



Haydenville Congregational Church

August 9, 2015

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Tweet! Post! Check In! • Be radical! Let your social network know that you are in church! • Please feel free to make use of your various electronics during worship in order to Tweet about the worship, check in on FaceBook, mark something on your calendar, or take a note. If you are posting photos, please be aware that we need to respect one another's privacy. Please do not post pics or tag names without consent. Looking for a hashtag? Try #haydenvilleucc or #ucc. And follow us on FaceBook and Twitter!

2. Miguel needs a home • A member of our Church family, Miguel, has been living on the streets of Northampton for years. Our Church has provided him with many forms of material aid as well and financial support. But it is time to help Miguel get off the street and into a home. Pastor Andrea is looking for a small group of people who can work with Miguel and her to help Miguel find a permanent home. This will require some meetings, and some research into housing options in the Pioneer Valley. Knowledge of housing issues would be a great plus, but anyone willing to work on this is welcome to join the group. Please see Pastor Andrea

3. September Newsletter deadline • All articles, announcements, etc. for the September Newsletter are due to Richard Spencer by **August 15th**. Thank you.

4. WHOOPS! • Our Church was closed during the first three Sundays in July but the bills kept coming in, our payroll had to be covered, and our work did not stop! Did you fall behind in your pledge? Can you catch up? Some of us will be scrambling to catch up on our July pledges by writing extra checks during the month of August. THANK YOU for catching up with your pledge and supporting your Church!

5. Thank you to the Holy Rollers Coffee Klatch led by Linda Ziegenbein and Andrew Geery for hosting our Coffee Hour in August! We appreciate you so much!

6. Summer Playgroup Needs You! • Now through September 13th, when Children's Church resumes, we need two adults each Sunday to sign up to play with the children, do crafts, and/or have fun on the playground outside. Please consider signing up for a Sunday this summer. You can add your name to the sign up sheet in the Dining Room, or tell Pastor Chris directly. If you have any questions email Pastor Chris (revcjm@gmail.com), and thanks!

Today's Worship Service Leaders

Deacons of the Month: Amy Andrew and Mary Sheehan

Trustee of the Month: Alice Barber

Ushers: Lynn Fogg, Lisa Hall, Norma Kellogg, and Laine Wilder

Greeters: Sylvia Fappiano, Cheryl Whalen, and Lexi Fappiano-Whalen

7. Green Angels Needed! Deep into the lawn mowing season, we need your help to maintain the church yard. Please consider signing up to mow the lawn for one week this summer. Sign up sheets will be in the Dining Room, and you can contact Jackie Cloonan for more information. Thank you!

8. Wish List! Pastor Andrea is deeply grateful that folks have been purchasing for the Church items from her "wish list." Thank you Nicole and Jen for buying the bright red popcorn machine that supplies us with fresh, hot popcorn during Coffee Hour. Thank you Annie and Rick for buying the roll-around white board for the Dining Room so we can write up news of relevance to our congregation! We so appreciate your generosity!

9. Prayers of the People/Joys and Concerns Basket • If you are new to us, let us solve a mystery for you and invite you to join in. Should you want to share a joy or concern during the "Prayers of the People" part of our worship service, come to church 2 minutes early and write one up and stick it in the basket. The sheets (yellow for joys, blue for concerns) and pens and the basket to put these in are sitting on the chancel floor—which is the raised, stage-like part of the Sanctuary where the velvet chairs are. You are welcome to place your joys and concerns there...member, attender, newcomer, we welcome hearing from you.

10. Don't Feed the Trolls! In the world of the internet and social media, a "Troll" is someone who intentionally provokes, slanders, or otherwise bullies through the posting of comments on websites or social media profiles. The rule of the internet: Don't Feed the Trolls! On occasion we will receive inflammatory comments on our Facebook page, which is moderated by Pastor Chris and several church members. Please, if you see such a comment, do not engage in debate with the individual, but contact Pastor Chris and he will determine the next steps. Thank you!

11. Milestones and Celebrations Have a significant birthday, anniversary, accomplishment, or event that you'd like to have celebrated in worship? Please let Pastor Andrea or Pastor Chris know, and we'll be sure to lift it in our time of Joys and Concerns.

12. The pews are too hard! Should you find the Church pews too hard (as many of you do), please know the rocking chairs in the back of the Sanctuary are not just for parents quieting fussy babies, the rockers are for anyone trying to get some relief from our very-Puritan, straight-backed pews. Please help yourself. Plus the pillows found in most pews are for making the pews more comfortable. Feel free to scout around and grab as many pillows as you need!

13. New in our library • A young adult book called Rethinking Normal: A Memoir in Transition by Katie Rain Hill about growing up trans.

14. Four or Five • We are back on a campaign of limiting the speakers following our sermon during "Community Response Time" to four or five people. Let's see if we can make this work!

15. Gift of a Bible for YOU! • The Ladies Aid has restocked the gift Bible Basket. Please help yourself to a Bible, a gift from us to you, out of the Bible Basket which is sitting on the Deacon's Bench by the door that comes into the Sanctuary (behind Chris and Andrea on the "Hug Line").

16. Directory and Contact Info Updates! • Do you have changes to your contact information? Please forward any updates for your address, email, phone, or household members to our office administrator, Margie Serkin (office@haydenvillechurch.org). Thank you!

17. Children's Church and Youth Ministry: It's not too early to think about volunteering! • Our fantastic and innovative Children's Church program only works because you make it happen. Each Sunday, we need at least four adults to work with our young ones. Lead Teachers prepare and deliver the lesson for the day, while other volunteers assist in engaging the children and supporting the Lead Teacher. You can volunteer for multiple weeks or months or even just one Sunday morning. High school aged youth are also encouraged to be leaders in the classroom.

Additionally, we need volunteers to work with our youth during service and fellowship activities, be it rock climbing, river clean ups, sledding, a weekend retreat, or volunteering.

All volunteers are required to complete a criminal background check in accordance with our Safe Church policy. Please contact Pastor Chris for more information or to volunteer, and thanks!

EVENTS

1. Pastor Chris will be out of town until August 15th to serve as Chaplain at Silver Lake Conference Center. During this time, he will not be responding to emails or phone calls. Thank you!

2. Ladies Aid Out to Lunch • Blue Bonnet Diner • August 19th at 12:00 pm • All female-identified members and friends welcome. See Sylvia Fappiano for tickets.

3. Baptism at the Mill River • We will Baptize Kathleen Kent by immersion in the Mill River on **Saturday, August 29th at 11:00am**. Please join us so you can witness, sing, pray, and bless her. Find path down to the river at the corner of Washington Street and James Avenue in Northampton (someone will be there to guide you). Everyone welcome!

4. Blue Moon Sunday • August 30th • No Coffee Hour, instead we will cook for the Cathedral in the Night (CiTN) outdoor worship and dinner service in Northampton. Cooking will be right after our morning worship service, and the CiTN service is at **5:00pm** in front of First Churches in Northampton. Join us to cook, and then to worship with our CiTN friends and neighbors.

5. Pastor Andrea resumes Thursday Morning Café Office Hours at the Sunrise Café in Florence on **September 3rd, 9:30 to 11:00 am**. All are welcome to join in this gathering of eating, sharing, devotional reading, and much joy!

6. Rally Day!!! Welcome back, welcome home, welcome children! **September 13th** is Rally Day—we start with a continental breakfast and registration for Children's Church. Then we share in a Welcome Back/Begin a New Year Church Service. Children's Church resumes on Rally Day and we are back in the swing of things for a "new" Church year! A great day to bring friends and introduce them to our Church.

7. Exploring Membership Class Forming • Interested in thinking about, maybe considering, discussing and reflecting on maybe JOINING the Haydenville Congregational Church? Pastor Andrea is now organizing a new series of Exploring Membership classes to begin in September. Please let her know if you would like to attend these classes (four classes, which run on Sundays after church). The classes are EXPLORING membership, we decide after class #4 if joining is right for you.