



First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston

The Parish Press

Editor: Cyndy Washburn-Doane

Spring 2009

Bees Again

These last few warm sunny days have convinced me that spring is really coming. Spring is always a time of hope. There is no act more filled with hope than the planting of a seed and for those of you who are starting tomatoes, cabbage, peppers and other seedlings, that expression of hope has probably already happened. I no longer plant a garden, partly because I no longer have a place to plant one and partly because, living alone, I eat so little vegetables that it seems a waste to do it.

I do, however, raise bees. I was worried that many of them would not survive the cold and windy weather we have had in late winter and early spring. I thought that they had plenty of food, but it is always hard to be sure. I checked about a month ago and all of the colonies had survived and appeared in good shape, but they were still in tight clusters, not starting to really raise new brood. A week and a half ago I opened the colonies and put a patty of pollen substitute on the top of the frames. While there was plenty of honey, they were not yet able to get any pollen and therefore not encouraged to start raising young bees to begin to expand the colonies for the new year. It wasn't really time for those colonies to start to build up. They ordinarily would have waited until they were finding pollen in the fields, but by giving them just a little taste of what would soon be coming, they took off!

This often also happens to us. It is not always the reality that gets us going. If we get a hint—a promise—something that gives us hope, even before the full reality is there, we can move forward.

As we approach Easter, a season which also tells us that even when things look very dark, new and sometimes better possibilities come along. This is the time to hope. The time to plant seeds. The time to have confidence in what is to come. May we move with confidence into the future. May we make real what is only a hope and a dream!

Ralph

Important Dates:

- 4-12**
Easter Service, Pot Luck
7:30 am
- 4-17**
Indoor Yard Sale Set-up
7 pm
- 4-18**
Indoor Yard Sale
9 am - 2pm
- 5-3**
Recognition Sunday
5:30 pm
- 5-9**
SS & All Church Trip
- 5-10**
Children's Sunday & Mother's Day
5:30 pm
Pot Luck
4:30 pm
- 6-13**
Church Sale during Town Wide Yard Sale
8 am - 2 pm
- 9-12**
Field Day
9 am - 3 pm
- 9-13**
First Day of Church 2009/10

Rev. Ralph Clarke
RE Director: Nancy Hubbard

Pianist: Melissa Dymek

Church 5:30 pm
Sunday School 4:30 pm

How to contact us:

Church
Phone:
978-928-
5822



First Parish Unitarian Church, Box 509, Hubbardston, MA 01452

Minister's Email:
rclarke@uuma.org

Minister's Phone:
978-808-3770

Websites:
hubbardstonunitarian.org
www.uua.org
www.cbd.uua.org

CHURCH NEWS

Let's Get Ready for Easter – Break out the brooms, mops and cleaning gear. Saturday, April 11th at 2 pm is our Easter Clean-up and Brunch set-up. We move into spring by cleaning the sanctuary and vestry. Hope to see you there.

Easter Sunday – Easter services will be held Sunday, April 12th at 7:30 am. Please join us for a Pot Luck Brunch in the vestry directly after the service.

Annual Spring Indoor Yard Sale – This year's spring sale will be held on Saturday, April 18th from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Treasures of all sorts will be sold, usually yard sale items, clothing, toys and puzzles. Donations will be accepted on Friday night April 17th from 7 – 9 pm only. Please do not leave any donations outside the Church prior to Friday night. Disposal of unsold items is a major problem. Please, we need small salable items, no large furniture, appliances, or computer equipment.



The famous Church Lady Luncheon will be served. The menu will include soup, sandwiches and home-baked goodies. The Spice Shop will be open and we will hold a Chinese Auction. We need donations for the auction table and goodies and volunteers are needed.

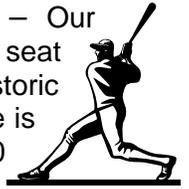
Recognition Sunday – Our special recognition service will be held Sunday, May 3rd at 5:30 pm. This year's graduating high school seniors are Joe Taylor, Caroline Doane, Brittany Charpentier, and Rebecca Green. Our graduating college seniors are Jon Ward, Melody Green, Amy Hopkinson, Josh Watkins and David Clapham. Best wishes to them as they successfully leave high school and college and good luck as they face their new challenges.



Mother's Day Potluck & Children's Sunday – The last service of this year will be held on Mother's Day, May 10th. We will also use this last service to do our special Children's Sunday. As part of the service, the Sunday

school children receive their attendance pins. Please join us for Pot Luck at 4:30 pm, followed by our service at 5:30 pm. The final drawings for the 120 Club Spring 2009 & our Red Sox ticket raffle will be drawn during Pot Luck.

Red Sox Ticket Raffle 2009 – Our Spring FUNRAISER is 4 infield seat Red Sox tickets for a game at historic Fenway Park in Boston. The game is on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at 7:10 pm against the Texas Rangers.



Your raffle tickets may be purchased from any member of the Parish Committee and members of the Church. Ticket prices are \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. The Raffle will be drawn on Sunday, May 10th at our Mother's Day Potluck dinner and Children's Sunday at the Church beginning at 4:30 pm. For further information, please call Mary Taylor at 928-4289 or e-mail her at mjt123@charter.net.

Sunday School & All Church Trip – The end of the year trip will be on Saturday, May 9th, 2009 to the Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence Rhode Island. The zoo is open from 9 am – 4 pm daily. May 9th is the first day of their summer long exhibit of "Flutterby: Butterflies in Bloom". They will have a special greenhouse landscaped and full of free flying butterflies. Sounds like fun.



The Roger Williams Park Zoo is our nation's third oldest zoo and they have over 130 species living in naturalistic settings. You can visit their website at www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org and check it out. It is just over an hour's ride down to Providence. The group rate cost is \$10 adult, \$5 children (3-12), 7 seniors (62 +) and under 3 free. As usual the Church will pay for the Sunday School Children and teachers – and everyone else is welcome to come along. Last year we had 29 people on the trip and it was a lot of fun. Mark your calendars!!! Nancy will keep us up-dated as to departure time etc., as the time gets closer.

The Roger Williams Park Zoo is our nation's third oldest zoo and they have over 130 species living in naturalistic settings. You can visit their website at www.rogerwilliamsparkzoo.org and check it out. It is just over an hour's ride down to Providence. The group rate cost is \$10 adult, \$5 children (3-12), 7 seniors (62 +) and under 3 free. As usual the Church will pay for the Sunday School Children and teachers – and everyone else is welcome to come along. Last year we had 29 people on the trip and it was a lot of fun. Mark your calendars!!! Nancy will keep us up-dated as to departure time etc., as the time gets closer.

Town Wide Yard Sale – Please come see us at the Hubbardston Town Wide Yard Sale, Saturday,



June 13th from 8 am – 2 pm. We will have yard sale items and a bake sale. Coffee, pastry and Luncheon will be served all day. The luncheon includes homemade sandwiches, pickles & chips. Beverages and desserts will also be available for purchase separately. It is Strawberry Short Cake Season. Get it while it lasts. Take-out will be available.

Milestones – Our greater Church community lost three people recently: Roger Johnson and Bill Chapman of Hubbardston and Roberta Grandone of Barre. We will treasure their friendship and will remember them for their devotion to their family and many community service organizations over the years. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

Craft Night – Mary continues to host craft night on Friday nights, either at 3 or 6 pm, on the stage in the vestry. No craft project is too small for Mary's cleverness. Our talents are becoming endless; we wire cones and berries for wreaths, cut, staple and glue anything that comes our way. Our one of a kind, finished creations will be available for sale at our 2009 Gingerbread Fair on December 5th. Everyone is invited to this informal work group. Give Mary a call to make sure of the time before venturing out.



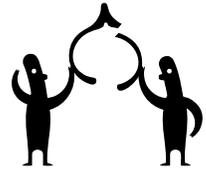
Restoration Complete - Phase I which included restoration work from the spire down to the masonry has been completed under the direction of Phil Warbasse from CHENOT Associates, Murray Brothers Construction and Carol DiNinno from the Massachusetts Historic Commission. We are considering moving forward to Phase II. Stay tuned.

Wrap Up Party – Sunday, March 29th at 3 pm the Church hosted a Thank You, Project Wrap Up gathering in the vestry. Our Members & Friends enjoyed looking at pictures, visiting with our contractors and architect and visiting with each other. It was a great way to say *Thank You* to all involved.



Wish List – *Cabinet needed* - The Parish Committee is in need of a lightly used fireproof 4-drawer filing cabinet. If you know anyone that

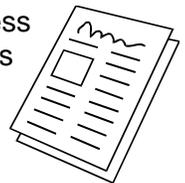
can donate this, please give a member of the Parish committee a call. *Jelly jars needed* – Because our jellies and jams were such a hit we are again looking for 8 oz. jelly jars, new lids and sugar for our upcoming jam and jelly season. Also, if you know of or have fruit that may be of use contact Mary Taylor at 928-4289.



Fall 2008 120 Club Winners – The following people won \$50 in the fall round of the 120 Club: Connie Bumpus, Jason Ward, David Girouard, Nancy Hubbard, Sue & Eric Berlo, James Dunbar, John Prentiss, Gerry Morrissey, Susan Flagg, Carol Beauvais, Ruth Sherman Strong and Fran Ward. The final winners are: David Simmerer - \$50, Ray Lajoie and Matthew Marean - \$100 and David Girouard - \$150.

The Spring 2009 120 tickets are on sale now. Please see Barbara

Fall 2009 Newsletter Deadline – The deadline for our Fall 2009 Parish Press is Monday, August 24th. Please let us know if you have something of interest to submit; Church history, photos, a poem or an article written by our Members & Friends. You may email Cyndy at cwdoane@charter.net



Parish Committee – The Parish Committee meets every Wednesday at 3 pm. We continue to work with the Town to complete the land division, seek companies to locate a wireless communication installation in our steeple, and carry on the daily business of the Church. All are welcome and encouraged to attend our meetings.

Parish Committee:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Carol Whitney | 978-928-3748 |
| Barbara Hubbard | 978-928-4475 |
| Cynthia Washburn-Doane | 978-928-4866 |
| Lori Prentiss | 978-928-5818 |
| Mary Taylor | 978-928-4289 |

MOM's club of Hubbardston – The MOM's Club meets the 3rd Friday of every month at 10 am at the Church. This dynamic group welcomes new members and has activities for themselves and their children. Benefits of membership include weekly playgroups for

children, local outings, park days, family activities and a monthly MOM's Night Out. For more information, contact Laura Foley at: momsclubofhubbardston@yahoo.com.

Parish History – The Unitarian Sunday School Society traces its origins back to May 1, 1838, when it was first established for the purpose of promoting religious instruction for the young under the name of Sabbath School Association. On May 7, 1871 a revision of the constitution was made and the program continued as revised. Our Sunday School flourishes today, under the direction of Nancy Hubbard with Lori Prentiss, Stephanie Guertin and Robin Hopkinson as teachers.

Future Services Needs Committee – The Future Services Needs Committee, as formed by the Parish Committee, is a group of interested parishioners looking into the many needs surrounding our services. These needs may include, but are not limited to ministerial concerns, music, timing of services and content. Any topic that pertains to services will be touched upon according to the group attending the meeting. This group will make recommendations to the Parish Committee (PC). The PC will bring any changes before the entire Church body before they are acted upon.

Hymnals – These wonderful books of song are a great way to remember a loved one, mark a special occasion or just to purchase. A label will

be placed inside each book to mark your event or memorialize your loved one or note your donation. If you are interested in purchasing hymnals please contact Barbara. Several more are needed.

Messiah Sing – Come join the Quabbin Community Orchestra for its' 15th Annual "Messiah Sing" on Sunday, April 5th. This event combines community chorus, soloists and orchestra into a wonderful, informal, free concert to which all are welcome to come and sing or just listen to the incredible music of Handel. A potluck dinner will immediately follow so, please bring something good to share with others. Orchestra rehearsal begins at 1 pm; soloist rehearsal at 1:45 pm, chorus rehearsal at 2:30 pm and the sing begins at 3:30 pm.

Maplewind Arts – Maplewind Arts is planning a summer session to run in the vestry of the Church. Classes will include: Dance, (jazz, tap and ballet); Art; Music (private lessons, orchestra and jazz band) and Theatre. There will be two sessions: June 29- July 24; July 27- Aug 21. It will run Monday through Thursday mornings depending on the course. Contact Russell Killough-Miller, Maplewind Arts Director at rkillough-miller@maplewind.org for more information.

Vestry Rental – The Vestry is available for rental and is a great space for any gathering. Contact a member of the Parish Committee to get more information.

Enclosed are 5 tickets to the Take Me Out to the Ballgame 2009 Raffle. To get more tickets contact the Parish Committee.