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Minister

Rev. Barbara Schenk  
Choir Director & Organist  
Frank Jackson  
Sexton & Housekeeper  
Judy & Charles Rososky  
Secretary  
Lorraine Ahladas

The deadline for submitting information  
or announcements for the  
September Chronicle is August 16



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**Foster Memorial Church**

**Volume 59, Issue 7  
July/August 2010**

Dear friends,

Summer is upon us! I hope that everyone has time for fun, relaxation and renewal over the course of the upcoming weeks.

With summer certainly comes a shift in the rhythm of life, including the rhythm of church life. We are no less faithful, but a little less busy to the running of the church in the summer, it seems.

That being said, I got to thinking that summer seems like a great time for us to focus on welcome and hospitality. It's a great time to invite that person we've been meaning and wanting to invite, to join us for a Sunday morning worship service.

Children and youth who are invited will have the opportunity to participate in God Time, which will be facilitated each week by volunteer Adult Guides. The theme for the summer unit of God Time, taken from our *Whole People of God* curriculum, is "A Growing Faith." The logo for this unit features a loom, created by using things in nature. The loom is a great symbol for intentional welcome and hospitality.

Rosemary Crew wrote a song using this image, including these words of prayer to God:

*Weave, weave, weave us together. Weave us together, in unity and love.  
Weave, weave, weave us together. Weave us together, together is love.*

This summer, may we open wide our hearts and church doors, living out Jesus' mandate of extravagant welcome:

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
You are welcome HERE.*



Blessed summer to all!  
Pastor Barbara



Happy Birthday to all of our members and friends who were born in June!

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| July 2 - Bev Aitken  | August 7 - Helen Aitken |
| 2 - Dianne Mulhern   | 7 - Barbara Erwin       |
| 4 - William Mulhern  | 8 - Jillian MacKay      |
| 7 - Vivian George    | 9 - Sally Hawley        |
| 7 - Bonnie MacKay    | 15 - Louise Bushey      |
| 16 - Ryan Robbins    | 17 - Jackie Douglass    |
| 19 - June Pike       | 28 - Cindi Corey        |
| 22 - Agnes Puricelli | 28 - Jazminjoy Gonzalez |
| 25 - Vivian Gonzalez |                         |
| 28 - Joanne Gumlaw   |                         |
| 30 - Bruce Corey     |                         |

Happy Anniversary to all our members and friends!

- |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| July 4 - Norm and Terry Ethier        |
| 19 - Elizabeth and Joseph Mastrangelo |
| August 10 - Pam and Bruce Corey       |
| 17 - Michelle and William Simpson     |
| 18 - Jill and Bruce Moore             |
| 19 - Diane and Michael MacLeod        |
| 25 - Gail and Robert Baker            |
| 28 - Kevin and Robin Withers          |



SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

In an effort to keep everyone informed as the year progresses, the Executive Board voted to publish a summary financial report in each edition of the Chronicle based on the Treasurer's most recent report. The summary report of Income and Expenses as of May 31, 2010 is as follows:

| INCOME:             | 5/31/10     | YTD         | Budget             | % of Budget |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| TOTAL RECEIPTS      | \$12,313.31 | \$48,002.79 | \$148,675.00       | 32.29%      |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES  | \$9,444.56  | \$46,038.34 | \$154,526.00       | 29.79%      |
| YTD DEFICIT/SURPLUS |             | \$1,964.45  | <b>-\$5,851.00</b> | -33.57%     |



We wish to thank our June *Chronicle* volunteers: Joanne Gumlaw, Lise Hatcher, Dorothy Kenyon, Grace King, Dick Pond and Ellie Ray.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thank you to Marge and Shirley Kenniston who have donated the Christian Flag for our church sanctuary.



In June, altar flowers were given by:

June 6 - In loving memory of Herbert Cummings from his wife  
Margie Cummings

In loving memory of Rebecca Quintero from her family  
June 13 - In appreciation for Frank Jackson's leadership from  
the Music Board

June 20 - In loving memory of Doris Buchan from her  
daughter Nancy Piecuch

June 27 - In loving memory of Philip H. Pike from his  
Mom, June Pike

In loving memory of Doris C. Shultz from Charlie  
and Carol Shultz & family

#### Graduation

Blerina Ademi, who is the only daughter in the family of eight refugees from Kosovo that Foster Memorial sponsored, has graduated from Elms College. She completed her studies in three and a half years rather than the usual four and was named to the Dean's List. Her goal is to teach children who are learning to speak English.

One of the first memories I have of Blerina on the day she arrived... we had a party in the family's apartment with a UMass student translating for us all. As the party was ending, Blerina asked, through the interpreter, "Where will we get the money to buy our school books?" At age twelve, she was very concerned about education, but didn't realize that in the United States school children get free books.

--Jean Caldwell

#### Usher Schedule for July

July 4 - Barbara and Barclay Hamill, Claire Tatro, Ben Smith  
July 11 - Jayne Hay, Dianne Marceau, Louise Young, Nancy Piecuch  
July 18 - Bev Aitken, Dot and Skip Koszalka, Judy Milano  
July 25 - Pat McDowell, Cathy Moran, Dave Staton, Cathy Thomas

#### Rev. Breuer Update

I get many questions about my health so I thought a few words would be helpful. *Parkinson's Disease* means the body does not produce enough dopamine for movement and you can respond to this illness in one of two ways: retreat or fight it. I chose to fight it.

I can get out, go places, have friends over, use the telephone, eat M&Ms as Michael J. Fox states in his best seller *Always Looking Up*. (I prefer Ice cream). Do come over (please call first) or phone to chat. My driving has been curtailed.

#### *What is Parkinson's Disease?*

*Parkinson's disease is a movement disorder that is both chronic and progressive. Chronic, meaning it persists over a long period of time and progressive, meaning its symptoms grow worse over time. Symptoms include slowness of movement, loss of balance and coordination, tremor, rigidity or stiffness and uncontrolled movements. As these symptoms become more pronounced, patients may have difficulty walking, talking or completing daily tasks.*

--Rev. Dr. Bruce Breuer

### Printed Prayer List

For the last few years, we have included a printed prayer list in our Sunday bulletin. In order to reach more of our membership and friends, the Deacons have voted, beginning in May, to publish the Prayer List in *The Chronicle* instead of the bulletin. At the beginning of each calendar year, we will start a new prayer list.

To add or remove a name from this prayer list, please call our church secretary, Lorraine.

### Please Remember in Prayer

*Our Church, Bruce Breuer, Lynda Kinney, Lester Leonard, Rob Marinello, Adell Kenyon, Aida Rivera, Jacob Barr, the family and loved ones of Kristen Ferraro, Linda Tetreault, Joseph Horton, Bob Withers, Helen Aitken, Gail Baker, Marjorie Kenniston, Jon-Michael Leary, Ken Padden, Jessica & Don Gorrie, Stewart & Karen MacLeod, Barbara Clemons, Phyllis Casagrande, Steve Kneeskern and Kathy Hickson*



### "Bun Runs"

You are probably aware that our church provides a hot meal once a month for the folks at Loaves and Fishes, but did you know that we assist Loaves and Fishes in another way? Foster Memorial works with St. Patrick's, St. Catherine's, Evangelical Covenant, and Christ Presbyterian Church to deliver baked goods donated by Big Y and Stop and Shop stores on Cooley Street to Loaves and Fishes.

We are most thankful to Marge Cummings who for many years coordinated our drivers: Betty Corbin, Norm Ethier, Fred Hawley, Ellie Judd, Jean Lockwood, Ken and Mae Merchant, Sandy Moore, Ed Smith, Barbara Tardy, Claire Tatro and Louise Young.

Foster usually has the responsibility of covering pick-ups for five-seven days each month. We would definitely welcome a few more volunteers. The stores are very generous and a full-sized car or wagon works well, but we can team up drivers with smaller cars. The baked goods are waiting in baskets when we arrive at the store, and the folks at Loaves and Fishes at Christ Church Cathedral on Maple Street carry the boxes inside. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, please speak to Sandy Moore (788-6595).



## RELAY ~ WRAP UP

The weather held out just long enough and did not dampen the spirits of those who participated in the annual RELAY FOR LIFE fundraising event which took place on the campus of Springfield College during the 24 hours - June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Springfield College was the host for American Cancer Society's program to raise awareness for cancer research, impart cancer education, and raise much needed money to help defeat cancer.

Our Foster Memorial Team was well represented from all aspects of our church family. We thank all who participated and donated to make this year a success as we continue to support the cause as we have done for the past 15 years.

Special thanks to:

All 24 team members who walked, collected pledges and encouraged one another.

Church members, family members and friends (more than 60 of you) who joined us for the potluck dinner on Friday night.

Bev Weinhold, Gerri Thompson and Charlene Corris helped plan our refreshments for the cookout and arrange for snacks to get us through the 24 hours of Relay. Dick Pond manned the grill, supplying us with hot dogs and hamburgers. Thank you to Vivian George for donating the use of her grill.

Connie Gumlaw arranged tent decorations and our altar of inspiration.

Vivian Gonzalez and her family, Gerri Thompson, and Kevin Withers helped get us through the night during our sleep over. [We endured and did not get a 2:00 AM drenching from the sprinkler system]

Thomas Withers and his "posse" donated their time to assist in Relay as volunteers performing all the work to host Relay.

This year our team raised \$6,000.00 for cancer research. The Greater Springfield Relay included 100 teams and raised more than \$250,000.00. We are proud to be a part of this amazing event. Please plan to join us for the 2011 Relay for Life. We are sure you will find the experience most rewarding.

Blessings to you all,  
Judy Milano and Joe Rosati  
FMC Relay for Life

## Thank You

Thank you to Nancy of Nancy's Flower Depot for giving us a wonderful discount on the beautiful petunias given to the children and youth on June 13. Nancy's Flower Depot is located on 673 White Street in Springfield and is now open year round.



Welcome to Gloria Martinez, our new Nursery Care Provider for Sunday mornings. Gloria grew up in Miami, Florida. She is presently a student at Holyoke Community College. She has taken courses in childcare for infants and toddlers and has experience with caring for young children.

Presently, Gloria works part-time at the Children's Museum in Holyoke and lives in Springfield. Her goal is to become a social worker, working with children and their families.

## New Members

Congratulations to the six confirmation students who, through the rite of confirmation, joined our church membership on June 6. Welcome to Emily Assarian, Kristina Davignon, Angela Delusa, Sarah Kamukala, Ryan Robbins, Ryan Thomas!

## Presentation by Jeanie Marsh

In last month's *Chronicle*, Jeanie Marsh wrote an article about her recent trip, as a representative for Church World Service, to the Chaco Region of South America.

Jeanie is graciously offering to give a presentation for us to learn more about her trip and also help us start to think and pray about how we, as a church, might get involved in reaching out to the people she met in Paraguay and Argentina.

On Sunday, July 18, Jeanie will have a presentation downstairs in Fellowship Hall from 11:00 Am – 12:30 PM.

For those for whom climbing stairs is difficult or for those not able to attend on that date, a second date is being offered:

On Sunday, August 1, Jeanie will repeat her presentation in the sanctuary from 7:00 – 8:30 PM.

Please join us as you are able!  
Pastor Barbara

Thank You!

The Church House living room has received a wonderful updated look! Our thanks to Connie Gumlaw, who donated her time and gifts to this renovation. The lamps and tables are re-painted; there is fresh new paint on the walls, and a new floor lamp, mantle clock and draperies. Thank you, thank you Connie! And thank you to those who assisted Connie along the way.

Thank you also, so very much, to the Evening Fosterians for donating the funds for this project.

## Christian Education

It has been another busy year for CE. As the school year comes to an end, we begin to wind down for a well deserved summer break. We celebrated Children and Youth Sunday and Teacher Appreciation on June 13. The children were so fantastic! They read, did artwork and provided a Sacred Dance. We ended the day with an ice cream social. Our thanks to everyone who donated children's blankets and stuffed animals for *The Migrant Program* at *Head Start*.

Well, we may have ended this school year but that doesn't mean we won't be back to work real soon. We have our Summer God Time pretty well lined up but could always use your help. In August we will be back on the job planning for Rally Day. We are lining up people who would like to be part of a teaching team. This means you might teach every fourth Sunday or maybe three Sundays in a row and then not again for two months. We want to be sure that no one misses attending service all the time.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who helped us this past year. You make our job much easier. We would also like to extend a big thank you to Dick Pond for all that he has done for us this year.

See you Sunday, September 12, for Rally Day and join in the fun.

---Kaaren Trask



### Loaves and Fishes - A Year Round Need

As we head into Summer with thoughts of vacations, days at the beach, and cookouts with friends on the weekend, let's not forget that there are many people in Springfield that do not have those things to look forward to any time soon. For them, a hot meal is a big deal. Loaves and Fishes, serving a hot meal to the needy at Christ Church Cathedral on Chestnut Street every day, helps these people survive.

Foster Memorial Church has been a part of the Loaves and Fishes operation for many years, providing a meal for 170 men and women on the third Friday of each month. Summer is a part of the year when the need to provide a meal is just as important as it is in December and we are asking for volunteers to cook in July (July 16th) and August (August 20th). Please contact Carol Shultz at 543-3768 if you would be willing to prepare a meal for 170 hungry and needy people.

To pay or not to pay.....

Some Foster members who have volunteered to prepare a Loaves and Fishes meal have also donated the cost of that meal. To them we say THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH for your generosity as well as your talent. But there are others who have the talent but not the means to fund the meal. To them we say, don't hold back. The Diaconate will be happy to reimburse you. Simply present your receipts for what is purchased to Jayne Hay and she will see that you get paid. Our goal on the third Friday of each month is to feed the hungry.

May God Bless You All  
Charlie Shultz, Diaconate Chairman

### Fosterians

**The Afternoon Fosterians** will continue to meet during the summer and make plans for the new season.

**The Evening Fosterians** will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 8 for a potluck supper. All women of the church are invited. For further information, please call Judy Rososky at 782-2457. Hosts are Linda Peck, Judy Rososky and Geri Thompson. Devotions will be led by Dot Koszalka.

### Thank You to All Who Gave

The Stewardship, Finance, and Executive Boards would like to give a hearty Thank You to all who have paid their Fellowship Dues. Year to date, we have received \$1199.23. While this represents only 57% of the dues, it is an increase over last year's offering. Please remember there is still time to pay your dues and yes we have an easy payment plan. Whatever you can afford to give! Every penny provides us with the opportunity to further Christ's work. Many Blessings to All.

Dave Staton  
Moderator



## The Rainbow Flag

In 1978, Gilbert Baker of San Francisco designed and made a flag with six stripes representing the six colors of the rainbow as a symbol of gay and lesbian community pride. Slowly the flag took hold, offering a colorful and optimistic alternative to the more common pink triangle symbol. Today it is recognized by the International Congress of Flag Makers, and is flown in lesbian and gay pride marches worldwide. In 1989, the rainbow flag received nationwide attention after John Stout successfully sued his landlords in West Hollywood, when they prohibited him from displaying the flag from his apartment balcony. Meanwhile, Baker is still in San Francisco, and still making more flags.

Color has long played an important role in our community's expression of pride. In Victorian England, for example, the color green was associated with homosexuality. The color purple (or, more accurately, lavender) became popularized as a symbol for pride in the late 1960s - a frequent post-Stonewall catchword for the gay community was "Purple Power". And, of course, there's the pink triangle. Although it was first used in Nazi Germany to identify gay males in concentration camps, the pink triangle only received widespread use as a gay pop icon in the early 1980s. But the most colorful of our symbols is the Rainbow Flag, and its rainbow of colors - red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple - represents the diversity of our community.

The first Rainbow Flag was designed in 1978 by Gilbert Baker, a San Francisco artist, who created the flag in response to a local activist's call for the need of a community symbol. (This was before the pink triangle was popularly used as a symbol of pride.) Using the five-striped "Flag of the Race" as his inspiration, Baker designed a flag with eight stripes: pink, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. According to Baker, those colors represented, respectively: sexuality, life, healing, sun, nature, art, harmony, and spirit. Baker dyed and sewed the material for the first flag himself - in the true spirit of Betsy Ross.

Baker soon approached San Francisco's Paramount Flag Company about mass producing and selling his "gay flag". Unfortunately, Baker had hand-dyed all the colors, and since the color "hot pink" was not commercially available, mass production of his eight-striped version became impossible. The flag was thus reduced to seven stripes.

In November 1978, San Francisco's gay community was stunned when the city's first openly gay supervisor, Harvey Milk, was assassinated. Wishing to demonstrate the gay community's strength and solidarity in the aftermath of this tragedy, the 1979 Pride Parade Committee decided to use Baker's flag. The committee eliminated the indigo stripe so they could divide the colors evenly along the parade route - three colors on one side of the street and three on the other. Soon the six colors were incorporated into a six-striped version that became popularized and that, today, is recognized by the International Congress of Flag Makers.

In San Francisco, the Rainbow Flag is everywhere: it can be seen hanging from apartment windows throughout the city (most notably in the Castro district), local bars frequently display the flag, and Rainbow Flag banners are hung from lampposts on Market Street (San Francisco's main avenue) throughout Pride Month. Visiting the city, one can not help but feel a tremendous sense of pride at seeing this powerful symbol displayed so prominently.

Although the Rainbow Flag was initially used as a symbol of pride only in San Francisco, it has received increased visibility in recent years. Today, it is a frequent sight in a number of other cities as well - New York, West Hollywood, and Amsterdam, among them. Even in the Twin Cities, the flag seems to be gaining in popularity. Indeed, the Rainbow Flag reminds us that ours is a diverse community - composed of people with a variety of individual tastes of which we should all be proud.

*---Ben Smith for ONA Committee*

*(2<sup>nd</sup> in a series of informational articles)*

## Report from the Annual Meeting of the MAUCC

Over five hundred people attended the 211<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Conference at the DCU Center on June 19.

Highlights included our Conference Minister and President, Jim Antal, calling for the church to work for the environment, an inspiring sermon by Rev. Quinn Caldwell, Associate Pastor of Old South Church in Boston, and moving words from Bishop Ulises Munoz of the Pentecostal Church of Chile, thanking churches in the conference for support throughout this past year.

Votes that were taken:

- Delegates overwhelmingly approved a resolution supporting the creation of a Massachusetts Innocence Commission – a proposal that was defeated at Annual Meeting two years ago.
- Delegates approved structural changes to the size and makeup of Conference program commissions, which had been shrunk to six official members at the last Annual Meeting.
- Delegates voted to approve a 2011 Conference Budget of \$2,606,700. To meet that budget, \$43,500 will be transferred from a reserve fund.
- Delegates also voted that the Conference should continue to retain 45% of Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support within the Conference, sending the other 55% to the national setting; and delegates set the 2010 Fellowship Dues rate at \$17.20 per church member.

Carol Smith and Claire Tatro represented our church as delegates. Pastor Barbara was also in attendance, along with Robin Withers, who is a member of the MAUCC's Education Commission.

If you would like to read more about the meeting, information can be found at [www.maucc.org](http://www.maucc.org).

--Pastor Barbara

## Special Fundraising Project

My name is Brooke Gumlaw. I am a high school student who grew up in the church.

When I decided to earn my Girl Scout "Gold Award", I thought of doing something for the church, which has always been important to me.

I thought back to Cabarets when people had to wash dishes for hours and thought that raising funds for a new dishwasher would be something that would make a lasting difference for the church.

The total needed to be raised is \$5,000. To date, I have sold "Lucky Stones" at coffee hour and earned \$120. The Deacons voted to help jump start the project by donating \$1,000 from the Memorial Fund. I'm very thankful for this!

I'm putting together a Scramble Golf Tournament for Sunday, September 19, at Franconia Golf Course. The entry fee is \$70 which includes green fee, golf cart, and dinner afterwards at Foster. We will have trophies, door prizes for closest to the pin, and longest drive, door prizes and raffles. Please help us to make this event a success. Talk to your friends and get your foursomes together.

Stay tuned for news of further fundraising plans.

Thank You and God Bless

-- Brooke Gumlaw

\* \* \* \* \*

I would like to thank all my friends at Foster for their prayers and best wishes during my recent illness. It really made a difference and it makes me appreciate Foster even more.

--Fred Hawley

### Choir Thank You!

Thank you to our wonderful choir for enhancing our worship services each Sunday morning. Thank you to Frank Jackson, our Choir Director and Organist. How blessed we are to have our faith-filled choir and gifted leader!

The choir is taking a break for the summer. Frank has lined up guest musicians for each Sunday. There will also be opportunities for all who are interested to join for a Women's Choir and Men's Choir. More information will be available in the weekly bulletins.

Sopranos: Dottie Gallagher, Ellie Judd, Enid Miller, Jane Plumb and Pastor Barbara

Altos: Pam Corey, Rebekah Crampton Kamukala, Sandy Moore, Gerri Thompson and Bev Weinhold

Tenors: Charlie Rososky and Charlie Shultz

Bass: Bruce Corey, Barclay Hamill, Fred Hawley, Dave Peck, Joe Rosati and Eric Sutter



### Prayer for the Gulf Oil Spill

*God, we come to you today with heavy and humbled hearts. We ask that your healing, comforting and strengthening presence be with all those affected by this unfolding tragedy:*

*For workers injured, missing and presumed dead from the explosion on the rig and for their families and friends,  
For people working tirelessly to contain the spill and protect fragile ecosystems and communities from its toxic impacts,  
For individuals and communities whose livelihoods depend upon the Gulf of Mexico,  
For your good Creation — from the smallest of sea creatures to the birds of the air  
— and all your magnificent handiwork at risk of exposure from our human errors,  
For wisdom to understand our dependence on You and strength that we might walk humbly in the path of justice and right-relationships with all Your Creation,*

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers*

*John S. Hill, Director of Economic & Environmental Justice, General Board of Church & Society*

