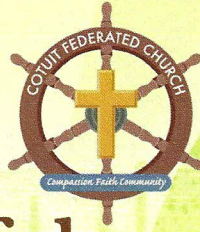


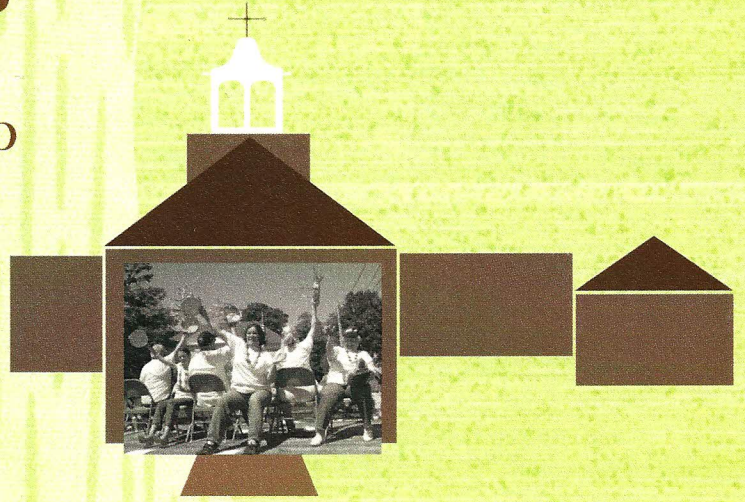
"You'll be a blessing...  
All the families  
of the Earth  
will be blessed  
through you."

Genesis 12 : 2-3



# Blessed. Grateful. Willing.

Living  
Stewardship  
at  
Cotuit  
Federated  
Church



## Living Stewardship...

at Cotuit Federated Church means finding ordinary people doing extraordinary things. It means striving to understand and grow in the Christian way. To accept the challenge that all things are entrusted to us. As we are keepers of the earth so, too, are we keepers of the faith.

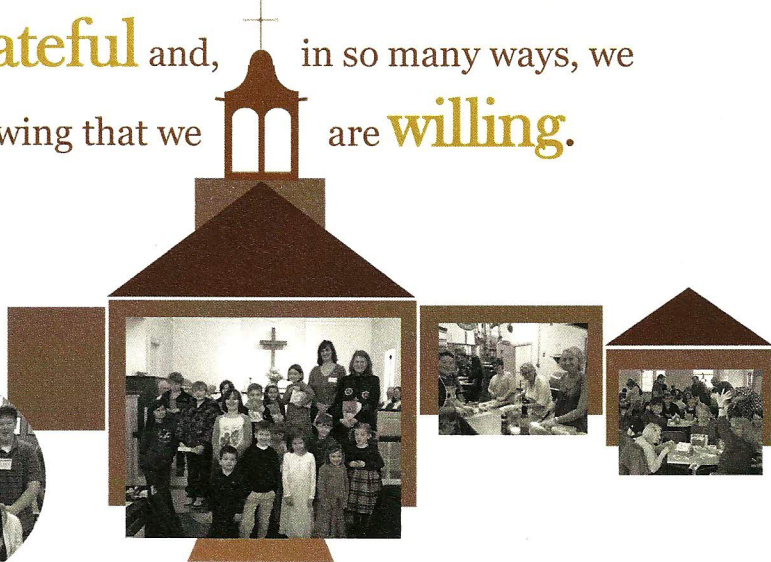
Once a year, as a Christian community, we pause to proclaim our commitment to our church, our congregation, and to our God.

We invite you to join us in:

**“Living Stewardship at Cotuit Federated Church”.**

### Cotuit Federated Church:

Here we are living stewardship in a wondrous community of faith, where we are **blessed**, we are **grateful** and, in so many ways, we are showing that we are **willing**.



# Blessed.

## Blessed...

Blessed so abundantly.  
Cotuit Federated Church:  
Here we rest in God's  
love. Here we serve in  
Christ's name. Here we  
experience the commun-  
ion of the Holy Spirit and  
journey with one another.  
Blessed with fellow  
travelers – young and old,  
single and married,  
believers and doubters,  
sinners and saints.  
Blessed to be lovers of  
God. Blessed to be  
followers of Christ.  
Blessed to be blessings.  
Here – to Cotuit  
Federated Church - we  
carry our armloads of  
blessings to give thanks.

# Grateful.

## Grateful...

Taking in such  
blessings, such fullness,  
we feel our hearts brim  
with gratitude. Grateful  
for the many gifts...  
Family. Health.  
A community that cares.  
Our children learning  
and telling the ancient  
songs and stories  
of faith. Working together,  
praying together, sharing  
together. The body of  
Christ – alive, strong,  
resurrected in our midst.  
Grateful for all that  
we have, all that we are,  
all that we are becoming.

# Willing.

## Willing...

Willing to step out  
on faith. Willing to  
risk sharing ourselves  
generously, vulnerably,  
authentically.  
Willing to say yes!  
Yes to God! Yes to  
community! Yes to a life  
of faith and discipleship!  
Willing to live with  
integrity the ways that  
we spend our time and  
our resources. Willing  
to allow all that I am  
reflect what I most  
deeply believe about  
God and community.

How will you be living stewardship in this faith community of Cotuit Federated Church? We, who have been abundantly blessed with the gifts of time, talent and treasure, are called upon to share. And because we are so blessed — and so very grateful — are we willing to move beyond giving “just enough” so that our giving is generous, faithful, abundant?

We invite you bring your “Living Stewardship” Pledge Card, along with your completed “The Gifts We Bring” Survey, to Cotuit Federated Church’s Dedication Service on Sunday, October 14th.

As you thoughtfully and prayerfully contemplate your giving, the entire community at Cotuit Federated Church celebrates your presence here and your willingness to join with us, as we strive together to live stewardship beyond our fears.



"Everyone must make up his own mind as to how much he should give. Don't force anyone to give more than he really wants to, for cheerful givers are the ones God prizes. God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more — so that there will not only be enough for your own needs but plenty left over to give joyfully to others." *2 Corinthians 9:7-8 TLB*

Blessed.  
Grateful.  
Willing.



*"Living Stewardship at Cotuit Federated Church"*

Dear Beloved Community,

Blessed. Grateful. Willing. So blessed with God's abundance, we are grateful for the gifts of this congregation: authentic and engaged community; relevant and Spirit-filled worship; meaningful service in Cape Cod and our world. Our gratitude calls for a response, and we are willing to answer God's call with a resounding "yes!" Generosity is an important part of each person's faithful response to our loving God. What we do with our time, our talents, and our treasure matters to God. The personal financial decisions we make help us grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Cotuit Federated Church's income comes primarily from the freewill giving of our supportive families. Not everyone realizes that it takes about \$1,500 per year (or \$29 per week) from each of our church families to support the ministry and mission of our congregation. Because of the generous support of church members, the ministry and mission of the church are truly growing:

- We have increased our outreach to those in need both within the church and beyond, doubling the number of meals we dish up at Miracle Kitchen, sponsoring Overnights of Hospitality, and serving through Habitat for Humanity in Joplin and Mashpee;
- Our ministry to children and youth continues to grow, and our confirmands inspire us;
- Our caring ministries are expanding as 50 people commit to be a part of Called to Care, which joins our already powerful Stephen Ministry program;
- Our doors are open wide to our local community through events such as CraftFest and Christmas in Cotuit, as well as providing a gathering space for chair yoga, Boy Scouts, and people in recovery through AA;
- We have seen an encouraging excitement for Bible Study and small groups, with more than 40 people engaged in our book study on Sabbath during the summer and
- We have been able to attend to the necessary upkeep of our church building.

To allow our ministry and mission to continue to grow, we would like to be able to count on your support in the year ahead.

Faithful stewardship invites us to honor God with all that we have and all that we are. Giving is an act of Christian discipleship and is our response to God's generosity. If you're considering a first-time pledge for 2013, one guideline you might consider is to give \$1 per week for each \$1,000 of income you receive annually. (So if you make \$20,000 a year, you would give \$20 a week or \$1,040 a year.) What's important is not that we all give the same, but that we all act as stewards of what God has so lovingly given us.

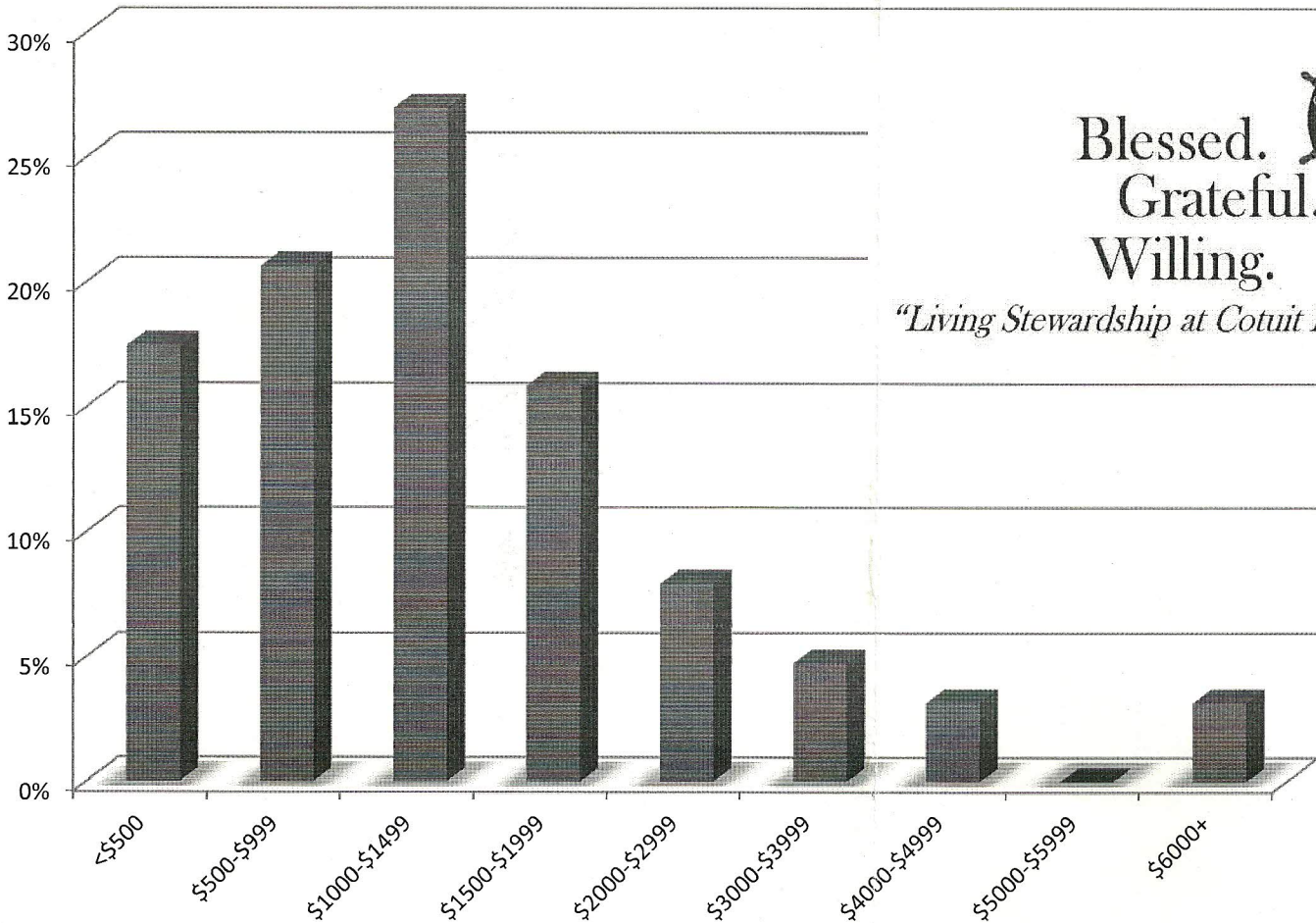
Included with this letter are a 2013 pledge card and a survey of "The Gifts We Bring: Time, Talent, and Treasure." We are inviting you to bring your pledge card and survey to worship on October 14 for a special service of dedication and blessing. Our prayers for you are filled with gratitude. Thank you. May the Living God bless you – now and always.

In faith, and on behalf of the Stewardship Team,

Rev. Angela Menke Ballou

Challenge yourself to move to the next level...

## Cotuit Federated Church 2012 Pledges by Giving Level as a % of Total



Blessed.  
Grateful.  
Willing.

*"Living Stewardship at Cotuit Federated Church"*

■ Number of Pledges

Blessed.  
Grateful.  
Willing.



The  
Gifts  
We  
Bring



"I praise you, for I am fearfully  
and wonderfully made."

*Psalm 139:14*

**Please tell us** what you know and care about, what your talents are, and how you like to serve, so that we can live God's vision together.

This information will be used to strengthen our care-giving, to grow our fellowship and learning offerings, and to connect people to the service opportunities that are right for them. The information you provide will be shared with lay and pastoral leadership in the congregation. It will not be made public.

(Please return your completed survey to the offices of the Cotuit Federated Church.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have shared important personal information for the first time and would like a call from the pastor.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### I have these Passions:

- Addiction recovery
- Administration
- Art
- Bible
- Children's ministry 0-K
- Children's ministry 1-5
- Children's ministry 6-8
- Community/neighborhood issues
- Education
- End of life issues
- Environmental stewardship
- Faith sharing
- Financial generosity
- Gardening
- Grief Recovery

### I have these Passions:

(Continued)

- Healthcare advocacy
- Helping people
- Homelessness
- Hospice care
- Hospitality
- Hunger
- Listening
- Marital issues
- Mental illness
- Mentoring
- Ministry to the sick
- Ministry to the homebound
- Music
- Our Whole Lives (Faith & Sexuality Curriculum)
- Parenting
- Prayer
- Social justice advocacy
- Stewardship of resources
- Teaching
- Teens
- Worship
- Welcoming newcomers
- Writing poetry
- Youth group ministry (grades 6-8)
- Youth group ministry (grades 9-12)
- Yoga and meditation, Reiki, stress management

### I have these Skills:

- Advertising
- Artistic performance direction
- Budgeting
- Childcare
- Compensation & benefits
- Communications
- Compassion
- Construction
- Cooking and baking
- Counseling
- Crafts
- Dance
- Data input
- Drama
- Event catering
- Event planning
- Gardening
- Graphic design
- Heavy lifting
- Interior Decorating
- Leadership development
- Lighting systems
- Listening
- Lobbying
- Maintenance—cleaning
- Maintenance—electric
- Maintenance—general repair
- Maintenance—painting
- Maintenance—plumbing
- Manual Labor



## I have these Skills:

(Continued)

- Marketing
- Media relations
- Medical care
- Mentoring
- Music—brass
- Music—guitar or bass guitar
- Music—percussion
- Music—piano
- Music—singing
- Music—strings
- Music—winds
- Organization
- People person
- Photography
- Public relations
- Public speaking
- Security/law enforcement
- Sewing/knitting/crochet
- Social media
- Sound systems
- Sports
- Teaching
- Thinking about the big picture
- Video production
- Volunteer coordinating
- Web design
- Writing

## I have this Knowledge:

- Accounting
- Bible
- Bookkeeping
- Business/personal financial planning
- Capital campaign planning
- Computer systems management
- Cotuit Federated Church history
- Criminal justice system
- Database
- End of life decisions
- Financial auditing
- Fund raising
- Healthcare industry
- History of Christianity
- Human resources
- Investments
- Law/legal advice
- Non-profit administration
- Nursing homes
- Personal financial planning
- Personnel management
- Planned giving
- Public aid systems
- Real estate
- Strategic Planning
- Tax planning
- The United Church of Christ
- The United Methodist Church
- Theology
- Village government

## I have this Experience:

- Addiction/substance abuse - self
- Addiction/substance abuse - others
- Adoption
- Anorexia/Bulimia
- Cancer
- Career change
- Chronic illness
- Coming out as GLBT – self
- Coming out as GLBT – loved one
- Divorce
- Domestic abuse
- Elder care
- Financial loss
- Homelessness
- Hunger
- Incarceration
- Infertility or pregnancy loss
- Losing my faith
- Loss of a loved one
- Mental illness
- Mental illness of a loved one
- Parenting
- Physical healing
- Reclaiming my faith
- Retirement
- Serious injury
- Special needs child
- Spiritual healing
- Stay at home parenting
- Suicide of a loved one
- Unemployment
- Victim of crime
- Weight loss issues

## I have these Qualifications:

- AED trained (defibrillator)
- CDL license
- CPR certified
- CPR/First Aid Trainer
- Criminal background check
- Driver's license
- First aid certified
- Notary
- Ordained as clergy
- Parish nurse
- Seminary education

## I might like to serve on one of these **Teams**:

- Administration Team
- Art Ministry Team
- Christian Growth Team
- Cotuit Nursery School Board
- CraftFest Planning Committee
- Deacons
- Equipping Team
- Mission Team
- Pastor-Parish Team
- Prayer Team
- Representative to the United Church of Christ
- Representative to the United Methodist Church
- Stewardship Team
- Vision Keepers
- Worship Team

## I might like to serve as a part of these **Caring Ministries & Missions**:

- Called to Care – Coordinator
- Called to Care – Driver
- Called to Care – Food team
- Called to Care – Letter writing
- Called to Care – Small projects
- Called to Care – Visitor
- Care Packages for elders, college students and military personnel
- Food drives
- Habitat for Humanity
- Holiday food baskets
- HomeTouch Ministry
- Overnights of Hospitality
- Mashpee Care Worship
- Miracle Kitchen
- Prayer shawl ministry
- Stephen Ministry leader
- Stephen Minister

## I want to **Volunteer**:

- Church office help
- Church school teacher
- Church school assistant
- Clean church spaces
- Coffee hour contributor
- Communion server

## I want to **Volunteer**:

(Continued)

- Contribute art for worship
- Cooking/baking
- Count Sunday offering
- Decorate church spaces
- Driver during the week
- Driver on Sundays
- Gardening/landscaping
- Knit/sew/crochet
- Meal preparation
- Meal/flower delivery
- Photographer
- Play classical music in worship
- Play gospel music in worship
- Play in the bell choir
- Play in the tambourine band
- Play jazz music in worship
- Play other music in worship
- Play praise & worship music in worship
- Prepare sanctuary for worship
- Sing in the choir
- Skilled maintenance of church
- Snow removal
- Visitor follow-up, personal visit
- Visitor follow-up phone/email/card
- Worship greeter
- Worship reader/liturgist
- Youth group leader

## I want to participate in **Fellowship**:

- Intergenerational Fellowship
- 20s to 30s
- 30s to 40s
- 40s to 50s
- 50s to 60s
- 60+
- Camping
- Chair Yoga
- Cotuit Women's Fellowship
- Couples
- Families
- Empty nesters
- Fellowship around art
- Fellowship around movies
- Fellowship around music
- Fellowship around sports
- Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Transgender
- Grief support group
- Junior high
- Men's group

## I want to participate in **Fellowship:**

(Continued)

- Parents– newborns
- Parents – preschoolers
- Parents – elementary
- Parents – high school
- Senior High youth
- Middle school youth
- Singles
- Women's group

## I might like to help with these **Events:**

- Christmas in Cotuit
- CraftFest Cotuit
- Fellowship dinners
- Funeral collations
- Rummage sales
- Vacation Bible School (VBS)
- Wedding Coordination

## I want to deepen my faith by **Personal Growth:**

- Adult education
- Bible study
- Book groups
- Camp ministry
- Mission trips
- Retreats
- Prayer team
- Social justice witness
- Spiritual small groups



**Cotuit Federated Church**

40 School Street  
Cotuit, MA 02635  
508.428.6163

[www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org](http://www.cotuitfederatedchurch.org)