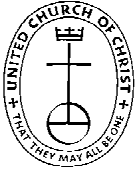


United Congregational Church, UCC
6 Institute Road
Worcester, MA 01609



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UNITED VOICES

A Newsletter of the United Congregational Church, UCC
6 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609

508-752-3785 staff@ucc-worcester.org Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

VOLUME XXX
NUMBER 6

MAY 3, 2010

United Moving Forward – Updates from the Board of Ministries and the Resurrection Team

The Board of Ministries has been meeting twice a month along with the Resurrection Team to work on many tasks as we come together as a community to invent a new model of being the church. There is a lot to accomplish and we hope that each church member will find ways to become involved as we “try something new”.

We will have our annual program congregational meeting on May 16th following worship. Plan to attend to hear from both the Resurrection Team and the Board of Ministries and to participate in voting on the annual reports and budget for July-December 2010.

In the meantime, here are some Board of Ministries updates to keep everyone informed about United Moving Forward.

Nursery School: Good news regarding Chestnut Nursery School! An opportunity has arisen for the Nursery School to move to another site in Worcester. Details are in the process of being finalized – we hope to announce them on the 16th. The Board, following through with the congregation’s vote of February 7th, is providing financial assistance to help with the Nursery School’s transition.

Space: We have worked out with Worcester Area Mission Society (WAMS) that we will have exclusive use of the chapel. In addition, WAMS will work with us around the scheduling of the sanctuary and the large parlor which will be common areas. We are continuing to work with WAMS to find storage space as well. Bob Bachelder wrote this week “Everyone at WAMS continues to be excited about partnering with United Moving Forward”!

Stuff: You have all heard about our Stuff Task Team. Volunteers have begun to inventory and clean areas of the building. As soon as the inventory is completed, United will have first choice of materials needed for ongoing ministry and mission. Members of the congregation, who would like to request an item, may complete a request form which is available at the church office. The Board will make decisions about these requests, Then, WAMS and the agencies moving into the building will select items that they can use in this new setting. Finally, we will dispose of the remaining “odds and ends”.

Bylaws: The Board has made a decision to recommend only a few bylaw changes at the annual meeting. We plan to work with the Resurrection Team and the congregation going forward to make more significant revisions as we design a new organizational structure. *Continued p. 3*

*An Open and Affirming and
Just Peace Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*

Please be considerate...

Many of us are involved with projects, ministries and events sponsored by United, and it is tempting to just “ask a simple question” or “say a few words” pertaining to church business to others on Sunday mornings. It has been brought to our attention, however, that some feel interruptions of this nature before and/or during the worship service disrupt the flow of the service and their personal thoughts and prayers. Please be considerate of your fellow worshippers and speak to them at another time.

**BIBLE STUDY
WE MEET ON FRIDAY MORNINGS at
10:00 a.m. IN THE
SMALL PARLOR.**



ALL ARE WELCOME!

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Terry Fitzgerald is usually at the church Tuesday through Friday. (508-752-3785 ext. 106) She is also available evenings and Saturdays for appointments as needed. Monday is her day off. Her home phone number is 508-753-5867, e-mail: tfitz47@charter.net.

If you need to contact the church on Sunday morning, you may now leave a message on the church answering machine. Follow the instructions contained in the greeting to leave a message. The Sunday Host, Ed Bourgault, will be checking for messages frequently on Sunday mornings.

Please call the church office directly if you or a loved one is in the hospital. We recently learned that we are not always informed when a church member is hospitalized. We need you to help us as we try to respond to the needs of our members and friends.

Budget: The Board is in the process of finalizing a budget for the last six months of 2010. The budget and narrative will be available after May 11th and will be distributed at the meeting.

Resurrection Task Team Report

As a new chapter has been opened in the life of our church, our congregation has the opportunity and challenge to create new and different ways to carry out our ministries and mission. The Resurrection Team, as a task team of the Church Council, has been asked to lead this effort.

The activities of the Resurrection Team, to date, have been to listen and understand the expectations of our congregation and to begin to articulate a new vision.

Congregation members and friends have participated in spirited discussions at monthly Resurrection Team meetings, responded to questionnaires and participated in small group discussions (cottage meetings) to identify their wants and needs and thoughts of a new vision for United.

There is still time to return questionnaires and participate in small group discussions. Plan to attend a luncheon on May 23rd where the highlights of these efforts to listen will be shared.

OF NOTE is the interest and enthusiasm in trying something new and finding ways to get things done as we plan for our future. Join this effort. Look for examples of "trying something new" that are proposed for the summer.

In the spirit of "trying something new" try this --- A new way of communicating --
The Resurrection Task Team leadership encourages the congregation to communicate with the team leadership by email to uccworchester@googlegroups.com.

All email sent to this address will reach the team leadership, it will also be available on the internet providing all with the ability to see active and historical email exchanges through the group. The congregation is further invited to view and join the google group at <http://groups.google.com/group/uccworchester>. This group is also available from the church web site, <http://ucc-worcester.org>

The Resurrection Team and the Board of Ministries appreciate the time, thought and work that the congregation has done on behalf of United and encourages everyone to stay tuned to hear about the many other ways in which you can participate United Moving Forward.

Hold fast! Trust that Jesus is our constant companion, and that God guides us and loves us as we seek, in new ways, to continue to worship God, care for one another, and reach out to the world.

*The Resurrection Team
and the Board of Ministries*

THE FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS



- CANNED MEATS & FISH**
- CANNED BEANS • SOUPS**
- MAC & CHEESE • PASTA & SAUCE**
- CEREAL • POWDERED MILK**
- CANNED FRUITS & VEGGIES**
- PEANUT BUTTER**

Mothers of the Bible

God wants us to love and honor our mothers – not just on Mother’s Day, but every day. The Bible tells us about many mothers who loved God.

Use the code to discover each mother’s name.

CODE					
	☞	✦	☿	⌘	♁
1	A	E	I	O	U
2	R	C	L	Y	M
3	Z	B	S	H	T
4	D	N	V	K	G

4✦ 1☞ 1⌘ 2♁ 1☿

2☞ 1♁ 3♁ 3⌘

1✦ 4☿ 1✦

3☿ 1☞ 2☞ 1☞ 3⌘

3⌘ 1☞ 4✦ 4✦ 1☞ 3⌘

2♁ 1☞ 2☞ 2⌘

1✦ 2☿ 1☿ 3☞ 1☞ 3✦ 1✦ 3♁ 3⌘

2☿ 1✦ 1☞ 3⌘

2☞ 1☞ 2✦ 3⌘ 1✦ 2☿

2☞ 1✦ 3✦ 1✦ 4⌘ 1☞ 3⌘

Answers: NAOMI, RUTH, EVE, SARAH, HAGAR, HANNAH, MARY, ELIZABETH, LEAH, RACHEL, REBEKAH