

United Parish of Auburndale

TOGETHER

Oct. 30, 2011



Scriptures: Deuteronomy 8:1-18

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Liturgist: Natalie Austrian

Preaching: Jean Alexander

Sermon: "Don't Forget the Map"

Scripture Reader: Doug Spicer

Head Ushers: Carol Dutton

Assistant Ushers: Sue and Gar O'Connell

Acolytes: Kathleen McVittie & Amanda Redmond

Fellowship: Connor & Membrino

We are going to leave the people of Israel this Sunday poised to enter the Promised Land. As they do they are reminded of what not to forget about the journey they have been through. On this Reformation Sunday which is also the Sunday we remember the "saints" who have died, we have much to remember and give thanks for as we head into the future. Please let me know by Saturday if you have special people you want remembered in the pastoral prayer this Sunday.

Fellowship of the Concerned:

Mary and Steve Reppert are thrilled to announce the birth of their new baby granddaughter, **Sienna Mary Ciccone**, on Oct. 17. Her proud parents are **Christina (Reppert)** and **Mike Ciccone**.

Elaine Cavanaugh, recently moved to the Norumbega. She has a new phone number 781-609-2474 and her address is 99 Norumbega Rd, Rm. 249, Weston 02493

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



Book Group –Nov. 11 at 10 a.m.

For **Nov. 11th** 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

What giant pumpkins arrived this past Saturday! I was amazed at the size of them when I saw them on Sunday morning. I was sort of glad I wasn't able to unload this time when I saw them. Thank goodness for all of you who did show up to unload despite a late delivery. Now we just have to sell like crazy between today and next Monday. I hear they did a record business Saturday afternoon.

I made a quick trip to Chicago last week. It was a sentimental journey to see my old seminary because they will be moving in January to a beautiful new LEED certified building. It isn't far in blocks from the old one but psychologically it is a big step across the midway that divides Hyde Park from the Woodlawn community. One is an affluent community around the University of Chicago and the other one of the poorer parts of south Chicago. The dedication of the new building was Friday with a scholarship raising concert on Thursday night with Sweet Honey in the Rock. The whole event was beautifully crafted and I saw a few old classmates and some friends from my time as a Conference Minister. I was filled with gratitude for my teachers and all that I learned there in those three years.

It was good to have Tom Sullivan, chaplain at Lasell, preach on Sunday and those who stayed for the forum with him and Michael Alexander, the President of Lasell College heard some very interesting conversation about students today and the how the school is evolving. In the past five years they have added 3 new graduate degrees and are aiming to add 4 more as part of their strategic plan. Michael reminded us that today's students were 2 years old when the internet became a reality and they have all grown up with personal computers. He said they have difficulty with handwriting but boy can they keyboard.

Sunday was also the kick off for our annual stewardship campaign. Lyman made a presentation and others will on up-coming Sundays. At parish council last week there was lots of discussion around the budget and a presentation by John Ross that looked at spending and pledging since 1985. So it is that time of the year again when we are confronted with how to balance our church budget for the next year and what we can each give so that can happen. You are a generous congregation in so many ways that I have no doubt that you will once again, to quote Lyman, "rise to the occasion."

And remember think Mission !!

Blessings, Jean

Profile Plan

Take the Pulse

Probe for Insight

Draft & Refine

Finalize & Deliver



Sept. 11

Dec. 11

The Profile Committee has been analyzing the survey results. We are also collecting specific answers to the UMC Profile questions from the chairs of the boards and committees. Another key input for us will be feedback from our “house parties”. There is still time to join one of the meetings. Please look at the schedule below and call the church office to sign up for one. All adult UPA members and participants are welcome to attend. Note: Childcare will be provided on Sunday, October 30th

Importance of House Parties: In our experience, large forums are not conducive to allowing individuals to share their thoughts and hear what others have to say. The profile committee felt that small group discussions were the best venue to share with one another in a relaxed environment - *with refreshments, of course!* The discussion will focus on some of the key survey results like: the most desired roles for our new pastor – and the key issues facing our church. Each of us has opinions and dreams, and it is important to listen to others share their feelings and dreams for our church. A key objective of these “house parties” is to make sure the survey responses haven’t missed any important points that should be included in the profile we will be sending to the bishop and the district superintendents of the New England Conference of the UMC. We want to make sure we identify what is unique, special, and challenging about our UPA church family.

Remaining House Parties are:

- Wed, Oct 26th, 7:30-9:30pm @ Walter Piescik & Dana Dombusch’s in Auburndale
- Fri, Oct 28th, 7-9pm @ Allison & Raveen Sharma’s in Auburndale
- Sat, Oct 29th, 3-5pm @ Bill Hoch & Denise Chicoine’s in Auburndale
- Sun, Oct 30th, 11:30-1pm @ the UPA. **Two parties; childcare provided.**
- Tue, Nov 1st, 7:30-9:30pm @ Doug & Jan Spicer’s in Newton Highlands
- Wed, Nov 2nd, 7:30-9:30pm @ Kristen & Kevin McGovern’s in Needham

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Signing up: Please call Johanna at 617-964-8516, or email her at office@upanewtonma.org with your top two preferences. **Each “house party” has 8 slots.** You will note that two are scheduled for next Sunday directly following our fellowship time. We can arrange another one that day if the need arises.

The Profile document and our Survey results. The Profile document we have been asked to complete will be posted on our website. In addition, limited quantities will be available at church for those without internet access. Many of the questions in the UMC Profile document relate to statistics and descriptors (e.g., describe the neighborhood, the school district, the membership of the UPA, our worship attendance, our Sunday school attendance, etc.).

One of the questions asks us to choose the *top eight* areas (from a list of fifteen) to which we feel our new pastor needs to give priority. You will remember that question from our survey. The results from the 108 responses in the survey are shown below. This is one of the items to be discussed in the house parties.

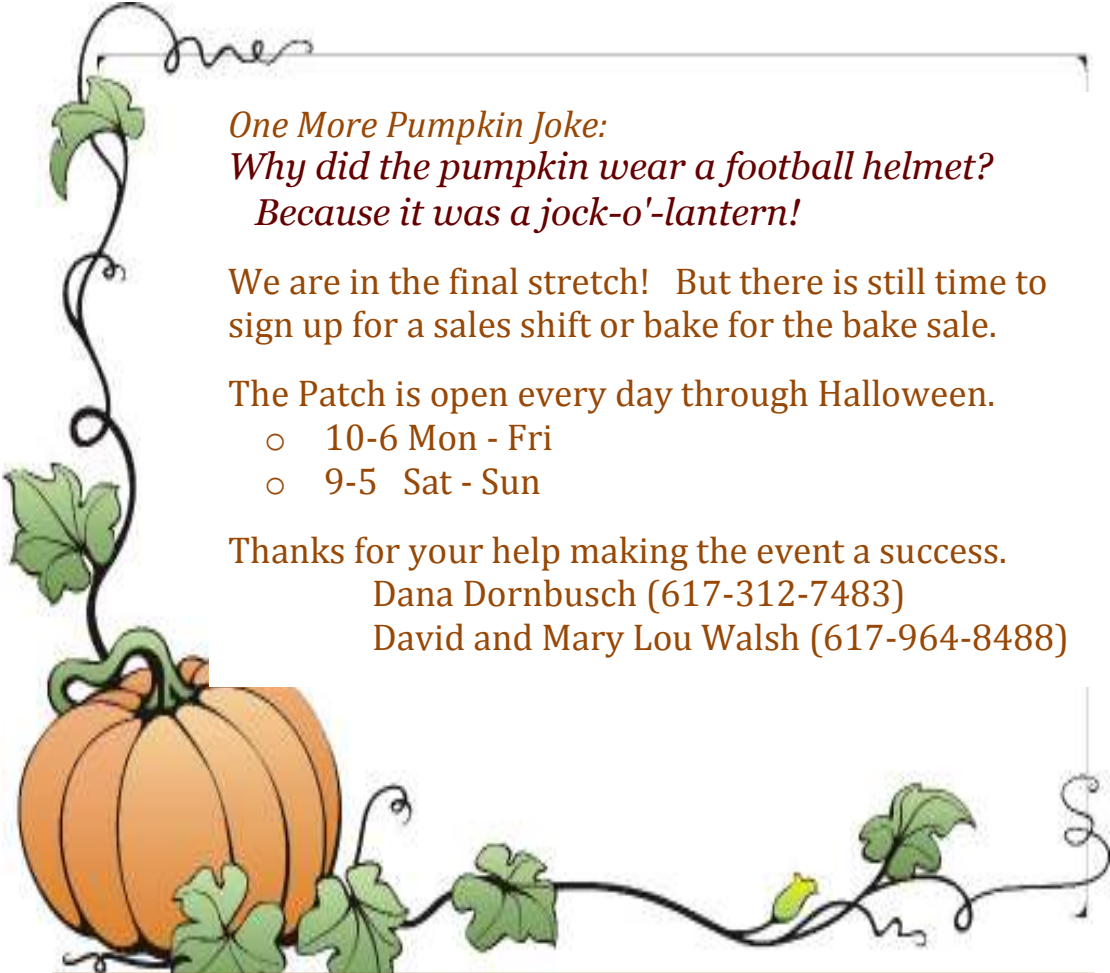
Priorities for Minister Roles	
1.	Preaching
2.	Leading & Designing Worship
3.	Vision - Leading Congregation
4.	Spiritual Growth for Members
5.	Membership Growth
6.	Counseling
7.	Visitation (congregation & community)
8.	Youth Ministry (middle school/high school)
9.	Children's Ministry (elementary school and younger)
10.	Hospital/Emergency Visitation
11.	Leading Staff
12.	Church Administration
13.	Outreach
14.	Teaching
15.	Stewardship
16.	Interfaith Participation
17.	Equipping Laity for Ministry

Preaching” is overwhelmingly Priority #1

Priorities 2 through 4 are closely grouped

The remaining are more evenly distributed

If you have any questions or comments please feel to contact Cathy Paris (melcparis@aol.com), or Bob Dutton (rwdupton@gmail.com), the co-chairs of the Profile Committee.



*One More Pumpkin Joke:
Why did the pumpkin wear a football helmet?
Because it was a jock-o'-lantern!*

We are in the final stretch! But there is still time to sign up for a sales shift or bake for the bake sale.

The Patch is open every day through Halloween.

- 10-6 Mon - Fri
- 9-5 Sat - Sun

Thanks for your help making the event a success.

Dana Dornbusch (617-312-7483)

David and Mary Lou Walsh (617-964-8488)

Calling all Bakers!

Once again thank you for all the goodies you've brought in - this is the final push for the bake sale - We are almost sold out and are in need of more baked goods - thanks in advance!



Worship in November

November 6-Communion Sunday (seated)

Liturgist-Linda Wood-Boyle
Scriptures: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
Matthew 25:1-13
Preaching: Jean Alexander
Sermon: Talking to the Future

November 20-Thanksgiving Sunday

Dedication of our Pledges for 2012
Liturgist- Natalie Austrian
Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Luke 17:11-19
Preaching: Jean Alexander
Sermon: An Attitude of Gratitude

November 13-

Liturgist Myungeun Park
Scriptures: Psalm 90:1-12
Matthew 25:14-30
Sermon: Count your money...or your days?
Preaching: Jean Alexander

November 27 First Sunday in Advent

Baptism of Dylan Spicer
Dedication of the Advent Wreath
Lighting the First Advent Candle-
Scriptures: Mark 14:24-37
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Preaching: Jean Alexander

First Friday for Families

November 4th 6:30-8:30

*Join us for a quiet evening of
dinner and conversation*

Child care provided

*Bring a salad or dessert to share –
Donation requested \$10-20*



*Rsvp on Facebook or to Jean Alexander by Wednesday, Nov 3rd.
jalexander@upanewtonma.org*



From the Open & Affirming and Reconciling Committee

On Monday, October 24th, Rich Caswell, Deb Martin, David and Mary Lou Walsh took dinner and pumpkins to the Waltham House. The UPA Outreach Board supports the Waltham House through Little Home for Wanderers. The house is home to GLBTQA teenagers who are estranged from their families. It provides a safe haven, offering them shelter and counseling and the opportunity to work and go to school.

On October 21st, David, our son Chris and I attended the 12th Annual GLAD Spirit of Justice Award Dinner. This year the honorees were the Deval Patrick Family. The featured speakers were the Maines family. GLAD is representing them in a lawsuit against the Orono, ME school district for discriminating against Nicole based on her gender identity and for failing to stop another student's two-year campaign of harassment against her because she is transgender. The UPA Outreach Board supports this wonderful organization which enables them to continue the fight for equality for the GLBTQA community.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

Mary Lou Walsh





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 **\$111,111** 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 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/pediatricsgrowclinic/donate/inkinddonations.htm>).

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- **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, 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, and online donations will be tallied automatically.

Thanks very much for your support!

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

Stewardship Campaign – “Uniting for Our Future”

Stewardship Team Captains will be dedicated next Sunday, 10/30 during the church service. If you are a team captain, we would like you to join us for that dedication.

Stewardship Moment Kick-Off, Sunday, October 23, 2011

In our family a favorite expression was “**rising to the occasion**”. Hearing the words usually caused me to feel a certain amount of dread—“Okay, mom wants us to work really hard on something that we really don’t want to do.” Now that I am older I realize how incredible these words are because of how much one can achieve by “**rising to the occasion**”. This is one of those years when we need to seriously consider “rising to the occasion” for our collective stewardship contribution. Here’s why:

Continued next page:

#1: We need healthy pledges to ensure our future - Even though we will be presented with a new pastor, having healthy pledges will help us attract a talented pastor—a pastor with excellent leadership, vision and inspiration that will affect our church community for years to come.

The good news is that our pledging has been healthy: pledges were up last year for the first time in a few years and over 20+ years pledges have increased enough to reduce an overdependence on endowment income. However, Newton is not an especially low cost community. Housing is still expensive. And other costs have been going up.

The senior pastor and UPA staff directly support nearly every program and experience at UPA. With staff costs comprising more than 50% of the budget, finding and retaining top quality staff will ensure that our vibrant community continues to grow. We need to be able to send the right message to that new pastor.

#2: Supporting many great and important programs - A few weeks ago, our Moderator, Bill Hoch, invited each Board at UPA to come up with some new ideas. He asked: “What would your Board do if it had more money?”

There were a number of great ideas circulated: Pay for Google ads so that people new to the area can find us easily when they search online for “churches in Newton”; Bring in special music and musicians; CD players for each church school class (to encourage music & dancing during Sunday School for younger kids, other audio for older kids); More crafts/art supplies/additional activity books; New Bibles in each classroom; Paging system for nursery; Podcasts for older students; TV/DVD for Youth Room; Additional staff/hours dedicated to children, paid assistants in Youth Group, more funded outings

Johanna Baxter will be in the office from 9am to 3pm beginning Nov. 1st.

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

Sunday, Oct. 30, 2011

9:00 a.m. - Children Sing
10:00 a.m. - Worship
11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time
11:30 a.m. - Profile House Meetings at UPA

Monday, Oct. 31, 2011

4:00 p.m. - Pumpkin Patch Closes

Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2011

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

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2011

7:00 p.m. - Open & Affirming

Thursday, Nov. 3, 2011

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

Friday, Nov. 4, 2011

6:30 - First Friday for Families

Sunday, Nov. 6, 2011

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Communion (Seated)
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.