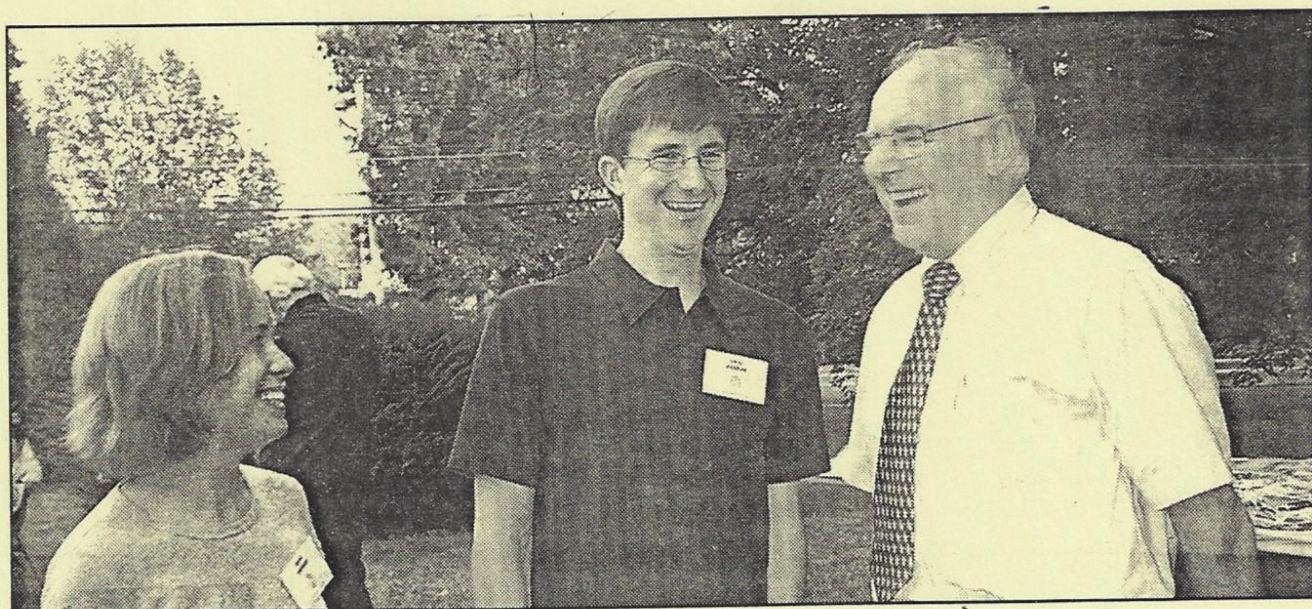


THE ANNUAL REPORTS

for 2002



Welcome ... to Eric & Sara Marean!
(pictured here with retired Pastor Emeritus, Phil Southwick)
September 2002

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
GEORGETOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**

Meetings

**The First Congregational Church of Georgetown
PO Box 200
Georgetown, MA 01833
(978) 352-8443**

January 27, 2002

WARRANT

The members of the First Congregational Church of Georgetown are hereby advised that in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of said church, The Annual Meeting of the Church will be held Sunday, February 3, 2002 immediately following worship, in the Church Sanctuary, then and there to act on the following listed Articles:

ARTICLE I. To receive the reports of the several boards, committees and officers of the church and to take action thereon;

ARTICLE II. To hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee in regard to the 2001 financial operations and the 2002 proposed budget, or take any other action in relation thereto;

ARTICLE III. To see if the church will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Finance Committee to transfer money from the Capital Outlay Fund to the General Checking Account from time to time during the ensuing year, for the purpose of maintaining an equitable cash flow and of financing current expense operations, in the event that unrestricted receipts from stewardship, loose collections, donations and fundraising activities do not meet needed expenditures, or take any other action in relation thereto;

ARTICLE IV. To hear and act on the report of the Nominating Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto;

ARTICLE V. To hear and act on any other business and to take any other actions, relative to the Church and its property, which may be brought before the Annual Meeting in accordance with the Bylaws;

By direction of the Moderator and Church Cabinet

**Emily J. Knapp
Clerk**

Annual Church Meeting

February 3, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 AM by Moderator, Donn Chatterton. Rev. Leonard Zecchini opened the meeting in prayer.

Article I: To receive the reports of the several boards, committees and officers of the Church and to take action thereon;

Kristen Arsenault made a motion to accept the reports of the several boards, committees and officers of the Church; Bob Knapp seconded the motion. Donn spoke on the Annual Reports and how every year the writing gets better and better. Donn thanked Joan Chatterton and Isabel Gammon for their work in assembling the reports. Donn asked for any additional comments on the reports. The vote was taken and carried.

Article II: The hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee in regard to the 2001 financial operations and the 2002 proposed budget, or take any other action in relation thereto;

Allan Barlow made a motion to accept the report of the Finance Committee; seconded by Bob Watts. Allan spoke of the "Summary Page 1" and Line 21: Grand Total Receipts. It appears that we lost money however we paid the mortgage off in Nov/Dec of last year. Allan asked for any questions. Dorothy Blanchard indicated that she was very appreciative of the complete financial report this year. The question was raised as to why there was less money allocated this year for the minister. Allan responded that we hope to have a new, settled pastor by June. Are there plans for renovation to the parsonage? Allan responded that at this time seeds have been planted in that regards but plans are a long way away. Donn asked if there were any additional questions for Allan – none appearing, the vote was taken and carried.

Article III: To see if the Church will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Finance Committee to transfer money for the Capital Outlay Fund to the General Checking Account from time to time during the ensuing year, for the purpose of maintaining an equitable cash flow and of financing current expense operations, in the event that unrestricted receipts from stewardship, loose collections, donations and fundraising activities do not meet needed expenditures, or take any other action thereto;

Chuck Davis made a motion to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Finance Committee to transfer funds from the Capital Outlay Fund to the General Checking Account from time to time during the ensuing year, for the purpose of maintaining an equitable cash flow and of financing current expense operations, in the event that unrestricted receipts from stewardship, loose collections, donations and fundraising activities do not meet needed expenditures. The motion was seconded by Pat Barlow.

Donn asked for discussion in regards to this motion – none appearing, the vote carried.

Article IV: The hear and act on the report of the Nominating Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto:

Marion Harding made a motion to accept the slate of officers for 2002-2003 as recommended by the Nominating Committee. The list of officers to be elected was read. The motion was seconded by Allan Barlow.

The Moderator asked the Clerk to cast one ballot in favor of the Nominating Committees recommendation of officers for the ensuing year.

Article V: The hear and act on any other business and take any other actions, relative to the Church and its property, which may be brought before the Annual Meeting in accordance with the Bylaws.

Dorothy Blanchard said that she has had difficulty understanding the Budget as presented by the Finance Committee. She indicated that she had spent time with Allan Barlow and came away with a better understanding of the financial statements. Dorothy made a motion the budget requests for the next year be given to the Finance Committee by the 2nd Tuesday of November each year. The motion was seconded by Charles Blanchard. Allan commented on the motion and stated that before the Finance Committee does the budget for the year they need information from the prior year and pledge information for the ensuing year. Cooperation from Committee Chairs would also be helpful in this regard. Donn re-read the motion, asked for discussion. The vote was taken and carried. Donn indicated that we would try this for one year.

Home Tapin spoke at length on the importance of the Heritage of the Church and hoped that we could take better advantage of our heritage. He suggested that a copy of a book about the Church be given to potential members. Home indicated that the historical foundation of our Church is very important. He indicated that he would be willing to revise the history he had written about the Church. Donn thanked Homer for his comments. Beverly Knapp said that the Historical Society is very interested in information on the Church and would be willing to help out with this process.

Steve LeBlanc spoke on behalf of the Search Committee. In total, the Committee has reviewed some 90 profiles (44 men, 46 women). They have had some face to face interviews and a number of telephone interviews. At this time, there are 2 viable candidates. At the present, Steve could not give a time frame for when the process would be complete, however June does sound like a reasonable date for a new minister.

Various questions were asked of Steve....if the viable candidates were men or women, their age, whether they were married or single, would they need the parsonage. Steve reported that we are required to give the interim minister 2 months notice. Steve indicated that the identity of the candidate would not appear until candidates week-end.

Donn thanked Steve and the other Search Committee members for their work.

Bob Knapp spoke on behalf of the Renovation Committee and the pew cushion status. Bob made a motion that we amend the 1999 allotment of \$11,500 for purchase of pew cushions, to \$13,500 for the pew cushions. We have talked to a company in Kansas and they will be back in May to do measurements etc. The motion was seconded. At the present time the "Butt Fund" has approximately \$6,615.00 from contributions for pew cushions. Donn asked for additional comments on this matter. The vote taken and carried.

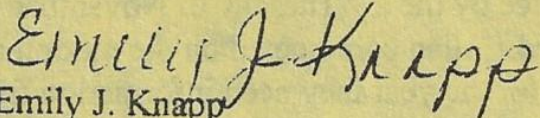
Dorothy Blanchard made a motion that the Finance Committee conduct a budget workshop at least one week before each Annual Church Meeting. The motion was seconded by Charles

Blanchard. Dorothy discussed the need for the congregation to understand the budget before voting on it at the annual meeting. Donn asked for discussion on this motion, the vote taken and carried. Donn indicated we would try this for one year.

Donn reported on the establishment of the Safe Church Council. The UCC is addressing Safe Church procedures – safety for all within the Church. Who has access to keys, knowing how to proceed in the event of a fire or an emergency, misconduct etc. Leonard spoke of this in a recent Church newsletter. The Cabinet has approved an Ad Hoc Committee and appointed the following as members; Pam Sheehan, Michelle Brock, Tom Hamelin, Tom Stewart, Brad Chute, Richard Aberman, Peggy Smith. These members will be meeting with the Interim Area Minister in February or March.

No additional business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Emily J. Knapp in cursive script.

Emily J. Knapp

Clerk

First Congregational Church of Georgetown, Inc.
7 Andover Street, PO Box 200
Georgetown, MA 01833
(978) 352-8443

September 10, 2002

WARRANT

The members of the First Congregational Church of Georgetown, Inc., are hereby advised that in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of said Church, a special meeting of the Church Membership will be held Sunday, September 22, 2002, in the Church Sanctuary, immediately following worship, then and there to act on the following Articles:

ARTICLE I: To hear and act on the report of the Pastoral Search Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto;

ARTICLE II: To see if the Church will vote to call the Reverend Eric M. Marean as its Pastor and Teacher, or take any other action in relation thereto;

By direction of the Church Cabinet

Emily J. Knapp
Clerk

Special Church Meeting

September 22, 2002

The duly called Special Church Meeting was called to order at 11:25 AM by Moderator, Donn Chatterton.

Donn thanked eleven very special people who have worked diligently over the past three years. Steve LeBlanc, Allan Barlow, Kirsten Davis, Donn DeSisto, T. Louis (Bud) Hamelin, Marion Harding, Paula Martel, Claudia Smith, David Smith, Susan Stead, and Diane Townsend were each introduced to the Church membership and received a standing ovation from their Church family.

Article I: To hear and act on the report of the Pastoral Search Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto;

Steve LeBlanc made a motion that the Church Membership vote to accept the report of the Pastoral Search Committee. The motion was seconded. Steve reported for the Search Committee and indicated that the committee had reviewed some 130 individual profiles. He indicated that he hoped everyone had received the letter with the profile information for Rev. Eric Marean. There are five churches in Massachusetts and New Hampshire who have expressed interest in having Eric serve as their settled pastor. Eric has expressed interest in our Church.

Donn asked for discussion in regards to this motion – none appearing, the vote was taken and carried.

Article II: To see if the Church will vote to call the Reverend Eric Marean as its Pastor and Teacher, or take any other action in relation thereto.

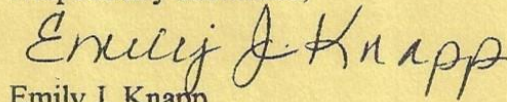
Steve LeBlanc made a motion that the Church Membership vote to Call Reverend Eric M. Marean as its Pastor and Teacher as authorized by the Constitution and Bylaws, Paragraph 4.4.1a). The motion was seconded.

Donn indicated that we would take the vote by secret ballot. The tellers (JoEllen Fielding, Karla Szkutak, Dwight Southwick, Kristen Arsenault, Ruth Jones) will collect the ballots and count them. The tellers reported that unanimously, the Church voted to Call Rev. Eric Marean as their pastor/teacher.

With much excitement, ovation and celebration, Steve LeBlanc brought Eric and Sara back into the Sanctuary and introduced Rev. Eric Marean as our new, settled minister. Eric spoke briefly, accepting the position and said that from day one, he knew that this was going to be the Church he had been looking for.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM for cake and coffee in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Emily J. Knapp
Clerk

The First Congregational Church of Georgetown, Inc.
7 Andover Street, P.O. Box 200
Georgetown, MA 01833
(978) 352-8443

October 08, 2002

WARRANT

The members of The First Congregational Church of Georgetown, Inc., are hereby advised that in accordance with Paragraph 4.4.2 g) of the Constitution and Bylaws of said Church, a special meeting of the Church Membership will be held Sunday, 20 October 2002, in the Church Sanctuary, immediately following worship, then and there to act on the following Article:

ARTICLE I: To see if the Church will vote to authorize the Board of Trustees to sell the Parsonage, located at 5 Hart Circle, Georgetown, MA, in accordance with paragraphs 4.4.1 c) and 4.4.10 a) of the Constitution and Bylaws, and to direct the Treasurer, with approval of the Finance Committee, to invest the proceeds of the sale in a special pastoral housing account, to be selected by the Finance Committee, for the purposes of:

1. Maintaining a Pastoral Housing Fund in the event there is a need to purchase a parsonage or help a pastor purchase housing in the future;
2. Using the earnings from the account to offset the Pastor's housing allowance and to grow the account principal in accordance with the Church investment policy.

By direction of the Church Cabinet

Emily J. Knapp
Clerk

Special Church Meeting

October 20, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 AM by Moderator, Donn Chatterton.

Donn read the Church By-laws as pertaining the Church and its property. Donn reported that the new minister will seek to find independent housing.

The Warrant was read by the Church Clerk.

Article I: To see if the Church will vote to authorize the Board of Trustees to sell the Parsonage, located at 5 Hart Circle, Georgetown, MA, in accordance with paragraphs 4.4.1c) and 4.4.10a) of the Constitution and Bylaws, and to direct the Treasurer, with approval of the Finance Committee, to invest the proceeds of the sale in a special pastoral housing account, to be selected by the Finance Committee, for the purposes of:

1. Maintaining a Pastoral Housing Fund in the event there is a need to purchase a parsonage or help a pastor purchase housing in the future;
2. Using the earnings from the account to offset the Pastor's housing allowance and to grow the account principal in accordance with the Church investment policy.

A motion was made by Steve Pinto as to the above, motion was seconded by Allan Barlow. Donn asked for any discussion –

Allan indicated that every member should have received a letter about this matter. Tom Stewart said that this seems to be a wonderful "business move", however we have a family in crisis in our Church who needs housing. Tom made a motion to delay the sale of the property for one year, to allow the family in crisis a place to stay. Donn indicated that the Cabinet has spoken about this family and their situation. Donn asked if anyone from the Cabinet wished to speak about this. Bob Knapp said that substantial work needs to be done on the parsonage to bring the property up to a livable standard. The Cabinet wrestled with this situation and we are people of faith, however the Cabinet felt that we could best help this family with assistance in other ways. This was a very difficult, and thought provoking decision for the Cabinet. Jim Callahan said that the Cabinet had met with an attorney and based on information passed on at that meeting, added to the decision of the Cabinet. Ralph Turgeon spoke that it was his family that was having a housing crisis. He said that this Church has been a family to them, however he wants the Church to do what is best for the Church.

Helen Snow thought that we should hang on to the property and obtain a mortgage and possibly invest the mortgage funds. Joan Chatterton said that we as a congregation have put very little into the parsonage of the years. Maintenance was not expended. Things that had been promised to Phil Southwick and family were not followed through, and they never complained. Shame on us a congregation, now we are faced with a house with a lot of problems.

Donn indicated that an adjustment to the motion would not be made. The vote was taken, tellers tallied, the vote carried.

Donn thanked Ralph Turgeon for his words and thanked those who spoke as well.

Allan Barlow made a motion that the Church vote to treat the Pastoral Housing Fund as though it were real property meaning that expenditures or loans from its principal must be authorized by vote of the Church Membership per paragraph 4.4.1c) of the Constitution and Bylaws. The motion was seconded.

The Pastoral Housing Fund – the proceeds will be invested as if it were still real property. The funds would be “locked up” as if it were a parsonage without the maintenance. The Finance Committee would like to know of any ideas of obtaining high rate of return.

Donn asked for any additional discussion – none appearing, the vote taken and carried unanimously.

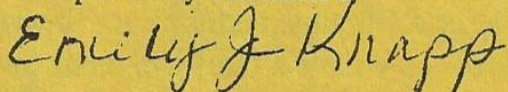
Karla Szkutak made a motion that the Church vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Finance Committee, to expend that portion of the Pastoral Housing Fund earnings designed by the Church Investment Policy for its Endowment Funds, to grow the Pastoral Housing Fund principal, and to expend the remainder of the Pastoral Housing Fund earnings to help offset the Pastor's Housing Allowance. The motion was seconded.

Karla spoke of the AG Edwards representative who has been most helpful and said she is looking for any ideas on high return.

No additional discussion – the vote taken and carried.

No additional business at hand, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily J. Knapp". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large loop on the 'E' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'p'.

Emily J. Knapp
Clerk

Minister

Report of the Interim Pastor January – November 2002

The first annual report I made to you in January 2000 shared some of the thoughts I had as your then-new Interim Pastor. Neither you nor I knew what we would be going through together, or for how long, as we proclaimed Jesus' Good News of salvation (healing, wholeness, and fulfilling life) to ourselves, our families, our community and to the various worlds each one of us interacts with as we go about our daily activities.

In addition to the typical activities as a settled pastor does, there are several tasks that are now generally accepted as being part of an interim pastor's responsibility to encourage during the time of transition from one settled pastor to another.

One is coming to terms with the history of the congregation. Included in that is not merely dealing with the loss of a valued retired pastor such as Phil Southwick but also considering the formative history of the church in the past. In our church membership class we had Dorothy Blanchard's assistance as we looked at how this parish fit into the general religious scene since the early days of the settling of New Rowley. Part of the heritage of this parish were the dissensions in the nineteenth century which brought about the formation of the Memorial Church by those who had difficulty with South Church. But also part of this heritage was the healing of that rift by the unification of those two congregations to form First Congregational Church.

Another task during the interim period is allowing needed leadership change. This was not too a pressing issue as this congregation has had a tradition of the laity taking responsibility in guiding the church in its mission. Having a pastor not living in the community and not engaged in the parish full-time possibly encouraged various boards and committees to function in different modes than they were used to when Pastor Phil Southwick was present and just around the corner. Not having Phil's longevity of knowledge and experience with you and your concerns I tried to be a supportive presence to the various boards and organizations that make up this Body of Christ.

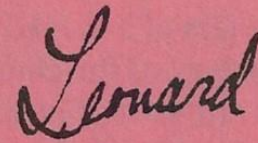
Another task is discovering a new identity. In one annual report I mentioned that there would be a period of adjustment in coming to terms with the realization that Phil Southwick was no longer pastor after an incumbency of thirty-four years. New ministry cannot really begin until we are ready to release the past. As an interim pastor I had no mandate to pursue a particular direction of ministry other than that which comes out of my own background, theological orientation and church experience. The Diaconate when fulfilling their task of securing an interim pastor did not have the luxury the Pastoral Search Committee has had in interviewing the congregation to determine what characteristics are most appropriate in a new pastor. I was here for a limited time and had a limited mandate such as dealing with the Interim Tasks.

(continued next page)

The other interim task is that of committing to new directions in ministry. You have only to look around and see where you are with that. In the pastor's office is Eric Marean. Eric and Sara you have, after great deliberation and search, brought from a great distance (for New England) to minister with you as you live out your life together as this particular manifestation of the Body of Christ.

Ruth and I are so very grateful for your gracious reception of us during the time we were with you. May you all faithfully proclaim Jesus' Good News, and be Good News, in a world that desperately needs Good News!

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leonard". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

A Report From The Minister

God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

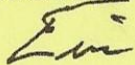
These words, spoken to God's people by the prophet Micah so many years ago, remind us that we must respond today to God's gracious call in our lives. As I reflect upon the past year at First Congregational Church, a year in which I only shared one month with you as your settled minister, I am excited to see the many ways we lived that call. Through our worship, our community outreach and our attentiveness to the needs of those around us, we brought life to those words.

It goes without saying that 2002 was an exciting and eventful time. I had brief glimpses of this church throughout the year thanks to the pastoral search committee and experienced a wonderful candidate weekend in September. After my arrival in late November, December proved to be a full month for me as I attended to the immediate needs of pastoral care, led worship through the season of Advent that culminated in the candlelight Christmas Eve service, and began the process of learning about the history of this congregation and all her members and friends. I have enjoyed getting to know you over the past few weeks and I look forward to getting to know each of you even better in the years to come. Thank you for your warm welcome.

It was obvious upon my arrival that this congregation has remained in good health during your interim period. I am grateful to all who ministered within this community and gave life to our common mission. Over the years you have had faithful pastoral leaders in whose line I am honored to follow, and you have demonstrated strong lay leadership as well as initiative during a time of transition. I especially thank all those who served and continue to serve this church with their time and talents. Each committee member and chairperson, church officer, Sunday school teacher and aid, worship usher, greeter and coffee hour host, youth group leader, music director and choir member, and every volunteer contributes to our ministry. Thanks also to Joan Chatterton, Emily and Bob Knaßp, and Sharon Smith, our faithful staff members.

Together, as a community of faith, we have and will seek ways to live God's call in our lives. In the years ahead, may we continue to strive to fulfill the requirements of God and find the opportunities to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

Shalom,



Eric M. Marean

Clerk

Report of the Church Clerk

In the year 2002, the activity level of our Church never seemed to falter. Many new and exciting things were on the horizon at the start of the year. Boards and Committees were hard at work, organizing and reorganizing themselves. The Search Committee comprised of 11 hard working, dedicated individuals were spending many Monday evenings listening to candidates tapes, doing phone interviews, and going out into the field to search for our settled minister. Back at home, the Renovation Committee was working to order new pew cushions for our sanctuary and the Safe Church Council was beginning to form their ideas to make our Church home a safe, protected haven for all of us. In addition to our own Church sponsored groups making use of our facilities (Sunday School Classes, Youth Groups, Music Groups, Ladies Guild), there are many outside groups who meet regularly in our building. Georgetown Council for the Aging, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, TOPS, AA, Joyce Dance Studio, Royal Stage Ensemble, and Moonlight Productions all make their presence known within the walls of our Church.

In mid-August, I received a telephone call from our Moderator, indicating that the Search Committee was ready to present a Candidate to the Church Cabinet. In a flurry of excitement, all Committee Chairs received late night phone calls requesting them to attend a special Cabinet meeting the next evening. With representatives from all Boards and Committees in attendance, the Cabinet voted to accept the Search Committee's recommendation of their candidate (Rev. Eric Marean) and established a Candidates weekend in September for the Church family to meet Eric and hear him preach in our pulpit. With much excitement, the membership voted unanimously to Call Rev. Eric Marean as their full-time, settled minister.

The fall of 2002 brought a renewed sense of excitement as we awaited the arrival of Rev. Eric Marean and his wife Sara to our Church and community. The fall also brought a time of closure with our Interim Minister, Rev. Leonard Zecchini. During Leonard's interim stay with us, he worked hard to prepare us for the transition to our settled minister. We appreciate his dedication and willingness to see this congregation through this interim period of three years. We wish Leonard and Ruth well in their new interim position in NH. Below, you will find a listing of the many activities this Church family entertained during the year 2002.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| <u>January</u> | -Three Kings Sunday
-Confirmation Classes Begin |
| <u>February</u> | -Annual Church Meeting
-Church School Valentines Day Candy Sale |
| <u>March</u> | -Ash Wednesday Service (Groveland Congregational)
-Safe Church Council begins work |
| <u>April</u> | -Annual Church Clean-up
-Palm Sunday -- New Members Welcomed
-Maundy Thursday Passover Service
-Good Friday Union Service (Haverhill Congregational)
-Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast
-Easter Morning Worship Service
-Easter Food Drive for Emmaus House
-Music Appreciation Sunday Honoring Evelyn Boose & Bob and Emily Knapp |

- May:**
- New Vacuum Purchased!!
 - Children's Sunday
 - Confirmation Class welcomed into membership
 - Memorial Day Service
- June:**
- Graduate Sunday
- July:**
- Union Services with West Boxford
 - "1776" performed by Moonlight Productions
- August:**
- Union Service with W. Boxford
 - New pew cushions arrive!!
 - Special Cabinet meeting to receive recommendation of the Search Committee.
- September:**
- Rally Day
 - Dedication of the new pew cushions
 - Candidate week-end; Saturday dinner and Sunday morning worship to meet and greet Rev. Eric and Sara Marean
 - Special Church meeting – unanimously vote to call Rev. Eric Marean as full-time settled minister to the First Congregation Church of Georgetown, Inc.
- October:**
- Special Church meeting – unanimously vote to sell the parsonage located at 5 Hart Circle, Georgetown, MA
 - "Medieval Faire"
- November:**
- Moonlight Production present the student version of "Les Miserables"
 - Thanksgiving Food Offering – Emmaus House
 - Thanksgiving Sunday – Farewell and best wishes to Interim Minister Leonard Zecchini and his wife Ruth
 - Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service – St. Patricks Church, Groveland
- December:**
- Advent begins
 - Welcome Rev. Eric and Sara Marean
 - Christmas Concert
 - Pot-luck Supper and "Pantry Shower" for Eric and Sara
 - Christmas Gifts for HOME
 - Christmas Sunday Worship
 - Christmas Eve service of Candles and Carols
 - Christmas Carol Sing during worship (Sunday 12/29)

As the Search Committee ends its stint, I wish to thank them, on behalf of the Church Cabinet for the enormous task that they undertook more than three years ago. This was not an easy task and required patience, patience and more patience. Each member of the Search Committee deserves special notice; Steve LeBlanc, Chair, Allan Barlow, Kirsten Davis, Donna DeSisto, T. Louis (Bud) Hamelin, Marion Harding, Paula Martel, Claudia Smith, David Smith, Susan Stead and Diane Townsend. Your commitment and conscientious dedication to the task you were asked to accomplish for our Church is greatly appreciated.

There will be much to do in the coming year of 2003. There will be some new faces on some of our Boards and Committees. The Safe Church Council and Renovation Committees will continue to meet and prepare recommendations for new and different measures our Church will need to entertain, we will be preparing for the Installation Service for Rev. Marean, we anticipate the sale of the parsonage to go through, another Confirmation Class will be formed for our Youth, plans for the Church fair will begin to formulate. We look forward to all of the adventures that the year has in store for us and look forward to learning and working with Rev. Marean in this new chapter of history for the First Congregational Church.

Membership Information

Members as of 12/31/01 228

New Members 18

Reinstatement of Membership 1

Membership Removal

Transfer to Inactive 8

Letter of Transfer 1

Deaths 5

Total Membership as of 12/31/02 233

In Memoriam

Virginia Rogers
Harris Rogers
Barbara Harrigan
Betty Jo Fawley
Elton Hill

Statistics from Minister's Records

Baptisms 2

Weddings 0

Funerals 10

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily J. Knapp

Emily J. Knapp
Clerk

Diaconate

2002 Report of the Diaconate

This year was an exciting and challenging year for the Diaconate. The year saw us saying good bye to Leonard and Ruth, while welcoming Eric and Sara in the beginning of a new chapter in the life of our church.

In addition to our regular duties of pastoral assistance, support in those of need from the congregation, coordination of greeters, and decorating the sanctuary during Christmas and Easter, 2002 provided several highlights:

March- for the first time in several years a full Tenebrae service was held on Maundy Thursday. Well attended, it took a huge supporting cast including the entire Diaconate, our 2002 Confirmation Class, Senior Choir, and Emily Knapp. A special thanks goes out to JoEllen Fielding, Janice Murphy and Nancy Aberman who without their guidance and leadership the service would not have been successful.

Also, in March we introduced seven new members to the congregation. Each participated in new member classes held prior to service over numerous Sundays. Special thanks to Dorothy Blanchard who shared with them a history of the First Congregational Church. The classes concluded with a supper where the new members could meet the Diaconate. The meal was prepared by George and Liz Merrill and Steve DeSisto. Thanks for your culinary expertise and being great hosts to the new members!

April - On April 28 we honored all of those from our congregation that contribute so much of their time and energy to the music ministry of our church. At the end of the service we honored three special people for their many years of service. Bob Knapp (25 years), Emily Knapp (21 years) and Evelyn Boose (35 years). Their dedication and service have been instrumental in developing a truly outstanding musical ministry. Thanks to all those who give so much of their time and talent.

May - we introduced our 12 newest members who had just completed a five-month confirmation class. Each person was introduced to the congregation by their mentor who participated with them in the program. Thanks to all the mentors, numerous church committees who provided dinner for the meetings, and Joan Chatterton for her help in coordination.

October - we honored Leonard for his 30 years of service in the ministry.

November - we said good bye to Leonard and Ruth. Leonard's teaching and leadership of the congregation during the past three years has been key in helping transition from Phil to Eric. He led not only worship services, but was active in all church committee activities, and spent many hours meeting with those in time of need. We thank Leonard and Ruth for their commitment to us and wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

December - we welcomed the 24th Minister and Teacher of the First Congregational Church of Georgetown, The Reverend Eric Marean. As we began a new chapter and history of our church, we are excited to welcome both Eric and Sara to the community. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the group responsible for bringing Eric to us, the Search Committee. Their dedication and patience during the past three years have resulted in an exciting new beginning for our Church.

As we began 2003, we have a retirement to announce. Alberta Rogers after nine years of service as the Diaconate Flower and Card Coordinator has decided to retire. Alberta's responsibilities included coordinating deliveries (including addresses and directions) of poinsettias and lilies, birthday roses and sending cards of celebration, get well and condolences to the congregation. Thanks Alberta!

While 2002 was an eventful year for the Diaconate, there is much to do in the year ahead. Priorities for 2003 include, support for Eric as he begins his ministry, confirmation, establishing a visiting program and improving the financial position of the Diaconate Fund. On a personal note I would like to thank all the members of the Diaconate for their dedication, commitment and caring. You've been a pleasure to work with. Thank You!

Respectively submitted,

Kurt Hogan

Christian Education

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2002 ANNUAL REPORT

This year has been an exciting, if somewhat challenging one for the board, as there was a change in chairman after the beginning of the year, as well as of course, the transition to a new minister at the end of the year. Along with these changes, is the national growing concern regarding the safety of our children (and adults) within the church environment. The Board will continue to work with the safety committee to address these issues as well as to pursue our more traditional activities, in order to continue to provide a sound Christian Education for our youth. The board would be remiss if we did not take this opportunity to thank our teachers (and high school assistants) for the time and energy they devote to teaching Sunday School. The willingness on the part of our congregation to volunteer their time and share their faith is truly heartwarming. Other accomplishments are outlined below:

Missionary Work: Participated in the Thanksgiving and Easter Food drive for Emmaus House. The annual Heifer Project raised over a thousand dollars and purchased the "Milk Menagerie" which consisted of one heifer, two goats and a water buffalo.

Curriculum: A new UCC curriculum called Seasons of the Spirit, (put together by a Protestant interdenominational group, Productions Inc.), is being used for the 7th-8th grade students. This curriculum is felt to more accurately represent our church's views as well as being lectionary based in order to promote discussion between parents and children.

Rally Day: The pancake breakfast was attended by approximately 50 people. J.T. Turner performed wonderful parables for the children's program.

Children's Sunday: In addition to the traditional children's day, in which each class gave a wonderful performance, we also celebrated Confirmation and High School Graduation. The board honored four graduates by presenting them with pins and cards and each student in the confirmation class was presented with lifelong student Bibles.

Christmas Concert: Approximately 80 people attended the third annual potluck dinner following the beautiful and varied music concert.

Star Island: Scholarship fund sent 2 families and 4 teens to Star Island for various week long summer conferences.

I look forward to another exciting year in 2003!

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board of Christian Education,

Karen Flom
Chairman

School Superintendent

Report of the Church School Superintendent

Another year gone?! Where does the time go? As always I'd like to thank the Board of Christian Education for their help and support, Leonard for his support, guidance, and valuable input into our teacher's meetings. We are excited and look forward to Eric's ministry with us. We continue to be extremely lucky to have a dedicated group of teachers, assistants, and nursery caregivers. We have over fifteen 9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th graders helping in all grades up to 6th. They are a great asset and do an incredible job. We have 2 older students (over 18) who have worked as assistants for many years and this year became teachers, Emily Martel and Jacob Hamelin. They both do an amazing job. Thanks to our substitute teachers, Dorothy Blanchard, Joan Chatterton and Jim St. Pierre.

Year in Review

1. New this year

The 7th and 8th grade are using a new curriculum, Seasons of the Spirit. This curriculum took the place of the Whole People of God Curriculum, which was one of the most widely used curriculums in the UCC. Our 7th/8th grade teachers report they like using it and it seems to have more meaning and real world application for the students.

2. Children's Sunday was a jam-packed day with confirmation, graduate Sunday, and Children's Sunday. We promise to never do that again but it was a great day.
3. Rally Day 2002 was another great success with a kick off pancake breakfast and a wonderful performance by JT Turner of "Parables"
4. We continue to have Teacher's meetings the 1st Sunday of every month. Eric has joined us for his first one and it was great to have his input. We have an amazing group of teachers whose creativity and commitment continue to make church school exciting.
5. Our annual Valentine Heifer Candy sale was another great success and allowed us to send a "milking group" to a deserving family.
6. For the first time in 3 years we have actually filled all of our teacher positions! Again, thanks to the Board of CE for all their work and phone calls.

Concerns

In looking over the reports for the last few years our concerns seemed to have remained constant. We still need more space but this is an issue the renovation committee will take up and address on their full agenda in the coming years.

As always, the conflicts, decisions, and choices that families have to make are a concern and greatly affect attendance. We have over 120 students registered in our church school but most Sunday's attendance is 40-60% of this. I again ask parents to talk to the sports organizers and advocate for practices and games to be held on later in the day if they must hold them on Sundays. Sports and other activities are important but again, parents shouldn't have to choose between sports and Church School.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Sheehan

Youth Fellowship

Report of the 2002 Middle School Youth Group Leadership

The Middle School Youth Group's Annual Report covers two groups of kids; those in last spring's term and this fall's term. As we welcome sixth graders now eligible for membership, we bid farewell to our eighth graders, now ninth graders. Pam, Chuck and Bob have endeavored to keep our activities generally consistent from year to year, with some variation. In this way we aim to make it an environment in which parents and kids know what to expect while keeping it fresh.

There is really no concealing how satisfying and how much fun Middle School Youth Group is. (It's probably our worst kept secret!) The word is that the kids have a great time, as well!

As in the past, we focus on fellowship, service and personal and spiritual growth, in an atmosphere of safety and fun. In the fall we do some "getting-to-know-you" activities followed by service oriented meetings around the holidays. In the winter / spring we focus on field trips, culminating in an overnight.

Events included chickadee feeding on our mid-winter walk through the wildlife sanctuary in Topsfield, work with and at Emmaus House in Haverhill, movies, swimming, hiking a mountain near York, Maine, more movies (of course) and our annual virtual New Years party where we jigger the clock and let the gang have their own New Year's Eve blowout.

Our planned overnight this year is a two-night stay at Grotonwood, a perennial favorite spot.

If you have a child in middle school, please accept this invitation to attend one or more event.

We only ask three things:

- ① Help us keep it a middle-school thing by finding other activities for siblings. (When it comes to parents and other grown relatives, the more the merrier!)
- ② If you're interested in joining up for an overnight, we absolutely do need prior notice (duh!). Let us know as soon as possible so arrangements can be made. For regular meetings and field trips all you need to do is show up.
- ③ Have fun

We are profoundly grateful for the help and support we received from parents and the whole church family.

Submitted In love and fellowship,

Pam Sheehan
Bob Watts
Chuck Davis

SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP

2002 was a very busy year for Senior High Youth group. As always we enjoy the many challenges of keeping up with a very spirited group of teens!

We have continued to meet twice a month with lots of extra activities in between. Once again we enjoyed our Winter escape to the Lake Ossipee Conference Center where we spent two nights and a great day skiing at Attitash Mountain.

With the help of our church family we had another very successful pasta supper. After eight years Jim is truly ZITI MAN!!!

In June of 2002 an adventurous group of teens and chaperones set off to conquer the Dead River in Maine. Everyone not only survived the class four and five whitewater, but also unseasonable frigid weather camping under the stars!

We started this Fall welcoming new members, getting to know each other better and a joint meeting with the Junior High youth group. We once again had a very successful Youth Group table at the fair and raised over \$300.00. The end of the year we enjoyed our annual holiday shopping at Fanuiel Hall. Lets just say some of us enjoyed it more than others!

We are looking forward to our ski trip to Attitash this March again and who knows where this Spring may lead us. We are hoping to do a more local mission trip and help those in our own area who need assistance. This is a group that likes to be busy!!!!

We are truly blessed to have such a supportive church family! Thank you to each and everyone of you who has supported our program. A special thank you to all the parents of our group who have been so helpful. It is truly a gift to be a part of the lives of so many awesome young people. As we so often say to each other we don't know who has more fun the kids or us!

Yours in Christ,

Susan Stead & Jim Urbanski

Trustees

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

Along with overseeing general maintenance of the church building and property, the Trustees were charged, at a Special October 20, 2002 Congregational Meeting, to sell the parsonage at 5 Hart Circle.

Within a very short time and with the professional expertise of realtor, Susan Stead, there was a "sale pending" agreement for a fair market price. However, as we expected, the septic system failed Title V and we are now in the process of working with the Conservation Commission to have them approve the engineer's design for a new septic system. The Conservation Commission must give us the green light because of the house's proximity to wet lands. We trust that closing will occur mid-March. A thank you to Susan for all her hard work!

Five of us painted the first and second floor classrooms at the end of the summer months. Thanks to Chuck Davis and his son, Brett; my son, Chris and Chris' friend, Jacob Blaquiére, for taking up the paint brushes with me. Brett, Chris and Jacob took part in this project as part of a community service requirement for receiving their Karate Black Belt awards.

Other Trustee jobs have been:

- Snowblowing and shoveling the walkways
- Furnace maintenance
- Getting the alarm and elevator system squared away (we hope!)
- Sorting out the emergency light problem; adding three in the sanctuary and getting new lights for the addition
- Providing manpower for the annual spring cleaning; setup and cleanup for the Fair
- Overseeing the lawn mowing and getting some bushes planted
- Repairing a hole in the wall
- Getting the water heater evaluated and replaced
- Putting new stair treads on the sanctuary balcony stairs
- Installing new lock on Minister's office

We have been in discussion with the Safe Church Council concerning the proposed "windows-in-doors" policy for all classrooms.

The purchase of a new vacuum cleaner this year has made the Sexton's job a little easier. We feel fortunate to have Sharon Smith of Byfield serving as our Sexton for indoor jobs.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Pinto, Chair

Music

REPORT OF THE MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Music Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank our leaders for their faithful and talented contributions to our music program: Music Director, Bob Knapp, leads our Senior Choir and Band; Emily Knapp, Organist; Evelyn Boose, our Junior Choir & Bell Choir Director and Marion Harding her assistant. We are truly blessed, as a congregation, to have their musical leadership.

The Junior Choir participated in the Annual Chorister's Guild Festival held in our church in March, and hosted by the Second Congregational Church of West Boxford. It has been noted that many churches in our area no longer have junior choirs. We are fortunate that we have enthusiastic children to participate, and parents who support the choir. The children also presented a "Parents' Tea" on May 15th at which time they sang the songs they'd learned during the year and served refreshments to their parents.

The highlight of the year was the April 28th Appreciation for our Music Sunday sponsored by the Diaconate. All of our groups performed in worshipping God through music. At the end of the service, Emily and Bob and Evelyn were presented plaques by the Diaconate and flowers by the Music Committee in appreciation of their long years of service.

Music is so important during the Advent and Christmas season. The community has come to look forward to our annual "Christmas in the Air" Concert featuring choirs, band and bells. This year was no exception. The concert was well attended and enjoyed by all. The Bell Choir is becoming well known in our surrounding communities and they receive more invitations to play than they can deal with! This year they were in concert at Manchester-by-the Sea Congregational Church; they played at the Groveland Senior Center & Library's Christmas Party and also for a program at the Merrimac Library.

We invite anyone interested – especially newcomers – to participate in any of our choirs or band. You don't have to "audition" – just have a passion for music!

Sincerely,

Chris Comiskey, Chair

Members: Chuck Davis, Tom Hamelin & Roxane Hall

Guild

REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S GUILD

Our Women's Guild is quiet during the cold and slippery months of January and February. Traditionally we resume meetings at the end of February when we have work parties for missions.

Our work parties in February and again in March 2002 were for the purpose of tying quilts and rolling pennies for Church World Service. A total of \$512 was raised in 2002 making possible the purchase of over 100 blankets for refugees! At least twelve quilts were completed, thanks to the leadership of Millie Gangloff, who continues to coordinate our efforts on behalf of quilts sent to critically ill babies and toddlers. (The last shipment of quilts were brought to Boston hospitals and given to poor women who had very little for their newborns; their babies were considered "at risk".) For our friends in North Carolina, we prepared Easter boxes containing such goodies as: special tea, honey, candies, angel pins, and small books.

Thanks to Helen Boynton and Mina Marble who represented our Guild at the Annual Spring Meeting of the Essex Women's Association held this year at the Rowley Congregational Church, April 24th.

The highlight of our Guild year was the Spring Social held Friday, April 26th, with invitations sent to seven area churches. The response was wonderful! We had seventy people in attendance to hear Donna Marion Titus who gave a dramatic impersonation of Celia Thaxter, Isles of Shoals poet, writer, artist, and horticulturist who lived on the islands from 1835-1894. Thanks to all who donated goodies and money to help with the refreshments.

The Luncheon for the Blind was held on Saturday, May 18th. Several of us prepared and served our guests and Charlie Locke's group played the "oldies" for an appreciative audience. The Blind Guild gave us a donation for our efforts that we will use for quilting materials.

Our fall programs began in September when we were happy to honor one of our own! In a special afternoon tea program, the Georgetown Historical Commission presented Olive Cole with the Boston Post Cane in honor of her being the oldest citizen of Georgetown. In addition, the Historical Commission representatives gave an informative talk on the history of the Boston Post Cane. Many guests from the community were in attendance.

In October we were delighted to welcome Jim Boynton as guest speaker. His rendition of "School Daz Two" was a sequel to "School Daz" at which time he continued his stories of his experiences as long-time principal of Georgetown High School.

The year rounded-out with a super luncheon party hosted by Nat Tidd at her home the beginning of December. It was a wonderful way to begin the holiday season. We were honored to have two guests at that luncheon – our new Peabody Library Librarian, Ruth Eifert, and our newly settled Minister, Eric Marean. Ms. Eifert gave an interesting overview of the library offerings.

We welcome all churchwomen to Guild meetings. They are informal and friendly and meaningful in the work we do. Please join us!

Sincerely,

Joan Chatterton, Guild Secretary

Mission Coordinator

REPORT OF THE MISSIONS COORDINATOR

One of the best things about our church family is the caring, supportive way everyone reaches out to help others whenever there is a need. All of the different committees - Diaconate, Church School, Women's Guild, both Youth Groups, etc. - report on their own particular contributions, so this report is just a brief sampling of the various missions that are touched by the generosity of our congregation.

This past February the sum of \$261.25 was raised from the Valentine's candy/crafts sale, which went towards the purchase of a heifer for a Romanian orphanage. In addition, the Church School collection taken on the first Sunday of every month has been designated for that same purpose.

A member of the Diaconate (this year Janice Murphy did a super job) organizes and recruits church families to prepare meals for Emmaus House on a monthly basis. Items dropped off in our food pantry are delivered to Emmaus, and our Thanksgiving food offering was delivered to them by our Middle School Youth Group. A monetary donation went to their "Everybody Matters" capital funds campaign, helping them to complete a new shelter.

Each year we collect Christmas gifts for the children at H.O.M.E. in Orland, Maine. Over 100 children were thrilled to receive gifts at their annual Christmas party. We received a thank you note from Erin Smith, the young lady who came with her husband to pick up the presents. She wrote "You have given families hope that there is good in the world", which shows us how much our gifts were needed. On top of that, after reading in a newsletter that H.O.M.E. needed a van, one of our church families very generously donated *their* van to the cause!

The Guild is always busy with one mission project or another. This year they raised \$512 in pennies, which will be used by Church World Service to buy warm blankets, sent Easter gifts to their "pen pals" down in North Carolina, and made 15 quilts for babies suffering with AIDS in the Boston area.

Two special offerings are taken for the United Church of Christ outreach programs, one in the spring, one in the fall. The "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering is designated to support missions throughout the world. The "Neighbors in Need" offering helps people here in the United States.

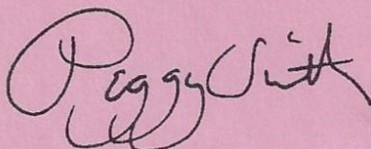
Our church's Diaconate Fund is used to assist local Georgetown families as needed. The money in this fund comes from endowments and donations. The Fund was supplemented by 20% of both our Lenten and Advent offerings, the amount which is traditionally earmarked for missions.

Church families are asked to make their personal contributions to missions through the church treasury. Checks can be made payable to the church with a memo noting the specific mission. The church records will then show how our congregation really makes a difference when we pool our resources.

Thank you to everyone for your support of these missions!

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Smith



Fair

REPORT OF THE FAIR CHAIRS 2002

The Medieval Manor Faire was the theme for the annual fair 2002! Some great minds came up with great ideas for this year's fair and thanks to the wonderful decorations, provided by Nancy Aberman, we were able to get in the mood of the times!

We started in the summer with blueberry picking. Although some of us were not available to help "pick and pie", we thank the "pie ladies" and their families for sticking out the heat that week. The pies were delicious!

We started some craft evenings that although not well attended, allowed us to make a few new, unique crafts to sell. The fellowship on those evenings is fun, and we invite any and all people to participate in the future.

Our apple pie peelers and slicers came out in force and made the jobs of the crust people so much easier! They were long days; however, the final product of wonderful apple pies were worth it!

We appreciated the *Moonlight Serenaders* returning for a second year. They sang a wonderful selection of songs that fit in with our medieval theme. The Ice Cream Social followed with good attendance. We were grateful for the Boy Scout's help on Saturday for our pancake breakfast. The breakfast did extremely well this year.

We were sorry that the rain continued on Saturday and we had to cancel our Kid's Faire outside. But, our magical Magicians put on a wonderful performance for those children that did show up.

We topped off the weekend again with a fantastic turkey and all-the-trimmings dinner on Sunday. Thanks again to the *Over the Hill* band for their music during dinner. The raffles were called after dinner, with a silent auction "war" continuing until the last minute for the wonderful framed, cross-stitch of the church. The quilt by Beverly Knapp was also popular and we greatly appreciate the hard work and donations of these talented people.

Again, we thank all our table chairs for their hard work in making the fair what it is. We couldn't do it without you! Thanks to all who donated talent, fellowship, money and their time during this past year leading up to, and continuing through the fair.

Our grand total for 2002: \$10, 681.45

Respectfully submitted,
Kirsten Davis and Kristen Arsenault

Flowers

FLOWER COMMITTEE

This year we welcomed two newcomers to the Flower Committee. They are Rachel Edwards and Carla Bratland. They did a superb job of providing summer flowers during the months of June and July. Thanks to our newcomers as well as those others who faithfully serve with me on the Committee: Ruth Jones, Donna DeSisto, Barbara Morehouse and Melissa White.

We are looking for two more churchgoers to help with the task of providing flowers for our worship services: a person to provide the plants/arrangements for the month of May; also, for the month of November. If you are interested, please call me.

We thank two church members who have taken an active interest in our outdoor plantings: Michelle Brock and Jaime Krenn. These women weeded, mulched and planted bushes and flowers in our planters and at the front of the church. In addition, when the north winds came and delivered a blow to the fall flowers in the planters, Michelle decorated them with greens and added swags to the doors on the Clark Street entrances. Such a welcoming sign to all as we come to church.

Finally, we appreciate the efforts of the Diaconate in arranging, so beautifully, our Easter and Christmas plants. A special 'thank you' to Olive and Bill Ingraham for providing extra poinsettias from their nursery for our post-Christmas Sunday services. We appreciate all donations of bouquets. Do you have a special occasion to celebrate or a loved one to remember? We'll save the dates. Let us know.

Sincerely,
Joan Chatterton, Coordinator

Social

Report of the Social Committee 2002

Coffee hour continues to be a popular part of our Sunday worship!! Thank you to all who have volunteered to serve coffee on Sunday mornings. Again, we would like to remind you that we constantly need people to volunteer to serve. The signup sheet is always in the kitchen, or on the coffee hour table. This is a great way for your children to do community service, too!

We would like to remind everyone who uses the kitchen to kindly not remove items from the church. If you would like to borrow any kitchen pans, coffee pots, punch bowls, please sign them out on the kitchen bulletin board (beside the microwave) or call Kirsten (352-2157). A lot of missing little items adds up to great expense to the church.

The Social Committee participated in several funeral receptions and we would like to thank all those who helped serve and bake for these families. Thank you also to those who have served coffee hour and baked!!

Please consider signing up for a coffee hour!!

Sincerely,

Kirsten Davis
Carol St. Pierre
Social Committee Coordinators

Safe Church

REPORT OF THE SAFE CHURCH COUNCIL

The more things change, the more they remain the same. Who would have known they could have been talking about the Safe Church Council. We have been charged by the Cabinet to bring our church up to date regarding Safe Church policies and procedures that have been recommended by Massachusetts Conference of the UCC. **While some of the changes are very similar to the policies we experience in our own jobs, many will be quite different. Examples include Fire Evacuation Plans as well as Incident Reports. Often, these are taken for granted when it comes to work or school but they seem to be forgotten at church.**

Throughout the year, our committee has been discussing the various policies and procedures currently in use and some that have never been used before. These include, but are not limited to, building security, teacher training, volunteer applications, and insurance liability. During the next year, you will begin to see the results of our review as we start to implement one policy at a time. **Some new policies will be developed, while others will be modified from the documentation we have received from the seminars our members attended at the Andover-Newton Theological School.** We are also using information from policies and procedures that have already been implemented at other Massachusetts conference churches.

The church facility is the first focus of our group's effort, as we'll be starting with building security. The Key Policy and Emergency Protocols will be our first policies to be implemented within the coming year. If anyone has any questions regarding this process, please contact any of the Safe Church members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Brock, Chair

Richard Aberman

Brad Chute

Tom Hamelin

Pam Sheehan

Peggy Smith

Tom Stewart

Renovation

Report of the Renovation Committee

It was a mostly uneventful year for the Renovation Committee. Now that Rev. Marean has become our settled pastor we are re-exploring possibilities for our church structure and property. We will be meeting with an architect early in 2003 to help us understand our options.

Thankfully we were able to find a company, Waggoners, Inc. of Hutchinson, Kansas, to produce new pew cushions for us. We met with their representative, Calvin Lambert, in February and learned more about foam and pew cushion manufacturing than we thought possible. After we had made our materials selection Mr. Lambert returned in May and measured everyone of our pews and placed our order. On an evening in August the Waggoners van pulled up to the front door of our church and the husband and wife team, who were delivering cushions throughout the New England area, unloaded (with a little help from us) & placed the cushions onto their correct pews.

We are now the proud owners of 93 3" thick high resilience foam mitered-circular pew cushions with Dacron wrap covered with "night blue" Murios upholstery fabric treated to meet all Massachusetts fire laws. We also have an additional 4 yards of fabric should we need it for any reason.

As it turns out, we were fortunate our original manufacturer backed out as we now have a much better cushion at only a slightly higher price. (\$12,512.00) We include a special thanks to all who contributed to the "butt" fund.

After the members of the church band had the pleasure of throwing the old cushions out of the church windows into the back parking lot the new cushions were "specially blessed" on rally day.

Hopefully these will bring years of comfort to all who use the sanctuary.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chuck Davis & Bob Knapp Co-chairs

Collector

2002 PLEDGING STATUS

Pledges for Normal Operations:

Fully Paid	60
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Nearly Paid	10
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Half Paid	3
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Little Paid	1
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Nothing Paid	0
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Moved	0
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Deceased	0
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TOTAL PLEDGES	74
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JoEllen Fielding, Collector

Treasurer

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT AND BUDGET FORECAST

	2001 ACTUAL	2002 ACTUAL	2003 BUDGET	COMMENTS
REVENUE:				
Stewardship	\$107,387	\$99,342	\$108,775	
Gifts/Reimbursements	\$37,177	\$24,364	\$14,595	
Fundraising	\$18,473	\$15,972	\$12,000	accounting change on youth groups
Special Collections (incl. Advent/Lent)	\$4,517	\$4,535	\$4,200	
Parsonage Rent	\$15,600	\$9,000	\$0	
Receipts for Missions	\$4,857	\$7,623	\$3,750	
Investment Earnings	\$8,070	\$4,911	\$8,300	assumes parsonage sale proceeds are invested in mid-year
TOTAL REVENUE	\$196,081	\$165,747	\$151,620	
EXPENSES:				
Pastor Compensation and Expenses	\$63,376	\$65,535	\$82,165	
Other Employess - Total Compensation	\$32,288	\$34,023	\$34,023	see budget details
Utilities	\$13,346	\$13,394	\$13,270	
Church School/Youth Groups	\$12,449	\$8,252	\$4,544	accounting change on youth groups
Missions/Donations	\$11,529	\$13,764	\$8,025	
Maintenance	\$3,824	\$5,965	\$3,675	
Office Operations	\$5,498	\$5,042	\$5,045	
Mortgage	\$32,644	\$0	\$0	
Property Insurance	\$4,378	\$5,208	\$5,500	
Capital Outlay	\$7,598	\$15,234	\$800	
Parsonage Taxes	\$4,338	\$3,819	\$1,150	
Diaconate Fund Expenditures	inc. in other	\$7,734	\$3,200	
Pastor Search and Relocation	\$0	\$5,806	\$0	
Other	\$10,718	\$12,227	\$12,560	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$201,986	\$196,003	\$173,957	
NET INCOME	-\$5,905	-\$30,256	-\$22,337	FORECASTED SHORTFALL !!

FINANCIAL REPORT 2002 & BUDGET FORECAST 2003

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF CASH & INVESTMENTS
(\$)

ACCOUNT	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Checking	27,436	11,003
Savings	11,006	8,448
UCF Fund	57,716	50,334
AG Edwards:		
Money Market	19,211	8,202
Stocks	9,128	6,646
Long Term Bonds	26,522	31,412
Short Term Bonds	29,814	27,020
	-----	-----
Total AG Edwards	84,675	73,280
Series EE Bond	5,000	5,000
Parsonage Security Deposit	1,200	0
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TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS	187,033	148,065

Reconciliation:

Change in cash and investments from 12/31/01 to 12/31/02 = -\$38,968

2002 Net Income = -\$30,256

adjustments to Net Income:

capital gains = -\$8436

refund of parsonage security deposit = -\$1200

2001 investment income recorded in 2001 but received in 2002 = \$924

Total adjustments = -\$8,712

Adjusted 2002 Net Income = -\$38,968

BALANCES FOR KEY CHURCH FUNDS
as of 1/1/03

Endowment funds	107,816
Bell choir fund	842
Sanctuary Paint & Repairs	9,064
Diaconate Fund	2,616
Memorial fund	9,271
Capital Outlay	10,140

Karla Szkutak, Treasurer

Budget

2003 BUDGET DETAILS

Committee Budgets (\$):

Diaconate

Worship & Visitation	940
Pulpit Supply	300
Total	1,240

Board of Christian Education

Church School Operation	3500.00
Senior High Youth Group	544.98
Junior High Youth Group	498.86
Total	4,543.84

The youth group's budgets consist of unspent funds from previous years as well as \$300 from the 2003 budget. Any fundraising would be additional to these amounts.

Flower Committee

Flowers	900
Recognition	300
Total	1,200

Social Committee

Post Worship Fellowship	950
Receptions	200
Total	1,150

Music Committee

Bell Choir	100
Junior Choir	55
Substitute Organist	200
New Music	200
Organ Maintenance	400
Piano Tuning	100
Total	1,055

Trustees

Custodial Supplies	150
Church Maintenance	
Elevator	1,300
Heating System	850
Lawn Mowing	325
Snow Removal	500
Other	600
Parsonage Maintenance	100
Total	3,825

Payroll Expenses

Employee:	Gross Pay
Secretary	8,068
Sexton	8,164
Organist	5,275
Music Director	4,790
Collector	1,445
Treasurer	1,445

Additional details on the budget are available upon request.

Nominating

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee nominates the following Church Officers () and Committee/Board members (*) to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Georgetown.*

**elected for a 1 year term*

Moderator	Donn Chatterton*	Treasurer	Karla Szkutak*
Clerk	Emily Knapp*	Collector	JoEllen Fielding*
Asst. Treas	Muriel Gordon*	Asst. Coll.	Ruth Jones*
Auditors:	Dwight Southwick* & Kristen Arsenault*		
Coordinators	Ushering Donn Chatterton* & Charles Locke*		
For:	Missions Peggy Smith*		
	Social Kristen Davis* & Carol St. Pierre*		
	Flowers & UCC Delegates Joan Chatterton*		

FINANCE COMMITTEE

**elected for a 3 year term with no restrictions on length of service*

Jim Smith (2006)* Allan Barlow (2005) Robert Knapp (2004)

**The following Boards/Committees are elected for a 2 yr term & restricted to 2 terms*

DIACONATE

Kristen Arsenault	(2005)*	Jack Durgin	(2004)*
Richard Brock	(2005)*	Nancy Aberman	(2004)
Janice Murphy	(2005)*	JoEllen Fielding	(2004)
Dwight Southwick	(2005)*	Kurt Hogan	(2004)
Ed Szkutak	(2005)*	Beverly Knapp	(2004)

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dorothy Blanchard	(2005)*	Cheryl Gould	(2004)
Karen Chicklakis	(2005)*	Sylvia George	(2004)
Jim St. Pierre	(2005)*	Karen Flom	(2004)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jim Callahan	(2005)*	Barry Garvin	(2004)
Bob Watts	(2005)*	Alan Gould	(2004)
TBA		Mark Hall	(2004)

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Chris Comiskey	(2005)*	Chuck Davis	(2004)
Tom Hamelin	(2005)*	Roxane Hall	(2004)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Charles Blanchard	(2005)*	Jim Callahan	(2004)
Gayle Fehlmann	(2005)*	Diane Townsend	(2004)

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Callahan, Charles Blanchard, Diane Townsend, Gayle Fehlmann