

United Voices Update

**UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
6 Institute Rd, Worcester, MA 01609
TEL 508-752-3785 FAX 508-752-3786
E-MAIL STAFF@UCC-WORCESTER.ORG
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 A.M.**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Worcester, MA
Permit No. 285

VOLUME XXIX NUMBER 7

MAY 13, 2009

AT A GLANCE...

UNITED EVENTS



- **ANNUAL PROGRAM MEETING**
Sunday, May 17, following worship
- **24th ANNUAL WALK FOR THE HOMELESS**
Sunday, May 17, 2:00 p.m. (meet in the Large Parlor)
- **THE REV. MALCOLM HIMSCHOOT TO PREACH**
Pentecost Sunday, May 31
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**
Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Small Parlor



THE REV. MALCOLM HIMSCHOOT TO PREACH PENTECOST SUNDAY—MAY 31

The Rev. Malcolm Himschoot (Amherst College '99, Iliff School of Theology '04) was ordained a minister in the United Church of Christ in 2004. His ministry has focused on the transformation and wholeness of Christian communities across society's dividing lines. In 2005 the UCC released a feature documentary, *Call Me Malcolm*, in which he openly discussed his transition from female to male along with his personal faith journey. The film garnered international acclaim from theatrical audiences while equipping people of faith for dialogue in local communities. In conjunction with the film, he speaks at churches, colleges, and universities around the country and Malcolm will preach during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, May 31.

In preparation for Malcolm's visit to United, the documentary film *Call Me Malcolm* will be shown on Friday evening May 15 at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by a discussion.

As a pastor, Malcolm served calls with the Denver Inner City Parish, Plymouth Church – Minneapolis, and the UCC Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns. He is currently volunteering as a Spanish-language interpreter for new church starts near his home in Colorado. *Information for this article obtained, in part, from a biographical sketch provided by Chris Paige in collaboration with Malcolm Himschoot and the "LGBT Religious Archives Network (Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry at Pacific School of Religion)" as source.*

ANNUAL PROGRAM MEETING SUNDAY, MAY 17 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

24th ANNUAL WALK FOR THE HOMELESS SUNDAY, MAY 17 2:00 p.m.



A team of walkers from United will participate in the 24th Annual Walk for the Homeless at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 17. The walk will begin and end at Elm Park. All are welcome to join United's team of walkers, who will assemble in the parlor prior to departure for the walk.

90% of funds raised directly benefit program services in Worcester. Last year over \$125,000 cash and in kind donations were raised. This year's beneficiaries include CMHA, Youth Against Homelessness, Friendly House, Donations Clearing House and Interfaith Hospitality Network. United hosts homeless families in conjunction with Interfaith Hospitality Network.

The recent increases in unemployment and foreclosures have dramatically increased the number of people, especially families with children, who are homeless. According to statistics gathered by CMHA, each night in Worcester County over 1,000 people are living on the streets or in emergency shelters. United has historically been very supportive of the Walk for the Homeless and similar efforts to aid those in need, and we hope this tradition of generosity will continue this year.

Call Tim Camp at 508-798-6997 or stop by the information table in the church parlor to sign up to walk or to sponsor a walker by making a donation. (Make checks out to "Walk for the Homeless").

OUR PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Terry Fitzgerald is usually at the church Tuesday through Friday. 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.

**WORCESTER'S COMMUNITY MINISTRIES NETWORK
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND AN
EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL EVENT**

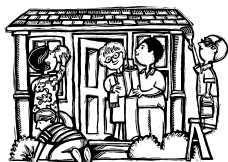
**CONGREGATIONS AND CIVIC LIFE
TUESDAY, MAY 19 from 3:45—5:30 p.m.**

**THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
111 Park Avenue, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: NANCY T. AMMERMAN
Professor of Sociology, School of Theology and Chair,
Department of Sociology, Boston University**

You also will have a chance to meet leaders from programs supported by the Community Ministries Fund, a permanent endowment at the Greater Worcester Community Foundation that was created by mainline religious institutions and is the first of its kind in the nation.

Register: Please send an email message to wamsucc@bigplanet.com by May 15. Write "community ministries" on the subject line and include your name and congregation or organizational affiliation in a short message. There is no cost for the event. For more information, contact the Rev. Robert Bachelder, Minister and President, Worcester Area Mission Society at 508-832-3937 or email minister@wamsucc.org



What can our congregation do to help homeless families when they move into new homes?
How can we make their move a little easier? Let's start with the little things.....

Cleaning Supplies • School Supplies • Grooming Supplies

Look for the sign up posters and "shopping lists" to take as a reminder during Sunday Coffee Hour. The Wider Church Ministry will use these items to assemble gift baskets of Cleaning Supplies, School Supplies and Grooming Supplies for homeless families moving into new homes.

PARTY at the Ebers' New Home!

**Come Celebrate with us as we ring in
the start of summer with a Cookout!**

**Sunday May 24th 2:00 p.m.
549 Lake Street, Shrewsbury MA**

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.

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



THIBAUT 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 26, and the awards will be distributed in June.



NOTE: The deadline for both the Educational and Camp scholarships has been changed from the end of May to MAY 26.

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



May 23	BOB DYLAN OPEN MIC , It's his birthday! All Dylan songs all night! The rumor is...Round Robin – 5 at a time. Please call ahead for a spot.
	<i>Thanks for dropping in! We always need volunteers.</i>

**THE FOOD CUPBOARD NEEDS:
CANNED MEATS & FISH
CANNED BEANS • PEANUT BUTTER
CEREAL • POWDERED MILK • SOUPS
MAC & CHEESE • PASTA & SAUCE
CANNED FRUITS & VEGGIES**



Those who attended the Potluck Luncheon after worship on May 13 enjoyed a delicious meal as well as the opportunity to share the results of the Spiritual Gifts Inventory. If you attended the luncheon but neglected to turn in the last page of the inventory, please send it to the church office.

If you were unable to attend the luncheon, we are offering an opportunity to take the survey! Contact the church office for the Spiritual Gifts Inventory and take 10-15 minutes to complete it and return it to the office.

A couple of church members whose gifts include the analysis of data are compiling the information on the last page of the Spiritual Gifts Inventory for an analysis of the gifts of our congregation.

**Don't Keep your Gifts Hidden under a Bushel Basket!
Send the last page of the inventory to the
church office!!**