

United Parish of Auburndale

TOGETHER

Dec. 12, 2010, Music Sunday

Third Sunday in Advent



Scriptures: Isaiah 35: 1-10

James 5:7-10

Preaching: Jean Alexander

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle: John, Becky, Catherine and Elizabeth Connor

Music Sunday: A Celebration of Spanish Carols

Reader: Mary Reppert

Head Ushers: Tom Mackowski & Doris Woolery

Assistant Usher: Drew Mackowski

Acolytes: Amanda Redmond & Kathleen McVittie

Fellowship Time: Chicoine/Hoch & Stuart, Marcy and David

Roamer: Kevin McGovern

Christmas is a season of music much of it very familiar and beloved. This Sunday is our annual music Sunday and this year it will focus on Spanish carols with guitar accompaniment. Our guitarist will also provide other special music during the service. It should be a lovely time to contemplate the coming of Christmas.

**UPA Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 19th (during service)
Rehearsal Saturday, December 18th 9:30-10:30**

In preparation for the Christmas pageant, children ages 1st grade and under and their parents are invited to the Fireside Room next **Sunday, December 12th**, after the service if they are interested in being an animal in the pageant. We will try to match a costume to your size and preference. All children, grade 6 and under, have the option to participate as angels or shepherds. Our rehearsal will be on **Saturday December 18th, 9:30-10:30 AM**. Please plan to attend this very important run-through! *Thank you, Katie*

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

December 12-Third Sunday in Advent

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

December 15 – Christmas Tea – 2-4 p.m.

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

It was a busy weekend at the UPA. On Friday night we had our inaugural “First Friday for Families”. We had 26 adults and 29 children in attendance and I think everyone had a good time. I know I had a chance to get to know people better and not just some of the newer families. For example, did you know that Raveen and Allison Sharma met on a co-ed soccer team? I sure didn’t. From the level of conversation going on, I think the adults appreciated having a candlelight dinner with minimal effort on their part while knowing that their children were just below and well taken care of. I’m glad it went so well and I look forward to this monthly gathering.

Sunday’s Advent Lunch and craft fair was also a great success. I think almost everyone who was in church stayed and enjoyed the fellowship around tables. The Community Board fed us well and we had created a festive air to the parish hall. The Board of Christian Education had some wonderful crafts that were very engaging for the children. The rest of us ate and talked and enjoyed ourselves. Thank you to the members of the two boards for making this annual event such a lovely affair.

While I’m thanking people, kudos go to Melissa Wylie for the up-dated photo wall. This project has been in the works for a LONG time. The original one was done before I arrived 6 years ago so the pictures were very out of date, especially of the children. Now you will be able to admire yourself and figure out who that nice person is who always sits ahead of you in Church.

I also enjoyed the Stambandet “Swedish Family Christmas” concert again yesterday. There were four UPA young ladies who were part of the presentation: Laura Andersen, Maddie Michael, Kathleen McVittie and Austen Herlihy. I always love the part where they celebrate St. Lucia’s day bringing in the light.

On Saturday after Bruce and I went to see the latest play at the Huntington Theater, I persuaded him to walk through the city to the Park Street T station. I loved seeing all the lights and decorations. The tree in front of Trinity Church is all blue lights. It was just lovely and helped me get my “fix” of Christmas lights. This year, I’m not going to put up a tree at home. It just is too much work when we are not having family for Christmas. I’ve always loved having a tree, but each year the thought of doing it in the midst of everything else that is going on, sometimes seems like too much effort. So I’ve put up my crèches at home and in my office and a few other decorations and it feels just right for this year. Traditions are important but we shouldn’t be slaves to them. Some years I will have a tree and some years I won’t. Both are fine.

Blessings to each of you as you prepare your homes and your hearts to receive the gift of new life and love.

Jean



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*

## **Mitten Tree** **Reminder & Thank You!**

A reminder that we would like to have all Mitten Tree gift donations

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I will be in the Fireside room after church collecting the gifts. Please bring the unwrapped gift along with the mitten taped to the gift.

I would also like to thank you for your fantastic participation once again. Our church family always amazes me with the generosity. This year we will be bringing REACH nearly 70 gifts with a total estimated value of about \$2400. Nicely done! And I can't even begin to describe how much they appreciate these donations.

Thank you again and see you on Sunday in the Fireside Room!

~Kristin McGovern

[kristin@gardengirl.us](mailto:kristin@gardengirl.us) 781 449 3789

## **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



## **UPA Needs You!**

The many wonderful activities at UPA happen because volunteers just like you work together and make them happen. We need your help. The UPA has numerous boards and committees that need new recruits. Here is a brief description of each. More information can be obtained in the annual report.

We don't need a huge time commitment, but we do need your help. UPA is the collective result of our combined energies. Please give some of your energy to make it great. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bill Hoch ([Bill.hoch@hotmail.com](mailto:Bill.hoch@hotmail.com) or 617-965-4514(h) to discuss opportunities.

**Membership.** Do you want to help welcome new visitors to UPA and market us to the community? You might be great for Membership.

**Worship.** Would you like to get involved in organizing the activities necessary for Sunday services and discuss ways to bring new energy to our worship? Worship Board could be the place for you.

**Christian Education.** Sunday forums and Sunday School activities happen because the people on Christian Education are dedicated to broadening out spiritual horizons. Come and join this Board.

**Outreach.** If you want to help organize volunteer opportunities and mission trips and shepherd UPA's charitable giving, Outreach welcomes your help.

**Community.** The Community Board is the heart of the UPA social life. If you love planning fun events, join the Community Board.

**Stewardship.** Do you have a knack for raising money and encouraging others to give. The Stewardship Board runs the fall giving campaign and needs your help. They also oversee our investments in our endowment funds.

**Property.** If you can help oversee our physical plant, this Board can use your help. (They are especially interested in having some women on this Board!)

**Open and Affirming.** Help UPA make real our commitment to being an Open and Affirming Reconciling Congregation. This group puts our good words into action.

**Staff Parish Relations.** This group works with Jean to oversee the staff of UPA. If you can help support the work of our dedicated staff, this committee would welcome your involvement.

**Altar Committee.** Last but not least, our sanctuary would not be as beautiful as it is every Sunday without the work of the Altar Committee. Come join us! *Thanks.*

## Fellowship of the Concerned

Congratulations to **Tracy Desovitch** and **Joe Coyne** on the safe arrival of **Patrick Joseph Coyne** on December 1st. His papa wrote, "We are currently grooming him for tryouts for the role of Baby Jesus."

Please include **Gail Holm** in your prayers as she recovers from several hospitalizations for a head injury. She is now home and working on regaining her stamina.



**Knitting Group** meets on Monday **December 13<sup>th</sup>** at the Ezekian's home. All are welcome. 617-969-5614

A Free Parenting Workshop:

## When Kids Push Our Buttons And What We Can Do About It

*How do our kids ALWAYS know how to push our buttons?  
Want to feel in control of your responses rather than just  
reacting during these heated moments?*

**Wednesday, December 15 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

*This event will be held at:*

**Temple Shalom of Newton, 175 Temple St., 02465**

*No registration required*

**This evening is co-sponsored by the PTO Council,  
Newton Clergy Association and The Newton Partnership.**

## UPA COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

January - February 2011

### January

2 POT LUCK

9 Lundberg/Beam

kol2101@columbia.edu

9 Day/Rochon

klday1@verizon.net

16 POT LUCK (MLK, Jr. weekend)

23 Ross (R & J)

rachellebross@gmail.com

23 Whittum

hawhittum@verizon.net

30 Davenport

mahalad@aol.com

30 Newman

koneillnewman@gmail.com

### February

6 ANNUAL MEETING (Community Board will set up coffee/tea/refreshments)

13 Parker

soparker@bu.edu

13 Marzilli/Mhlaba

nmarzilli@nedeaconess.com

20 Sweet/Herlihy

Martha@massfarmersmarkets.org

20 Sweet

dasweet3@gmail.com

27 POT LUCK

**PLEASE REMEMBER: FOR NUT-FREE CHILDREN'S TABLE**, look *carefully* for statements such as:

- *Contains peanuts (tree nuts, or any kind of nut)*
- *may contain nuts or trace of nuts*
- *processed on shared equipment with nuts*

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO RE-READ FOOD ALLERGY INFORMATION.**

In that Coffee Hour is such an important part of the UPA Sunday morning experience, **PLEASE** find someone to exchange dates with you if your date doesn't work. The UPA thanks you for your service and effort.

### ~Readers needed for Christmas Eve~

We need seven readers for the **December 24th Communion service at 7:30 P.M.** If you are planning to attend that service and are willing to read one of the lessons, please contact Steve McClure either by phone (617-851-0313) or by email ([steve@mccluremail.com](mailto:steve@mccluremail.com)).

Thanks, Steve

## Youth Update:

*Yo Youth,*

What up? This past Sunday, we spent some time hearing from a close friend of mine, Tiffany Reed, who now lives in Thailand. I thought it would be an excellent idea if she came to introduce you to Zen Buddhism. Since I have also meditated in the Zen style and did Zen Peacemaker Circle Practice with her at Harvard Divinity School and have learned a lot from my encounters with them, I had a hunch she would have something useful to tell to our group about her take on Zen. She most certainly did! We learned about and experimented with both bowing and sitting meditation.

The next youth group meeting is scheduled for Jan. 19. At that meeting we will be putting together the bulletin for the youth-led Christmas Eve worship service. Please come and participate if you are interested in taking part in that service. We will meet from 11:30 am till 1 pm in the United Parish of Auburndale Youth Room. We will also be going through a short walk through that afternoon in the Sanctuary as well as a few hours before the service on Christmas Eve. Since Erin, Graelyn, and I will be out of town at that time, Myungeun Park will be helping us to design and perform the service. I am excited to see what we produce! I hope to see you all on the 19<sup>th</sup>!

Peace, *Mike*

## *Dear Wreathers,*

Happy Season of Advent! We are very excited to tell you that we have sold the entire order of 80 wreaths! We had only two more orders this Sunday, so we have decided to call it quits on placing another order with Down East Maine Missions. At my last count, we had collected payment for 58 of the 80 wreaths.



If your payment is still outstanding, please remember to bring cash or check this upcoming Sunday. Also, for those of you who have not yet picked up your wreath, they are in the back shed, yearning to be hung on your wall or door and add their beautiful fragrance to your home. Come and get them soon so you can enjoy them for as much of the season as possible.

Thank you all for your support of Down East Maine Missions and the United Parish of Auburndale Youth's commitment to Heifer International!

With hope and peace,

*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



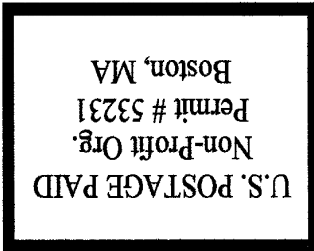
### **Come Join the Book Club!**

**For Dec. 10th:** "Strength in What Remains" Tracey Kidder – a  
journey of remembrance and forgiveness. We meet at 10 a.m. in  
the Norton Room – usually on the second Friday of the month.  
**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us!**

***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.

**Pottery \* Jewelry \* Art \* Crafts**

*Free to the public, refreshments and door prizes*



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

**This Coming Week at UPA:**

**Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010**

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Music Sunday 3rd Sunday in Advent

11:00 p.m. - Fellowship Time

2:00 p.m. - Godspell

**Monday, Dec. 13, 2010**

7:30 p.m. - Knitting G group

**Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010**

7:00 p.m. - Bristol Lodge

7:30 p.m. - Membership

**Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010**

2:00 p.m. - Christmas Tea

**Thursday, Dec. 16, 2010**

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

7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir

**Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010**

9:30 a.m. - Pageant Rehearsal

5:00 p.m. - Blue Christmas Service

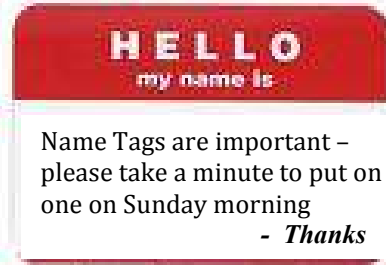
**Sunday, Dec. 19, 2010**

9:00 a.m. - Children's Choir

10:00 a.m. - Worship/Christmas Pageant/4th Sunday in Advent

11:30 a.m. - Youth Group

4:00 p.m. - Caroling



**[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.