

United Parish of Auburndale

TOGETHER

Dec. 5, 2010, Communion Sunday

Second Sunday in Advent



Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-10

Matthew 3:1-12

Preaching: Jean Alexander

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle: Nancy, Paul
and Nick Satwicz

Sermon: "Fire Next Time"

Reader: Julie Redmond

Head Ushers: John and Rachelle Ross

Assistant Usher: Nancy McGrath

Acolytes: Eunice Kim and Natasha Sharma

Fellowship Time: Advent Luncheon

Roamer: Kevin McGovern

It's always a bit of a shock to read some of the lectionary scriptures for Advent because they are so apocalyptic. Some of them seem more like a threat than a promise. John the Baptist who is the main character this Sunday is not preaching words of hope and comfort but words designed to shake us up. I wonder why?

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

December 5-Advent Lunch

The Community Board will serve lunch in the Parish Hall. You are invited (and encouraged) to bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share for dessert after lunch. We ask that you please help with the clean up when you are finished. Several folks from the Board of Education will lead craft tables for everyone to enjoy.

We'll decorate our Christmas tree in the Parish Hall during the coffee hour on December 5th

December 12-Third Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle
Music Sunday-Spanish Carols with guitar accompaniment

December 18th-Saturday -5 pm Special Blue Christmas Service

Based on the lighting of the four advent candles, our "Blue Christmas" is for those who are grieving or seek healing. We light candles of grief, fear, pain and struggle and have a time of silent prayer and reflection for ourselves and others.

December 19-Fourth Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle
Scriptures: Isaiah 63:7-9
Matthew 1:18-25
Preaching: Jean Alexander
The Christmas Pageant-in loving memory of Sandra Ross

4 pm- Caroling-

Everyone is invited to join the confirmation class to sing carols for those who live in our immediate neighborhood. We will sing for an hour and then gather for hot chocolate in the parish hall.

December 24-Christmas Eve Services

5 pm-Family Worship
Let by the youth group

7:30 Candlelight Communion
A Service of Lessons and Carols.

Monday Musing

I hope that you were able to have a good holiday weekend. I know we did with family in Brooklyn. In addition to the usual feast, I introduced them to “Bananagrams” which became a big hit. I also did the five mile “Turkey Trot” in Prospect Park. (I walked instead of trotting). We have old friends from D.C. who now live on the other side of the Park from our family and we were able to catch up as we walked around the park.

Yesterday the sanctuary looked so lovely again for the first Sunday in Advent. We did the usual “hanging of the greens” and the first advent candle was lit by the McGovern family. Myungeun Park, our seminarian preached her first sermon for us that included at the end a lovely ritual dedicating ourselves to our advent journey. We are well launched into another Advent which is full of lovely traditions here at the UPA and elsewhere. Traditions remind us of who we are even as we look forward to who we can be in the future.

As I came in the building this morning there was Melissa Wylie redoing the picture board for Membership Cultivation. This project has been a long time coming and encountered more difficulties than you can imagine. By this Sunday though it should be done you will be able to use it to check out just who those people are that you have been wondering about.

This month is full of wonderful seasonal activities, some old, some new. I look forward to this Sunday’s Advent Lunch. It’s a lot of fun and a good time to catch up with friends.

Hope to see you there.

Jean

P.S. This Sunday the Good Shepherd Presbyterian, a Korean new church start will begin worshiping with us on Sunday afternoons from 2-5 pm. Please make them welcome.



A Christmas Tea

Wednesday, December 15th

2-4 pm

*Bring a plate of goodies to share
and join us for a lovely afternoon
Children are welcome.*

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*Sponsored by the Senior Ministries*

## **A Swedish Holiday Celebration**

Enjoy an evening of music celebrating Christmas and  
winter solstice in Sweden



**Sunday Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.  
United Parish of Auburndale**

To purchase tickets call **617-202-9973** or you  
may buy them at the door.

## Two Local Artisan and Gift Fairs:

### **Interfaith Fundraiser Responds to the Growing Humanitarian and Public Health Crisis in Haiti Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010**

Offering art for sale from African Authentics and the Haitian Artists Assembly including stone sculpture from Zimbabwe, scarves, cards, jewelry, and Haitian artwork.

This fundraiser benefits Partners in Health programs in Haiti, particularly the public health efforts to prevent the spread of cholera and other diseases.

**Saturday, Dec. 11, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

First Baptist Church in Newton  
848 Beacon Street · Newton Centre, MA 02459



*Co-sponsors: PeaceWorks, City Mission Society of Boston, African Authentics and the Haitian Artists Assembly. For more information, contact Sarah Mausner, PeaceWorks, Inc. at (617) 969-6378 or [peaceworks@rcn.com](mailto:peaceworks@rcn.com).*

### ***Holiday Greetings!***

On Saturday, **December 11**, the Walker Center is hosting an Alternative Gift Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.. Several non-profit organizations will be offering alternative gift –giving options for those last minute gift needs.

The Alternative Gift Fair offers you the opportunity to find unique gifts for this holiday season.



**Pottery \* Jewelry \* Art \* Crafts**  
*Free to the public, refreshments and door prizes*

### **Fellowship of the Concerned**

We send prayers of sympathy to the **Ross** family on the death of **Rachelle's** father, Ian Butler on November 18th after many years of Alzheimer's disease.

Congratulations to **Amanda Harmeling** who successfully passed her last interview with the Metropolitan Boston Association Committee on the Ministry. Once she has completed her degree at B.U. next year she will be able to look for a ministry position.

Giving Thanks ~

I would like to thank the entire congregation for its support and encouragement during my recent illness and I would especially like to thank each and every parishioner who made and delivered meals, sent cards, well wishes and gifts. I would also like to thank Jean for all her hospital and home visits and nurturing during my diagnosis, surgery and recovery. There is something special about this parish and I am truly grateful to be a part of such a caring family of friends and acquaintances. One can never understand the love and care of this congregation until something happens such as my experience, and for that I am most grateful. ~Thank you all!

**Mark Paris**

### ***First Friday for Families*** ***December 3rd 6:30-8:30 pm***

*Join us for a quiet evening with other parents sharing a holiday tradition that your family has.*

*Child care provided*

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



*Rsvp on Facebook or to Jean Alexander by*  
*Wednesday Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. [jalexander@upanewtonma.org](mailto:jalexander@upanewtonma.org)*

## 2011 UPA Coffee Hour

The 2011 Coffee Hour Schedule is in the works. As you know, Coffee Hour is an important part of our Sunday experience at UPA. It gives people a chance to meet new people and to “visit” with those they only see on Sundays. Your service does not go unnoticed and is appreciated by all those who attend.

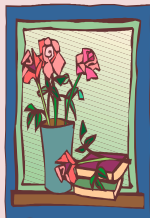
As has been the custom, most people will find their names in the same slots they were in the 2010 schedule. However, there are some empty slots, and Toni Miller, who is preparing the schedule for the Community Board, has the following requests

\* If you have not been on the CH Schedule to co-host a coffee hour and would care to add your name to our list, the Community Board *and* the congregation would be very pleased to have you sign up. **Detailed directions, the names/phone numbers/e-mail addresses of all the other hosts are sent to each host** to ease any stress that one might have, especially if a host has to switch her/his Sunday. Plus there is usually someone around to answer questions on Sundays.

\* **April 17** (at one end of Newton Public Schools April vacation) needs **2 hosts**.

\* There are **8 Pot Luck Sundays** in 2011. They require **ONLY** that someone set up the coffee/tea/cream/milk/Children’s Table and clean up afterwards. The Community Board supplies the juice and snacks for the Children’s Table. Food is supplied by members of the congregation. Money spent on Milk for tea and Half & Half for coffee is reimbursed (slips are given to Johanna Porter).

If you can help out in any way, or have any questions, please contact **Toni Miller** at [tjkjkm14@yahoo.com](mailto:tjkjkm14@yahoo.com) OR 617.527.7044. Many, many thanks.



## Come Join the Book Club!

**For Dec. 10th:** “Strength in What Remains” Tracey Kidder – a journey of remembrance and forgiveness.

We meet at 10 am in the Norton Room – usually on the second Friday of the month. **Merry Christmas from all of us!**

## Youth Update:

### *Young Seekers,*

What up? How did the splendid feast of Thanksgiving fare in your households? Truly there is no better way to celebrate our thankfulness than to be with those we love the most in the world while we dwell in a spirit of gratitude for the loving community that surrounds us.

This week UPA Youth Group I will introduce you to Reggie Ray's adaptation of Tibetan siddha meditation techniques. Ray is a student of Chogyam Trungpa, one of the first Tibetans to teach esoteric spiritual practices to Westerners. We will meet following the UPA Advent Crafts fair, which begins just after worship ends. Those of you who are interested in using your artistic ability and greater wisdom to help the younger members of our congregation find their expressive voice, please come at 11:30 to lend a helping hand with crafts. Otherwise, come ready and willing to explore the spirit through your bodily experience at 12 noon.

Peace, *Mike*



## Youth Update : *Holiday Wreath Sale*



### *Wreath Lovers,*

Tis the season to smell fresh fir! Come pick up your balsam fir soon. The wreaths will be stored in the shed behind the church. Please feel free to pick yours up whenever you get a chance. If you need help getting your wreath packed in your car, the youth and I will be able to load it up this upcoming Sunday, Dec 5<sup>th</sup> after worship.

We have already taken orders for 77 wreaths. That means we only have 3 more wreaths to sell before we reach our target of 80 wreaths. If you haven't already ordered your wreath, order today! The proceeds support two excellent causes, Down East Maine Missions and Heifer International.

If you have not yet made a payment, please remember to bring a check or cash when you pick your wreath up this Sunday.

Many blessings!

*Mike*

**POINSETTIAS FOR ADVENT/  
CHRISTMAS ALTAR ARRANGEMENT**  
*Dec. 12 & 19-26*



I (we) wish to loan a poinsettia or amaryllis plant for the altar on  
**December 12 and 19-26**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Message for Together (if  
desired) \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring your plant(s) to the church between December 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> (put  
your name on the pot if you'd like to have the plant returned.)

Please put this form in the offering plate on Sunday morning or drop it off at the  
church office when you are in the building. Acknowledgements will appear in  
the Together so that we may recognize everyone sharing in this offering.

Thank you in advance, The Altar/Flower Committee

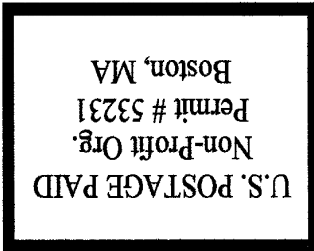
**Alerting All Boards...UPA Has a New Recycle Bin!**

*Any items contaminated by food are not acceptable for recycling*

*(Located behind the building)*

**Recycling Guidelines:**

| <b>RECYCLING</b>             | <b>WHAT TO RECYCLE</b>                  | <b>DO NOT INCLUDE</b>       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mixed Paper & Newspaper      |                                         | Coated paper                |
| Thin Cardboard               |                                         | Coated boxes                |
| Corrugated cardboard         | Flattened & folded                      | Greasy cardboard            |
| Tin/aluminum scrap metal     | Alum & tin cans - incl.<br>aerosol cans | Paint cans & scrap<br>metal |
| Glass bottles and jars       |                                         | Broken glass                |
| Plastic bottles & containers | Numbers 1-7                             | Shopping bags,<br>food wrap |
| Milk Cartons                 | Milk and juice cartons                  | TV Dinner                   |



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

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**This Coming Week at UPA:**

**Sunday, Dec. 5, 2010**

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Communion/  
11:00 p.m. - Advent Luncheon  
4:00 p.m. - Stambandet Christmas Concert

**Monday, Dec. 6, 2010**

7:30 p.m. - Common Meeting

**Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2010**

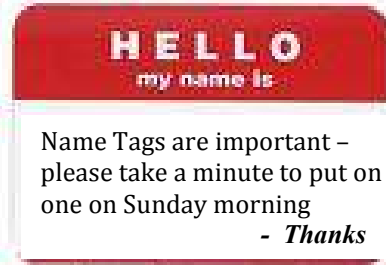
7:30 a.m. - Bible Study  
7:30 p.m. - Board of Ed

**Thursday, Dec. 9, 2010**

3:30 - Children's Choir  
7:30 - Adult Choir

**Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010**

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Music Sunday  
Second Sunday in Advent  
11:00 p.m. - Fellowship Time  
2:00 p.m. - Godspell



**[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.