•Prayers of healing for Martha Eck who is hospitalized.
•Prayers of joy for Bill and Penny Gustafson on the birth of their granddaughter, Grace.
•Prayers of comfort for Billy Ackerly on the death of his sister.
•Prayers of comfort for Dorothy Mason on the death of her niece, Gail Higginbottom.
•Prayers of healing for Gretchen Prunier recovering from surgery.
•Prayers of healing for Ginny Woodbury recovering from surgery.
•Prayers for strength and healing for Guy Metcalf recovering from hip surgery.
•Prayers of courage and strength for all men and women who are serving in our Armed Forces, especially in areas of conflict.
•Prayers of courage and peace for the families of soldiers who have died and have been injured.
•Peace and hope for the Iraqi people who are still held captive by unremitting and devastating violence.
•Prayers of hope for all people and countries in the grip of war, conflict, and disease.
•Prayers for the people of the Congo, the Sudan, Kenya and Tibet
•Prayers of hope and healing for those living with HIV/AIDS.
•Prayers of strength for those affected by the tornadoes in different parts of this country.
•Prayers of strength for all those affected by the devastating cyclone in Myanmar (Burma) and by the massive earthquake in China.

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.

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 worshipers and speak to them at another time.

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.

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.

DEACON ON CALL 508-752-6592

DEACON ON CALL provides assistance to the congregation and the community at large every Monday, and any time Terry is out of town or unavailable.

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

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United Voices

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 A.M.

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CONFIRMATION

Peter Dzaugis, Micayla Goodrow, and Laura Owanisian were confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 11th. Confirmation means an affirmation of faith; an affirmation of the promises made at baptism. It is an act of the church gathered in worship, welcoming into the membership of the church those who have intentionally chosen to be a disciple of Christ. (from *Affirming Faith*, *United Church Press, 1996)*

After a period of study and discussion, these three young people were asked to write a Statement of Faith. I provided them with a series of questions to be used as the basis for their statements. Each young person considered those questions and responded thoughtfully and honestly. Each one answered from his/her own heart and demonstrated an understanding of what it means to live as a follower of Christ and proclaim the gospel message.

I share with you, first, the questions that I posed and, then, excerpts from their Statements of Faith.

Do you believe in God, where do you think God is, what does God do, and how would you describe God? What do you think is Jesus' relationship to God; what kinds of things did he do in his life here on earth; what message did he teach; why did he die and rise again? How does the Holy Spirit work with us and in us; how does the Spirit help us to live as Christians; what are some of the things we do that show we want to be like Jesus? Why is it good to offer forgiveness; to work for justice and peace; to be inclusive?
When did the United Church of Christ come into being; what are some good things about our denomination (if you're not sure, you can go on the website – www.ucc.org - and look for some interesting facts); what are some good things about our church?
Why do you want to be confirmed, at this time in your life, at United Congregational Church United Church of Christ?

The excerpts from the Statements of Faith are found on pages 5 and 6 in this issue of the VOICES.

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