

# United Parish of Auburndale

## TOGETHER

**May 29, 2011,**  
**Sixth Sunday in Easter**



**Scriptures:** Acts 17: 22-31

1 Peter 3:13-22

**Preaching:** Jean Alexander

**Sermon:** “Not Found in Shrines”

**Reader:** Toni Miller

**Head Usher:** Anna Undenge & Bruce Hanson

**Acolytes:** Elizabeth Rochon & Jack Wylie

**Fellowship Time:** Pot Luck

**Roamer:** Don Ross

During the historic visit of Queen Elizabeth II to Ireland there were many symbolic gestures including the laying of a wreath at a national shrine. A shrine is a holy or sacred place usually associated with a deity or holy person but we also have national shrines where we pay our respects to leaders or to those who have given their lives for their country. On this Memorial Day weekend, we hear Peter exhorting the Greeks that the God we worship does not live in a shrine. Yet the tendency to create shrines to symbolize that which is beyond words is certainly part of human nature. How do we resolve the tension? Or should we?

## **Fellowship of the Concerned:**

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Thelma Adkins** who died Monday, May 23rd just a couple of months short of her 100th birthday. Thelma was a devoted member of this church all her life including serving as treasurer. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

The sympathy of the congregation is also extended to the family of **Martha Holmes** who died May 24<sup>th</sup> at age 106. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

## **Worship in June**

### ***June 5-Seventh Sunday in Easter***

Communion Sunday

Preaching: The Rev. Wendy Vander Hart,  
Associate Conference Minister  
Mass. Conference of the UCC

### ***June 19-Trinity Sunday***

Scriptures: Psalm 8

Matthew 28:16-20

Preaching: Jean Alexander

### ***June 12-Pentecost Sunday***

Scriptures: Numbers 11:24-30

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Preaching: Jean Alexander

### ***June 26-Second Sunday after Pentecost***

Scriptures: Genesis 22:1-14

Matthew 10:40-42

Preaching: Jean Alexander

## **What's a Good Funeral/Memorial Service?**

**June 12th at 11:30**

As a follow-up to our Lenten Series "Preparing for Death" I would like to share what I have come to think characterizes a "good" funeral or memorial service.

Some of the issues that will be discussed are: Who is it for? What is its purpose both theologically and as an act of pastoral care. Should I pre-plan my service?

Jean



## **Graduation Announcements**

UPA families who have children graduating this year: please contact the church office so we can congratulate these graduates as a congregation in the upcoming weeks. Send an email or make a phone call to the church office this week so we can recognize the accomplishments of this year's graduating class.

Call the office (617)964-8516 or email us at [office@upanewtonma.org](mailto:office@upanewtonma.org) soon!

## *Monday Musings*

There were so many wonderful moments yesterday from the children leading our worship to the musical and everything in between. Nick Satwicz who preached made me cry with his eloquence and with memories of him in confirmation making that cross he referred to in his sermon. Pamela Chen led us in a beautiful pastoral prayer. Maddie Michael, Rachel McVittie, and Char Huth read scripture like seasoned pros and the youth group did another spirited rendition of The Good Samaritan. Each of the Sunday school classes contributed something to our worship and the three Rucinski's, Melanie, Ethan and Jessica contributed wonderful music.

And then there was the musical. This year they performed "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown" and did, once again, a fabulous job. They threw themselves into their characters and played the laugh lines just right. It wasn't easy this year because Easter was late and that pushed back the play. The parish hall was booked tightly this month with many other events making rehearsals difficult, especially this weekend, but everyone gave their all.

When I asked Joy in the morning before everyone arrived if there was anything that had surprised her this year, she commented about how kind the children were to one another. She said they really rose to the occasion. Of course Joy herself is a UPA treasure who always seems to rise to the occasion and she brings the best out of the children. The other person who gave of her time so generously again this year is Elizabeth McVittie who is an amazing director. She and Joy know how to coach and to elicit the strengths from each one.

I was thinking later in the day about my own childhood experiences of performing for the community. I went to a one room school with all 8 grades and every Christmas we put on a show for the community. A stage was built in the front of the school room with green bed sheets for curtains. We had plays, recitations and sang songs. It was such a good experience for the children and it was the only time our community gathered. I hope our children treasure their memories of performing for the community as I do.

Later Bruce and I went down to BU to see Annah Undenge graduate. Since her own family is far away in Zimbabwe, Bruce and I and some other friends were family stand-ins. She has worked so hard to get to this day and I'm very proud of her. I so admire her and Myungeun Park and Eunhae Kim for the way they persevere in their studies in the midst of coping with a different language and a new culture. I'm pretty sure I could not do what they have been doing.

I've been going through closets and putting together stuff for this year's yard sale and I hope you have been too. I really enjoyed the last yard sale two years ago. It was fun. It built community. And we made some money for the church.

Another rainy day and more predicted for the week. At least my garden likes it. The rest of us could do with a few more rays of sunshine. According to the weather statistics in yesterday's paper we have had 13 days of rain this month and are two inches above our normal precipitation.

Now off to a gathering of Methodist clergy with Bishop Weaver this morning.

Blessings,  
Jean

## *Hey Youth,*

What up, kids? First and foremost, we had a wonderful youth-led worship service yesterday. Thank you all very much for your outstanding contributions to our community worship life. From the musical performances, to the prayers sermon, everything was exquisitely well done. I am truly honored to serve such a talented and outstanding youth community! I received many compliments for the service, but I must say that I did very little other than gather the talented people and provide a minimal amount of structure. You all deserve all the credit for your courage and aplomb. It seems to me that your community values you and your voices and gladly welcomes the Sunday each year we devote to celebrating, in a very intentional way, the power those voices have in shaping our communal life.

Secondly, the UPA Youth Group will be washing cars on Saturday, June 4 to raise money for the Heifer project. We need to have at least three youth commit to either of two shifts: the first from 8:30 am to 10:30 am and the second from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. If you are interested in helping wash cars during either of these shifts, please contact me to let me know. Also, a group of youth will be writing a funding proposal for the Board of Outreach, which we will submit to them at their last meeting of the year on Monday, June 6. Please let me know if you are interested in helping to write a short proposal for the Board of Outreach. Both of these end-of-the-year activities promise to get us even closer to our overall goal of raising 5k for the Heifer Arc.

Thirdly, we are planning to go as a youth group to Six Flags, and so far six of you youth have replied that you can go. The dates we are considering are Saturday, June 18 and Saturday, June 25. So far, more kids can come on June 25. Let me know what date works best for you. I am super excited about riding roller coasters with you guys!

Lastly, my family and I will be leaving Massachusetts to return to Florida in August. Erin is planning to go back to school to get an MBA and we have decided to move closer to home so that our families can help with raising Graelyn while she does so. Although I did mention that I might be leaving at the end of this year during the hiring process, I feel sad to be leaving such a lively and nurturing faith community. We have felt very welcomed by all of you and appreciate your warmth and hospitality. Yet I also feel hopeful of what God has in store for us in the future. May God continue to bless this community in the future!

Peace,

*Mike*

## Senior Ministries Spring Fling Wednesday June 15th

We will take an afternoon cruise on the Essex River after lunch at Woodman's in Essex. Lunch is on your own but the cost of the cruise will be covered by the Sr. Ministries budget.

We need 10 or more to obtain a group rate. Please sign up on Sunday in the Parish Hall, or call the church office to register.



## Vacation Bible School

June 27-July 1  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

If you haven't call or e-mail

Mike Nilon

[mnilon@upanewtonma.org](mailto:mnilon@upanewtonma.org)

## Ready to Join the UPA?

New members will be received on June 12th, Pentecost Sunday. If you are interested, please contact Jean Alexander 617-964-8516 or [jalexander@upanewtonma.org](mailto:jalexander@upanewtonma.org)



## *Calling all “Bakers” for the June 4th Yard Sale Bake Table*

### *The Community Board could use your help*

As you know, the **UPA Yard Sale** is coming up on **Saturday, June 4.**

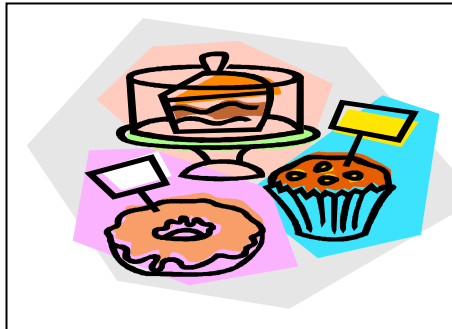
Lots of goodies to sell are needed: **cakes, pies, brownies, cookies, bars.** You are asked to package your cookies/brownies/or bars so they are ready for sale, for example:

- 2 *large* brownies/bars to a package or 3 smaller brownies/bars
- 3 good-size cookies to a package or 4 smaller size cookies.
- Cakes and pies should be covered with plastic wrap.

This event is a **major** fundraiser for the UPA. We hope to make it a successful one. With your help we will. **Please add your name to the sign-up sheet during coffee hour, or call the church office (617-964-8516) and ask Johanna to add your name to the list.**

If you have questions, feel free to call or e-mail:  
Toni Miller, [tjkjkm14@yahoo.com](mailto:tjkjkm14@yahoo.com), 617-527-7044

The Community Board thanks you in advance for your help and support.



## *First Friday for Families*

*June 3rd 6:30-8:30 pm*

*Our last gathering will be a **barbecue**  
at the home of John and Becky Connor,  
135 Cornell Street, Newton Lower Falls.*

*Please bring either a salad or dessert.*

*There will be some child care assistance.*

*Come and kick back. Summer is a'comin'!*

*Donation requested \$10-20*

*Rsvp on Facebook or to Jean Alexander by*

*Tuesday May 31st. [jalexander@upanewtonma.org](mailto:jalexander@upanewtonma.org)*



### **June Book Group – June 10 at 10 a.m.**

For June 10<sup>th</sup> the book group will be reading “The Namesake” By Jumpa Lahiri. All are welcome. Join us in the Norton Room. This is the last meeting until September.

***Happy Reading!***

### **Charge Conference –**

#### **CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

All Methodist members of the the UPA are asked to attend a Charge Conference on **May 26th at 7 pm** for the purpose of recommending Myungeun Park to the ordination process of the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Rev. Linda Wood-Boyle will preside in the absence of the District Superintendent.



## Prayer Shawl Knitting Group

will be meeting again at  
7:30 on Monday, May 30th  
at **Natalie Austrian's** house

20 Ware Rd., Auburndale, MA  
617-332-7026

## 2011 Boston Pride Parade Save the Date:



Saturday, June 11.

Hope to see you there. Guaranteed, you'll have a great time!  
For the next few weeks the Open & Affirming Committee  
will have a table during the coffee hour where you can  
**SIGN-UP** to join us and ask questions about the parade.

### **For instance:**

#### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

1. How long is the parade route? Does everyone walk the whole route?
2. How long does it take to participate?
3. I have a child who is  $x$  years old. Should I have concerns about what she/he will see or hear?
4. Where does the UPA group assemble before the parade?
5. Do I wear anything special?
6. How do people along the parade route identify us as the UPA group?

***We can answer these questions – stop by and see us and, of course, come to the parade and march with us !!!***



## **The UPA Yard Sale is Back!**

**June 4<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

### **How will the UPA Yard Sale be conducted this year?**

Each individual or family who has items to sell will be given a large table (or two) and a cash box. We ask that you price and sell your own items with the proceeds going to the UPA. Please plan to bring along small bills/change to be able to make change at the beginning of the day. The yard sale is to be held outside. If it rains, we will hold it inside.

### **How will I know how to price my items?**

You may begin to drop off and organize and price your items in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, May 31. We will have pricing guidelines and pricing stickers for each family or individual who wants to participate. We will also have experienced "yard sale pricers" ready to help you on Friday, June 3<sup>th</sup> and early morning June 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **What if I only have a few items?**

We will have tables set aside for those who only have a few items so they can be combined with others. We ask that you still price your own items and plan to help out with selling on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **What will the UPA provide?**

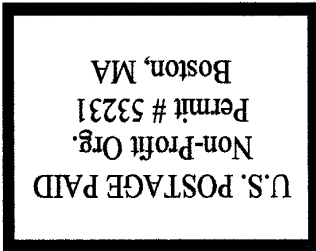
The UPA will advertise the Yard Sale in local papers, set up tables outside, promote the sale on June 4<sup>th</sup> with balloons and other eye-catching flags and arrange for Goodwill or Morgan Memorial to send a truck at 1:00 p.m. for items not sold.

### **Why are we having the Yard Sale?**

The UPA Yard Sale has been an important FUNdraiser for many years. We hope this format will continue to help raise funds for the UPA while giving people an opportunity to sell their "extras" and clean out their closets. We also hope that **everyone** will participate and enjoy time spent with UPA friends.

### **I'm not sure how to participate.**

If you have any questions about the Yard Sale please speak to Cathy Paris or Lynne Austin-Tolley.



United Parish of Auburndale  
64 Hancock Street  
Auburndale, MA, 02466  
(617) 964-8516

**Sunday, May 29, 2011**  
10:00 a.m. - Worship  
11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time/Pot Luck  
**Monday, May 30, 2011**  
Office Closed  
**Wednesday, June 1, 2011**  
7:00 p.m. - Open & Affirming  
**Thursday, June 2, 2011**  
7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir  
**Friday, June 3, 2011**  
6:30 - First Friday for Families  
**Saturday, June 4, 2011**  
8:30 a.m. - Yard Sale  
**Sunday, June 5, 2011**  
10:00 a.m. - Worship/Communion Sunday  
Guest Speaker  
11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time



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

The ELIOT CHURCH Food Cupboard in Roxbury - Non-perishable items are collected each week in a shopping cart located in the narthex.

The United Parish of Auburndale is an Open and Affirming/Reconciling Ministries Congregation:  
"Recognizing that the church historically has not always welcomed all persons, we affirm the God-given worth and dignity of every individual as our sister or brother, and we welcome all persons, including those who are gay, lesbian bisexual or transgendered to the full life and ministry of the United Parish of Auburndale. We celebrate all relationships founded on the principles of God's love, compassion and faithfulness and embrace the responsibility to work against all forms of discrimination.