



CHIMES

Fall 2021 Newsletter



DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, September 12

*Return to 10 a.m. Worship
Sunday School
Blessing of the Backpacks
and the Calendars
All Church Meeting and
Walk Through*

Sunday, September 26

Block Party

Sunday, October 3

*WORLD Communion Sunday
New Member Class
Confirmation Class*

Tuesday, October 5

*The Way of Scripture Bible Study
begins (see page 9)*

Sunday, November 7

*Daylight Savings Time ends
All Saints' Sunday*

Second Thursday and Fourth Tuesday of the Month

Miracle Kitchen

See page 8 for more calendar

Dear Beloved Community,

The old Yiddish proverb goes, "We plan, God laughs." We had anticipated a glorious return to all the things this fall – unfettered and unbounded by the concerns of the last year and a half. Instead, the Sunday following our triumphant return to inside worship, we moved back out to the village green.

We anticipate that through September, we will continue to worship outside, weather permitting, and we will move inside the sanctuary with masks, in the case of inclement weather. One thing that we have learned in this season is to be flexible. We have learned our God will meet us wherever and however we gather.

As we anticipate putting together a more formal video recording set up in the new build, we will be using our phones to livestream in the coming months. We have been working on improving the sound quality, and think that we have achieved a better quality in the recent months, but still we find unanticipated challenges. Thank you for your patience and feedback in staying with us as we move into our "hybrid worship" experience, which combines in person and online.

This fall we will return to our final year in the Narrative Lectionary. This fall, we will be looking for signposts to guide us through the shifting times as we respond to the pandemic.

(continued from front)

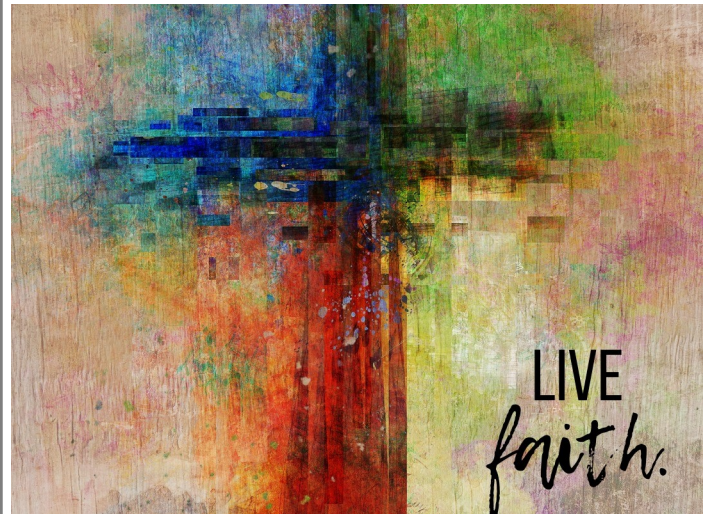
All of this has been magnificent preparation for a year, when we will be doing a major construction project. We will need all of the flexibility and grace that we can muster, as we travel new roads together and journey to our destination of greater service to our God and community.

May God guide our path.

Abundant blessings,



If you would like to schedule a time to meet with Pastor Angie, please contact the Church Office at 508-428-6163 or e-mail cotuitpastor@comcast.net.



Confirmation

A new Confirmation Class will begin at CFC this October. There is an informational meeting for both parents/guardians and youth on Sunday evening (10/3) at 6:30 p.m. in Bruce Hall.

You will receive the full confirmation schedule at that meeting, but the classes will be meeting on Sundays following worship. Youth will be confirmed on Pentecost, June 5, 2022.

There will be many important lessons during Confirmation — we will learn about the Bible and prayer, worship, mission, justice, church history, and what it means to live in community. We will learn about God, Jesus, and the Spirit. We will learn about our call and vocation; and what makes life most meaningful and worth living. We will visit other houses of worship, go on retreat, and have service projects in the community.

The class is open to youth in high school. We know that most of this class was delayed from last year, and plan to make it a meaningful journey. You are welcome to forward this to other parents who are looking for a meaningful spiritual experience for the young people in their lives.

If you have any questions in advance of the meeting, please let me know. I look forward to exploring God with your youth in the upcoming year.

Pastor Angie at cotuitpastor@comcast.net

MUSIC

How wonderful it's been to be back together in worship! I have loved hearing you all singing the hymns and enjoy hearing the sounds of nature during our services. Although we were all hoping to be inside for service at this point, I am overjoyed that we get to be together for worship.

Choir normally returns the first Sunday after Labor Day; however, we will be postponing the start. We are hoping to begin in October, but we will be watching to see what happens and gauge everyone's comfort level. Until then, if you are interested in providing special music, please let me know!

Handbell choir will begin **Thursday, September 16**, at 6 p.m. in Bruce Hall. Masks will be required for the comfort of all members in the group. We can disinfect the bells, and will be distancing ourselves as much as possible. If you are interested in joining, please let me know. We will teach you how to ring and read music!

Submitted by
Megan

*Church returns to 10 a.m. Worship
on Sunday, September 12 – outside.*



Can you help with a nearby Habitat for Humanity build? The local Cape Cod chapter is gearing up for the construction of six homes in East Falmouth, starting with wall-raising on Saturday, October 2. After that date, there's a need for volunteer individuals or groups to provide a snack for 35-40 on Tuesday and Saturday mornings at 10:00. That is when the work crew will be taking a break. Bev Parke, of St. Mary's in Barnstable, is serving as coordinator of the snacks. For details of this opportunity, please get in touch with her at (774) 994-2273 or via robnbevparke@verizon.net.





The New M. E. Church at Cotuit.



The accompanying entry is of the new. The services at the Hall ended a pro-



BUILDING EXPANSION TEAM

Treasures in the Attic

Long talked about by our congregation and the Building Expansion Team are our stained-glass windows. They are hidden behind the wall of the altar, presently visible only from the street -- and placed in such a way that no light can pass through and reveal their beautiful colors. Early on, BET determined that based on their size, they would be overpowering opened into the altar space.

But imagine my joy when looking through some of our historic records, I found this pencil drawing of our church in 1901 which revealed what the black and white photographs had obscured: the windows behind our altar had originally faced the village green! We are delighted that in our current plans, we will be moving the windows back to their original orientation to the village green.

Also, up in our attic are four stained glass windows that were placed above the Kraft Room and the kitchen in the last expansion of the sanctuary in the 1940's. They were original to the church when it was first constructed. We hoped we might be able to incorporate them in the new build and we have found ways to do so.

Thank you for your support of this project – you are helping God's light shine through the past into the future.



Building Expansion Update

Join us **Sunday, September 12** (after worship service), for an update from our Building Expansion Team. Following worship, we will have an update about our current status in fundraising and the building project, and then small groups will be able to tour various stops to see designs and share your thoughts on them. Then we will regather as a large group to respond to your questions and feedback.

Our floor plan for our project, gives us plenty of space to worship, connect, and serve our community.

Building Expansion Team Leaders:

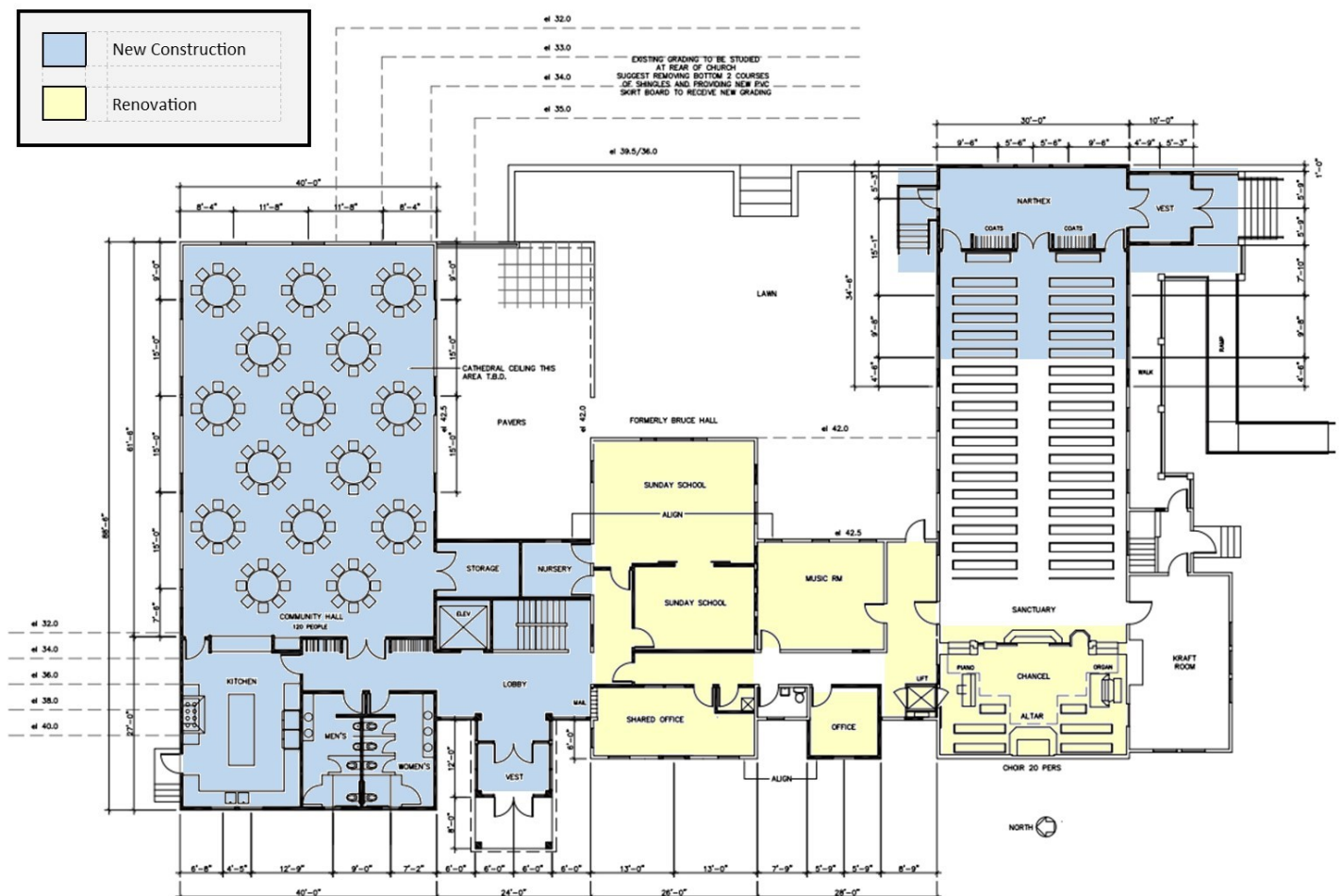
Scott Berkey • Pam Boden • Carol Giller •
Dick Hamilton • Jennifer Loughran •
Angela Menke Ballou • John Murray •
Peter Rohner • Tim Wakefield



Have you thought about giving to our
Capital Campaign . . .

www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org/donate/

**We are breaking ground this Fall! Once we have a firm date, we will share it with you!
Look for further announcements . . .**



CHURCH SCHOOL

Hello Everyone! Cooler evenings and chirping crickets mark the beginning of the end of summer for me, and I've been listening to crickets for the last week or so. September is here, and there is news to share!

In-person Church School (YAY!) will begin, and backpacks will be blessed, **Sunday, September 12, 2021!** Church School will meet outside (at the picnic tables on the playground) during worship. After Children's Time, children will be dismissed to Church School. If the weather is not conducive to outdoor worship, Church School will meet in Bruce Hall, with masks on and windows open.

In order to comply with Safe Church Policy, a second adult must be present during Church School. There will be a teacher/volunteer training, probably via ZOOM in early September. All teachers/volunteers will need to attend this brief training and complete a Volunteer Application, as well as a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check. Please consider volunteering. It is an enriching experience, and the children and I so appreciate it!

I anticipate that the Church School format will be similar to last year — with children learning together as a group. We will follow all CDC and Board of Health guidelines to keep everyone safe. I appreciate how flexible families were last school year, and know that we can all be like Gumby once again!

A *Church School Registration Form* will be posted on the Church Facebook page. [PLEASE register your child.](#) It is helpful in planning throughout the year.

Thank you, in advance for your continuing support and flexibility. I may be reached at cotfedced@gmail.com should you have any questions.

Here's to new beginnings!
Lynne



Lynne Belfiore
Church School Director
(508) 428-8896
cotfedced@gmail.com



Blessing of the Backpacks

Join us **SUNDAY, September 12 at 10 a.m.** for in-person worship and a special blessing of backpacks for students returning to school or those who will continue learning remotely. It is a blessing for our youth and children as they begin a new season of learning.

Adults are invited to bring their calendars and time-keepers for a Special Blessing.

EQUIPPING & MINISTRY TEAM UPDATE

Dear CFC Beloved Community,

Your Equipping Ministry and Growth Team has been practicing Sabbath this summer. This is another way of saying that we decided at our meeting in June to take the months of July and August off and to reconvene in September.

At our meeting in June, we honored the heart and soulful work and dedication of both Janet Kearsley and Sis Belcher as they decided to step down from the team. We are so grateful for the amazing women they are and for their many stellar years of leadership. And, as I told them both, I have them on speed-dial if the need should arise. In September, we will welcome the awesome Cathy McMullen to our team.

We have not yet set a formal agenda for the fall. However, in a general sense, we will spend some time assessing how our team might be of best service to CFC as we continue to find our path into a new way of being and living with Covid. Our mission is to help support each of you in finding ways you can feel holy and alive in our church community.

Many thanks to all who are serving on teams and in ministries. Special thanks to Cindy Kenna and Cathy McMullen for their work in creating the CFC Cookbook this past year. And, a big shout-out of thanks to Pastor Angie for her love and leadership! We are so very lucky and blessed!

Love to all on behalf of your Equipping and Ministry Team.

Priscilla Arnaud, Charlie Dings, Linda Harmon (*Team Leader*),
Cathy McMullen, Ann Murray

THE POWER OF BREAKING BREAD

The CFC cookbook, which debuted in early May, has been a best seller. To date, over 120 copies have been sold at \$20 each. High sales are anticipated during CraftFest, too. Not only does it have over 100 terrific recipes, but photos of some of the best chefs are inserted. There are the "award-winning" recipes, chosen by Cathy McMullen and Cindy Kenna, for the most contributed (Ginny Farwell and Betsey Reid), the longest (Diane Delauter), the shortest (Chris Jacobson and Priscilla Arnaud), and the ones with the most steps (Beth Gadoury and Ginny Farwell). Every single one sounds delicious.

There is a new cranberry relish, a new sauce for ham, many appetizers for parties, and more than 30 desserts to highlight your holiday tables.

Buyers have given them as birthday and Mother's Day gifts, and they will be perfect for Christmas gifts, housewarming gifts, and thank you gifts for the year. They remain available in Bruce Hall during office hours.



CRANBERRY ORANGE RELISH

4 c. fresh cranberries

2 c. sugar

1/2 c. water

3 Tbsp. grated orange rind

1/2 c. slivered almonds

Combine all the ingredients, except the almonds, and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer uncovered for 10 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in the almonds. Chill for 4 hours in the refrigerator.

Yield: 4 cups or
8 servings

Recipe by Wanda Lucy
The Power of Breaking Bread



SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 12

Worship returns to 10 a.m.

Join us for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

And **Blessing of the Backpacks!**

SEPTEMBER 12

Sunday School begins

We will be meeting in-person for Sunday School (outside near the playground). We are looking for parent volunteers and teachers.

For more information, contact Lynne Belfiore, Church School Director, cotfedced@gmail.com (508) 428-8896

SEPTEMBER 16

Handbell Choir begins

SEPTEMBER 26

Community Potluck & Block Party

Come celebrate and bring a side dish to share! We will gather after worship service at 11:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 27

Blood Drive

Blood Drive for Cape Cod Healthcare.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 3

World Communion Sunday

Join us during worship service as we pray for countries around the world.

Newcomers Q & A after church!

Confirmation Class at 6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 5

Book Study Group begins

Join us at 6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 17

Celebration for Pastor Angie!

We are blessed that Pastor Angie has been with CFC for 10 years!

Details on how we are celebrating will be in future Weekly Word!

OCTOBER 24

Stewardship Pledge Sunday

"Rooted in Love."

Mailing will be sent in the beginning of the month. Bring your pledge card to church and have it blessed! More details to come.

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 7

All Saints Sunday

Remembering our loved ones. Daylight Saving Time ends.

NOVEMBER 22

Blood Drive

Cape Cod Healthcare needs your life-saving support! The hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Register on their website.



www.capecodhealth.org/give-blood

NOVEMBER 25

Thanksgiving

Miracle Kitchen

Second Thursday and fourth Tuesday of the month, volunteers serve a hearty lunch for the homeless at the Hyannis Salvation Army Center. Contact Ken Molloy at 508-428-3815 to get involved.

www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org

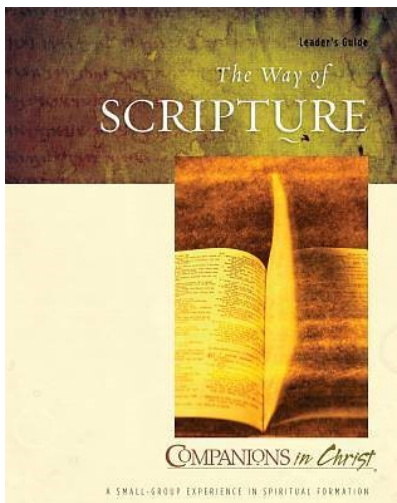
New Member Classes: Welcoming Newcomers to Cotuit Federated Church!

I am overjoyed that CFC is a kind and faithful community of people who seek to follow God, support one another, and serve in the local community and world. The life of faith is designed to be lived together. If you are new to the community and interested in learning more about us, or if you have been away from the community and are interested in recommitting to walk with us in faith, or if you have been part of the community for a long time and are finally ready to take the leap of faith to becoming a member, then these gatherings are for you:

- **Sunday, October 3:** *Questions and Introductions* [11:30 am, Outside (weather permitting) or in the Sanctuary]
- **Thursday, October 7:** *Meet with Church Leadership* [6:30 pm, Outside (weather permitting) or in the Sanctuary]

There will be a special Celebration of Faith and Covenant for those who choose to join Cotuit Federated Church on Sunday, October 17, during the morning worship service. Please join us in conversation as we explore what it means to journey together in faith. I look forward to the ways that we will grow in God's love with one another. — Peace, *Pastor Angie*

Small Group Book Study for the Fall



Introduction to course
on October 5.

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

October 5 - December 7,
(no class on 11/23)

An eight week, small group resource that employs the ancient, time-tested practice of praying the Scriptures

You go to church. You read the Bible. How, though, do you approach it? Do you search the scriptures for validation of your own beliefs and decisions, or do you allow the Word-in-text to search you?

Christians serious about venturing into greater spiritual depths with God's Word will welcome *The Way of Scripture*, the ninth title in the *Companions in Christ* series. Employing the ancient, time-tested practice of praying the Scriptures, this resource is designed for an 8-week small group commitment. Between the weekly meetings, participants maintain a journal as they complete readings and daily exercises. However, this is much more than a Bible study! Throughout this process, participants consider the Bible as the "Word-become-text." The journey encourages participants to set aside preconceived notions of the Bible, worries of the day, and tendencies to intellectualize, in order to open themselves to receive what God desires to share with them. The ultimate goal is to bring believers "into a continual transforming encounter with God, so that the Word might become flesh in (them) for the sake of the world God loves so much."

Books available at church for \$10.



YOUR GIFTS providing for Others

The following are expressions of gratitude for the various acts of discipleship and mission our CFC congregation has shown to individuals, families, and organizations.

- Holiday Food Baskets
- Ministry
- Fellowship
- Healing Prayers
- Cards/Notes
- Financial Contributions
- Gift Cards
- Prayer Shawls

These are just a sampling of the thank you notes we have received. If your note was not included, know that your gratitude was received and offered us encouragement for our work together to serve God.



✧ To the beautiful people of Cotuit Federated Church, Thank you for all the cards and prayers after 10 of my neighbors were murdered by gun violence in a massacre at my grocery store. It was a hard and deeply sad time that still goes on and it meant so much to receive your blessings. The spirit led me to do something after that day, and I believe your prayers were a part of this. We took our tears and took 34 unwanted weapons and chopped them up and now they are on their way to garden tools and art. Church matters in the world. Thank you, Rev. Nicole Lamarche (Community United Church of Christ, Boulder, CO)

✧ Dear Angela & the Congregation of the Cotuit Federated Church, we are so grateful for your continued support of our Recovery Build program for teens who struggle with substance use. Together we can empower teens and families to “see” the issues and reach out for help. We are all in this together. Stephanie Bradley

✧ Dear Members (of Cotuit Federated Church), on behalf of Housing Assistance and the clients we serve, thank you for your recent donation of \$1,000 to support the Cotuit Federated Team in Housing Assistance’s WALK for HOPE. . . Endless thanks for your engagement and genuine support!!!! Sincerely, Catherine Baker (Assistant Director of Development, Housing Assistance Corporation)

✧ Dear Margaret, Megan, Barbara and James, Michael O’Toole, Sally and Paul, Dick H, and Bob – Thank you for all your help with Dad’s Memorial Service and ice cream social. It was a perfect day! With great appreciation, Audrey, Chris, and Eric.

OUTREACH / MISSION

During the summer Cotuit Federated Church continued working in our community as the programs we support went back to in person volunteering. Our teams are now back on site at the Salvation Army and Faith Family Kitchen serving meals to our neighbors dealing with food security issues. Please consider how you can help volunteering at these important food programs.

In July we had a diaper drive. Angel House in Hyannis, which is a family shelter for women experiencing homelessness as they recover from addiction, received the diapers with so much gratitude.

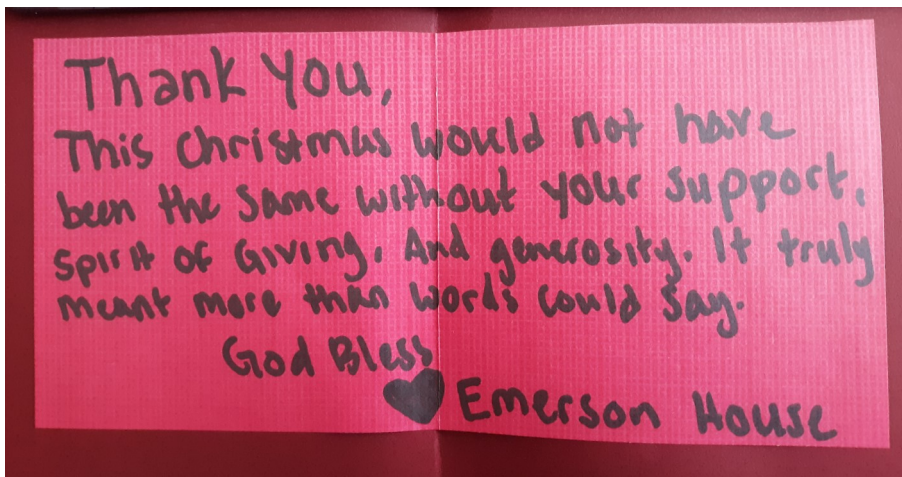
As we transition into fall, we will be announcing holiday food and gift drives. We always collect non-perishable food for the food pantries in the area.

Submitted by Pat Uhlman

Want to get involved . . .

New information and mission offerings are posted regularly in the Weekly Word e-mail. If you don't receive the e-mail on Fridays, sign up at www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org.

Emerson House is closing



An example of messages previously received from the residents of Emerson House

We recently learned of the very sad, and unexpected, closing of Emerson House in Falmouth (an extended treatment program for women in recovery from substance abuse disorders). At the same time, the Miller House program for men was disbanded.

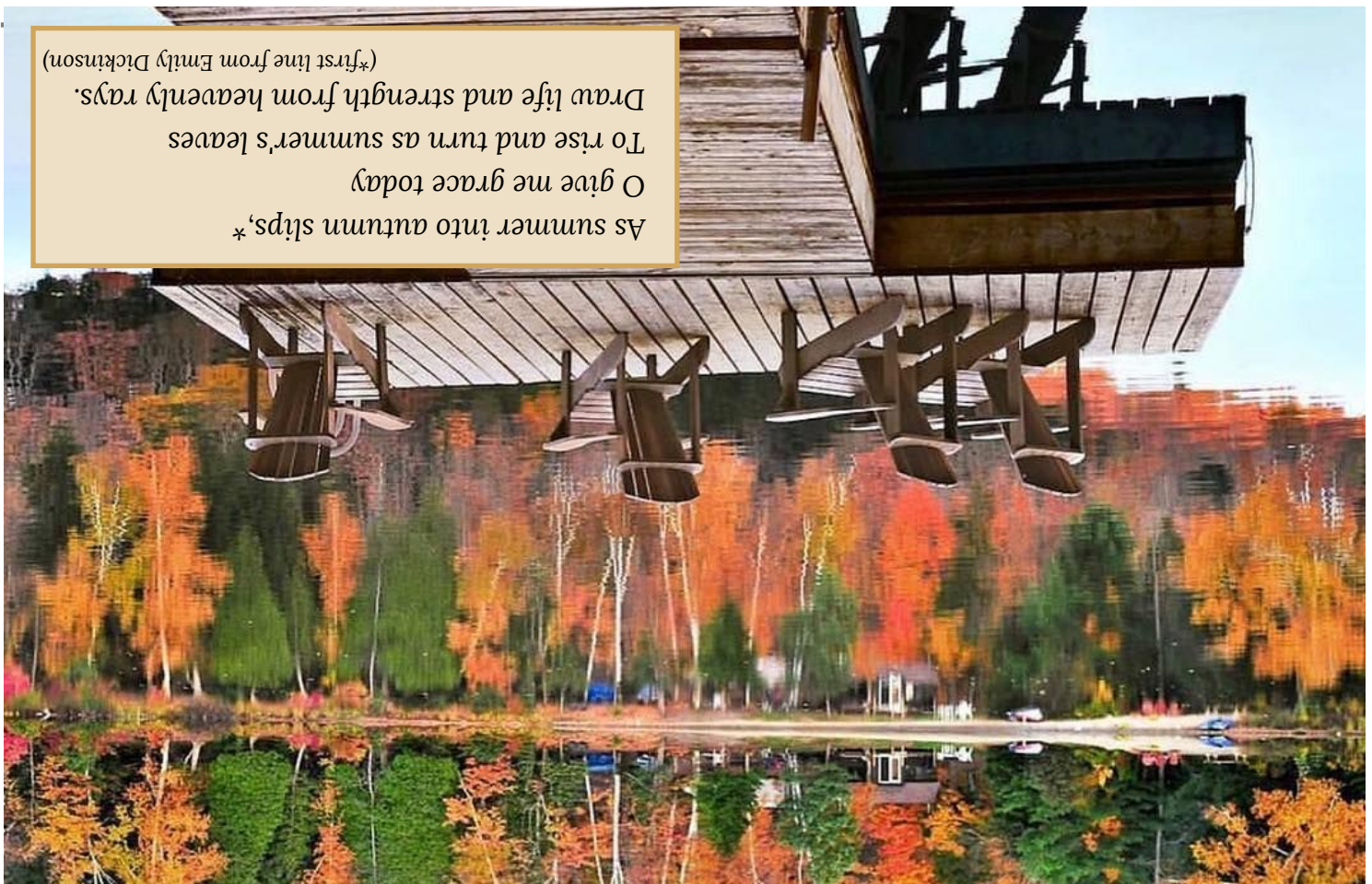
While reports of possible treatment programs on those sites are in the discussion phase, there are no plans for reinstating residential long term care. Your support over the years has meant a great deal to the women and babies at Emerson House. At this time, your prayers for programs supporting all who struggle with substance use disorder (SAD) are needed more than ever.

Submitted by Chris Robello

Addiction Recovery Prayer

Look with compassion
upon all who
through addiction
have lost their health
and freedom.
Restore to them the assurance of
Your unfailing mercy;
remove from them
the fears that beset them;
strengthen them
in the work of their recovery;
and to those who care for them,
give patient understanding
and persevering love.
Amen.

Source: <https://www.guidепosts.org/better-living/health-and-wellness/addiction-and-recovery>



As summer into autumn slips,*
O give me grace today
To rise and turn as summer's leaves
Draw life and strength from heavenly rays.
(*first line from Emily Dickinson)



COTUIT FEDERATED CHURCH

40 School Street • Post Office Box 436 • Cotuit, MA 02635

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

No matter
who you are
or where you
are on
life's journey,
you are
welcome
here.