



Photo art thanks to Judy Sealice

**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

December 2021

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. Luke 2: 13-15

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Happy Birthday Sue Ath.	4
5 Worship 10:30am Advent Peace	6	7 Remember Pearl Harbor	8 Happy Birthday Pat B.	9	10	11
12 Worship 10:30am Advent Joy	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Worship 10:30am Advent Love	20	21 Winter Begins	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas
26 Worship 10:30am Christ Candle Lighting	27	28	29	30 Happy Birthday Frank LaB.	31 New Year's Eve 	

<u>Flowers for Worship.</u> Dec. – Pat C. Jan. – Margaret “Bunny” D. Feb. – Gail A.	<u>Food Pantry Collections</u> Dec: Peanut Butter & Jelly/jam Jan: Soup & Crackers Feb: Baking Ingredients
---	--

Food Pantry Pickup days: Tues. 12/14 & 12/28 from 3 pm to 5 pm

at Ashfield Congregational Church on Rt. 116 in Ashfield. If you want to donate food, bring to our church or call 413-625-0020 and arrange either a pick up at your home or meet time at the Ashfield church. Should you wish to send a financial donation directly, mail to: Hilltown Churches Food Pantry, c/o First Congregational Church, Main Street, Rt. 116, P.O. Box 161 Ashfield, MA. 01330 OR send to our church attn Missions, put Food Pantry on the memo line.

Hilltown Churches Food Pantry: Sharing Gifts

As we did last year at Christmas time, we are giving each child who has been registered a \$100.00 gift card instead of clothes and toys. The program is now called “Sharing Gifts.” If you would like to make a donation you can send a check to HILLTOWN Churches Food Pantry, Box 161, Ashfield, MA 01330. On the memo line of your check please write “Sharing Gifts” so that it goes into the Food Pantry account.

**

Monday Nighters

Monday Nighters group is on hiatus until the new year although some of our creations such as potholders, jar openers and balsam bags can be found at the Atherton Farm Stand, Rt.112, Buckland just down the road from the church. Some Monday Nighters and friends are continuing to work on our Dresden Plate pattern quilt (pictured) in their homes, near and far! Our plan is to have it ready in the spring.



Finance, Invested Funds and Properties Committee

NEXT MEETING Sunday Dec. 5th in person, after church service

If you haven't yet sent in your priority order (1st 2nd 3rd) for the capital-type projects the committee is investigating – protection for stained glass windows, repair/upgrade of Carillon (music from the steeple), and possible furnace repair/upgrade - please call chairperson Ken W. at 508-529-3973. If folks have any questions or concerns related to the church budget/expenses, don't hesitate to contact the Finance Committee. Please let chairperson Ken W. know by calling him or be in touch with any member of the committee: Ken W., Eric T., Luahn P., Paul W. or Doug M.

Thank You for Your Continued Support

Offerings and weekly donations payable to the Mary Lyon Church can be sent 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. This money goes to church expenses like utilities, insurance, pastor salary, etc.

Silver Bell Bazaar

The Mary Lyon Church "Silver Bell Bazaar" was a great success. It was a wonderful team effort with so many folks pitching in to help.

Thanks to everyone who assisted with setting up tables and arranging items on Thursday and Friday before the bazaar.

Thanks to those who worked during the

Saturday hours at the bazaar. Also, to everyone who helped with dismantling the bazaar and putting away tables, thank you. You are all so appreciated.

Many hands make light work and it was definitely true throughout all the workings of the bazaar. We don't have a final total, but so far, along with the luncheon and quilt raffle, we netted over \$3,000. We will have a final total for everyone in the next newsletter.

Thanks also to those who donated items for the silent auction, bake sale, and other tables. Again, thanks so much for everyone's efforts with this fun and profitable fundraiser.



4D1G Gospel Quartet
Christmas Carol Sing & Concert
Saturday Dec. 4th 6:00 pm FREE

JaDuke Performing Arts Center, 110 Industrial Blvd., Turners Falls
Everyone is invited to this free event. The 4D1G Quartet will be singing many favorite Christmas carols as well as other selections and they will be joined by other gifted singers and musicians. The group is excited to be back this year! See you at the show!

**

Worship offered in the church building and
via Zoom online

Worship is offered in the church building on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. as well as being broadcast on Zoom. The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee and the Finance, Invested Funds and Properties Committee insure all state and local guidelines are followed. If you have questions about attending in-person worship, call Worship & Spiritual Life Committee chairperson Anita at 413-625-6481 or Properties Committee chairperson Ken W. 508-529-3973 for more details. THANK YOU ALL ON ZOOM FOR YOUR PATIENCE WITH AUDIO PROBLEMS LATELY, WE ARE WORKING ON IT! Your feedback is welcome! You can email us at info@marylyonchurch.org



Help Wanted

CHURCH CLEANING NEEDED WEEKLY

Our church cleaner completed her last month with us in September. Volunteers cleaned the church during October. We need a solution for keeping our beloved building clean. It takes 1 to 2 hours per week and the rate of pay is currently \$14.00 per hour. Or, if you would like to volunteer, sign up with a friend to make it go faster and have fun. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in the job or volunteering to clean the church, please call/refer them to Judy Willis at 413-625-2649. A list of duties will be provided. Please contact Judy Willis if you are interested in the job or volunteering, she can answer any questions you may have.

NEWSLETTER HELP WANTED

Tina is still looking to find a co-editor or editors to be responsible for the calendar a few times annually to give her a month or two or three off. She has a volunteer who's willing to give it a try in the new year but as said about our Bazaar, "Many hands make light work," so if you might like to give it a try, she'd love to hear from you.

Email her at info@marylyonchurch.org or call 413-625-9629.



Annual Church Reports Reminder
Annual Meeting Sunday January 23, 2022

Year end is coming. It's time to think about all we have accomplished in spite of the pandemic. Committees' and Officers' written reports for the year 2021 are due by Sunday, January 9, 2022 so they can be distributed to all on Sunday, January 16th. If you have questions about the Annual Meeting, please contact our church moderator, Paul Willis, at 413-625-2649.

2022 Calendars for Sale

Buckland Historical Society's beautiful, full color, 2022 Calendar of Robert Strong Woodward's paintings, entitled, 'New England Legacy', is now available for \$20.00. This year's theme, the New England barn, coincides with the BHS's effort to raise money for the preservation of The Wilder Homestead's 1779 English barn. The barn is one of just a few remaining examples left in the region and needs structural assistance to assure its lasting future. The calendars can be purchased at:



New England paintings by Robert Strong Woodward (1885 - 1957)

Andy's & The Oak Shoppe-352 Deerfield St., Greenfield; Boswell's Books-10 Bridge St., Sawyer News-61 Bridge St., Nancy L. Dole Books & Ephemera-20 State St. in Shelburne Falls; The Buckland Public Library-Upper St., Buckland. They can also be viewed and ordered on line at: <http://www.bucklandmasshistory.org>



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Every Sunday in December at 10:30 a.m. at church and via Zoom

Advent = Waiting for Christ's birth - lighting a candle on each of the four Sundays before Christmas:

11/28 1 - purple candle of Hope

12/5 2 - purple candle of Peace

12/12 3 - pink candle of Joy

12/19 4 - purple candle of Love

12/26 - We will celebrate Christmas with lighting the white Christ Candle.

Each Sunday we will be celebrating the Christ child with readings, Advent candles and carols. The annual Christmas Eve service details are yet to be determined due to pandemic. We will be in touch soon.

What Does Advent Mean?

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin word Adventus, which means "coming." Within the early Christian church, Advent was a season of preparation for the upcoming church season of Epiphany. Over the centuries, the modern Evangelical celebrations of the Advent season arrived. Advent is meant to be a time of hope, faith, joy, and peace. The Advent season reminds us that God sent His Son to this world so that we might have a relationship with Him. Yet, Jesus also suffers with us and helps us navigate our pain. During Advent, Christians celebrate and reflect upon Christ's first coming. While at the same time, the Church looks forward in eager anticipation to Christ's second coming. When Christians and families celebrate Advent, they unite in a generational tradition of celebration and anticipation of Jesus' second coming.