

# United Parish of Auburndale

## TOGETHER

**October 31, 2010**

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**



**Special Halloween  
Service**

**Scriptures:** First Samuel 28:3-20

Ephesians 6:10-18

**Preaching:** Jean Alexander

**Sermon:** Facing Fear

**Reader:** Nancy McGrath

**Head Ushers:** Doug and Jan Spicer

**Assistant Usher:** Marcy Stuart

**Acolytes:** Elizabeth Rochon and Jack Wylie

**Fellowship Time:** Lisa Rucinski and Toni Miller

**Roamers:** Sarah Andersen

I hope our service will be fun for all ages this Sunday. I encourage you to be inventive and wear a costume. There will be a few unusual elements in our service although the basic format will be the same. Halloween is rooted in our fears. We all have them and we all have our ways of coping with them. Halloween originated in the fears of early peoples in the northern hemisphere as the darkness of winter began to set in. However people in all places and in all times have found ritualistic ways of dealing with their fears. It is testimony to the power of human imagination and the resilience of the human spirit that we can find ways to master them. Jean

## Fellowship of the Concerned:

We send prayers of sympathy to **Barbara Edmunds** on the death of her husband **David Jackson** on Thursday, October 21st. There will be a memorial service on Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup> at Second Congregational Church in West Newton.

**Casey Wong** will be having the first of several surgeries this Tuesday, October 26th. Please keep him and his parents, **Barry Wong** and **Marion Heller** in your prayers this week.



### Sunday, October 31st 10 A.M.

Don your costumes and come to the special observance of Halloween! This year **Halloween** falls on Sunday, an unusual occurrence. While its roots are not in Christianity but in European pagan traditions, it touches deep places in the human heart as we grapple with fear, and evil that are certainly issues within Christianity. There will be special aspects to our worship this October 31st and afterwards, if there are still pumpkins in the pumpkin patch we will have a pumpkin carving contest and some bobbing for apples, traditional events that go with the observance.

## *Monday Musings -*

Friday night Mike Nilon and I had our first of two scheduled dinners with families. Not counting us we had 17 parents and an equal number of children. Upstairs we had tablecloths, candles, soft music, table decorations, some lovely pasta dishes from Comellas in West Newton, adult conversation and laughter. Downstairs they had pizza, games, bright lights and laughter and everyone was happy. In fact there was a desire on the part of parents to do this EVERY Friday. After some conversation, we did decide that we would have a monthly gathering on Fridays. See the elsewhere in the Together for details. There is still one more dinner for the parents of our middle school and Senior High youth. As of yesterday there were no names on that list. If you are planning to come please do sign up on Sunday, or call or e-mail the church office.

Yesterday was a lively Sunday in Worship. There were lots of announcements, joys and concerns. It is that time of year when everything seems to be coming together and there are lots of opportunities ahead even as the Pumpkin Patch dies down and Stewardship gears up. It was also great to have Jessica Rucinski as our organist while Allen Levines was away. We always enjoy it when she is with us.

We are heading into the last week of selling pumpkins. What a great group of volunteers we have had selling and there has been wonderful response from the UPA bakers. My waistline shows the effects of a treat a day! It is hard to resist though.

Blessings,

Jean

## ***WANTED: CHOIR MEMBERS for THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS***

***Position Open:*** soprano, alto, tenor, bass. No others need apply.

***Physical Requirements:*** able to carry light, musical notes part way across sanctuary.

***Experience:*** no application accepted from persons who have not sung, hummed, or whistled in shower or car.

***Wages:*** satisfaction, joy in spiritual service.

***Fringe Benefits:*** social security – we promise security of social fellowship with other choir members.

***Hours:*** Thursday evening rehearsals (November & December) and two special Sunday mornings services (November 21<sup>st</sup> & December 12<sup>th</sup>) at time and a half the above-mentioned wages.

***Anticipated Services Offered:*** William Billings' "Come See the Wonders" (Thanksgiving) for a cappella chorus, and "A Celebration of Spanish Carols" for choir and guitar (Christmas).

***Vacation:*** missed rehearsals are a matter of discretion and personal conscience.

***Retirement:*** no particular age, generally determined by prayer, printed notes too small, robe too heavy, notes too high, organist unable to play notes you sing. Retirement accepted between Christmas and Easter if absolutely necessary.

## **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-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](mailto:Office@upanewtonma.org)

# Community

“The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning”

-Mitch Albom

This Sunday we will kick off our 2011 Stewardship Campaign and our theme this year is **Community**. The word “community” has many meanings; as a church we are a community of worship whose commitment to outreach has local, national and global impact. As a neighborhood organization we are a place where the Auburndale community can gather to buy a Halloween pumpkin, attend Christmas Eve services or attend a local AA meeting. As a member of the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church communities the UPA supports the national and international programs of both denominations. We will celebrate all of these communities in the weeks to come.

The annual Stewardship Campaign is a chance to reflect on all the good that comes from belonging to the UPA community. Your individual contributions and pledge are vitally important in continuing the work of our faith community. Your pledge allows us to maintain our church building, our staff, our youth and senior programs, our commitment to outreach and to continue programs in our neighborhood, our state, our nation and the world. Pledges represent 65-75% of our annual income; the only other major source of income is from our endowment and that income has dropped \$13,500 this year because of the economy.

The Stewardship Campaign is a time when every member of our community is asked to reflect on the challenges the UPA will face in the year ahead. How will we continue to serve the members of our church family, our local and national communities and the global community? Please begin to think about what the UPA means to you, your family, our neighborhood, our nation and the larger world community.

We will continue our tradition of using the Basket Brigade to deliver pledge cards to most members of our community. We will also be mailing directly to some members and participants. Look for communications throughout the next five weeks and plan to attend church on Consecration Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you and we look forward to a successful Stewardship Campaign!

## 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 7, 2010.

We would like to update our list from the one we prepared in November 2008, so any additions to that list, or new listings, will be appreciated. If your 2008 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:

**Jim Miller**

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

*Thanks to all!*



**The book Club is in full swing – Come join us!**

**Nov. 12** at 10:00 a.m. in the Norton Room.  
(Second Friday of the month)

## The Pumpkin Patch is Still Open: So Add More Pumpkins to Your Collection!

The patch will be open this week until Oct. 31  
Hours are: 10-6, M-F, 9-5 on Saturday & 11-6 on Sunday  
We'll still need your help with selling and baking

**Questions?** See Dana Dornbusch  
Mary Lou Walsh, or David Walsh



Call to Special Meeting of the  
**United Parish of Auburndale**  
Sunday, November 7, 2010, 11:00 AM

As the Clerk of the United Parish of Auburndale and in accordance with the by-laws of the church, you are notified of a Special Meeting of the United Parish of Auburndale to take place immediately following the worship service on Sunday November 7, 2010 at 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary of the church.

At this meeting the Board of Property will propose two motions, including the authorization of funds to develop a comprehensive master landscape/reutilization plan for the properties owned by the church: 64 Hancock Street and 87 & 89 Grove St., Auburndale.

The Call, along with the motions, is posted on the bulletin board outside the Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Agnew, Clerk

At a Special Meeting of the Congregation on June 14, 2009, the Congregation voted to give the ad hoc Committee on 87-89 Grove Street Properties (under the oversight of the Board of Property) responsibility over the renovation project of these houses, along with the authority to borrow funds for the renovations. The cost to renovate the 87/89 Grove Street properties was subsequently found to be prohibitive, so the authorization to borrow renovation funds for the project is no longer necessary.

Given the new information, the Board of Property, with the recommendation of Parish Council, requests that the members of UPA adopt the following 2 motions:

***MOTION 1: That the United Parish of Auburndale enter into an agreement with Kerry Lewis Landscape Architects to prepare a comprehensive Landscape/Reutilization Master Plan and Report for the church's property, including 64 Hancock Street and 87 & 89 Grove Street, and authorize use of up to \$16,000 of the 87/89 Capital Reserve to pay for this Plan and Report.***

**The Landscape/Reutilization Master Plan Objectives are to:**

- 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.

**The Report will present three options for the overall site:**

- 1) The property with 89 Grove Street removed;
- 2) The property with 89 Grove Street removed and the relocation of 87 Grove Street;
- 3) The property with both 87 and 89 Grove Street removed

**MOTION 2: *That upon completion of the Landscape/Reutilization Master Plan and Report, the Property Committee will lead the UPA in a comprehensive review and discussion of the options presented in the Report and the option of selling the 87/89 Grove Street properties. This review will culminate in a Special Meeting of the Congregation in March 2011, where the Congregation will decide a course of action for the site.***

The comprehensive review will include, but not be limited to, the following with respect to each option:

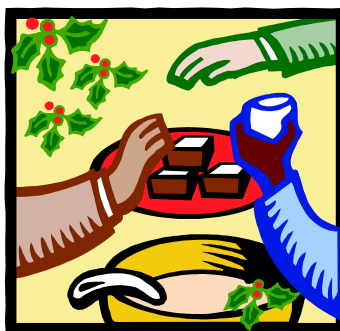
1. Stewardship of the Church's resources and assets;
2. Impact of the Church properties on the neighborhood;
3. Projected costs, including a short-term budget (demolition and interim restoration) and a long-term capital budget for the site;
4. Short and long-term financial impact on both annual operations and reserves;
5. Sources of funding;
6. Future options for reuse or sale of a portion of the property;
7. Immediate work needed around the main church building;
8. A timeline for action.

The Moderator has filed with the City of Newton a request for the demolition of 87 and 89 Grove Street houses; it is anticipated that the City will impose a one year moratorium on demolition.

**No action will be taken on proceeding with actual demolition (or renovation) of the properties until the March 2011 meeting of the Congregation, at which time a vote on a course of action will be taken.**

## First Friday for Families

Beginning **December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, all UPA families with children will have the opportunity to gather for fellowship. The primary purpose is to build community, but every other month we will offer a program beginning with the meeting in December (Details to follow). Child care and pizza will be provided for children. A main dish will be provided for adults, and each family will be asked to contribute a dessert or salad to complete the meal. In addition, a contribution of \$10-20 will be asked to cover the costs depending on the size of your family. Families will be asked to sign up by the Monday prior, so that we can have enough food and seats at the table. Future dates are: January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, and June 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**Giving Groceries.** Please contribute non-perishables to the Food Pantry at Eliot Church in Roxbury. Deposit items any time into the shopping cart in the narthex

**Garden Club Meeting Tuesday Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Cancelled.** The new date is Tuesday Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Fireside Room – a very important meeting to vote on the Garden Club formally disbanding. I need active members and officers present. Please call me.  
Patricia Bottomley, *President* 617-527-7470

## *UPA Families Feeding Families - October 31 & November 7, 2010*

Each fall and spring, UPA Sunday School children and their families (along with the entire UPA congregation) are asked to consider donating items to the Grow Clinic for Children at the Boston Medical Center. The Grow Clinic provides medical, nutritional, developmental and social services and dietary assistance to children from the Greater Boston area referred with Failure To Thrive (FTT) by their primary care physician. Children with FTT have significant problems growing and do not gain weight or height at rates comparable to other children their age.

*This year, if you are able to donate, please consider focusing on the Grow Clinic's most-needed items for children as listed below as they are directed specifically to the children in the Clinic's programs:*

**Priority Supplements:** Bright Beginnings Pediatric Soy supplement (\$35.00/case), Duocal (\$78.00 per case), Enfamil Next Step Soy Formula, Poly Vi Sol with Iron liquid vitamins, Flintstones Complete chewable vitamins or equivalent.

**Supplies:** Unisex diapers (ages 6 mo to 3 years – sizes 3 and 4 in demand), baby food (Stage 1 + 2), new sippy cups, new plastic spoons for babies, new children's board books/picture books/"I Can Read" books.

**Clothing:** Please consider donating clean, gently used winter clothing (no warm-weather clothing, please) for children up to age 8. Warm clothing for teens and adults also needed. Needed items include boots, gloves, hats, mittens, coats, snow pants, sweaters, fleece tops, long sleeved shirts, pants, shoes.

**Note:** In the past we've also asked for general food pantry items such as pasta, etc. Those donations are welcome as well, but if you have a choice, please consider focusing on the children's items indicated above. A full description of the Grow Clinic and Food Pantry requested in-kind donations may be viewed at <http://www.bmc.org/pediatrics-growclinic/donate/inkinddonations.htm>.

Finally, this year we're donating appropriate usable clothing from the UPA Lost & Found closet to the Grow Clinic – so be sure to check that closet by November 7 to claim anything that's yours! Please see Julie Redmond with questions (617.964.4164 or [bmrjmr@yahoo.com](mailto:bmrjmr@yahoo.com)). Many thanks.

*The UPA Boards of Christian Education and Outreach*

## Youth Update

People of God,

I am pleased to announce that Myungeun Park will be serving as my counterpart in youth ministry for the remainder of the year. She has graciously agreed to contribute her talents, energy, and wisdom to our youth program. The young women and men of the United Parish of Auburndale will benefit greatly from her presence. One thing of which to take special notice is that she will be assisting the youth and me in the design of the youth Christmas Eve service. In my absence, as I am travelling from December 20<sup>th</sup> till December 28<sup>th</sup>, she will be the point person for that service and take an active role in presiding over worship. Thank you very much Myungeun!

This upcoming Sunday, October 31, 2010, from 11:30 am till 1:00 pm the youth will be meeting in the UPA Youth Room to talk about the Day of the Dead and its close connection with All Saints Day. A clear and oft cited example of what social anthropologists and scholars of religion call transculturation, acculturation, syncretism, or hybridization, the Day of the Dead is a famous and colorful Mexican celebration of ancestral spirits. All the above analytical terms refer to the combination of two or more different religious and cultural systems at points of contact between converging peoples. The Day of the Dead came into being after a period of ferment following the Catholic Spanish conquistadores' invasion of the Aztec Empire of central Mexico. The rituals retained by many Mexican and Mexican Americans reflect both Catholic and Aztec religious practices. All youth, we hope to see you this Sunday afternoon and discuss this fascinating ritual with you then. Please remember to bring a memento for someone you know who has passed away.

Last but not least, I have discussed the Heifer International project with the middle school church school class. They have agreed that we will raise money till the end of this year, and send the total amount we have raised to Heifer International. Our target is \$5,000. In the event we do not achieve this target, we will send the amount of money we will have raised to support Heifer's vital ministry. Before we can finalize this plan though, we need the youth group to meet and ratify it, since the two groups are identical despite considerable overlap. Once the youth group makes their decision, I will inform you of the outcome. The youth will be selling wreaths this Holiday Season starting in early December. Please purchase your Holiday wreath from our youth as the profits will go toward the Heifer International project.

Many blessings, *Michael Nilon*

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64 Hancock Street  
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(617) 964-8516

**This Coming Week at UPA:**

**Sunday, Oct. 31, 2010**

9:00 a.m. - Children sing in worship  
10:00 a.m. - Worship/Halloween Service  
11:00 a.m. - Fellowship Time  
12:00 a.m. - Last Pumpkin Patch Day

**Monday, Nov. 1, 2010**

7:30 p.m. - Common Meeting

**Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010**

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study  
7:30 p.m. - Board of Ed Meeting

**Thursday, Nov. 3, 2010**

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

**Friday, Nov. 5, 2010**

6:30 p.m. - Pot Luck & Singing with Minstrels

**Sunday, Nov. 7, 2010**

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Halloween Service  
11:00 a.m. - Congregational Meeting



**[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. 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.