



Haydenville Congregational Church

February 22, 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 come meet our pastors and a member of the Welcome Ministry. Join us for Coffee Hour, and stop by the **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!

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 Klatches a big success! Thus far the new arrangement for hosting our Sunday Coffee Hour following worship has been a big success. Some folks report feeling even more involved with the Church and their Church Family through their hosting of Coffee Hour and connecting with the folks in their “Klatch.” Here’s a big shout out/thank you to the **Pooh Bears** for doing a fantastic job in January. Also to **Daily Bread** for doing an equally fantastic job in February. Next month **Loaves and Dishes**, led by Norma Kellogg and Chip Roughton, will be hosting Coffee Hour. Thank you one and all for making this new arrangement work out so well! Remember, all members have been assigned to a Coffee Klatch group 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.

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. Thursday Cafe Office Hours with Pastor Andrea • WE HAVE MOVED PERMANENTLY! Our regular Thursday Café Office hours (9:30-11:00 am) have been a huge success! We are usually a group of about 15 folks and we have wonderful discussions and offer one another much support. Our move from Sylvester’s to Sunrise Bakery has also been a success! From February onward, we will meet at the Sunrise Over Florence Bakery down the hill from the Florence Congregational Church. Tons of free parking, delicious donuts, and we make our “prayer huddle” there like we used to do at Sylvester’s. See you at Sunrise Over Florence from now on.

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. For more information, please contact Pastor Chris.

3. All Men Are Invited • There will be a short meeting after the worship service on **March 1st** for all male-identified members of the congregation. The Men's Fellowship is exploring new topics and activities to pursue and members want to hear from others in the church. We will host a meeting upstairs in Children's Church starting 15 minutes after the service. Whether you are interested in ongoing participation or joining in for an occasional social gathering or service project, your opinions are needed and most welcome. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

4. 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 and April gatherings 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! Questions? See Pastor Andrea or Pastor Peter Ives.

5. One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special UCC offering will be collected during Lent, on **March 15th** during our worship service. The UCC says OGHS "gives hope, hope and life." OGHS supports partners in more than 70 countries with ministries that fund development projects, feed the victims of famine, provide services for displaced people, and respond to natural disasters. We will be happily accepting gifts of cash, or checks (made payable to the Haydenville Congregational Church). We thank you in advance for your generosity.

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.