

## FEBRUARY 7, 2010 - PRAYERS

Bereaved: The family of Gary Thomas (Paul's cousin).

New Prayers: June Lukey.

Facing surgery: Jonathan Root (Harriett's brother); Linda Hall (Doug's sister).

Hospitalized: Cathie Achorn at New England Baptist in Boston; Linda Kingsley (Carol Moore's cousin); Barbara Lowe (cousin of Stephanie Herstedt & Doug Hall).

In transition: Bob Dobson at Westboro Health Care.

Continue Prayers: The people of Haiti; Jean Perry & Jean Curran (Carolyn Bent's friends); Dave a friend of Jamie Jaworski; Allen Moore (Carol's father); Craig Stewart (Bonnie Rossi's father); Roland Charpentier (Morgan Molloy's grandfather); Serena Lanz; Bob Brown; Mary Jane Kolarik (Paul Thomas' cousin); Veronica Ramos' sister Roslyn; Kurt Zellefrow (Elaine Moore's nephew); Tim Murphy (Frank Stokes' brother-in-law); David McLeod; Rita Uhlman; Reba Gray at Beaumont Westboro.

Visitation Team: If you have prayer requests or know someone in our church community who might like a call or a visit, please complete one of the prayer request cards in the pews and put it in the offering plate or in the basket in the back of the church. Members of the Visitation Team will be responsible for collecting these and working with the Pastors and Deacons to ensure that someone follows-up.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ~ TODAY ~

#### AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Join us and bring friends and family for an uplifting musical experience as we perform music from a variety of composers. The event features the Pleasant Street SDA Church Praise Team and our own Chancel Choir, Bell Choir plus the Hands of Praise and special guests.

**TODAY at 3 PM in our Sanctuary**  
Presented by Curtis Richardson

#### 2010 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES - TODAY

Please pick up your contribution envelopes **today**. If you did not have envelopes last year, please contact me: [sharkey53@charter.net](mailto:sharkey53@charter.net), phone: 366-4023 or drop a note in the offering plate. You have a choice of either weekly or monthly envelopes. *I urge everyone to use envelopes.*

**Linda Sharkey**, Asst. Treasurer

#### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FEBRUARY MISSION

As always, donations for the Westborough Food Pantry are appreciated. Visit [www.westboroughfoodpantry.org](http://www.westboroughfoodpantry.org) to see items that are needed. Thank you, **Karen Hutchinson**

## HAITI RESPONSE

Thanks to the generous donations to the Haiti Relief Fund \$2,920 has already been received from our congregation that will go directly to the Disaster Response program through the UCC fund. There are still envelopes on the Mission Table if you did not have a chance yet to contribute. Remember make checks out to Evangelical Congregational Church with memo line - "Haiti response".

On the Mission table there is also a sample of a Hygiene Kit we are collecting that will go to help refugees such as the Haiti earthquake victims. You may pick up a list of items and bring them back to the church in a gallon zip-lock baggie. We'll have a bin to collect them under the Mission table and our Mission committee will ship them. We need to send \$2 for each bag for the shipping/processing, so donations will be welcome for that also. Any questions call **Marilyn Lyle**

### HELP FOR HAITI – HYGIENE KITS

Along with the Missions Committee in conjunction with the Church World Services we want to help out the people in Haiti. There are kits we can assemble for the Haitian people with the below listed items.

We are asking each grade to participate with their own item below so that we do not end up with too many of one and not enough of the other items...

1st grade One hand towel measuring approximately 16" x 28" (no fingertip or bath towels)

2nd grade One washcloth

3rd grade One wide-tooth comb

4th grade One nail clipper (no metal files or emery boards)

5th grade One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)

6th grade One toothbrush (in original packaging)

7th grade Six Band-Aids®

8th grade One Gallon Zip-lock Bag

Please do not add toothpaste. Toothpaste that has an extended expiration date will be added to Hygiene Kits shipments just prior to shipment. Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.

Thanks all, **Jean Newton**, DCE/YM ~ **Nancy Cavanaugh**, Chair of CE ~ **Kristi Allen**, Chapel Leader

### HAITI FUNDRAISER EVENT

February 27 from 5 - 8 PM.

Following the earthquake and multiple aftershocks, Haiti continues to be in need for major assistance in efforts to heal the sick and rebuild the nation. In order to keep the momentum of aid going, UCC Boxborough will be hosting a community-wide fundraiser event for all ages. Musician Willie Sordillo will gather many friends to offer lively and creative music. Also, there will be fine Haitian cuisine! We will also be offering childcare activities. All proceeds will benefit Partners in Health, the Boston based program founded by Paul Farmer, which operates health clinics in Haiti primarily run by Haitian physicians and nurses. Donations will be \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Of course, extra donations will always be welcome. If you are looking for a way to get involved

and help those that need our help, please join us. Invite your friends, family and neighborhood.

The event will be held at UCC Boxborough Congregational Church - 723 Massachusetts Avenue. Feel free to call Ute Molitor for any questions or if you'd like to get more involved - 978-263-7387.

LIVING THE QUESTIONS - An Introduction to Progressive Christianity (PART II)

This is the second of three seven-week sessions. Each program will have a 20 minute DVD movie featuring a leading theological thinker. It will be held Wednesdays in the Historical Room at Kirkside from 7-8:30 PM.

Participant Fee: \$10 per 7-session series (Scholarships available)

To sign up call the church office 366-2000 or email: WestboroUCC@verizon.net

Dates: February 10, 24 (no class on Ash Wednesday, February 17) and March 3, 10, 17 & 24

**Rev Gaetani** will lead the first class, after that leaders will rotate to include **Rev Thomas, Brian Johnson, Veronica Ramos and Anthony Moncton**

Note: You did not have to attend the first or second series to attend this one.

CENTERING PRAYER & MEDITATION

February 18 & March 18

5:45-6:45 PM – Historical Room, Kirkside

Join us as we gather to lean/practice the ancient art of Centering Prayer/Meditation. **Rev Elaine Gaetani**

PENNIES FOR PEACE

Fish those loose pennies out of the bottom of your purse, pocket, or junk drawer and please bring them to church. The Missions and Social Concerns Committee will put them to good use by supporting author and humanitarian Greg Mortenson in his quest to build schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Mortenson (Three Cups of Tea) is co-founder of the Central Asia Institute (CAI), which focuses on community-based education, especially for girls. A fifth-grade education for girls improves not only the basic indices of health for her and her family, she will also spread the value of education within her community. While a penny is virtually worthless in the U.S., it can buy a pencil, book or support a teacher's wages. So help create a legacy of peace. Gather your pennies.

**Judy Powell**

JOIN US ON AN ADULT MISSION TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS (DURING JAZZFEST!)

We are planning a mission trip to New Orleans in spring 2010, to continue disaster recovery efforts from Hurricane Katrina. We will be working on a variety of rebuilding projects to get residents back into their homes. All skill levels are welcome. Congregations from every state and every denomination are still at work helping the people of New Orleans to recover from utter devastation.

We will be emissaries of God's love toward one another. The dates - Sunday, April 25 – Sunday, May 2.

We will stay at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in New Orleans where we have reserved spaces for 20 people.

We are looking for at least three very skilled people able to lead small groups at various work sites. The cost? The approximate cost for the week is \$200 (for meals and van rentals), airfare (between \$250 and \$400), plus spending money for JazzFest and any other items of a personal nature.

For more information call **Pam Faustine** (978)464-2026, or **Doug Wales** (508)870-0086, if you are interested (or might be interested).

BIBLES FOR THIRD-GRADE CHILDREN

If you would like your child's name printed on their Bible, please let me know ASAP. **Jean Newton, DCE/YM**

LEADERS & SHEPHERDS ARE NEEDED!!!!!!

Our church school needs leaders and shepherds for the rotation which begins **TODAY**. We will be learning about the Ten Commandments. Sign up in the Vestry **today** for this five week session and give others an opportunity to go to worship. **Jean Newton DCE/YM**

HELP NEEDED IN CRIBBERY

The cribbery needs people to assist **Sandy Horton** and **Mike Lawler**. You do not need to have a child or grandchild in the cribbery to help. Just come in and have fun holding babies and playing with the little ones.

CHILDREN'S OFFERING

This year our children are helping *Neighbors In Need*. The monies collected by the children each Sunday will go to the local food pantries. I have a couple of suggestions that you may be helpful:

- maybe allow the children to earn their offering so that it comes from them
- talk to your child so they understand how people need help occasionally from the food pantry.
- let them know about how important what they give is to others.
- remind them they can bring their offering down front when it is time for the Children's Chat. (Except for Communion Sunday when the collection will be done in The Parkman Chapel.)

If you need offering envelopes, please ask. Thanks everyone for your support.

**Jean Newton** and the Board of Christian Ed

GROCERY CARDS 2010

OK, here we go again! In light of the severe financial health of the church, we are trying to think of as many ways as possible to increase our sales. Just to review: you pay exactly what you would pay at the checkout for your groceries. It costs nothing for you to participate. The church receives (with some extra effort by all of us) 3% or 5% of whatever you buy at Roche Bros and Stop & Shop respectively. This is "free" money for the church. Will you help?

The strength of this program is in the increased number of people in our congregation who participate. Can we double our participation to increase funds raised for the operation of the church from \$9,000 to \$18,000? We are especially interested in why folks choose not to participate. Is there something we can do to make it easier for you to purchase cards? We know that some of you buy cards to help school programs (and to answer a FAQ, Stop & Shop only registers cards for direct contribution to public schools – not other nonprofits). Some of you choose not to buy cards to get frequent flyer miles or some other benefit from the cards. Keep in mind these promotions amount to about 1% or less of your expenditures. The church receives 3 – 5% from grocery cards. I wish we could take credit cards as payment, but they all charge between 3-5% and we would wipe out any margin for the church. In the interest of trying to accommodate more of you, please let us know what keeps you from buying cards, and maybe we can find a way to come together.

Tips for the month (remember for all of these we make more \$\$ at S&S):

- Remember to bring a check or cash with you to church!
- Buy your postage stamps at either store with your gift card – save a trip to the Post Office!
- Think of all those gift cards available for birthday presents that you can buy with grocery cards.
- Don't forget Valentines Day – sweets, flowers, Valentines you mail that need stamps, going out to dinner with a gift card for your favorite restaurant you buy with a grocery card.

\* Our unofficial total for 2009 was \$8787 (we probably would have reached \$9000 if we had not been snowed out 12/20!)

#### BAPTISM SEMINAR

Baptism seminars are held after worship on baptism Sundays. Seminars are scheduled for **February 21, March 21 and April 18** or by special arrangement. If you have not had a family baptism here you need to attend a seminar before doing so. Baptisms are usually scheduled the third Sunday of each month except in May, when they are on the second Sunday. There are no baptisms in December. Call the church office 366-2000 for forms. Contact a Deacon with questions.

#### CHANCEL FLOWERS

To grace our Chancel with flowers on a Sunday morning, please sign the flower chart in the Vestry. Flowers are given in memory of, in honor of, or for a special occasion. Questions, call **Chris Mosher** 366-2250 or **Nancy Gage** 366-9266.

#### HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

For a member or friend who needs meals, please call **Betty Gray** 366-1039.

#### HOSTING COFFEE HOUR

To host, please call **Linda Borglund** 870-5784.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL

The nursery school is registering children **2.9 years** and older. We have openings in our Tuesday/Thursday class for 2.9/3 year-olds and our Monday/Wednesday/Friday class for four year-olds. Please visit our website at [www.congregationalchurchnurseryschool.com](http://www.congregationalchurchnurseryschool.com) for more information or call the school at 366-8783 for a tour.

**Anne Deysher**

#### **EVANGEL NEWSLETTER**

**DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17\***

**\*Note day changed to Wednesday**

**Published: Wednesday, February 24**

*Copy received before the deadline is appreciated.*

#### CALENDAR

<b>Today</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>
10:30 AM	Worship/Church School
Noon	DEACONS/Kerygma Room
3:00 PM	<b><u>BLACK HISTORY CONCERT/</u></b> Sanctuary
5:00 PM	Scouts/Board Room
6:00 PM	Senior High Youth/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
<b>Feb. 8</b>	<b>Monday</b>
3:30 PM	Scouts/Vestry
7:30 PM	AA/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
<b>Feb. 9</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
11:30 AM	Women's Club/Vestry
2:00 PM	Weavers/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
****	Junior High Youth/Friendly House
7:00 PM	TRUSTEES/Board Room
7:30 PM	Festival Ringers/Bell Loft
7:30 PM	FINANCIAL FORUM/Historical Room
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
9AM-3PM	Weavers/Vestry/Classrooms
4:00 PM	Scouts/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
4:00 PM	Hospice Singers/Choir Room
5:00 PM	Worship Planning/Board Room
7:00 PM	Adult Study/Historical Room
<b>Feb. 11</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
*****	All choirs rehearse regular times
6:30 PM	Scouts/Board & Historical Rooms
<b>Feb. 12</b>	<b>Friday</b>
9:30 AM	Playgroup/Vestry
<b>Feb. 13</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
9AM-Noon	Congo KIDS to grocery stores
<b>Feb. 14</b>	<b>Sunday/Valentine's Day</b>
10:30 AM	Worship/Church School
11:45 AM	Music Committee/Kerygma Room
11:45 AM	Visitation/Board Room
<b>Feb. 15</b>	<b>Monday – PRESIDENT'S DAY</b>
	Church office closed
7:00 PM	AVPCC/Board Room
7:00 PM	AA/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside

The Rev Paul Thomas, Pastor  
*paulthom2@verizon.net*  
The Rev Elaine Gaetani, Associate Pastor  
*revelaineg@aol.com*  
Curtis Richardson, Director of Music  
*ccurtisrichardson@comcast.net*  
Carol Steinbrecher, Student Minister  
*carols@thumbdamp.com*  
Jean Newton, Director of Christian Education &  
Youth Ministries  
*ejnjen@msn.com*  
Lee Reid, Office Administrator  
*WestboroUCC@Verizon.net*  
Bonnie Rossi, Administrative Assistant  
*BRossi6@Verizon.net*  
Linda Birch, Wedding Coordinator  
*birchouse@verizon.net*  
Sue Menzel & Jen Keeler,  
Bell Choir Directors  
*westcongmusic@yahoo.com*  
Ed Newton, Treasurer  
Linda Sharkey, Assistant Treasurer  
Jon Oliver, Custodian  
Church Office Phone 508/366-2000  
Church Office Fax 508/366-5867  
General Church email –  
***WestboroUCC@Verizon.net***  
Congregational Church Nursery School  
Anne Deysher, director, 508/366-8783  
[www.congregationalchurchnurseryschool.com](http://www.congregationalchurchnurseryschool.com)  
Church web site  
[www.UCCwestboro.org](http://www.UCCwestboro.org)  
U.C.C. web sites  
<http://www.macucc.org> (Mass Conference)  
<http://www.ucc.org> (National)