

First Congregational Church
of Fall River
Parish Guide





First Congregational Church Parish Guide

Volume 97

No. 1

January 2019



From Reverend Andy

"Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

Philippians 2:12-13

Dear Friends:

Paul writes these words to the church in Philippi from his jail cell. They are not words penned in ease or comfort, nor are they meant for a community at ease. The city of Philippi, while being very Roman and enjoying the benefits of Roman citizenry was known as a retirement city for soldiers who had served in Rome's army. It is likely in the church of Philippi were men who had known struggle and battle and adversity and had come to Philippi after 20 plus years of service to soothe their wounds and escape their demons. And to them, their pastor Paul was imprisoned by the very system so many of them had served, Paul writes his short 4 page letter insisting that the church at Philippi work out their own salvation with 'fear and trembling.'

The New Year always brings with it new possibility. No matter the pain, the brokenness, the grief, or the struggle of 2018, it has ended. So too has its blessings and the slate is clear for the writing of a new story on the pages of time. Like those scarred old veterans in Philippi we too are invited to work out our salvation in this 365 day devotional we call 2019.

We may have horrors we carry from past battles, or empty chairs of comrades no longer in the fight, or even lost something along the way that makes us think we can never 'will or work' again, but in this new place, and in this New Year we have an invitation. An invitation we approach not with faith or confidence but with fear and trembling, with awe of the most-high God that loves us. Even though we have left blood on the battle field or sold our sword at the cost of our own virtue; the trumpet blows once again calling us forward.

"...for it is God who works in you both to will and to work for His good pleasure." Another way of understanding this notion of 'God who works in us' is to understand that this is not our process; it is not ours to get 'right' or get 'wrong' rather it is God's process, God who works with us and it is ours who is invited into God's 'good pleasure'.

You see whatever you got right in 2018 and whatever you got wrong in 2018 the unfolding process of salvation is one that only requires we come to it with openness and respect, 'with fear and trembling' and if we can manage that, God can manage the rest. Just as I imagine Paul's ministry of the promise of Jesus' resurrection soothing those old wizened veterans of legions who came to find respite in the warmth of Philippi and instead found the warmth of the Lord Jesus Christ, who healed their war torn hearts.

This is our first year together and the promise ahead is great. As we open to this year is my hope you will further open with fear and trembling and let God's process of sharing his good pleasure with you heal, inspire, and fill your heart in the year to come.

Rev Andy Stinson



"Be a part of something larger than yourself"

Rev Andy Stinson



**TREASURER
OFFICE**



Notes from Treasurer:

Offering envelopes for 2019 are available: please send requests to the church office.

Pledge Cards for 2019 are still available. They can be found as you enter church or by request to the church office.

We have received Pledge Cards for 2019 from 37 individuals/families as of Dec 26, 2018.

Letters will be mailed during the month of January detailing your contributions to the church for 2018 for tax purposes.

*Ken Ward
Church Treasurer*



ALL CHURCH MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!



**ICE SKATING
January 13
at
Driscoll Rink
272 Elsbree Street,
Fall River, MA 02720
2:00 - 4:00 PM**

**We will meet at Driscoll Rink at 1:45 PM
Questions or to RSVP? Call or text
Bonnie @ 508-667-5093**



When Handel was composing "The Messiah", he once said, "it was as if he saw God on his throne, and all the angels around him". It's possibly the single greatest musical work in the English language. And we are having it here in First Congregational Church this Sunday at 3, and you can participate in it! It will be a "Sing-It-Yourself" Messiah concert and supper on Sunday, **January 6, at 3:00pm**. I think I have section leaders for all four parts, and so far for instrumentalists I have 2 violinists, a violist and a cellist, with perhaps a trumpeter. The violist is coming all the way from Millis, MA for the joy of this music, and the cellist is coming from 2 blocks away. If you're not up to singing or playing, you are more than welcome to come listen and watch.

The 1742 premier of the "Messiah" in Dublin was a benefit to help the needy and it has been used frequently for this purpose ever since. Admission is free but donations of at least eight dollars are encouraged. A light supper will be served in the Bogle Chapel, following the event and all are invited to stay. Active participants sing all selected arias and choruses. Those who own their own scores should bring them, although loaner copies will be available. Extra copies of the Hallelujah Chorus will be available for everybody.

Judith Conrad
Music Director

**SING-IT-YOURSELF
MESSIAH
Sunday, January 6, 2018
3:00 p.m.**

All Singers and Instrumentalists welcome, as well as Listeners
Directed from the piano by Judy Conrad

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
282 Rock Street, Fall River**

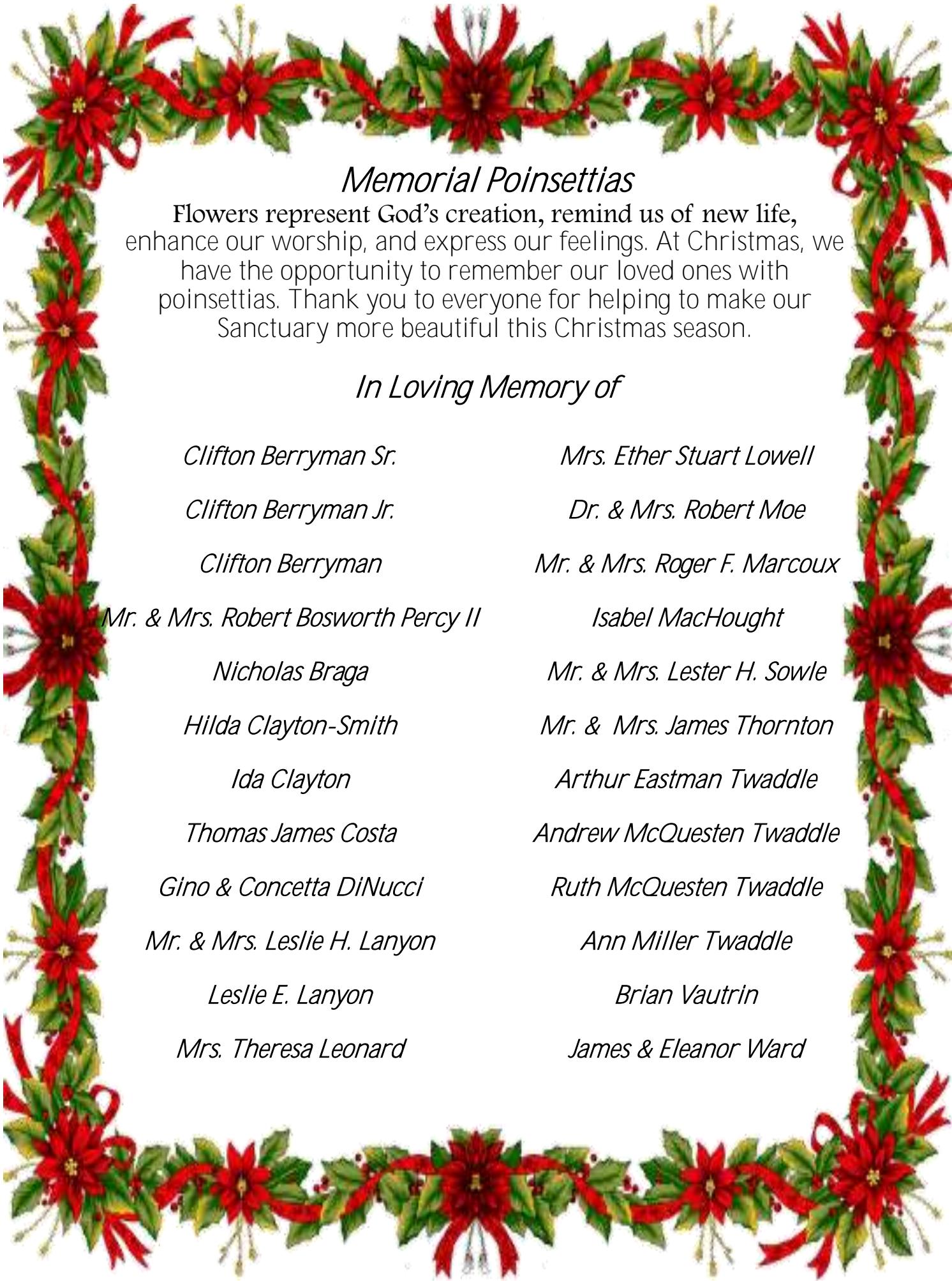


We will sing most of Part One plus Hallelujah and Amen;
All arias will be sung by sections;
other arias and choruses will be included by request

A Simple Supper follows the event

Admission free but donations, which will benefit Angels Anonymous Food Bank, are encouraged
Scores and instrumental parts will be provided, or bring your own





Memorial Poinsettias

Flowers represent God's creation, remind us of new life, enhance our worship, and express our feelings. At Christmas, we have the opportunity to remember our loved ones with poinsettias. Thank you to everyone for helping to make our Sanctuary more beautiful this Christmas season.

In Loving Memory of

Clifton Berryman Sr.

Mrs. Ether Stuart Lowell

Clifton Berryman Jr.

Dr. & Mrs. Robert Moe

Clifton Berryman

Mr. & Mrs. Roger F. Marcoux

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bosworth Percy II

Isabel MacHought

Nicholas Braga

Mr. & Mrs. Lester H. Sowle

Hilda Clayton-Smith

Mr. & Mrs. James Thornton

Ida Clayton

Arthur Eastman Twaddle

Thomas James Costa

Andrew McQuesten Twaddle

Gino & Concetta DiNucci

Ruth McQuesten Twaddle

Mr. & Mrs. Leslie H. Lanyon

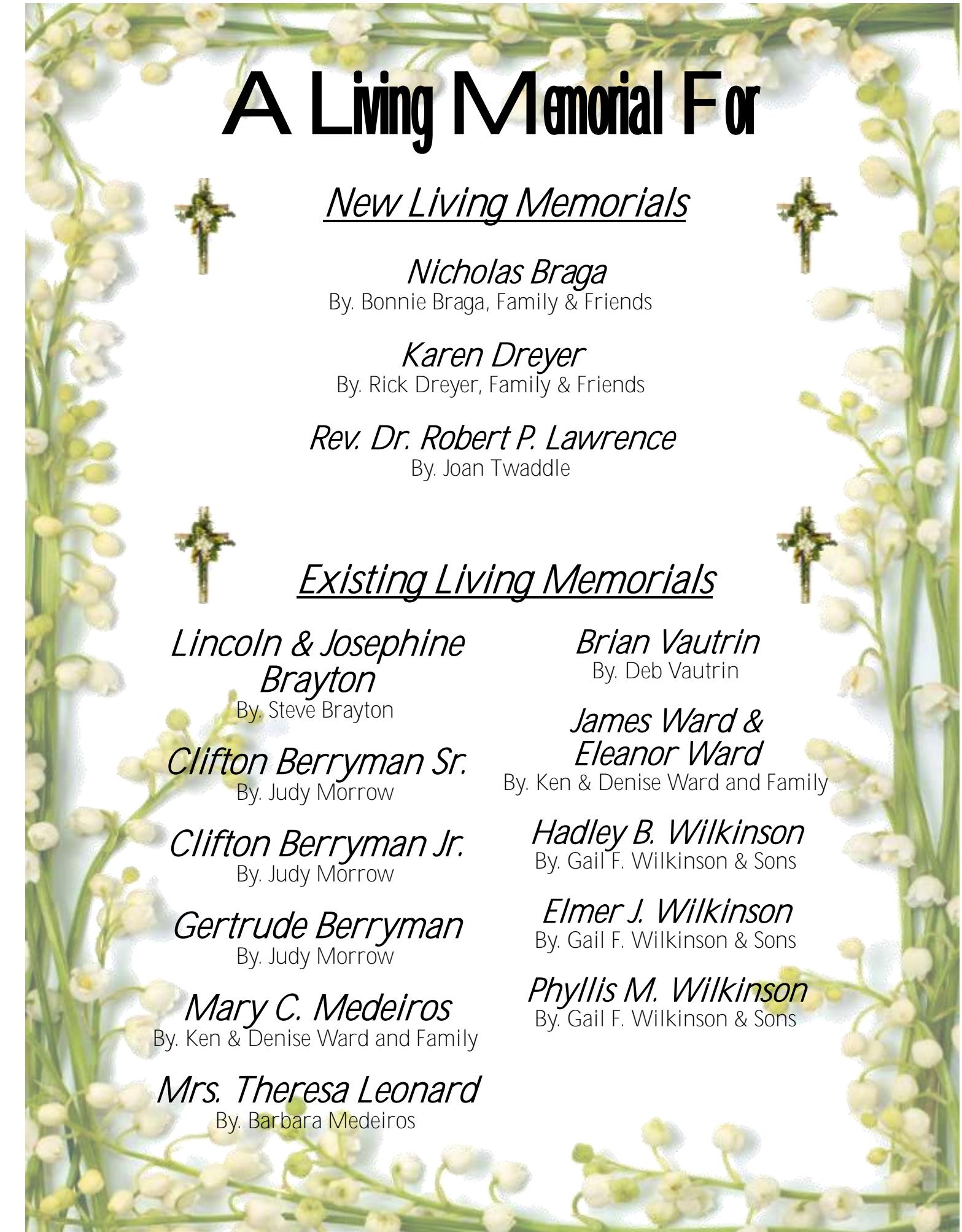
Ann Miller Twaddle

Leslie E. Lanyon

Brian Vautrin

Mrs. Theresa Leonard

James & Eleanor Ward



A Living Memorial For

New Living Memorials

Nicholas Braga

By. Bonnie Braga, Family & Friends

Karen Dreyer

By. Rick Dreyer, Family & Friends

Rev. Dr. Robert P. Lawrence

By. Joan Twaddle

Existing Living Memorials

Lincoln & Josephine Brayton

By. Steve Brayton

Clifton Berryman Sr.

By. Judy Morrow

Clifton Berryman Jr.

By. Judy Morrow

Gertrude Berryman

By. Judy Morrow

Mary C. Medeiros

By. Ken & Denise Ward and Family

Mrs. Theresa Leonard

By. Barbara Medeiros

Brian Vautrin

By. Deb Vautrin

James Ward & Eleanor Ward

By. Ken & Denise Ward and Family

Hadley B. Wilkinson

By. Gail F. Wilkinson & Sons

Elmer J. Wilkinson

By. Gail F. Wilkinson & Sons

Phyllis M. Wilkinson

By. Gail F. Wilkinson & Sons

From- First
Congregational
Church
Staff Members
we would like to
wish you:



First Congregational
Church
Instructor—Nelly Majer

Remember!!!
Open to the public (13 yrs. & up)
All levels are Welcome!!
You only need your mat &
water

(Please use Cherry Street Door to access the building.)

If any class is cancelled will be published in the
Parish Facebook Page.



SOUP KITCHEN
This has been a very worthwhile endeavor that our church has embraced
AND
We need volunteers to help with the preparation as well as serving.
SOUP KITCHEN
Mark your calendars to be at our church by 2:30 PM, first Tuesday of Every month
Any changes will be published in Weekly Bulletin



Volunteers Needed!!
For Soup Sunday
When: Saturday January 19th
Time : 10:00 AM
Where: Church Kitchen
Please sign up by Jan 12th!!
churchoffice@fccfallriver.com

You are invited to First Congregational Church



Menu

Soup Fellowship Event
January 20th 2019
Come and join us
After Service

- Homemade Beef Stew
- Salad
- Corn Bread
- Dessert

*Come join in Fellowship—a great time to sit and relax
Hope to see you there!!!*



Have you ordered your
brick to help complete our
Memorial Walkway in the
James Ward Memorial Garden?

Order forms are available in the Narthex or by
calling/emailing the church office at
(508) 672-5862 or
churchoffice@fccfallriver.com



First
Congregational
Church
Of Fall River



January 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	01 New Year's Day Office Closed NO YOGA	02	03	04 Sound System Service @ 10-11 AM	05
06 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM Epiphany Worship Sunday @ 10:00 AM Sing it Yourself Messiah @ 3:00 PM	07	08 Soup Kitchen @ 2:30PM (Larry) Staff Meeting @10:30 AM YOGA @ 6:00 PM	09 Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM	10	11	12
13 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM Worship Sunday @ 10:00 AM RE- Ice Skating Event @Driscoll Rink from 2-4 PM	14	15 YOGA @ 6:00 PM	16	17 Prudential Meeting 6:30 PM	18	19 Volunteers needed for Soup Celebration Prep. @ 10 AM
20 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM Worship Sunday @ 10:00 AM FCC Soup Sunday @ 11:15 AM Soup Sunday Celebration @ 11:15 AM	21 Martin Luther King Office Closed	22 YOGA @ 6:00 PM	23 Church Council @ 7:00 PM	24	25 Annual Reports Due date	26
27 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 AM Worship Sunday @ 10:00 AM Baptism	28	29	30	31	01	02
		YOGA @ 6:00 PM				

Congratulations and Best Wishes

We know these lists may be incomplete, so we ask that anyone whose name is not included be sure to call the Church Office with the necessary information.

Happy Birthday!!

January Babies

- | | |
|--------|---------------------|
| 4-Jan | Jakob Botelho |
| 4-Jan | Miriam Harrison |
| 5-Jan | Maggie Donovan |
| 6-Jan | Kendall Lanyon |
| 9-Jan | Joshua Hockert-Lotz |
| 11-Jan | Michael Farinha |
| 11-Jan | Carol Viveiros |
| 17-Jan | Christopher Sadlers |
| 18-Jan | Jennah Cable |
| 19-Jan | Mark Palmer |

- | | |
|--------|---------------------|
| 20-Jan | Paisley Moniz |
| 21-Jan | Aayden Aguiar |
| 21-Jan | Lucas Brady Wilbur |
| 22-Jan | Steve St. Laurent |
| 23-Jan | Andrea Richard |
| 25-Jan | Curtis Hockert-Lotz |
| 26-Jan | Callie Perreira |
| 27-Jan | Michael Ward |
| 30-Jan | Benjamin Raposa |
| 31-Jan | Mason Ward |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

