

Notes From Your Missions Committee

Zero Waste Day Ambassadors ~ Do you belong to a Tewksbury civic or social organization? Would you be willing to share information about Zero Waste Day with them? If so, please contact JoJo Scharmer, our ZWD Ambassadors Team Captain, at jojo19@comcast.net. She will provide you with a master copy of a handout that you can share with your organization and a poster to hang in your meeting space. This is just one of many ways that we are promoting the ZWD event, scheduled for Saturday, May 16th from 9am-1pm in the High School parking lot. For more info on ZWD, contact Beth McFadyen at bmcfadyen@comcast.net.

\$250 Mission Grant Deadline ~ Just a reminder that the Q1 application deadline is March 31st. Applications are available on-line through the Missions section of the TCC website (at www.tewkscc.org/Missions) or can be found today on the Coffee Hour table. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to provide \$250 (and some recognition) to a non-profit organization that is near and dear to your heart.

TCC is a CWS Depot! ~ For the second year in a row, TCC will serve as a Depot to receive "Kits" (school, clean-up, hygiene, baby, etc...) from local churches and civic groups who create them for those served by Church World Service. Last year, we collected over 800 kits from 13 different organizations. Jean Carr, the Mission Project Coordinator, is seeking volunteers to assist on Depot Day (Saturday, May 9th from 10am-2pm), and she also needs able-bodied helpers to assist with loading the truck one morning during the week of 5/10 when CWS arrives to pick up the kits. As that date will not be known until 5/10, we are compiling a list of people who are typically home on weekday mornings and are available on last-minute notice. Please see our sign-up sheet on the Helping Hands Bulletin Board and add your name if you can help.

Easter Sunrise Breakfast!

The **Deacons** are coordinating a wonderful breakfast following the **Easter Sunrise Service** here at TCC. The menu will include French toast, bacon, sausage, fruit, muffins and beverages. We are seeking volunteers to set up on Saturday night, cooks for Sunday morning (this is minimal as most of the cooking will be done ahead of time), servers and clean-up crews. We also need donations of food or monies to cover food purchases. *Please note that we do not sell tickets for this breakfast and rely on a free-will offering to cover the costs.* Food needed is: 5 dozen large eggs, 10 pounds regular sliced bacon, 10 pounds regular breakfast sausage (not pre-cooked), 10 loaves of French bread (not sliced), assorted fruits (cut up in juice), 4 pounds of butter, milk, 10 cups ½ & ½, coffee and muffins (bakers-your choice). Please contact Sue Henderson if you are willing to assist in any way. Telephone 978-851-3024 or email shenderson@athenahealth.com. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you all at the **Sunrise Service at 6:30am** in the Friendship Garden, and breakfast in the Vestry!

Faith notes!



Notes on worship (from the pastor)

"Joy plus" is the idea of this sermon. Spiritual growth in our lives always has a joyful side to it. Spiritual growth is openness to others and to God. Our joy in others reflects our openness to them and to God. In fact it is hard to imagine spiritual growth that does not have an element of joy in it.

But sustained spiritual growth has other qualities too. In our Lenten study we shared our own insights about when spiritual growth has taken place in our lives. For some it was a strong sense of being connected to others, for others an ability to make a commitment, for one group a new understanding of their lives, for another group letting go so that God could get to work.

What I want to do is to unpack the patterns of 'joy plus' for each of us and see if we can look at the parables of Jesus with an expectation of expanding the topic of growth in our own lives.



*Joy is the flag that you fly
From the castle in your heart,
When the King is in residence there.*

- Gaelic

There is going to be an informational meeting for the congregation on March 22nd after worship. At that meeting the Church Council and the Board of Deacons will report on efforts made to resolve issues of concern that have been brought up in recent weeks. There will be child care available that morning for the meeting.

Celebrating our 275th – Remembering our Church History

Many of you may remember Herb Hertel. He was a copious letter-writer and penned weekly letters to the church office. Herb passed away in June 2006, but he left a wonderful legacy of hard work and a dedication to volunteer. Herb taught Sunday School for 20 years and ushered for 20 years. He cleaned the kitchen, especially the stove, painted hallways, lower halls and classrooms, built the walkway between TCC's property and the bank's parking lot, and encouraged his Sunday School students to sell fudge as a way to earn money for some of TCC's projects. (Herb and his wife owned a candy store in Tewksbury.) As we celebrate our 275th anniversary, it is because of the dedication and love of this church by so many of our church members, family and friends that we continue to thrive and grow in the Tewksbury community.

If you would like to help with any of the 275th celebrations, please speak to **Mary Lou Adams** or **Gail Bliss**. Our first event is next month, when we will host in conjunction with the Tewksbury Historical Society from 4/24-4/26 a "*Tewksbury History Exhibit*" that will open with a social on Friday, April 24th from 6:30-8:30pm. Our church will host a paid luncheon from 12:00 to 1:30pm on Sunday, April 26th that is open to the community.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the **Sr. High Youth Fellowship's Military Friends** care packages. The Youth group put together 11 boxes at last Sunday's meeting. The packages will be mailed shortly to our Military Friends.

Over **\$600** was raised at the scholarship breakfast last Sunday. Thank you to everyone who participated in this successful event.

Don't forget to sign the Friendship Pads today.

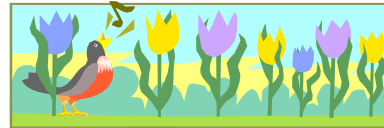
The following volunteer opportunities are available: **Greeter** (come 15 minutes prior to worship), help at the **Easter Sunrise Service** breakfast, help with TCC's activities regarding the **275th Anniversary** celebrations. See Mary Lou Adams or Gail Bliss for more information about the 275th.; assistance with church sign.

Wednesday, March 18th Lenten Meal and Program – *parables of unexpected blessing, unexpected misfortune.*

Come and enjoy a hearty meal of soup and bread at 6:30pm. If you cannot come to the meal, please come to the Lenten Study at 7:00pm. The study concludes at 8:00pm. Fifteen of our members and friends attended last week. Join us and bring a friend!!

Today

- CYE Rehearsal**
8:30am
 - Junior Choir**
9am, Fairgrieve Room
 - Worship Service & Sunday School**
9:30am
 - Coffee Hour**
10:30am, Fellowship Hall
 - Cherub Choir**
10:45am, Room 9
 - Open Door Bible Study**
10:55am, Parlor
 - Jubellation Ringers Rehearsal**
11:00am, Fairgrieve Room
 - Jr. Youth Group Meeting**
6:00pm
 - Interfaith Choir Rehearsal**
7:30pm
- Newsletter deadline is today!*



Easter Flowers

As part of our celebration that Christ has risen, we add flowers to the beauty of the sanctuary for Easter. You can order five different types of flowers (Easter lily, tulips, azaleas, a Farolito Lily or a Blue Hydrangea). Please look in the pew racks for order forms. Completed order forms can be placed in the offering plate. **Checks** should be made payable to **Carol Sturtevant** (because she pays the floral bill) and the **final ordering date** is **Thursday, April 2nd**. Carol will be taking orders during coffee hour on 3/22.

Monday
7:30 PM
Carillon
Ringers

Tuesday
7:30 PM
Church
Counsel

Wednesday
11:00 AM
Bible Study
& Prayer
Group
6:30 PM
Lenten Meal
7:00 PM
Lenten Study

Thursday
2:30 PM
Blair House
Worship
6:30 PM
Novice
Handbell
Ringers Reh.
7:30 PM
Sr. Choir

Friday and Saturday
March 20 and 21st
Chorister's Guild Junior
Choir Festival
If you can help with this
event, please see Susan
Dill or any member of
the choir. We have over
100 participants!



Sign in front of a church in the Midwest:
A church is a gift from God.
Assembly required!

A ride is needed...**Sue Trudeau** and **Jean Carr** will need a ride to Logan airport on Thursday, 4/16. They need to be at Logan no later than 5:30am. Do we have any early birds in our congregation who could pick up these ladies and drive them to Boston on time for them to take their 7:30am flight? Please speak to Jean or Sue or call the church office at 978-951-9411. Thank you!