

# Cross Currents

Newsletter of the Haydenville Congregational Church  
March 2010 *Open Hearts & Open Minds & Open Doors*

## FROM THE PASTOR

Ten years ago this month I went on a pilgrimage to Israel during Lent. It was an organized trip with people of faith from all over the country. The group's leaders were prominent Christians, Muslims, Jews and Buddhists from the U.S.A. and England. During our ten days in the Holy Land, we toured all over Israel plus we had worship morning and evening led by leaders from the different faith traditions, and we had lectures in the afternoons on a wide range of religious subjects. The trip was eye-opening, fascinating and exhausting. It was especially powerful for me to be in the Holy Land during Lent. I remember one particularly moving day when, after a week in the country, we finally reached Jerusalem and we went directly to the Western Wall (also called the Wailing Wall). Like so many other significant sites in Israel, I had heard about the Western Wall for years and seen photographs of it. But there is nothing like approaching the Wall, touching it, and placing your forehead against the cool stone.

The Western Wall of the Temple Mount is said to be what is left of Solomon's Temple after its destruction in 70 CE. Pilgrims from all over the world gather to pray at this sacred shrine. The Western Wall is never deserted. At any hour of the day or night, any day of the year, one can always find people there, standing in front of the Wall in devout prayer.

There is also the much publicized practice of placing slips of paper containing written prayers into the crevices of the Wall. More than one million notes are placed in crevices of the Wall each year--the notes are collected twice a year and buried on the Mount of Olives. When our group went to the Western Wall we had to subdivide because men and woman cannot pray at the Wall together--there is a section for men and a section for women. I went with the women to our section to pray and to write prayers and



stick them into the crevices between the stones. I cannot now remember what I put on those prayers but I remember thinking deeply about what I would pray for and writing my words with careful attention. I remember nestling my little slips of paper into crevices where other tiny papers had already been tucked into the same spots. I remember writing at least two prayers, maybe I wrote more I can no longer recall. I remember how amazing and moving it was to see all the small slips of paper placed with loving care into every possible opening, crack, crevice between the stones. The Western Wall (as far up as a hand could reach) is covered with these small prayers, these heartfelt requests, tucked in with love, maybe with tears, certainly with fervent hopes and dreams into the tiniest of cracks in the Wall. I have found myself, a decade since I went to the Holy Land, wondering what prayer I would write on a tiny slip of paper if I went to the Western Wall today. What would I ask for? What would I pray for? What did I say then, I wonder, and what would I say now? At that time my son Sasha was 11 years old, I am sure one of my prayers must have been for him. Today he is a man and one of my prayers would probably still be for him. Another might be some vague pleading for world peace and the inbreaking of an era of justice and fairness. Maybe now I would pray for our endangered planet, I do not think that would have occurred to me ten years ago. What would YOU pray for if you stood at the Western Wall? What would you write on your tiny slip of paper and leave in the crevices of this ancient Temple shrine? What lies most deeply on your heart? These are good questions for us to ponder. May your Lenten journey continue to be one of thoughtful reflection and heart-felt prayers...as if you too were standing and praying at the Western Wall.

Love and Blessings,

## NOTE FROM MATILDA: CHILDREN'S CHURCH AND YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

**Haydenville Youth Group:** Group Member Profile #1  
*Beginning this month, we will be featuring a profile of each of the members of your Youth Group. Since this is the first month, a little information about the group: Formerly known as the "Younger Youth Group," this group began as a group of 8-10 year olds who wanted their own group like the confirmation class. They wanted a place to learn about God, have fellowship, and, I have come to find out—fun. They are now between the ages of 11-13, and are in the middle of a two-year "Coming of Age" /Confirmation Cycle. They will become official Coming of Age/Confirmands beginning in the fall of 2010. The official mission of the group is: spiritual formation through service and fellowship with a focus on ecumenism and spiritual exploration. Please enjoy learning about our kids and stop and introduce yourself if you have not met! (And if you know interested youth, let us know-- the kids are always ready to extend our "radical welcome!")*

**Youth:** Reilly McQuestion

**Grade and School:** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Hampshire Regional

**Nickname:** "Rei-Rei"

**Family members:** "Mom, dad, sister, and dog."

**Hobbies:** Dance, Soap Box Derby Racing.

**The thing that makes Reilly laugh the hardest:** "When my best friend and I breakout singing the waffle song and people look at us -!!! It's funny to see their reactions!"

**My hope for the World:** "Everybody has a good book."

**Favorite thing about Haydenville:** Children's Church!



**More about Reilly:**  
We have designated Reilly as a "CC Saint," as she was one of the kids that held the youth program together when the church was down to just a few people. (4 kids!) She originally began coming to the church as a young child with her mother and grandmother, Cindy, who taught the Sunday School program.

Reilly is deeply committed to and enthusiastic about serving the world, and has been participating in and even initiating service projects since she was a young girl. In addition to her sense of humor, adults that know and have worked with Reilly are blown away by her imagination and

creativity. Reilly is always coming up with projects, ideas, and new ways of looking at things. For example, when she was nine, Reilly came up with the idea of "figure" as Jesus' "third way," alternative to fight or flight. She is a leader and nurturer of the younger children in our community as well. You may also read about her in the paper periodically as she is a Soapbox Derby Racer champion! (If you don't know what this is, ask Reilly!)

## BOOK GROUP MARCH GATHERING



Church Book Group: For our meeting on Saturday, March 13th, we'll be reading Annie Dillard's Pilgrim at Tinker Creek. Originally published in 1974 this beautifully written collection of nature essays has become a classic worthy of reading and rereading. It won the Pulitzer Prize in 1975. Please join us at the Lilly Library in Florence Center at 10 a.m. on March 13. See Paula Spencer if you have questions.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS! HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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 15	Miranda Hunkins
March 17	Kenneth Nichols & Gabriel Ayler Fournier
March 18	Shirley Sicurello
March 19	Sally Lemaire
March 20	Shelby McQuestion
March 26	Robert Davis
March 28	James Loomis, Barbara Stowe, Hannah Durrant & Sarah Rosebud Maciaszek
March 29	Ann Culver
March 31	Amanda Adams



## BENEFIT ORGAN CONCERT

Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 3:00 PM

To help support the Capital Campaign at the Church, Trinity College Senior and Assistant College Organist Matthew Dunphy Phinney will perform works by German, French and English Composers and maybe a jig or two. Matt was named the 2010 John Rose Organ Scholar and is a remarkable organist. This will be an enormous treat; Matt is wonderful. Join us!

Tickets are \$10, \$7 for seniors and students. All welcome! Bring friends!

## SOUP, SALAD AND SOCIAL CHANGE: THE KICK-OFF EVENT WITH DR. MICHAEL KLARE

By Annie Turner



If anyone came to our church the night of February 11 hoping for political clarity—as well as some scrumptious soups, breads, and salads—they got it. Michael Klare, Five College Professor of Peace and World Security Studies, spoke for 25 minutes on the dilemmas facing Obama and the United States as they pursue their role as “the world’s policeman.”

Michael was convincingly clear that it was no longer possible to maintain the level of our current defense budgets—“the highest since World War II”—and still invest in our own country. “We will deplete our economy and rob our children of a hopeful future,” he explained, citing statistics from a document called, Q.D.R., or “Quadrennial Defense Review,” which lays out the costs and the strategies behind government defense policy.

Except, Professor Klare said, there is no clear *logical strategy* about core commitments that support U.S. military actions within the world today. As both Democrats and Republicans subscribe to the view that we must “promote stability in key regions” as well as “promote the common good,” this keeps us firmly in the role of the world’s policemen. We are currently mired in two expensive wars, Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as stabbing at some military presence in the countries of Yemen, Somalia, and possibly Nigeria (to protect U.S. oil interests.)

History shows us that nations which accumulate huge deficits eventually lose power, and these high deficits will be in place for many years. Professor Klare mentioned a phrase, “Imperial Overstretch,” to describe the policies of the United States.

Michael Klare also believes that President Obama knows the dangers of both the high deficits and our military involvement in the world. Professor Klare thinks that Obama is trapped by the cost of our wars and the political forces which say we are “obliged” to continue with the present course, and agreed “against his better judgment” to increase the troop levels in Afghanistan.

He also spoke about the tensions between Iran and the United States, saying that President Obama has given Iran many opportunities to negotiate, but that the Iranian leadership actually prefers punitive actions on the part of our country so that they can continue their policy of brutal domestic oppression. He also pointed out that the more the United States “intrudes” in Muslim countries, the more

we “invite terrorism.” We need to reduce our involvement, which would then lead to less terrorism. Professor Klare suggests that we need a non-partisan effort, which would lead to a “scaled down military budget” and more investment at home—in our children, in education, in health care, and in job creation. The public needs to question our global policeman role and protest the depletion of our resources.

A lively question and answer period followed, with questions ranging from: “What about Israel and the U.S. involvement there?” to “How would the military measure success in either Iraq or Afghanistan?” to, “What politicians agree with your assessment?” to the statement that Congressman Barney Frank had recently given a speech echoing Michael Klare’s assessment.

“What can we do?” was a common question. Some answers include: familiarize yourselves with the National Priorities Project which monitors military spending and donate to support them; investigate the Commonwealth Institute in Cambridge; the Progressive Democrats of America; and the War Resisters’ League.

It was a fine night—stimulating and informative—and a night of community. We wish to thank the Peace and Justice Steering Committee for hosting this evening; Michael Klare for taking the time to come and talk to us; Bread Euphoria (thanks, Sarah!) for donating such beautiful loaves; and all who participated to make this night a success.

### OUR PRAYER SHAWLS AT WORK



The following is a letter we received from Holly, Dawn’s sister, who lives in Anaheim, California. Dawn went out to be with Holly following Holly’s abdominal surgery. Dawn took Holly one of our Church’s Prayer Shawls. This is the text of Holly’s letter to Pastor Andrea to be shared with all of us:

*Dear Pastor Andrea:*

*I am finally getting to my thank you notes after two long months! I cannot begin to tell you just how much I love and appreciate the beautiful prayer shawl you sent to me. I actually cried when I put it on as I felt the strong love and prayers with which it was given. It certainly is good to be on the other side of the surgery now. It is a long road but to be past the worse is a tremendous blessing. Thank you again for the beautiful shawl and for all the prayers of the congregation on my behalf. So many times I felt those prayers working on my behalf and it helped me endure. Sending love and well wishes your way,  
Holly*

## VALLEY TIME TRADE

By Julianna Donofrio

The Valley Time Trade got off to a fine beginning. We are now up to fifty members and seeking more. Following much hard work and organizing, marketing and community building we gathered for the first orientation in early December. What is the Valley Time Trade you ask? Well a very old and organic idea really. Remember the Amish barn raisings? Skills are shared and needs are met providing economic relief, all the while having loads of fun and building satisfying mutually respectful relations with neighbors new and old while bridging barriers across culture, class and other divisions. Sounds like our church community doesn't it?

I began my relationship with the VTT because being new in the area and just beginning to rebuild my financial solvency, I thought it would be a good way to meet new people and have needs met. I began as a member of the sounding board committee and was grateful to participate in the start-up of this gift economy project. Gift economies are need-driven not profit-driven. For more on gift economy systems, visit [www.gift-economy.com](http://www.gift-economy.com).

I soon found matches for my needs; the service of a business coach and a very competent IT person to clean up my laptop. I am about to hang pictures in return for Spanish lessons. One need not return or exchange the service with the same person who provides yours. You can trade with someone else. I hung curtains for a Smith College employee and had much enjoyable conversation to boot. That is the fun part. New people in your life; needs met and the satisfaction of providing a service for others.

The Valley Time Trade's online structure is easy to operate. The website keeps track of deposits and withdrawals of time. You open an account and the site will list offers and requests for services at the click of the mouse. Emails fly back and forth or you can opt to be contacted by phone. The administration handles the support structure with ease and confidence.

So if you are good at canning; cleaning refrigerators or closets; or need someone to organize business files or make your daily organic yogurt, consider joining the VTT. Do not be scared off by the request for a small application fee. The sliding scale really slides all the way to zero.

Go to Valley Time Trade <http://commonwealthcenter.org/timebank.htm> to find out about upcoming orientations or contact Jenny at 413-585-0373 or [jladd@commonwealthcenter.org](mailto:jladd@commonwealthcenter.org).

You will be participating in a movement which is taking off

all across the nation and in many other countries. VTT is green conscious and striving to be fully sustainable— practicing loving kindness by sharing personal resources.

## NEW COLUMN IN GAZETTE

On February 13, 2010, the *Daily Hampshire Gazette* ran the first of what will now be a monthly column by Pastor Andrea. Andrea will be writing on the intersection of faith, culture and politics every month (around the middle of the month) in a column on the editorial page in the local paper. The inaugural column talked about what the Haitian people are giving and teaching us through this crisis and discussed our Church and the moving vignettes Gina Ayzavian and Marcelle Walters shared in our January 31st worship service.

## VIGNETTES FROM HAITI

Gina.....  
Vignettes from Haiti:

Marcelle.....  
A woman sings "For our country, for our forefathers, united let us march." Which is La Dessalinienne, the National Anthem; she is awaiting medical treatment; others join in.

Gina.....  
Surrounded by devastation, a mother speaks, "Now I know God really loves me." She found all of her children.

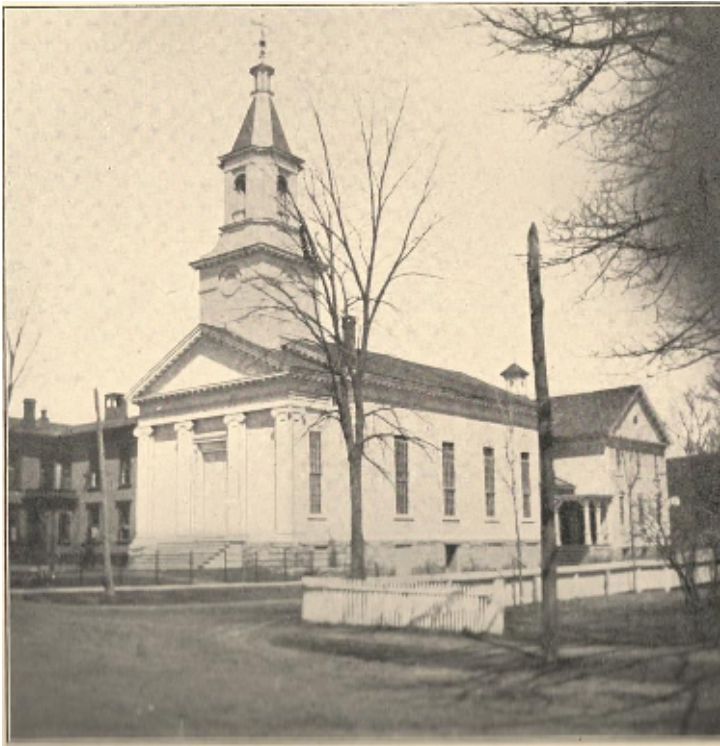
Marcelle.....  
A young woman says, "I was not afraid." She was trapped for 8 days.

Gina.....  
Arms outstretched, beaming, victorious, a child who looks to be about 5, just pulled from the rubble.

Marcelle.....  
"I knew help would come." These were the first words of a Haitian man after being pulled from the debris 11 days later. He tells the weary rescuers.... "keep looking" because he said, "I could have lasted 2 more days."

Gina.....  
As we continue to give and to pray for the people of Port au Prince,

Marcelle.....  
may God grant us the humility, to accept the gifts that THEY offer us: patience, strength, dignity, simplicity, courage, compassion, and unending faith and hope which gives them the courage to endure the unimaginable.



## HAYDENVILLE CHURCH AND SOCIETY: THE BEGINNING (CONTINUED)

By Kathleen Kent

*Though somewhat edited and abridged, the following excerpts are from Marjorie McCusick's book; Williamsburgh Massachusetts, Fact and Fable, 1771-1971.*

The new church was built free and clear of debt. To do this Joel Hayden bought four pews at \$500 each, which action was followed by similar reaction from others. This early church was a union movement, Congregational in concept, but many of its first members came from the Methodist Church in Williamsburg. Therefore, one of the first items of business was to organize according to Congregational usage and gain recognition in the fellowship of the churches. The first service was held on the evening of March 4, 1851. It was a triple occasion of dedication, recognition, and ordination of the first Pastor. It was an important affair, with a packed house and important dignitaries on the platform behind the pulpit. Rich upholstery was sent from New York and a massive sofa stretched behind the pulpit (an unusual piece of furniture which was chopped up and burned in 1943).

The original church had the present auditorium with choir and organ in the rear of the church, a spire 150 feet high and a vestry in the basement where Sunday School classes were held. The addition of the Sunday School rooms and church parlors was made at the back of the main building in 1873, and at that time the Sunday School rooms were moved from the basement to the new addition. At this time the organ and choir gallery were also changed from the back of the room to the space in back of the pulpit, and a new organ installed. The Parsonage was built in 1856. It was the first house on the street, which was then but a rough passageway to the cemetery, which was first a pine grove consecrated by the prayers and presence of the father of Josiah and Joel Hayden.

## THANKS TO THE BLUE MOON SUNDAY CREW

By Trish LaFreniere

I just want to offer deep and heartfelt thanks to the Blue Mooners who went to Cooley Dickinson and delivered bags of goodies to the nurses and other staff. As many of you know, I work in the Critical Care Unit. We were having a very busy and sort of anxious day, with lots of difficult stuff going on. None of us had gotten to break or lunch. Imagine my surge of pride when a group of people from my church showed up with baskets of perfect little gift bags filled with candy, pens, ornaments, and, best of all, handwritten notes of gratitude about the job we do. Everyone was thrilled to get a special treat--some got a little teary about it. The comments I heard were: "What a special church." and "How great!" It really touched me to hear how truly grateful everyone was. It lifted our spirits so much, for someone to care for the caregivers. Thanks for thinking of us!

## CHURCH GROUNDS: COME SHARE THE LOVE!

By Jackie Cloonan  
Chair, Grounds Committee

Spring is just around the corner. That means the gardeners true delight; the growing season will soon follow. The Grounds Committee needs volunteers for the coming season. Jobs such as weeding, planting, mowing and trimming will need loving attention. If you are interested, please let Jackie Cloonan know @ 586-0315. Come share the love of outdoors, the camaraderie and laughter as we work together to make our church grounds as lovely as can be.

## PRAYER SHAWLS NEEDED!

Our Haydenville Congregational Church blessed all our Church Prayer Shawls and gave them to our brothers and sisters at the West Cummington Church following the loss of their Church to fire. Now we need knitters and crocheters to please make us new Prayer Shawls to give to and wrap up people who are in pain for whatever reason (post-op, grieving, lonely).

So please start knitting and crocheting!

Thank you!

## LETTER TO PASTOR ANDREA AFTER THE "PRACTICE BEING UNPOPULAR" SERMON GIVEN ON JANUARY 31

By Diane Scott

(Used with permission)



I have been thinking a lot about last Sunday, and the emotions that came up from it.

I see this as a place of growth, and another illustration of the very diverse congregation that we are, and I celebrate that! I am happy that we come to-

gether each Sunday with such different views and histories, and yet we "meet" in a place of community and share so many common values. I think that we work as hard as a community to respect and celebrate our differences as we do to celebrate our commonalities.

One thing I have seen, and am much intrigued by, is the fact that we each carry our own interpretation of our God. My God may look to me very different from that of my neighbors in the choir loft or in a pew, but that does not diminish the power or influence of my God in my life and work. We all came to know our Gods in different ways, through different religious educations, formal or informal, pleasant or unpleasant. For some, myself included, the God of my childhood is not the God I know today because I do not see this God through the filters of the people that introduced us. I have forged my own relationship, and believe that this relationship will grow and change as I do.

The growth I just mentioned, that's the journey. We are all on it. I think that if we focus on supporting one another's journeys, and not on where we came from, and not where we might end up, we will be fine. I personally believe that Jesus was sent to show us one way we can travel this journey. A human example that showed us a way to live that can bring us closer to our destination, which may well be the start of another trip. We come together to learn from each other, I learn as much from hearing people's struggles with coming to know their God as I do from their success stories.

I hope that as we work through this we can all honor and respect the pain and the good that each of us has experienced as we take this journey together.

With love and great admiration for your hard work,

Diane

## BLUE MOON SUNDAY AT LINDA MANOR

By Amy McElligott



On Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> a group of us visited Linda Manor to sing songs and hymns to the residents during their lunch. We had a great time! There were 8 adults and 4 kids who sang and the residents loved it. We all had a great time and a few laughs together. Cindy McQuestion played guitar and Linda O'Dea played mandolin. Saint Helen was able to join our group and sing along with us.

This was an event that I hope we can take part in again in the future and was great for kids of all ages!

## IT'S LIKE BEING A PUMPKIN...

submitted by Barbara Estes

Barb received this from a friend and wanted to share it with her Church family...A lady recently baptized was asked by a co-worker what it was like to be a Christian. She replied, "It is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you. Then God cuts the top off and scoops out all the yucky stuff. God removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed and so on and then God carves you a new smiling face and puts God's light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."

## ECO TIP FROM THE GREEN TASK FORCE!

Do you carry a lot of extra "stuff" in your car? Every extra 100 pounds in or on the vehicle could reduce your mpg by up to 2%, so take the time to clean out the junk in your trunk. It's also a good idea to remove unused roof, ski, and bike racks, and try not to carry items on your roof or on a trailer; they increase aerodynamic drag and fuel use.



## CHURCH COFFEE HOUR: THE LINE-UP FOR MARCH

Delicious goodies appear each and every Sunday for our Coffee Hour time of fellowship and sharing because YOU bring them each week! Bless you and thank you. Remember that the week you bring food, you also help set up and clean up. Here's the line-up:

March 7: H, I, J, K

March 14: L, M, N, O

March 21: P, Q, R, S

March 28: T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

## MARCH CALENDAR

Monday, March 1:	6 PM	Diaconate Meeting
Wednesday, March 3	6:30-8:15 PM	Men's Drop-In Support Circle, Contact Gary Stone: 413-253-0973 or email: <a href="mailto:for1gstone@yahoo.com">for1gstone@yahoo.com</a>
	5 to 6:15 PM	Home Church: Study of Psalm 23 at the home of Gloria Ayvazian 3 James Avenue, Northampton; All Welcome
Thursday, March 4:	5:30 PM	Soup, Salad and Social Change: Health Care Reform: Where it Stands and What People of Faith Can Do Now. Presenters: Jackie Wolf, MassCare, League of Women Voters Mary Grace Farley, Progressive Democrats of America, Franklin/Hampshire Health Care Coalition Jackie Ballance, Progressive Democrats of America, American Friends Service Committee
Saturday, March 6:	9 AM to Noon	Walk the Labyrinth. A large canvas Labyrinth will be unrolled on the carpet in the Dining Room, come walk this sacred path in silence
Sunday, March 7:	10 AM	Worship Service with Communion
Tuesday, March 9:	6:30 PM	Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, March 10:	5 to 6:15 PM	Home Church: Study of Psalm 23 at the home of Gloria Ayvazian 3 James Avenue, Northampton, All Welcome
	6:30-8:15 PM	Men's Drop-In Support Circle, Contact Gary Stone: 413-253-0973 or email: <a href="mailto:for1gstone@yahoo.com">for1gstone@yahoo.com</a>
Saturday, March 13:	10 AM	Book Group Reading <u>Annie Dillard's Pilgrim at Tinker Creek</u> – Lilly Library in Florence. Contact Paula Spencer for questions, <a href="mailto:prspencer1@comcast.net">prspencer1@comcast.net</a>
	3 PM	HCC Sanctuary, Benefit Organ Concert -Organist Matthew Dunphy Phinney Ticket prices: \$10, \$7 for seniors and students. Special price for "Patrons" who want to support our Capital Campaign: \$25.
Sunday, March 14:	10 AM	Special Worship Service led by the "From Charity to Change" group; Service focuses on cross-class dialogue and breaking down class barriers
Monday, March 15:	4:30-6 PM	Youth Group, Church Dining Room
	6:30 – 8 PM	Children's Committee Meeting, Church Dining Room (Childcare and Supper Provided)
Wednesday, March 17:	5 to 6:15 PM	Home Church: Study of Psalm 23 at the home of Gloria Ayvazian 3 James Avenue, Northampton, All Welcome
	6:30-8:15 PM	Men's Drop-In Support Circle, Contact Gary Stone: 413-253-0973 or email: <a href="mailto:for1gstone@yahoo.com">for1gstone@yahoo.com</a>
Thursday, March 18:	6:30 PM	Ladies Aid Meeting, Church Dining Room
Saturday, March 20:	9 AM to Noon	Walk the Labyrinth. A large canvas Labyrinth will be unrolled on the carpet in the Dining Room, come walk this sacred path in silence
Sunday, March 21:	10 AM	Worship Service
Monday, March 22:	5:30 PM	Dining Room, Peace and Justice Steering Committee
Wednesday, March 24:	5 to 6:15 PM	Home Church: Study of Psalm 23 at the home of Gloria Ayvazian, 3 James Avenue, Northampton, All Welcome
	6:30-8:15 PM	Men's Drop-In Support Circle, Contact Gary Stone: 413-253-0973 or email: <a href="mailto:for1gstone@yahoo.com">for1gstone@yahoo.com</a>
Sunday, March 28:	10 AM	Palm/Passion Sunday Service



## Haydenville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ  
143 Main Street, PO Box 257  
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### COLORS AND DREAMS EVENING AT THE CHURCH

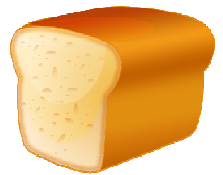
by Susan Farrell



There's something so wonderful about gathering on a cold winter's night with friends to hear such a terrific variety of music. Trish LaFreniere and Shirley Warner are saints and angels for creating such an evening. Trish is the original creator of this evening which has included a blues night, a gospel night and a folk

night. This particular theme was "Colors and Dreams" so there was plenty of latitude in choosing how to interpret these ideas including instrumentals with guitars, piano, mandolin and fiddle. Every performance brought a smile. Shirley's fresh-baked cookies certainly didn't hurt either. For those of you curmudgeons who have never ventured out on a cold February night, do yourself a favor and warm your heart next year when Trish, once again, hosts an evening of music, poetry and good cheer. You won't regret it.

### SUPPORT BREAD EUPHORIA!



Important Alert to all Church Family Members and Friends! Shop, eat and generally hang out at Bread Euphoria. Not only do three people affiliated with our Church work there (Sarah Icklan, Ann Loomis, Emma Sadowski) but Bread Euphoria regularly donates BREAD to our Church events. On February 10th, Bread Euphoria donated THIRTY POUNDS of bread for our *Soup, Salad and Social Change* dinner program. People were amazed, and very well fed! Bread Euphoria is VERY generous to our Church, please patronize them. PLUS they sell the best food and baked goods in the Valley!

### A MOMENT WITH GOD

by Lee Satterfield



As a Lenten practice this morning, in the predawn hours, I sat on my front porch listening to the waking birds and the sound of the wind chimes. I witnessed the dawn of a new day. So precious is a moment alone with God.