



KEEPING *Current*

With The Union Church in Waban

NOVEMBER 2012

FROM THE PASTOR

A couple of weeks ago, on a chilly, rainy, raw October Tuesday, the Lunch Bunch and I headed out to The Butterfly Place, which is located about 45 minutes or so by car just north of here. I had never been there and did not know much about it. I'm not even sure how we heard about it in the first place. Someone must have mentioned it to one of us and we thought we might as well check it out. What could we lose? We'd enjoy each other's company, have lunch and maybe even see something interesting.

And so we piled into my car and set off. It was easy to find, well marked. But my heart sank a bit when I pulled into the parking lot, for it looked rather unimpressive. A smallish, cinderblock building with some tired looking planting around the entrance. But we had come all this way, so no turning back now.

The front room did not make me feel any better. It was rather drab with a few items on display. But the staff

was warm and welcoming and they ushered us over to the entrance of the exhibit. One door was shut behind us and then another opened before us. We stepped in and....

And I was stunned. Overwhelmed. Truly awestruck as I tried to take in what it was that I was seeing. It seemed impossible and it took a minute or two for my brain to register what I was seeing. I felt almost giddy and turned to my fellow lunch bunchers at my side and almost burst out laughing for they were as slack jawed and stunned at the sight before us as I was.

For we were suddenly not in New England on a cold and wet October afternoon. It was 80 degrees, the air was humid and full of sound. The expansive domed room was thick with flowering plants, and tall exotic looking succulents. There was the sound of finches chirping and a waterfall somewhere. And the air around us was moving with hundreds and hundreds of butterflies of all shapes and colors, lilted in effortless flight.

It was beautiful, yes. And strangely disorienting, surely. But more than anything else — as one of our lunch bunchers wrote me later — it was joyful!

We found a bench for the four of us, and sat for well over two hours just watching life and beauty and color and joy all around us. Such delight, light, effortless movement. Every now and then we would tap the one to our right and say, "did you see that?" or to our left and say, "look there under that leaf, have we seen that one before?"

You know, absolute baffling, wonderment-rendering awe is not something that we experience much these days I think. I certainly could not remember the last time I was struck speechless by improbability of such unexpected beauty. Most of our days can be rather drab, I'm afraid. We turn up our collar to the chill and lift an umbrella to the elements and trudge on through.

(cont. on page 3)

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COMMUNICATING WITH THE UNION

Keeping Current is the monthly newsletter covering the activities within and surrounding The Union Church in Waban. **Submissions are due on the 20th of each month.** The preferred method of submission is via email to the Church Office. All articles should include the author's name and phone number and should be submitted in their entirety.

Items for the church's Sunday Bulletin may also be submitted in the same fashion as *Keeping Current*. **The deadline for the weekly bulletin is Wednesday morning at 10 am.**

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A Note from Your Moderators

Autumn's vibrant colors and the crisp crackling of leaves remind me of the rich and deep texture of love and vibrant support the Union Church community represents. In the book of Genesis, which we have been studying in Bible Study, there is a recurring theme of women going to the well to collect water to support the life of their communities. Similarly, in Union Church there is a deep reservoir of love and faith that sustains us.

Last month a group of us went down to the Common Cathedral to serve lunch and partake in communion with the homeless. The children served communion and lunch to the homeless with a dignity and care we can all be proud of. Everyone present prayed and provided testimony to those gathered and those in the homeless community who had passed recently. It was a glorious day and a moving experience for all in attendance. This group experience showed how we can care for those in our immediate community.

This fall we will be inviting the congregation to help develop our local initiative with the Russell School in Boston to continue the outreach within our neighborhood. These initiatives are only one dimension of our church life. From our overseas missions in Zambia and Nicaragua, to our beautiful music and excellent children's education, our community continues to thrive. There is an open invitation at Union Church, no matter your belief, to engage your best talents to make this community even richer. We welcome your ideas and look forward to growing together. Peace.

Kent Wittler

Molly Owen-Kiritsy

Meditation Workshop: Preparing for Advent

How do you feel when you think about Advent approaching? Is it a time you look forward to, when you are able to make the gifts of this season part of your life? Or do you feel a bit stressed just mentioning that time of year, which is also often the most busy and emotionally demanding? Regardless of where you are on the spectrum of feelings about Advent, we invite you to come discover some ways that will help you live the season rather than feeling like you are blasting through it.

Whether you've never practiced meditation, have had a practice for years, or have started and stopped many times, this is a time to discover some user-friendly techniques that can help your mind, body, and spirit feel more in sync. And we'll look at some simple but meaningful devotional forms that individuals or families and children can practice to live more deeply into the season.

The introductory workshop will be Saturday, November 3 from 9 a.m. until noon. We'll follow up with three optional discussion and practice sessions on November 10 and 17 and December 1 from 9 to 10 a.m. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Kathryn Henderson at kathryn@ucw.org.



(From the Pastor - continued)

But soon we will be opening the door to advent and stepping into the improbable beauty and absolutely baffling, wonderment-rendering awe of the central mystery of our Christian faith. That somehow God, that creative force of goodness and power that shaped all that is, came to us in the man of Jesus. Why? Because God so loved the world. Because what we perceive to be a nothing special, drab and rather unimpressive planting of our days can open to something truly magnificent, awe-filled, healing and life changing, and God needed staff to open that door for us.

I think the Lunch Bunch and I would be good candidates for shepherds in this year's Christmas pageant. Those shepherds did not know what to expect when they approached that manger that night. And at first they may have been rather underwhelmed. It looked rather drab, just a stable like many stables they had seen, nothing special. But then they were invited in and when they drew near, well, they must have been stunned. Overwhelmed. Truly awestruck as they tried to take in what it was they were seeing. It seemed impossible and it took a minute or two for their brains to register what they were seeing. They felt almost giddy and turned to each other and burst out laughing for one was as slack jawed and stunned at the sight before them as the next.

May we approach the coming of advent with great expectation.

Peace and joy to you,
Stacy

Deacons' Corner

What does it mean to pray for another person? What is intercessory prayer all about anyway? Brother Geoffrey Tristram, SSJE who is the Superior of the Society of St. John the Evangelist, an Episcopal religious community in Cambridge, Massachusetts answers those questions this way:

"Intercession is not the reciting of a detached, impassioned 'shopping list' of the needs of the world. Nor is it informing God of something God does not already know! But rather it is a profound, loving and costly holding up of others in their need, before God. If we long to pray for others as Jesus prays for us, God invites us first to become very close ourselves to the heart of God, in loving adoration, and then to bring those whom we love and long to be healed with us."*

So let us draw close to God and then bring the following people who we love and long to be healed along with us.

Please hold Tess MacDonald in your prayers as she recovers after having a pace maker placed. May God's peace and comfort surround her and may she grow stronger everyday so that she may return to worship among us again soon.

Please continue to hold Jay O'Beirne's cousin Roger Egan and his family in your prayers as he recovers from Eastern Equine Encephalitis. We give thanks for God's grace and for the love of family and friends that have surrounded Roger and his family during this trying time.

Prayers are asked for Jay's second cousin Brian Flynn who continues to struggle with colon cancer. As he begins another ten weeks of chemotherapy, we ask that God give him strength and healing and that God also strengthen those who love Brian and care for him so that they may support and encourage him along the long road ahead.

And we ask for prayers for Chris Kiritsy's father, Paul, who continues to be hospitalized after a recent fall. May God's healing touch be upon Paul, healing and strengthening his body and calming, easing his mind and fortifying his spirits. And may God's strength and love fill the entire Kiritsy family as they support Paul and each other during this time.

*From Cowley. Volume 39, Number 1, Fall 2012.

Christian Education and Formation for Adults

Bible Study

Bible Study continues this month with our study of the book of Genesis. We meet on Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. in Stacy's office.

Bible Study is a great way to not only help us grow in our own understanding of who God is for each of us personally, but it also enlivens our experience of worship and helps us to be more curious and engaged in our faith throughout the week.

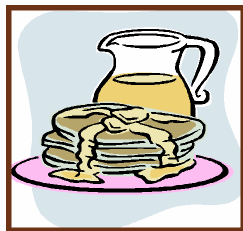
Please join us; the study is open to everyone. Biblical literacy or previous study is not needed. Come when you can; there is no commitment to attend every Sunday.

The Waban Health Nursing and Rehabilitation Center: Taking Worship Beyond Our Sanctuary's Walls

On the second Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m., Stacy is joined by others in the church to lead a monthly protestant worship service for our neighbors, the residents of the Waban Health, the nursing and rehabilitation center located in Waban Square just behind the Waban Market. Waban Health provides short-term rehabilitation, long-term dementia and respite care to 90 residents. Hearing God's word and sharing communion with people who we may not have any other opportunity to know is tremendously enriching. If you are interested in sharing in this ministry, please let Stacy know by either emailing her at Stacy@ucw.org or by calling at 617-965-3893. This month's visit will be on November 8th.

Java Gents

Java Gents is an informal monthly breakfast hour for the men of the UCW congregation. It provides friendly fellowship and mutual support to the men. Java Gents meet the third Friday of each month in the church reception room at 7:00 a.m. Buz Bedford cooks up a full, hot breakfast of sausage, eggs, bagels, fresh fruit salad, and hot coffee. Jay O'Beirne usually hosts the lively discussion of timely topics, and personal goings on among the men. This month's meeting will be on November 16th.



A **pick-up choir** will be performing again this month. Bill Merrill invites everyone to bring their voices and join him for an uplifting and spirited time. There is no need to read music, just a desire to sing. There are no Thursday night rehearsals required, just come by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings to warm up and practice. Pick-up choir will perform this month on November 11th and 25th.

Christian Education and Formation for Adults (continued)

“Finding the Sacred in Our Own Life Experiences”

Beginning Monday evening, January 7 and running every Monday evening for the next six weeks, Tom Vawter and Stacy Swain will be leading a course in which we will take a look at different moments [or times] in our lives. Through group exercises and opportunities for sharing our unique stories, we will look at and listen for how we experienced ourselves and the world around us during early childhood, elementary years, adolescence, young adulthood and wherever we may now be. And along the way, we will look and listen for God’s presence – or absence – in our life’s journey. It is our hope that by the end of this six week course, we will have found a way to come together and bond in a meaningful way (that may survive and continue on after the course is over), to open doors for each participant to new ideas, new connections to themselves, others and God, and for each participant to have written part of their life story to share within the group, and maybe about which there is the surprise of self-revelation, or coming to a new slant of understanding about an important event or time in their lives.

The dates for the course are January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4 and 11. We will meet in the Reception Room at church from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Understanding that unexpected complications do arise, we are asking that participants make every effort to attend all six sessions since each will build upon the other. If you are interested in participating, please speak with either Tom or Stacy. For planning purposes, if you are interested in participating in the course, please rsvp to Tom or Stacy by December 15th.

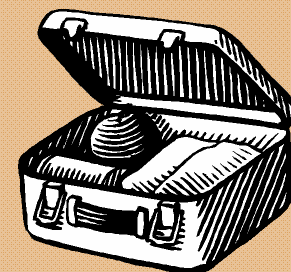
Book Group

The next meeting of the Book Group will be on Tuesday evening, November 27th at 7:30 p.m. We will be reading *Somewhere in Germany* by Stefanie Zweig. The book is the sequel to the acclaimed *Nowhere in Africa*, which was turned into the Oscar-winning film of the same name. This novel traces the return of the Redlich family to Germany after their nine-year exile in Kenya during World War II.



From the Lunch Bunch

November’s meeting of Lunch Bunch will be on Tuesday, November 13th at noon. Please consider joining us for Lunch Bunch. Each month we catch up on the happenings in our lives, and then discuss a topic of interest. If you need a ride, please give Stacy a call at 617-965-3893.



Christian Education and Formation for Adults (continued)



Wellspring Women's Group

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### *Reception Room*

*Women's Wellspring meets throughout the year, usually on the third Wednesday of the month. Due to Thanksgiving, this month we will meet on November 28th.*

*Mark your calendars for this monthly gathering time when you are invited out of the demands of your days and into a place of peace. You are invited to set down that which burdens you and pick up laughter, love and learning. You are invited to fill places of hunger with good food and fellowship. Women of the church, you are invited.*

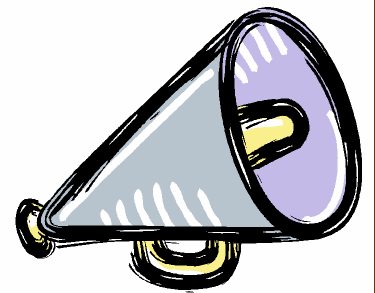
*Come every month or come when you can. It will be good to be together!*

### Living Waters Prayer Group

Living Waters Prayer Group meets at its new time, each Wednesday morning in the side chapel from 7:30 to 8:15 a.m. You are invited to gather with others in the chapel off the sanctuary for a time of silent contemplation, meditation on scripture, and prayer. Steeping ourselves in the peace and presence of God in the quiet of prayer makes a qualitative difference in how we experience what the week brings. Again, if you are interested in this time of prayer, but mornings just are not convenient for your schedule, please see Stacy about exploring a weekday evening offering.

### “Conversations along the Way”

On the **last Sunday of every month**, grab your coffee and curiosity and enter the conversation. We will gather right **after worship** for whatever time we need, to continue the conversation that was begun over two thousand years ago on that road to Emmaus (Luke 21:13). We will join those two disciples in frank and honest conversation as we engage our questions, our doubts and skepticism about what exactly this Christian faith is all about. We will talk candidly about how and if the ancient story of Scripture has relevance for our living today and how we are to understand what it means to “love kindness, do justice and walk humbly with our God” (Micah 6:8) in this time and place. The agenda for this time is not to try to get each other to believe in a certain way or to try to rid us of our questions. Quite the opposite is true! The agenda for this time which is consistent with the spirit of the Union Church community is to simply welcome all, wherever we may be on our spiritual journeys and to engage our questions honestly and openly, without judgment and with love.



If Sunday after church is a busy time, perhaps you would like to drop in to Starbucks in Waban Square **between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday** of the month. Stacy will be there enjoying a cup and ready to engage our continued conversations.

## Nicaragua 2014 and Christmas greens sale



Every other February for the past decade, members of The Union Church in Waban have traveled to San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, for a service trip that exemplifies the mission-minded spirit of our community. Each trip builds on the experience of previous travelers and benefits from our leaders' deep personal connections with, and commitment to, the community of San Juan del Sur. Our relationship with the people of San Juan is highly indebted to the generous Union Church members who support our efforts to improve educational opportunities for the children and youth of San Juan, as well as basic living conditions for all. Although it seems as if we have just put away our suitcases and bug spray and washed our dust- and paint-covered clothes, it has already been eight months since my daughter, Kate, and I returned from Nicaragua; in only sixteen months, the next group of Union Church Nica travelers will be heading south.

As we look ahead to Nica 2014, we also reflect on the busy, personally enriching, and highly productive 2012 trip. Our days in Nicaragua—physically exhausting and spiritually nourishing—were a balance of hard work, opportunities to connect with our fellow travelers as well as with new friends in Nicaragua, visits to the communities surrounding San Juan del Sur, and times of quiet reflection. In San Antonio de Baston, a community about 20 minutes from the town of San Juan, we worked each day at the Escuela Andres Castro: planting fruit trees; stripping bark from saplings with machetes; forming compressed-earth bricks; improving a well; digging ditches for the foundation of a new dining room; painting buildings, fences, signs, outhouses, and swing sets. Side by side with several members of the community and under the ever-watchful eyes of the children, we worked to transform a run-down school into vibrant place for children to gather, eat, and learn. We also hosted a luncheon that brought together more than 150 senior members of the community for a lovely meal, dancing, and lots of fun. We traveled with the Mobile Library to bring books to distant, under-served rural schools. We brought sporting equipment, clothing, and school supplies to those in need. Connecting with the Union Church travelers from past years, we visited each of the previous work sites to see the enduring benefits of the projects—for example, how easy access to clean water can transform a struggling community.

None of this important and fulfilling work would have been possible without the generous support of so many members of the Union Church, who purchased their Christmas greens at our annual sales, donated to our special collections, bought cookies at our bake sale, and contributed to our sporting goods and clothing drives. This December, we will again be selling Christmas greens to support our service trip to Nicaragua. Purchasing your tree and holiday decorations from the Union Church will help bring fresh water, educational opportunities, and other vital support to our friends in San Juan del Sur. Muchas gracias por todo!(Thanks for everything!)

## Many Upcoming Events at Union Church

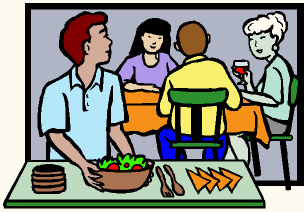
Union Church will be holding its annual  
**All-Comers Dinner**

on Friday evening, November 2 at 6:30 p.m.  
at 186 Waban Avenue in Waban.

Many thanks to Karen Weisgerber and Alex Brown  
for hosting this popular event.

Please go to [www.SignUpGenius.com/  
go/20F0F4CADAA2AA02-allcomers](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0F4CADAA2AA02-allcomers)

to indicate what you can bring to the potluck dinner,  
or call the office.



On **Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>** the budding **Russell School local initiative** within our church has invited **Susan Naimark** to speak with us about the issues of urban education today.

For many years Susan has focused her work on racial justice and public school organizing. She currently serves as chairperson of the boards of directors of Community of Change, Inc., a Boston nonprofit that has educated and organized for racial equity since 1968; and the Boston Parent Organizing Network, which organizes historically marginalized parents to improve the Boston Public Schools.

Please enjoy reception and then join us on the stage at **11:45** to hear from Susan and to engage her in conversation. Childcare will be available.

### Game Night

Join the Union Church family for a fun evening at our Adult Game Night, held on Friday evening, November 9 at 6:30.

Pizza and refreshments will be provided.



### Church clean up day!

On November 10 please come help with some clean-up here at Union Church. Let's keep our grounds and beautiful old building looking their best. Come for an hour or the whole morning. Any and all help is appreciated!





## Christian Education News for Children and Youth

by Kathy Malone

### Highlights from Sunday School in October:

- The Disciples and Faithful Friends classes collected coins for charity this month. Each class brainstormed a list of charities then chose one to be the recipient of their donations. A booklet of all the kids' favorite charities will be compiled for the congregation and will be available at the alternative gift fair during Advent. The project was a response to their reading of Jesus' comment that it would be easier for the camel to go through the eye of the needle than for the rich young man to live in God's kingdom.
- The Disciples and Faith Seeker classes made over 150 sandwiches on October 21. These sandwiches were served at Common Cathedral.
- The Noah's Ark class prayed its way through different prayer stations in class. Whether writing the name of someone who needs healing or a band aid, wiping away mistakes on a white board, or sculpting praise with play-dough, each of the five prayer stations offered the children a different way to pray. At month's end, children took home a prayer grab bag with objects to help them pray in these creative ways at home as well.
- The Nursery kids are reading through their Beginner's Bibles. In October, they read stories about Adam and Eve and the Tower of Babel.

### Thanks to our October Teachers and Classroom Helpers

Kate Swain Smith

Sally DiLoreto

Liz Caronna

Susan Tuozzolo

Katheryn DeRogatis

Sue Hadley

### November Teachers

|                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Noah's Ark (K-1st):            | Kathy Malone                    |
| Faithful Friends (2nd-3rd):    | Liz Caronna, Sally DiLoreto     |
| Disciples (4th-5th):           | Tony Abbiati                    |
| Faith Seekers (Middle School): | Katheryn DeRogatis, Buz Bedford |

### What's Happening in Sunday School this November...



November 4  
November 11  
November 18  
November 25

Communion Sunday, One Room Church School  
Jesus and the Widow's Offering  
Praying "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done"  
Thanksgiving Weekend, One Room Church School to celebrate the start of the new church calendar and the beginning of Advent

## Christian Education News (continued)

### First Friday Fun Night



Making a gutter sundae

Nine fourth and fifth graders showed up for our first ever Friday Fun Night, a new monthly fellowship group full of food, faith formation and community building. At our first meeting, we ate pizza, explored what it means to support one another in community by trying to make balloon furniture, and topped it off with a communal gutter sundae. Thanks to Sarah Drummond for being the parent helper of the month. The next Friday Fun Night for Fourths and Fifths is Friday, November 16 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the church.



JJ is lowered onto our attempt at making balloon furniture.

### Youth Group for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and Up

Note our meeting dates for November:

Sunday, November 4, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday, November 30, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



### What are the Faith Seekers Doing in Sunday School?



The Faith Seekers, our middle school class, are using a new curriculum this year called “re:form.” The program challenges youth to wrestle with historic Christian faith and theology, with an emphasis on exploration rather than on indoctrination. Topics covered this year so far include:

Is the Bible true?

Is God male?

Does God still create stuff today?

Is the Holy Spirit a person or wind or fire or what?

A short, hilarious (in a tween kind of way), animated film introduces the question each week and raises points to consider. You can find out more about re:form and see film samples at <http://reform.wearesparkhouse.org/samples/>.

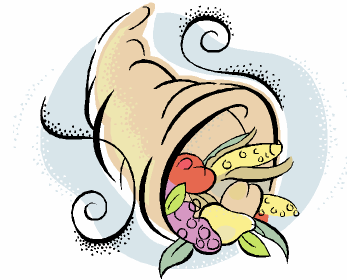
## News from Mission

### Common Cathedral

Common Cathedral, the outdoor church which brings together unhoused and housed people every Sunday afternoon for worship on Boston Common, hosted an intergenerational group from UCW on October 21. While most of the congregation is homeless, many who call Common Cathedral home are also professors, business people, clergy, students, care-givers and professionals. Most weeks churches, like ours from the suburbs, join in as well. Meeting at the Brewer Fountain near the Park Street T station, our group of 18 brought with us enough lunch to share with those gathered, then the members of Common Cathedral shared their songs, prayers, a Gospel message and Communion during worship. Four of our youth assisted in serving Communion. Thanks to the Disciples and Faith Seeker Sunday School classes for making over 150 sandwiches. Thanks to the many folks at UCW who donated all the ingredients for lunch. Common Cathedral has just produced a new video about its community and it can be viewed by visiting YouTube.com and searching for 'Common Cathedral.'



### Community Thanksgiving Dinner 2012



The Mission Committee is looking forward to hosting another terrific Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the vestry. Union Church members gather and serve a delicious Thanksgiving meal to local folks who might not otherwise get to enjoy a holiday meal. We organize cookie decorating and other activities for the kids, including a trip to the Angier playground if the weather is nice. We sit down, socialize, and eat with our guests once they have been served. It is a warm and wonderful event, and there are lots of ways you can pitch in. If you know of anyone who might enjoy the dinner, please invite him or her. There are no set criteria – if someone could use a good meal and friendly conversation, then invite him or her! (See Alicia Collins for invitations.) If you would like to help with decorations or shopping, please contact Alicia at 617.965.1696 or [aliciamaureencollins@gmail.com](mailto:aliciamaureencollins@gmail.com). If you would like to volunteer to help that weekend, then go to this link and sign up. [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090B4BA8A72F4-community1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090B4BA8A72F4-community1)

Thanks so much for your help and support!

### All Thanks and Praise

Please join us on November 18th for our traditional Thanksgiving service. We will offer thanks and praise to God with words and music.

Our service opens with a prelude by the German composer Sigfrid Karg-Elert, "Now Thank We All Our God." A setting of a traditional Botswanaian song by Alan Bullard will be our jubilant introit, accompanied by percussion instruments and piano. The Bell Choir will join the adult choir in our festive processional hymn, "We Gather Together." "Song of Gladness," a tuneful anthem by Allan Robert Petker, will be sung by the Children's Choir. The offertory anthem, "All Thanks and Praise" by Mark Patterson is a lively and rhythmic piece which you are certain to enjoy! The service will conclude on a joyful note with "Festive Scherzo" by British composer Malcolm Archer.

William Merrill,  
Music Director

**Always wanted a Toyota Prius?  
Need unique idea for a present?  
Want to help educate a child in Zambia?**

Buy a \$100 raffle ticket for a 1 in 500  
chance to win a 2012 Toyota Prius and a  
100% chance to make a difference!

*Tickets are available on:*

*10/21 Volante Farms, 292 Forest St., Needham 12-4pm*

*10/26 Stop and Shop, 700 Pleasant St., Watertown 3-6pm*

*11/4 Stop and Shop, 36 Bedford St., Lexington 12-4pm*

*11/10 Roche Bros., Linden Sq., Wellesley 11-4pm*

*12/1 Wasik's Cheese Shop, 61 Central St., Wellesley 9am-2pm*

**Or contact:**

**Liz King 617-875-2160 or**

**Annie Gatewood 617-641-0360**

The winner will be drawn at 7pm on December 6, 2012  
at the Wellesley Village Church

*For more information about Communities Without Borders go to  
[www.communitieswithoutborders.org](http://www.communitieswithoutborders.org)*

## From the Deacons - Our Snow Cancellation Policy

### Cancellation Policy for Worship and Activities Scheduled on Sundays in the case of inclement weather

RESOLVED THAT: Any worship services or other Union Church-related activity scheduled to take place at the church on a Sunday will be canceled if there is a 'Snow emergency parking ban' in effect for the city of Newton, except as under the specific circumstances described below. Notification of the cancellation of any worship service or other church-related activity will be made by the following methods:

- The Deacon of the month will verify the parking ban by 6:45 a.m. on Sunday morning.
- The Deacon of the month will call Stacy Swain who will notify Bill Merrill and Kathy Malone. Bill will then contact choir members as needed and Kathy will contact child care provider and Sunday School teachers.
- Congregation will be alerted to a cancellation by 7:00 a.m. through the following to communication avenues:

an outgoing phone message in the church office indicating that the worship service or other church-related activity scheduled for [specific date] has been canceled [NOTE: The outgoing phone message will include, as appropriate, a statement that any special collections scheduled for the canceled worship service or other church-related activity will be collected at the next worship service or rescheduled activity. If the timing of the collection is important, the message will ask that donations be sent or delivered directly to the church office as soon as possible]; and

a listing of "Union Church in Waban" on the WBZ, Channel 4, "Stormforce Cancellation" scroll broadcast on the bottom of the TV screen.

In the very rare circumstances when the 'Snow emergency parking ban' is clearly out of sync with the actual weather conditions, the Deacon of the month and the pastor can decide to override the policy and hold services. In such circumstances, the method of communication described above will be used to notify the Congregation that services will be held. People will be encouraged to use their own judgment about whether it is safe for them to travel to church.

All church committees are encouraged to keep this policy in mind when scheduling guest speakers and other church-related activities.

If a snow emergency parking ban happens on a NON –SUNDAY (i.e. Mon.-Sat.), then the person responsible for leading whatever activity has been scheduled is responsible for deciding whether to cancel his/her planned activity.

The above applies just to Union Church in Waban and does not cover use of the building during snow emergencies by our tenants.

# Filling Your Cup: The Sacredness of the Ordinary



Register early and save \$25.00! Register on-line today!  
<http://www.macucc.org/registrations/register/162>

**January 11th & 12th, 2013**

*Friday evening 7:00 pm (no dinner) to Saturday afternoon 4:30 pm  
The Edwards House, One Badger Road, Framingham, MA 01702*

### A Christian Spiritual Formation Retreat to

- Ground you spiritually
  - Replenish your energy, joy, and purpose
  - Give you practices to keep your cup overflowing
  - Help you live your life as a spiritual practice
- Discover your spiritual tools for the ups and downs of life

This 2- day long retreat is intended for people in all stages on the spiritual path (clergy and lay). Whether you feel like a beginner, or a long-time traveler, you will find nourishment here for your soul.

Come to worship, to learn new spiritual practices and rediscover old ones, to sing and express yourself through the arts, to build community, to take Sabbath, and to play. Choose from a number of activity options that will make your heart sing!



### How can we find God in the midst of our ordinary, busy lives?

*Come to explore. Come to deepen. Come to expand. Come to open.*

**Led by Rev. Matthew Carriker and Rev. Elaine Gaetani**

*Sponsored by the Commission for Leadership Development Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ.*

**\$100 registration before November 2nd! To register mail this form to Cindy Bolton, MACUCC, 1 Badger Road, Framingham, MA 01702 no later than Nov. 2, 2012. Include a check for \$100 payable to MACUCC.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Work or Home): \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Local church: \_\_\_\_\_

# NOVEMBER 2012

| Sun                                                                                                                                                          | Mon                                                                     | Tues                                                                              | Wed                                                                                                          | Thurs                                                                       | Fri                                                                                                               | Sat                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                         |                                                                                   |                                                                                                              | 1 7:30 p.m.<br>choir rehearsal                                              | 2 6:00-8:00<br>p.m. First Fri-<br>day (4th-5th<br>graders)<br>6:30 All-<br>Comers at<br>Weisgerber/<br>Brown home | 3 Meditation<br>Practice 9-noon<br>Reception Room                                     |
| 4 8:00 a.m.<br>Bible study<br>10: 00 Worship<br>and Communion<br>One-Room<br>Church School<br>11:45 Guest<br>Speaker Susan<br>Naimark<br>4:00 Youth<br>Group | 5<br>7:30 p.m. re-<br>scheduled meet-<br>ing of October's<br>Book Group | 6                                                                                 | 7 7:30 a.m.<br>Prayer Group<br>9:00 a.m.<br>Conversations<br>Along the Way<br>6:30 p.m. Coun-<br>cil Meeting | 8<br>10:30 a.m. Wa-<br>ban Health<br>7:30 p.m. choir<br>rehearsal           | 9<br>6:30 p.m. Adult<br>Game Night                                                                                | 10<br>Church clean-up<br>9:00-10:00 a.m.<br>Meditation Prac-<br>tice                  |
| 11 8:00 a.m.<br>Bible study<br>10: 00 Worship<br>and Sunday<br>School                                                                                        | 12                                                                      | 13 12 noon<br>Lunch Bunch<br>6:00 p.m. Dea-<br>cons<br>7:30 p.m.<br>Mission Comm. | 14 7:30 a.m.<br>Prayer Group                                                                                 | 15 6:30 p.m.<br>Teaching Parish<br>Comm. mtg.<br>7:30 pm choir<br>rehearsal | 16<br>6-8:00 p.m.<br>Friday Fun                                                                                   | 17<br>9:00-10:00 a.m.<br>Meditation Prac-<br>tice<br>2:00 pm Thanks-<br>giving Dinner |
| 18 8:00 a.m.<br>Bible study<br>10: 00 Worship<br>and Sunday<br>School<br>Thanksgiving<br>Sunday                                                              | 19                                                                      | 20                                                                                | 21 7:30 a.m.<br>Prayer Group                                                                                 | 22<br>Thanksgiving<br>Day<br>Office closed                                  | 23                                                                                                                | 24                                                                                    |
| 25 8:00 a.m.<br>Bible study<br>10: 00 Worship<br>and Sunday<br>School<br>11:30 a.m. Con-<br>versations Along<br>the Way<br>Advent wreath<br>making           | 26                                                                      | 27<br>7:00 p.m.<br>C.E. mtg.<br>7:30 p.m. Book<br>Group                           | 28 7:30 a.m<br>Prayer Group<br>6:30 p.m. Well-<br>spring                                                     | 29                                                                          | 30<br>6:00 p.m. Youth<br>group                                                                                    |                                                                                       |

# DECEMBER 2012

| Sun                                                                                                                           | Mon                                          | Tues                                                       | Wed                                                                                        | Thurs                                 | Fri                              | Sat                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                               |                                              |                                                            |                                                                                            |                                       |                                  | <b>1</b> 9:00-10:00 a.m. Meditation Practice |
| <b>2</b> 8:00 a.m. Bible study<br>10:00 Worship and Communion<br>One room church school<br>Hanging of the Greens              | <b>3</b>                                     | <b>4</b><br>6:00 p.m. Deacons' mtg.                        | <b>5</b> 7:30 a.m. Prayer Group<br>9:00 a.m. Conversations Along the Way (Waban Starbucks) | <b>6</b><br>7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal | <b>7</b>                         | <b>8</b>                                     |
| <b>9</b> 8:00 a.m. Bible study<br>10:00 Worship and Sunday School<br>Festival of Lights                                       | <b>10</b>                                    | <b>11</b><br>12 noon Lunch Bunch<br>7:30 p.m. Mission Mtg. | <b>12</b> 7:30 a.m. Prayer Group<br>6:30 p.m. Well-spring                                  | <b>13</b><br>7:30 Choir Rehearsal     | <b>14</b> 6-8:00 p.m. Friday Fun | <b>15</b><br>9-11:00 a.m. Pageant Rehearsal  |
| <b>16</b> 8:00 a.m. Bible study<br>10:00 Worship, Christmas Pageant and Sunday School<br>2:00 p.m. Carol Sing at Waban Health | <b>17</b>                                    | <b>18</b>                                                  | <b>19</b> 7:30 a.m. Prayer Group<br>7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas                               | <b>20</b><br>7:30 Choir Rehearsal     | <b>21</b>                        | <b>22</b>                                    |
| <b>23</b> 8:00 a.m. Bible study<br>10:00 Worship and Sunday School<br>Christmas Sunday                                        | <b>24</b><br>6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service | <b>25</b><br>Christmas Day office closed                   | <b>26</b>                                                                                  | <b>27</b>                             | <b>28</b>                        | <b>29</b>                                    |
| <b>30</b> 8:00 a.m. Bible study<br>10:00 Worship and Sunday School                                                            | <b>31</b>                                    |                                                            |                                                                                            |                                       |                                  |                                              |



**Happy Thanksgiving  
from  
the Union Church staff**