

The 2023 **NOVEMBER** Messenger



Newsletter of the First Congregational Church of Lee, Massachusetts
An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Pastor's Piece

We can cultivate just about anything if we set our hearts and minds on it, even a practice of living gratefully moment to moment, in good times and in hard.

I have found that if I stop long enough to *focus* my attention, *open* all of my senses, and *harness* my energy purposefully, gratitude quite naturally bubbles up. When I see with new eyes or hear with new ears, I am able to notice with *wonder* at all that is around me. I can feel the *joy* rise in me, no matter the circumstances. And my response can only be *gratitude* for the many gifts and blessings in my life and all life around me. Following right on the heels of gratitude is *generosity*, a desire to give back to God what is God's.

Wonder, joy, gratitude and generosity are somehow liked all together.

As we prepare our menus to celebrate the nation's Thanksgiving Holiday with friends and family, Treasurer Jane Gleason and Collector Dave Topham are sharpening their pencils, preparing a draft planning budget for the new church year 2024. They will share this with the congregation on November 12th during worship. Diaconate Chair Elaine Scott is reflecting deeply this time of year on what this church means to her and to the wider community. On November 19th during worship, she will share her thoughts on why she gives and how *she* benefits from giving her time, her energy and her resources from a faith perspective.

Most of us think Stewardship is all about the money. Tell me what you need and I'll give you what I can! But this year, the Stewardship Team is inviting all of us to really focus our attention. Open our hearts and minds and senses. Harness our energy and resources purposefully, with hopes that we see the wonder of our faith, feel the joy of our service, and respond with grateful hearts and open hands to God's call to give back to God what is God's.

Cara

Sat, Nov 4 - 2-4pm Join us in the Community Room for a Meet and Greet of our Ministerial Candidate, Rev. Marisa Brown Ludwig. Drop in at any time and introduce yourself.

Sun, Nov 5 Candidating Sunday - Rev Marisa (Ma-ree-sa) will preach in our Sunday morning worship service. There will be a special meeting following the service to discuss and vote on accepting her to be called as Pastor to this church. (pages 7 & 8)

"It is the aim of this church to present a religion as considerate of persons as the teachings of Jesus; as devoted to justice as the Old Testament prophets; as responsive to Truth as science; as beautiful as art; as intimate as the home and as indispensable as the air we breathe."

STATEMENT BY THE FOUNDERS



Rev. Cara Davis, Bridge Pastor; Jim Morrison, Music Director;
Tari Wheeler Roosa, Administrative Assistant; Jason Matthews, Sexton

First Congregational Church of Lee, United Church of Christ, 25 Park Place, PO Box 395, Lee, MA 01238
413.243.1033 | uccleechurch@gmail.com | www.ucc-lee.org

The sanctuary carpeting is going in! Come see the completed work on Sunday, October 29.



CALL TO SPECIAL MEETING
A brief special meeting of members of the First Congregational Church of Lee will take place after worship Sunday November 5, 2023
Discussion and Vote to:
Accept the candidate recommended by the Pastoral Search Committee:
Reverend Marisa Brown Ludwig
First Congregational Church of Lee, UCC
Please plan to attend.
October 19, 2023
Melissa Myers,
Church Clerk

November 12 – Join us Sunday morning as we celebrate 10 years as an Open and Affirming congregation. We welcome Cass Santos-China and Emma Lenski from Berkshire Pride and Rainbow Seniors who will give a short presentation. A potluck luncheon will follow the service.

Treasurer’s Report, Jane Gleason

Financial Recap through October 15, 2023		
	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD
Income		
Pledges & Donations	\$94,852.00	\$112,090.00
Fundraisers	\$5,871.00	\$9,590.00
Rental Income	\$12,755.00	\$15,000.00
Missions & Misc.	\$1,942.00	\$1,660.00
Memorial Donations	\$2,780.00	\$830.00
Investment Transfer	\$0.00	\$16,670.00
Total Income	\$118,200.00	\$155,840.00
Expenses		
Payroll & Benefits	\$74,403.00	\$116,060.00
Facility & Finance	\$27,378.00	\$35,400.00
Mission & Ministry	\$14,068.00	\$16,900.00
Total Expenses	\$115,849.00	\$168,360.00

November 5 - We will celebrate **All Saints’ Sunday** as we remember those whom we have lost since our last All Saints’ Day. Each one is dear to those of us who remain. They have entered God’s heavenly realms where they journey on toward the fullness of Christ.





Thanksgiving Food Collection Nov 12

We will have a special collection of non-perishable food items for the food pantry on November 12 so it can be passed out for Thanksgiving. Items should be placed on the left side of the altar platform. The food pantry is located on Railroad Street across from Hyde Place and is open to residents of Lee, Stockbridge and Tyringham every Saturday 10am - 12pm. No one is turned away! We do not use the food bank of Western MA because we don't have adequate space. All food comes from the generosity of the community and Grace Church (former St. George's), St Mary's and First Congregational Church of Lee. Sue Gore is in charge and does most of the weekly shopping with donations. The financial part is monitored by the Episcopal diocese. Our clients enjoy fresh vegetables during the summer from Gideon's Garden, Taft Farm, and Otis Community Garden with baked goods and bread coming from Big Y. A different group of volunteers manage the pantry each Saturday. Requested items include bathroom items and feminine products, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry soap, cleaning products, diapers, snacks for children's lunches. cereals, fruit, pastas & sauce, beans, rice, mac & cheese, potato mixes, soups, tuna, canned vegetables, and condiments.

<http://ucc-lee.org/lee-food-pantry/>



I would like to thank my church family for all your cards and kind words regarding the passing of my brother, Peter Eichstedt.

Thank you so much. Wanda Klahn

Here is an excerpt from our stranded family.

The full letter is posted on the bulletin board in the Community Room:

Dear Reverend Davis and Church Family,
... It was so very desolate and lonely [on the turnpike], with the cars rushing by and no one waiting for us at home wondering where we were. ... The bottom seemed to drop out of our world. Then the next thing I remember is going down a long hall with a kindly woman ... Here was a friend, someone who cared. It was the beginning of a miracle that we will remember always.

Over the next week, the sun rose ever higher each day. Friends arose out of nowhere, helpful and caring. ... Out of darkness, light was returning. And it was all being done by people we had never seen or heard of before. ... We will never forget all of you.

With all our love, Steven, AeSoon, Cecilia, Jasper

FREE Concert Featuring
The Eagles Concert Band
Friday, November 10th at 7pm
Colonial Theatre
111 South Street, Pittsfield, MA
Call the Colonial Theatre Box Office for free tickets (413) 997-4444 or
online at:
https://www.berkshiretheatregroup.org/book/?event_id=142202
PITTSFIELD CULTURAL COUNCIL
UNICORN - COLONIAL - FITZPATRICK
BERKSHIRE
THEATRE GROUP
FEIGENBAUM
FOUNDATION
www.EaglesCommunityBand.org



Announcements

Congratulations on the birth of Brooklyn Jo Sorrentino to Samantha and Zachary Sorrentino and big sister Addilyn. She was born September 22

weighing in at 8 lbs. 6 oz. and 20 inches in length. Grandparents are Jerry and Elaine Miller; great-grandparents are Ray and Judy Morehouse.

Available: 2 or 3 five-panel wood doors of various sizes from 24x80 to 32x80 & one wood door with glass; 2 white pedestal sinks, 2 wall bathroom fixtures (4-bulb); one kitchen island 5-bulb chandelier. For more information, please contact Elaine Gross at 413 854-7408 or vegross@verizon.net.

Holiday Fair: Our annual Holiday Fair will take place on Saturday, December 2nd from 10:00-3:00. This is a significant fundraiser for our church that we all benefit from. Please give some thought as to how you might lend your time and talents to make this event a success. You will be hearing more specifics about how you can help in the coming month.

Crafts – Our crafters have a variety of items.

Food Table - Calling all cooks and bakers to get out your pans and recipes to stock the food table. These items are all very good sellers.



- Gourmet-To-Go meals – prepare an entrée and freeze in containers provided by the church. Please label with name of the entrée and ingredients.



- Cookies, Breads, Pies, Jams, Relishes and Pickles are among our top selling items and ones that our patrons look forward to. Candy items are also needed – fudge, buckeyes, etc.

Santa's Attic –Donations of slightly used Christmas items – ornaments, lights, stockings, collectables, etc.

Nearly New Shop –Small slightly used items – Knick knacks, jewelry, scarves, treasures and decorative items. **NO** appliances, books, or furniture please.

Items can be dropped off at the church from November 20th - 26th.

Raffle – Several items will be raffled off, so be sure to purchase your raffle tickets and take a chance on winning some lovely gifts.

- Knitted Afghan by Judy Morehouse
- Painting by Gloria Arnold
- Hand-Painted Cake Plate by Sheila Maroni



Staffing - We need people to work for set up, staffing the various stations during the event and breakdown/cleanup following the Fair. Signup sheets will be available following worship during the month of November.

Please contact Jane Gleason (269-4094) or Carol Blakeslee (394-5880) with any questions or ideas. Thank you all in advance for your assistance and participation.



Well, I have to admit that I am really stumped this time trying to come up with a subject or theme for this newsletter. I always like to talk about things that we should all be thankful for in the November newsletter, but this time it is difficult for me. Yes, I am thankful that the carpet project has been completed and it is beautiful. I am thankful for

all of the amazing friends that I have who are always there for me. I am thankful that God has given Gail and me the good health to be married for 50 years. But I confess that this year seems different to me. I am truly concerned about what kind of country we will be leaving the next few generations. Our country is only 247 years old. Considering fairly recently a diamond was discovered that archeologists said it took 800 MILLION years to create, this planet has been here a long, long time. It seems to me like we can destroy it in a matter of minutes with the push of a button. It is very scary. I like to watch a TV channel called START TV. It mostly runs old programs that we watched in the '80s. But what I like best about it is the advertisements for very worthy non-profits that need all of our support. Organizations such as PVA (Paralyzed Veterans of America), Shriners Children's Hospital, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Covenant House just to name a few. I was good friends with Max Hart the head of PVA, and especially Sister Mary from Covenant House in New York City. For those of you who are not familiar with Covenant House, they make sure that every homeless child in NYC that comes to the door is given shelter, food and help. One of their commercials last night showed a couple of young teenagers sitting in the street with a blanket around them. But they also showed a picture of a 1-year-old sitting on a blanket on the street and raising his little arms asking to be picked up as people simply walked by. And if you are thinking that these commercials are all staged you are exactly right - they are. But what they depict is the truth. Whenever I did work with them at conferences or visited their facility, I saw first-hand that there is truth in advertising. And I pray for all of them.

So, what am I thankful for? I am thankful for these organizations that try to do God's work in helping people that need it. I am thankful for the people that will send a monthly gift to an organization that practices the "Golden Rule," if they can afford it. I am not thankful personally for our elected officials who act like 1st graders fighting about who is taking the ball out for recess? That is in no way a political statement, just an observation. I believe the answer to most of our biggest problems in the world can be found in scriptures and simply by following the teachings that we learned in Sunday school. Imagine a world where we all simply "loved one another"? A world where we were patient and kind to each other? A world where we treated each other equally as we are all equal in God's eyes? Now that would be something to be eternally thankful for.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone! *Jim Morrison*



First Congregational Church of Lee Prayer Ministry

Bible verse of the month: "It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him." II Timothy 2 verse 11.

The Prayer Ministry meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:00 am in the Parlor to pray for each person whose name appears below. **Everyone is invited to participate in this Prayer Ministry.** If you have names for the prayer list, complete the request form and place it in the offering plate or submit to the church office. Names remain on the list for 2 months unless otherwise advised.

(updated 10.19.23)

WE PRAY FOR: Our Friends and Members:

- Colleen Adams (mother-in-law of Brian Matarazzo)
- Rev. Dawn Adams (friend of Cheryl Beeman)
- Gloria and John Arnold (members of church)
- Jen Benoit (friend of Jill & Dave Topham)
- Gil Biron (husband of Peg Biron)
- Pat Bracco (friend of Laura O'Shaughnessy)
- Carol Bugley (daughter of Robert Bugley)
- Robert Bugley (friend of church)
- Elizabeth Carman (cousin of Sandra Cozzaglio)
- Donna Carnavale (friend of Sandra Cozzaglio and Barbara Mahony)
- Jill Cozzaglio (daughter of Sandra Cozzaglio)
- Margie Farnham (sister of Judy Morehouse and Marilyn Fennelly)
- Isabel Fassell (member of church)
- Janice Fassell (daughter of Isabel Fassell)
- Mary Franchere (relative of Ruth Melbourne)
- Ray Gangloff (friend of church)
- Julie Gian (friend of Jim Morrison)
- James Harwood (brother-in-law of Denise Harwood)
- Johnny Harwood (family member of Denise Harwood)
- Mike Jordan (friend of Tari Roosa)
- Carol Kerwin (sister of Margaret Markham)
- Alex Knight (friend of Melissa Myers)
- Michael Koperek (friend of Jill and Dave Topham)
- Andrea Lalor Kosowsky (friend of Sandra Cozzaglio)
- Raven Livingston (friend of Amanda Schenker)
- Lexi Lloyd (member of church)
- Yannette and Thomas Lucas (friends of church)
- Chris Ludwig (mother of Jessica Drenga)
- Betty Massidda (friend of Ruth Melbourne)
- Judy McNutt (member of church)
- Joyce and Paul Monachina (members of church)
- Terri Moore (friend of church)
- Katherine Muchergee (daughter of Joyce and Paul Monachina)
- Rochelle O'Gorman (friend of Monda Driscoll, Melissa and Karl Myers)
- David Ohman (son of Conrad and Margaret Ohman)
- Judy Quakenbush (cousin of Ellen Krupka)
- Amanda Schenker (member of church)
- Suzanne Sheaffer (cousin of Dave and Margaret Markham)
- Jean Spalinger (member of church)
- David Stone (member of church)
- Brody Tackus (grandson of Isabel Fassell)
- Jessica Terbush (daughter of Jay Terbush)

- Lainey Thomas (great niece of Ellen Krupka)
- Brian Tillotson (brother of Larry Tillotson and friend of church)
- Donna Toomey (friend of Peg Biron)
- Eileen Torraca (friend of Laura O'Shaughnessy)
- Susan Tucker (member of church)
- Trevor Tucker (grandson of Nancy Tucker)
- Jane Maroni Williams (relative of Sheila Maroni)
- Debby Wright (friend of Wanda Klahn)

Sympathy

- Extended to the family of Julia Bellefontaine
- Extended to the family of Gerald Drake
- Extended to the family of Peter Eichstedt
- Extended to the family of Patricia Hill
- Extended to the family of Stanley Kleiner
- Extended to the family of Susan Sikorski

Our Friends and Members at Care Facilities: Barbara MacNayr, and Hank Wingate (Landing at Laurel Lake), Nancy Tucker (Harbor House, Hingham, MA.)


Our Church: My prayer and yearning for this church is _____ (please fill in the blank). Cara Davis and her family, our staff, our congregation, ministries, Council, children around the world supported by our church.

Our Local Community: For those who are in need of employment, food, shelter, financial assistance, friendship.

Our Country: For our citizens and our elected officials to have the courage to carry out the message of the gospel of Jesus to trust in God's love to overcome all fears and hatreds; to bring justice to refugees, undocumented immigrants, unaccompanied minors, veterans, the unemployed, and all persons in need.

All Those Who Serve & Protect: Military, police, fire fighters, EMS, and their families.

Our World: For the victims and their families of Covid-19 pandemic, victims of persecution based on sexual orientation and identity, people displaced by ethnic violence, all who are suffering the results of catastrophic climate change, and all those whose lives are affected by war.



Requested by: _____



Requester's phone: _____

Reason for request (will not be printed on Prayer concerns)

Place request in offering plate or submit to the church office

November

The First Congregational Church of Lee, 413-243-1033, on the web: www.ucc-lee.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 6:45am AA/IDHAC 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Coffee Hour 6:00pm Hand Bell Rehearsal	30	31 3:00pm Bible Study at Story's 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	1	2 12:00pm Craft Group 5:00pm Trombone Ensemble 7:30pm AA Lee Park Place	3 9:30am M&M meeting	4 8:00am AA SOS 2-4 pm Candidate Meet & Greet 
5 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS 6:45am AA/IDHAC 9:15am Choir Rehearsal CANDIDATE SUNDAY 10:30am Worship Service & Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour 6:00pm Hand Bell Rehearsal	6	7 12:01pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00pm Bible Study at Story's 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9 5:00pm Trombone Ensemble 7:30pm AA Lee Park Place	10	11 birthday party 8:00am AA SOS
12 6:45am AA/IDHAC 9:15am Choir Rehearsal FOOD COLLECTION 10:30am Worship Service/DNA 11:30am Potluck Luncheon 6:00pm Hand Bell Rehearsal 	13 6:00pm Walking Our Talk	14 3:00pm Bible Study at Story's 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 7:00pm Facility & Finance Meeting	16 11:00am Prayer Ministry 12:00pm Craft Group 5:00pm Trombone Ensemble 7:30pm AA Lee Park Place	17	18 8:00am AA SOS
19 6:45am AA/IDHAC 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Coffee Hour 6:00pm Hand Bell Rehearsal	20	21 12:01pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00pm Bible Study at Story's 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23 OFFICE CLOSED 7:30pm AA Lee Park Place	24	25 8:00am AA SOS 9:30am Food Pantry
26 6:45am AA/IDHAC 9:15am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Service & Stewardship 11:30am Coffee Hour 6:00pm Hand Bell Rehearsal	27 Holiday Fair setup Messenger articles due into office	28 Holiday Fair setup 3:00pm Bible Study at Story's 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 Holiday Fair setup	30 Holiday Fair setup 5:00pm Trombone Ensemble 7:30pm AA Lee Park Place	1 Holiday Fair setup	2 Holiday Fair 8:00am AA SOS

If you have a meeting/event to schedule, or would like to rent space, contact the church office.



Daylight Savings Ends: Turn your clocks back one hour Sunday, November 5
 If you forget, you will be in church one hour early!

Worship Attendance: In Person/Facebook:

Oct 1 – 66/75; Oct 8 – 55/75; Oct 15 – 58/63; Oct 22 – 45/NA

Mark your calendars now! The Holiday Fair and Sounds of Season Concerts are coming in December.

Please check December Messenger and other announcements closer to the events.

Holiday Fair: Sat., Dec. 2 from 10am – 3pm

Sounds of the Season Concerts: Fri. and Sat., Dec. 15 & 16.

Bells begin at 6:15pm. Choir begins at 7pm.

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30am – 12:30pm

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL *MUST BE 18 OR OLDER
BINGO
 JOIN US THE FOLLOWING SATURDAYS:
SEPTEMBER 9
OCTOBER 14
NOVEMBER 4
DECEMBER 9
 AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL | 115 ORCHARD STREET, LEE
 DOORS OPEN AT 1:00PM | GAMES START AT 2:30PM
BASIC ENTRY \$10 BRING YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS, NEIGHBORS... BRING THEM ALL!
DOOR PRIZES 50/50 RAFFLE **LOTTERY TICKETS**
SNACKS & DRINKS AVAILABLE
 ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CHILDREN OF ST. MARY'S SCHOOL



Reverend Marisa Brown Ludwig

With this biography, we welcome **Reverend Marisa Brown Ludwig** for Candidating Weekend! **Nov 4th & 5th** God led Rev. Marisa directly to our church, in God's own beautiful timely way.

Marisa was born in NYC, growing up in northern New Jersey. As a small child, she felt called to lead worship. She had profound mystical moments of prayer where she would feel flooded by the Holy (only later finding words to understand this). Meeting Rev. Marisa now, it is clear that she has a longstanding close relationship to God.

Raised Roman Catholic, she was stopped by the limits on discipleship for females – not being allowed to be a priest, not even an altar-server! Yet she persevered, with grace. She preached her first sermon at 16 years old when working as a counselor at a Christian summer camp, and she volunteered supporting youth who were intellectually disabled and deaf. Within these roles, she felt the scriptures come alive through her, extending that energy to those around her.

She pursued an extensive educational background. She earned a Bachelor degree in Music Business from New York University (NYU) and worked for many years in Marketing and Public Relations in the music industry in New York City. She arrived in Western Massachusetts originally to work for the Springfield Symphony Orchestra in 1989. She then earned a Master of Clinical Social Work degree at Boston College. She worked as a licensed social worker for many years in medical, hospice and mental health settings. She became Director of a community mental health agency in Holyoke, MA, and Assistant Director of Adult Services for ServiceNet.

She finally felt at home when she encountered her first UCC church in 1995: South Congregational Church in Springfield. When she attended her first Mass Conference Annual Meeting and saw worship led by bold, beautiful, ordained women, she recognized kindred spirits and knew there was no longer anything standing between her and the call she had heard her whole life. At that point, she was married to her husband, Peter, and raising two small children, Morgan and Conor. As such, the road to answer her call was part-time and long. She pursued a Cooperative Master of Divinity through Hartford Seminary and Andover Newton Theological School with a focus on Interfaith Relations, additionally completing the Hartford Seminary Women's Leadership Institute.

She became ordained in 2013. All of the employment and volunteer work that she had done coalesced for her life as a Pastor; witnessing, preaching, visiting, counseling, leading worship, justice-seeking, loving God, deepening discipleship. Reverend Marisa **is** quite a blessing!

At First Church of Christ (UCC) in Longmeadow, Rev. Marisa served as Acting Associate Pastor from November 2013 to March 2019. Her primary responsibilities were Adult Education, Community Outreach and Mission, and Programming for Young Families, as well as preaching, weddings, and funerals. She was installed as Associate Pastor from March 2019 to June 2022, when the church decided to go from two pastors to one. Her primary responsibilities were supervising staff for Family Ministries, Youth, and Church School, Adult Education, and Community outreach missions. Throughout this time, she led sacraments, preached and led worship approximately 18 times per year, and she provided Pastoral Care. Twice she served as Temporary Senior Pastor and Acting Head of Staff. Sustaining these roles comfortably, she also performed music within the church, co-led interfaith coffee conversations on a weekly basis, co-officiated monthly outdoor worship for people who are homeless, and engaged in social justice work in the areas of climate change, LGBTQ rights, reproductive justice, racial justice, immigration, interfaith witness 2013 to present.



Continuing Education

- Healing Separation from the Inside Out (Anti-Racism) Training for Faith Leaders
- Calling Out from the Depths Jewish & Christian Interpretations of the Book of Psalms
- Festival of Homiletics 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022
- Tending the Fire for New Clergy I and II 2016, 2017
- Just Church: Fresh Expressions Pilgrimage - July 22-28, 2017 and Celtic Worship - October 14-20, 2023 at the Iona Community, Scotland
- Certified Independent Karuna Reiki Master/Teacher
- Certified Independent Reiki Master/Teacher Usui Tradition
- New York Society for the Deaf, Certificate in American Sign Language

Community and Wider Church Involvement

- SNEUCC (formerly Massachusetts Conference UCC) Task Force on Ecumenism & Interfaith Relations (member since 2011, Chair 2012-2018)
- Vice President - Interfaith Council of Western Massachusetts
 - Member since 2012, officer 2015-2023, Vice President 2019- 2023
- NAACP of Greater Springfield – member since 2021, on Reparations Team since 2022
- Singer, High-Definition Women's Acapella Group out of Northampton Community Music Center January 2014 -March 2023; *On That Note* Mixed Acapella Group since 2019
- Member, Pioneer Valley Harp Guild since 2005
- Agrégée, lay member of Community of St. Joseph, affiliated with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield since 2008; Associate member since 1992
- National Association of Social Workers, since 1994

Awards, Honors, and Publications

- Righteous Gentile Candlelighter - Yom HaShoah Service - Sinai Temple/Temple Beth-El Springfield, 2021 – In honor of gentiles who saved/protected Jews during the Holocaust
- Pioneer Valley Project MICAH Award – Social Justice Leadership & Service Award 2020
- Main author: *Resolution of Witness Condemning the Use of Violence in the Name of Religion*, 2015 Mass Conference, UCC; by MACUCC Task Force on Ecumenism & Interfaith Relations
- Short Story author - included in *A Loving Testimony: Remembering Loved Ones Lost to AIDS*, an Anthology Edited by Leslea Newman published 1995 by Crossing Press
- Member, Jonathan Edwards Society, Andover Newton Theological School since 2011