



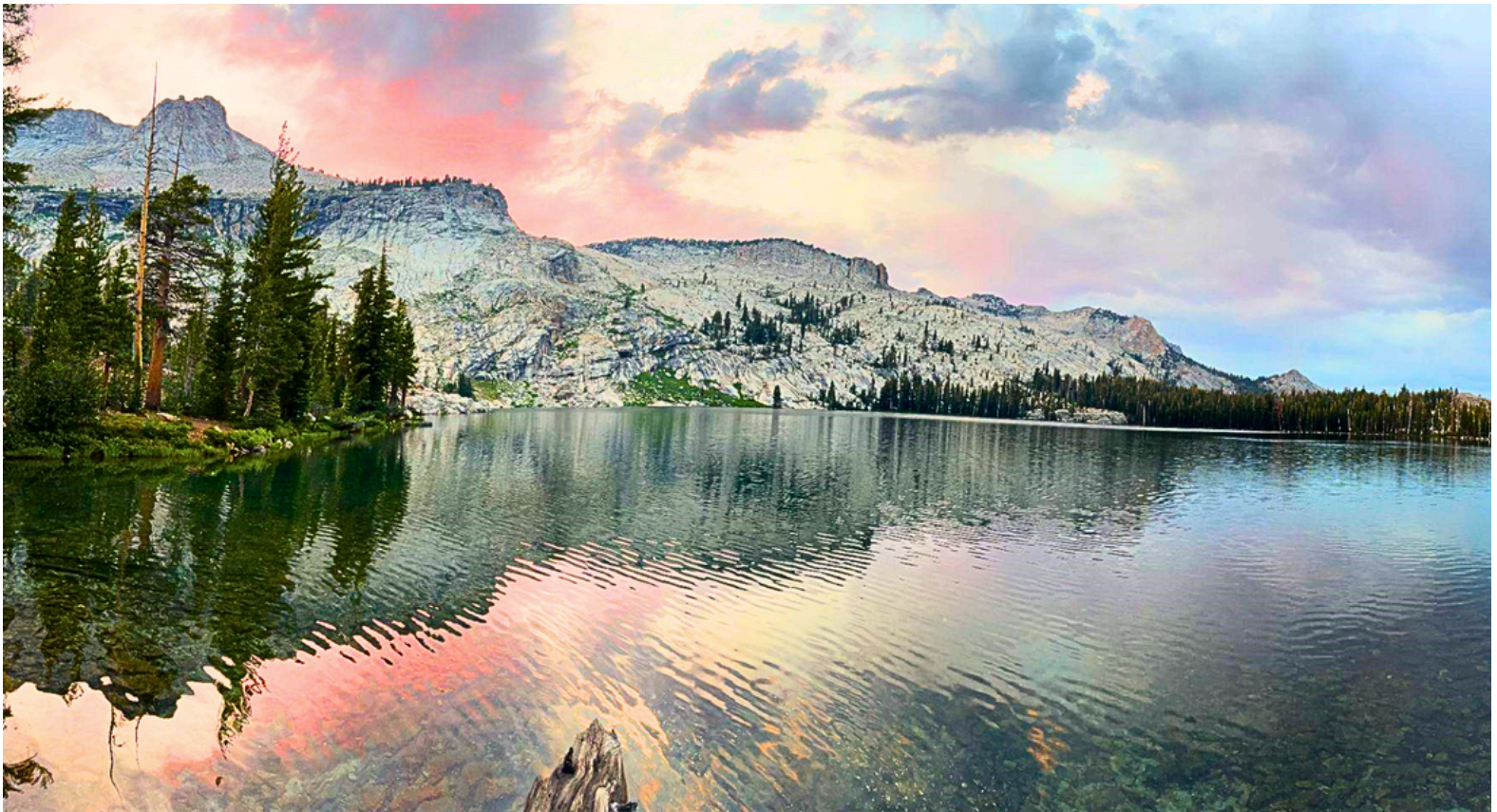
Steeple Notes

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROWLEY, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
175 MAIN STREET, PO BOX 364
WWW.FIRSTCHURCHROWLEY.ORG - 978-948-3993

From Reverend Brent's Pastor's Corner Blog

Hello All,

This Summer on my sabbatical my family had the opportunity to take an extended road trip throughout the western United States. We saw many beautiful sites. If I had to choose a favorite I would have to go with May Lake in Yosemite National Park. The view there was absolutely stunning. Taking it all in with my wife and four sons was truly a privilege. I can't imagine anyone would look at the picture I took of May Lake at sunset without thinking to themselves they would like to visit that location themselves. (Cont...next page)



We are a church that lives by faith, is known by love...
A voice of hope serving the community

What the snapshot of May Lake doesn't show is what preceded it. An hour before this picture was taken May Lake was covered by dark and angry clouds. These clouds were not content to only appear ominous. Thunder roared from them; lightning flashed. Thunder and lightning alone would not have bothered us much. What my family found disconcerting were the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch pieces of hail that rained down on us. My family got caught in the open without protection. We hid from the hail beneath a large tree. Eventually we did get tents set up, although by that point the hail had subsided anyway.

Pictures may be worth a thousand words but often the stories they tell are not very honest. We live in a society dominated by visual mediums that don't tell the full story. If I only posted the picture of May Lake on social media without the backstory many people might think I had a perfect life or at least a perfect moment with my family. This would lead some to be jealous. The truth is more complex. My family did have a wonderful moment that the picture captured. That moment only came after a time of discomfort most people would prefer to avoid. We should be careful about what we believe, even when we see evidence with our own eyes.

Meditation Verses: Matthew 6:22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, 23 but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"

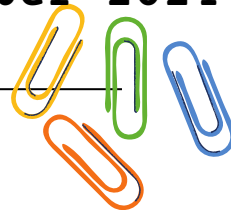
In Christ,
Brent Fugate



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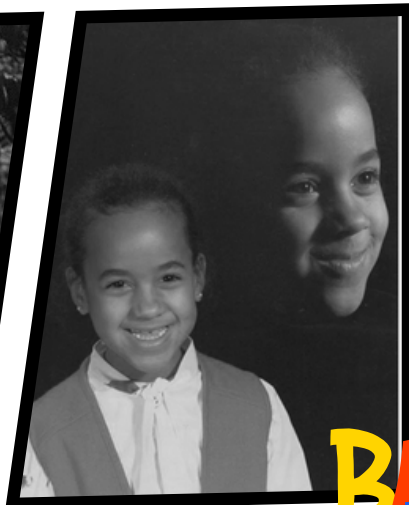
September 2024



Guess Who

Guess Who's Childhood/School picture this is!

Although we only received a couple of entrees for this month's newsletter, we had run a similar feature in our September 2020 edition and managed to resurrect a few of those pictures. Answers are on the last page.



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BACK
TO
SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER

BIRTHDAY

Sylvia Wood 9/1
Claudia Umanita 9/3
Sally Mc Rae 9/4
Sharon Emery 9/10
Eilene Chadbourne 9/12
Glenn Pyburn 9/15
Abigail Dixon 9/20
Shawn Pinette 9/21
Ellie Manning 9/23
Debbie Confalone 9/25

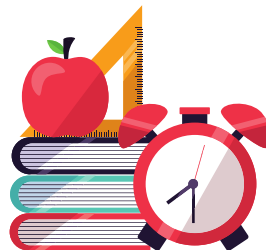


HAPPY. *Anniversary*

Adam & Amy Hanson 9/7
Dennis & Rhonda Ward 9/9
Glenn & Nicola Pyburn 9/27



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LATEST NEWS

September 2024

From the Pancake Breakfast Team
Pancake Breakfast resumes **September 14th**
at 8AM. Set your alarm, bring your
appetite and friends!



Ezekiel Rogers 15th Annual Golf Tournament **Note from Deb Confalone**

We are still in need of golfers, sponsors
and donations for the silent auction and
to purchase lottery tickets and
gift cards for raffle.

We appreciate everyone's support of this event.

Flowers

We have openings for the communion table throughout the
year. Members can choose either the seasonal artificial
arrangement or the committee can order from
Gordon's Florist.

A message will be included in the bulletin.
Please reach out to me for dates available.
Thank you - Debbie



Christian Education

CE Kickoff IceCream Social - October 6th after church.
More details to follow.

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Dear Church Members and Friends of the Church,

We are just about 2 ½ weeks away from the 15th Annual Ezekiel Rogers Golf Tournament and Fundraiser.

This event is an opportunity for our church members and friends of the church to come together for a great day to golf or join us for lunch and auction.

Our goal each year is to be more successful than the last, in order to continue to support our church and community.

Each one of you can share in this success!

We welcome you to golf and bring friends and family. Invite your coworkers and neighbors.

Make a basket for our silent auction. Contribute with a donation to purchase basket items, lottery tickets or gift cards. There's so much you can do!

Over 50 letters have been sent out to local businesses. We were successful with calls last year. Gift cards from local restaurants and gift shops can be used for our raffle and auction.

We also need some volunteers that day.

If you would like to help with this event, please reach out to Debbie Confalone 781-290-6502 and dconfalone@comcast.net for more information.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you - Deb Confalone

Please attach the flyer.





15TH ANNUAL EZEKIEL ROGERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

HOSTED BY
THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF ROWLEY

SEPTEMBER 28TH

FAR CORNER GOLF COURSE, BOXFORD, MA

8AM - REGISTRATION, 9AM TEE TIME
AFTER TOURNAMENT EVENT W LUNCH BEGINS AT 2PM.

- \$165 PER PERSON INCLUDES GOLF AND LUNCHEON
- \$35 LUNCHEON
- \$150 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP
- \$75 FAMILY SPONSORSHIP
- \$500 LUNCH SPONSORSHIP

SPONSORSHIP INCLUDES A TEE SIGN AND RECOGNITION
AT THE "AFTER THE TOURNAMENT" EVENT.

For more info:

www.firstchurchrowley.org

Debbie Confalone: dconfalone@comcast.net, 781-290-6502

We are a church that lives by faith, is known by love...
A voice of hope serving the community

*First Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Rowley, Massachusetts*

Special Church Meeting

August 20, 2024

To The Members of the First Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Rowley, Massachusetts

There will be a special meeting of the church membership, called by the Clerk, on Sunday, September 15, 2024 immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

The purpose of this meeting is to hear and act on a recommendation from the Search Committee for a Designated Term Pastor.

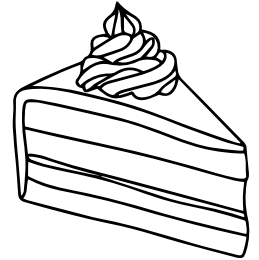
Respectfully submitted,

David E. Irving

David E. Irving, Clerk

After Church Fellowship Board/Committee Assignments

Pastry or treat 1st and 3rd Sunday Updated Schedule



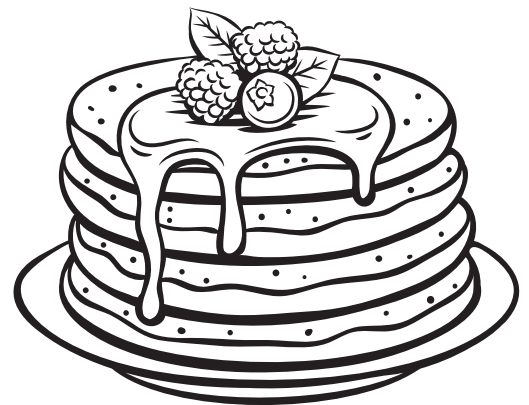
- January - Compassionate Care Network
- February - Thrift Shop
- March - Diaconate
- April - Missions
- May - Music Committee and Inspirational Singers
- June - Finance/Trustees
- July - Thrift Shop
- August - None
- September - Missions
- October - Finance/Trustees
- November - Diaconate
- December - Music Committee and Inspirational Singers.



*The schedule will be posted at coffee hour and reminders will be sent via email.

Community Pancake Breakfast

2nd Saturday in each month from
September 2024 through April 2025
\$10.00 - Under 12 free!
Looking Forward to Seeing you!



Steeple Notes Schedule

January - Compassionate Care Network

February - Missions - Holly

March - Deacons (including Christian Ed) - Jerry and Nancy (for 2024)

April - Finance/Trustees - Doug

May - Music Committee, including Inspirational Singers - Karen Schmuck

June - The Thrift Shop - Paul Chang

July - Pastoral Relations Committee - Penny

August - Getting to Know You (Judy submitted for July)

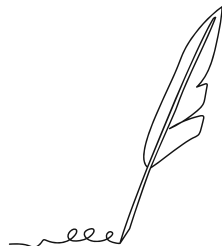
September - Golf Tournament and Flower Committee - Debbie Confalone

October - Old Tyme Country Fair - Donna Irving and Kay Dalzell

November - Community Dinner Team - Liz Butler

December - Pancake Breakfast Team - Jerry Schmidt

Staff - Any month as needed - you know this team :)





Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References –September 2024 (Year B)

Sun., Sept. 1

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Mon., Sept. 2

Psalm 144:9-15
Song of Solomon 3:6-11
1 Timothy 4:6-16

Tues., Sept. 3

Psalm 144:9-15
Song of Solomon 5:2-6:3
1 Peter 2:19-25

Wed., Sept. 4

Psalm 144:9-15
Song of Solomon 8:5-7
Mark 7:9-23

Thurs., Sept. 5

Psalm 125
Proverbs 1:1-19
Romans 2:1-11

Fri., Sept. 6

Psalm 125
Proverbs 4:10-27
Romans 2:12-16

Sat., Sept. 7

Psalm 125
Proverbs 8:1-31
Matthew 15:21-31

Sun., Sept. 8

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

Mon., Sept. 9

Psalm 73:1-20
Proverbs 8:32-9:6
Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Tues., Sept. 10

Psalm 73:1-20
Proverbs 11:1-31
Hebrews 12:3-13

Wed., Sept. 11

Psalm 73:1-20
Proverbs 14:1-9
Matthew 17:14-21

Thurs., Sept. 12

Psalm 19
Proverbs 15:1-17
Hebrews 11:17-22

Fri., Sept. 13

Psalm 19
Proverbs 19:24-29
James 2:17-26

Sat., Sept. 14

Psalm 19
Proverbs 21:1-17
Matthew 21:23-32

Sun., Sept. 15

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19 or Wisdom 7:26-8:1
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

Mon., Sept. 16

Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 22:1-21
Romans 3:9-20

Tues., Sept. 17

Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 25:1-28
Colossians 3:1-11

Wed., Sept. 18

Psalm 73:21-28
Proverbs 29:1-27
John 7:25-36

Thurs., Sept. 19

Psalm 1
Proverbs 30:1-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Fri., Sept. 20

Psalm 1
Proverbs 30:18-33
Romans 11:25-32

Sat., Sept. 21

Psalm 1
Ecclesiastes 1:1-18
Matthew 23:29-39

Sun., Sept. 22

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Mon., Sept. 23

Psalm 128
Proverbs 27:1-27
James 4:8-17

Tues., Sept. 24

Psalm 128
Ecclesiastes 4:9-16
James 5:1-6

Wed., Sept. 25

Psalm 128
Ecclesiastes 5:1-20
John 8:21-38

Thurs., Sept. 26

Psalm 124
Esther 1:1-21
Acts 4:13-31

Fri., Sept. 27

Psalm 124
Esther 2:1-23
Acts 12:20-25

Sat., Sept. 28

Psalm 124
Esther 3:1-15
Matthew 5:13-20

Sun., Sept. 29

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Mon., Sept. 30

Psalm 140
Esther 4:1-17
1 Peter 1:3-9

Presented by **Georgetown Council on Aging,**
Debbie Aminzadeh/J. Barrett Realty,
and **Brightview North Andover**



Should I stay or should I go?

The decision whether to age in place or move to a more manageable home can be a difficult one.

Our panel of experts will give you the guidance you need to make the best decision for you and your family.

Enjoy a free lunch and raffle prizes!



Thursday, September 12, 2024



10:00 AM - 12:30 PM



**Georgetown Council on Aging
51 North Street, Georgetown MA**

**Contact the COA at 978-352-5726
for more information or to sign up.**



Debbie Aminzadeh
Senior Real Estate
Specialist & REALTOR®,
J. Barrett Realty



Eileen Donovan
Brightview North
Andover



Tracy Valletti
Northeast Care
Management /
Age Well Transitions



Neil Garceau
Oakley Home Access



Lisa Linard
Professional Organizer
& Move Manager



Henry Jensen
Henry Jensen Antiques
& Collectables



Charlotte Melanson
Junk Junk Baby



Matt Karr
Estate Attorney,
Heritage Law Center



First Church of Rowley

Olde Tyme Country Fair

*We are a church that
lives by faith, is known by love
A voice of hope serving the community.*



A Rowley Holiday Tradition!
Saturday, November 23, 2024
9:00 am–2:00 pm

- Delicious baked goods •
- Beautiful handcrafted items •
- Festive holiday greenery •
- Unique attic treasures
- Visit from Santa •
- Zeke's Country Store • Silent Auction •
- Savory homestyle lunch •
- Games, puzzles, books, and more! •

**There is no better way to start
the Christmas season!**

First Congregational Church of Rowley

175 Main Street, Rowley, MA 01969

phone: (978) 948-3993 - email: firstchurchrowley@gmail.com - web: firstchurchrowley.org

National Senior Center Month
Powering Connections



Rowley Council on Aging
Open House

Join our celebration!

Thursday September 19th at 2pm*
at the COA

Music, Food, Fun!

Guest speaker Wil Leslie of the Salvation Army

Meet our friends and experience some of our programs.
Corn hole anyone?

*Rain date September 26th



SAVE THE DATE

Budget Busters

Do not be left in the cold!

Weds. October 16th

1:30 pm

Rowley Public Library

This program is for all Rowley residents!

Come learn about fuel assistance, Shine, the Good Neighbor program, RAFT, HMLP (Home Modification Loan Program) Food Pantries, and other ways of getting support in Massachusetts.

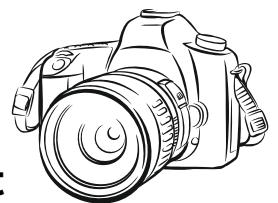
Presenters include staff & volunteers from Community Action and the COA.

Guess Who Pictures on Page 3

James Kay, Ken Sanford

Mary Jane Jee, Nancy Schmidt, Jerry Schmidt

Gale Penton, Penny Hurley, Angie Estevez



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>9:45am - Organist, Marge</div> <div>1</div>	<div>8am - Labor Day - Office</div> <div>2</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>10am - GTKU - Getting to 5pm - Guitar Practice in 6:30pm - Cabinet Meeting</div> <div>4</div>	<div>9:30am - COA Fitness!</div> <div>3pm - Fellowship Thrift 7pm - Alanon @ First</div> <div>5</div>	<div>Angie Office Hours - By 8pm - Boy Scouts every</div> <div>6</div>	<div>9am - Fellowship Thrift 7pm - AA @ First</div> <div>7</div>
<div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>8</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>9:30am - COA Fitness</div> <div>4:30pm - COA _Line</div> <div>9</div>	<div>6pm - Boys Scouts -</div> <div>10</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>10am - GTKU - Getting to 5pm - Guitar Practice in 6pm - Girls Scouts -</div> <div>11</div>	<div>9:30am - COA Fitness!</div> <div>3pm - Fellowship Thrift 7pm - Alanon @ First</div> <div>12</div>	<div>Angie Office Hours - By 8pm - Boy Scouts every</div> <div>13</div>	<div>8am - Pancake Breakfast</div> <div>9am - Boy Scouts Paper</div> <div>9am - Fellowship Thrift 7pm - AA @ First</div> <div>14</div>
<div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:30am - Special</div> <div>15</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>9:30am - COA Fitness</div> <div>4:30pm - COA _Line</div> <div>16</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>10am - GTKU - Getting to 5pm - Guitar Practice in 6:30pm - Diaconate</div> <div>18</div>	<div>9:30am - COA Fitness!</div> <div>3pm - Fellowship Thrift 7pm - Alanon @ First</div> <div>19</div>	<div>Angie Office Hours - By Steeple Notes Deadline 8pm - Boy Scouts every</div> <div>20</div>	<div>9am - Fellowship Thrift 7pm - AA @ First</div> <div>21</div>
<div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>22</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>9:30am - COA Fitness</div> <div>4:30pm - COA _Line</div> <div>23</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>10am - GTKU - Getting to 5pm - Guitar Practice in 6pm - Girls Scouts - 6-6:30pm -</div> <div>25</div>	<div>9:30am - COA Fitness!</div> <div>3pm - Fellowship Thrift 5:30pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Alanon @ First</div> <div>26</div>	<div>Angie Office Hours - By 8pm - Boy Scouts every</div> <div>27</div>	<div>Ezekiel Rogers Annual 9am - Fellowship Thrift 7pm - AA @ First</div> <div>28</div>
<div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>29</div>	<div>8am - Angie Office Hours</div> <div>9:30am - COA Fitness</div> <div>4:30pm - COA _Line</div> <div>30</div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div>