

### MARCH 7, 2010 - PRAYERS

New Prayers: The people of Chile who have suffered the effects of a terrible earthquake and tsunami; Jayson & Jeremiah Goodall (relatives of Wendy Roberts); Connie Koren (Nancy & Harry Cook's niece's mother-in-law).

Bereaved: The family of Vic Hamburger. The family of Bill Murphy (grandfather of a friend of Gray Thomas-Sowers).

Hospitalized: Bob Paulson at UMass (Univ. Campus).

In treatment: Anne Rutherford (Barbara Graf's daughter).

In transition: Edna Christensen at the Beaumont.

Recuperating at home: Jamie Jaworski.

Continue Prayers: The people of Haiti; Larry Laird (friend of Janet & Jim Harvey); Louise Petrarca (Gabe Leblanc's cousin); Jo Anne Kinnamon (Myra Appleby's sister-in-law); Kristy (Hall) Kocou; Cathie Achorn; Eric Heintz (Anne Deysher's son-in-law); Bob Dobson; Martha Sawyer (Pam Kapitz' sister); Linda Hall (Doug's sister), Barbara Lowe (cousin of Stephanie Herstedt & Doug Hall); June Lukey; Jonathan Root (Harriett's brother).

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

#### INTERFAITH COMMUNITY CONCERT – TODAY

A Westboro Interfaith Community concert hosted by the Unitarian Church is set for **today at 3 PM**. Choirs from most Westboro congregations will be participating. Tickets are \$12 (\$8 for seniors) and may be purchased in advance or at the door. The concert will benefit the Assabet Valley Pastoral Counseling Center.

#### MACUCC RESPONSE TO THE EARTHQUAKE IN CHILE

Our prayers and generosity are rising in response to the emerging news of the massive earthquake (8.8) that struck Chile. Please lift in prayer the Pentecostal Church of Chile – our Conference's ecumenical partner with whom we have had a relationship for many years.

In addition to prayer, we can respond by sharing generously. Over the past month, you have given almost \$200,000 through the Massachusetts Conference in response to the earthquake in Haiti.

You may make checks out to *The Evangelical Church*, with the memo "Chile Earthquake" and 100% of all gifts will be dedicated to responding to this disaster.

### HAITI RESPONSE

Our congregation is working to complete the collection of items for the Hygiene Kits the Church School has been filling. Women's Fellowship Mission for March will be adding the last items still needed, collecting donations for the shipping costs, and \$2 fee for adding the toothpaste, for the delivering of the kits to the refugees wherever needed - very likely Haiti at this time. Checks can be made out to *The Evangelical Congregational Church* with CWS Kits in the memo line. We hope to ship the kits to the CWS warehouse the week of March 6. Questions, please call **Marilyn Lyle** 508-366-5542.

#### WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - MARCH MISSION

Our mission is to fill in where needed in completing the Hygiene Kits for Haiti. Contributions toward the cost of mailing kits (\$2 per bag) are greatly appreciated. Call **Karen Hutchinson** 508-870-1782 for more information.

#### LIVING THE QUESTIONS - An Introduction to Progressive Christianity (PART II) March 10, 17, 24 & 31

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 session series\*

To sign up call the church office 366-2000 or email:

[WestboroUCC@verizon.net](mailto:WestboroUCC@verizon.net) (\*Scholarships available)

**Rev Gaetani** led the first class, now leaders will rotate to include **Rev Thomas, Brian Johnson, Veronica Ramos and Anthony Moncton** *Note: You did not have to attend the first series to attend this one.*

#### CENTERING PRAYER & MEDITATION

**March 18** - 5:45-6:45 PM – Historical Room, Kirkside  
Join us as we gather to learn/practice the ancient art of Centering Prayer/Meditation. **Rev Elaine Gaetani**

#### VOICES NEEDED – PALM SUNDAY

It's not too soon to start preparing for our Palm Sunday Cantata "Wondrous Love". We have chosen the music and will begin rehearsing Thursdays at 7:30 PM. We need extra voices, all parts, but especially tenors. See Curtis for information. Copies of the score are available.

#### WOMEN'S RETREAT

Our Women's Retreat is Friday May 7-Saturday May 8 at the Benedictine Monastery in Harvard, Mass. If you have not yet signed up, please do so soon! **Elaine Moore** is our registrar for this occasion.

## 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 skilled people able to lead small groups at various work sites. 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).

## GOT GROCERY CARDS?

This is "free" money for the church. Will you help? In light of the **severe financial health** of the church, we are trying to think of new ways to increase our sales. The success of this program depends on the increased number of people in our congregation who are willing to participate, as well as in the increased ways to use grocery cards in our daily routine. To increase funds raised for the operation of the church from \$9,000 to \$18,000, can we double our participation? Just to review; you pay exactly what you would pay at the checkout for anything you buy at the grocery store – groceries, prescriptions, gift cards for other merchants, postage stamps, etc. 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. Many of your regular expenditures can be purchased with gift cards bought with your grocery cards we sell here at church. Here are some new ideas (thanks to you all-keep them coming!) on how to generate more income for our church:

1. **Going out to dinner?** You can purchase a gift card at Stop & Shop (with your S&S card) for Outback, Ruby Tuesday, Legal Seafood, and many more!
2. **Going to the movies?** Buy a movie gift card at Stop & Shop with your grocery card!
3. **Need gas?** There are two ways to benefit the church! Get credit toward gas purchases at a Stop & Shop gas station when you buy groceries (with your grocery card, of course!). Or, better yet you can buy a gas card at Stop & Shop with your grocery card, and 5 cents of every gas dollar you spend goes to our church!
4. **Need stamps?** Buy them at S&S or Roche Bros with a grocery gift card – save a trip to the Post Office!
5. Even if you only **stop in at Roche Bros for a few things** (or lunch, dinner or a cup of coffee), why not buy a \$50 card to have on hand for those times? If all did that, it would help a lot!

We are also 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 reward from your credit cards. Keep in mind these promotions amount to about 1% or less of your expenditures. The church receives 3 – 5% from grocery cards. Can you buy a card occasionally? Please let us know what keeps you from buying cards, and maybe we can find a way to come together!

- **Remember to bring a check or cash with you to church** (or mail it to me!)
- If you don't make it to church, stop by after to buy your cards – many folks do!
- Cards are also for sale at Kirkside, Monday – Thursday 9-3
- I have 2 families who send me a check once a month and I deliver their cards to them. If that works for you, let me know!

## CHILDREN'S CLASSES

You can find your children in the following classes today. Join us anytime and see what we do.

**Jean Newton, DCE/YM**

K-ACTS II  
1st-W/WORLD  
2nd-B/HEAVEN  
3rd-D/DINER  
4th-P/PLACE  
5th & 6th-T/ART  
7th & 8th-M/SPIRIT

**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

**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.

**Jean Newton**

**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

**BAPTISM SEMINAR**

Baptism seminars are held after worship on baptism Sundays. Seminars are scheduled for **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, MARCH 17**

*\*Note day changed to Wednesday*

Published: **Wednesday, March 24**

*Copy received before the deadline is appreciated.*

**CALENDAR**

<b>Today</b>	<b>Lent III/Communion</b>
10:30 AM	Worship/Church School
11:45 AM	Adult Mission Trip meeting/Forbes Room
Noon	DEACONS/Kerygma Room
<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Interfaith Community Concert &amp; Fundraiser for AVPCC/Unitarian Church</b>
6:00 PM	Senior High Youth/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
<b>Mar. 8</b>	<b>Monday</b>
3:30 PM	Scouts/Vestry
6:30 PM	Habitat/Board Room
7:30 PM	AA/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
<b>Mar. 9</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
11:30 AM	Women's Club/Vestry
2:00 PM	Weavers/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
5:00 PM	Hospice Training/Kerygma Room
6:30 PM	Scouts/Vestry
7:00 PM	TRUSTEES/Board Room
7:30 PM	Festival Ringers/Bell Loft
<b>Mar. 10</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
9AM-3PM	Weavers/Vestry & classrooms
4:00 PM	Hospice Singers/Choir Room
4:00 PM	Scouts/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside
7:00 PM	Adult Study/Historical Room
<b>Mar. 11</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
10AM-5PM	Weavers/Vestry
6:30 PM	Scouts/Board & Historical Rooms
*****	All choirs rehearse regular times
4:00 PM	Scouts/Kerygma Room
<b>Mar. 12</b>	<b>Friday</b>
9:30 AM	Playgroup/Kerygma Room
10AM-5PM	Weavers/Vestry
<b>Mar. 13</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
10AM-5PM	Weavers/Vestry
<b>Mar. 14</b>	<b>Lent IV/Scout Sunday</b>
10:30 AM	Worship/Church School
11:45 AM	Music Committee/Kerygma Room
11:45 AM	Visitation/Board Room
6:00 PM	Senior High Youth/3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Kirkside

