



# Vestry News

United Church of Christ, Congregational  
Boxborough, Massachusetts

## Youth Group Mission Trip Reception

Mark your Calendars for  
**November 8.**

Please join us for our  
Mission Trip Reception  
on Sunday, November 8th  
from 4:00pm-5:30 PM in  
the Old Sanctuary at UCC.  
Come to view the slideshow  
of our Senior High Youth  
Group's Summer Mission  
Trip to Toronto, Canada  
and hear about their  
personal experiences.  
RSVP to Sue Allaire, email:  
[allairesue@gmail.com](mailto:allairesue@gmail.com) or  
phone: 978-897-3981.



Back Row (left to right): Jan Rejto, Jacob Senghas, Nate Hargreaves, Clare Maxwell,  
Allie Allaire, Elspeth Vandegrift, Rosa Huang, Devon DiPaolo, Maggie McKinney,  
Justin Parkes, Rebecca Rejto, Ernie Fournier  
Front Row (left to right): Kellie Senghas, Matt Mayo, Robert Schoenfeld, John Bull,  
Lizzy Morse, Julia Migner, Grace Warwick

### *Special Features in this Issue*

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Rev. Dr. Ute Molitor

*Dayenu –  
“A Song of  
Thanksgiving”*

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, I wanted to share a Jewish tradition with you that is a lovely practice of praise and gratitude. I learned about this at the Massachusetts Annual Conference in October. There is a Passover song called *Dayenu*. It is an ancient song sung during the annual Seder dinner. I have been told that it is intended to praise God and to teach such praise to all generations. *Dayenu* means “it would have been enough” [for us]. The original song has fifteen verses that recount God’s deliverance, retelling the journey from slavery to the building of the temple. Each verse builds on the other to say that God’s goodness keeps mounting, that God keeps on giving even when what we have is already a great blessing. As one of God’s gifts is recounted, the people respond by singing, “It would have been enough for us!” Below, you will find the version of this song that was adapted for the conference meeting. I wonder what your own personal or your family’s version of this song would look like.

You made the earth and all that is in it.  
You gave us life and breath.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You endowed us with your love, giving us gifts of the spirit.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You gave us homes, shelter, heat and light;  
Gave us food and the means to cook.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You gave us vocation, and meaningful work.  
You created children to care for, ours and the world’s.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You gave us music and art, love and beauty.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You created trees that bear fruit and sustain life;  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You made a world with resources enough for all;  
Science and minds for health care for all.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You made recreation and leisure,  
Means of transportation and mobility.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You gave us neighbors and loved ones, congregations  
of love; Marriage and friendships.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You freed us from the bondage of superiority,  
You allowed us a radical equality.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You called us into the priesthood of all believers;  
And raised up spiritual leaders,  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You gave them a barn in Framingham.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You gave us a board of directors, staff, lay and clergy  
leaders.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

You made this day, this moment, this presence of Jesus,  
this, this, this.  
**“It would have been enough for us!”**

Hear our thanks, receive our praise, fill our hearts.  
Amen.

How is that you want to praise God this season? What would have been enough for you? What have been the unexpected blessings in your life? How has God been leading you through difficult places and experiences to newness of life?

May your Thanksgiving and praise be blessed!

– Ute

## ***Weekly Centering Prayer/Meditation Circle***

A new “come as you can” group has begun to meditate together once a week. After sharing a brief reading, we practice centering prayer which involves sitting in silence and silently saying a mantra/word while also paying close attention to our breath. Following the meditation time, those who can, are invited to stay for a brown bag lunch at 1:00p.m.. Please join us this Tuesday at 12:30 in the Old Sanctuary. If you have questions, please contact Ute at [ute.molitor@comcast.net](mailto:ute.molitor@comcast.net).

## ***Newcomer and Refresher Sessions***

Would you like to meet with others to explore where you are at in your faith journey? How about digging into the question of how you already are or might see yourself engaged in ministry using your unique gifts and talents in your day-to-day life? Would you like to know more about the history of this particular church as well as the activities and beliefs of the United Church of Christ? Whether you are a newcomer to the church, or a member who wanted to attend the laity empowerment sessions of the past two years, or someone who has come to the UCC from a different tradition, there is something here for you to explore. All sessions will be held from 10:45-12:00.

Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> - “Awakening the Minister Within”

Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> - “Weekday Ministries”

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> - Boxborough History and What is the UCC?

Those who are new to the church and would like to become members are invited to join on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

## ***Introducing MAC's List on macucc.org!***

MAC's List is the MACUCC's answer to Craigs List and Angie's List - a place for Conference churches, members and friends to connect with one another.

**Visit MAC's List now.**

## ***Sharing our Hearts, Our History and Our Healing: A Pilgrimage to Chile***

**January 21-January 30, 2010**

Register before **October 30, 2009**

Join us in this pilgrimage to the wonderfully restorative Centro Shalom, a peace and environmental education retreat in the heart of the mysterious, majestic Andes mountains of Chile. Stand on the lookout, overlooking the waterfall, walk the labyrinth in the stillness of a native forest, pray at the peace pole.

We will learn about our common history of September 11th\* and explore ways that each country has begun to be restored. For more information and a printable brochure, click here, [Chile 2010](#).

Cost:

\$1,000 plus airfare (usually \$800-\$1,100), includes all meals, lodging, transportation, tips, materials, orientation. Excludes visa fee and trip insurance.

**Schedule:** ([Click here](#))



## ***Retreat or Advance ?***

Rev. Susie Allen

I have been away three weekends this fall, attending one retreat and leading two retreats. I am happy to now have a stretch where I will be home and in worship with you all each week.

While I find it very challenging to be out of the weekend flow of activity, worship and connection, I am also very grateful for the time apart with others to slow the pace and take time for reflection on our life together and with God. I know that, at least for myself, the busy pace I tend to keep day to day often makes it harder for me to stop and simply ‘be’ in the Presence of God. My longing for the space and time to hear God’s voice in the midst of the noise of the world is often met only by more activities on my calendar, rather than less.

As I was preparing to co-lead a contemplative retreat for the Kairos Center in mid-October, Roger asked me if we ever call such times away an ‘advance’ instead of a ‘retreat.’ While I giggled at his amusing question at first, I have found myself pondering it ever since.

The idea of ‘advance’ is in some way clarifying as I think about our purpose together. What, in fact, do we want to advance, put forward, strengthen, prioritize in our life with God? What is it we want more of? And what prevents us from ‘advancing’ those things we desire?

Here’s one thing I would like to ‘advance’ in my life. The idea comes from a reading I happened upon during the Kairos weekend. The reading was on a piece of paper, glued inside the cover of a library book called “Prayer and Personal Religion.” Who knows who put it there or why; but it spoke to me deeply.

*It said: There is a wide gap between an ‘analysis’ of our situation and a living relationship with God. (A great many people can see some relevance in the analysis which the Christian faith makes of our human situation . . . )  
Prayer for many is like a foreign land. When we go there,*

*we go as tourists. Like most tourists, we feel uncomfortable and out of place. Like most tourists, we move on before too long and go somewhere else. The book (named above) is a kind of map or guidebook to the foreign land of prayer. All else that needs to be said about it is that it has been written, not by a tourist, but by a native of that significant soil.*

I would like to advance my own familiarity with the soil of prayer, so that my inclination to visit the land of prayer from time to time, will be replaced by taking up residence there. Let us be residents and neighbors in that land—finding and supporting ways that we might deepen our roots together in that soil.



## ***College Care Packages on 11/1***

Each Fall, around midterm time, our senior high youth fill and send boxes of goodies to our UCCB college students. Each year, about 15 boxes are sent; and we receive notes of thanks from our college students, saying they so appreciate being remembered with such a special package, especially when they are working so hard! We will prepare care packages this year on Sunday, November 1, after worship.

We’ll need:

- mailing addresses of your college students (please email them to [susieallen@mac.com](mailto:susieallen@mac.com))



## *Hats for the Homeless*



Colder weather is coming and with it comes difficult times for the homeless.

"Winter is very hard on the homeless who roam the streets by day and desperately try to keep warm by night. Their plight is especially tough during the Holiday season when they are so alone with no family, no Thanksgiving feast, no warm Christmas cheer from friends, no gifts under a Christmas tree. Many only have faint childhood memories to fill their souls."

You will find a container in the Old Sanctuary marked "Hats for the Homeless". Please add the homeless to your Christmas list this year. The collection will include scarves and mittens/gloves in addition to hats. They must be new items, either handmade or store bought. Please help! [eanddparkes@yahoo.com](mailto:eanddparkes@yahoo.com)

## *Talents Sunday – Follow Up*

**On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Rally Sunday, the congregation was offered a chance to take part in a new church-wide activity: Parable of the Talents Sunday.**

This activity is based on the Parable of the Talents, found in Matthew 25: 14-30. Everyone who participated was entrusted with a "Talent," a small sum of money (\$10) to do with as each one pleased. Like the servants in the parable, you could bury it, grow it or give it away. We only asked that everyone report back to the Congregation, either verbally or in writing as to what they did with the Talent.

We are happy to report back that all thirty of the offered Talents were taken by different members of the congregation. We want to share with you some of the creative and inspiring "journeys" that these Talents have taken. As other stories are received, they will be highlighted in future issues of the Vestry News. Thank you to everyone who participated in this All-Church Missions Activity.

## *Acton Food Pantry Support*

On Sunday, November 29th members of our church will be helping to sort and shelve food at the Acton Food Pantry. In advance of this sorting date, we once again will be having a food drive to collect donations to bring with us that day. Each Sunday in November we'll be providing opportunities for you to contribute items.

Items most in need are: Baking Mixes, Canned Tomato Products, Canned Vegetables, Hearty Soups, Sardines, Rice Pilaf, Diapers, White Rice and Canned Fruit. Please avoid glass containers for safety. Please see the following web-site or more information about the pantry and to see updated lists of their needs throughout the month:  
<http://www.actoncommunitysupper.org/acton-food-pantry.htm>

Please contact Kellie Senghas ([ksenghas@msn.com](mailto:ksenghas@msn.com) or 978-263-5508) for pick-up arrangements or to join the sorting effort. Thank you!

### ***SPECIAL NOTE:***

"We will also be accepting food donations for the Acton Food Pantry as part of the Merrie Christmas Fair festivities. Join us for the Fair and bring a can or box of food with you."

## *Arlington Street Church Supper*

**November 13, December 4, and January 8**

Join us as we travel to Boston to help serve dinner to those in need. We will leave UCCB at 3:45 p.m., and return by 9:00 p.m. Those who have done this in the past will tell you it is a powerful experience to interact with the guests who attend this dinner. The Supper program is well-organized and very rewarding. A reminder and details will come via email and Facebook each month.

## TALENT SUNDAY – Early Results

### **Molly Wong was the first to share her Talent's journey**

“This was a really wonderful exercise and we had great family conversations about our individual talents. It was a great reminder to take time to tell the girls what we see is so special about each of them and fascinating to hear what they felt were their own talents. ~ After a lot of discussion and some research, we did find something to do with our talent, but we won't be doing it until November. We are spending exactly \$10 to have our new family dog, Elsie, take the test to see if she will be a good therapy/visiting dog. My older daughter Daphne and I will then be able to join one of the non-profit groups that helps bring animals to visit people. Elsie's constant patience, enthusiasm and love was one of the things that helped Daphne and her sister Mei get through this past summer of transition (moving, changing schools, etc.). We are hopeful she will "pass" and that we will be able to share her warmth and companionship with others. ~ What a great way to start our time in this community. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to participate.”

### **From Andy Migner ...**

“My plan for the "Parable of Talents" activity is to use the \$10.00 for printing costs (for workbooks) and facilitate a "Power of Gratitude" Workshop at the church. It will be 4 Thursdays; January 14, January 28, February 11 and February 25, from 7:00-9:00PM. (See Page 10 for more details) Participants will be asked to pay \$50 for the workshop and the proceeds will go to support the youth mission trip.”

### **From Kristi and Matthew Habersaat ...**

“Matthew has been playing tennis for a few years and his Tennis Coach went to New Jersey this past weekend to bike in the Bike MS: City to Shore Ride 2009. Cyclists travel from all over to bike 150 miles over two days starting in Hammonton NJ and ending in Ocean City, NJ. The ride raises money to benefit the over 11,000 people living with Multiple Sclerosis and over 7,000 cyclists participated over the course of the two days. His tennis coach completed the ride and raised over \$1,200. ~ Matthew doubled the \$10 Talent contribution by spending an unseasonably hot weekend afternoon manning a Sno-

Cone stand with a couple of soccer teammates. By the end of the day he was able to add \$20 to our family contribution to this MS Bike ride and supported his tennis coach in a very important cause. Thanks very much for letting him participate.”

### **From Emily, Hannah and Sarah Maker Deyst ...**

“The girls (Emily 8, and Hannah 5) and I had a lemonade stand and raised \$27.50 through sales, added to the original \$10... now makes \$37.50. We continued our lemonade/brownie/baked goods sale during a coffee hour on Sunday, October 18. With everyone's generosity, we raised in total \$141.20. All proceeds will go to the ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)--the girls' choice. Emily, Hannah and I will visit the shelter in Methuen and give them the donation in person. Thank you all for your help in this endeavor! Our furry friends are in need of help more than ever in this economy! Thank you! The Maker Deyst Family

### **From Maya, Kira and Nancy Murphy ...**

“Maya, Kira and I decided to take the \$10 from the church and then add \$15 to make a \$25 contribution toward Habitat for Humanity. Among our reasons: more people are living at poverty levels without a roof over their heads than ever before; this is a charity that we know our church actively supports; HFH provides a very tangible service that all of us can understand and relate to.”

### **From Sally Hunt ...**

“I attended a dinner hosted by a friend. She was participating in Macy's "Come Together" program in which you host a dinner to raise money to feed families in need. I donated the ten dollars, and matched that 10 dollars for a total donation of \$20. That donation will be used by a National non-profit agency Feeding America. They supply food to more than 25 million Americans each year and support more than 200 food banks. For every dollar, they are able to provide 7 meals. So the 20 dollar donation provided 140 meals. ~ At the beginning of this activity, I was skeptical at how I could find a way to help many with 10 dollars. This was an enlightening journey!”

**From Jeff Glidden ...**

“I purchased the following gift for the Merrie Christmas Fair Silent Auction from SERRV International: A silver and lapis necklace, made in India by the Asha Handicrafts Association. Asha Handicrafts has been a leading fair trade organization in India for over 30 years. Asha, which in Sanskrit means “hope”, is a non-profit organization that was started in 1975 with the mandate to Trade, Train & Transform. Committed to the values of preserving the diverse craft traditions of India and ensuring a fair wage for artisans, Asha’s model is to do business in a way that transforms lives. Today, Asha is impacting the lives of hundreds of artisans, working with more than fifty cooperatives and family workshops throughout India. (The initial purchase benefits SERRV and international impoverished workers and the second purchase at the Fair, benefits our church).”

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## ***Finance Update as of September 09***

Below is a summary of the church’s financial status as of September 2009. If you have any questions about this summary or would like make a contribution, please contact a Stewardship and Finance Committee member.

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>Sept</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget</b>
	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Total Income				
Summary	\$173,640	\$164,111	\$ 9,529	\$218,815
Total Expense				
Summary	\$169,710	\$164,075	(\$5,635)	\$218,767
**Status of				
Pledges	\$110,992	\$110,074	\$ 918	\$146,765

### ***Notes to Summary***

September YTD pledges are \$918 ahead of budget with strong collections in September.

September YTD B&G is \$2,850 over Budget due to pump repairs, ice damage and tree removal.

September YTD Surplus of \$3,930 . . . great news!

Stewardship and Finance Chair: Jeff Glidden

## ***Bereavement Support Group***

Have you recently lost a loved one or are still hurting from a loss that occurred some time ago? Come and share stories about your loved one, explore helpful insights and tools that might help you on your journey through grief in a supportive and confidential atmosphere. The group will meet on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. on the following days:

Final sessions are: 11/12; 12/2. If you have any questions, please contact Ute.

## ***Contemplative Prayer Service***

This year the November monthly Contemplative Worship Service falls on Veteran’s Day. In lieu of the monthly service, we would like to extend an invitation to the Boxborough Church community and the community at large to light a candle in your home, to share a moment of silence, and perhaps sing a simple peaceful song, as you gather around the supper table, or at 7:30 which is the time of this monthly midweek service, to honor those who have given their lives and those who continue to suffer as the result of war. Whether you are with others or are alone at that time, remember that God (the Holy One) is with us always; you are not alone.

We invite you to pray for our continued seeking of peaceful ways of negotiation and seeing the face of God or the Holy One, in each other and even in the “enemy”.

Blessings,  
Ginny Harris  
Nicolette Wellington



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## ***Deacon Contact Information***

For the month of November contact Pam Gardella as the Deacon of the Month.

Kellie Senghas  
Chairperson  
978-263-5508

Cheryl DiPaolo  
978-263-5541

Pam Gardella  
978-897-7224

Ginny Harris  
978-263-8923

Ruby Huang  
978-263-2164

Channing Migner  
978-635-9847

Denise Parkes  
978-365-2403

Jane Shurtleff  
978-263-6824



## ***Calling all Worship Volunteers!***

**Worship Attendants** – Are you interested in being a lay reader, greeter, usher or candle lighter for some of our Sunday worship services? We welcome your participation! Please contact Kellie Senghas ([ksenghas@msn.com](mailto:ksenghas@msn.com) or 978-263-5508) to learn more about these roles and to join the roster!

## ***Lay Reader Training - November 15***

Have you felt a tug to become a lay reader but find yourself hesitating? Have you served as lay reader and would like to hone your skills a little more? If so, please come to our lay reader training on November 15th at 11:00 in the New Sanctuary. Mark Burrows will offer coaching in preparation for Advent and Christmas. Texts will be provided. Everyone is invited!

## ***Worship Flower Donations***



Do you enjoy fresh flowers at our Sunday services? If you would like to donate flowers to a Sunday service, please sign up in the information area outside of the elevator or contact Martha in the church office (978-263-7387) to schedule the date.

If you wish to have your flowers delivered to the church on the Sunday that you schedule, you can contact Webber's Florist on King Street in Littleton at (978) 486-3342.

Please let Webber's know that it is for the UCC church in Boxborough and they should arrange the flowers low enough not to block the choir.

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## ***Name Tags***

If you would like to have a name tag made for you, please contact your Deacon and let him/her know. We will make one up for you and members of your family. There is also a name tag sign-up sheet on the Information Table outside of the elevator on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

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## ***Email Usage***

As a reminder, please limit your use of church email addresses to church related communications.

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## ***Pie Social and Sale***

**Sunday, November 1 – 10:45 a.m.**



Cream pies, custard pies, nut pies, fruit pies, specialty pies, and, of course, America's favorite pie – apple! Join us on November 1, immediately after worship, as the Fellowship Committee hosts its annual pie fest. Pies will be available by the slice and as whole pies. Proceeds will benefit the Acton Food Pantry. Interested bakers may sign up on the sheet located on the Fellowship Table in the Old Sanctuary or by contacting Deb Simmons at 978-365-9711 or [dlrmcgrath@comcast.net](mailto:dlrmcgrath@comcast.net)

## ***Gratitude Meal***

**Sunday, November 1 – 5:00 p.m.**

Please join us for our first gratitude meal, as we want to thank you and our fellow church members for all of their generosity!

**Eleanor Voorhies and Grace Warwick** will share stories how they have been touched by generosity. Eleanor brings the wisdom of the age and Grace will share her youthful perspective.

We will serve soup, bread and salad...and invite you to bring a simple desert. Come soak in some gratefulness and share some of your own gratitude for all that you have!

Jennifer, Andy, Griet, Ute and Susie

For more info: Jennifer Royce, Stewardship Chair, 978-263-0707 or [jencondren@yahoo.com](mailto:jencondren@yahoo.com) .

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## ***Power of Gratitude Workshop***

**Extending Thanksgiving Beyond November**

**Date:** Four Thursday evenings this winter:  
January 14 and 28, February 11 and 25

**Time:** 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Despite many scripture verses that encourage and instruct us to be thankful, we tend to notice what is wrong more than we see what is right. Your perspective determines the quality of your life and your relationships. This will be a thought-provoking and practical four-session workshop. Through discussion, reading, writing, audiovisuals and fun exercises you will build new "appreciation muscles". By learning to focus your attention on the blessings in your life, your joy will increase and your relationships improve.

**Andy Migner, M.S.W.** , will be leading this workshop. Led by the spirit to live a grateful life, she loves to share what she is learning with others. This workshop was inspired by the Talent Parable Project. The cost of the workshop is \$50. The proceeds will go to the youth mission trip.

Register by contacting Andy Migner, directly or by phone or email: [andy@mayallbepeaceful.com](mailto:andy@mayallbepeaceful.com)/978-635-9847.

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## ***Vestry News Naming Contest***

The Communications Committee and Council have decided that we would like to come up with a more contemporary name for the Vestry News. Many of us didn't even know what a Vestry is! Here are some sample names to consider:

<i>Church Community News</i>	<i>The Boxborough Spirit</i>
<i>The Community Connection</i>	<i>The Boxborough Word</i>
<i>The Good News</i>	<i>The Church Mouse</i>

Do you have a suggestion that you would like to offer? If so, please email us at [vestrynews@boxboroughucc.org](mailto:vestrynews@boxboroughucc.org). We'll provide voting ballots in the October Vestry News to choose the final name.



## ***3 Weeks Until – The Merrie Christmas Fair!***

**Saturday, November 21<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Final preparations and count down – your talents, time, and services can still be incorporated. If you have any questions about your possible participation, feel free to contact the Fair Chairperson anytime: Chris DeLise at 978-263-3108 or [chrisd@delise.com](mailto:chrisd@delise.com).

### **Other ways in which you can help:**

- Call individual chair persons to see how you might help
- Join one of the preparation workshops
- Donate funds, create items or materials
- Prepare items for Snack Bar or Baked Goods Table
- Volunteer for event support duties: Set up, clean up, staff tables, etc.
- Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to the Fair
- Watch the Church Bulletin for updates
- **We will also be accepting food donations for the Acton Food Pantry as part of the Fair festivities. Bring a can or box of food with you when you come to the fair.**

### ***- NEW THIS YEAR -***

#### **Donate to Cradles to Crayons and HGRM**

As part of the Merrie Christmas Fair festivities on November 21, the youth groups of our church will conduct a community-wide “stuff” raiser for Cradles to Crayons and the Household Goods Ministry. **Cradles to Crayons**

is a Massachusetts charitable organization that provides basic essentials to low-income and homeless children age 0-13 and the **Household Goods Recycling Ministry** is an Acton charitable organization that provides furniture, bedding, and kitchen goods to needy families throughout Massachusetts.

People who would like to donate items to either organization may bring their items to the church on the day of the fair where they will be loaded onto vehicles and delivered to these organizations. In addition, our youth and a few adults with vehicles will pick-up items from homes in the surrounding communities for a donation of \$10 or more to either organization.

Cradles to Crayons will stage a container on our church grounds to be loaded by our youth with donations to this organization. The following **gently used** items are desirable donations for this organization: clothing (size 0-20), coats, boots, shoes, gloves, hats, children’s books, puzzles, games, toys, baby care equipment (strollers, diaper bags, etc.) **All of the items should be clean, serviceable, and complete such that a child receiving the item would feel valued.** Cradles to Crayons also appreciates **new items** in the original packaging such as: batteries, art supplies (markers, crayons, paper), underwear, socks, laundry detergent, and hygiene supplies (toothpaste, shampoo, toothbrushes, etc.). For more information on this organization, please visit their web site at [www.cradlestocrayons.org](http://www.cradlestocrayons.org).

The Household Goods Recycling Ministry is looking for furniture, linens, kitchen ware, and basic goods needed to outfit an apartment. A full list of desirable donations can be found on their web site at [www.hgrm.org](http://www.hgrm.org).

Any unsold items from the Attic Treasures concession suitable for either of these organizations will also be donated to these organizations. Please take some time this Fall to identify a few donations to these needy and worthwhile organizations.

### ***- ALSO NEW THIS YEAR -***

It has been approved by Council and Stewardship & Finance that a significant portion of the Merrie Christmas Fair proceeds will go directly to Cradles to Crayons, HGRM or other local mission.

## Fair Tables

### Gifts and Knits

Ann Marchmont

### Attic Treasures (worthwhile, working items)

Dena Caradimitropoulo & Vicky Robinson

### Children's Table

Heidi Kidd and Ursula Smith

### Men's Table - Paul DiPaolo

### Christmas Trees & Wreaths

Rob Warwick and Youth Group

### Christmas Greens

Deb Gray

### Christmas Ornaments

Gloria Roe and Linda Morse

### Silent Auction

Mary Anne Vogel, Jacquie Crimins, Cheryl Daigle and Jackie Cumming

### Jewelry - Denise Parkes

### Baked Goods - Peggy Boyden

### Snack Bar - Deb Simmons



### Gifts and Knits Table

We are looking for people who would like to contribute items suitable for the Gifts and Knits table. Please contact Ann Marchmont with your ideas at 978-266-1775 or [marchmont922@comcast.net](mailto:marchmont922@comcast.net).

### Children's Table

Any children interested in helping out in Santa's Workshop the day of the fair (even if only for a small amount of time), please contact Heidi Kidd via e-mail at [mhkidd@verizon.net](mailto:mhkidd@verizon.net) or at (978)635-9166. Donations of small gifts for children to purchase, Christmas bags, tissue paper or rolls of Christmas wrapping paper welcome

### Christmas Decoration Table -

The Fair is fast approaching and final touches are being made with a variety of Christmas Decorations and ornaments. We are offering one more workshop to put the finishing touches on various ornament projects. Bring along those kits some of you have been working on. Here is the November workshop:

Thursday, Nov. 5                      7:00-9:00  
Linda Morse Home                      269 Joseph Rd. Boxboro

Please contact either Linda Morse at 978-266-2836 or Gloria Roe 978-264-0052 about the workshops and how you can help in finishing the special ornaments and decorations. Email: [Gloria.roe@comcast.net](mailto:Gloria.roe@comcast.net)

### Silent Auction has Something for Everyone!

A wonderful assortment of gifts for everyone on your shopping list awaits you at this year's Silent Auction! There are handcrafted items (hand-embroidered tablecloth, Victorian village, cozy warm fleece blanket), delicious food (turkey, pulled pork, soups, pies, and at local restaurants), items that are fun (use of canoe, weekend getaways), Christmas gifts that will become family heirlooms, services as varied as our Church family, and many, many more. Be sure to check out the Auction booklet, available to preview on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

And if you would like to donate, there is *still time!* We need over 200 items to meet our goals. Check out the poster in the Old Sanctuary and sign up to give a gift or service that matches your interests! If you prefer, donate money to Jackie Cumming (978-263-7568) and the Silent Auction elves will shop for you. We have plenty of ideas that make great gifts! Please let us know that you want to donate by November 8<sup>th</sup> so your gift can be included in the Auction Booklet. Thank you very much!

# *Concerns and Celebrations*

## *Prayers of Concern*

Prayers for Shirley W. and for her son Jimmy, as he continues to recover from a motorcycle accident. He has shown small signs of improvement in breathing and moving, although he is not yet very lucid.

Cindy E. asked for prayers for her sister Wendy as she has a lump on her thyroid, but the testing results have been compromised. Hope to find out more soon.

Prayers for all those living with cancer, especially Lorna Lane as she continues treatment and Marlee's sister Bonnie who has a recurrence of cancer. Prayers for Lorna's father who is recovering from a car accident.

Ashley J. suffered a major setback and was on a ventilator after a fungal infection in her lungs. She is responding to treatment. Continued prayers for Ashley Lee's healing

Prayers for all people struggling with addiction.

Prayers for all young people living with depression - especially those struggling in school.

## *Prayers of Sympathy*

Prayers for the family of Elaine Garabedian who died on October 23rd. Prayers also for John Schoenfeld's family whose father is close to dying. He is under Hospice Care.

Prayers for Steve Griffin's family, especially his mother. Steve's Dad and aunt died last month within days of each other.

Prayers for Joanne Davis and her family as they celebrated Bill's life in a memorial service on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Prayers for the family of Minuteman and friend of many members, Reed Wilbur, who recently died of cancer and will be greatly missed by his wife and 2 children.

Prayers for the family of Dick Nethercut and all those who searched for him and kept him in their prayers. His funeral was held on 10/16/09 at Trinitarian UCC in Concord.

Prayers for Paul Shurtleff's fiance Blake. Blake's grandmother recently passed away

## *Celebrations & Commemorations*

Jackie and Don Cumming celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Jane S. is celebrating raising over \$150 for the Food Pantry as part of her Talent Parable project.

We celebrate our youth and the adults who participated in the Youth Retreat in Camp Becket.

A big thank you to Joanne Davis for providing a new digital recorder for the church that will allow us to record our services.

We celebrate the youth coffee house that drew a crowd of 50 to 60 people. We rejoice in the musical gifts and leadership of the youth. A special thank you to Devon and all the adults and youth who helped.

Emily, Hanna and Sarah celebrated that people helped them make their lemonade stand a success. As part of the "talent challenge" the stand raised \$141.20 which will be donated to the ASPCA.

Jane celebrated that people bought raffle tickets from her as part of the Talent parable project. The money raised, \$310, will go to the Acton Food Pantry.

## *November Birthdays*



<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Deb Turner	11/2	Jane Shurtleff	11/18
Tristen Litterio	11/3	Emma Stockley	11/19
Emily Robertson	11/4	Rev. Bette McClure	11/19
Brian Zurek	11/4	Erin Murphy	11/21
Peter McGovern	11/5	Juliet Bull	11/22
Art Boyd	11/5	Joshua Grieco-Page	11/23
Elizabeth MacDonald	11/5	Virginia Berg	11/24
Kyle Bowers	11/6	John Schoenfeld	11/26
Phil Lessard	11/8	Andrew Rohwer	11/27
Lori Weissberg	11/9	Rob Warwick	11/27
Sally Griffin	11/11	Grayson Baum	11/27
Devon Lukas	11/12	Taylor Migner	11/27
Shay Lukas	11/12	John Sierra	11/27
Scott Cumming	11/14	Virginia Richardson	11/28
Wendy	11/14	Katie Roberts	11/28
Debra Baum	11/16	Courtney Irving	11/29
Eric DiPaolo	11/16		
Eleanor Voorhies	11/17		
Cindy Lukas	11/17		