

United Parish of Auburndale

TOGETHER

May 8, 2011,

Third Sunday of Easter



Scriptures: Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

Luke 24: 13-35

Preaching: Jean Alexander

Sermon: “A Promise to You and Your Children”

Sacrament of Baptism: Robert Stevens

Reader: Jim Miller

Head Usher: Rebecca Dolloff

Assistant Usher: Denise Chicoine & Bill Hoch

Acolytes: Conor McGovern & Amanda Redmond

Fellowship Time: Broderick & Seal/Kadar

Roamer: Rachelle Ross

Over the years I've watched many young couples return to church with their children. They may not have darkened the door of the church since their confirmation or graduation from High School, but with the birth of children they realize the responsibility they have undertaken to nurture a new life. They are looking for supports to give their children the values their own families and congregations imparted to them. In some cases it was the questions of their own children about God that brought them back.. In the great speech of Peter on Pentecost in the Book of Acts, he reminds the hearers that the promise of new life that God offers through Jesus is for them and for their children. And I say Amen to that.

Fellowship of the Concerned:

Please keep **Karen Newman** and her family in your prayers. Her mother **Marjorie O'Neill** is gravely ill at Hartford Hospital.

Also let us keep **Marion Heller, Barry Wong,** and **Casey** in our prayers this week. Casey is scheduled for a second surgery this Wednesday.

Congratulations to our former seminarian **Liz Garigan-Byerly** who was extended a call to be their pastor Sunday by Friedens UCC in Oley, PA. She and husband **Danny** are also expecting a baby in early August. She will begin her ministry there in October.



May Book Group –May 13 at 10 a.m.

For **May 13th** the book group will be reading “A Voyage Long and Strange” By Tony Horwitz, adventures in early America. All are welcome. Join us in the Norton Room. (Usually the 2nd Friday).

Coffee Hour Schedule



<i>May</i>			
1	McVittie	617	965-7156
1	Heller/Wong	617	928-1203
8	Broderick	617	964-7230
8	Seal/Kadar	617	964-4666
15	Gallivan	617	916-5363
15	George/Cornelius	617	795-2426
22	Reppert	617	9654293
22	Andersen	617	244-5765
29	POT LUCK		

Sunday, May 15 is Newton Serves.

Adults and kids interested in volunteering on Sunday afternoon (approx. 12:00 - 3:30) at either the Burr School or the Auburndale Library can sign up at coffee hour. Volunteers at Burr School will be sprucing up the grounds and doing minor repairs and painting indoors. Volunteers at the Library will be working on the gardens and grounds. If you are interested and have questions, feel free to contact Bill Hoch at bill.hoch@hotmail.com or **617-965-4514**.

Monday Musings

Another spectacularly beautiful spring Sunday and a special day it was too. The Tremble Clefs sang for us after church and the parish hall was filled not only with our parishioners but also with family members of the singers. One singer actually went AWOL (with the help of his wife) from the hospital where he has been having treatment so he could sing. Nancy Mazonson who manages the choral group for Jewish Social Services was thrilled. She said that one of the Doctors from Mt Auburn who supports the group was there and was so moved by what he saw. In addition a donor had paid for the performance to be videoed to be used to promote the group. Nancy said we could see it when it is finished. They will rehearse for a few more weeks and then take a break until fall.

Saturday night I was invited to attend Eleanor Fraise's 100th birthday party organized by her family. It was such a lovely affair. All her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and I believe, two great, great grandchildren were there to honor her. Probably most of you do not know but Eleanor was a church organist and choir director, for many years at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Waltham but also at other churches before that. Bev. Nickerson sang in that choir before joining the UPA.

Saturday afternoon we took our grand nephew James to the zoo and had such a good time. There is nothing like taking a small child to the zoo to make you see the world with more appreciation. The carousel was running and he asked if he could ride. The look on his face as he went round and round was just so precious.

By the end of Saturday I realized I had had quite a dose of fresh air. We are dog sitting our canine friend Oliver, a standard poodle and are taking more walks than usual. So between dog walking, and an afternoon at the zoo, I slept quite well Saturday night.

This weekend we will have our final retreat with our mentors and confirmands out at Rolling Ridge Retreat Center. The year has gone fast and it will be interesting to hear the reflections of the youth and their mentors as we prepare for the service of Confirmation on the 15th.

This coming Sunday is, of course, Mother's Day. It would be hard to miss it since the retailers have all kinds of things you can buy for your mother. The children's choir is going to sing a very special anthem for me. It was written by a close friend, John Shepherd, who was organist and choir director for many years at First Congregational Church in Washington D.C.. He wrote the anthem in the midst of the movement towards more inclusive language about God. He died of AIDS in the early 90's but I think of him often and with deep appreciation for his musical gifts and theological sensitivity.

Blessings,

Jean

Yo-Youth,

What up? Last Friday night at City Reach, we heard a story told by a man named Leigh, a captivating and troubling story. One Sunday, he was worshipping at a church in downtown Boston. He was homeless at the time and living on the Boston Common. He was not using drugs or drinking and was physically clean, though dressed humbly in a Harley Davidson T-shirt and jeans. He sat in his own row at the church, because all the other members of the church chose not to sit next to him. After worship had started, a few of the elders of the church approached Leigh and asked him to leave.

“Are you Christians?” he asked them.

“Yes, we are,” the answered him.

“I don’t think you are,” he replied and left.

While he was walking through the Boston Common, Rev. Ann of Ecclesia got in his way and stopped him in his tracks. “You look like you could use a friend,” she leveled her gaze at him and smiled.

Leigh wanted to avoid her, but couldn’t, so he stopped. He reluctantly joined in their worship. That is where his relationship with Ecclesia began, and he has been connected with the program in one way or another for the past decade or more. You see, all he wanted was a place he felt he belonged.

Mad props go out to Charlotte and Phoebe Huth, as well as Kris Finn, who committed to making the time to hear Leigh’s beautiful testimony. May it serve them and me well as a reminder that we share much more with those we see as different from us than we might sometimes like to think. We all need a place to belong, and we can be people who offer that belonging to others who might feel that they themselves are outcasts.

The next few weeks are busy ones for us. We have the confirmation retreat this upcoming weekend from Friday, May 6 at 5 pm to Saturday, May 7 at 2 pm. I hope to see all the confirmands there! May you be ready to decide whether you desire to embark on the journey of the life of faith and practice of Christian teachings! May you so decide with integrity and honesty! Trust your gut. It will not lead you astray.

The weekend following that on Sunday, May 15 you will be confirmed in worship at the United Parish of Auburndale. It will be a joyous entering into covenant with the community. It may not seem like a big deal now, but it is one of those types of events whose significance multiplies with the years.

Then on Sunday, May 22 the youth will be leading worship for the annual Youth Worship Day. Each age group of the church school will assume the responsibility of leading one worship element we typically do on Sunday mornings. The seniors in high school will preach, the middle school kids will offer the pastoral prayer, etc. After worship, the children will perform the children’s musical. The youth group will stay to watch that before leaving to have brunch together at the Knotty Pine from 12 noon to 1 pm. I hope you will all be involved in the service and can join us for brunch. Much love and respect,

Peace, *Mike*

UPA Maine Sea Coast Mission Trip: August 13-20, 2011

Come spend a week volunteering and camping on the coast of Maine. This will be the second year UPA has volunteered with Maine Sea Coast Mission's Housing Repair Ministry up in Cherryfield, Maine (about 45 minutes north of Bar Harbor). This is a great week helping families in Washington County doing house repairs. Last year our team of 10 learned how to shingle and in the week we shingled a cabin for young mother and child to live in. Few skills are needed except your wish to help and enthusiasm.

This Sunday we'll have a table at coffee hour with more information and photos so come by talk to us, catch the enthusiasm and sign-up. A \$ 50 fee per person will hold your space. Families are welcome. Children 15 years and older can sign up with an adult. Families with younger children, there is another option. Please call Carol Walsh for details.

Do come by our table at coffee hour this Sunday, May 8th.



The Prayer Shawl Group

will be meeting at Sona Ekizian's house 7:30 p.m. on **Monday, May 9th**. All are welcome. 617-969-5614



Senior Ministries Presents:

Golf on the Village Green

Wednesday, May 18th - 1:30 pm - meet at the church

Following our golf outing we will treat ourselves to ice cream.

Please sign up in the Parish Hall on Sunday or let the office know if you are coming.

Where is My Name Tag?

Thanks to the efforts of Lyman Jackson, our second name tag board is now installed. Because people tend to sit in the same spot on the same side of the church, you can find your name tag on the board labeled either Pulpit or Lectern and roughly in the area where you normally sit. Choir members should look where their spouse sits or at the bottom of the board. If you still can't find your name tag please sign up for one on the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall. And thank you all very much for wearing them!



Thank You for Being Such a Caring Community

To those of you who helped make the Memorial Tea following Will "Chip" Wyman's memorial service on Tuesday a lovely, welcoming affair, the Community Board thanks you. It is at times like this that visitors to our church see what a special place it is.

At least twenty people were able to answer the call and help out in one way or another by baking, setting up, overseeing the food supply during the reception, and/or staying to clean up even though many did not know Will personally.

Special thanks go to Kris Finn who volunteered to "manage" the reception and to Cathy Paris and Marcy Stuart who were able to stay through to the end. A thank you also go to Ron Caira for helping with the setting up of tables and chairs and to Patricia Bottomley for the lovely arrangements on the tables.

Thank you to those who contributed food: Carol Beard, Kathy Beckwith, Janet Conway, Natascha George, Marion Heller, Deb Martin, Nancy Marzilli, Beverly Nickerson, Nancy Nye, Linda Wood-Boyle, Carol Woodworth, and Lisa Zuar.

And, lastly, a big thank you to all who helped with setting up, the reception itself, and/or cleaning up: Kris Finn, Cathy Paris, Marcy Stuart, Kathy Beckwith, Janice Habermehl, Deb Martin, Carole Smith, and Carol Woodworth.

If your name should have been on one of these lists and isn't, I apologize.

My sincere thanks to all,

Toni Miller - for the Community Board



UPA Families Feeding Families collection May 15 & 22, 2011

Each fall and spring, the UPA collects and delivers important items to the Grow Clinic at Boston Medical Center, which supports local children referred with Failure To Thrive. Our spring 2011 FFF collection will focus on the Grow Clinic's **most-needed items for children**, rather than the general food pantry-type items. A list of these items may be viewed at

<http://www.bmc.org/pediatrics-growclinic/donate/inkinddonations.htm>

-- please see Priority Supplements, Supplies, and Clothing lists. (Items on the Food list welcome but not our focus this Spring.) Please bring your donations to church anytime between 5/15 & 5/22. See Julie Redmond with questions at 617.964.4164 or bmrjmr@yahoo.com. Many thanks!

The UPA Boards of Christian Education and Outreach



The UPA Yard Sale is Coming Soon!

June 4th 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sign-up sheets for the Yard Sale will be at Coffee Hour on Sunday. We need to know who wants a table, who wants to bake and who wants to be around to help?

Please watch the Together for updates. Start thinking about your stuff!

An Easter Thank-You Many thanks to all those who contributed to our Easter altar this year – it was a glorious celebration!

Jean Alexander and Bruce Hanson

Anonymous

Richard & Carol Beard – In memory of loved ones

Kathy Beckwith – In memory of many family members

Roger Carpenter – In memory of Dorothy Carpenter

Elaine Cavanaugh

June Daily – To celebrate the blessings in my life

Rebecca Dolloff

Bob & Carol Dutton – With thanks for the warm welcome we have received from UPA

Natascha George, Doug Cornelius & family

Bill & Denise Hoch

Ann Houston

Deborah Martin – In memory of my parents

The McGovern family in celebration of Easter

Linda McQuillan & Justin Pacheco - With gratitude for all our many blessings

Toni & Jim Miller – In loving memory of loved ones & in celebration of life at the UPA

Pan-Chen family

Cathy & Mark Paris

Don Ross – In memory of Sandra Ross and Dottie Quinn

Carol & Ed Roush

Hannah & Paddy Scott

The Sharma family

The Wylies – In honor of our parents, Jim & Betty Ann Wylie and Bill & Pat Garner

The Zakrzewski Family – In loving memory of William Freeman



And my personal thanks to Mary Lou and David Walsh (the outdoor container planters) and Bruce Hanson. The lovely Easter celebration could not have happened without their help. The lilies that were not taken are being enjoyed by our shut-ins thanks to Jean.

Patricia Bottomley, (Chair) Altar Flowers Committee

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Sunday, May 8, 2011
9:00 a.m. - Children's choir
10:00 a.m. - Worship
11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time
Tuesday, May 10, 2011
7:30 a.m. - Bible Study
Thursday, May 12, 2011
3:30 p.m. - Children's Choir
7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir
Friday, May 13, 2011
10:00 a.m. - Book Group
Sunday, May 15, 2011
10:00 a.m. - Worship/Confirmation/
Families Feeding Families
11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time



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.