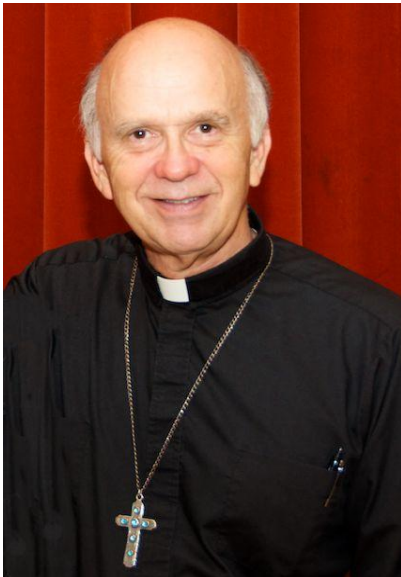


# Clifton Lutheran News

February/March 2011



## From Pastor David Franks :

*From the Pastor: Each Advent we begin a new church year and we begin a new cycle of scripture readings. This three year (A, B, C) rotating cycle emphasizes a different synoptic (meaning "seen together" or similar) Gospel (Matthew, Mark or Luke) for each year. Excerpts from John, which has a quite different style and character than the other three, are sprinkled over the three year cycle.*

*This year we focus on the gospel of Mathew, which is the topic of discussion at the Calahan's on Monday nights this winter from 6-8 pm. Following is some helpful information from [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org).*

**Date of Writing:** in the early period of the church, probably around A.D. 50. This was a time when most Christians were Jewish converts, so the focus on a Jewish perspective in this gospel is understandable.

**Purpose of Writing:** intends to prove to the Jews that Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah. More than any other gospel, Matthew quotes the Old Testament to show how Jesus fulfilled the words of the Jewish prophets. Matthew describes in detail the lineage of Jesus from David, and uses many forms of speech that Jews would have been comfortable with. Matthew's love and concern for his people is apparent through his meticulous approach to telling the gospel story.

**Key Verses:** [Matthew 5:17](#): "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

[Matthew 5:43-44](#): "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

[Matthew 6:9-13](#): "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'"

[Matthew 16:26](#): "What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?"

[Matthew 22:37-40](#): "Jesus replied, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two."

[Matthew 27:31](#): "After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him."

[Matthew 28:5-6](#): "The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.'"

[Matthew 28:19-20](#): "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**Brief Summary:** Matthew discusses the lineage, birth, and early life of Christ in the first two chapters. From there, the book discusses the ministry of Jesus. The descriptions of Christ's teachings are arranged around "discourses" such as the Sermon on the Mount in Chapters 5 through 7. Chapter 10 involves the mission and purpose of the disciples; Chapter 13 is a collection of parables; Chapter 18 discusses the church; chapter 23 begins a discourse about hypocrisy and the future. Chapters 21 through 27 discuss the arrest, torture, and execution of Jesus. The final chapter describes the Resurrection and the Great Commission.

**Connections:** Because Matthew's purpose is to present Jesus Christ as the King and Messiah of Israel, he quotes from the Old Testament more than any of the other three gospel writers. Matthew quotes more than 60 times from prophetic passages of the Old Testament, demonstrating how Jesus fulfilled them. He begins his gospel with the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Him back to Abraham, the progenitor of the Jews. From there, Matthew quotes extensively from the prophets, frequently using the phrase "as was spoken through the prophet(s)" ([Matthew 1:22-23](#), [2:5-6](#), [2:15](#), [4:13-16](#), [8:16-17](#), [13:35](#), [21:4-5](#)). (Continued on p. 2)

These verses refer to the Old Testament prophecies of His virgin birth ([Isaiah 7:14](#)) in Bethlehem ([Micah 5:2](#)), His return from Egypt after the death of Herod ([Hosea 11:1](#)), His ministry to the Gentiles ([Isaiah 9:1-2](#); [60:1-3](#)), His miraculous healings of both body and soul ([Isaiah 53:4](#)), His speaking in parables ([Psalm 78:2](#)), and His triumphal entry into Jerusalem([Zechariah9:9](#)).

**Practical Application:** The Gospel of Matthew is an excellent introduction to the core teachings of Christianity. The logical outline style makes it easy to locate discussions of various topics. Matthew is especially useful for understanding how the life of Christ was the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies.

Matthew’s intended audience was his fellow Jews, many of whom—especially the Pharisees and Sadducees—stubbornly refused to accept Jesus as their Messiah. In spite of centuries of reading and studying the Old Testament, their eyes were blinded to the truth of who Jesus was. Jesus rebuked them for their hard hearts and their refusal to recognize the One they had supposedly been waiting for ([John 5:38-40](#)). They wanted a Messiah on their own terms, one who would fulfill their own desires and do what they wanted Him to do. How often do we seek God on our own terms? Don’t we reject Him by ascribing to Him only those attributes we find acceptable, the ones that make us feel good—His love, mercy, grace—while rejecting those we find objectionable—His wrath, justice, and holy anger? We dare not make the mistake of the Pharisees, creating God in our own image and then expecting Him to live up to our standards. Such a god is nothing more than an idol. The Bible gives us more than enough information about the true nature and identity of God and Jesus Christ to warrant our worship and our obedience.

**Clifton Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday School Happenings**  
 By Barb Janavaris,  
 Christian Ed Director

Our Sunday School children at CLC are extremely excited about our sponsorship of a very special friend, Kowsalya Venkatesan.

VENKATESAN, Kowsalya

010-1191

Birth date: 6/19/2000

Please pray for your child and write a card or letter occasionally. Share your stories and pictures of your family and friends or just say *hello*. The connection you have made already through your sponsorship will deepen through your voice.



Pray for...  
 health of body and spirit  
 protection against harm and evil  
 ability and motivation to learn  
 a knowledge of the love of Jesus Christ

Address to mail correspondence:



Child Name / ID Number  
 LPGM India  
 Post Bag 59  
 Cuddalore 607 001  
 TN South India

Kowsalya is 12 years old and lives in Ayanaveloor, India with her mom, dad, younger sister and older brother. She attends D.M. Girls Boarding Hr. Secondary School where she is in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Her favorite subject is Science. Her language is Tamil and her religion is Hindu. “Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry” tell us that “her chore” at home is “cleaning.” Every child

loves to play, and Kowsalya's favorite "play" is "Kho-Kho." We look forward to learning what that is!!

Kowsalya is described by the folks at "Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry" in the following way: "She is such a smart and brilliant girl. She is a quiet and calm girl. She speaks to others kindly. She is from a good family in the village where she gets all facilities. She hopes and believes that your sponsorship will make her life bright and fruitful."

Each Sunday during prayer circle, children donate what they can to Kowsalya. Their coins go into an account for Kowsalya that Karin is administering for her. The coins that the children donate will help pay for Kowsalya's books, pencils, crayons and attendance at school. It is so good for the children to be able to put a face to their efforts of compassionate tithing. It is a life-long lesson in helping those who are less fortunate. Parents of our Sunday School students, please bring Kowsalya up in conversation with your child, and tell your child what a difference in her life, our Sunday School children can make. It will make your child feel good to know that he/she has it within them to help someone less fortunate. We are grateful to Karin and Pastor Dave for finding Kowsalya for us, and we look forward to hearing from Kowsalya in the future as she continues her education.

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## My Faith Journey by Sally Skinner

In P.D. James's novel Devices and Desires, a detective goes to East Anglia to settle the affairs of his recently deceased aunt.



One of the more troubled characters in the novel tells the detective that his aunt was "a good, practical Christian". That seemed to me to be as good an epitaph as one could want.

My family was Congregationalist and when I was young, I nagged everyone to go to church because I loved being in the Girls' Choir. It was no great shakes as a choir, but I loved running around the church through the graveyard after rehearsal and

singing the great Trinitarian anthem, "Holy, holy, holy".

When I was a teenager, at another church, we were all taken to see Billy Graham at the Boston Garden. He warned that this was our last chance for salvation, so, taking no chances, I went to the front. There, young people handed us leaflets, but was a big nothing. When I spoke with the young assistant minister about this, he pretty much implied that these revival meetings were all a bunch of hooley anyway.

A little later, I went to Quaker camp, where they had meetings every morning. I loved the meetings and the kids were not as cruel as the kids that I went to school with, so I nagged my family into going to Cambridge Friends. I liked it, but realized that I could never be a pacifist. I also missed the music.

When I was in my twenties, I did not go to church. Sometimes on my way home from a party, I would see elderly couples dressed in their Sunday best and think that I really belonged in church, but I never joined one.

What got me into a church was when I just moved into my first condo and I received a letter for the tenant that had been kicked out so that the condos could be created. I felt guilty about it, but I also felt that moving into my own place was an important part of my life. It seemed like I could not just live my life without inadvertently hurting someone else. I looked around for churches and ended up in a Unitarian church because the Pastor's sermons felt like he was talking directly to God, like an Old Testament prophet. However, he was very controversial and after a lot of conflict, he was thrown out. I was angry at the way that people had fought and had seemed to enjoy fighting.

I had a friend who was Lutheran and it seemed to center her life, so when I went looking for a church, I looked at First Luther an in Lynn and then at Clifton. My first day there, there was a call out for help in babysitting for Temple Emanuel over the High Holidays. That impressed me as the sort of practical Christianity that I was looking for. When the service was over, Len Meredith took me by the waist and more or less pulled me downstairs for the fellowship hour. This was so different from my previous church that I decided to start going here. (continued on p. 4)

Although there were rough periods and conflict in this church, I was impressed by people's willingness to help and by the fact that while they may fight, no one seemed to enjoy fighting. I have had moments of great joy and peace here, so I am glad to have found Clifton.

My theology is fairly crude; I believe in God and cannot imagine religious life without Jesus, but I also can't get my brain around the concept. I use the Lord's Prayer when I am scared. I feel that people in other religions are seeking and finding God too, but I cannot understand how it all works out.

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## President's Message by James Koehn

*"In all thy ways  
acknowledge him, and he  
shall direct thy paths."  
Proverbs 3:6*



*God Will Make A Way*, is a wonderful song, one of my favorites, written by Don Moen, based on Proverbs 3:6. The first verse:

God will make a way,  
Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me  
He will be my guide  
Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength for each new day  
He will make a way, He will make a way.

is an inspiration to me whenever I feel down, overwhelmed, or when I am feeling sorry for myself. These words give me comfort and confidence to move forward in these times of trouble and during times of my "unbelief".

As I look over the last year serving as President of the Council and a member of Clifton Lutheran Church, I am forever reminded of these prophetic words. Just look at how God continues to bless our little church with the time, talent, and treasures of our membership. As President, I am surrounded by

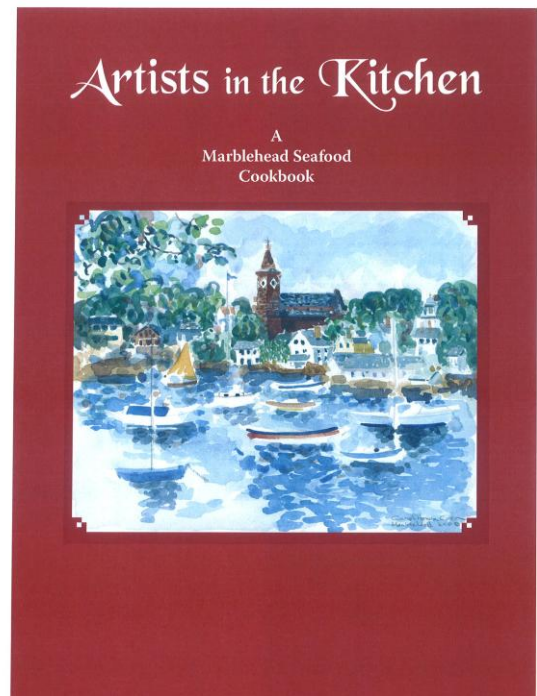
a group of talented, passionate leaders who react to challenges within the church without even a second thought. God has equipped this congregation with the "right people for the right job". Over the past year, we have been served and blessed by members who are talented lawyers, businessmen, planners and marketing professionals, teachers, accountants, craftsmen, musicians and bankers. We have a membership who has rallied and supported one of this year's major challenges, the Parsonage renovations, giving freely of their own time and treasures.

God continues to bless his mission at CLC with the financial support of our members, who, each year, find a way to increase their annual giving, when all around us, others are struggling with economic challenges. We are also blessed by the generous support and endowments of past members.

Thank you all for your time and support, your talents, and your treasures during 2010.

May God bless you all in 2011.  
Jim

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## Seafood Cook Book

The second edition of the seafood cook book, *Artists in the Kitchen* will be available soon. Authors, Bettie Hamilton and Carol Coen have been collecting and testing recipes for this book for 2

years. Twelve of Carol and Bettie's original paintings are included in the book as well as a Marblehead historic narrative of the special places in town for which the recipes are named.

Fellow CLC members may recall in Bettie's faith journey this cook book project helped her after the loss of her husband, Jack. "When tragedy or grief situations strike us, having a focus to absorb one and keep one busy is probably the best thing one can do to stay fairly whole and sane," advises Bettie Hamilton. "The project can be large or small, a hobby, a job, volunteer work, whatever takes one away from tears for some periods of time."

Anyone interested in a copy of *Artists in the Kitchen* may contact Bettie Hamilton.

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## IMPORTANT DATES & REMINDERS:

**Volunteers** interested in serving Dinner at the Lifebridge Homeless Shelter at 56 Margin Street Salem, MA may contact Sarah Walker at [swalker6@msn.com](mailto:swalker6@msn.com).

**Worship Service** at Clifton Lutheran Church begins each Sunday in the Sanctuary at 10 am.

**Pastor Franks may be reached** in the church office Monday through Friday, 10am to 3pm at 781 631 4379 or by email at [dlfranks1@earthlink.net](mailto:dlfranks1@earthlink.net).

**Marblehead Food Pantry Food Drive:** Thanks to everyone for bringing food in for the Food Pantry. Our consistent support is very much appreciated by them. Thanks especially to Sarah Walker for bringing the food to them.

**AA Meetings** are held in the CLC Hall Thursdays from 7-8pm.

**Flowers:** Thanks to all who have sponsored flowers for the altar in memory or honor of a loved one. When you make your payment, please remember to write flowers in the memo section of your check and deposit it in the wooden box at the rear of the Narthex. Please do not put payment in the collection plate. The cost is \$20 for two vases. ~ Thank you.

**Publicity...** If you have church information that you would like to see publicized, please contact Joyce Lofmark, Publicity Chair at [wlofmark@verizon.net](mailto:wlofmark@verizon.net).

**Help Wanted:** Person needed to shovel the walkways & stairways at the church. Please contact Teresa @ [tcollinsinmarblehead@yahoo.com](mailto:tcollinsinmarblehead@yahoo.com).



## February & March Birthdays

Robin Rude	February 3
Liesl Fields	February 6
Alyssa Nye	February 7
Raymond Julien	February 12
Robin Calahan	February 16
Steve Maio	February 19
Jane Hufnagel Slepian	February 19
James Koehn	February 21
Margaret (Peg) Slattery	February 26
Marlys Russell	February 27
Ashley Rae Nye	February 28
Katherine Prouty	March 1
Sande Vesely	March 1
Susan Angrisano	March 2
Pam Dovidio	March 12
Madilyn Linnea Ernst	March 15
Peter Calahan	March 17
Patricia Duly	March 17
George Dearborn	March 18
Patricia Finch	March 19
Pastor David Franks	March 25
Tracey Anderson	March 30

### March Anniversary:

Bill & Patricia Finch March 19

## ***BULLETIN BLOOPERS***

Sent in by Joanne Evans from her church in Vermont.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.

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Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

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The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

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Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

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The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."

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## ***Remember in Your Prayers...***

**Peter Magro:** Facing health issues

**Cole Lundquist:** Fighting cancer

**Lois Genis:** Recovering from Surgery

**Doris Slattery:** Recovering from neck in

**Susan Rowley:** Jim Rude's neice-fightin cancer

**Hazel Magistrelli:** Recovering from Surgery

**Marilyn Cronan:** Undergoing treatment for illness

**Michael Tierney:** Serving with the military in Kuwait

**George Smith:** Recovering from a rock climbing accident.



**Kenneth Adler:** Sande Vesely's uncle hospitalized after a fall

**Matthew Tina:** Friend of Carol Lloyd, serving in Afghanistan

**Nancy Carlson:** Friend of Karin Ernst suffering from leukemia

**Shirley Graver:** Friend of Joanne Evans recovering from a stroke

**Sharon Hynes:** Sister of Teddy's friend suffering from cancer

**Frances McCool:** Aunt of Barbara Janavaris with breast cancer

**Norman Card:** Friend of Vic DalPozzal with multiple health issues

**Angie Friday:** Sandy Maio's cousin – pray for peace and comfort during life threatening illness

**Mary Nichols:** mother of Sarah Walker with an illness

**Andy Colby:** friend of Jim Nye with illness

**Deloris Shambaugh:** friend of Joanne Evans – undergoing chemotherapy treatments for carcinoid tumors

**Michael Grieco:** Louise's brother undergoing heart surgery

**Ray Julien:** MS and Parkinson's Disease

**Michael Carnevale:** Friend of Sande Vesely serving overseas with the U.S. Marines

**Maggie Kelly-Hayes:** Friend of Joanne Evans who is recovering from multiple fractures due to a fall

The following folks are homebound or recovering from surgery. Send them a greeting.

- Audrey Hufnagel (at home)
- Nat Dearborn (at JRC in Swampscott),
- Terry Tucker, 1110 Renaissance Gardens, Brooksby Village, Peabody.

For addresses, see your directory or email [infoclc@verizon.net](mailto:infoclc@verizon.net).

If you would like to help CLC strengthen its ministry to members who are ill, confined or unable to drive, by serving as coordinator of the Member Support Team, please let Pastor Dave know.

**FEBRUARY 2011 CALENDAR**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
10 am Worship <b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7pm Cub Scout Mtg	<b>8</b> 7pm Boy Scout Mtg.	<b>9</b> 6:30pm Eagle Scout Board Review 7pm Choir	<b>10</b> 11am Worship Meeting 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm AA Meeting
10 am Worship <b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scout Mtg	<b>15</b> 7pm Boy Scout Meeting	<b>16</b> 7pm Choir	<b>17</b> 11am Worship Meeting 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm AA Meeting
10 am Worship <b>20</b> <b>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>21</b> 6:30pm Cub Scout Mtg	<b>22</b> 7pm Boy Scout Meeting  7pm CLC Council Mtg.	<b>23</b> 7pm Choir	<b>24</b> 11am Worship Meeting  6:30p Bell Choir  7pm AA Meeting
10 am Worship <b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8pm Cub Committee Mtg			

**FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVERS:**

<b>Serving in Worship</b>	Feb 6	Feb 13	Feb 20	Feb 27
<b>Pastor</b>	Dave Franks	Dave Franks	Dave Franks	Dave Franks
<b>Music Director</b>	Vic DalPozzal	Vic DalPozzal	Vic DalPozzal	Vic DalPozzal
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	Daniel Collins	Ali Janavaris	Susan Angrisano	Joanne Evans
<b>Communion Asst.</b>	Pat Duly	Jim Rude	Bill Finch	Mary Hall
<b>Ushers</b>	David Wilson Edwin Baez	Teresa Collins Daniel Collins	Ken Anderson Steve Duly	Robin Calahan Robin Rude
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sande Vesely	Susan Angrisano	Louise Wade	Mary Hall
<b>Greeter</b>	Louise Wade	Rude Family	Pat Duly	Prouty Family
<b>Acolyte</b>	Rachael Slepian Kristina Koplien	Sam Pickell Jack Pickell	Fox Prouty	Drew Gally

### MARCH 2011 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
		<b>1</b> 7pm Boy Scout Mtg.	<b>2</b> 7pm Choir	<b>3</b> 11am Worship Meeting 4pm Girl Scout Meeting 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm AA Meeting
10 am Worship <b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6:30pm Cub Scout Mtg 8pm Cub Council Mtg	<b>8</b> 7pm Boy Scout Meeting	<b>9</b> 7pm Choir	<b>10</b> 11am Worship Meeting 4pm Girl Scout Meeting 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm AA Meeting
10 am Worship <b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 7pm Boy Scout Meeting 7 pm CLC Council Mtg.	<b>16</b> 7pm Choir	<b>17</b> 11am Worship Meeting 6:30p Bell Choir 7pm AA Meeting
10 am Worship <b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7pm Boy Scout Meeting	<b>23</b> 7pm Choir	<b>24</b> 11am Worship Meeting 4pm Girl Scout Meeting 6:30p Bell Choir 7pm AA Meeting
10 am Worship <b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

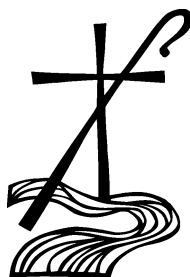
### MARCH WORSHIP SERVERS

<b>Serving in Worship</b>	March 6	March 9(Ash Wed)	March 13	March 20	March 27
<b>Pastor</b>	Dave Franks	Dave Franks	Dave Franks	Dave Franks	Dave Franks
<b>Music Director</b>	Vic DalPozzal	Vic DalPozzal	Vic DalPozzal	Vic DalPozzal	Vic DalPozzal
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	Daniel Collins	Mike Wade	Bill Walker	Garry Watzke	Linda Watzke
<b>Communion Asst.</b>	Carol Lloyd	Barbar Janavaris	Bill Finch	Bill Finch	Barbara Janavaris
<b>Ushers</b>	Chris Prouty Nathan Koplien Fox Prouty	Bill Finch Jim Koehn	David Wilson Edwin Baez	Teresa Collins Daniel Collins	Ken Anderson Steve Duly
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Pat Duly	Nora Gergely	Robin Rude	Sally Skinner	
<b>Greeter</b>	Robin Calahan	Barbara/Ali Janavaris	Matt/Nick Dovidio	Maio Family	Vesely Family
<b>Acolyte</b>	Joe Walker	Melinda Wilson	Sam Walker	Melanie Wilson	Abigail/Alyssa Nye

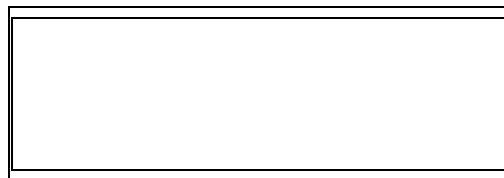
**Clifton Lutheran Church**  
150 Humphrey Street  
Marblehead, MA 01945

The Congregation Council

President	Jim Koehn
Vice President	Steve Maio
Secretary	Lori Dobson
Treasurer	Sally Skinner
Financial Secretary	Karin Ernst
Education/Youth	Barbara Janavaris
Member Relations	Tonya Nye Lori Pollard
Property	Teresa Collins
Publicity	Joyce Lofmark
Social Service	Bonnie Magistrelli
Stewardship	Sarah & Bill Walker
Worship Team	Vic Dal Pozzal Pr. Dave Franks Linda Koehn
Synod Assembly Delegates	Chuck & Lori Pollard



# February & March 2011



Clifton Lutheran Church is a welcoming, multi-community congregation of people, gathered by God and nurtured in worship by Word and Sacrament, in order that each of us has the opportunity to grow in faith amidst the chances and changes of this life, belong and be valued, and serve among the hopes and hurts of our world