



Haydenville Congregational Church

February 15, 2015

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 HAND SHAKE/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. Options for Children and Youth at Church • *“We love children, and are not bothered by baby sounds!”* Have a child in worship with you today? For infants to age 3, we provide childcare upstairs in our nursery beginning at 10:00 am. If you would like to stay with your child in worship, and need a quiet option, our Narthex (foyer) has a safe and comfortable place to play, with the service piped in on a speaker. Children from preschool through 6th grade are invited upstairs to Children’s Church, and are led from worship just before the Offertory. Older youth are invited to be classroom assistants, or to remain in worship. All children, regardless of age, are welcome to remain in worship with their adults. For more information, contact Dawn Orluske or Joanne Morgan.

3. Coffee Hour Food: Thanks to Daily Bread for being our February Coffee Hour hosts! Remember, all members have been assigned to a Coffee Klatch group to take on set up, clean up, and refreshments for just one month per year. If you’re not sure which Klatch you’re in, or if you would like to join a Coffee Klatch, please see Jo Cannon or Jackie Cloonan.

4. Welcome Ministry Our new Welcome Ministry is up and running and looking forward to greeting all newcomers after our worship service. You can find a member of the Welcome Ministry on the Hug Line after worship, and another member in the newly created 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!

5. Sunday Bulletins and Announcements are now being done by Pastor Chris. Please send any announcements and bulletin items to Pastor Chris (revcjm@gmail.com) and Pastor Andrea by Tuesday of each week.

6. Need A Ride? Can you give a ride? Call Angel Wings!

If you need transportation to an appointment, the grocery store, or another essential destination, we have a pool of volunteers to offer rides. Our Angel Wings ministry is in need of folks willing to lend a hand by giving a ride. Angel Wings supports members of the congregation by arranging for church-related and medical-related transportation needs. Angel Wings is seeking a few kind souls who would be willing to be contacted by the ministry coordinator when transportation needs arise. If you are willing to be on the Angel Wings call list, please e-mail Sarah Bellows Meister at smeister@smith.edu.

7. Angel Hands are Helping Hands! Please join our group of Angel Hands to reach out to anyone in our beloved community who just needs a little extra help. So far we’ve been asked to move a mattress for someone who’s been sleeping in a recliner, and to help carry groceries upstairs for someone still regaining their strength from a nasty virus. Here’s how it works: If you’d like to help when you can, send Vicki Hicks your contact information and any special notes she should keep in mind. When a request comes in, she’ll alert all Angels with the details. If you are available to help, you’ll respond and we will set it up. Don’t let the lack of a car keep you from joining us! If you need help, please let Vicki know. You have many friends who would like to lend a hand. Just ask! To sign up, to request help, to offer ideas or ask questions, please contact Vicki Hicks at (413) 695-2273 or vickihicks@aol.com.

EVENTS

1. Ash Wednesday Worship Service • February 18th at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Lent begins with this simple worship service and the imposition of ashes.

2. Thursday Cafe Office Hours with Pastor Andrea • WE HAVE MOVED! Our regular Thursday Café Office hours (9:30-11:00 am) at Sylvester’s have been a huge huge success! We are usually a group of about 15 folks and we have wonderful discussions and offer one another much support. We have loved Sylvester’s in Northampton but they are re-doing their floors and we are being lovingly booted out for a while. So during all of February we are meeting at the Sunrise Over Florence Bakery down the hill from the Florence Congregational Church. Tons of free parking, delicious donuts and we’ll huddle there like we do at Sylvester’s. See you at Sunrise Over Florence for the whole month of February.

3. Rock and Shell Cross • On the first Sunday of Lent, Feb. 22nd, we are going to make our “rock and shell cross” as I call out the litany of things you may want to let go of or heal during Lent in order that you may deepen your spiritual life and walk closely with Jesus to Jerusalem. This is the 9th year of making our cross on the Sanctuary carpet. This year we are going to do something different. This year I invite you to bring an object with you that symbolizes something you wish to lay down or heal during Lent. There will be time for you to come forward and lay down on the cross the object you have brought with you. Examples of objects you might want to bring to lay on the cross are: a childhood photo, a small empty bottle, a cut-out heart, a cut-up credit card, a cigarette, a selfie, an AA medallion, a photo of someone, a coin, or whatever is symbolic for you. Rocks and shells will still be available for you to come forward during the litany and place those on the cross—just as in years past. You may want to start thinking about what you want to bring with you. Pastor Chris and I hope this will be very meaningful for you. - *Pastor Andrea*

4. The Naked I: Monologues from Beyond the Binary • Thursday, February 19th at 7:30pm, Blanchard Great Room, Mount Holyoke College. Written by Tobias K. Davis; directed by Tobias K. Davis and Arjuna Greist. The Naked I explores the bodies and experiences of transgender, genderqueer, and intersex individuals. Free and open to the public. Talkback to follow! NOTE: This play contains nudity, strong language and sexual situations.

5. Okay Book Lovers, start reading • You are welcome to join the ongoing Church Book Group. We meet next on **Wednesday, March 4th at 12:45 pm** at Forbes Library (Watson Room) in Northampton. Our book for the March gathering will be *“Convictions: How I learned What Matters Most,”* by Marcus Borg. Get your hands on the book and start reading! Hope you can join us!

Church Visioning Day~

Where have we been? Where are we heading?

*Saturday, March 7th, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
in the Church Dining Room.*

All welcome to a gathering to think through together how we continue to move from a pastoral to a program church. Breakfast goodies and coffee provided. Our session will be facilitated by Rev. Kelly Gallagher, Associate Conference Minister of the Massachusetts Conference UCC.

6. Attention Gardeners! Grow Food Northampton's Community Garden in Florence is opening up almost 50 new plots. If you're interested in having your own plot, registration for new gardeners is on March 21, 9-12, at Smith Voc. Novice gardeners are most welcome and get plenty of support to gain new skills. For more information go to <http://www.growfoodnorthampton.com/florence-organic-community-garden/> or contact me at pat@growfoodnorthampton.com. Also, let me know if you'd be interested in forming a group from HCC to obtain a plot to grow food for a local soup kitchen. There are already several plots engaged in this important work, and an infrastructure in place to organize the deliveries. But we always need more gardeners to grow fresh produce. If you're interested in being part of a group, let me know. ~ Pat James

7. "Any Body, Everybody, Christ's Body" • A Congregational Guide for Becoming Accessible to ALL. The A2A Committee will be reading and discussing this manual in three parts, over the course of our next three monthly meetings. March 3 - "Any Body.." April 7 - "Everybody" and May 5 - "Christ's Body." Our meetings start at 5:30 pm in the Dining Room with prayer, food and general "how are you?" conversation. We end at about 7:00 p.m. The Guide was compiled by the UCC Disabilities Ministries and can be downloaded from its site, www.uccdm.org. For more information, please contact Velma Garcia at (413) 219-8018 or vgarcia@smith.edu or Susan Sachs at (413) 527-8358 or ssachs611@gmail.com.

8. Lenten Circle: "The Spirituality of Parenting" *A non-time consuming opportunity to practice and share in the "Spirituality of parenting."* Facilitated by Rev. Matilda Rose Cantwell, for parents and close caregivers of young people from age 0-18. Grandparents, Godparents, and all manner of chosen family who take care of children are all welcome. Participants will receive a reflection and exercise each week over email and then gather towards the end of Lent to share their reflections and experiences. **We will meet once on March 26th, 5:30 pm. Potluck/Pizza Dinner served and childcare provided.** Desire for deep theological reflection; OR a sense of humor; OR a feeling of utter bewilderment on some or most days; or better yet, all of these things, most welcome to this practice circle! Please **register** with Rev. Matilda "Til" Cantwell, mcantwel@smith.edu.