

TERRYVILLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



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Church Office

Hours: Monday – Friday, 10am – 2pm

Phone: (860) 589-0182

Fax: (860) 589-1896

Email: terryvillechurch@hotmail.com

Website:

terryvillecongregationalchurch.org

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Members & Friends of TCC:

How is it already 2024? Time is racing! My sons are now 16 and 14, one will be finishing Junior Year and entering Senior Year this year, and the other will be finishing 8th grade and entering High School. Wow!

As I look ahead to 2024, I can't help but also to look back on 2023. 2023 was a very full year for me personally and for our congregation; many worship services, events, and -- unfortunately -- funerals. While we are thankful that these souls are now in their eternal home with God, we still very naturally miss them and grieve. 2023 was also full in that I was working as chair of the Farmington Valley Association Committee on Ministry. This is the group that represents the 13 churches in our region and assists with new student ordinations, clergy transitions, church conflicts, and more.

Speaking of our region of 13 churches, I am very excited and looking forward to two initiatives that were started in 2023 but that will see completion in 2024: our mission trip in June, and our church consultant (which is ongoing for the duration of the year). Both of these initiatives are being funded (in part) by our Farmington Valley Association.

Our next mission trip meeting will be Sunday, January 14 at 5pm at Farmington Congregational Church. This will be a mandatory meeting because we need to gather official commitment from all those who plan to attend our trip in June (June 22-30).

Our church consultant (Rev. Paul Nickerson) will be meeting with 8 of the 13 churches in our region (the ones that opted into the program) throughout 2024 and we will be giving regular updates in church and in the newsletters. The team from our church who is helping with this work is Jerry Wunsch, Jake Armbruster, Sandy Kamens, Betsy Dixey, and Curt Wilbanks.

In addition to the mission trip and church consultant, here are other things happening this month:
 Jan. 7: 10am Sacrament of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Epiphany Pageant - Star Gifts and the Celebration of Epiphany
 Jan. 18: 6pm Deacons Dinner
 Jan. 20: 7pm BINGO

May God bless you and keep you and may 2024 be one of the best years of our lives in loving & serving God,
 Rev Zack

WEEKLY CHURCH WORSHIP ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION

Date:	*In- Person Attendees:	Online Attendance:	Notes:	Collection (offering)
Sunday, December 3	70	222	Communion	\$1,987
Sunday, December 10	95	229		\$1,644
Sunday, December 17	84	240		\$1,929
Sunday, December 24	153	670	Baptism	\$2,060
Sunday, December 31	57	207	New Year's Eve	\$1,015

*In-person attendance is an estimate. The number can be affected by people coming late, leaving early, in the restroom, etc.

**Online attendance includes Facebook and YouTube. Online attendance is an estimate, too, as the online platforms do not tell us how much of or how long someone viewed the video. Also, the number can grow over time because the videos remain online and can be viewed at any time.

PRAYER SHAWLS – 14 Donated in the Month of DECEMBER 2023



Knitters & Crocheters: just a reminder we are always in need of prayer shawls

We have some lots yarn here that you are welcome to use for the shawls.

Please contact the Church Office with any questions.

Hour: Monday – Friday, 10am - 2pm

Thank you to all knitters & crocheters past, present, & future!

OUR PRAYERS GO TO



PRAYER LIST

Lila Cahill, “Skip” Vaino Skarp, Denise O’Donnell, Gail Foote, Marian McLam, Lowd Family, Emery Austin, Lawton Wood, Betsy Caswell, June Lozewski, Lee Grela, Karen Reilly, Wayne Kamens, Janet Waldron, Buddy Hawes, Dacey Pratt, Jean Mariano.

Friends and Family: Bryan Martin (friend of Barbara & Ron Benson), Aiden Waldron (grandson of Glenn & Carmel Waldron) – friends of Rachel Reynolds), Peter Salerno (Millie Perry’s son-in-law), George Badey (Barbara Benson’s father), Phyllis & Kerri (friends of Donna Wunsch), Clark Holbrook (Ruth Guay’s brother), Ricky Fellows (friend of the Benson family), Donna Cook (Ruth Rideout’s sister), Gloria Waskey (friend of Rachel Reynolds), Shirley Forbes (Ruth Rideout’s sister), Steve LaFreniere (Larry LaFreniere’s brother), Dave (Lisa Dixey’s brother), Arianna Rocinetti (Jim & Roseann Hannon’s great granddaughter), Terrance Hannon (Jim & Roseann Hannon’s son), Bob & Jackie Fox (friends & neighbors of Wayne Kamens), Wayne Trudeau (Tracy Fitzpatrick’s Uncle), Christine Post (at the Pines of Bristol/Mother of Rebecca Cyr), Dave and Marie John (friends of Terri Faragher), Randy Wagoner (son of Mary Mitchell and brother of Russ Wagoner), Carmela Heuschkel (Pam Eggleston’s mother), Family of Marty Sandshaw, Carole Kozikowski (Curt & Mary-Alice Wilbanks’ daughter).

Nursing Facility/Assisted Living/Independent Living/Home: Ann Krampitz (Sheriden Woods), Bill Hawes (Sheriden Woods), Lois Douyard (Apple of Avon), Rae Link (LiveWell, Plantsville), Juney Cushman (Farmington Station), Edna Kirkby (Middlewoods, Farmington), Doris Bondeson (Brandywine, Litchfield), Roland and Ellen Anderson (home).

Military: Derek Thibodeau.

WE SUPPORT OUR MILITARY: The church continues its support of service men and women in the Town of Plymouth. Donations are welcome in the designated donation can at the front of the church or they can be mailed or dropped off at the church office. To date contributions total \$230.69. Last year we donated \$500 of these funds to the Plymouth American Legion Post 20 and \$500 to the Soldiers’ Sailors’, & Marines’ Fund of the American Legion. Thank you to everyone for continuing to support our military!

FLOWER DONATIONS FOR THE ALTAR



If you would like to donate flowers to beautify our altar in someone’s memory, in honor of, or to congratulate someone on any given Sunday, please contact the church office and give your information to the Secretary.

Church Office

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Special Events Celebrated During December 2023

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Jacob Bilodeau	12/1	Birthday
Ryan Fitzpatrick	12/13	Birthday
Connor Mabe	12/17	14 th Birthday
Tracy Fitzpatrick	12/20	Birthday
Sam Lowd	12/21	50 th Birthday
Colton Drake Heagerty	12/24	Baptism
JESUS	12/25	Birthday
Al Morsch	12/26	71 st Birthday
Wayne Harnish	12/28	56 th Birthday
Evertt Harnish	12/28	81 st Birthday

“Each day holds a surprise. But only if we expect it can we see, hear, or feel it when it comes to us. Let's not be afraid to receive each day's surprise, whether it comes to us as sorrow or as joy It will open a new place in our hearts, a place where we can welcome new friends and celebrate more fully our shared humanity.”

[Henri Nouwen](#)

Note: Anyone who wishes to have their Special Event listed in our Monthly Newsletter, please write it on the whiteboard in the Narthex or contact our church secretary, Tracy at 860-589-0182.

Sneak Peek of EVENTS coming in 2024:

- **Friday, February 16, 2024 – Pasta Dinner with Entertainment – Hosted by our Music Committee (details coming soon)**
- **Lenten Lunches in February & March (dates to be confirmed within the next week)**
- **Saturday, March 9, 2024 – Chicken BBQ Dinner (details forthcoming)**
- **Saturday, April 13, 2024 – Roast Beef Dinner (details forthcoming)**

COFFEE HOUR IS NOT TRIVIAL



A very important part of Sunday worship come, interestingly enough, *after* the worship service, in the fellowship time which follows. This is the *ministry* we call *Coffee Hour*.

By offering coffee, juice, etc. people hang around and it is during that time that significant things can take place. A visitor can be properly welcomed and we begin to build new friendships. It can also be a time for members to connect with each other and share in joyful celebrations or offer support to each other during times of struggle.

We can also connect with “ministry representatives”, that is, members of our various boards and committees. This accomplishes two (2) very important things: 1) it gives each board and committee a chance to “show off” its work by setting up a display and be available to inform people “what you are all about”. A time to brag about your accomplishments, describe your short and long range goals, etc. 2) it gives you an opportunity to “network” and develop interests in your committee and hopefully fill vacant slots that occur or create a list of individuals who may be interested in helping with scheduled projects.

Coffee hour should be viewed as a great seed – planting opportunity rather than a drudgery; a blessing rather than a burden.

Enjoy those coffee hours!!!!

Coffee Hour 2024

<u>Month:</u>		<u>Committee:</u>
<i>January</i>	⇒	<i>Deacons</i>
<i>February</i>	⇒	<i>Council</i>
<i>March</i>	⇒	<i>C&E</i>
<i>April</i>	⇒	<i>Music</i>
<i>May</i>	⇒	<i>Trustees</i>
<i>June</i>	⇒	<i>Outreach</i>
<i>July</i>	⇒	<i>Deacons</i>
<i>August</i>	⇒	<i>At Plymouth Congregational Church</i>
<i>September</i>	⇒	<i>Council</i>
<i>October</i>	⇒	<i>C&E</i>
<i>November</i>	⇒	<i>Music</i>
<i>December</i>	⇒	<i>Vacant</i>

Note: the committee assigned coffee hour does not have to do coffee hour – they just need to arrange coverage for coffee hour.

Terryville Congregational Church

Coffee Hour Instructions



What you need to bring with you:

Package of cookies, cheese and crackers or pastry

Half and Half for coffee and Milk for Tea

Ginger Ale

Fruit Juice

Bag of Ice

Coffee:

You will need to prepare 60 cups of coffee. You should start to percolate it before service starts so it will be ready by the time service is over. Coffee is in a can in the cabinet to the left of the sink. You will need 3 cups of grounds to 60 cups of water (fill to #60 line on large silver percolator). Plug it in and let it brew.

Hot Water

Fill the small silver electric hot water tea pot with water. Plug it in the outlet on the counter in the social hall near the water fountain (make sure pot is pulled out from under cabinets).

Cups

Styrofoam cups should be in the same cabinet with the coffee. Use about 50 for coffee and 10 for tea. Place 25 cups on the left of the coffee hour table and 25 on the right. Place 10 cups on the counter near the hot water tea pot.

Sweeteners, Stirrers and Milk

You need to prepare three containers with a combination of sugar, Sweet N Low, Equal and/or Splenda packets. You will find them on the shelf under the cabinet in the kitchen closest to the small refrigerator. Two containers will go on the coffee hour table. One container will be placed next to the hot water. Pour the milk and half n half just before coffee hour begins. Two pitchers of half n half should be on the coffee hour table (one on each side) and one container of milk should be placed with the hot water. Empty pitchers can be found in the kitchen under the cabinet where the coffee pot is plugged in. Place four spoons on the coffee hour table and one placed with the hot water. Don't forget to put out a basket or container with the tea bags in it.

Cookies, pastry, cheese and crackers

Cookies or other snack items should be placed on a platter and put on the same table as the punch.

Punch/Juice

Use the covered punch/juice dispenser (found on the counter) and empty one container of fruit juice to one half to two thirds of ginger ale. Just before everyone comes down from service, add the bag of ice. Punch cups are located in the upper cabinet all the way to the right of the sink.

Miscellaneous

You should put out napkins on the coffee hour table, the punch table and the counter with the hot water for tea. Please remember to put out a basket for donation.

USHER/GREETER'S DUTIES

- 1-Always greet people attending church service in a warm and friendly manner.
- 2-Hand them a copy of Sunday's Bulletin, the current Newsletter if they don't have one and answer any questions they may have.
- 3-Once the service starts and during the first hymn, please take the attendance. It is easier to do this from upstairs in the balcony. Count each adult, child and participant in the service.
- 4-During the Offering, take the plates from the minister and pass them to each pew in the congregation. Bring them back to the altar during the playing of the Doxology. At the close of the prayer, hand them to the minister.

Important Note: Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month. The elements are to be prepared and distributed by the Deacons listed below. [Note: CU = Cleanup; SU = Setup]

January 7, 2024	1. Scott Scholl (SU) 2. Lisa Dixey (SU) 3. Jean Goodwin (CU) 4. Alex Morrell (CU)
January 14, 2024	1. Ruth Rideout 2. Rebecca Trelli
January 21, 2024	1. Joanne Keenan 2. Charlotte Audet
January 28, 2024	1. Stephanie Trelli 2. Mary-Alice Wilbanks

LAYREADER GUIDE

PREPARATION

- The church office will provide you with an advance copy of the Scripture Reading, plus a copy will be on the lectern for your use. Please review the reading and the order of service (Bulletin) as needed.
- Arrive and meet with the Minister in the Narthex at least 15 minutes prior to the start of Worship. As may be needed, clarify with him/her the pronunciation of any unfamiliar biblical names/places. (You may also talk during the week leading up to Sunday if needed).
- Proceed to the Altar with the Minister at the start of worship.

WORSHIP SERVICE

- Following the musical prelude and the Minister's opening statements, introduce yourself & ask for any announcements, prayer requests and celebrations from the congregation.
- Read your parts – which will usually be one or two scripture readings.
- Help as needed with any special events that may be happening that day, such as a Baptism.
- Stand beside the Minister during the Benediction and proceed to the Narthex with him/her.

LAYREADER SCHEDULE

January 7 – Wayne Harnish
January 14 – Hedy Kelley
January 21 – Holly Zemak
January 28 – George Wartonick

If you are not able to be Layreader as scheduled above, please contact Curt Wilbanks (860-583-3910). He will obtain a substitute for you. Also, contact Curt and let him know if you obtain a substitute on your own. Thank you.

ELECTED OFFICERS, LAY-LEADERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

***Moderator** - Gerald Wunsch

***Vice Moderator** – Barbara Benson

***At-Large Council Members** – Jim Hannon, Sandra Kamens

***Spiritual Group Leader - Rich Sauzedde**

Diaconate – Ray Zalaski Jr., Holly Zemak, Scott Scholl, Alex Morrell, Lisa Dixey

Music Committee – Diane Pratt, Sandi Ehmer, Betsy Dixie

Christian Education Committee – Charlotte Audet, Robin Bilodeau, Cari Vieira

***Business Group Leader – Jake Armbruster**

Finance Committee –Robert Grosf, Wayne Harnish, Jackie Merchant, Wayne Waldron, Dave Nichols

Assistant Treasurer – Alison Reed

Collectors – Millie Perry, Donna Wunsch

Trustees Committee –Eric Armbruster, Dave Morrell, Tom Zalaski,

Communications Committee – Church Secretary, Committee Event Members/Volunteers (Temporary)

Clerk – Samantha Lowd

***Service Group Leader – Vacant**

Outreach Committee – Crista Furtado, Carol Barberi, Sharon Paradis

Fellowship Committee – (1) Vacancy, Judy Harris, Jean Mariano

***Church Council Members**

Council Appointed Positions

By-Laws Manager: Curt Wilbanks

Safe Conduct Advocate: Wayne Kamens

Personnel Committee: 1. Donna Wunsch
2. Holly Zemak
3. Vacant

Church Historian:

Historical Committee: 1. Vacant
2. Dick Foote
3. Donna Wunsch

Audit Committee: 1. Sylvia LaFreniere
2. Vacant

Updated: February 19, 2023

Plymouth Community Food Pantry

Most Needed Items (plymouthfoodpantry.org:

Cereal & Oatmeal	Canned ravioli/SpaghettiOs
Pancake mix	Macaroni & Cheese
Pasta	Spaghetti
Canned fruit	Applesauce
Baked Beans	Boxed Potatoes
Coffee	Tomato Paste
Soup	Tea
Syrup	Nutritional Drinks
Ensure/Boost	Glucose Control
Baking Products: cake/brownie/muffin mixes, flour, sugar, etc.,	
Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressing, etc.,	
Personal Care Items: deodorant, shampoo, bar soap, adult diapers (large/extra-large), etc.	
Gift Cards to Adams IGA	

HOURS:

Monday – 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Wednesday – 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Friday- 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

To volunteer contact the food pantry at (860) 584-1750 for details.

Please help us to support our Food Pantry by remembering to bring non-perishables each week. You can place your food donations into our “food pantry wagon” when it is pulled down the aisle during morning announcements.

2023 Food Collected for \$1.70/POUND
Food Pantry by TCC

<u>Month</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
January	^264	\$448.80
February	^151	\$256.70
March	^256	\$435.20
April	^174	\$295.80
May	^170	\$289.00
June	^271	\$460.70
July	^426	\$724.20
August	^407	\$691.90
September	^528	\$897.60
October	^217	\$368.90
November	^253	\$430.10
December	^231	\$392.70
2023 Total:	3,348	\$5,691.69

^ reported by Rich Sauzedde.

COMITTEE NEWS & UPDATES!

MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS

Committee Members: Diane Pratt, Sandi Ehmer, Betsy Dixie

Next Meeting: Please contact a member of the committee for the meeting schedule.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

Committee Members: Carol Barbieri, Sharon Paradis, Crista Furtado

Meeting Schedule (church members are welcome to attend): The committee usually meets when they serve Outreach dinners. If you are interested in attending a meeting contact a member of the committee for the next meeting schedule.

Update: See Outreach Committee News on page 13

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE NEWS

Committee Members: Eric Armbruster, Dave Morrell, Tom Zalaski

Meeting Schedule (church members are welcome to attend): 1st Tuesday of Each Month 7pm in the Office (no meetings in July or August with some exceptions, see below)

Next Meeting: January 9, 2024 at 6pm

Trustee of the Month 2024

January 2024 - Eric Armbruster

February 2024 - Tom Zalaski

March 2024 - Jake Armbruster

CE NEWS

Committee Members: Charlotte Audet, Robin Bilodeau, Cari Vieira

If you are interested in attending a meeting – contact a member of the committee for the meeting schedule.

DIACONTE NEWS

Committee Members: Ray Zalaski Jr., Holly Zemak, Scott Scholl, Alex Morrell, Lisa Dixey

Meeting Schedule (church members are welcome to attend): Typically the 3rd Wednesday of the Month after church.

Next Meeting: January 18, 2024

Next Deacons Potluck: January 18, 2024.

FINANCE NEWS

Committee Members: Robert Grosf, Wayne Harnish, Jackie Merchant, Wayne Waldron,

Meeting Schedule (church members are welcome to attend): Contact Bob Grosf for the meeting schedule

Next Meeting: TBD

COUNCIL MEETING

Council Members: Gerald Wunsch, Barbara Benson, Jim Hannon, Sandra Kamens, Rich Sauzedde, Jake Armbruster

Meeting Schedule (church members are welcome to attend): typically, the 4th Wednesday of the Month at 6pm in the Chapel.

Next Meeting: January 24, 2024 at 6pm in the Chapel.

BINGO

DATES 2024

January	20, 2024
February	17, 2024
March	16, 2024
April	20, 2024
May	18, 2024
June	15, 2024
July	20, 2024
August	17, 2024
September	21, 2024
October	19, 2024



7:00 P.M. Terryville Congregational Church – Doors open 5:30 P.M.

Outreach Committee News



Outreach Committee: Carol Barbieri, Sharon Paradis, Crista Furtado

Outreach Committee happenings

Small Wonders Christmas Adopt a Child Program – Outreach Committee sponsored a family of four children with clothing items for Christmas. These items included shirts, hoodies, pants, pajamas, shoes, socks, and underwear. We are also including a snowsuit and boots for a little boy.

Christmas festivities at Eli Terry included a meal served on December 16. We spent time with the residents for some good food and fun. There was a door prize raffle that included a foot massager, blanket and a Friendly's gift card. Congratulations to the winners!

A donation was made to **Simply Smiles** to support the Children's Village in Oaxaca, Mexico.

From the Simply Smiles website - <https://www.simplysmiles.org/oaxaca-childrens-village> - [The Simply Smiles Children's Village in Oaxaca \(Wa-ha-ka\), Mexico](https://www.simplysmiles.org/oaxaca-childrens-village) is an oasis for the region's most vulnerable children. Living as a family, the children in our care learn, grow, thrive, and heal and they pursue their dreams and their brightest futures. Donations of costume jewelry from the June Fair Tag Sale will be made to Hand to Hand in Bristol and the Plymouth Congregational Church Thrift Shop.

Tentative Schedule of Events for 2024

Dinners at Gosinski Park will resume once the Community Room is open for use.

January - Submission for Annual Report, Budget review

February - Dinner at Eli Terry

March - Dinner at Gosinski Park - Donation to Terryville High School After Grad

April - Dinner at Eli Terry - Donation to Community Garden

May - Dinner at Gosinski Park

June - June Fair Tag Sale – Ice Cream at Eli Terry

July - no events

August - Back to School - Town Human Resources

September – no events

October – Dinner at Gosinski Park

November – Donations to Food Pantry (Thanksgiving)

December - Dinner at Eli Terry - Donations to Simply Smiles and Small Wonders

If you are interested in more information on upcoming Outreach events or helping the Committee, please contact any of our members. We'd love to have your support and ideas!

Crista Furtado

Supporting 16 open loans - total of 153 supported - \$3,860 loaned
Paid in Full

Mui - Samoa - Farming

Mui is 39 years old with six children. She operates a business selling kava in the community to earn a living. She has been doing this for more than two years. Mui requested a loan to buy kava roots, hand gloves, a wheelbarrow, water tank, rake, shovel and chainsaw to assist her in running the business. Mui hopes to use her business profits to expand her business in the future.

New Loans

Faith - Phillipines - Furniture Making

This loan is special because it helps the borrower grow their business.

Faith is a 42-year old entrepreneur who works very hard for her family. She has one child, who is in school. Faith has a furniture-making business in the Philippines. She has requested a loan to purchase wood, nails, paint and other materials for making furniture. Faith has supported her business operations with past loans. She hopes that her hard work will help her attain her dream to save enough to secure the future of her family.



If you are interested in more information on Kiva visit their website at [Kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org), view our lender page at <http://www.kiva.org/lender/terryvillecongregati3466> or if you would like to help in deciding our next loan recipient, please reach out!

Crista and Justin Furtado

PLYMOUTH SENIOR OUTREACH GROUP

NOW ORGANIZED



ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

BRING FRIENDS, FAMILY, NEIGHBORS

Residents from Neighboring Towns are Welcome Too!

MEETING AT: ***Terryville Congregational Church (Activity Rm)***

233 Main Street Terryville, CT 06786

Meetings are held on the ***3RD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT***
TIME: 1p.m.

(light refreshments served)

For more information contact: The Church Office (860) 589-0182 (M-F, 10am - 2pm), Fran Swierczynski (860) 485-5585, or Millie Perry (860) 906-7041

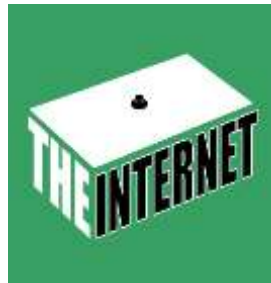
SPECIAL DONATIONS FOR PER COST OF WINDOWS: We would like to suggest to anyone who would like to, to donate whatever amount they feel they can to go toward payment of a new window. The cost per window is \$400, but a partial donation would be fine. We would like to put name plates under each window that has a donation.

Our next newsletter will be in February 2024. Special announcements, articles or events provided by January 26, 2024, will be published in the *February, 2024* issue.

Please email to: Terryvillechurch@hotmail.com

We now have online giving on our church website. It is a secure system through pay pal. Go to www.terryvillecongregationalchurch.org and click on “donate”. You can make a one-time donation or a recurring donation/pledge. Thank you.

HELP WITH ADVERTISING CHURCH EVENTS



Our communications committee is looking for members to assist the church secretary with advertising different events for the church. If you are interested in volunteering to help with advertising church events, please contact the church office 860-589-0182. If you would like posters to be hung up and/or advertising put on radio, newspapers, etc. for a church event, please email the church office with your info at terryvillechurch@hotmail.com or call the church office. Be sure to always include YOUR contact information and the event you are working on.

SPECIAL!!! \$12.00 ONLY

**INCLUDES: A TCC Buddy the Beefalo T-Shirt, TCC Reusable Bag,
& TCC History Book (while supplies last).**

Contact the Church Office to Purchase