

WEEK OF MAY 25, 2025



From Woody Many thanks to Jim Covalucci and all those who organized this mornings Memorial Day observance on the Common. Don Chapman shared some memories about his work for the Red Cross in Viet Nam and the Girl Scouts did a good job in highlighting the sacrifices made by women during that war as well as the lives given by women in local fire departments and police departments.

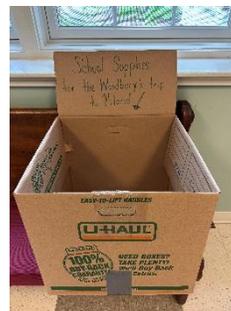
One thing that we often forget when we learn our history is that war is horrible. The medals and the parades are earned at a terrible cost. Had President Kennedy not gone to Dallas in November of 1963, he had made up his mind to begin withdrawing the 5000 military advisors who were in Viet Nam at that time. It is interesting to talk with Francis Love about his experience in Viet Nam after the end of the war when he and other US veterans traveled to Viet Nam and went on bicycle trips around the united country along with former Viet Cong soldiers who joined them. Francis has told me how beautiful Viet Nam is and what a wonderful experience it was to share the rides with people who were enemies.

As Christians we follow the Prince of Peace and are committed to finding peaceful ways of resolving disagreements. War is hell and God doesn't will us to spend human lives and resources on pursuing the killing of those we disagree with. It would be amazing what the world could accomplish if we took our nations' military budgets and put them into feeding the hungry, helping the homeless find homes and finding cures for cancer or many other diseases. Jesus' teachings and the memories of our veterans should remind us that peace is the goal and that, with God's help, it is possible. The efforts of Kristi Citak's Clothes for Girls Around the World and David and Candy Woodbury's upcoming week with Ukranian and Polish children in Poland are great efforts in the direction of peace.



School Supplies for Ukranian and Polish Children: We will be collecting school supply-type items to donate to Ukrainian and Polish children in Poland. Candy and David Woodbury will be traveling to Poland over the summer to work for a week with children. While there, they will distribute our donations of school supply-type items. There is a box in the hallway for school supply donations for Candy and David's trip to Poland this summer. Suggested items to donate include:

- colored pencils
- washable markers
- permanent markers
- Crayola 'twistables'
- notebooks of all sizes
- coloring books pre-School to more advanced
- activity/busy books
- glue sticks or bottles of 'squeeze' glue
- dry erase markers and erasers
- sidewalk chalk





Dress A Girl Around the World: This project will be continuing through September. Meetings at the church will be: Saturdays June 21, July 19, Aug 16 and Sept all Saturdays (6,13, 20, 27). Completed dresses are due to Kristi by September 30. Any questions or if you would like to participate, contact Kristi at 603-486-9910 or email at kris_Kreations@comcast.net.



Monthly Rally: Anyone wishing to join in the monthly rally at the Federal Building in Manchester this coming Tuesday (June 3) can meet at the Town Hall parking lot at 8am if you wish to car pool.



Summer Concerts: The first Concert on the Common of the year is upcoming on June 24 and please see Karen Marden or Lynn Wawrzyniak to offer help for our Dessert Stand.



Summer Flowers for the Sanctuary: For June, July and August, flowers for the sanctuary will be "Potpourri" meaning a mixture of whatever anyone would like to share from their garden or favorite garden center. Questions?? Ask Ellen Anderson, cell 973-747-2321 or andersel@njms.rutgers.edu. No need to sign up. Vases are available in the kitchen if you need one. And many thanks in advance to those who can contribute to our worship service.



QR Code: You can use the QR code below to pay your pledge or other contribution.



QR Code: Or click on this link: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/e47ab025-f0b0-40b4-90e6-f262bb1a29e1>



Peace Quote: No one is exempted from striving to ensure respect for the dignity of every person, especially the most frail and vulnerable, from the unborn to the elderly, from the sick to the unemployed, citizens and immigrants alike. *Pope Leo XIV*