

# The Steeple

A monthly  
publication of  
The First  
Congregational Church  
of Milford,  
Massachusetts.  
A member of the United  
Church of Christ.

June, 2011

Volume 53 No. 6

## Reverend Eric Quinney-Burnard



**Father's Day!** Sixteen plus years ago I had the honor to be inducted into a very prestigious club, I became lifetime member of the father/dadhood club. Not a great deal of fanfare, at least directed towards me. The cute little baby, and let's face it all babies are cute, grabbed all the attention. I was just holding the bag, literally, the baby bag.

I remember my father telling me, "Now that you're a father, your son needs you to become a dad". I realized this father/dadhood thing is a one shot deal; there are no "do-overs". Pressure! I want my son to grow up to be responsible, polite, kind and respectful of others. I also wanted him to have a strong faith in God to guide him as he gets older.

There is a song that came out in 2006, by Rodney Atkins entitled "Watching You". In the first verse, the father and son are in the car together, driving through town. The son is eating a "Happy Meal" in the car, just as the father slams on the brakes at a red light, causing the boy to spill his food all over himself and use profanity. The father asks where his son learned to swear, and the boy then responds with the chorus...

"I've been watching you, dad, ain't that cool  
I'm your buckaroo, I wanna be like you"

In the next verse, the father heads out to his barn and begins to pray "Lord, please help me help my stupid self". Later that night, he was watching his son, who kneels at his bed...

"He closed his little eyes, folded his little hands

Spoke to God like he was talkin' to a friend.  
And I said, "Son, now where'd you learn to pray like that?"

The boy responded in the chorus... "I've been watching you dad..."

Attention members of the Father/Dadhood club, if you don't think you have anything to do with your child's faith in God, let alone all those other things like being polite and respectful, let me share a study that was conducted by a Swiss research team. The initial research was in 1994 and revisited in 2000. The question addressed, how or who affects a child's attendance and faith commitment?

- If both parents attend church regularly, 33% of adult children will attend regularly.
- Mother attends regularly and father irregular, 3% of adult children will attend regularly.
- Mother attends regularly and father does not attend at all, 2% of adult children will attend regularly, 60% not at all.
- Father attends regularly and mother irregular, 38% of adult children will attend regularly.
- Father attends regularly and mother not at all, 44% of adult children will attend regularly.

First off, there are many mothers who have instilled a depth of faith and character in their children that can never be excluded. That is not the intent of the study. Instead, it demonstrates the awesome influence fathers (dads) have in developing a child's character and faith.

So to all the members of the Father/Dadhood Club, remember, your children are watching you very carefully, throughout your life and theirs. Let's be the Dads God wants us to be and our children need us to be.

**Fatherhood is pretending the present you love most is soap-on-a-rope. ~Bill Cosby**

# Purple Bag Donations



Do you keep forgetting your Purple Bags on Communion Sunday? Were you unable to attend church and still want to donate? Please bring in your Purple Bags any Sunday.

Our goal is to donate 200 Purple Bags to The Daily Bread Food Pantry in 2011. We are ahead of our projected goal—hurray!

The Daily Bread Food Pantry is in need of pasta and prepared foods such as rice and noodle side dishes, but all items are appreciated.

Please help the Missions Committee in supporting a good cause.

Thank You and God Bless

**Cindy Kearley**



## ~ Serving the Lord by Serving Others ~

Those who may be interested in a mission trip to El Salvador: January 21-28, contact Eric by June 30th. It may seem early but those who are interested will need to meet and have plans solid by mid-September. Meeting at the end of June gives us and those organizing on the other end time to make necessary financial and logistic arrangements.

## ~ Worcester Fellowship ~

The Missions Committee is organizing a group to help at the Worcester Fellowship on Sunday, June 26th, in Worcester.

The group will attend an outside worship service and serve lunch to people off the streets. We will leave at approximately 10:30 am on June 26th and return to Milford around 3:30 pm.



This is a great experience of service/outreach ministry. Please contact Kay Quinney-Burnard at 508-381-3033 for more information or to sign up.



The Missions Committee is also looking for donations of white socks for men and women, bread and lunch meat for this outreach ministry.

The group will take white socks and sandwiches to handout to the people. Please bring white socks for both men and women to church and place them in the box located in the back of church.

Please sign up to bring bread or sandwich meat with Kay Quinney-Burnard. Thank you for your help with this service/outreach ministry.

Peace, Kay

Additional information may be found on their website at

[www.worcesterfellowship.org](http://www.worcesterfellowship.org)



## *Fellowship Dinners*

Does having dinner with other people from First Congregational Church sound fun? Then please join the Fellowship Dinners this fall. This is a great way to get to know other people from our church in a relaxed, 'be-yourself' social setting. Each group will have about eight people and will rotate having dinner

at each other's homes or meeting at a favorite restaurant.

You may ask to be in a group that includes children or a group that meets at restaurants. **Please**

**contact Barb Waite at 508-533-8837 or [bjwaite12@verizon.net](mailto:bjwaite12@verizon.net) or Kay Quinney-Burnard at 508-381-3033 or**

**[qburnard@yahoo.com](mailto:qburnard@yahoo.com) for more information or to**

### *Fellowship Dinner Sign-Up*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies/restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Adult only group? Yes No Don't care (please circle one)

Pet allergies? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there pets in your home? If so, please list

\_\_\_\_\_

Because we don't have the records from previous years, and because our goal is to have people who don't know each other well, get to know each other, please list who you have been in groups with in the previous year.

\_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in being a group leader? Yes No

Questions, comments, ideas? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Got Books??**

*New selections arrive regularly so please stop by the Book Re-Cycling Table to pick up your summer reading material. There are some great books for children and adults, something for everyone. All donations help with the church budget.*



*Thank you,  
The Welcoming Committee*



**Worship Support**

**Memorial lighting in June** is given in loving memory of Mr. Harry Pond, Sr. from his family.

Memorial lighting in July is given by **John and Susan Edmondson** and Daniel, Timothy and Kevin O'Neil in fond memory of those family members passed on and for those behind us, much appreciation and respect.

**June 5th— Flowers given by Joan Eaton, Deacons for ushering and reading**

**June 12th—Children's Sunday**

**June 19th—Nara Pacico, reader**

He didn't tell me how to live; he lived,  
and let me watch him do it.  
~Clarence Budington Kelland

Dad, you're someone to look up  
to no matter  
how tall I've grown.

~Author Unknown

**June Birthdays**

- 6/3 Stacey Szczypinski
- 6/4 Ben Rouleau
- 6/5 Alison Sardonini
- 6/6 Samantha Stratton
- 6/7 Douglas Dufresne
- 6/9 William Engblom
- 6/9 Rachel Metcalf
- 6/9 Stephen Freehan
- 6/11 Brett Tompkins
- 6/11 Michael Sardonini
- 6/13 Jeffrey Warren Hahn Wing
- 6/15 Susan Cooper
- 6/16 Susan Nowak
- 6/16 Mario Cicconi
- 6/17 Cindi Bucken
- 6/18 Matt Dillon
- 6/20 Harry Tiberio
- 6/26 Michael Paterno
- 6/27 Bruce Stratton



**July Birthdays**

- 7/1 Doug Briggs
- 7/3 Barbara Vecchiolla
- 7/4 Peter Lanciano
- 7/4 James Colcord
- 7/6 Rebecca Rose
- 7/11 Jane Dillon
- 7/14 Maia Paterno
- 7/16 Daniel Clinkman
- 7/17 Avery LaPlante
- 7/23 Lesley Lightner
- 7/24 Margaret Myatt
- 7/24 Stephanie Freehan
- 7/24 Tesha Szczypinski
- 7/25 Maura Rouleau
- 7/25 Anthony Fonseca
- 7/27 Courtney Wing
- 7/28 Julie Miano
- 7/30 Marilyn Ellery
- 7/31 Sadie Runeman



**Please notify Beth Rayner-Zyskowski of any errors or omissions – 508-634-1742 or [blondepatsfan@verizon.net](mailto:blondepatsfan@verizon.net)**

### College Students Mission Trip to Boston (parents of college students forward this please)

Okay, you are home for the summer, your parents already repainted and redecorated your room (unless your younger sister has claimed your room) and all your stuff is in boxes in the corner of the garage. And you have been looking for every opportunity to go some place outside of the house.

#### How would you like to spend a day making a difference in someone's life!

We are organizing a mission trip to inner-city Boston either for Saturday, July 23rd or July 30th. The date will not be locked in until we have a commitment of at least six. This is strictly for college students, Eric and possibly one or two other similar age humans.

What you will do?

1. Hand out sandwiches (150 plus) fruit and soup to the homeless on the Boston Common at 8:30 am.
2. Make and serve lunch at a homeless shelter/church in Dorchester at noon.

Yes, this is early morning but Eric will buy the coffee on the way in. We will be back by no later than 5:00 pm.

**Please, let Eric know by June 11<sup>th</sup>** and make your arrangements with summer jobs ASAP. He needs to lock in the date with the people in Boston.

Call/text 508-330-7023 or email eqbfcc@yahoo.com



### Children's Sunday ~ June 12th

It is Children's Sunday! We will also be having a baptism during worship and it will be held outside (weather permitting).

Please show your support for our children and their Sunday School teachers! Please plan on attending.

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### Yard and Bake Sale Saturday, Oct. 8th!

Start saving up your old stuff! We will hold a yard sale and bake sale on Saturday, October 8th.

### Homemade Goods—Do you knit????

We are also planning to have a table of home made things—anything that people would like to make or preserve, such as jam or vegetables.

**Jane Milani** is looking for someone who can work with wool and can knit. Please contact her and join in on this fun project!



calendar

## *Parishioner Preferred Page*

We thank the following local businesses who help sponsor the monthly publication of The Steeple.

### **Baystate Financial Services**

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189 Main St.  
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508-634-9960 f  
Email: [ptamagni@baystatefinancial.com](mailto:ptamagni@baystatefinancial.com)

### **Jenney P Gallerane, LICSW**

Hopedale Collaborative Counseling  
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Hopedale, MA 01747  
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(508) 259-0707

### Sponsor a Bulletin

For \$25 you can sponsor a bulletin for a worship service. You can sponsor the bulletin in memory of a loved one, in celebration of a special event, or just to be thankful. Call the church office or speak to a Worship Support member for details and dates.

"This is June, the month of grass and leaves . . . already the aspens are trembling again, and a new summer is offered me. I feel a little fluttered in my thoughts, as if I might be too late. Each season is but an infinitesimal point. It no sooner comes than it is gone. It has no duration. It simply gives a tone and hue to my thought. Each annual phenomena is reminiscence and prompting. Our thoughts and sentiments answer to the revolution of the seasons, as two cog-wheels fit into each other. We are conversant with only one point of contact at a time, from which we receive a prompting and impulse and instantly pass to a new season or point of contact. A year is made up of a certain series and number of sensations and thoughts which have their language in nature. Now I am ice, now I am sorrel. Each experience reduces itself to a mood of the mind."

- Henry David Thoreau, Journal, June 6, 1857

## **The Steeple**

**A publication of the First Congregational Church of Milford, Massachusetts**

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address service requested

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ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
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## *Pawtucket Red Sox trip*

Join in on all the fun! Sign-up for the all-  
church-all everybody  
Pawtucket Red Sox trip!

Tuesday, June 28th, game time 7:05 pm  
Tickets are \$10.00 each and the deadline is on June 12.

This event is open to everyone not just church members.  
Tickets will be mailed to those purchasing them  
along with directions to the ball park.

Cash is acceptable or checks can be made payable to Dwight Watson.  
See Dwight after Sunday worship or e-mail him at  
[dwight.watson@comcast.net](mailto:dwight.watson@comcast.net)

