

OCTOBER AT-A-GLANCE

*First Parish is a busy place –
so keep this one-page summary on the 'fridge to help you keep it all straight!*

Sunday, Oct. 3rd:

- 10AM Communion Worship; first “Big Story” Sunday; Neighbors In Need offering
- Noon: Pumpkin Pallet Moving – meet outside the Parsonage Barn

Thursday, Oct. 7th:

- 11:30AM: Senior Moments Fellowship in the Parish Hall

Friday, Oct. 8th: Pumpkin Truck Day

- 4:30PM: Strong lifters needed to help unload boxes from the truck
- 5PM: Volunteers of all ages needed to unload the pumpkins

Saturday, Oct. 9th: Pumpkin Patch opens, through Oct. 31st

Sunday, Oct. 10th:

- 10AM worship & Church School
- 11:30AM: Blessing of the Animals, outside the Parish Hall

Sunday, Oct. 16th: CNS Pumpkin Fest

- 10AM-2PM: Lots of family fun, hosted by Clapboardtree Nursery School – and lots of pumpkins too!

Sunday, Oct. 17th:

- 9AM: Festival Choir rehearsal in the Meeting House
- 10AM: Worship, with Guest Preacher Rev. Wendy Vanderheart, Festival Choir & Church School

Thursday, Oct. 21st:

- 9:30AM: Westwood Men’s Club: Guest Speaker John Prichard
- 10:30AM: Fox Hill Village Bible Study

Saturday, Oct. 23rd: All-Church Retreat

- 9am-12:30: Session One – “Noise” workshop
- 12:30-1:30: Lunch
- 1:30-5:00: Session Two – “Living Simply, Saying No” workshop

Sunday, Oct. 24:

- 10AM: Worship & Church School

Sunday, Oct. 31st:

- 10AM: Worship, 3rd Grade Bibles & Church School

COMING UP

Plain Clothes Sunday – Sunday, Nov. 7th, after worship

The Fair – Saturday, Nov. 20th, 10AM-2PM, in the Parish Hall

Stewardship Sunday – Sunday, Nov. 21st

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship - Sunday, Nov. 21st at 7:30PM at Temple Beth David

St. Petersburg Men’s Ensemble - Sunday, Nov. 28th at 3PM in the Meeting House



The Clapboardtree Spire

News From First Parish of Westwood, United Church
340 Clapboardtree St., Westwood, MA 02090

October, 2010

COME TO THE ALL-CHURCH RETREAT SATURDAY, OCT. 23

We are excited to offer a retreat open to all individuals and families of First Parish – at Hale Reservation, from 9am-5pm on Saturday, Oct. 23rd. A half-day option is available for those who need it. The Retreat is limited to the first 40 people who register – so sign up in the Parish Hall ASAP, or contact the church office.

Our theme will be “The Power of Sabbath”, and we will explore the challenges and joys of carving out time to be quiet and fully present – with ourselves and with our families. The morning workshop is titled “Noise” and raises the question of the connection between the noise in our lives and our inability to hear God. Is God not speaking to us – or is it too noisy for us to hear? The afternoon session, titled “Living Simply, Saying No” addresses how the busy-ness in our lives might overwhelm us and cause us to miss the great, simple things in our lives. Would saying no be easier if we knew what it meant to say yes?

We hope you and your family will join us on Oct. 23rd. Lunch will be served. Additional information is available on our website: www.firstparishwestwood.org.

BRING BREAD TO WORSHIP SUNDAY, OCT. 3

Sunday, Oct. 3rd is **World Communion Sunday**. Just as Jesus shared the bread and cup with travelers along the road to Emmaus, on this Sunday we too will share in communion with one another, and symbolically with our brothers and sisters around the world.

One way for every First Parish family to participate in World Communion Sunday is by making or buying bread to be shared at this worship service. Bread and grains are foods that are universally served and shared around the world – and the bread that you bring to worship on Oct. 3rd will be used and displayed as a reminder of our global community.

As we break bread this day, we will also think of those who will have no bread, and gratefully accept this year’s **Neighbors in Need offering**. Offering envelopes will be included with the bulletin on Oct. 3rd, or checks (made out to First Parish of Westwood, with NIN on the memo line) may be sent to the church office. We thank you for giving generously to this important UCC appeal.

SAVE NOV. 20TH FOR THE FAIR!

This year's holiday fair will be on Saturday, November 20th starting at 9am.

Preparations are underway, and there are many ways for all to help. Consider baking your favorite goodies, collecting greens for the wreath table, creating items for the gift table, searching your attic for treasures and your basements for books! There will also be

plenty of help needed to set-up and staff all the tables the day of the fair.

Help make this special First Parish event a success!!! More details and sign up sheets will be coming soon!! In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions contact Karina Adourian at kari-naadourian@yahoo.com

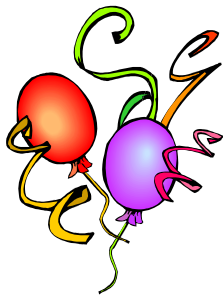
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

October 1	Benjamin Keleher-Fusco
October 3	John Kitchen
October 4	Cami MacKinlay
October 7	Jane Smith, Zoe Jordanides Danica Peterson
October 9	Carrie Hyde
October 10	Chris Underhill
October 11	Natalie Martin
October 12	Chuck Davis, David Russell
October 14	Riley Harrington, Jeffrey Poreda Lynn Porter
October 15	Tom Miskell, Brady Phillips
October 16	Lily Bruno
October 19	Taylor Cabral, Alex Wight
October 21	Jacqueline Whalen
October 22	Camden Arnold, Bill Storey Lynn Candella ,
October 23	Roger Christian, Brendan Morrison Gary Shaw
October 25	Art Marsh
October 29	Nancy Hyde

ANNIVERSARIES

October 1	Dan & Karen Wagner
October 8	John & Sallie Dobra Bill & Judy Holbrook
October 11	Bob & Martha Randall
October 16	Jim & Betsy Dakin



THE CLAPBOARDTREE SPIRE

The Clapboardtree Spire is published monthly, September - June by and for The First Parish of Westwood, United Church. Material should be submitted to the church office by the third Friday of the prior month. Available monthly at www.firstparishwestwood.org, and via email or mail.

LIFETIMES

Serving in the Military:

- *Ben Baldwin:* to Afghanistan
- *Jim Howard:* to Iraq

New Email Addresses:

- *Pat Johnson:*
PatJohnson279@presto.com

New Mailing Addresses:

- *Tommy Miskell:* 96 Terrace Rd., Milford CT 781-603-5078
- *Don & Judy Friedl:* 10 Longwood Dr., #555, Westwood, MA 02090

WHO'S WHO AT FIRST PARISH

Pastor:	Rev. Christopher L. Dodge
Phone:	781-326-0135
Email:	revchris@firstparishwestwood.org
Moderator:	Bob Deininger
CE Admin.:	Donna Bertazzoni
Phone:	781-326-3141
Email:	dbzoni@firstparishwestwood.org
Treasurer:	Cathy Ellis
Phone:	781-326-5344
Email:	treasurer@firstparishwestwood.org
Music Director:	Joshua Nannestad
Phone:	978-562-5614
Email:	nannestad@gmail.com
Parish Nurse:	Margery Eramo
Phone:	781-326-3997
Email:	meramo@firstparishwestwood.org
Secretary:	Judy Holbrook
Sexton:	Denis Wholey
Office Hours:	Mon.-Thurs., 9AM-3PM (Closed Fridays)
Phone:	781-326-5344
Email:	parish1st@firstparishwestwood.org
Fax:	781-326-5954
Web Site:	www.firstparishwestwood.org
Cottage:	781-326-3997

YOU CAN HELP

PUMPKINS FOR CHARITY!

Fall is here – and the pumpkins are coming! October means our annual “Pumpkins With a Purpose” fundraiser, when every pumpkin you help us sell enables us to reach out to local charities and help those less fortunate than ourselves.

This year’s sale is from Saturday, Oct. 9th through Sunday, Oct. 31st – and we depend on our volunteers to help us get the Patch set up and all those beautiful pumpkins sold. So, see the details below, and sign up in the Parish Hall to make this year’s Patch another resounding success.

Here’s how you can help:

- **Pallet moving and set up:**

Those who can do a little lifting are invited to gather outside the Parsonage Barn at noon on Sunday, Oct. 3rd to help Sexton Denis Wholey load all the pallets into his truck and transport them across the street. The pallets then need to be laid out on the Parish Hall lawn, ready for all those beautiful pumpkins that will soon be on their way.

- **Pumpkin truck unloading: Friday, Oct. 8th at 5PM**

- **A couple of strong lifters** are needed around 4:45 to help unload the boxes from the truck, and clear the way for the other volunteers to unload hundreds of pumpkins.
- **Volunteers of all ages** are needed to get all those pumpkins off the truck and safely displayed on pallets on the Parish Hall lawn. Bring work gloves! Light refreshments will be served.

- **Sales volunteers are needed** to staff the Patch 7 days a week through Oct. 31st. We are open from **12-5 Mondays-Fridays, 10-5 on Saturdays, and 11:30-5 on Sundays**. Sign up sheets are posted in the Parish Hall with all the shifts available. Sign up ASAP so you’ll get the ones that suit you best!

Remember – all profits from the sale go directly to charity! So talk it up among your friends and neighbors, and be sure they understand that their pumpkin dollars work hardest at First Parish! Questions? See Ministry of Mission chairperson Tish Verzino or Martha Crawford.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Is anyone interested in starting or attending a Prayer Shawl knitting group? I would like to start another daytime and/or evening group if there is an interest in doing this. I know many of you continue to make shawls on your own time, but there is a spiritual advantage to crafting and sharing together.

If you are interested, please contact or meramo@firstparishwestwood.org or Marge Eramo at 781-326-3997.

VISITING THE HOMEBOUND

The Lay Visitation Team is looking for new members to help with visits, calling, and the sending of cards to members of our First Parish family who are convalescing or who are unable to attend church.

If you don’t wish to visit or call but would be willing to send cards (cards and postage provided), we need you!

If you would like to help in this meaningful and welcome effort, please contact the church office or Dave Blomquist (781-769-1240).

FROM PASTOR CHRIS



A way to summarize our worship and congregational life for the year ahead might be, “Faith Stories: God’s, Mine, and Ours”

God’s...each week we gather to hear God’s stories. In particular we will emphasize “big stories” once a month. These major stories or themes central to our faith life will be explored by all ages during worship. Children will meet in the Parish Hall at the beginning half of worship to engage in the story while adults do the same in the Meeting House. Following an opening liturgy, we will enter into the story in a conversational Bible study format. The Church School will then join adults in worship for Communion. This format will also provide an opportunity for the entire church school to learn foundational music of our faith. The first Big Story Sunday will be October 3. The focus will be Communion.

Mine...the stories of the Bible are what we share in common, but we each have our unique faith story with its own twists and turns. There is great power in sharing that story with one another in our church family. About once a month, two people from the congregation will be invited to share their faith stories. This will act as the sermon for the day. It is my goal to invite a diversity of people, and I will be providing some guiding questions to help everyone in telling their story.

Ours...as a church community, we will be embarking on a Visioning Process. This will help us to imagine our story for the future. Through conversation, study and prayer, we will seek to discern what God is calling us to be and to do.

Another program year is before us with many familiar events and some new ones as well. I hope you will take time to consider attending the retreat on October 23rd: “The Power of Sabbath”. Space is limited! Hopefully this will become a cherished annual event.

Peace,
Pastor Chris

OCTOBER WORSHIP AT FIRST PARISH

October 3

World Communion Sunday
Big Story Sunday: “Communion”

October 10

Sermon Series: Why Church?: Mentors; Blessing of the Animals (?)

October 17

We welcome Rev. Wendy Vanderheart as our guest preacher. Wendy is the Associate Conference Minister of the Metropolitan Boston Association, Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ. She provides support

to the clergy and 76 churches of the Association, including First Parish of Westwood.

October 24

Sermon Series: Why Church?: Money

October 31

Reformation Sunday
Dedication of Pew Bibles
Presentation of Bibles to 3rd Graders.

NEW PEW BIBLES

As Christians and as a church, the Bible is our primary source document. It is where we are called to go to in matters of faith and for the practice of our faith. For countless generations, the Bible has been a guide for living and a source of comfort. In its pages people have found strength, hope and direction. The Bible is a treasured book where we can see ourselves and see how God works.

Perhaps you have noticed that there is some variety to Bibles. There are different *versions* of the Bible available to us - the books are the same (for the most part) but there are changes in language. This stems from a desire to share the good news with as many as possible in a language that they can understand. But this desire also needs to be tempered by good scholarship. There can be great value in reading different versions of the Bible. But it is also good practice to have one version that is considered your standard.

Like most of our brothers and sister churches in our tradition, the Revised Standard Version (RSV) has been the standard since the mid 1940's/early 1950's. This is the version that is currently in our church pews. When a new pulpit Bible was purchased a few years ago, it was a New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). As some of you may have noticed, there are differences in the Word proclaimed from the lectern and the Word read in the pews. And these differences are worth considering. This development allowed for a conversation in the Worship Ministry about just which version is most appropriate at this time for First Parish.

It was determined that the New Revised Standard Version is most appropriate for the pew editions. So on Sunday, October 31, we will dedicate new pew Bibles. These Bibles are a gift in memory of Scott Bertazzoni, by his family. First Parish should also be grateful for the RSV Bibles that have served worshippers for many years. So we will also give thanks for those Bibles, their donors, and those in whose memory they were given. And we will find a new home for those Bibles.

Below is some more background information on the NRSV. It is also worth noting that this is the version that informs the sermons each week, and beginning last year, it is the version we give to our Church School children.

How did the NRSV originate?

The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, or the NRSV, first appeared in 1989 and has received wide acclaim and the broadest support from academics and church leaders. The NRSV translation was prepared by the National Council of Churches, a religious organization currently consisting of 35 Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox, African-American and historic Christian denominations in the United States, and is widely regarded as a leading force within the ecumenical movement of Christianity.

Is the NRSV used in many church bodies?

Many Protestant churches officially accept the NRSV or commend it to their members, and the NRSV is widely used by Roman Catholics. The NRSV is the only Bible translation that is as widely ecumenical:

Rooted in the past, but right for today, the *NRSV* continues the tradition of William Tyndale, the *King James Version*, the *American Standard Version*, and the *Revised Standard Version*. Equally important, it sets a new standard for the 21st Century.

What were the goals of the NRSV translators?

The *NRSV* stands out among the many translations because it is "as literal as possible" in adhering to the ancient texts and only "as free as necessary" to make the meaning clear in graceful, understandable English. It draws on newly available sources that increase our un-

(Continued on page 7)

derstanding of many previously obscure biblical passages. These sources include new-found manuscripts, the Dead Sea Scrolls, other texts, inscriptions, and archaeological finds from the ancient Near East, and new understandings of Greek and Hebrew grammar.

In preparing a new translation of the Bible, the NRSV translation team addressed the following goals:

- Updating the language of the *RSV*, by replacing archaic forms of speech addressed to God (Thee, Thou, wast, dost, etc.), and by replacing words whose meaning has changed significantly since the *RSV* translation (for example, Paul's statement in 2 Corinthians 11.25 that he was "stoned" once)
- making the translation more accurate,
- helping it to be more easily understood, especially when it is read out loud, and
- making it clear where the original texts intend to include all humans, male and female, and where they intend to refer only to the male or female gender.

What approach was used in preparing the translation?

Unlike many of the translations available on the marketplace today, the NRSV is a literal translation. Formal equivalence (or literal translation), is a word-for-word translation of the original text. This approach allows readers who are familiar with the source language to see how meaning was expressed in the original text.

The rule of the translating committee was "As literal as possible, as free as necessary," rendering the NRSV both a literal and elegant, readable translation. This literal focus allows the reader to do the paraphrasing and interpreting in group and individual study and in prayer.

The NRSV is also a direct descendant of the King James and *RSV* Bibles, passing on the richest and most influential works in the English language while thoroughly updating words, phrases, and grammar so contemporary readers will have no difficulty reading the text.

It is considered the choice translation of most reputable scholars. It is also the most ecumenical version in existence, produced by scholars representing all three branches of the Christian faith-- Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox, and accepted by virtually every Christian denomination.

If you would like one of the Revised Standard Version (*RSV*) pew Bibles, you are more than welcome to take one. Otherwise we will donate them to another church or ministry. If you would like a New Revised Standard Version (*NRSV*) of the Bible for your home/personal devotion, the church will gladly arrange to get you one. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

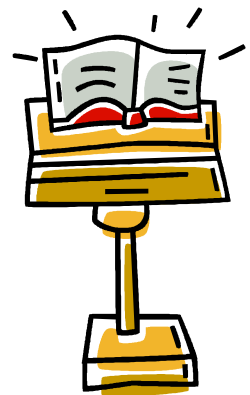
FOX HILL BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Chris Dodge will meet with the Fox Hill Bible Study group on Thursday, October 21st at 10:30 AM.

The group meets at Fox Hill Village on the third Thursday of every month, at

10:30AM.

If you live at Fox Hill Village and would like to begin attending the Bible study, please contact Pastor Chris for the meeting location.



Donna Bertazzoni
Church School
Administrator

BIG STORIES



“NO!”

The ragged edge of a voice ripped across the strip mall lot, stopping two of us in our tracks. Gripping a cell phone, the young man’s color flashed from ashen to crimson before he dropped to his knees. Gently, we approached.

“Are you all right?”

Someone had called to tell him his mother died. And there he was on the sidewalk, trembling; the soft blue of his eyes agonized, unsuccessfully trying to restrain his raw grief.

I do not know the end of this young man’s story, or the effect this moment will have on his life, but I know one thing. It will stay with him. Some stories are like that. They live with us, become part of us, and change us. Thankfully not all of them are this painful, but the events that we remember, the ones that shape us, become our ‘big stories,’ the ones that inform and, we hope, enlighten our lives.

The whole of the Bible, but especially its Big Stories are part of our collective religious identity as Christians. They are the stories that are foundational to our faith, linking us to Christians in all times and places. This year children and adults will explore some of these stories in worship on communion Sundays, first separately, and then together. Trusting that we all bring our own unique experiences to the conversation, the services will be designed to encourage everyone to enter into and connect with these Big Stories in multiple ways. The plan for our first story looks like this:

Sunday, October 3, our Big Story is about Communion. The children’s worship experience will focus on the family meal aspects of Communion using all the senses. Children in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade will gather in the Parish Hall at 10:00 while their parents gather in the Meetinghouse. Each group will worship separately for the first half of the service and then the children will be brought across the street to join their parents for the celebration of Communion. The Nursery will be staffed for younger children.

To prepare for this first Big Story, children can be encouraged to think about how family dinners are experienced in their home (where, when, who is included, what is shared, what are the family routines, etc.). Because this service is being held on World Communion Sunday, families are also invited to make bread from their ethnic heritage and bring it to worship. (See story in Spire).

Blessings,
Donna

PARENTS AS CLASSROOM HELPERS

Classroom Helpers provide assistance, but do not prepare lesson plans or teach. They may help in the distribution of snacks and supplies but most importantly they facilitate the positive, uplifting atmosphere in the room, especially by giving attention to children who need one-on-one help in order to focus. Parents are encouraged to help in their child’s classroom once per term.



CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Don’t miss out! Register your child now to be included in all church school mailings. Registration forms can be reached from the front page of our website at www.firstparishwestwood.org or through our Church School Administrator, Donna Bertazzoni.

CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATE

Sunday, Oct. 3: Communion Worship and “Big Story” Sunday

- 10AM: Students start off in the Parish Hall and rejoin their families in the Meeting House later in the morning for Communion.

Friday, Oct. 8th: Pumpkin Delivery Day

- 5PM: Help unload the pumpkin truck, in front of the Parish Hall! Bring the whole family – and work gloves! Refreshments will be served!

Sunday, Oct. 10:

- 10AM: Worship & Church School
- 11:30AM: Blessing of Animals, outside the Parish Hall

Saturday, Oct. 16: Clapboardtree Nursery School Pumpkin Fest

- 10AM-2PM: Bring the whole family for kiddie activities and the perfect opportunity to find the perfect pumpkin!

Sunday, Oct. 17:

- 9AM: Festival Choir rehearsal in the Meeting House. Singers of all ages welcome.
- 10AM: Worship & Church School

Saturday, Oct. 23: All-Church Retreat

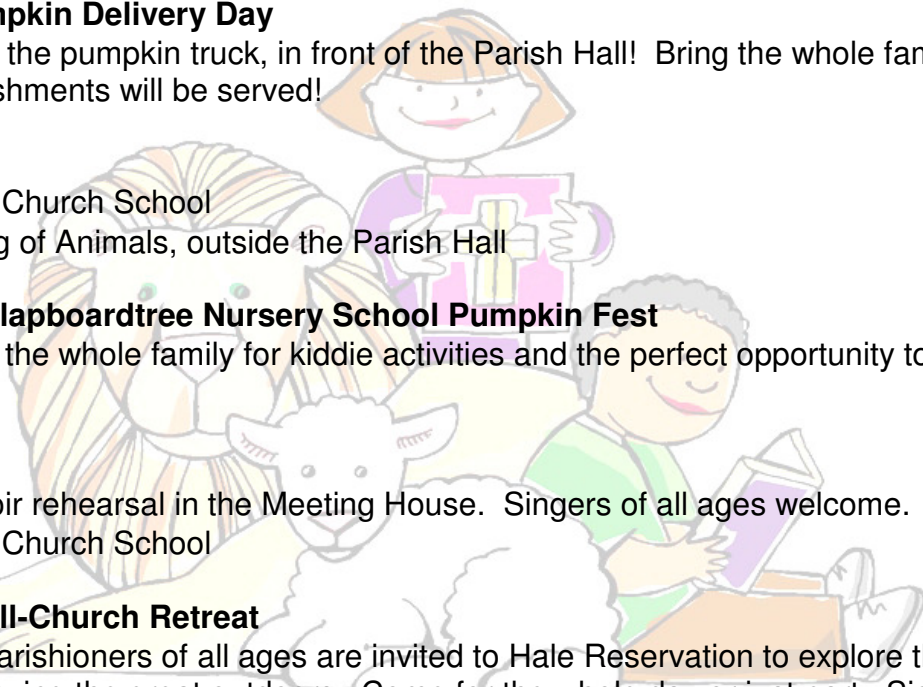
- 9AM-4PM: First Parishioners of all ages are invited to Hale Reservation to explore the theme “Sabbath” while enjoying the great outdoors. Come for the whole day or just part. Sign up in the Parish Hall.

Sunday, Oct. 24:

- 10AM: Worship & Church School

Sunday, Oct. 31:

- 10AM: Worship, Third Grade Bibles, and Church School



“IN-REACH” FOR FAMILIES

Below are a couple of ways families can be actively involved in helping their church and others...

Pumpkins!

Help unload the truck on Oct. 8th.. Or sign up in the Parish Hall to sell pumpkins - and help us help others one pumpkin at a time.

Plain Clothes Sunday is Nov. 7th!

This is a perfect opportunity for volunteers of all ages to put some sweat equity into their church – and enjoy some time together as well.

THIRD GRADERS TO RECEIVE BIBLES

On Sunday, Oct. 31st all third graders will receive Bibles, courtesy of the Bruce E. Mather Bible Fund. The students’ names as they will appear on the book plates are listed below.

Parents, please contact the church office if your third grader’s name is incorrect – or if your child is missing from the list.

Camden Arnold
Lily Bruno
Stefanie Joe

Aidan Kelly
Ben Linehan
Jennifer Werth

NAME TAGS AT FIRST PARISH

As many of you have noticed, since Homecoming Sunday First Parish has been encouraging *everyone* to wear a name tag to both worship *and* coffee hour, to make our time together more welcoming for *all* our worshippers, from our oldest to our newest. To that end, a new permanent name tag has been created for everyone listed in our church database – and it is a simple matter to create one for new worshippers as they make themselves known to us.

Here's how it works:

If it is the first time you have worshipped with us since the summer:

- Check the alphabetized file box on the Hospitality Table for a name tag insert with your name on it. Remove it from the file, place it in a plastic name tag holder, and wear it for the rest of the morning – *including* to Coffee Hour.
- If you cannot find an insert with your name on it, add your name to the name tag request sheet, and fill out a temporary tag. A permanent tag and holder will be waiting for you on the name tag board above the Hospitality Table the next week.
- When you leave to go home, place your tag in the basket by the Parish Hall door - or if you do not attend Coffee Hour, on the Hospitality Table.

After the first time you have worn your name tag:

- Your name tag (holder and all) will be waiting for you the next Sunday *on the alphabetized name tag board* above the Hospitality Table in the Meeting House. (Choir members' will be waiting for them in the choir loft, and those who habitually enter via the door near the handicap ramp will find theirs in a basket near that door.)
- If you forget, and wear your name tag home from church, simply bring it with you the next Sunday. We hope to supply only one name tag per person – so if you leave yours at home, please use a temporary one until you remember to bring it back.
- Children are most welcome to make and decorate their own name tags, using materials located at the Children's Activity Center at the back of the sanctuary.

Special thanks to parishioner David Friedl for graciously agreeing to be on hand every Sunday to help everyone get acclimated to the new system – *and for* re-filing all the name tags for the following Sunday!

Of course, if you have questions or concerns about the name tag program, please do not hesitate to contact the church office or any member of the Ministry of Worship.

“UP WITH PEOPLE” CONCERT

The “Up With People” international tour is performing a fundraising concert to benefit the Massachusetts Hospital School on October 7th at Canton High School.

Parishioners Michael Gettings and Lars Lundgren are involved in planning for the concert and are looking for

host families in Westwood for 20 of the 90 students coming to this area from all over the world.

If you would like to learn more about hosting – or if you would like ticket information, please contact Michael or Lars at 781-326-6434.

PLAIN CLOTHES SUNDAY

Our fall clean-up day has been scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 7th, with a rain date of Nov. 14th.

Volunteers of all ages are invited to wear yard work clothes to church, and gather after worship outside the Parsonage Barn to work together neatening up the grounds for the winter.

Questions? See SFO Chairperson Barb Delisle.

REVISED COFFEE HOUR FOOD GUIDELINES

To make hosting Coffee Hour a less intimidating option for the congregation, the Ministry of Spiritual Life & Fellowship (SL&F) has established new food guidelines to reduce cost and preparation time. In addition, a new, easy-to-use 100-cup coffeemaker has been purchased and is located in the kitchen, for those who prefer not to use the automated coffee station. Check out the guidelines below – and sign up for a Sunday!

Beverages:

- 50 cups of regular coffee for adults; 2-3 pitchers of lemonade for children (coffee & lemonade mix are provided by the church, as are hot and cold serving cups, and coffee stirrers.)
- The host provides milk or half & half for the coffee (usually 1 quart is sufficient – if you can, check the kitchen beforehand to see if there is already creamer in the refrigerator.)

fee (usually 1 quart is sufficient – if you can, check the kitchen beforehand to see if there is already creamer in the refrigerator.)

Food: Simple, easily eaten finger refreshments are best.

- For children: 50-75 doughnut holes, or small cups of pretzels or goldfish crackers
- For adults: Small servings of a treat for 50 people, such as 4-5 loaves of sliced sweet bread, or a dozen large muffins cut into quarters, or 4 dozen mini-muffins, or 4 dozen cookies. Alternatively, the number of bread servings might be reduced and a bowl of grapes substituted as a healthy option.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS NOV. 21ST.

Sunday, November 21st is Stewardship Sunday. This year's theme is "*For Where Your Treasure Is, There Your Heart Will Be Also*", from Matthew 6:21. In the next few weeks our Stewardship Committee will send all members of the congregation informational materials, so watch your mailbox, and contact us if you have any questions.

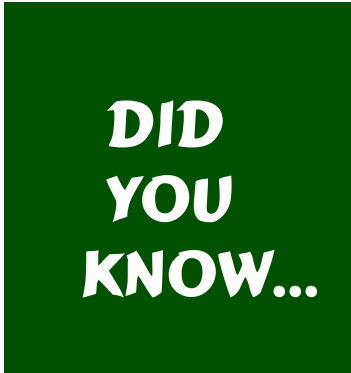
Jesus' statement, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also," may sound familiar, but if we don't read it with care we might reverse the statement through a kind of scriptural dyslexia. We might read it to say, "Where your heart is, there will your treasure be also." That would make sense to us because much of the time our dollars follow our heart's lead. We give to what matters to us. But that isn't what Jesus said.

That's the appeal you hear over and over again from, say, National Public Radio or your alma mater: if you care about this institution, you will write a check. In other words, "Where your heart is, there will your treasure be also." But Jesus didn't say that.

Jesus is speaking of a different dynamic: Give and spend where you want your heart to be, and then let your heart catch up. Don't just give to those things you care about. Give to the things you want to care about. Ask yourself, "If I were the sort of person I long to be, then what would I do? How would I spend my money?" Think do what you would do if you were that sort of person. Put your treasure where you want your heart to be. And if you do so, says Jesus, your heart will go there. If you want to care more about the kind of car you drive, buy an expensive one. If you want to care more about property values, remodel your house. But if you want to grow in your faith, bring an offering to God.

Wherever your treasure is, your heart is sure to follow.

UCC Stewardship materials, 2010
Rev. Martin Copenhaver, author



**DID
YOU
KNOW...**

ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

During the worship service on Sunday, Nov. 7th we will remember those whose passing this past year was marked at First Parish, as well as those in all our lives whom we have lost.

If you would like a loved one's name to be included in the service, please contact the church office.

On that day, the congregation is invited to bring the loved one's picture to be placed on the altar, as well as to light a candle at the front of the chancel in their memory.

LAY READERS

Sunday, Oct. 3:

Don Friedl

Sunday, Oct. 10:

Brian Bayer

Sunday, Oct. 17:

Mike Ellis

Sunday, Oct. 24:

Kathy Davis

Sunday, Oct. 31:

Bob Deininger

USHER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Oct. 3:

Bill Holbrook
Sheldon Blaney
Don Friedl
Lee Adourian

Sunday, Oct. 10:

Dave & Bonnie Blomquist
Chris Pfaff
Dan & Karen Wagner

Sunday, Oct. 17:

Martha Crawford
Ron Arntz
Stuart & Carol Maynard

Sunday, Oct. 24:

Fred Rice
Charlie Domina
Peter Kane
Nancy Hyde

Sunday, Oct. 31:

Doug Hyde
Jerry Verzino
Mike Gettings

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sunday, Oct. 3:

Given by Louise Donovan & family, in memory of Dorothy Beebe.

Sunday, Oct. 10:

Given by the Andrus family, in loving memory of husband and father, Andy Andrus.

Sunday, Oct. 17:

Given through the Endowed Memorial Flower Fund by the Dorey family and Nancy & Bob Stoll, in memory of Nancy's parents, Ruth & Lawrence Dorey.

Sunday, Oct. 31:

Given through the Endowed Memorial Flower Fund by Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Bowie, in memory of his mother, Alice MacKenzie.

COFFEE VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, Oct. 3:

The Holbrooks

Sunday, Oct. 10:

The Andrus family

Sunday, Oct. 17:

Barb Delisle

Sunday, Oct. 24:

The Bayers

Sunday, Oct. 31

The Worths

SENIOR MOMENTS

The Senior Moments Fellowship Group will meet on Thursday, October 7th at 11:30 AM.

The group meets on the first Thursday of each month, September through June. All seniors are invited to bring a bag lunch to the Parish Hall for conversation and fellowship. Coffee and dessert are provided.

WESTWOOD MEN'S GROUP

The Westwood Men's Group will meet on Thursday, Oct. 21st at 9:30AM for fellowship and to hear Guest Speaker John Prichard, an historian who will speak on "Westwood/West Dedham".

All senior men in Westwood and surrounding communities are welcome to attend the meeting.

**FIRST
PARISH
VOLUNTEERS**