

United Congregational Church, UCC
6 Institute Road
Worcester, MA 01609



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UNITED VOICES

A Newsletter of the United Congregational Church, UCC
6 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609

508-752-3785 staff@ucc-worcester.org Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

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GIVING IN ANXIOUS TIMES

Anxious times! Anxious about the country's future! Anxious about the church's future! Anxious about your own future! And, in the midst of this anxiety, we find ourselves in the time of year when we remind you once again about the theological significance and practical importance of pledging what you can give for the upcoming fiscal year.

There is no question that, particularly in these anxious times, it is of the utmost importance to pledge so that we will know what financial resources we will have to maintain the ongoing life, ministry, and mission of our beloved United Congregational Church United Church of Christ! There may never be a harder moment, in these tough times, than this one for you to consider how you will participate in and contribute to the ongoing work of this congregation.

The irony is that this is exactly the moment – these are the times - when the ministry and mission of this church are most needed – to be a sign of hope, a place of refuge, a community of care and prayer.

It is the moment when you are called to take that great “leap of faith” and trust that what you pledge and give to the church will help keep this congregation alive and well - wherever God is leading us, and whatever God is calling us to do. Never has it been more important to offer a tangible sign (your pledge card, whatever you can give) of your faith in and support of this community of faith, this Body of Christ!

We, this community of faith, need each one of us, and each one of our pledges, to proclaim and witness to the enduring power and critical relevance of the church, especially in these anxious times, as we worship, teach, learn, provide sanctuary, offer assistance, and spread the gospel in the world

Here is an excerpt of what Paul wrote in his Letter to the Ephesians: ***I pray that you may... know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (3: 18-21)***

cont. p. 4.

An Open and Affirming and
Just Peace Congregation
of the United Church of Christ

Please be considerate...

Many of us are involved with projects, ministries and events sponsored by United, and it is tempting to just “ask a simple question” or “say a few words” pertaining to church business to others on Sunday mornings. It has been brought to our attention, however, that some feel interruptions of this nature before and/or during the worship service disrupt the flow of the service and their personal thoughts and prayers. Please be considerate of your fellow worshippers and speak to them at another time.

Please feel free to contact the Pastoral Relations Committee if you have any concerns, suggestions, or affirmations.

Members of the Pastoral Relations Committee for the Rev. Dr. Terry Fitzgerald are:
Ray Gaspari Marcus McCorison
Peg Manoogian Stacey Mott

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Terry Fitzgerald is usually at the church Tuesday through Friday. (508-752-3785 ext. 106) She is also available evenings and Saturdays for appointments as needed. Monday is her day off. Her home phone number is 508-753-5867, e-mail: tfitz47@charter.net.

If you need to contact the church on Sunday morning, you may now leave a message on the church answering machine. Follow the instructions contained in the greeting to leave a message. The Sunday Host, Ed Bourgault, will be checking for messages frequently on Sunday mornings.

Please call the church office directly if you or a loved one is in the hospital. We recently learned that we are not always informed when a church member is hospitalized. We need you to help us as we try to respond to the needs of our members and friends.