



## **“No Fair” Appeal**

No fair, we won't be able to hold our annual Autumn Fair this year! Unfortunately, we and our broader community will have to wait until next year for homemade goodies, the silent auction, local vendors, Rick's famous meatball sandwiches, and so much more.

While some of us may welcome a break from the months of work we do planning this event, not holding our fair presents a financial challenge because this is the primary source of income for our church missions distribution. Last year, First Church Braintree supported eight organizations with a total of \$2,500 in grants. I would like to continue our support to each of these groups, which include:

- The Braintree Holiday/ Friends at the Marge Crispin Center
- Interfaith Social Services
- The Dianne DeVanna Center
- Lend-a-Hand
- The Way Up
- Seafarer's Friends
- Home with Friends
- UCC Our Church's Wider Mission

I am appealing to all church members and friends to make a donation to the church with the memo “Church Fair - Missions” in order to provide funds to continue our support of the good work each of these groups are doing in our town and broader community. There are links to the websites of these organizations on our website (<https://www.firstchurchbraintree.com/missions-and-outreach>) Any amount you can afford will be helpful. You may also use the October “Missions” envelope in your Stewardship box--just write “No Fair” on the envelope.

I have a challenge for any of you who are willing and able to accept it. Personally, before we open the doors on fair morning, I typically spend close to \$100 on supplies and items for the fair. Then, at the fair itself, I spend at least another \$100 on food, raffle tickets, fudge, candy, and Christmas gifts for a total of \$200. So, I have decided to donate \$200 this year to the Church Fair – Missions fund. Will you please carefully consider joining me in this challenge by donating whatever you are able to give?

I pray that together we will be able to meet our missions giving goal of \$2,500 for 2020. Our disappointment in not having our annual Autumn Fair is genuine. Losing grant monies from supporters, such as First Congregational Church, would be far more than disappointing for the organizations we help. Will you please be generous in responding to this appeal?

Thank you and may God bless our efforts,

*Pastor Michael*