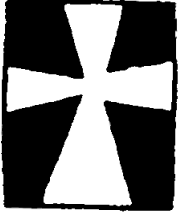


United Parish of Auburndale

T · O · G · E · T · H · E · R



October 10, 2010

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Scriptures: Jeremiah 29: 1a, 4-7

Luke 17:11-19

Sermon: "There's No Place Like Home"

Preaching: Jean Alexander

Reader: Lyman Jackson

Head Ushers: Bev Loudin and Scott Epstein

Assistant Usher: Clay Simons

Acolytes: Reid Jackson and Chase Gallivan

Fellowship Time: Pot Luck

Special Music this Sunday: Founded in 1993, the **Chamber Singers** is a subset ensemble of the **Harvard-Radcliffe** Collegium Musicum, Harvard's select mixed choir. The student-conducted group explores choral works in an intimate musical atmosphere and is devoted to creating an ensemble of the highest caliber. Chamber Singers focuses primarily on a cappella repertoire, performing sacred and secular classics from all musical eras, but particularly from the late medieval, Renaissance, and early Baroque periods

Home is a word with a lot of emotional valence. When you hear it, what place do you picture? Is it the place you grew up as a child. Is it the home you live in now? Is home a safe and sheltering place or do you have feelings of ambivalence about it? For those who are immigrants or exiles the idea of home is even more complicated. How do we live in a place that we don't think of as home? That is one of the questions Jeremiah addressed a long time ago in a way that still has relevance today.

Fellowship of the Concerned:

Dear Friends,

How can I ever thank you all for so warmly sharing your presence and joyous support during my ordination to ministry! For your thoughtful care, arrangements, participation and gifts I am so grateful. I hold you, the memorable day, and my charge to ministry now, forever in my vision and heart. Thanks and every blessing! **Natalie**

~We just want to thank the congregation for so graciously welcoming **Casey** to his new church family this fall. We are genuinely touched by the lovely children's book you gave us and all of your heart-felt sentiments. It is such an appropriate story for Casey to grow to appreciate and will be a special gift to treasure forever. He is very fortunate to have so many people care so much about him. Love, **Barry, Marion and Casey**

A Thank you...

On Saturday, September 11th thirty eight members of the church and friends gathered together for our fourth charity event at the Lost Brook Golf Club in Norwood. Three thousand dollars was raised for the Carroll Center for the Blind in Newton. It was a great day for golfing and we wanted to congratulate our first place team of Howard and Philip Whittum, Bob Resnick and Doug Spicer and our second place team of Don Ross, Lornie and Bob Bullerwell. We also wanted to congratulate Kevin McGovern and Kathy Beckwith who won the closest to the pin contests.. This event was truly a success and we couldn't have done it without the generosity and support of our sponsors:

Needham Bank Arthur Murray Dance Studio, Fiorella's, Mercantile Bank, Trader Joe's, Village Bank, Mandarin Cuisine, TriCity Wings, The Villa, Sterling Golf, Town of Lexington Recreation Department, A Russo and sons, Chateau Restaurant, Restaurant Depot, McGolf, Stop and Shop, New England Golf Corporation, Parrot Pizza, GolfTEC, Golf Warehouse, Newton Marriott, Hotel Indigo, Opticians, D&L Liquors, Shaws and Star Market, Cherry Tree Restaurant, AJI Shushi Bar, 99 Restaurant, New Breadsong Corner bakery, Just Next Door, John T. Burns Insurance, North Street Garage, Starbucks, BSC, Harris Cyclery, In Shape, Sullivan Tire, Welsh Optics, Dunkin Donuts, Swartz True Value, World of Real Estate, MAP Food Service LTD, BJ's, Paul Cotran, MD, Boston Private Bank, Barings Asset management Inc. Thank you very much again to our sponsors and all of the participants, we look forward to next year!



The Book Club ~ Oct. 15, 10 am, will be reading "The Big Stone Gap" by Adriana Trigiani. In October we will meet as usual at 10:00 a.m. in the Norton Room – usually the 2nd Friday in the month. For October the date is the 3rd Friday. Please join us for a lively get-together!

Monday Musings -

Grieving, as many of you know, is a long process and in a culture that likes quick fixes we do not always honor that fact. You don't "get over" the death of someone who has been important to you on some kind of set time-table. While each grief shares some commonalities, each one is also unique depending on the circumstances. This past week, as you know, I met my daughter in Florida so that I could see for myself the place that my son died. I can't exactly say why that was important to me, but I think my need to do so had to do with not being able to see his body before cremation. It was the right thing to do and it was good to have time alone with my daughter. It accomplished emotionally what I needed on this anniversary of his death. I'm grateful for your prayers and thoughts this past week and all along the way.

Our confirmation program got off to a good start this past weekend. It is a great group of youth and adults and we learned and had fun together. A small example of what a good group they are is that the girls took the initiative to move a bed so that they could all share a bedroom. They didn't want anyone to feel left out. I invite you to take a look at them. There are pictures on the bulletin board in the hall leading into the Fireside Room.

I'm looking forward to the arrival of the pumpkins this Saturday. I love the pumpkin patch and I know our neighbors do too. It has been the most successful evangelism tool that we have. If you are selling pumpkins, make sure you tell folks about this church. I will, of course, be donning my pumpkin costume and spreading cheer.

I hope you will read this week, if you didn't get to it last week, the report of the Forum on Sept. 26th and the Grove Street Ad Hoc Committee. There will be another forum on October 24th to continue the conversation regarding the houses. This is probably one of the most important decisions we have had to make in the years that I have been here and we need to hear many voices in the discussion.

See you Saturday for the first pumpkin delivery!

Jean

Grab your wheelbarrows and gloves.

Our first pumpkin delivery is Saturday Oct 9!

An 18-wheeler full of a precious payload of pumpkins is due at 12:30 pm. Please join us to help unload. We'll be lining up bucket-brigade-style to unload and transform UPA's lawn to a huge pumpkin patch

Once we've unloaded, the patch will be open from **Oct 10 – 31**. Hours are 10-6, M-F. 9-5 on Saturday. 11-6 on Sunday. We'll need your help with selling and baking. **Please sign up at coffee hour!**

- **Unloading:** Oct. 9, 12:30 pm & Oct 16, 8:00 am
Mon.- Fri.: 10 am – 6 pm
Saturday: 9 am – 5 pm
Sunday: 11 am – 6 pm

Sales: no previous experience is necessary.

Bakers: pre-heat your ovens! Help ensure our bake sale is well stocked with goodies!



Questions? See Dana Dornbusch, Mary Lou W

Dinners for Families ARE BACK

UPA families with children are invited to dinner with Mike Nilon and Jean Alexander. There is no agenda except for food and conversation. It's a chance to get to know one another better and exchange the joys and frustrations of parenthood. The main dish is provided. Each family brings a simple salad or dessert. Sign-up is essential since food and child care is being provided.

- Friday-October 22nd 6-8:30 pm is for families with preschool children or children in elementary school. There will be child care and pizza for the children downstairs and the adults will dine upstairs.
- Friday-November 12th 7-9 is for families with Middle School and Sr. high Youth.

You can sign up on Sunday's in the parish hall or by calling or e-mailing the church office.

Office@upanewtonma.org

Update on 87-89 Grove Street Houses

Yesterday's forum was attended by approximately 18-20 members. We discussed the current status of the properties, reviewed their history, presented current options, summarized a proposed Landscape Master Plan and reviewed estimated costs for various options. The following is a brief summary of the topics discussed: This past year the Committee on 87-89 Grove Street worked closely with an architecture firm to design renovations to both houses. After their work was completed, the Committee forwarded specifications to two contractors in the spring for initial bidding. Both estimates came back above our budget target. As such the Committee convened on June 21, 2010 to discuss next steps including alternatives to renovating the houses. The unanimous consensus was that the Parsonage (89 Grove) should be demolished and the Carriage House (87 Grove) should be renovated.

A number of factors went into this recommendation with renovation cost being an important trigger. However, the Committee also felt that selling the land should not be an option especially right now. The Committee based this position on the importance of maintaining the integrity of the existing church lot which encompasses one city block in a very attractive neighborhood. The Committee also recommended that the church retain the Carriage House as a potential future Parsonage including possibly an Associate Pastor or a Director of Youth Ministries. A final point for retaining the property surrounding 89 Grove is that currently this is an inopportune time to sell the property. By keeping the property and demolishing one or both houses, the church retains the option to use or sell the property at the most attractive time in the future. Sherwood Norton briefly summarized the long history of both properties including the current status of the properties within the Auburndale Historic District. This designation places some restrictions on what the church--or any other party--can do with the exterior of the buildings.

Landscape Master Plan

At the Committee's June 21st meeting, it unanimously recommended that the church begin the process of constructing a Landscape Master Plan for the entire church property. It was noted that the overall property has become significantly overgrown over the last decade and that numerous plantings and changes to the landscape have been made on a piece-meal basis. The result of this fragmented work is a degrading of the overall church landscape, poorly sited or maintained trees and shrubs, poor drainage and a shortage of parking. The Committee also views a Landscape Master Plan as a great opportunity to substantially improve and upgrade the church property to modern standards and current uses. Given the significance and potential impact of changes with the Grove Street houses, the Committee voted to recommend that Parish Council--and ultimately the church membership--conduct and approve a Landscape Master Plan. The major objectives are summarized below:

- + Create a unified landscape that encompasses areas currently obscured by vegetation and structures and improve access to all parts of the site
- + Make the site welcoming and inclusive for the congregation and the community
- + Improve pedestrian and vehicular circulation, including parking, access, safety, and ease of drop-off while minimizing impacts to trees and views
- + Make the site more inviting and comfortable for strolling, socializing, and gatherings
- + Rejuvenate the tree canopy with new plantings that enhance the park-like quality of the site, complement the church's historic buildings, create four-season interest, provide cooling shade for the site and its buildings, and build resilience through diversity of species and age
- + Develop guidelines and locations to assure that living memorials – potentially including both trees and gardens – become beloved elements in the landscape

- + Identify poorly located plants for removal or transplant; identifying invasive plants for removal and, where appropriate, replacement with native alternatives
- + Reduce landscape maintenance needs and maximize the ease of snow removal and storage
- + Establish guidelines for signage and lighting improvements
- + Prepare a Master Plan Report and recommendations for presentation by the 2011 annual meeting

During the summer of 2010 Jim Miller led an interviewing process with three landscape architects. The Committee reviewed their credentials and experience and settled on one to create a proposal for the entire property of the United Parish of Auburndale. Their proposal was received in September, revised and resubmitted to the Committee for review. This proposal was summarized at Parish Council meeting on 9/22.

Parish Council had the following responses to the presentation:

1. PC requested cost info be provided to PC and members at forum, e.g., how much money will it take to demolish the houses?
2. PC recommends the first question to be answered is: "Do we want to keep or sell the land?"; everything else flows from there.
3. PC recommended a second forum on October 24th followed by a church-wide meeting & vote on keep/sell land on November 7th. Dates added to church calendar.
4. Note read to PC from Dave Stuart, Treasurer, recommending sale of land & houses
5. PC voted to authorize the Moderator to file a notice with the City of Newton to demolish 87 and/or 89 Grove Street houses so that we are prepared and ready to go forward with any outcome.

Forum: The following questions were posed at the forum on September 26th:

- Have we considered the need to use one of the buildings for parsonage use in the future?
- Would like to have a walk-through tour of 87 & 89 Grove St houses after next forum for members to really see the current conditions and situation.
- Parking (3 comments): We really need parking; when the Methodist church was sold there was no parking & we were really looking forward to more parking at UPA; still need additional parking.
- What are other churches doing re: open spaces on their properties? How have they handled similar situations? Have they tried to create an interesting open space? If so, what purposes have those spaces been used for? What would UPA's potential open space uses be?
- Demolition cost at \$12,000 seems low; can you get some real quotes from contractors before the next Forum? [Revised expected cost \$20-25,000; awaiting quotes now.]
- Understand that we are seeking a long term solution to these properties.
- What is the state of our church finances? Are we in a crisis or do we have adequate reserves?
- What did we do with the proceeds from the sale of our other church parsonages (e.g., Hancock St)?

Next steps:

1. Notify 3 Alderman
2. Update in Together newsletter on 9/28
3. File to demolish with City of Newton
4. Demo quotes
5. Next Forum: 10/24 at 11:30 AM, Centenary Room
6. Special Meeting & Vote: 11/7

Respectfully submitted, Lyman Jackson for the Committee on 87-89 Grove Street

Youth Schedule Fall 2010

Date	Location	Activity
10/17/2010	Apple Picking: Russell Farm	The bounties of God, being thankful for what the earth produces.
10/31/2010	UPA Youth Room	Talk about Halloween—how did this holiday survive in Christian cultures?
11/7/2010	Arnold Arboretum	Experiencing the natural world, the wonders of creation, and trees in scriptural traditions.
11/21/2010	UPA Youth Room	Discussion about Thanksgiving—why we are thankful for what we have.
12/5/2010	UPA Youth Room	Practice of meditation, prayer, interior spiritual exploration
12/19/2010	Cradles to Crayons	Cradles to Crayons—provides school supplies for children who come from low income or homeless families.

The Garden Club

We are planning to meet the first Tuesday of Nov. at 9:30 a.m.

~ Patricia Bottomley



Inquirers Meeting, October 24th 11:30 a.m.

Have you been attending the UPA for several weeks or months and would like to know more about us?

Or you think you might like to become a member, but don't know how to do that.

The Membership Cultivation Board will

host a gathering on October 24th that can answer your questions

The session lasts approximately one hour and child care will be provided if needed.

If you would like to attend or have further questions please e-mail Natascha George

at natascha.george@gmail.com

or Jean Alexander jalexander@upanewtonma.org

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP FOR COMPANIONS IN CHRIST

This six week class in spiritual discernment and formation will be held on Tuesday nights from 7-9 pm. The first meeting will be October 12th from 7-8 and subsequent meetings will be for 2 hours. There is a book of exercises that participants do each week that is essential to the process. In order for the books to arrive in a timely way, I need to know by Thursday, October 7th if you plan to attend. We need a minimum of 6 people in order to hold the group. If you wish to attend, either e-mail Jean Alexander jalexander@upanewtonma.org or call the church office and let the church administrator, Johanna Porter, know you would like to attend.

Calling All UPA Methodists: Charge Conference-Centenary United Methodist Church on Sunday, October 17th, 12:30 p.m.

In the United Methodist Church, one of the traditions is a yearly visit by the District Superintendent, where he or she receives reports from the congregation. It gives them an opportunity to assess the health of a congregation and gives the congregation an opportunity to connect with the wider church body. It also gives us a chance to share any concerns that we have. The polity of the United Methodist Church is described as a connectional system, and the Charge Conference is one of the ways we live out that connectional polity.

Our District Superintendent, Martin McLee, who will be preaching for us that day, will meet with the SPRC at 12 noon p.m. and then at 12:30 with the "church." All of those designated as Methodist trustees should be present, as well as as any others on the Methodist rolls of the UPA. The business of the charge conference will probably take less than one hour and should not interfere overly with any pumpkin picnics.

REVEREND MARTIN D. MCLEE, J.D.

Reverend McLee serves as a District Superintendent in the Metro Boston Hope District of the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. He is the former Senior Pastor of the Union United Methodist Church in Boston's South End. Moreover, Reverend McLee serves on the Adjunct faculty at Simmons College in the Graduate School of Social Work.

Reverend McLee is frequent lecturer on issues concerning; HIV/AIDS and the faith community, race and racism, and on matters relating to class distinctions. Reverend McLee is an honors graduate of Hunter College. He has graduate degrees in education, theology and law from; Fordham University, Southern Methodist University and Texas Southern University respectively.

UPA CHILDREN'S CHOIR.....FALL 2010 (Revision 2, 9-29-10) 3:30 – 4:30 (usually)

Families designated to bring snack are indicated in blue. Plan to have an adult present to manage the snack break (set-up, serving, and clean-up), from 3:45 – 4:15 or so.

Thursday, October 7	NO REHEARSAL
Thursday, October 14	Rehearse w/ Melanie Herlihy
Thursday, October 21	Rehearse Hoch
Thursday, October 28	Rehearse Hoch
SUNDAY, October 31	SING IN CHURCH (9:00 A.M. Arrival)
Thursday, November 4	Rehearse Kim
Thursday, November 11	Rehearse Mackowski
Thursday, November 18	NO REHEARSAL
SUNDAY, November 21	SING IN CHURCH (9:00 A.M. Arrival)
Thursday, December 2	Rehearse McVittie
Thursday, December 9	Rehearse Sharma
Thursday, December 16	Rehearse Sharma
SUNDAY, December 19	SING IN CHURCH (9:00 A.M. Arrival)
Thursday, December 23	NO REHEARSAL
Friday, December 24	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE



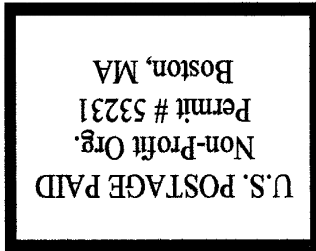
The Knitting Group ~ will meet on Monday evening, Oct. 11 at Sona Ekizian's ~7:30 p.m. All are welcome!

News from the Board of Christian Education

The Board of Education deliberated on Monday evening on what to do with the sizeable amount of money we have accumulated from Church School offerings. We think that the entire church should be as involved with this process as possible. To that effect, here is what we propose. For the next few weeks, we will be open to suggestions regarding any non-profit or social justice cause you believe would be a good beneficiary. Since our children raised the money, the organizations should appeal to children in some way. Please send any and all suggestions to mikenilon@gmail.com. We will compile the list of suggestions to present to the Church School classes, who will then vote on which cause(s) to get behind. It is likely that we will select three causes: one local, one regional, and one national or international. The amounts we give will depend on what we have in the account and the needs of the cause. Most likely, it will be between \$200.00 and \$300.00 per cause. We will report to you regarding the amount of the donation after we have collected the votes.

When submitting your suggestions, please describe the charity in a way the children would understand so that your suggestion has a good chance of being selected. Keep in mind that this is an experiment. We are hopeful and excited to be presenting you and our children this opportunity to be more involved in the process of giving.

Blessings. *Michael Nilon*



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

This Coming Week at UPA:

Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Pumpkin Patch

11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time

Monday, Oct. 11, 2010

Office Closed

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study

7:00 p.m. - Companions in Christ

7:30 p.m. - Membership Cultivation

Thursday, Oct. 14, 2010

3:15 p.m. - Children's Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir

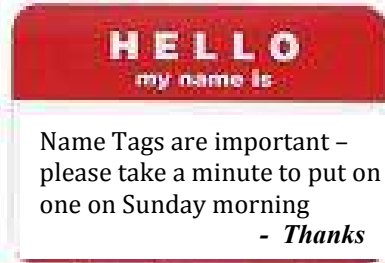
Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010

8:00 a.m. Pumpkin Delivery

Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010

10:00 a.m. - Worship- Martin McLee , UMC D.S.

12:30 p.m. - Charge Conference



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. Please contribute.

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.