The Pastor’s Ponderings

*Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ~ Lamentations 3:22-23*

April was a challenging month for me. In addition to the business of Lent and Holy Week, we dealt with various illnesses throughout the month. When I started wondering how in the world I would get everything finished, take care of everyone’s needs and celebrate Christ’s resurrection, someone said something like “well, tomorrow’s a new day.” That simple statement was so helpful! No matter what, tomorrow is a new day. No matter what I accomplished or how I failed this month, the sun still rose every morning, bringing with it a clean slate for a new day. With each new day, we are reminded of God’s awesome faithfulness. Great is God’s faithfulness!

Great is Thy faithfulness  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

Summer and winter, springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses up above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love

Great is Thy faithfulness (faithfulness)  
Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath always provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
Your strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

With love & blessings,

Rev. Megan

**Coming Up in May**

**Sunday May 1 ~** 9:15 worship in the Lawson Lot

**Sunday May 1 ~** 10:15 worship in the Sanctuary ~

(Communion will be celebrated at both services)

The Deacon’s collection for May will help support the Cellar Closet Food Pantry

**Wednesday May 4 ~** Church Council meets 6:30 in the Ladies Parlor

**Saturday May 7 ~** Cellar Closet open 9:00-12:00

**Sunday May 8 ~** 9:15 worship in the Lawson Lot

**Sunday May 8 ~** 9:45 dedication of the Lawson Lot

**Sunday May 8 ~** 10:15 worship in the Sanctuary

**Saturday May 14 ~** Cellar Closet open 9:00-12:00

**Sunday May 15 ~** 9:15 worship in the Lawson Lot

**Sunday May 15 ~** 10:15 worship in the Sanctuary

**Sunday May 15 ~** Diaconate meets 11:00

**Sunday May 15 ~** Installation of Rev. James Koyama as the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Montague

**Thursday May 19 ~** Executive Committee of the Franklin Association, SNEUCC meets at 4:30 via Zoom

**Saturday May 21 ~** Cellar Closet open 9:00-12:00

**Sunday May 22 ~** 9:15 worship in the Lawson Lot

**Sunday May 22 ~** 10:15 worship in the Sanctuary

**Saturday May 28 ~** Cellar Closet open 9:00-12:00

**Sunday May 29 ~** 9:15 worship in the Lawson Lot

**Sunday May 29 ~** 10:15 worship in the Sanctuary

**The Lawson Lot**

We will be having a short service of dedication for the Lawson Lot on

**Sunday May 8 9:45 am**

Creating the Lawson Lot by paving our parking lot was made possible by a generous donation from Kent Lawson and Linda Booth. The gift was given in memory of Kent’s parents, Clifford and Mary Lawson. Cliff and Mary are lovingly remembered as dedicated, kind servants of the church who filled many roles throughout the years. Come and help us celebrate this gift and dedicate the new Lawson Lot.

**Cellar Closet News**

In honor of Mother’s Day, all women’s clothing and jewelry will be ½ price for the month of May and all sweaters are now FREE!

**SAVE THE DATES!**

A Crop Walk Rally will be held on Tuesday August 9 at 6:00 at the Greenfield United Methodist Church. The Crop Walk will be on Sunday, October 2 beginning at the Greenfield United Methodist Church.

The annual Vacation Bible School is being planned for a week in July. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Rev. Megan know.

**May Celebrations**

Many warm wishes to everyone celebrating birthdays and anniversaries during the month of May**!**

May 8 ~ Bill Ruby

May 9 ~ Cheryl Ruf

May 14 ~ Missy Chaisson

May 20 ~ William Brown

May 20 ~ Justin Arnot

May 22 ~ Dick & Elise Tandy

May 24 ~ Nancy Sawyer

May 25 ~ Liz Warder

May 27 ~ John Moore

May 27 ~ Megan Leary

May 31 ~ Kay Johnson

May 31 ~ Pam & Dennis Mitchell

**\*\*If you know of a birthday, anniversary or other celebration that is not on our list, please let us know!\*\***

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**BEE Kind**

We have signed the North Quabbin Community Coalition’s pledge to BEE kind. Watch for a Bee kind gnome to be making a visit soon!

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