

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Tewksbury Congregational Church? An informational class will be held on Saturday morning, May 30th from 10:00am to noon. Please call the church office at 978-851-9411 for more information.

Notes from Your Missions Committee

Tonight's Mother's Day Dinner at LTLC – Please consider joining our TCC team to serve dinner at the **Lowell Transitional Living Center**. Meet in the TCC parking lot at 4:45 to carpool and expect to return between 6:45-7pm. Contact **Cathie Seaman** for more information. If you cannot serve tonight, you may be interested in joining **Jean Metcalf's** team on **Thursday (May 14)** night. Same meeting time/place.

All hands on deck for **Saturday's Zero Waste Day from 9:00am to 1:00pm** in the TMHS parking lot. We are currently short-staffed on the second shift (10:45-1:15) and would be overjoyed if you would join us! ***If you can help, please speak to Beth McFadyen today.*** We need the following: 5 car un-loaders (10:45-1:15), 1 traffic controller (10:45-1:15) a family to hold signs at the Town Common (10:30-12:00), 2 people to assist Bonnie Gallagher at the 'Got Books' table (11am-1pm) and 2 people to provide individually wrapped baked goods. All volunteers are kindly asked to wear your red Mission/Outreach t-shirts on Saturday, as this event will be a wonderful opportunity to showcase TCC's commitment to serving our neighbors in need and our community. If you do not have a red t-shirt, please see **Sherry Fulton** after worship.

Brownie Ingredients and Bakers Needed – Join Sherry Fulton and Marlene in the TCC kitchen on Wednesday, May 13th from 7 to 9:00pm to bake brownies to serve at Thursday's LTLC dinner. If you cannot bake, perhaps you'd like to supply an ingredient. Still needed are 6 lbs of unsalted butter, 4 dozen large eggs, 2 5 lb bags of sugar, 2 cans of cocoa powder, 1 bottle of Pam for baking and 3 gallons whole milk.

Members of the **Trustees** are looking for volunteers to mow the church lawn this summer including the Friendship Garden. TCC has an *Ariens* self-propelled lawnmower available for this purpose. Gas for the mower will be purchased by the Trustees. If you can help, will you call the church office at (978-851-9411) and schedule a time that is convenient for you to mow? Due to the limited Trustees' budget, they cannot hire a landscape service or pay for this work.

Faith notes!

May 10, 2009



Notes on worship (from the Pastor)

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

For the month of May we are reflecting on the apostle Paul's strong insights on love. Last week we listened to the words of Mother Theresa whose practices of love shaped her life. Today we are asking what the character of selfless love really looks like. Our text from the gospel of John reminds us that behind 'selflessness' lies a spiritual discipline of receiving love from God. I will be teaching on what the Biblical idea of 'abiding in love' could mean for us.

For those who want to go farther with this conversation, we are meeting in the parlor (the room to the left at the front of the sanctuary) after worship to share insights from the Henri Nouwen book The Inner Voice of Love. Come join us any of the following Sundays from 11 to noon.

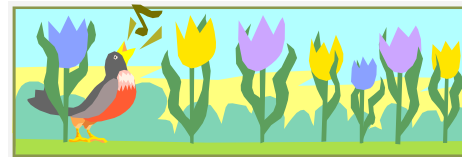


And so our mothers and grandmothers have, more often than not anonymously, handed on the creative spark, the seed of the flower they themselves never hoped to see—or like a sealed letter they could not plainly read.

- Alice Walker, author

Celebrating our 275th Anniversary – Remembering our Church History

Dwight D. Eisenhower was in office when Dottie and her husband Tony joined TCC in 1956. The Rev. Carroll E. Word was the Pastor when he met with Tony and Dottie to baptize their children. Dottie remembers the conversation she had with Rev. Word as he explained that our children are borrowed...they don't belong to us...our children belong to God. He mentioned our children have two hands—one of their hands is in their parent's and the other is in God's. When our children get married, we released our hand on theirs and give it to their spouse. This was a wonderful example to Dottie and Tony because both of their children were adopted. Their children celebrated their birthdays and another day, called their *Happy Day*, when they joined their parents Dottie and Tony as a family. Dottie remembers Ruthie Mores quite well as she said her son, Bobby gained at least 10 pounds when he attended the Foster School. Ruthie worked in the kitchen and she would enlist the help of the school children by promising them an extra treat for their work. Today, Dottie keeps in touch with members of the Ladies Aid. She remembers with fondness the work done by Gordon Bryant, and others who were always in and out of the church building doing whatever they could to maintain the building and grounds whether it was cleaning the kitchen, painting or mowing grass.



Members of the **Ladies Aid** will meet on **Wednesday, May 13th** at noon for lunch and an opportunity to see a demonstration by Marilyn SanClemente. Marilyn will share her knowledge making greeting cards, journal covers, Easter baskets, photo albums and additional items through her association with creative stamping techniques.

Members of **Friendship Circle** will meet on **Thursday** morning, May 14th at 9:00 in the vestry. Come and enjoy brunch. Program and discussion following the meal.

All women are invited to attend the events sponsored by the Ladies Aid and Friendship Circle.



An important reminder to students continuing their education that the *deadline* for a **TCC scholarship application** is next **Sunday, May 17th**. Applications are located outside the church office.

Sunday, June 14th is Youth Sunday.

Following worship, a picnic will be held in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to this event—Parents, Sunday school children, TCC members and friends. In next week's bulletin, there will be a signup sheet for you to let us know if you plan to come. Hot dogs and beverages are served by members of the RE Committee. We ask for salads and desserts to accompany the meal. More information will be in next week's *Faith Notes*.

Don't forget to sign the Friendship Pad located at the end of each pew. Thank you!

Today
CYE, Rehearsal
 8:30am
Junior Choir
 9am, Fairgrieve Room
Coffee Hour
 10:30am, Fellowship Hall
Cherub Choir
 10:45am, Room 9
Jubellation Ringers Rehearsal
 11:00am, Fairgrieve Room
Open Door Bible Study
 10:55am, Parlor
LTLC Meal
 4:45pm, Meet in parking lot.
Interfaith Choir Rehearsal
 7:30pm, Fairgrieve Room

Two dates are scheduled for **Sabbath Devotions** on **Saturday, May 16th** and **Saturday, June 13th** at **5:00pm**. Will meet in the church parlor.
Relaxing, breathing deeply, opening our hearts to God...these are the themes for our Sabbath Devotions. We gather in the parlor to spend a half-hour listening and sharing, rediscovering the quiet presence of God.
 All are welcome.

The need is real! Please help Jean Carr load the Church World Service truck on Wednesday, 5/13. Call Jean's cell at 978-337-2589 and she can let you know when the truck will be at TCC and when your help is needed.

Monday
7:30 PM
 Carillon Ringers

Tuesday
7:15 PM
 ABC's

Wednesday
11:00 AM
 Prayer Circle

12:00 Noon
 Ladies Aid Luncheon & Program

Thursday
9:00 AM
 Friendship Circle Brunch
6:30 PM
 Novice Ringers Rehearsal
7:30 PM
 Sr. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday,
May 16th from
9:00am to 1:00pm
TMHS parking lot

Zero Waste Day
 Co-sponsored with the Recycling Committee. See Beth McFadyen today for more information.