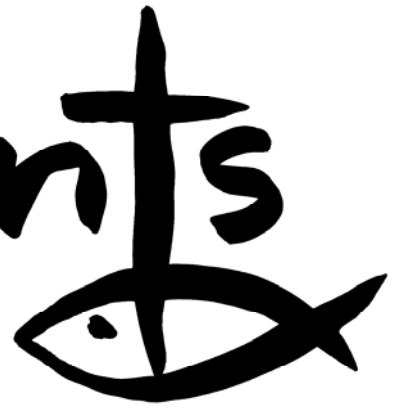


Cross Currents

Newsletter of the Haydenville Congregational Church
March 2011 *Open Hearts & Open Minds & Open Doors*



FROM THE PASTOR

Dust off that box of oils or pastels and start painting again.
Tramp through the woods with a neighbor's dog.
Write 40 poems in 40 days.
Gather a few friends and sing your favorite hymns together.
Make a collage that reflects your vision of heaven on earth.
Go cross-country skiing at night.
Read a Psalm a day between now and Easter.

March 9th is Ash Wednesday and that is the beginning of the forty days of Lent (the forty days do not include Sundays). I want us to expand our thinking and not immediately assume that Lent is about "giving something up" (which some of us may have learned as children). Lent is not necessarily about giving something up....it is about drawing closer to God. And, to draw closer to God, we may need to ADD things to our lives...maybe creative things, maybe outdoor things, maybe group things, maybe alone things.

Many people give up sweets during Lent as a way of remembering all day long (when they reach for a cookie, or have a craving for chocolate!) that they are focusing on God not on the pleasures of the body. Giving up sweets, for example, is like tying a string around your finger (we used to do this when I was young) to remember something. Giving up sweets is like a constant reminder all day long: I am thinking about God, oh yeah, I remember, I am thinking about God.

If giving up something for Lent helps you to draw closer to God, then be my guest! That is fine! But ADDING something can also make you draw closer to God--adding walks in the woods, or adding creative writing, or adding singing or reading devotional books, or adding visiting with shut-ins. The point of Lent is to reflect on your relationship with God, to deepen your relationship with God, and to begin the long and profound walk with Jesus to the cross. And so maybe you want to sing Lenten hymns with

several friends, or prepare a special reading to offer in Church, or paint your feelings, or write some verses of Haiku.

Check your basement, your closets and your "junk" drawers. Are there projects that used to bring you pleasure, make you slow down, put you in touch with your creative, spiritual, expressive side? Did those projects make you feel closer to God? Do you have hiking boots that have been shoved to the back of the closet? Do you have origami paper you used to love to fold? Do you long to drink tea and sing some old hymns with friends and talk about what each song means to you?

Whatever brings you closer to God is a good Lenten practice. Whatever makes you pause and say, "I see you, God," or "I thank you, God," or "I know you are here, God," or "Be with me now, God" are good things to add to your Lenten journey.

Maybe it is important to you that Lent involves some deprivation. Maybe that does make you feel more connected to God, and maybe it has echoes of childhood practices and routines. That is fine. But for me this year, I am going to be finding more creative outlets that help me express my love for God, my love for humanity, my gratitude for this life filled with blessings, and my deep connection to Jesus as he turns his face toward Jerusalem. So for me that means finding new hills to climb (I am branching out from my usual hike up Mt. Tom), writing poems during Lent, and maybe trying my hand again at writing a song (I used to write songs often, and that has fallen away).

Write a children's book.
Illustrate a children's book that your friend writes.
Compose a love song.
Write a Sonnet.
Bake Challah.
Start a dream notebook.
Pray before and after every meal.

Whatever draws you closer to God....I'm for that.
May you have a Blessed Lent, my beloved Sisters and Brothers.
Love and Blessings,

TO DEAREST MAE DURING HER 90TH YEAR

My special poem for you with deepest love

By Bonnie Ann of Chester, MA

Dearest Mae Sears Emerson Smith,

Not so many years ago, I met a lady with a heavenly glow. Always a smile like a pansy in spring, a gift for music only angels sing. A mother, a wife, and aunt and a friend, love in her heart without an end. A gift to write her deepest reflections, a gift to accept without rejections. The world today, the world of her past, moving slow or moving fast. No aging gap in her generation, only praise and joy for all creation. Living each day with love in her heart, never seeing an end, yet a start. Awakening each God-given day to face the challenges sent her way. Facing losses of family and her love, she relies on strength sent from above. After 90 years upon this earth, she still has faith, love and girth. For anyone she may touch, they walk away learning much. From stories of her humble years, to times of laughter and gentle tears. There is no greater gift, than knowing and loving Mae Sears Emerson Smith.

THOUGHTS ON CHILDREN'S CHURCH

By Dawn Orluske

They say a child is born a blank shape to be molded, a tabula rasa to be written upon. But children come like a plant with a rhizome – its food source, the genetic coding for what flower it will become, how often it will bear fruit, what its artistry is; all of that born into it with the seed. The role of the gardener, then, is simply to discern the manner of plant or child trying to emerge. The role of the gardener, or the parent then, is simply to ask, "How do I help it grow into what it is in its roots?"
-Dawna Markova

One of the reasons I was most drawn to our church was the radical welcome offered each and every week. Although raised in a loving Lutheran church growing up, I had a bad experience with religion in college, and was skeptical of ever delving in to it again. The line in our Welcome that resonated most for me, and still does, is the "welcome to questioning believers." I feel welcomed and encouraged to explore and question in our church.

When I became a Children's Church teacher, I was intrigued by the "Godly Play" curriculum. We teachers serve as "storytellers." We in no way need to have all the answers - which of course came as a great relief to this questioning believer! Each week when we share sacred time together, I too am given the space and time to wonder about God. Some of the questions we ask frequently include: "I wonder where you see yourself in this story?"; "I wonder if a part of this story could be left out and still be the same story?"; "I wonder if you have ever come close to

this in church?" The children are allowed to think about their own answers and truths. For myself, I feel I am gaining a stronger knowledge of how God uses each of us, whether we are unwilling (Jonah), cranky and complaining (Jeremiah) or initially unbelievers (Paul). I love that I am getting a chance to reacquaint myself with the people of God, and see many of my own shortcomings in them!

I feel honored to spend time with "our church's children" each week and get to know the unique and inspiring spirits that they are. Their inherent nature is to wonder, and ask "What are God's plans for me?"

SPECIAL LENTEN OFFERING

"Transformational Breathing"

Workshop at the Church on March 10 at 6:30 PM

By Jude Johnson

"Transformational Breathing" has been one of my life's greatest blessings, and it gives me great pleasure to share it with you. It helps me feel more fully alive, feel my joy and light-heartedness, and helps ground me in the compassion and gratitude at my core.

Our breath is our life force and the bridge between our conscious and unconscious mind. By developing an open breath, we are able to heal things in our unconscious mind with the help of Spirit.

Join our wonderful circle and have some fun as we explore the magic of the breath. The synergy of the group creates a beautiful holy space to experience the breathwork, and gives us the courage to go deep within to our souls and discover our authentic selves.

You will find that while TB is a simple process, it yields profound and transformational results. Please join us for this special Lenten Offering, a workshop in the Church Dining Room on Thursday, March 10 at 6:30 PM. All are welcome, feel free to bring friends.

**"I will believe the truth about myself
no matter how beautiful it is..."**

- Macrina Wiederkehr

CATHEDRAL IN THE NIGHT

By Francesca Piantedosi



Adriana and I were excited to participate in the kick-off evening for "Cathedral in the night", on January 23rd. We arrived at St. John's Episcopal church, on Elm St., at 4 pm to meet with the organizers of Cathedral in the Night. That is when we all found out that we would be feeding the homeless

"outside", in the frigid temperatures. We all cringed, but Manna, the organization that runs the meals for Cathedral in the Night, and the event's organizers feel that we can reach more homeless people, if we are outside and so visible. So we all made peace with it. Anyhow, what better way to get a taste of what our sisters and brothers go through living on the streets in the merciless winter. A table was set with Naan bread for communion, on a gorgeous and colorful tablecloth made in India.

There was worship, communion, and singing before people began eating.

We had several lamps to huddle around as we ate with the handful of homeless men and women who found their way to us. There were three lamps, and 4 heat lamps. I didn't find the lamps to be a significant source of heat, but they were certainly beautiful and quite the topic of conversation. It seems the heat lamps were designed by an engineer right here at Smith.

The temperature was in the single digits, and we were all doing our best to keep warm, having tomato soup, and holding the tuna, and ham and cheese sandwiches, in our insulated puffy gloves. Then we all attacked the cookies and the cupcakes with a vengeance, as if to reprimand the weather we were all afflicted with and complaining about, every last one of us, volunteers and homeless. The man I ate with is a wonderful man, a very accomplished musician, and a great conversationalist who has fallen on hard times, temporarily, I pray.

So that was our experience, roughing it there on Route 9, in the early winter darkness, from 5 pm to 6:30 pm.

I stand in awe of Rev. Eric Fistler, one of the organizers of Cathedral in the Night, for taking on the elements, not unlike St. Francis, who chose to walk barefoot in the snow in Umbria. As much as I love St. Francis, I couldn't bring myself to do that. I would instead volunteer to feed the homeless more often if they ate inside. I am a "chicken." I want to die with all my feathers.

CATHEDRAL IN THE NIGHT

By Maureen Ricksgers

Cathedral in the Night is a new Christian ministry in downtown Northampton. On January 23, 2011, the coldest night of this winter, about 45 people gathered together at St. John's Church to celebrate the first service.

If I were a graphic designer and had been asked by the Cathedral in the Night organizers to design a logo for this innovative worship project, I might have started with a computer generated long woolen scarf image. I would have taken this scarf image and gracefully formed it into a capital C, for Cathedral. I picture this lettering as a way to notify potential attendees to dress warmly for the services. What we did not know was that the services were being held in front of the Church, as in Outside, regardless of the weather. The hardy group from our congregation was all unaware of this outdoor fact. Somehow, we missed that memo!

The service was short but stirring. Towering lights illuminated the space and a set of elevated heaters blunted the chill. Encouraged by the cold, we huddled together and sang Angels Hovering 'Round and Sanctuary into the 2 degree air. Next we celebrated Eucharist in front of a simple altar. After, all were invited to share hot soup, sandwiches and conversation.

Cathedral in the Night is continuing Sunday nights at 5 pm, in front of St. John's, all winter long. For more information, see cathedralinthenight.org.

Consider attending. And if you go, remember your scarf!

A PROPHECY WRITTEN BY A FRIEND

Submitted by Bob Lampron

I am here in the rain filling you
Step out into the new thing I have for you

Step out into the new thing I have for you
Do you not see it?

Into this desert place I am bringing streams of water....
Pools of water for you to drink

The wild animals and unbelievers will honor me because I bring water to the dry place for my people to drink and they will know that I am the Lord.

They will know that I am the Lord your God.

Step out into this new thing that I am making for you.



A SIMPLE QUESTION

from a devotional book, *The Upper Room*
Submitted by Beth Howland

In our church during Sunday morning worship, the children come to the front for a special children's message. One Sunday, the speaker was using a maze with a ball bearing rolling through it as a visual for his lesson. Five-year-old Hannah had listened patiently but finally asked, "Just what has this got to do with Jesus?" At the time, our response was gentle laughter. But since then, the question has become an important part of our church community. It is a reminder to every church leader, committee, or task force that may at times lose sight of our true objective. It is also a personal question for every Christian.

When we lose our focus, the simple question, "What does this have to do with Jesus?" can help us to remember our reason for what we are doing. This question can guide everything we do and say. When we become distracted by earthly concerns, we can remind ourselves about Christ and focus on him. This puts everything in perspective and can give us peace.

MAGIC AND BLESSINGS AT FRIDAYS AT FOUR

By Lynn Goodhue

inspired by the poem, [Walking Toward Morning](#), from [Meditations](#) by Victoria Safford (published 2008)

Now is the moment of magic,
when 5 women gather together for writing and tea & cookies.

And here is its blessing:

That from these prompts and God's inspiration, we each in turn

will find something worthy of putting pen to paper

(or keystrokes to words)

that fills our own needs...

and that when each of us in turn

shares her new creation freshly flowed out from the pen,

It will find its way into the hearts of the others, and fill them also.

A MORNING RESOLVE

From *Prayers for All Occasions*
Forward Movement Publications



I will try this day to live a simple, sincere and serene life, repelling promptly every thought of disconnect, anxiety, discouragement, impurity, and self-seeking; cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity, and the habit of holy silence; exercising economy in expenditure, generosity in giving, carefulness in conversa-

NEWS BY THE NUMBERS

2 boys! Pastor Til and her partner Angela welcomed Haical to their family in January--Olin now has a beautiful little brother!

1 terrific coffee table donated by Vicha and Leo to Children's Church--Thank you Vicha and Leo!

40 people participated in our Blue Moon Sunday community service program on the 5th Sunday in January (January 30). Good work Church family!

6 people joined the Church in January. We warmly welcomed Tina Newcomb-Gerken, Joanne Morgan, Myanna Carbin-O'Brien, Kara Beth Joseph, Willot Joseph, and Ann Vanderburgh

8 people are currently in our Exploring Membership Class series: Jil Blake, Christine Russell, Bob Lampron, Barry Bernier, Domenico Romero, Laine Romero-Alston, Christine Foudy, and Rose Sullivan. We look forward to the March 13th New Members Ceremony!

1 famous Guest Preacher came to visit our Church on February 13 and we loved having him with us: The Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, Minister and President of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ

2 faithful Church members, Sue Carbin and Fred Goodhue, picked up 1 FREE love seat from a house in Hatfield for the "youth corner" in our Dining Room!

6 dining room chairs were donated by Elise Rymer to our Church and upstairs in Children's Church--Thank you Elise!

1 beloved member of our Church Family fell from a ladder while clearing snow from his roof...Darien Gardener! He is healing nicely (nobody else is allowed on ladders all winter, please!).

2 beloved members of our Church Family had knee replacement surgery this winter: Trish LaFreniere and Pat Fetting. Both are doing well!

tion, diligence in appointed service, fidelity to every trust, and a childlike faith in God.

In particular I will try to be faithful in those habits of prayer, work, study, physical exercise, eating and sleep which I believe the Holy Spirit has shown me to be right.

And as I cannot in my own strength do this, nor even with a hope of success attempt it, I look to you, Gracious and Holy God and ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

CHARITY TO CHANGE NEWS (C2C)

By Susan Farrell
Committee Chair



We've been busy!

With three workshops planned for this spring and investigations into food sustainability, we're creating many opportunities to be a true reflection of the title of our group.

Our wonderful pastor, Andrea, leads the way with her workshop on March 26th on cross-class consciousness raising. Then, in April, Jennifer Ladd will lead a training similar to one she's led in the past, which will bring new folks into the fold concerning classism in our society and will provide an opportunity for return folks to deepen their understanding.

In order to gauge the economic spectrum of our congregation, we asked everyone to take a survey using questions concerning our job status, income and financial and emotional support systems. Because we believe this will give us wider perspective to understand what has been happening to us economically as a community, we are planning a presentation later in the spring by Joanne Sunshower who will have collated this same data from our surrounding churches.

We also believe it is important to be a community that is self-sustaining in whatever paths we can take. As we found out from the "Transition Town" presentation, sponsored by our terrific Peace and Justice committee, there are many venues for a community to be self-sustaining. This empowers the community while exhibiting responsibility for the future and joy in the communal effort. We feel that food is a primary area that we want to address and have been investigating local farmers who are offering community garden shares. Our Charity to Change committee is seeking ways to finance and participate in a Church "share" so stay tuned as we learn more.

Please let me know if you would like to join this vibrant and caring group. We meet next on February 17 at 6pm here at the church. Snacks are always provided.

With love and peace,
Susan Farrell
(413)268-9298
farrellsings@comcast.net

IN NEED OF PEW HYMNALS!

Dear friends,

As our church has grown so has our need for pew hymnals! We would like to offer you the opportunity to help us make this purchase, and dedicate your gift to someone who is special to you.

If you would like to participate, please fill out the form below and return it to the church. The cost is \$18.00 per hymnal, and when you make your gift, a bookplate will be placed in the front cover of one of our new books.

Please choose the wording you would like:

This gift is given in **HONOR**

of _____

From _____

OR

This gift is given in **MEMORY**

of _____

From _____

If you would like to dedicate more than one hymnal, please use the back of the form for your requests.

This is a wonderful way to remember or honor someone special to you, and we appreciate your contributions to help defray the cost of this project.

Thank you for your generosity,

Diane Scott
Music Director

Hello Everyone Who Loves Coffee Hour!

Here is the line-up for Coffee Hour goodies in March. Remember PLEASE that when it is your day to bring food, it is also your turn to help set up and clean up in the kitchen. Don't leave the Church Saints in the kitchen doing all the work! Thank you!

March 6: T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

March 13: A, B, C

March 20: D, E, F, G

March 27: H, I, J, K



A VISIT FROM THE REV. DR. JIM ANTAL

By Lynn Fogg

On February 13th, Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, from the Massachusetts United Church of Christ visited our Church. I personally enjoyed his visit, which was filled with his great energy. In response, I sent him the following note to express my appreciation for his time and attention to our Church:

Dear Jim:

I am writing to thank you so much for your visit last Sunday to our Church. It was so uplifting for me and for many of our congregants to hear your accolades about how special you think our Church is. Many of us know that - either from the very first time we entered the Sanctuary, to those who cautiously came to a Service and learned to trust that our Church was the "real deal" and then never left. For I so agree with your assessment of HCC. We have a phenomenal Pastor who many believe was heaven sent. Andrea, without question, is one of a kind - truly led by the Spirit, tirelessly working for peace and justice and building a church community that emanates the real face of Jesus.

I also appreciated your own passion, as well as your challenge to all of us to share our Church with others. I think you are right that many folks are searching for this kind of community and can't envision that it exists. Those church leaders who attended our group conversation up in Children's Church after Service were equally inspired by many of your comments. My hope is that you will visit us annually to help us shape our vision for the future of our Church.

Your enthusiasm is equally as contagious as Pastor Andrea's and it gives me a great sense of hope, that as a senior leader in the United Church of Christ, your feet are so firmly planted on the ground and that you are so connected to your churches across the Commonwealth.

I am already looking forward to your next visit to HCC. Please keep our church community in your prayers, as I will also pray for your ministry. Thank you again, Jim, for such a wonderful visit to our church.

PANTRY FOOD CUPBOARD! A BIG HIT!

By Pastor Andrea

The new "open pantry" food cupboard by the back door in the Church Dining Room is a big hit. Church folks are bringing in food items and leaving them on the shelves, and church members and friends feeling the pinch during this recession, between jobs, or just in need of a little help are "shopping" at the pantry, taking home bags of food. We are thrilled and we thank the *From Charity to*

Change group for this fine initiative. I personally have heard SO much praise for this new offering. It has been a life-line to many people!

After good conversations with some folks who are regularly bringing in food for the new pantry about what people using the pantry need, like and seem to be choosing, we decided to make a list of what we hope you will buy at the supermarket (at buy one get one free specials and at sale tables). We thought that if we published a list of what seems to be flying off the pantry shelves people who are contributing to the cupboard could focus their food shopping and contributions more precisely. Below is the list of what seems to be most needed and popular. My thanks to all of you for stocking the pantry with lots of good food! This new initiative is a huge success story and I am grateful to all of you for your contributions. And please encourage all church members, friends and attenders to "shop" as needed and take home bag-fuls of food. This is community --this is what we do and who we are! Blessings!

Flour, white sugar, brown sugar, yeast, baking ingredients
Cereal: oatmeal, cherrios, rice krispies, cornflakes
Hamburger helper, pasta and spaghetti sauce, pizza mix, taco shells.

Canned tuna, chicken, canned ham
Soups; cream of mushroom for casseroles,
chicken noodle, vegetable

Beans; green beans, baked beans, plain cans of beans.
Juice, tea, coffee, dried milk

Fresh vegetables and canned vegetables

Pasta: elbows, mac and cheese, flat noodles, ziti, penne

Rice: white, brown

Cookies, crackers, bread, white, wheat, rye, bagels, English muffins

Jelly, jam, honey, peanut butter

Cake and brownie mixes

Ketchup, mustard, relish, pickles, salt, pepper, butter, margarine

Grocery store cards

Big Y coins

Organic, gluten-free, vegan items, all kinds



BOOK GROUP NEWS

By Paula Spencer

One cold February morning we met to share children's literature--some familiar and beloved stories, many new to us. Snacking on animal crackers and cocoa (with marshmallows) we heard I Like You, a sweet Valentine-appropriate book by Sandol Stoddard Warburg and Jacqueline Chwast; Art Dog by Thacher Hurd; Elves and Fairies by Garth Williams, an e e cummings fairy tale, and some Dr. Seuss, among other selections. Annie Turner read a book she'd written called Through Moon and Stars and Night Skies, a lovely picture book about adoption illustrated by Graham Hale. Christine Foudy shared a book called Shades of People that featured a beautiful photo of our Kara Beth, Willot and Kamali. Andrea read from their family's copy of Being Poor, which looked at the harsh realities of poverty for a child. We had such a good time that we're considering another kids' book meeting in the near future. Please let me know if you'd like the complete list of what we read.

Our March meeting will be a discussion of Deep Play by Diane Ackerman (A Natural History of the Senses). It explores the nature and importance of play in our lives. Deep Play, the author contends, is a state of transcendence, and can range from "the exotic to the domestic,... from the artistic and [the] athletic to the spiritual." Ackerman has written poetry, essays and a variety of non-fiction, has taught at Columbia, Cornell, and William and Mary. She has won the John Burroughs Nature Award and the Academy of American Poets' Lavan Poetry Prize.

Please plan to join us on Saturday, March 12, 10 a.m., in the Church Dining Room, and speak with Paula Spencer if you have any questions about book group (prspencer1@comcast.net).

BLUE MOON SUNDAY AT LINDA MANOR

By Cindy McQueston

Hey, Good Lookin, Maggie and Sweet Georgia Brown sat Side By Side, and even Bill Bailey came to the Linda Manor facility on Blue Moon Sunday in January. Fifteen folks from our church sang with Jackie and Cindy strumming their guitars and Linda picking her mandolin to Alexander's Ragtime Band, which we found Down By the Old Mill Stream, which is near by Down In The Valley. Dixie, Yes Sir, That's My Baby, sat near by (Ain't She Sweet) in The Shade of The Old Apple Tree which is in the Red River Valley while the rest of us Taught The World To Sing. Back Home On The Range, we were Looking Over A Four Leaf Clover with Daisy, who is only Five Foot Two, even when she Wore a Tulip. We all enjoyed The Old Folks at Home doing the Tennessee Waltz.

We then Played A Simple Melody on the 2nd floor for the Dear Hearts and Gentle People there with Sylvia. We sang Good Night to Irene who was all smiles as the Red Sails In The Sunset came along. So we Took the Crew Home through the Country Roads and all agreed that This Land is Our Land in this Small World. We had a wonderful time and Called Everybody Darling. We all agreed that we should Put Another Nickel In and do this song fest again. The joy and delight on their faces was worth going there.

THE LENTEN SEASON

Found in Phyllis Webb's papers by her daughter, Nancy Demarais

Fast from judging others;
Feast on the Spirit dwelling in them.
Fast from emphasis on differences;
Feast on the unity of all life.
Fast from thoughts of illness;
Feast on the healing power of God.
Fast from discontent;
Feast on gratitude.
Fast from anger;
Feast on patience.
Fast from complaining;
Feast on appreciation.
Fast from bitterness;
Feast on forgiveness.
Fast from self-concern;
Feast on compassion for others.
Fast from shadows of sorrow;
Feast on the sunlight of serenity.
Fast from idle gossip;
Feast on purposeful silence.
Fast from problems that overwhelm;
Feast on prayer that sustains.

DISMANTLING OPPRESSION WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR MARCH

All members and friends of the Haydenville Congregational Church are invited to a workshop at the Church on March 26th focusing on dismantling systems of oppression and the role of allies as agents of change. We will gather for coffee and pastries at 8:30 AM and begin the workshop promptly at 9:00 AM. We will close at 1:00 PM. Everyone is welcome--those who feel they are just "beginners" on this subject, and those who have been thinking about these issues for years. The workshop will be interactive and we'll all have something to contribute and something new to learn. The workshop is sponsored by the From Charity to Change (C2C) church group and the Accessible to All (A2A) church group. Those issues--classism and ableism--and many others will be covered! Please join us. Questions? Please speak to Pastor Andrea, who is leading the workshop, or Susan Farrell (Chair of C2C) or Toby Davis (Chair of A2A).

MARCH 2011 CALENDAR

<u>Tuesday, March 1:</u>	5:30-7 PM	First Light DVD Series and Group Discussion facilitated by Pastor Andrea, Church Dining Room. Pizza Supper <u>FINAL SESSION!!!</u>
<u>Wednesday, March 2:</u>	7:00 PM	Confirmation Class with Pastor Andrea, Church Dining Room
<u>Saturday, March 5:</u>		SUPER SATURDAY!! BIG UCC EVENT in Ludlow! Our Church is offering this workshop! Come one and all and assist Pastor Andrea in leading this workshop: <i>Being ONA</i> - Living God's Extravagant Welcome (for churches that are already Open and Affirming)
<u>Sunday, March 6:</u>	10 AM	Special Worship Service with Communion~~Celebration to Honor the 160 th Anniversary of the founding of our Church
<u>Sunday, March 6:</u>	12-1:30 PM	Children's Church Book Group, Questions? Call Dawn Orluske
<u>Monday, March 7:</u>	6 PM	Diaconate Meeting, Church Dining Room
<u>Tuesday, March 8:</u>	3:55 PM	Catholics in the UCC, Church Dining Room. Questions? call Annie Turner
<u>Wednesday, March 9:</u>	7 PM	Shepherds Meeting, Church Dining Room
<u>Thursday, March 10:</u>	6:30 PM	Thursday Night Live! Special Lenten Program - "Transformational Breathwork" with Facilitator Jude Johnson. Church Dining Room
<u>Saturday, March 12:</u>	10 AM	Book Group Meeting, Church Dining Room, <i>Deep Play</i> , by Diane Ackerman Questions? Contact Paula Spencer prspencer1@comcast.net
<u>Saturday, March 12:</u>		Confirmation Class MOVIE DATE!! For details see Pastor Andrea
<u>Sunday, March 13:</u>	10 AM	Worship Service. Ceremony to Welcome New Members.
<u>Monday, March 14:</u>	7 PM	Meeting: <u>Guidelines for Safe Children's Church</u> for teachers and anyone interested. Children's Church. Child care provided. Questions? Call Dawn Orluske
<u>Tuesday, March 15:</u>	3:55 PM	Catholics in the UCC, Church Dining Room. For information call Annie Turner
	6:30 PM	Trustees Meeting, Church Dining Room
<u>Thursday, March 17:</u>	1 PM	Ladies Aid Meeting, Church Dining Room
<u>Saturday, March 19:</u>	8 AM-4 PM	"From Spirituality to Activism" Conference in Brockton, MA. Registration--\$10.00 per person which includes lunch—is payable at the door To register e-mail Ruth Poole (rtpoole@netzero.net)
<u>Sunday, March 20:</u>	10 AM	Worship Service
<u>Thursday, March 24:</u>	6:30 PM	Voices from Inside/Out special program. This is a project that brings the work of women who have been incarcerated to the public through poetry readings, performance and presentations. Church Dining Room. All welcome.
<u>Saturday, March 26:</u>	8:30-1PM	Special Workshop: "Dismantling Oppression: The Role of Allies as Agents of Change"~~ Pastor Andrea, Workshop Leader. Church Dining Room. Refreshments, all welcome.
<u>Sunday, March 27:</u>	10 AM	Worship Service



Haydenville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ
143 Main Street, PO Box 257
Haydenville, MA 01039

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF OUR MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

- March 4 Maggie Solis
- March 6 Kathleen Kent
- March 7 Amy McElligott
- March 8 Bonnie Atkins
- March 10 Susan Farrell & Olivia Schiaffo
- March 11 Jacob Carbin-O'Brien
- March 12 Jonathan Roberge
- March 17 Kenneth Nichols & Gabriel Fournier
- March 18 Shirley Sicurello
- March 19 Sally Lemaire
- March 20 Shelby McQueston
- March 26 Robert Davis
- March 28 Barbara Stowe, Hannah Durrant &
Sarah Rosebud Maciaszek
- March 29 Ann Culver
- March 31 Amanda Adams

