn.

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July CANCELLATIONS due to COVID-19:

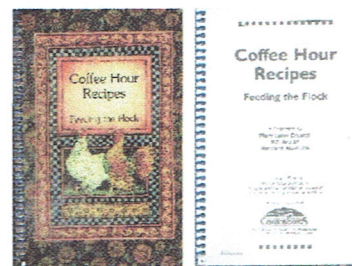
- Local fireworks
- A Summer Day on the Buckland Common
- No Shelburne Falls Military Band Concerts this month

FROM THE FINANCE, INVESTED FUNDS, AND PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who have sent in weekly offerings! Your generosity will keep us keep up with church expenses. Please continue to mail your donations payable to the Mary Lyon Church to our church collector, Vi S. whose address is in our directory or mail to the church to Vi's attention at Mary Lyon Church, P.O. Box 87, Buckland, MA 01338

If you would like more details or have questions about our church's budget, please send an email to info@marylyonchurch.org or call the church and leave a message at 413-625-9440.

CHURCH COOKBOOKS FOR SALE



\$12.00 each

includes postage

We'll mail to you!

Email your order to info@marylyonchurch.org
Or call (413) 339-4231

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Food Pantry Collections

July: Soup & Crackers

Aug: Baking ingredients

Sept: Cereal/oatmeal

Pickup days:

Tues. 7/14 & 7/28 - 3 to 6 pm at Ashfield Congo. Church on Rt. 116 in Ashfield.

If you want to donate food, call 413-625-0020 and arrange either a pick up at your home or meet time at the church in Ashfield.

Should you wish to send a financial donation directly, mail to: Hilltown Churches Food Pantry, c/o First Congregational Church, Main St. Rt. 116 P.O. Box 161 Ashfield, Ma. 01330 OR send to our church attn Missions, put Food Pantry on the memo line.

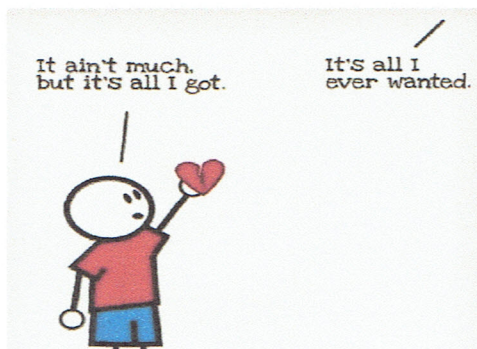
Update from the Windows

Capital Campaign

Committee

Donations are still very welcome for our stained-glass window restoration project. Our current receipts are now over \$80,000. We are very close to our goal of \$90,000 although, if we are able to collect above our goal, we could obtain the protective covering for our windows.

Thanks so much for all contributions!



The Bible in Fifty Words From Daily Guideposts 2020

Thanks for sharing this Evelyn!

*God made, Adam bit,
Noah arked, Abraham split,
Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled,
bush talked, Moses balked,
Pharaoh plagued,
people walked, sea divided,
tablets guided,
promise landed,
Saul freaked, David peeked,
prophets warned,
Jesus born, God walked,
love talked, anger crucified,
hope died, Love rose,
spirit flamed, word spread,
God remained.*

The Bible contains 789,650 words, more or less, depending on which translation is read. It has been said that, on average, women speak 20,000 words a day and men utter only 7,000 words. If 20,000 words daily were used to read the Bible aloud, it would take nearly forty days.

Words, whether a few or many, have a tremendous impact on the hearts and minds of those who hear them.

Window Images Greeting Cards For Sale

in packs of six for \$15.00

You pick images



Price includes postage.

Email info@marylyonchurch.org

or call Tina.

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Craft Club

Hope all of you who are crafty are crafting up a storm for the November Silver Bell Bazaar. We will again, postpone getting together in July until we can be comfortably able to make our crafts with each other. Please let Chairperson Cyndie S. know what you will be adding to the wonderful collection of crafts for the bazaar. Thanks so much!

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Monday Nighters

Our sewing and quilting group has suspended their meetings but work on this year's "Shakespeare in the Park" will not fall by the wayside. The theme of the Monday Nighter activity right now is "There are some constants in our world!" Potholders are being sold at

Atherton Farm so there are folks working

on those

(mostly Vi, of course!). Lastly, a few diligent Monday Nighters seamstresses, near and far, are working on a baby quilt.

Call Sue at the farm 413-625-2659 or Luahn P.-F. for more information.

