



The Parish Record

The First Church and Parish in Dedham

www.dedhamuu.org

Volume CXXX, No. 11

Summer, 2010

Summer Services in the Parish House

Our lay-led Summer Sunday Services take place in the Parish House dining room through July and August. We for worship at 10 am and lead abbreviated services followed by fellowship. This gives us a chance to gather each week and touch base as needed and desired. Please contact Pam Aist (Pamela.Aist@albint.com) or Judy Barrington (judys_house@hotmail.com) if you have questions, or **would like to lead one of the 4 open days available in August**, or would like to leave feedback. We will have the following services throughout the summer.

We will not hold services on July 4 (due to Independence Day weekend) or September 5 (due to Labor Day weekend). Our return to worship services in the Meeting House will be September 12 where we will celebrate Homecoming Sunday.

July 11 10:00 AM: “Goooooooooooooooooal!”

Tyler Carpenter will lead the service.

As that month-long World Cup competition comes to it's final day, we'll celebrate that uniquely human propensity for organized leisure, and consider the role of the personal and professional sports played by people all over the world. Join us in wearing the clothing that represents your favorite sports team or athlete.

Tyler and Mary Alice will host a barbeque at their house that afternoon, where we'll watch the World Cup final at 2:30 with other zealous fans.

July 18, 10:00 AM: “Comparative Religion”

Pam Aist will lead the service.

Stephen Prothero claims that thinking all religions are essentially the same and basically good is misleading and dangerous. Are religions so different that we can never come together? I plan on giving my view as to why he may be the one who doesn't get it.

July 25, 10:00 AM: “Running with the bulls, New Orleans style”

Allison Staton will lead the service.

Returning from a trip to the City That Care Forgot, Allison will celebrate the resolve and humor that New Orleanians posses to cope with the string of events impacting their region.

August 1, 10:00 AM: Sam King will lead the service.

August 9, August 16, August 23, 10:00 AM:

To be announced. These dates remains open as we go to press.

August 30, 10:00 AM: Judy Barrington will lead the closing Summer Service.

Calendar

Parish Committee: July 6, 7:00

Parish Committee (TBA): August 3, 7:00

T-Shirt design (see inside): August 15

Homecoming Sunday: September 12

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

If you do not receive our weekly church emails and would like to please contact the church office at firstchurch@dedhamuu.org

From Our Minister:

The week after church ended I had my first real taste of summer. Hours by the pool, sunburned skin, long talks about nothing and everything. There are and were hours of countless weeding to be done, books to be read, and bills to be paid but sitting by the pool or in the midst of a wiffle ball game none of those things seemed important. Sophia (my dog) had a crazy good time too. She played chase the ball until she collapsed under a tree in the shade with the ball still in her mouth (over and over again).

Days seemed to revolve completely around when we could eat and get in the water.

Summertime, there is nothing like it.

I wonder how life might be if we built more summertime days throughout the year?
Put aside the doing for some serious endeavors in leisure?
What if once per week we could really recognize the sabbath?
How might our quality of life improve?

The first Sabbath was set aside in the ten commandments as a time of spiritual renewal. What would it take for you to renew your spirit each week? What nourishment does your soul require to begin each week refreshed and to live a truly spirit filled life?

I hope we all enjoy our summers and find that it brings respite to our souls but I also hope we find clues to carry us through the year. Clues that we can nourish our spirits throughout the entire busy year.

I will be in and out this summer so if you need me don't hesitate to call 617 459 5979. Happy summer.

Rali

Focus on Religious Education

News from the DRE:

Many of you have checked in with me over the past few months on my home-buying prospects. Well, it was a long journey with many ups and downs, but I am happy to say that Michael, Nerissa and I are getting settled in our new home! We now live in Canton, in a beautiful half-a-duplex, on a cul de sac with a great yard. The bunny loves his porch, the cat loves the carpeted stairs, and Nerissa has a 4 year old friend next door named Marissa (how 'bout that?!) We feel very blessed and thankful to everyone who stuck by us to get us to this point.

For official church business, classes and childcare will return in September. **We still have openings for teachers**, and with the fun and exciting classes lined up you won't want to miss out. Next year all parents will be asked to sign up for at least one Sunday of volunteering. You'll have an opportunity to help your child's teacher, assist with an activity or Cool Deed,... so many ways to get involved! I am really looking forward to another amazing year with this wonderful spiritual community. In the meantime, enjoy your summer!

With warmth and love,
Aoife Barrington-Haber, Acting Director of Religious Education, (faeriecool@hotmail.com)

All Around the Church

Mark Your Calendars: Sunday, September 12th

The Start of the Regular Church Year will begin at 10 am.

We will have water communion on that Sunday. Everyone is invited to bring water from their summer vacations to share at this service. If you have pictures of where you have gathered that water we would like to share them as part of a slide show on our opening Sunday and invite you to email them to raliweaver@dedhamuu.org or mail them to the church office 670 High Street, Dedham, MA 02026. All paper photographs will be returned.

Worship Associates Needed: This coming church year we will begin a Worship Associates Program which will allow 2-8 people to share in readings, reflections, inter-generational messages and prayers and the set up of worship on a rotating basis. If you would like to improve or practice your public speaking skills, and are willing to help in a regular way with the orchestration and set up of worship we need you. Worship Associates will be offered training and support by the Worship Committee. Please contact Rev. Rali Weaver at raliweaver@dedhamuu.org if you are interested.

Building and Grounds- A big Thank you to Priscilla King who made the trimming of all the shrubbery around the Meeting House, Parish House and Parsonage possible. **OUR BEDS STILL NEED WEEDING-** if you would like to adopt a bed please stop by with garden gloves and weed your favorite. First Come First Serve. Many beautiful and previously owned and trained flower beds are available for your care.

Martha Meyers-Curly will be dedicated on her birthday July 10th, 2010. Many blessings to her parents Dale Meyer-Curly and Erik Meyer-Curly. We are blessed to share as witnesses in the life of your sweet daughter.

IMPORTANT: The Dedham Food pantry needs help on Saturday morning during the summer. If you would like to help out contact Mary Ellen Kempton at 781-326-1445. She can put you with others to fill out teams. Bring your teenager and their friend(s), as they often need Community service credits and this action will certainly qualify. They'll feel better about themselves too. Saturday hours are 8 to 11 am.

If you do not receive our weekly church emails and would like to, please contact the church office at firstchurch@dedhamuu.org

All Around the Church Community



An Unveiling
of
A First Church and Parish T-Shirt
The Fall Fair
Saturday, October 16th
10-2

Seeking a Design
Which is any or all of the following:
Funny
Creative
Serious
Artistic
Poetic
Historical
Inspirational
Spiritual

Submit your ideas to Liz Ames
by
August 15th

The First Church and Parish in Dedham

Fall Fair

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 Stine" 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
May 4, 2010**

Present: Judy Barrington, Audrey Cecil, Carol Dixon, Jeff Hutton, Sharon Lane, Claudia Leone, Grace Pena, Eileen Sullivan, Jeff Tegnell, Rev. Rali Weaver

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm

Unison Affirmation. Opening words by Claudia Leone and Carol Dixon.

Minutes of 04/06/10 - Motion made to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Second, motion carried.

Ministers Report - Rali reports that in April we welcomed the following new members: Sam Bitar, Simone Carpenter, Maria & Stephen Davey, Doug Elliot, Stephanie & Christopher Harrison, Caleb Hellegers, Pat McMahan, Steven & Abby King, Lisa Seibert, and Stu Skinner. We also said goodbye to Seth Carrier our Ministerial Student.

We will be working to better structure the church calendar in the coming year. Any dates of events that are already known should be sent to Rali or Judy to get them on next year's calendar. A Welcoming Committee is scheduled for this Friday. Summer Worship Service Committee is working on lay worship services for the summer.

She suggested that electronic giving be considered by the Parish Committee next year. She also informed us that she will be having surgery soon and will work with the worship committee to make sure that her duties are covered.

Work of the Parish Committee –

Finance Committee- No meeting

Membership Committee- Welcome service for new members occurred in April.

Personnel Committee- All committee members will remain the same next year. Grace Pena will supply a contract template for review.

Stewardship Committee- Total pledges stand at \$43,000. Currently.

Nominating Committee- The following slate is being proposed:

Deacon -Andrea Gilmore

Parish Committee - Sue White and Nora Sotomayor

Treasurer – Kathy Elefterakis

Clerk – Susan Sennott

Auditors – Doug Howell and Natalie Jensen

Treasurer's Report – A motion was made to accept the Treasurers Report that was submitted electronically to the Parish Committee. Second, passed,

A committee will meet to prepare the budget for the annual meeting.

Building and Grounds – Jeff Hutton reported that Andrea Gilmore met with a carpenter about the doors to the Parish House. A storm door is to be installed at the Parsonage. The new fence along the Court Street side of the Parsonage look nice. The Alliance is working on the repair of a painting. The rake and clean up event was fun and successful.

Fund Raising - \$7260 has been raised so far this year. June 4 is another Uno's Pizza Night. Game Night will take place of June 5 3-6pm. Plans for a yard sale need to be confirmed. The goal of \$10K will remain in place as a fund raising goal for next year.

R.E. Committee –Children's Sunday is coming up. Coming of Age is coming up. It has been a good productive year for RE. Teacher recruitment continues.

Plans for Annual Meeting – Oli Ames will moderate. Committee Reports are still being collected. We will vote on two articles. One is a non-discrimination Bylaw addition put forward by the Welcoming Committee. The second is a vote on becoming a Welcoming Congregation.

Old Business –

A Committee Fair will be scheduled in the fall.

New Business

The annual Church Picnic will take place on June 20th.

A motion was made to continue to appoint Aoife Barrington as Acting RE Director. Second, passed.

Next meeting will be on June 8, 2010 at 6pm at Eileen Sullivan's house.

Grace will offer the opening words.

Meeting was adjourned at 9pm

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey H. Cecil