

Historian's Notebook

by George Blanchard

This month I have only a couple of short items which I decided at the last moment to write about.

If you have reason to go to City Hall be sure to stop by the information rack opposite the City Clerk's window. David Rushford, the City Clerk, (although I'm not sure that he writes them) provides a wealth of information about Worcester history. The other day I picked up 5 items:

- 1) Historical Highlights of Worcester
- 2) Before Lexington: The Worcester Revolution of 1774
- 3) Mr. Salisbury's dream for Lincoln Square and the city common.
- 4) The Story Behind Worcester's Poor Farm
- 5) Genealogical Research On-Line Resources

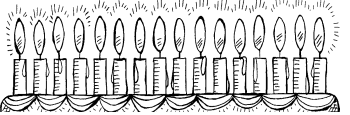
They are well written and very informative.

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The second item concerns our Archives. Everything is being catalogued and the decision made as to where the materials will go.

- 1) Everything related to United will be retained; where it will kept, at this point is uncertain.
- 2) Most everything else will go to the Worcester Historical Museum, some to the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester Public Library and possibly the Congregational Library in Boston.

Excess and duplicate items such as Histories, Pictorial Directories will be in the small parlor every Sunday for anyone to take. There will also be a large number of pictures/snapshots. Look through them and help yourself.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Harry Manoogian	5
Ed Bourgault	7
Kathryn Claire Mott	10
Shantia Wright-Gray	16
Mary Johnson	20
Peter Keck	21
John Goldsberry, Jr.	23
Jane Martin	24
Marianne Bourgault	
Benjamin Woodbury	28
Cherie Grant	31

The GREEN ROOSTER CoffeeHouse
Doors open 7:30
All shows 8:00 p.m.
508-798-3010



May 1	DON WHITE and THE LOOMERS
May 8	THE LATIN ENDORPHINS – AIDS Project Worcester Benefit.
	Thanks for dropping in! We always need volunteers.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



**Join us for
A BIG CELEBRATION!
Sunday, June 27**

**Plans are underway
to honor our history,
our historic donation to the
Worcester Area Mission Society,
and to celebrate
United Congregational Church
moving forward!**

Look for details coming soon!

CLEANING FOR A REASON

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemo for any type of cancer, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning – one time per month for four months – while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. www.cleaningforareason.org/. This organization serves the entire U.S. and currently has 547 partners to help women in need. It's our job to pass the word and let everybody know that there are people out there who care.

**PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING
MAY 16
Following Worship**

THE RESURRECTION TEAM WANTS YOUR INPUT!

It's not too late to turn in your Resurrection Team questionnaire! Your input is important to us! We encourage all members and friends to respond! Copies of the questionnaire are available in the Large Parlor and from the church office. If you were unable to attend a cottage meeting, additional meetings can be scheduled. Please call Dottie Goldsberry (508-791-6169) or the church office (508-752-3785).

We look forward to sharing highlights of the questionnaire and cottage meetings at a luncheon on May 23rd.



The Ruth Vibber Children's Camp Fund provides financial assistance for summer camps. The deadline for application is May 31. Please call the church office for an application.

**UNITED TO AID
WALK FOR THE HOMELESS**



A team from United Congregational Church will participate in the annual Walk for the Homeless, which will begin this year at **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 16, 2010 in Elm Park.** Homelessness is a large problem affecting many people of all ages. Contrary to stereotypes, families with underage children are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population. It is estimated that just in Massachusetts alone, approximately 40,000 children are homeless every night.

Last year's Walk raised over \$120,000 for organizations providing housing and services to displaced persons in central Massachusetts. The Central MA Housing Alliance, the Interfaith Hospitality Network and Friendly House are just some of the groups benefiting from the funds and increased public awareness created by the Walk for the Homeless.

All United members are invited to join our church team as we travel the 3 mile course through various Worcester neighborhoods, or to financially sponsor one of the walkers. There will be an information table in the church parlor every Sunday beginning April 25th that will have details on this event. To find out how YOU can be part of the solution to homelessness, please stop by, or call Tim Camp at 508- 798- 6997!



THIBAULT EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Applications for the Thibault Educational Fund are now available in the church office. Members of the church of all ages who have been accepted to an educational institution are eligible to apply. The deadline for application is May 31, and the awards will be distributed in June.



THE WIDER CHURCH MINISTRY

recently shipped **108 health kits** to the victims of the **earthquake in Haiti.** **Thanks go to everyone** who participated in this **"hands on"** mission project!

SECOND SUNDAY



HEALING SERVICE In accord with one of our most ancient of Christian traditions, the Diaconate would like to offer Healing Services on a regular basis. Immediately following worship on the second Sunday of the month, the pastor and a Deacon will be available to anoint and offer a brief prayer for those of you who would like to receive this healing blessing. It is our desire as pastor and as Deacons to provide for your spiritual needs.



- Prayers of comfort for Liz Brown's daughters on the death of their uncle, William O'Brien.
- Prayers of continued healing for Julie Page's father, Gordon Warman, recovering from a hospitalization.
- Prayers of healing and perseverance for Carolyn Dzaugis' mother, recovering from a serious fall.
- Prayers of healing and strength for Sam Stewart recovering from a heart attack.
- Prayers of strength and healing for Stan Porter. Stan sent a note telling the congregation that we are in his prayers.
- Prayers of healing for Itiel's sister, Xaris, hospitalized for complications in childbirth.
- Prayers of healing for Itiel's friend Corey Brown, facing a serious diagnosis.
- Prayers of comfort for Warren Page and his family on the death of Warren's brother-in-law, Gerald.
- Prayers of continued healing for Susan Matusen.
- Prayers of comfort for those who mourn loved ones killed in inexplicable acts of violence.
- Prayers of hope and healing for those living with HIV/AIDS.
- Prayers of courage and strength for all men and women who are serving in our Armed Forces, especially in areas of conflict.
- Prayers of courage and peace for the families of soldiers who have died and have been injured.
- Prayers of peace and hope for the people of Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, especially in the wake of increased violence.

- Prayers for the people of North and South Korea, the Congo, the Sudan, Iran, Kenya, Tibet, and for the people of the Middle East.
- Prayers of hope for all whose lives have been devastated in our struggling economy.
- Prayers of strength and clarity for this congregation in the midst of the discussions about our future.
- Prayers of comfort and strength for those whose loved ones died in tornadoes and the oil rig explosion.

WAYS (Workdays for Adults and Youth in Service) is the **Mission Travel Bureau of the Worcester Area Mission Society, UCC.** We are committed to creating an environment in which adults and youth may foster relationships while using a diversity of skills and talents to offer much needed services requested by local residents and area agencies.

May 1

Central Massachusetts WAYS day
July 10-17

Native American Reservation,
Yakama Christian Mission, WA

July 24-29

Worcester Area Local Mission
Retreat

For more information, please call the church office/508-752-3785