



The Parish Record

The First Church and Parish in Dedham

www.dedhamuu.org

Volume CXXX, No. 10

June, 2010

Sundays in the Meeting House

June 6, 10:00 AM: Children's Sunday
The children and their teachers will lead the service.

This Sunday we will celebrate the efforts of our children appreciate our teachers and acknowledge our graduates. Join us for this end of year celebration and see what they have been up to in Sunday School.

June 13, 10:00 AM:
"Religion and Science or Science and Religion?"
The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach.
Children are invited to bring their parents to worship.

This Sunday we will explore the nature of science and how it may or may not help us see more deeply into the eye of God.

June 20, 10:00 AM: "The Dance of Summer"
The Rev. Rali Weaver will preach.
Children are invited to bring their parents to worship.

This final Sunday of our Church Year we will seek meaning in our coming Summer Solstice and embrace its beauty through our traditional Flower Communion. Everyone is invited to bring a flower and take one home. There will be extra flowers for those who forget.

A Picnic on the Green will follow worship. Join us for a picnic on the green June 20th following worship. Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Veggie Burgers and Drinks will be provided. The rest will be pot luck- Salads and desserts are welcome

June 27 will be the start of our Summer Lay Lead Services in the Parish House.

If you have always wanted to share your ideas in worship please see Judy Barrington, Pam Aist or Rev. Weaver to set up a time to speak from your mind and from your heart. We'll announce leaders and topics as they become known.

Calendar

Game Day: June 5, 3:00-6:00

Uno's Fundraiser: Pizzeria Uno:
Friday, June 4.

Sharing a New Song: June 4, 7:30

Parish Committee: June 8, 7:00

Cakes: June 11, 6:30

Youth Group: Sundays at 6:00

Aerobics: Mondays & Wednesdays, 6:30

Meditation: Thursdays, 7:30

**Please see our website
for the complete and
up-to-date calendar**

From the Minister

To see the Summer Sky
Is Poetry, though never in a Book it lie--
True Poems flee –

- Emily Dickinson

Unitarians have long taken the summers off from their regular worship schedules. This began when businesses would close down in the summertime and families would spend longer summer vacations down at cape or up in Maine or on Starr Island, where they would find vacation church communities to worship with. Ministers even would vie for the chance to have a summer pulpit on Ferry Beach or Star Island or off the coast of Maine. The idea was that the separation and relaxing weeks of summer would bring everyone back refreshed and renewed and ready to begin again.

These days very few people are allowed eight weeks of respite from their busy lives and perhaps sleeping in on a Sunday Morning may be the only break some families get in the summer.

For the past three years at First Church we have offered summer Lay Lead Services. These are briefer services offered not by me but by any of you who are willing to share your thoughts and ideas during the summer months. Continuing our summer services has proved helpful in grounding new visitors who first find us over summer months and in providing a space for long time members who desire fellowship at home during the summer months.

To offer this consistency we need members and friends to be willing to share their thoughts for one week here and there over the summer. If you are interested in offering a worship service I hope you will talk to me or Judy Barrington or Pam Aist.

Summer worship will not gather on July 4th or September 6th (Labor Day) but all other Sunday's a time of reflection and fellowship will begin at 10 am in the Parish House. If you would like to help with facilitating worship on these Sundays please let me know.

The truth is though, as Emily Dickenson suggests, a summer's day is a better meditation than any poem. Whether you decide to stay at home for the Summer Sundays or worship in another Summer Church or Worship with First Church this Summer I hope you will have plenty of time to meditate upon the summer.

For me I will be away from July 10-22nd but I can be reached at any time by email raliweaver@yahoo.com or by phone 617.459.5979. I look forward to seeing you all again for our opening Sunday on September 12th. And I wish whatever you do will find you refreshed and ready for all that the new church season bring.

Rev. Rali Weaver is the Senior Minister at First Church and Parish in Dedham.
She can be reached at raliweaver@yahoo.com

Focus on Religious Education

June 6th is Children's Sunday! Please join us as we hear presentations from our classes, honor our teachers, and celebrate the wonder of creation Caribbean style with a special story. All children who would like to participate in the story should come (if possible) to the auditorium at 9:15 Sunday morning.

Thank you all for making my first year so wonderful! As you depart for the summer I leave you with these thoughts from A. A. Milne:

Explained

Elizabeth Ann
Said to her Nan:
"Please will you tell me how God began?
Somebody must have made Him. So
Who could it be, 'cos I want to know?"
And Nurse said, "Well!"
And Ann said, "Well?"
I know you know, and I wish you'd tell."
And Nurse took pins from her mouth, and said,
"Now then, darling, it's time for bed."

Elizabeth Ann
Had a wonderful plan:
She would run round the world 'till she found a man
Who knew exactly how God began.

She got up early, she dressed, and ran
Trying to find an Important Man.
She ran to London and knocked at the door
Of the Lord High Doodleum's coach-and-four.
"Please, sir (if there's anyone in),
However-and-ever did God begin?"

But out of the window, large and red,
Came the Lord High Coachman's face instead.
And the Lord High Coachman laughed and said:
"Well, what put that in your quaint little head?"

Elizabeth Ann went home again
And took from the ottoman Jennifer Jane.
"Jennifer Jane," said Elizabeth Ann,
"Tell me at once how God began."
And Jane, who didn't much care for speaking,
Replied in her usual way by squeaking.

What did it mean? Well, to be quite candid,
I don't know, but Elizabeth Ann did.
Elizabeth Ann said softly, "Oh!
Thank you Jennifer. Now I know."

(from Now we are Six by A. A. Milne)

See you in September!

Aoife

All Around the Church Community

Last Chance for Uno's Route 1 in Dedham

Our third and final Uno fundraiser for this church year will be Friday, June 4. As in the past, any food and drink ordered that day- eat in or take out will go toward First Church. We get a percentage of the day's take- the more we eat the more we get. All you need is to bring a coupon with you and give it to your server. Coupons will be available in the church office or ask Eileen Sullivan for one. Let's help make our fund raising efforts for this year go over the TOP! MANGIA!

In Concert: Sharing A New Song with the First Church Choir

Sharing A New Song, whose mission is to build long lasting, cross-cultural friendships through music, and our own First Church Choir, on Friday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. SANS, under the direction of Diane Winchester, will be performing selections from their 2009-2010 repertoire, accompanied by Sarah Tocco. Linnea Bardarson will lead the choir in music from their repertoire and the groups will join to sing together. The concert will be enhanced by Joel Wolfe playing the cello. Tickets (may be purchased at the door) General admission \$10.00, Seniors and Children \$5.00, Family \$20.00. Proceeds will go to the SANS Scholarship Fund and to the Instrument Maintenance Fund of First Church. Come join the fun-piano, cello, singing-yes! will be sharing music together in the Parish Hall auditorium

For even more fun, consider coming early for a pizza party! Pick up a delicious dinner from Pizzeria Uno's using a fundraiser coupon (available from the church office) and a percentage of the purchase price will benefit First Church!

Organ Repair and Maintenance

Good news! We have finally found someone willing to tune and maintain our organ! Very soon the 'sour' notes, sticky keys and stops that don't work properly will be fixed, the organ will be tuned, and the electrical wiring made safer. Although we have been saving money for several years in the Instrument Maintenance Fund, organs are expensive, and this long-overdue basic maintenance can only partially covered by existing funds. We are grateful to Debbie Harrison and her family for their very generous donation in memory of Debbie's parents Jim and Marty Smith who both loved their church organ and encouraged her to play. Their generosity went a long way in helping us to repair and tune our organ and we are wholeheartedly grateful.

In the near future we aim make our organ more perfectly suited to our meetinghouse. We will need everyone's support to do so. To that end we are planning an informational session in the fall where our organ tuner, Barry Turley, has generously offered to meet with the congregation and discuss the needs and possibilities of our organ.

If you have any questions about our organ or would like to donate to the Instrument Maintenance Fund please contact Linnea Bardarson.

All Around the Church Community

Game Day!



GAME DAY

FCP DEDHAM

Saturday, June 5th, 3PM - 6PM
First Church and Parish in Dedham

FUN & GAMES
for the whole family!

Chance & Skill
Individual & Team
Competitive & Non
Running & Sitting
Board & Electronic

Come & Play.
All you can play + Prizes!
\$5 per person
\$10 max. per family

Come & Eat.
Food & drink to comfort & replenish
\$5 buys a whole meal

Come & Enjoy!
First Church and Parish in Dedham
670 High St, Dedham MA
(Rain or Shine)



Proceeds benefit programs at First Church
For more information, visit www.dedhamuu.org

Game Day is almost here, and while we'd love to have you arrive and play, we also still have openings for volunteering before, during and after the event. Please contact me (Steve Davey) or Jennifer Carlson-Pietraszek if you want to help out.

Our schedule will be:

Set-up starting at 2:00 (or earlier – we'll find stuff for you to do!)

Gaming from 3 to 6 (and we'll need helpers for either half)

Breakdown and clean up from 6:00.

We can use supplies and games, but mostly, we need YOU!

See you Saturday!

Steve

All Around the Church Community

Fall Fair 2010

Saturday, October, 16 – 10-2

Mark your calendars now! Just 4 months separate us from all the fun, the frolic, and the congeniality of the Fall Fair. All of your favorite attractions will once again be featured: pony rides, crafts, take home foods, children's games, the "Frank 'n Stein" lunch, fortune telling, a moonwalk and our ever successful raffle. We will also try to build momentum for the 3rd annual baked goods contest!

This event has great potential as a community builder and a significant fundraiser! Its success, therefore, will be in direct relation to the number of First Church members who become involved. Please save the date to participate in the excitement! Volunteer opportunities abound! If you have an interest in baking, raffle items, pumpkins, apples, public relations, advertising, children's games, face painting, fortune telling, soup or day labor, we NEED you. At the very least, we hope everyone will spread the word about this wonderful event and of course, attend.

Please contact Liz Ames (lizziesim@mac.com) or Grace Pena (gracepena@gmail.com) with your suggestions, comments and inquiries. New and creative ideas would be most welcome.

Let's work together and have a great day on the 16th!

**Minutes of the Parish Committee Meeting
April 6, 2010**

Present: Audrey Cecil, Carol Dixon, Jeff Hutton, Sharon Lane, Michael Roberts, Eileen Sullivan, Jeff Tegnell, Rev. Rali Weaver

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Unison Affirmation. Opening words by Audrey Cecil.

Minutes of 3/2/10 – Motion made to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Second, motion carried.

Ministers Report- Rali's report included the news that Margaret Winchester passed on March 22nd and her memorial service was well attended. March offered numerous church activities including a movie night and a Seder.

Several new members will be welcomed at Membership Sunday on April 18th. The Parish Committee warmly welcomes the following new members: Sam Bitar, Stuart Skinner, Doug Elliot, Caleb Hellegers, Kiersten Hellegers, Simone Carpenter, Karly Moore, Christopher and Stephanie Harrison.

Game night will be rescheduled for June. June 20th is our year-end church service. Summer services will start June 27th. Seth Carrier, our student minister, will finish up his year with us on May 2nd.

Work of the Parish Committee –

Finance Committee-Dan Ewing, Jeff Hutton and Michael Roberts. A rough draft was presented last Sunday. The budget hearing will take place April 25 after church. Three visions of the budget will be offered.

Membership Committee- New Member Sunday will take place on April 18. If additional individuals sign the book this coming weekend, they will be added to the list of those being welcomed at the 4/18/10 service.

Stewardship Committee- \$17000 in pledges as of today.

Nominating Committee- had their first meeting. April 22nd is their next meeting. They will have the nomination list ready for the next Parish Com. Mtg.

Treasurer's Report –Michael Roberts continues to organize and document the tasks of the treasurer on an ongoing basis. His report included a written chronological account of the financial activity of the church.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurers Report. Second, motion carried.

Building and Grounds –The committee will meet this week. They have added one more person to the committee. A discussion about replacement of the front door of the Parish Hall has begun. Options will be presented at the next Parish Committee.

Fund Raising – March fund raising totaled \$72 from movie night, Uno’s Pizza night, clothing drive and Amazon.com.

Future fundraising will include selling refreshments at the Coffee House, another Uno’s Pizza night in May, and Fair Trade Coffee orders.

R.E. Committee –The Prince of Egypt movie was a success. They are thinking about updating the curriculum. Aoife attended a training.

Old Business –

Sharing the Plate – April/Amnesty International, May/Dedham Community House Camp Scholarship, and June/Dedham Food Pantry.

New Business –

Sharon will notify all committee chairs that annual reports are due by May 1 and should be sent to Sharon Lane or Judy Butler.

Annual Meeting will be May 16. The warrant will need to be posted by May 9.

The Parish Committee will review and approve the budget at the next meeting.

June 8th at 6pm will be a potluck dinner and meeting of the old and new Parish Committee.

A motion was made to switch church accounts from Sovereign Bank to Dedham Savings Bank. Second and approved.

The Parish Committee met in executive session.

Next meeting will be on May 4, 2010 at 7pm.

Carol and Claudia will offer the opening words.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey H. Cecil