



Haydenville Congregational Church

December 28, 2014 • ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Welcome Visitors! If you are new to us, please fill out the colorful “strippy thing” tucked in your Bulletin to let us know you were here! These can be given to Pastors Andrea or Chris, or placed in the offering plate. Also, PLEASE CUT TO THE FRONT OF THE HANDSHAKE/HUG LINE after Church. We want to meet you, and our Hand Shake/Hug Line can be overwhelming. Please come right up, cut in line and tell us who you are. Truly. We want to meet you!

2. Coffee Hour • Next Month: Our New Coffee Klatch Coffee Hour Plan launches, with the 'Pooh Bears' hosting the month of January. **TODAY:** W, X, Y, Z, A, B, C.

3. Welcome Ministry Our new Welcome Ministry is up and running and looking forward to greeting all newcomers after our worship service. Find a member of the Welcome Ministry on the HUG LINE after church, AND another member in the newly created ministry WELCOME CORNER which is the first table on the right in the Dining Room. Someone from the Welcome Ministry Team will be at that table eager to welcome you to our church and “orient” you to our wonderful community. Please stop by and say hello.

4. Pastor Andrea will be gone to Austin, TX to see her son Sasha, from Dec 26th until Dec 31st. Pastor Chris will be covering all pastoral emergencies.

5. There will be no Children's Church TODAY or on January 4th. Nursery care will be available for kids three and under. Children's Church will resume on January 11, 2015.

6. Attention: Board and Committee Chairs, Directors and Pastors The Trustees set the date for the Annual Meeting - Feb 8, 2015. Since we need to have the report out in advance of the meeting, we need to have all your reports by January 16th! To make compiling the report as simple as possible, please use the font Times New Roman (12 point), and send in your report as a Word document or a text file - not a pdf. We are asking Margie to collect the reports, so please send them to office@haydenvillechurch.org
Ok - that's the official word. Now, just from me - there will be home baked goodies for the first five people to submit their reports! - Jo Cannon

7. Building Maintenance Committee ~ Karin McGowan has done a FABULOUS job as the Chair of our Building Maintenance Committee and we thank her for her energetic, tireless work. She truly did a fantastic job! Karin is stepping down at the end of this month from her position as Chair and the Trustees are looking for a new person or persons to Chair or Co-chair the Building Maintenance Committee. If you are interested in learning more about this very necessary and somewhat unglamorous committee Chair role, please see Pastor Andrea. In the meantime, until a new Chair of the Building Maintenance Committee is named, please bring all concerns about the building (anything you spot or are worried about) to the Trustee of the Month and they will be sure to have the problem fixed. Thank you!

8. Pastor Andrea lent her copy of her (favorite) book *REAL GOOD CHURCH* by Molly Baskette to someone in the church and cannot remember who and would love to have the book back. Is it you?

9. Pastor Chris would like to thank Laine Wilder, Karla Hathaway, Anne Harrison and Vicki Hicks for their worship leadership this morning.

10. As a contribution to our church funds, **Carol Boyer is raffling one of her beautiful quilts** entitled “*You are Welcome Here.*” Raffle tickets are available before and after church. Look for the tickets at a side table in the Church Dining Room where the quilt is displayed. The drawing will be January 26th, right after church. Lets make this a great fund raiser!

EVENTS

1. Weekly Café Office Hours with Pastor Andrea • Thursdays from 9:30 to 11am at Sylvester's Restaurant. Come see her at 111 Pleasant Street in Northampton and she'll buy you a cup of coffee.

2. Adult Faith Formation with Pastor Chris • First and Third Sundays in the Dining Room, 8:45 to 9:30 am. Join us for this new version of Adult Sunday School as we deepen our understanding of our faith. We will continue to look at Paul's letters to the Corinthian church, moving on to Second Corinthians with its theme of “power through weakness.” Though each session builds on the previous one, you are more than welcome to “drop in” at

any time and join us when you can. We are also looking ahead to the end of these sessions and discussing where we'd like to go next with our study. Your input is essential! For more information, please contact Pastor Chris.

3. The Church Book Group welcomes you! • January 7

We will meet next on Wednesday, January 7th at 12:45 in the Watson Room of the Forbes Library in Northampton. We will be discussing the book *Sermons: Biblical Wisdom for Daily Living* by Peter J. Gomes. Get your hands on the book, get reading, and join us! Questions? Call Pastor Andrea or Rev. Peter Ives.

4. January 10 • Please join us for the DVD and

discussion series "Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity" on Saturday, January 10th from 10-11:30am in the HCC dining room. Our topic is, "Debunking the Rapture". Come to one meeting or monthly! For more information please contact Jennifer Miller-Antill at jen@antill.org or 268-3189.

5. Dismantling Racism: The Role of Allies as Agents of Change • January 17

You are invited to participate in a workshop to strengthen your antiracism efforts at the church and in the wider world. Although we will warmly

welcome and be delighted to include folks of color at this workshop, the primary focus will be on the role of white people as sensitive and effective allies to people of color. We will discuss white privilege, personal, cultural and institutional racism, and what we can do to create change. We will keep the words of the prophet Micah in our minds and on our hearts throughout the workshop: "God has told you, O mortal, what is good: and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." Guided by those prophetic words, the workshop will include some analysis but will emphasize *doing* justice, *acting* with courage, and *being* an ally. All questions welcome, full participation in this very participatory workshop is encouraged, and concrete steps to create change will flow from our discussions. All are welcome. (Please do not sign up for the workshop unless you can stay for the entire four hours.)

- Pastor Andrea, workshop leader
- Saturday, January 17th, from 9 - 1:00 pm
- Haydenville Church Dining Room
- Pre-registration is strongly encouraged (by contacting Pastor Andrea)

Luke 2:22-40.

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'),²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.