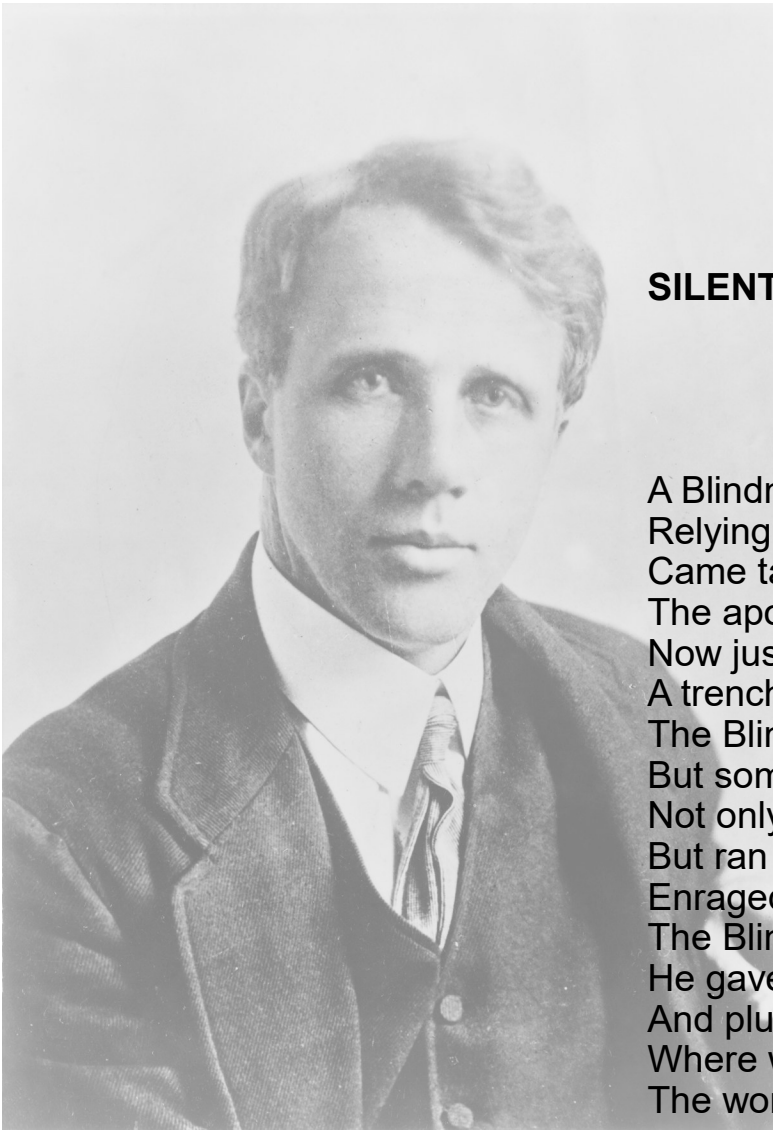




SILENT MEDITATION

HAEC FABULA DOCET
by Robert Frost

A Blindman by the name of La Fontaine,
Relying on himself and on his cane,
Came tap-tap-tapping down the village street,
The apogee of human blind conceit.
Now just ahead of him was seen to yawn
A trench where water pipes were laying on.
The Blindman might have found it with his ferrule,
But someone overanxious at his peril
Not only warned him with a loud command
But ran against him with a staying hand.
Enraged at what he could but think officious,
The Blindman missed him with a blow so vicious
He gave his own poor iliac a wrench
And plunged himself head foremost in the trench:
Where with a glee no less for being grim
The workmen all turned to and buried him.

Moral

The moral is, it hardly need be known,
All those who try to go it sole alone,
Too proud to be beholden for relief,
Are absolutely sure to come to grief.

The United Church of Dorset & East Rupert
143 Church Street, Dorset, VT 05251
PO Box 263
802-867-2260
dorsetchurch@gmail.com,
www.dorsetchurch.org,
Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 8-4,
Friday 8-12

All people are welcome here



~ WORSHIP SERVICE ~ OCTOBER 25, 2026 ~ TWENTY - SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND SMART WATCHES DURING THE SERVICE

NURSERY CARE AND CHURCH SCHOOL

Babies and children are invited, welcomed, and encouraged in our worship services. Worship bags filled with activities are available in the narthex for use during the service, and a rocker is located at the back of the sanctuary for parents with babies and toddlers. A small nursery area downstairs in the Vestry, with a livestream of the service, is also available for parents who wish to stay with their children. Children in Pre-K through grade 7 are invited to join us downstairs for church school following the children's message.

PRELUDE *For The Beauty of The Earth*

Henry J. Markworth

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough

ENTER THE FLAME & THE WORD

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

THE PASTURE
by Robert Frost

I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):
I shan't be gone long.—You come too.

I'm going out to fetch the little calf
That's standing by the mother. It's so young
It totters when she licks it with her tongue.
I shan't be gone long.—You come too.

***HYMN #61** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Henry Chandler

Mending Wall, by Robert Frost

MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: People of God, the Lord hears, loves, and forgives. Therefore, be reconciled to one another and walk humbly before God.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Since God has made us the blessed community, the Church, let us greet one another with the peace and joy of Christ. The peace and joy of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

*RESPONSE #35 *Gloria Patri*

CHILDREN 'S ANTHEM *You've Got a Friend in Me*

Randy Newman

PRAYER OF PASTORAL CARE

Our response:
Gracious God, hear our prayer

*HYMN #688 *When, in Awe of God's Creation*

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Joel 2:12-14, 28-29; John 1:1-5, 9-14

Judy Dunn

SERMON Read the Writing on the Wall

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *The Road Not Taken*

Randall Thompson/Robert Frost

*DOXOLOGY #46

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



Use this QR code
to donate

*CLOSING HYMN #696 *For Beauty of Meadows*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Invention in C*

J.S. Bach

The flowers this morning were given by the Charlotte Brooks Fund.
Our thanks to today's coffee hour hosts, Judy Kernodle, Derry Dickinson
and Donna Fabricius;
liturgist, Judy Dunn;
scripture reader, Henry Chandler;
deacons and ushers, Rick and Nancy Bushnell and Marietta and Karl White;
tech crew, Chris Lima, Patrick Honan, Puck Bell, and Jade Lilith-Streeter.

PRAYER LIST: Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS PRAYER CONCERNS: Clara Miller; Tracy Breeyear; Linelle Pike; Bill Auperlee; Joe McVicker; Fran Wilwol; Andy Longacre; Alice Leary; Tim Velie; Flora Gallup; Marian Perkins; Joe and Norma Will; Tommy and Tracie Salmon; Sylvie; Katherine Buchmayr; Betsy Olson; Jennifer Salmon; Cindy O'Leary; Stephen and Maria Cummins; Gretchen Lima; Oliver Fox Buckner; Ann Troumbley; Cathy Condon; Mark Cassidy; Jimmy Weiss; Jeff Duel; Robin Hoag; Damon Wilder; Howard Day; Robby Littlewood; Tom Drunsic; Jim Goodwin; Donna Tonic; for friends and family of Craigin Salsgiver; in the Dorset Church, for our Spectacular Spooky Halloween Event; in the Vermont Conference, for the First Congregational Church of Fair Haven and their pastor Jane LoBrutto.

LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS: Staff Sargent Houston Wood and family; Larry Cochran; Marianne Bacon; Jonathan Dickinson; Sarah Faith Dickinson; Norma O., Craig Jaxson, and Jacob Smith; Diane; Millie Holland; Michael Chambers; Patrick Denis; Dody Marcotte; Eric Parks; Kris; Kay Kwasniewski; Elizabeth LaBerge; Dottie Hinkle; Chip Wilson; Hazel Prouty; James Jankowski; Jameson Gray Pelton; Evelyn Tobin; Cassia Duran; Rich; George Smith; Jack; Judy Dunn; Alan Wiegand; Steve and Val Smith.





* The Memorial for Craigin Salsgiver will be held November 7 at *
* 11:00 a.m. at the United Church of Dorset and East Rupert. *

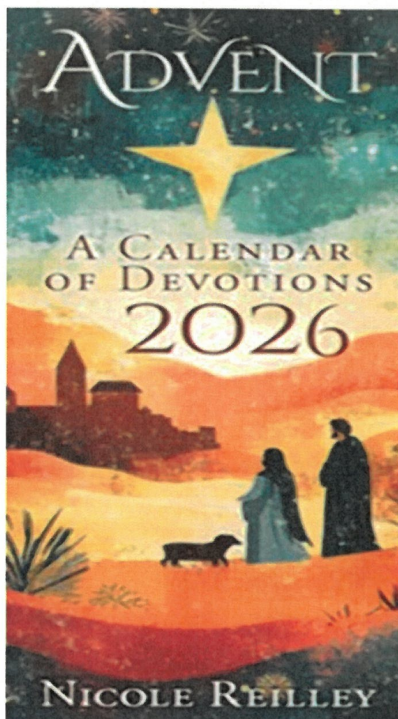
SIMPLE STEPS TO A WARMER HOME (in winter!)

Insulating window inserts...

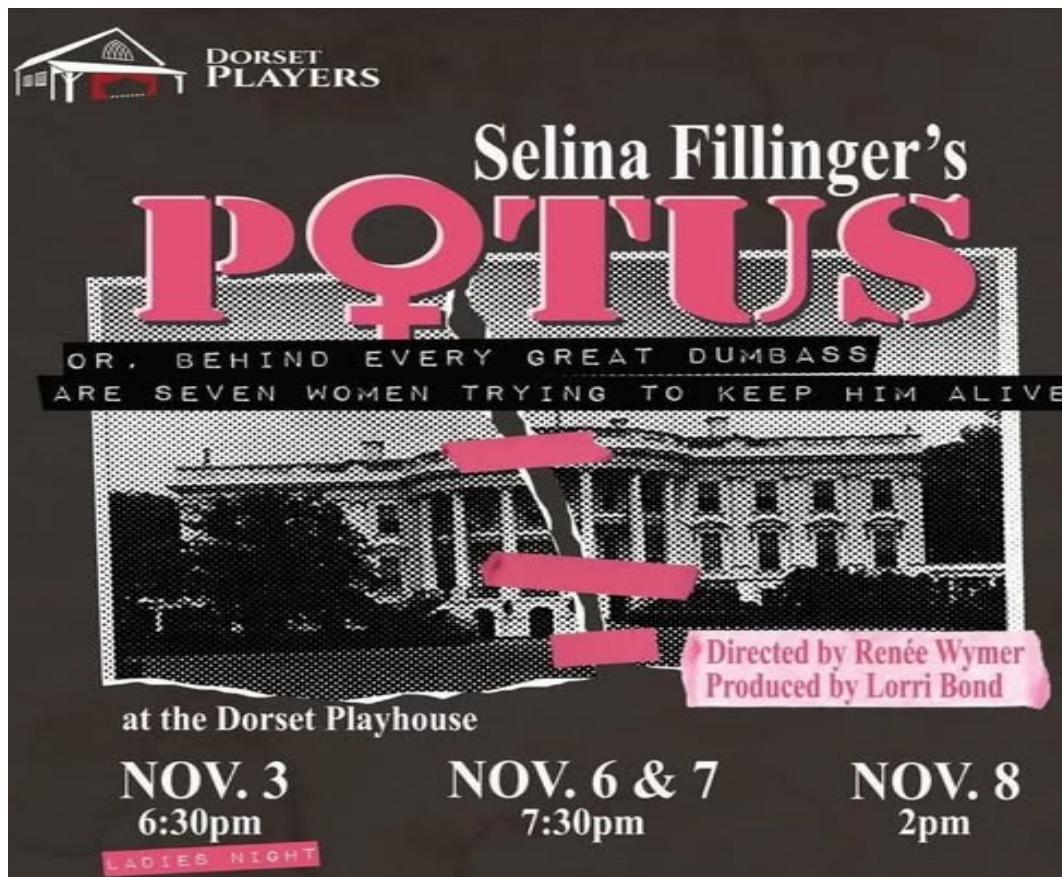
Check out www.windowdressers.org or call 207-596-3073

VOLUNTEERS ARE MEASURING NOW!

Ellen Maloney, Green Team, 802-867-0115



We are taking orders for the 2026 Advent Calendar of Devotions. If you would like one please call the office (867-2260). The order will be placed on Monday, November 9, to ensure they are in for the first Sunday of Advent on November 29.



SENIORS

Tickets are now available for the Dorset Players production of POTUS at the matinee performance on Sunday, November 8 at 2:00 PM. Please contact Linda O'Leary if you are interested in purchasing discounted tickets for \$24.00/person. All area seniors 55 and above and their caretakers are eligible. Below you will find a summary of this show from their website.

POTUS

Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive

ADULT HUMOR & LANGUAGE - NOT FOR MINORS

One four-letter word is about to rock 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. When the President unwittingly spins a PR nightmare into a global crisis, the seven brilliant and beleaguered women he relies upon must risk life, liberty, and the pursuit of sanity to keep the commander-in-chief out of trouble.

Selina Fillinger's brilliant, all-female farce took Broadway by storm in a star-studded production that earned three 2022 Tony nominations.

Frequent and explicit profanity, adult humor, sexual innuendo, discussions of abortion, substance use, stylized stage violence, guns (not fired).



Thank you so much to everyone in the church for accepting me into your congregation. Being a part of the church has been amazing. It was my pleasure to chair the Hospitality Committee. You will never know how much I appreciate everything you did for me, and I will miss you greatly.

Kris Harvey

34605 Hiveley St

Westland, Michigan 48186

All-church Memorial Service will be on November 1, 2026

Please call the office to submit a name to or remove a name from our memorial list prior to that date.

Update on Paving

As announced in church, paving of the church driveway and parking lot was postponed due to weather. The paving work will now take place the week of October 26, weather permitting. We appreciate everyone's patience during the next few weeks.

SECOND HOUR

A series of four Second Hours is being presented on **Life Transition Planning (LTP)** over the next few months. These LTP sessions will present an opportunity for everyone in our church to understand how to plan for changes in our lives, no matter where on life's path we are on. The second session on **November 29** will focus on health/medical care planning. Future sessions in January and March will focus on legal planning and financial organization

There will be time in each Second Hour for questions and discussion.

On Monday, October 26, the Northshire Seniors will attend lunch at noon at the Eagles in Manchester. Salad and a choice of two soups made by Willoughby's Depot Eatery, along with bread and dessert, will be served. Call Sally McManus at 802-375-9780 to sign up. There is no charge for this luncheon. Seating is limited.

Lunch will be followed by our annual meeting. Please feel free to stay and share your thoughts as we review our last year and begin planning for next year's events and trips. We will have a book exchange table. Bring a friend. All people 55 and over living in the broader Northshire area are invited to participate.

INQUIRERS CLASS

Rev. Mark is offering two classes for those who would like to join the church, and those who may not want to commit to becoming a member but want to learn more about the beliefs and ministries of the Dorset church. The first class, held October 4, was designed to answer your questions about the history, beliefs, vision, and organizational structure of a Congregational church, and how it is similar to or different from other denominations.

The second class is today, **October 25**, after worship and will feature several leaders of the church from the Cabinet, Deacons, and Trustees, who will speak about the many ministries of the church and help you find a place to participate. Do you like to sing? We can get you started with the choir. Want to learn more about Kid's Summer Lunch? We can connect you with the leaders of that ministry. Want to help offer hospitality for funeral lunches? We can get you signed up with our Hospitality Committee. Looking for a book study to help deepen your faith? We'll get you on the list for the next study.

Please join us today at 11:15 in the sanctuary!

News of the Larger Church

The United Church of Christ, in collaboration with the Central Pacific Conference, has released a joint statement lifting up in prayer the families, friends, and communities in the wake of the tragic shooting in Bend, Oregon, and condemning yet another act of gun violence that resulted in the loss of five lives.



The Dorset Group hosts an open meeting for Alcoholics Anonymous here at the Dorset Church in the vestry every Monday at 8:00pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Christian Ed, today @ 11:30
Deacons, November 1 @ 11:30
PFLAG, November 8 from 2-4
Cabinet, November 15 @ 11:30
Trustees, November 17 @ 3:30

If you would like to
receive a daily
devotional, please go to
[https://www.
ucc.org/daily-devotional/](https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/)

Thank you

Last week this congregation (this community) brought me to tears. What I wanted to say then and will say here is that the generosity and energy of this community to volunteer in support of good work is HUMBLING (and you do humble me in the best sense of the word).

The support and love that I experienced was overwhelming. Just one week after another magnificent Rummage Sale, the way many people came out to volunteer to execute and support the Breaking Bread Heritage Festival was amazing. Congratulations to us all. Dozens of people showed up to move 24 tables, 100 chairs, 5 tents, and assorted other items from 2 area churches to Adams Park and set everything up to stage a first - ever festival in record time when many people were not sure what to expect. It was humbling. Ten months ago, many people were not sure it could be done. But a nucleus from this church and volunteers from the Greater Manchester community formed a 10-person Steering Committee who collectively did a great job! The impetus for the festival was to build and foster acceptance and good will among people who are not the same but have very similar values. I think in a small but big way we made a first step, and there seems to be a growing group interested in building on it.

Experiencing the multicultural acceptance and joy of seeing people breaking bread and sharing at the Breaking Bread Heritage Festival, which grew from the values of Truth & Justice Vermont, which in turn, grew from the values of the Dorset Church Mission Committee made me realize that our next objective is to **get out and VOTE TO KEEP AMERICA GREAT**. If we are to get back to the values of respect and acceptance that we have cherished in our evolving American history. So, speak to your friends about spreading the word to vote early, where possible, to avoid the threats of chaos and misinformation that seek to erode and jeopardize our faith in the American right to vote and preserve our freedoms.

Respectfully, Richard Urso



WARNING!

SOUTHWEST ASSOCIATION FALL MEETING

Pastors and Clerks, please warn and announce this meeting on Sundays, October 11, 18, and 25. Please join us and encourage your members to come. We'd love to see 3 delegates from each congregation.

Sunday, October 25, 2:30-4:00pm
(registration with fellowship & food starts at 2:00)
🍏 Apple picking (for your food pantry)
at local orchard 4:15 (to be confirmed) 🍏

First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC
3 N Park Pl Fork, Fair Haven, VT 05743

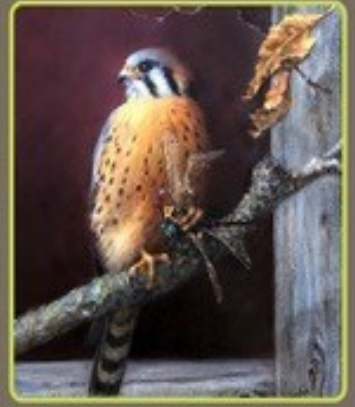
Theme:

☐ 🍀 ***Churches Grow when the People in them***
Grow ❤️ 🌱
aka "It's all about discipleship."

We'll also

~vote on the budget,
~discuss use of donated funds,
~hear about our new database,
~and take a Conference Skills Inventory

The Art of Sue Westin & John C. Pitcher



Kindred Spirits

Gallery Opening
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD
5-7 PM

There will be a short talk and a power point presentation at the public opening reception.



Join Us for Free Fall Yoga Classes

Registered Nurse and Registered Yoga Teacher Desiree Hensel will offer two free yoga classes this fall in the Pastoral Chapel.

Hatha Yoga, Saturdays, 8:30–9:30 AM, October 17 - November 21. This is a mixed-level practice with physical postures and breathwork. Please bring a mat and any props you enjoy using.

Chair Yoga for Brain Longevity, Thursdays, 9:00–9:50 AM, October 15 – November 19. This is a supportive, accessible class based on the Alzheimer's Research and Prevention Foundation curriculum, which includes seated and standing poses, the Kirtan Kriya meditation, and brief discussions on modifiable risk factors for cognitive decline.

Questions? Call 812-606-6078 or email henselnursinged@gmail.com.

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2026

PASTOR Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough*

PASTORAL COUNSELOR Rev. Steve Longley

OFFICE MANAGER Kimberly Perkins

BOOKKEEPER/MANAGER'S ASSISTANT Leslie Mazzucco

MUSIC DIRECTOR Tommy Salmon

SUNDAY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR Paula Mann Nassivera

SEXTONS Lynn and Pete Jennings

MODERATOR Al Lindsey*

CLERK Elizabeth Karet*

TREASURER.... Janet Chandler*

ASSISTANT TREASURER Al Lindsey

MEMBER-AT-LARGE Lori Hong*

CHURCH DELEGATES Derry Dickinson, Skip Dickinson, Dick Coss, Kris Harvey

MANSE LIAISON Gay and Roger Squire

TRUSTEES

Phil Peterson* (Co-Chairs), and Linda O'Leary* (Co-Chairs), Linda Drunsic, Jack Gilbert, Sarah McClintock, Nora Larsen, Ellen Leeds, Joel Ario, Julie Citron

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Kit Wallace (Chair), Steve Holman, David McAneny, Scott Welsh, Scott Russell, Eric Emery

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Phil Peterson (Chair, & Trustee Rep.), Julie Citron (Secretary), Sarah McClintock, Martha Eyman, Janet Chandler

STEWARDSHIP

Joel Ario*, Nora Larsen (Trustee Rep.), Henry Chandler * (A) Kit Wallace

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Karen Allen (Staff Rep.), Jack Gilbert (Trustee Rep.), Steve Holman, Henry Chandler

DIACONATE

Susan Patch-Crandall, Cheryl Gasperetti, Robin Chandler*, Sue Westin, Todd Jorn
Mary True (co-chair), Lindy Bowden, Lee Romano, Dick Coss, Lynne Welsh (co-chair), Ginger Foss,
Barbara Bertram

CHANCEL COMMITTEE (Ad hoc committee of Deacons)

Robin Chandler, Lindy Bowden, Ginger Foss

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Karet, Tommy Salmon (ex officio), Roger Squire, Lynne Welsh (A)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Paula Nassivera* (ex officio), Ann Honan, Ruth Stewart, Kelly Gaiotti, Emily Kohler

FELLOWSHIP

Nora Larsen (Secretary), Betsy Olson (Treasurer), Robin Chandler (Vice President),*
Linda O'Leary* (President)

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Maggie McDonough,* (Chair), Dotty Thompson, Sara McClintock, Judy Dunn, Betty Hazelton, Nora Larsen, Judy Kernodle; Nan Leach, Caroline Sargent, Gail Brodie, Candace Parks, Rich Urso, Barbara Urso, Sunny Velie

MISSION COMMITTEE

Sandi Hedman, Michelle Emery, Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson*, Janet Chandler, Richard Urso (Chair)

GREEN TEAM COMMITTEE (Ad hoc committee of Mission Committee)

Ellen Maloney (Chair), Sandi Hedman, Nan Leach, Cindy Safier, Caroline Sargent,
Skip Dickinson, Linda Drunsic, Ann Honan, Candace Parks, Nora Larsen

TRUTH AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE (Ad hoc committee of Mission Committee)

Rich Urso (Chair), Ellen Leeds, Paula Nassivera, Patrick Honan

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Dick Coss (Deacon Rep.), Lori Hong (Member-at-Large)

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Richard Grip* (Chair), Linda O'Leary, Betsy Olson, Alex Gray, Colleen LaChac, Dick Coss, Sandi Hedman

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Patrick Honan*, Tracie Salmon, Sue Westin

*Member of the Cabinet (A) Appointed