

United Parish of Auburndale

TOGETHER

Nov. 7, 2010

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost - Communion Sunday



Scriptures: : Haggai 1:15b-2:9

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Preaching: Jean Alexander

Sermon: Commune

Reader: Elizabeth McVittie

Head Ushers: Toni and Jim Miller

Assistant Ushers: Cathy and Mark Paris

Acolytes: Conor McGovern and P.J. Membrino

Fellowship Time: Korman-Houston
& the Kann family

Roamer: Elizabeth McVittie

Note: Daylight Savings time ends on Saturday

As you know by now the Stewardship theme is "Community" so it seems appropriate this Sunday when we celebrate Communion to look at the common root of these two words. We will also this Sunday remember those who have died this past year. If you have someone whose name should be lifted up, please let me know by Saturday morning at the latest.

Jean

Fellowship of the Concerned:

The service for **Barbara Edmunds** husband, **David Jackson has been changed**. It will be Saturday, November 6 at 3 pm at Second Congregational Church in West Newton. If you would like to attend and need a ride, please speak to Jean Alexander no later than Thursday afternoon.

Congratulations to **Pat Ingalls** who became a great-grandmother last week. Her grand-daughter Chelsea, had a little boy **Ryder Joseph**.



Potluck with the Minstrels-November 5th 6:30 pm

Many at the UPA are familiar with The Boston Minstrel Company because they have been with us for past Agape Feast worship services. But for those who are not, here is what their website says about their mission.

"A vibrant troupe of volunteer singers and musicians who have seen how music heals, the Boston Minstrel Company has produced musical programs for the homeless, elderly and imprisoned throughout the greater Boston metro area for over a decade. Founded by song leader and guitarist Tim McHale and his wife, Jane, the group began by caroling in nursing homes and hospitals. Soon the Minstrels started interactive songfests of pop, rock and folk tunes in prisons, shelters and other venues, touching nearly 4,000 each year at more than 40 events and logging 15,000 hours through the years. The BMC has been a grassroots volunteer group since 1991."

The Worship Board is hosting this intergenerational event on one of the nights that the Minstrels normally practice at the UPA. For those who have enjoyed them in the past, it should be a wonderful time of food, fun, fellowship and most importantly music. Bring a big dish to share. Children of all ages are especially welcome.



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) “Open” by Andre Agassi

Monday Musings -

What fun yesterday was! I was so pleased to see how many people got into the Halloween spirit. We had some very clever costumes out there in the congregation on people of all ages. The oldest generation was just as inventive as the youngest when it came to costumes. We had a banana accompanied by a monkey. Allen Levines was the Phantom of the opera. Forest and Lincoln Beard delighted us as the Gingerbread Man and Superman. I just hope Forest didn't jump off any tall buildings afterwards. Lorraine Holcomb was an entering BU student, complete with hat and T-Shirt. Eric Andersen was a "social climber". We even had a mystery person in a big yellow chicken suit that left halfway through the service. I wonder where they went....

Worship should be joyous and yesterday definitely was. There were lots of smiles on people's faces. The Stewardship Moment tied right in as we practiced "Getting To Know You" by interviewing people around us in the pews. There was a lot of community built yesterday and I thank everyone for making it such a delightful time.

I was thinking this morning, "can it really be November already?" It will be Thanksgiving in the blink of an eye and then Christmas. Sometimes it feels like we are on a moving train that never seems to stop at any station and let us off. I also realized that I have only been gone one Sunday since we returned from Turkey in May, so it fortuitous that I will be gone on November 14th. I am grateful to Linda Wood-Boyle who will be our preacher that Sunday.

In case you are wondering where I will be, I was invited to participate in a week-long writing workshop, *Writing for the Pastoral Life*, from Nov. 11-17. This program is hosted jointly by the Collegeville Institute of Collegeville, Minnesota and the Pastoral Excellence Program of the Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ. It will be held at the Woodstock Inn in Woodstock, Vermont. Most of the cost of this program has been covered by a grant from the Lilly Foundation. It will be a chance to work with published clergy writers and a writing coach for a week. Since the last writing class I had was my freshman year in college, a LONG time ago, this is a terrific opportunity to work with others to hone my writing skills.

The Pumpkin Patch is now closed and I can't say enough to thank Dana Dornbusch, Walter Piescik, Mary Lou and David Walsh for their indefatigable leadership again this year and to everyone who helped sell pumpkins and bake loads of goodies. It was a successful season in the pumpkin patch because everyone helped make it so. Let's do a communal pat ourselves on the back.

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 21st & December 12th) 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.

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

Thanks to all!



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Meade

Stewardship Moment 10/31/10 (Beverly Loudin)

“This morning we celebrate the beginning of the 2011 Stewardship Campaign. Our theme for this year’s campaign is “Community: the light that shines to move us forward”. The Stewardship Campaign is a time for each of us to reflect on what it means to be a part of the community of the United Parish of Auburndale and to decide on how we will support that community financially in 2011. Almost two-thirds of our annual budget comes from our pledges; without your pledge we cannot keep the lights on, we cannot keep Jean and Michael in our pulpit, we cannot do the important work that is done every day of every week by this church and its members.

Over the next three weeks we will hear from members of our congregation who participate in programs that reach out into our local, state and national communities; this work is important, inspirational and exciting. But *this morning* we are going to keep things REALLY local...as local as the pew you’re sitting in and the pews in front of and behind you. It’s called “Getting to Know You, Getting to Know All About You”. We have a lot of amazing people in our congregation and yet we usually spend every Sunday talking to those friends that we know well and have MISSED seeing over the past week or two. This is a chance to broaden your horizons within the UPA...The only rule about this activity is that you have to move a little beyond your comfort zone; this is your chance to get to know a little bit about someone in this church that you do NOT usually speak to at coffee hour and you DON’T usually sit next to in church.”

This introduction was followed by about five minutes during which Jean Alexander instructed everyone to get up and find someone they didn’t know so that they could then introduce that person to the congregation. Everyone seemed to enjoy this task and it was a little tough to get them to STOP talking to one another! Jean then asked a couple of people to introduce one another:

- **Sona Ekizian introduced Beth Viveros** who has been coming to the UPA for about a year. Beth first found the UPA last October during our **Third** Annual Pumpkin Patch and decided to visit after Allison Sharma answered her Facebook query about local churches. Beth is a writer and editor and is married to Paul. Beth and Paul have two children, Jacob (age 7) and Danny (age 5) who both attend Burr School. Beth has been working on organizing our church library for which we are all grateful.

- **Beth then introduced Sona** who has been attending the UPA for 30 years. Sona lives in Auburndale where she raised her four children: Susan, Joanne, John and David. Three of Sona's children still live in Massachusetts; the other one lives in New York. Since retiring as the secretary for the UPA, Sona has volunteered her time counting and recording the Sunday offering each week.
- **Elizabeth McVittie introduced Bob and Carol Dutton** who first visited the UPA this past summer. Bob and Carol recently relocated to Newton from Madison, Wisconsin. They are currently renting while they wait for their home in Madison to sell. Bob retired from IBM after working there for 32 years and Carol is a retired high school teacher. They moved to Newton to help their daughter, Caryn Dutton and her husband Brian Bean. Caryn is an OB/GYN at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Caryn and Brian have two sons: Andy (9) and Tyler (6).
- **Bob then introduced Elizabeth and her family.** Elizabeth is an independent financial advisor and is married to Bruce McVittie; Bruce is back in school these days working toward a Master of Science in Taxation. Bruce and Elizabeth are the proud parents of Leonora (15), Rachel (13) and Kathleen (10). Bruce is a Canadian born and bred and Elizabeth lived in Canada for most of her life; they moved to the U.S. in 1991 and joined the UPA in 1994. The family spends a lot of time in Canada every summer where the girls attend camp. The McVitties think the best thing about the UPA is the people!
- **Sue Membrino introduced Janet Conway.** Janet joined the Centenary Methodist Church in 1974 when she and her late husband, Huey, became engaged; they were married at Centenary. Janet currently lives with her sister Patty, her nephew Michael (a Lieutenant in the Newton Fire Department), another nephew Rick (who works at Boston Sports Car) and Rick's girlfriend Nicole who is studying to become an ultrasound technician. Michael and Rick are Patty's sons. Janet is an accountant and currently works at Braeburn Country Club. Janet said that she will never forget the love and support that she and Huey received from the congregation during Huey's illness; Huey passed away seven years ago.
- **Janet introduced Sue Membrino** who has been attending the UPA for about a year. Sue was introduced to the UPA by Christine and Sean Gallivan who were friends from their University of New Hampshire days. Sue recently decided to retire from her marketing position (where she spent 18 years) to spend more time with Natalie (they call her "Talie") and PJ. Talie is 6 and is in the 1st grade; PJ is 8 and is in the 3rd grade. Sue is married to Lou Membrino who works in finance at Eaton Vance. The Membrinos live in West Newton. The family likes the sense of community and friendship that they found at the UPA.

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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.

Dear Parents of UPA Youth,

November 1, 2010

How are you all? I hope you are enjoying the beginnings of the Holiday Season. Erin, Graelyn, and I are doing quite well. We are looking forward to sharing a few quiet weekends together after having relatives in town visiting the past six weeks.

I wanted to gauge how many of you have any interest in having dinner with Jean and me on **Friday, November 12 from 7 pm till 9 pm**. As of yet, we have not had anyone sign up, and we would like to know if anyone is interested so that we can plan accordingly. Please let Jean or me know via email or phone if you would like to share some food and fellowship that evening of Friday, November 12. We look forward to hearing from you.

Many blessings, *Michael Nilon*

Youth Update: Holiday Wreath Sale

This Holiday Season, United Parish Youth will be selling Down East Mission Wreaths to raise money for Heifer International. The wreaths are 24 inches and will cost \$22 a wreath. Down East Maine Missions is a social justice ministry that supports many community-sustaining initiatives in Washington County Maine. We will begin taking orders in two weeks, on Sunday, November 14th. The delivery of the wreaths will take place in late November or early December. We will order 80 wreaths, so please make sure to order yours without delay once we begin taking orders.



Knitting Group meets on Monday November 8th at the Ezekian's home. All are welcome. 617-969-5614

Garden Club Meeting Tuesday Nov. 2 Cancelled

The new date is **Tuesday Nov. 9th 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.

~Patricia Bottomley, *President* 617-527-7470

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.

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

What: UPA Families Feeding Families, fall 2010 collection – to benefit children diagnosed with Failure To Thrive and receiving support from the Grow Clinic for Children at Boston Medical Center

Who: Members of the UPA congregation – especially Sunday School families

When: Two Sundays (10-31-10 and 11-7-10)

Where: Bring donations to the closets in the hall between the sanctuary & Parish Hall

How: *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 – maybe even "buddy up" with other families for more expensive items if you'd like!*

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 months 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 also 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 collected general Grow Clinic 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 Grow Clinic families – 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). Many thanks.

The UPA Boards of Christian Education and Outreach

(Continued from page 6)

Look for more information about other members of our community in the weeks to come and keep getting to know each other during worship and during coffee hour!

This Sunday we will kick off our Basket Brigade. For those of you who are new to the Stewardship Campaign, the Basket Brigade is yet another opportunity to get to know a UPA family. Each basket has a “Captain” who will pick up the basket after they are blessed during worship this Sunday. The Captain is then responsible to make sure the basket gets passed along from one person to another until the basket has visited every household on the list. When you receive the basket you will find an envelope addressed to your family. Inside the envelope will be a pledge letter and your individualized pledge card. If you have made a financial pledge to the UPA in the past, that information will be printed on your pledge card. Please consider increasing your pledge this year by at least 5% to cover the decrease in our endowment income. If you have not pledged in the past, we hope that you will make a pledge for the first time in 2011.

Some people are not able to participate in the Basket Brigade; they will receive a letter and their pledge card through the US Postal Service.

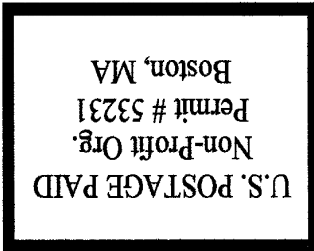
We look forward to a fun and successful 2011 Stewardship Campaign!

Beverly Loudin, Mark and Cathy Paris

UPA Has a New Recycle Bin! Single Stream Recycling Guidelines:

RECYCLING	WHAT TO RECYCLE	DO NOT INCLUDE
Mixed Paper		Coated paper
Thin Cardboard		Coated boxes
Corrugated cardboard	Flattened	Paint Cans
Tin/aluminum scrap metal	Incl. aerosol	
Glass bottles and jars		Broken glass
Plastic bottles & containers	numbers 1-7	Shopping bags, food wrap
Milk Cartons		

Waltham House Visit Last Wednesday four of us, David and Mary Lou Walsh, Sally Lynch, and Doris Ann Sweet, made a visit to Waltham House, a group home run by the Home For Little Wanderers, specifically for teens who are not able to live at home and who also have identified as GLBT. The residents generally live in the house for only a few months, and the staff encourages interactions with the community. We brought a home-cooked meal put together by the Walshes, as well as a supply of UPA pumpkins. It was a fun evening with, of course, messy creation of jack o’ lanterns. One of the teens also prepared pumpkin seeds to roast. Waltham House is one of the organizations we support with our Outreach funding.



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

This Coming Week at UPA:

Sunday, Nov. 7, 2010

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Communion Sunday
11:00 a.m. - Congregational Meeting
11:30 a.m. - Youth Group trip
5:00 p.m. - Confirmation Class

Monday, Nov. 8, 2010

7:30 p.m. - Membership Cultivation

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2010

7:30 a.m. - Bible Study

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010

7:00 p.m. - Open & Affirming

Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010

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

Friday, Nov. 12, 2010

7:00 p.m. - Family Dinner

Sunday, Nov. 14, 2010

10:00 a.m. - Worship
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. 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.