



First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston

The Parish Press

Editor: Cyndy Washburn-Doane

Spring 2010

In Time of Silver Rain

In time of silver rain
 The earth puts forth new life again,
 Green grasses grow
 And flowers lift their heads,
 And all the plain
 The wonder spreads
 Of life, Of life, Of life.
 In time of silver rain
 The butterflies lift silken wings
 To catch a rainbow cry
 And trees put forth
 New leaves to sing
 In joy beneath the sky.
 When spring
 And life
 Are new.

Langston Hughes,
 African-American writer, poet & play write

CHURCH NEWS

Let's Get Ready For Easter - Break out the brooms, mops and cleaning gear. Wednesday, March 31st at 7 pm is our Easter Clean-up and Brunch set-up. We move into spring by cleaning the sanctuary and setting up tables, chairs and decorations for Easter Brunch in the vestry. Hope to see you there.

Important Dates:

- 3-31 **Sanctuary Cleaning**
7 pm
- 4-4 **Easter**
10 am
- 4-10 **United Bellringers**
4 pm
"Meet the Hand bells"
3:15 pm
- 4-11 **SSVMS – Melissa Dymek's Piano Students**
10 am
- 4-18 **Church Yard Clean-up**
9 am
- 4-23 **Indoor Yard Sale Set-up**
7-9 pm
- 4-24 **Spring Indoor Yard Sale**
9 am – 2 pm
- 5-2 **Recognition Sunday**
10 am
- 5-8 **All Church Trip**
Plimoth Plantation
Leave Church at 7:30 am
- 5-9 **Children's Sunday**
10 am
Mother's Day Pot Luck
11 am
- 6-12 **Town Wide Yard Sale**
8 am - 2 pm

Pianist: Melissa Dymek
 RE Director: Nancy Hubbard

Church: 10 am
 Sunday School: 9 am

How to contact us:

Church
 Phone:
 978-928-
 5822



First Parish Unitarian
 Church
 Box 509
 Hubbardston, MA 01452

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

Easter Sunday - Easter services will be held Sunday April 4th at 10:00 am. with the Reverend Eliza Blanchard officiating. Melissa Dymek will be playing the piano. Please join us for a Pot Luck Brunch in the vestry directly after the service.



Bell Ringers Concert - UNITED RINGERS Hand Bell Concert will be held Saturday, April 10th at 4 pm Concert and 3:15 pm "Meet the Hand Bells" Learn what bell ringing is all about - 30 minutes of hands on instruction - learn a song

The United Ringers, from the Congregational Church of Littleton Massachusetts, is a hand bell choir that performs for church services, concerts, and hand bell festivals. They have performed for a great variety of events and organizations including community groups, senior citizen organizations, church groups, civic events, holiday concerts, educational organizations, and, most notably, for three years they have been guest artists at the Holiday Pops concert of the Orchestra of Indian Hill, a professional orchestra based in Littleton, MA. This hand bell choir is under the direction of Debra LeBrun, Minister of Music and Janet Anderson, Associate Hand bell Director.

The Massachusetts cultural Council is a state agency that promotes excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive science, in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and contribute to the economic vitality of our communities.



Second Sunday Visiting Musician Series - Our final SSVMS this season will be Sunday, April 11th and will feature our pianist Melissa Dymek and her piano students. A Potluck Brunch in the vestry will follow.

Church Yard Clean Up - The winter of 2009-2010 dumped a lot of snow and ice. Our grounds are scattered with broken branches, sand, rocks and leaves. We need your help to clean our Church Yard. Please bring your steel and lawn rakes, shovels, work gloves, clippers, wheel barrows and for those of you that really love the thrill of it all, drive up your riding mowers. We will have some snacks on hand. This is a great way to celebrate Earth Day and visit as we work. Please bring your kids. The clean up date is April, 18th beginning at 9 am.

Annual Spring Indoor Yard Sale - This year's spring sale will be held on Saturday April 24th 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 23rd 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 will be selling homemade jams & jellies, knitting and perennials. We need donations for the auction table as well as baked goodies to sell. As always volunteers are needed.



Recognition Sunday - Our special recognition service will be held Sunday, May 2nd at 10 am. This year's college graduates are Brianna Whitney, Deirdre Watkins, Betsy Green and Melody Green. Best wishes to them as they successfully leave school and good luck as they face their new challenges.

All Church Trip – The trip this year will be to Plimoth Plantation on Saturday, May 8th. It opens at 9 am, so we should plan to meet at the Church by 7:30 am and can carpool from there. Bring a picnic lunch. Anyone interested in going should contact Nancy at hopkinson34@charter.net or 978-928-5964, so that I know who is planning on joining us. Let's hope for good weather.

Mother's Day Potluck & Children's Sunday - The last service of this year will be held on Mother's Day, May 9th.



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 and each class will give a presentation. Please join us for our service at 10 AM followed by Potluck.

The final drawings for the 120 Club Spring 2010 & our Red Sox ticket "Fun Raiser" raffle will be drawn during Potluck.

June 12th Town Wide Yard Sale - The Church will be having an In-Door Yard Sale during Hubbardston's Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 12th from 8 am – 2 pm. We will have yard sale items; a bake sale, coffee & pastry and our

famous Church Lady Luncheon all day; homemade sandwiches, pickles & chips, beverage & dessert for eat-in or take-out will be available. Please make us one of your stops during your treasure hunt around town.

Take Me Out To The Ball Game – 2010 - Be on the look out again for our “FUN” Raiser. The Church is selling raffle tickets for 4 people to attend the Red Sox vs. the Philadelphia Phillies game at historic Fenway Park in Boston on June 12, time tba. 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 9th at our Mother’s Day Potluck Brunch and our Children’s Sunday at the Church beginning at 10 am. Five tickets are enclosed. For further information please contact Mary Taylor at 978-928-4289 or e-mail her at mjt1233@verizon.net.



Remaining Services:

March 28

Aaron Stockwell - Theology Student

April 4

Easter Rev. Eliza Blanchard – Potluck Brunch

April 11

SSVMS - Melissa Dymek and Students Potluck Brunch

April 25

Inspirational Speaker Robert Wirtanen

May 2

Inspirational Speaker Robert Wirtanen Recognition Sunday

May 9

Mothers' Day & Children's Sunday Potluck Brunch

Hymnals – These splendid books of song are a great way to remember a loved one, mark a special occasion or just to purchase. Our hymnals are in! Please check in with Barbara at 978-928-4475 to pay for your book and fill out your personalized label to be placed inside each book. The need for more hymnals still exists. In that we would like to have a book for each person on our well attended special occasions.

Ways to Give - There are many ways to give, and every dollar you give back or leave as a legacy will make a lasting difference to the future of the First



Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston. A program that is very popular is a Matching Gift. Many businesses have programs that match the personal gifts made by employees, retirees, and family members. This is an easy way to increase the impact of your gift. Information on your companies, matching gift program is usually available from your human resources department. To learn more about other specific gift plans, please contact a member of the Parish Committee.

Parish History - *The History of Hubbardston, Volume II* has identified six different churches that have been part of religious life in Hubbardston. The First Parish Unitarian, the Evangelical Congregational, the Methodist-Episcopal, the Williamsville Chapel, the Finnish-Lutheran Congregational and the Church in the Wyldwood have all had roots here. Of the ones left today, our Church continues to hold services, the Chapel is owned by the Hubbardston Historical Society and the Church in the Wyldwood has intermittent services. The Congregational Church is empty and is for sale. The Methodist and Lutheran Churches were leveled by fires.

Milestones – Our Greater Church community lost Nadine Hill in January and Katherine Saari in February and Vi Johnson in December 2009. Nadine braided rugs and so generously donated them to our Church for many raffles. Katherine will be remembered for her extraordinary stage presence with Hubbardston Community Theatre and Quabbin Regional High School. Vi was the Grandmother of Heidi Norcross. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

Wish List at the Church –As shown, some of the items have come in. Thank you for your generous donations. We are still in need of the other items on the list. Please contact the Parish Committee if you are able to help with this.

ITEM	#	COST	TOTAL
Hymnals	20	40	800
Folding Chairs	40	25	1000
Fire Proof File cab..	1	1000	1000
Building Drainage			Unknown
Sanctuary Fire Sensors			Unknown
Volunteers			Priceless
E-Z-Ups	2	150	300
Lawn Mower	1	400	400
Entrance way flooring			750
Kitchen floor incl. sub-floor			9000
Jelly Jars (8 oz.)	30 cs	7	210
Computer w/ Church small business software	1	750	750

Winners 120 Club Fall 2009 - The following people won \$50 in the fall round of the 120 Club: Lorna Rivers, Roberta Kenda, Steve Chapman, Chris Norcross, Patrice Nogueira, Mae Cappuccio, Sue LaRose, Kathy Derzius, Lenny Doane, Dot Suojanen, Carol Kelley and Mary Taylor. The final winners were: James Dunbar \$50, Robert Everett & Joe Sama \$100 and Mariann Ward \$150.

Fall 2010 Newsletter Deadline - The deadline for our Fall 2010 Parish Press is Monday, August 23rd. Please let us know if you have something of interest to submit; Church history, photos, a poem or article written by our Members & Friends. You may e-mail Cyndy at cwdoane@charter.net.

Jams & Jellies – Church ladies: Barbara Hubbard, June Hubbard-Ward and Mary Taylor are back at



Jam & Jelly production. Last year we ran out of Strawberry-Rhubarb early on. This year we hope to avoid that and to that end will need a larger supply of rhubarb. If anyone has any extra rhubarb or knows of any fruit that the ladies can use give Mary a call at 978-928-4289. Please recycle your 8 oz. jelly jars by returning them to the Church.

Future Services Needs Committee - The Future Services Needs Committee (FSNC) is a group of interested parishioners looking into the many needs concerning our services. These needs may include, but are not limited to ministerial concerns, musical programs and service content. Any topic that pertains to services will be touched on according to the group attending. This group will make recommendations to the Parish Committee (PC). Current committee members are Carol Whitney, Barbara Hubbard, Lori Prentiss and Nancy Hubbard. They are looking for a few more.

Parish Committee – The Parish Committee continues to be very busy. They meet every Wednesday at 4 pm at the Church and have been working out the details of the many issues that the Church has to deal with. If you need to contact any of them please refer to the following list or come to a meeting. This committee is looking for one more member.

Carol Whitney: Pres.	978-928-3748
Barbara Hubbard: Treas.	978-928-4475
Cyndy Washburn-Doane: VP	978-928-4866
Mary Taylor: Clerk	978-928-4289