

# United Parish of Auburndale

## TOGETHER

Oct. 23, 2011



**Scriptures:** Leviticus 13: 1- 2, 9-11, and 45-46

I Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Mark 1:40-45

**Preaching:** Thomas Sullivan,

Chaplain, Lasell College

**Sermon:** “Loving Lepers”

**Scripture Reader:** Bruce Hanson

**Head Ushers:** Kris Finn & Carol Dutton

**Assistant Ushers:** Marcy Stuart

**Acolytes:** Chase Gallivan & Jacob Viveiros

**Fellowship:** Luying Pan and the Spicers

One of our community neighbors is Lasell College. Four years ago when Michael Alexander became the new president, he spoke to the UPA at our Sunday service. This Sunday their new chaplain, Tom Sullivan a Presbyterian Minister with extensive chaplaincy experience will be our preacher. Both will stay for a Forum afterwards. A bio for Tom is included in the information about the Adult Forum.

### **Fellowship of the Concerned:**

Let us keep in our prayers Elaine Cavanaugh who hopes she is in her last week of rehab at the Epoch of Weston. Jean Peterson who is in Lasell House, and Everett Nickerson, who will be at Mt Auburn Hospital for another week.

## **HONORING UPA MEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED OR ARE NOW SERVING**

The United Parish of Auburndale wishes to honor those in our congregation who have served, or who are presently serving in our nation's military, diplomatic, or peace corps on this year's Veterans' Day, November 13, 2011.

We would like to update our list from the one we prepared in November 2010, so any additions to that list, or new listings, will be appreciated. If your 2010 information is still valid, no need to update.

Please include the name, military rank or rating, branch of service, dates of service, geographic area of service and any other brief information you think is of general interest.

We want to honor all who have served, or who are now serving, so if you are aware of members, family or friends in the congregation who are currently away from us, please encourage them to get information to us. Please send (or e-mail) information to:

***Thanks to all! Jim Miller***

67 Bourne Street, Auburndale MA 02466  
(617) 527-7044 or e-mail [tjkjkm14@yahoo.com](mailto:tjkjkm14@yahoo.com)



### **Book Group –Nov. 11 at 10 a.m.**

For Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> the book group will be reading “One Thousand White Women” The Journals of Mary Dodd by Jim Fergus. For December, if anyone wants to read ahead we will read “Moloka’i by Alan Brennert. Visitors and new members are welcome. Join us in the Norton Room. (Usually the 2nd Friday).

## *Monday Musings*

I think a few kudos go to Don Ross on this Monday morning for spear-heading the first “Open and Affirming” golf tournament on Saturday after rain delays in September and then doing double shifts at the pumpkin patch yesterday. What energy the man has! And thank you, Don, for picking up the torch after Bruce and Shirley Wong decided to set it down. They started a great tradition of the golf tournament and I’m glad that Don is going to continue it in his own way.

The pumpkins are flying out of the pumpkin patch. It is a good thing we are getting a transfusion of pumpkins this Saturday. As usual we need all hands on deck to unload and if we have 30+ people it only takes an hour to unload. The selling booth was groaning with goodies yesterday. It is a source of great temptation to those of us who are here on a daily basis. And didn’t we get some great free publicity in the Newton Tab this week with a whole page on the pumpkin patch and pictures of the first unloading.

I put on my pumpkin costume after church and spent time on the corner and mingling in the pumpkin patch. Just for your information, the costume stays for the next minister. I hope they have a sense of humor!

I want to put in my own plug for people signing up for the house parties to talk about the survey results. It is really important for groups of people to talk about the results together and hear the differences of opinion that are normal in something like this. Without the conversation, we are each tempted to believe that everyone else thinks as we do. It is only when we get in a group and find that others have different ideas that we can come to some consensus about what the most important things to go in the profile are. So sign up please and meet your UPA neighbors.

The Outreach Board has decided to join the UCC’s Mission One campaign that runs from November 1 to November 11<sup>th</sup>. Kris Finn put up the posters which you might have seen yesterday on the bulletin boards. You will be hearing more about this over the next weeks and it fits nicely with our own efforts this time of year when we give food to the Grow Clinic and have our annual pledge campaign. Part of the campaign will also raise money for the famine in East Africa.

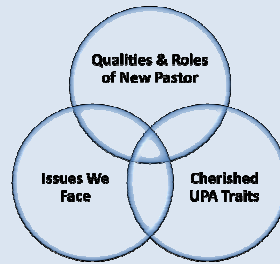
This Sunday we have a chance to catch up on Lasell College and how it has been changing under the leadership of President Michael Alexander. I hope you will come hear their new chaplain preach and then stay for the Forum afterwards to speak with both of them.

Blessings,  
Jean

The Profile Committee has analyzed the survey results. Now we need you to roll up your sleeves and help us in a 2-week series of house parties. Details follow:

**WHAT is a house party?** A small group discussion – with refreshments, of course!

**WHY should I attend?** The survey provided rich information about the traits we cherish in the UPA, the issues we face, and the qualifications we seek in a new pastor. Clearly, though, one pastor cannot solve for everything. We need your help to identify areas of definite connection, or overlap, to incorporate into the UPA Profile and elevate as *must-haves* in the United Methodist appointment process.



**WHO is invited?** Adult UPA members and participants of all tenures. Note: Childcare will be provided on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**WHEN are they scheduled?**

- Sun, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3-5pm @ John & Becky Connor's in Lower Falls
- Sun, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>, 5-7pm @ Natascha George & Doug Cornelius's in West Newton
- Mon, Oct 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:30pm @ Toni & Jim Miller's in Auburndale
- Wed, Oct 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:30pm @ Walter Piescik & Dana Dornbusch's in Auburndale
- Fri, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm @ Allison & Raveen Sharma's in Auburndale
- Sat, Oct 29<sup>th</sup>, 3-5pm @ Bill Hoch & Denise Chicoine's in Auburndale
- Sun, Oct 30<sup>th</sup>, 11:30-1pm @ the UPA. **Two parties; childcare provided.**
- Tue, Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:30-9:30pm @ Doug & Jan Spicer's in Newton Highlands
- Wed, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30-9:30pm @ Kristen & Kevin McGovern's in Needham

**HOW do I sign up?** The church office is the official "keeper" of the sign-up sheets. Please call Johanna at 617-964-8516, or email her at [office@upanewtonma.org](mailto:office@upanewtonma.org) with your top two preferences. Each party has 8 slots. Please sign up early if you need a specific date or location!

## **MORE PUMPKINS ARE ON THEIR WAY!**

Our 2nd Pumpkin Delivery is **9:00 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22!**  
Join us to help unload. Bring work gloves, wheelbarrows, and wagons!

*What else can you do?*

*Sell!* Each sales shift is 2 ½ to 3 hours.

*Bake!* Please put any baked goods in the kitchen refrigerator and mark them "for the pumpkin sale"

*Sign up at coffee hour.*



Thanks for your help making the event a success.

Dana Dornbusch (617-312-7483)

David and Mary Lou Walsh (617 964-8488)

### **ATTENTION: PUMPKIN PATCH BAKERS !!!**

*Thank you for all of the wonderful treats you have brought in over the past week!! They were soooo good that most of them have sold!!*

*We would appreciate your continued baking, as our "pumpkin-patch" customers really look forward to your delicious baked goods.....and it is a great fundraiser!!*





Volunteers are needed for pumpkin patch coverage for the next two Fridays: 21st and 28th. The following shifts are thin and need more coverage:

Friday 21st @ 12:30 - 3:30: One volunteer needed;

Friday 21st @ 3:30 - 6:00: One or two volunteers needed.

Friday 28th @ 10:00 - 12:30: One volunteer needed

Friday 28th: 12:30 - 3:30: One volunteer needed

Friday 28th: 3:30 - 6:00: Two volunteers needed.

**WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA** Hurricane recovery work is planned for West Springfield Oct. 28, 29 & 30. Volunteer teams are needed. You can work one, two, or all three days. Housing will be provided if needed. If you and/or your team can be available, please let Dave Stackpole (603-244-0713 [vimnecumc@charter.net](mailto:vimnecumc@charter.net)) as soon as possible so we'll know how many volunteers will be there on any given day.

Work available consist of carpentry, clean up or tree removal. More specific details as to location, time, and work details will be forthcoming once we know who we've got and how many.

Send Dave the following information:

|  |                     |       |       |
|--|---------------------|-------|-------|
| Individual or team name                                | Team Leader         | Phone | Email |
| How many people  | If you need housing |       |       |
| Type of work you are prepared to do (from above list). |                     |       |       |

Grace and peace, Dave

Dave Stackpole, UMVIM Coordinator  
New England Conference, United Methodist Church  
[vimnecumc@charter.net](mailto:vimnecumc@charter.net)    [dstackpole@charter.net](mailto:dstackpole@charter.net)  
Direct: (603) 465-7885 • Cell: (603) 244-0713

*From the Youth Minister:*

**How does one teach your child to pray?** This is one area that I wish as a parent I would have done more of with my daughter, Katy, before she went away to college. I grew up in a home where we didn't pray, so, I did as I didn't learn as well. It wasn't until my early 30's that I began to really pray and even now, I feel I don't pray "well." But really, what is praying "well?" I think God welcomes any kind of chatter directed at Her, in any way imaginable. I think these include conversations, sighs of exasperation, wishes, questions, misgivings, confusion and yes, even our desires.

How then do we pass on the comfort, or to some, discomfort, of prayer to our children? How do we help our children understand that God is always there, ready to listen? How do we also teach them that they may not always hear God answer? How can we make them understand and believe that that is OK? One of my favorite quotes is by Mahatma Gandhi: "It has never happened that God has not responded to my prayers." This, I believe, is true. We may not always get the answer we were hoping for, or thought we would get, but I think it is important to understand that God speaks to all of us in many ways. Honestly, I get my answers sometimes through sunsets, music, or talking with a friend. I hear and see God everywhere. This is the beauty of our relationship with God, as that relationship is in partner with everything and everyone around us.

Explaining this to a child is as simple as encouraging them to pray with you at the dinner table. Thanking God for our food is never a bad thing and God answers by always giving us plenty. Praying at bedtime is always relative, as God can be found in the crickets, the stars, and even the silence of the prayer before the lights go out and the "good nights" are said. Prayer can be done in many forms and it does not have to be difficult, and there is no set way to pray or certain things that should be said. That is the beauty of prayer, as God listens to it however it comes and in whatever is said.

Helping teens to pray, I believe, is probably the biggest challenge of Christian parenting. I ran into this myself when a young member of my former church and friend of Katy's, committed suicide. One of my suggestions for Katy to ease her pain was to pray and ask God to just be there for her and comfort her, even if there were no answers as to why Lily took her life. Katy looked at me blankly and I realized that she didn't yet know how to pray; I had not helped her develop that emotional tool to help ease her pain and misunderstanding. I worked with this and told her to pray for Lily's family and friends, including herself, as well as praying for all those who may want to end their lives. I told her not to pray for answers, but to give her pain to God and let Him heal the loss.

The blank stare didn't disappear all together, but it did, over time, subside, as she began to pray more about other things. When Katy is hurting, or lost, or struggling, I often tell her to pray about it. I also tell her to pray when things are good in her life too. Reminding her that God is always there, ready to listen, is never a bad thing. I remind her that it doesn't have to be a long, arduous prayer, but simple, straight-forward and honest. I also remind her that she will not always hear God answer, but that God is there, listening.

I cannot encourage you enough to pray as a family and to teach your child how to be in conversation with God as well. This will establish a relationship between God and your child that throughout their lifetime will waiver, be strong, be non-existent, and at times, even angry; but nonetheless, a relationship that will give a spiritual grounding to your child that will grow into their adult life. What a gift that is...

*Continued next page*

I close sharing a quote from Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk, mystic, and Anglo-American Catholic writer who wrote this about prayer:

*“Prayer is the movement of trust, of gratitude, of adoration, or of sorrow, that places us before God, seeing both Him and ourselves in the light of His infinite truth, and moves us to ask Him for the mercy, the spiritual strength, the material help, that we all need. The person whose prayer is so pure that they never ask God for anything does not know who God is, and does not know who they are themselves: for they do not know their own need of God. All true prayer somehow confesses our absolute dependence on the Lord of life and death. It is, therefore, a deep and vital contact with God whom we know not only as Lord, but as Father. It is when we pray, truly, that we really are. Our being is brought to a high perfection by this.”*

## **Taking Care of Our Church Community Stewardship Time: Uniting for Our Future**

In our family a favorite expression was

### **“rising to the occasion”**

There were some things that one did to just get them done without fanfare (e.g., taking out the trash), other things that required significant effort (e.g., doing schoolwork) and the last group--reserved for really important things--required us to “rise to the occasion” (e.g., agreeing to be Moderator with three small children at home while starting up a business).

I believe that this is one of those years when we need to seriously consider “rising to the occasion” for our collective stewardship contribution. Here’s why:

- We need healthy pledges to ensure our future
- To continue supporting many great and important programs
- The contribution from the endowment towards operating income will be lower

This year we are asking you to “dig down deep in your heart” when thinking about your pledge to the United Parish of Auburndale. We need everyone to pledge. For those who pledged last year, we need you to consider increasing your pledge by 5%.

We are on the cusp of a new era and I believe we have a great deal to be excited about with the arrival of our new pastor in 2012! Let us unite together for our future.

--Lyman Jackson for the Board of Stewardship: Lynne Austin-Tolley, Doug Cornelius.

# Mission: 1

11.1.11 - 11.11.11  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

UPA is joining UCC congregations nationwide in a shared mission to feed the hungry during the first **11** days of November (**11.1.11 to 11.11.11.**) For **11** powerful days, we aim to focus our outreach on **Mission: 1**, UCC's national campaign to:

- collect more than **1** million food items for local food banks
- raise **\$11,111** in online donations for East Africa famine relief

You can help! The Board of Outreach in cooperation with The Board of Christian Education urges each UPA family to:

- donate **11** food items on Sunday, Nov. 6 to either Families Feeding Families at Boston Medical Center's Grow Clinic or to the Eliot Church Food Pantry in Roxbury
- donate **\$11** online for famine relief at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) between Nov. 1 and 11

In addition, UPA will send a crew of volunteers who will give **11+** hours of service to Women's Lunch Place, a daytime shelter and nutritious meal provider in downtown Boston. Youth Group and Outreach are teaming up to serve at least **111** mid-day meals at the shelter on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Specifics on donating food:

- **If you are a family with children in the Church School**, please consider sending **11** food items with your child (or children) on Sun. Nov. 6 for the semi-annual collection for Families Feeding Families (FFF). Collection bins will be located in the hallway coat closet outside the sanctuary near the photo board. Here are **11** of the items that FFF has identified as most needed by Boston families struggling to feed their children: Bright Beginnings Pediatric Soy supplement, Duocal, Enfamil Next Step Soy Formula, infant formula, peanut butter, tuna fish, canned beans (not green beans), canned fruit, rice, evaporated milk, thick hearty soups or stews, and canned meats (additional items are listed at <http://www.bmc.org/pediatrics-growclinic/donate/inkinddonations.htm>).

*Continued next page*

- **All other families** are asked to bring **11** food items for the Eliot Church Food Pantry in Roxbury on Sun. Nov. 6 and depositing them in the Narthex as they enter church. Here are the **11** items that the food pantry has identified as most needed by the mostly low-income senior population that depends on the pantry for groceries: canned green vegetables, wheat crackers, brown rice, instant potatoes, instant oatmeal, pasta, medium-sized bottles of fruit juice, canned tuna or sardines, canned or boxed soups, powdered drinks.

Specifics on monetary donations:

- If you would like to donate **\$11** (or anything!) online for East Africa famine relief, simply go to [ucc.org](http://ucc.org), click on "Mission: 1" on the homepage, then click on "Donate to Mission: 1" in the left column under the section menu. Please send your donation between Nov. 1 and 11.
- If you prefer to write a check, please place your check in a Mission: 1 envelope in the pews, and drop in it the offering plate on Sunday, Nov. 6

Results from our food drive will be reported to a national tote board at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org), and online donations will be tallied automatically.

Thanks very much for your support!

The Board of Outreach • The Board of Christian Education • Youth Group

## Adult Forum-11:30-October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Last June, Wendy Vander Hart, the UCC Association minister preached at the UPA and suggested three things that a church in transition should be asking. One of them was "who are our neighbors?" Lasell College is a long time neighbor of the UPA with historic ties to one another. Our forum will be led by **President Michael Alexander and Chaplain Tom Sullivan** who will give an update on the college and tell us what this current crop of students is like and how they might differ from previous generations. It will be a chance to hear what they have to say as well as ask questions.

*Continued next page*

**Tom Sullivan** is currently the Director of the Center for Spiritual Life at Lasell College in Newton, Massachusetts. Dr. Sullivan's responsibilities at Lasell include developing a genuinely multifaith ministry for a diverse student population, providing counseling for students, faculty, and staff, and teaching Philosophy and Ethics. He is also developing a service learning trip to Africa (most likely Uganda). Before moving to Lasell, Dr. Sullivan was Director of Spiritual Life at first Babson College and then Roger Williams University. While at Babson he developed yearly trips to South Africa to teach entrepreneurship to disadvantaged teenagers, advised trips to Uganda and Sri Lanka to work on economic development, and hosted the annual Symposium on Business and Spirituality from 2000 to 2007. In 2007 he earned the Aaron Feuerstein Award for Spirituality in Business. During his time at Babson Dr. Sullivan developed and delivered three MBA Business Ethics curricula, including a blended online/face-to-face version for Babson's Fast Track program. Dr. Sullivan has also taught philosophy at the University of New Hampshire, Roger Williams University, Boston University, and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His interests include reading, home repair, and sports (mostly his childrens' sports!); he currently resides in Medfield, MA with his four children.

**Michael Alexander**, the ninth president of Lasell College, has had successful corporate careers, first in media and entertainment and then in technology, deferring an early desire to enter higher education leadership. After serving as Executive Assistant to the President of Barnard College from 1979-1981, Michael followed his actress wife, Mary Barbara Alexander, to Los Angeles where he began a substantial career with MCA, Inc., the entertainment conglomerate. Prior to his acceptance of the Lasell College presidency, Michael was Managing Partner and Founder of Echo Bridge Entertainment, LLC.. He also formerly served on the Boards of Trustees of The Foundation for Minority Interests in Media and the National Urban League and as a member of the Leadership Council of the Center for Business and Government at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Non-Profit Org.  
Permit # 53231  
Boston, MA

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

**Sunday, Oct. 23, 2011**

10:00 a.m. - Worship  
11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time  
11:00 a.m. - Youth Meeting  
11:30 a.m. - Adult Forum  
2:30 p.m. - MBA meeting

**Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2011**

7:30 a.m. - Bible study  
7:30 p.m. - Profile Committee

**Thursday, Oct. 27, 2011**

3:30 p.m. - Children's Choir  
7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir

**Sunday, Oct. 30, 2011**

9:00 a.m. - Children Sing  
10:00 a.m. - Worship  
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.