

THE TORCH

United Church in Walyole, Massachusetts 02081

September, 2010



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

"Provoke One Another..."

With great enthusiasm, we're announcing our theme for this church year! Church school, committees, and staff are all on board and we believe our entire congregation will catch the excitement. The theme is taken from scripture, from Hebrews 10:24. Of all the translations—inspire, encourage, assist—we liked the one that said "provoke," because it is...well, provocative! Rather than just passively supporting each other, we want to directly challenge each other to give our very best to the ministry of our church—"to love and good deeds." And there are so many ways to do this:

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

*Participating in "Breaking Bread," our new, ecumenically sponsored, community meal to be held in Bradford Lewis Hall, every Monday afternoon, beginning September 20 (contact Linda Carley: 508-660-1501)

*Volunteering for our new "Visitation Ministry." We now have 6 teams and expect to add more this fall. Another set of training sessions will be offered in October. (contact Pastor: 508-345-4113)

*Serving on a team that will be "visioning" our future and establishing long-term goals for our church. (contact Dan Lupfer: 508-528-6218)

Or maybe you've been thinking about singing in the choir, teaching in the Sunday school, attending bible study, working on the Holly Berry Fair, or helping to plan an all-church mission trip. You know, you'll be much more likely to follow through if you mention the thought to another church member.

The key is to go beyond the thought and get to the action! One good way to do that is to share our ideas and our energy with one another—"to provoke one another to love and good deeds."

I do hope every one of us will find a role to play in our ministry this year.

Don't miss "Rally Day," September 12, 10 AM, when you'll hear much more about the theme and the plan.

(We'll also be introducing a brand new CHORAL BENE-DICTION for all to sing, written by Nathan Zullinger and Ray Kostulias.)

Blessings and Peace,
Ray

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
WORSHIP BEGINS
AT 10:00



*SAVE THE DATE
OCTOBER 16, 2010
FOR A WEDDING
CELEBRATION WITH
RAY & KATHLEEN.*

*We'll gather for a pot luck supper and
fellowship. Children and families welcome.
Your presence is your gift.*

VISITATION MINISTRY

We are well underway with our new program. Training sessions took place last June. Six teams were formed and participated in “practice” visits with the Pastor during August. They’ve been assigned lists of homebound and elderly members and will schedule visits through the year.

There’s always room for more volunteers! Another set of training sessions will be offered this fall. If you’re interested (or just want to test the waters!) contact pastor: 508-345-4113.

PASTOR’S SCHEDULING NOTE:

Ray will be involved in all-day boundary awareness training sessions for the Mass. Conference, on Monday and Tuesday, September 27 and 28.



Music Monthly

MUSIC CALENDAR

Thursday, September 9 – *No rehearsals*
Sunday, September 12 (RALLY DAY)– Chancel Choir
Thursday, September 16 – First rehearsals for bells and choir
Sunday, September 19 – Chancel Choir, Bells
Sunday, September 26 – Chancel Choir, Bells

A NOTE FROM NATE ZULLINGER

It is exciting to be preparing for our Fall activities! November 1 will mark the beginning of my seventh year at United Church, and I remain grateful for the opportunity to be of service. During the coming year I am fortunate to have many opportunities this year, including serving as Assistant Conductor and Director of Education for the Providence Singers. I will also be taking my doctoral exams and beginning work on my dissertation. I invite your prayers for wisdom and perseverance!

This year we are in need of a few more musicians in both our Chancel Choir and Handbell Choirs. Although both groups perform frequently, *please know that we are happy to work around the schedules of our busy singers and ringers.* Don't let that deter you from joining! Ringers must be able to keep a steady beat (sense of rhythm) and singers must be able to match pitch (sense of tuning). *Neither group requires the ability to read music, although it is helpful.*

Specifically, we could use 2 bell ringers and tenors, altos and basses for the choir. Please carefully consider donating your time in this way. Call or email me if you are interested or want to try it for awhile.

I look forward to greeting you again on Rally Day!

THANK YOU!!

A special "thank you" to the following from the music committee:

all of our soloists and choral singers who enhanced our summer worship

our guest organist Bob Johnson and pianist Jessica Zullinger

Reliable Dry Cleaners, who have cleaned our choir robes each summer for many years (and to Marilyn Hill and Shirley Lilly who collected the robes and arranged for the cleaning)

WORSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2010-"RALLY DAY"

Scripture: Hebrews 10: 19-24

Message: "A Provocative Statement"

Theme: "Provoke one another to love and good deeds." That's our theme for this church year. Today, we'll put it in biblical context and appeal for your response.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2010

REV. JOHN LILLY, GUEST PREACHER

Pastor Ray will be on the Confirmation Retreat at Craigville, Cape Cod.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2010-CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Scripture: Acts 19: 1-7

Sermon: "Giving Our Hears Without Losing Our Minds"

Theme: Classic Christian theology says that reason is one avenue to faith. We are not meant to check our minds at the door of the church. Yet there is much more to spirituality than just logic, philosophy, and rational principles. There is feeling, which comes from heart and soul, and empowers our faith.

RALLY DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST!!

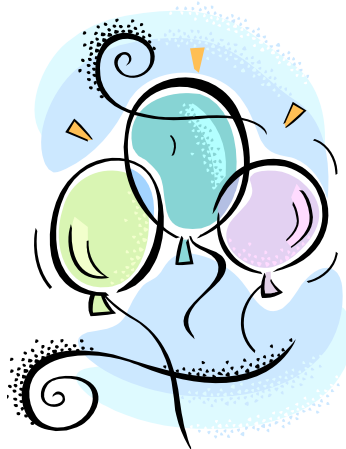
Please join the Fellowship Committee
at our Annual Rally Day Pancake Breakfast
to be held on Sunday, September 12, 2010,
starting at 9:00 a.m.

in Bradford Lewis Hall.

Delicious pancakes and scrambled eggs
will be served,
accompanied by fresh fruit,
orange juice and coffee and tea.

\$2.00 per person.

This is a great way to start off
the Sunday School year and
a fun time is always had by all!!



BE A PART OF SUPER SATURDAY

Saturday, October 2, 2010

**Tri-County Regional High School
Franklin, MA**

The Massachusetts Conference UCC is holding a Super Saturday on Saturday, October 2nd. It's a full day of workshops and networking around best practices for church leaders. The day will have something for everyone—educators, mission committee members, clergy, deacons, treasurers and others. Our conference leadership states: "We know from experience that when teams receive leadership training together, church vitality is enhanced."

This Super Saturday will revolve around the same theme that was introduced at the 211th Annual Meeting in June— "Provoke One Another to Love and Good Deeds" (Hebrews 10: 24). Part of the day will include a marketplace for resource and idea-sharing, opportunities to sit at lunch tables with others who share your passion or interest and a performance by the Just Peace Players. A Catered lunch will be provided.

For detailed information, including descriptions of the workshops being offered, visit the website given below. Once in the website, you'll find links to an online brochure and an online registration form. This is an excellent opportunity for UCW, and we're hoping many folk will plan to attend. The deadline for registering is September 20th. If you decide to attend, please let Dan Lupfer know via Lee in the church office.

<http://www.macucc.org/supersaturday/>

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Early Elementary (PreK- Grade 2)

Sept 12 Have You Filled a Bucket Today?

Sept 19 Intro to Godly Play/Parable of the

Good Shepherd

Sept 26 Flood & Ark

Elementary (Grades 3-4)

Sept 12 Have You Filled a Bucket Today?

Sept 19 Books of the Bible

Sept 26 Abraham and Sarah, Forever Promise



Older Elementary (Grade 5)

Sept 12 To Love and To Do Good Deeds/Group Building Games

Sept 19 History of UCW

Sept 26 Amistad

Rite 13 - Grade 6

Sept 12 To Love and To Do Good Deeds/Getting to Know You

Sept 19 Creating a Covenant/What is Prayer? Establishing Holy Ground

Sept 26 Images We Carry

Rite 13 - Grade 7

Sept 12 To Love and To Do Good Deeds/ Getting to Know You

Sept 19 Creating a Covenant/Imagine That

Sept 26 Opening the Heart

J2A- Grade 8

Sept 12 To Love and To Do Good Deeds/Getting to Know You

Sept 19 Listening Skills/Reverse Pictionary/Creating a Covenant

Sept 26 Attend worship- Confirmation Sunday

J2A -Grade 9

Sept 12 To Love and To Do Good Deeds/Throw and Catch

Sept 19 Class Covenant/Three Kinds of Love

Sept 26 Attend worship- Confirmation Sunday

**CE Director, Interim, part-time position
available at The United Church in Walpole**

As our church goes through the search process to hire a permanent CE Director, the CE Committee is actively looking for an individual with strong organizational skills and a love of children to fill the directional needs of our Sunday school program on a part-time, interim basis. The person hired for this position will work closely with the CE Committee to maintain and enhance the ongoing Christian Education program at the United Church in Walpole including Godly Play and Journey to Adulthood. Other responsibilities will include coordinating mission projects and special Sunday school performances, administrative functions, and communication with teachers, parents and the church community. Job postings have been placed with the UCC Mass Conference and at Andover Newton, but we are open to hiring from within our congregation for this position. If you are interested in learning more about this position, please contact Shannon Lestan at 508-850-3905 or via email at sleston@recapadvisors.com. For a complete job description, please go to our website at www.unitedwalpole.org.

Bible Presentation

On Sunday morning, September 12th, we will be recognizing each member of the third grade class with their very own Holy Bible. Each bible has a special scripture highlighted with the child it is being presented to in mind. Our third grade class includes:

Colman Alexander, Tyler Connolly, Owen Cooke, Christian Florest, Nicholas Powderly, Max Takacs and Jackson Walonis.

12th Annual !!
Journey to Adulthood
Pot Luck Dinner
Sunday, October 3, 2010
5:30-7:30PM

All 6th through 9th Graders and their families are invited to this special pot luck dinner. A wonderful tradition at United Church, and always a popular event, this dinner celebrates an outstanding group of young people and the journey they will be making during the coming year.

From 5:30 to 6:15PM Parents/Kids/Teachers will meet by class to share in some fun, present plans for the year, note key dates to be set aside, and most important, talk about ways to build on the lessons at home. (Note: During the meeting, younger siblings will be supervised, playing games and helping get ready for dinner!)

At 6:15 PM, everyone will join for food and fellowship. Suggested food distribution: last names beginning A-G Salad, H-O Main Dish, P-Z Desserts

Following dinner, the evening will conclude with a moving-up initiation ceremony for 8th graders who are entering the J2A years of their Journey to Adulthood

God, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer from Grade 8 J2A Litany of Dedication)



You are invited!
Rally Day 2010
Sunday, September 12

Come join the whole church family for a joyful gathering to celebrate the beginning of a new church school year.

Everyone of every age is welcome.

- Start your morning at 8:45AM in Bradford Lewis Hall for fellowship and a delicious pancake breakfast.
- Take a tour of the church and see our library and music/art room.
- Make a craft or two to bring home.
- Locate your child's classroom. Make sure their church school registration is up to date.
- Gather in the sanctuary at 10AM for worship to include special music and the 3rd Grade Bible presentations (children will be dismissed to Sunday school at 10:15).

**“... provoke one another
to love and good deeds”**

Hebrew 10: 24 NRSV

Church School Teachers' Meetings

Tuesday Sept. 7, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

**Early and Older Elementary Godly Play teachers:
Nursery through grade 5**

Thursday, Sept. 9, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Rite 13 and J2A leaders

**We will work with Ray to understand and
learn how to apply
Hebrews 10: 24-25 in our teaching this year.**

Church school begins on September 12th.

**New Teachers: please plan to stay from 8:00 to
8:30 PM for some training and insight.**

Notes from the church office...

Please remember the following deadlines:

E-Torch Tuesdays at 9 AM.

Worship bulletin, Notices, Prayerlist and Prayerline: Wednesday at 9 AM.

October Torch, Monday, September 20.

If you leave a note in the office, please be sure to sign it. Occasionally questions arise and we are not sure who to contact. **SUBMITTING A NOTICE OR ARTICLE?** Please include your name and contact info, so if someone has a question, or wants to sign up through email, it would be easily available! **You can now submit notices and events from the online form on our website: <http://www.unitedwalpole.org/admin/forms/EventSubmit/Event.htm>.**

Our "Historic" Families

The History and Records Committee is interested in cataloging those families who have been long time members of this church. We are looking for those who have been members 3 or more generations. We know who some of you are, but do not want to leave anyone out. Please call or send email to Marty Taylor, martytaylor907@gmail.com, if you are a member of one of our Historic Families and we will be in touch to get as many details as possible. Thank you for your help, and membership!

New! Online Donations Available

We have a new ability to donate online using our church website. If you would like to donate to an Outreach organization, make a special church offering, or donate for a special cause (e.g. a memorial gift, a current disaster relief) you can do so on our website by clicking "Donate". We use the secure servers of PayPal to process the donations into our church funds. Now you can be a "spontaneous giver"! If you need any further information, you can email Ginni at sitemaster@unitedwalpole.org.

To our Church Family and Friends:

Thank you so much for the meals, cards, prayers, thoughts, "Cilla-care" and all you have done for us this summer. My treatment for Amyloidosis continues with chemotherapy into the fall....no definite answers yet....but we feel so supported by the United Church. Thank you so much!
Cilla and Steve Weatherbee

PS. Our kids started a blog cillaweatherbee.blogspot.com if you want to check out progress reports or leave a message. Love to hear from people.....

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

With Sympathy

We hold in our thoughts and prayers the families and loved ones of:

Kathryn Zabe

Joan McGowan

May Ramsay

Russ Hering

Caroline Cento

Stan Upton



We celebrate the recent birth of Ayla Rose, daughter of Rachel Waitekus and Gaelen Beberman-Moore. Proud grandparents are Joe and Marcia Waitekus.

To my church family:

Thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers and cards during my mother's illness (May Ramsay). With the prayers from her church and mine, our friends and family, she went peacefully into the loving hands of God.

*With much love and gratitude,
Linda Sheehan*

United Church in Walpole
A Member Congregation of the United Church of Christ
Open and Affirming

Rev. Ray Kostulias, Senior Minister

E-mail: sr-pastor@unitedwalpole.org

Cell phone: 508-345-4113

Nathan Zullinger, Music Director/Organist

Ed Watson, Church Custodian

Lee McCarthy, Office Administrator

Yvonne McGowan, Director,

Family Ties-The Children's Center on the Common

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Wednesday 9:30 am—12 pm

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Staff meeting is Monday at 10 AM.

Church Telephone: 508-668-0551

Church Fax: 508-668-4825

Web Site: www.unitedwalpole.org

E-mail: office@unitedwalpole.org

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00 am - Sanctuary

Church School Every Sunday: 10:15 - 11:15 am

Get The Word Out!!!!

Are you having a church event?

Do you want it posted on our website?

Contact Webmaster Ginni Millo,

vmillo@comcast.net.