

Notes From Your Missions Committee

Blanket+ Sunday ~ For as long as most can remember, TCC has supported the Church World Service organization through the purchase of blankets which they distribute to people affected by emergencies (like the earthquake in Haiti) or hard economic times (like the No Freeze Project in Willimantic, CT). For just \$5, we supply both heavyweight and lightweight blankets that provide comfort, safety, and sometimes even shelter, to those in their darkest hour. If you wish to make a donation today, please use the special pew envelopes to designate your gift, or be sure to mark "Blanket Sunday" in the memo section of your check, payable to TCC. This year, we also have "Gift Cards" available in the pews if you would like to honor or remember a special someone in your life with a blanket purchase. You are welcome to take one home with you and send to the honoree accordingly, to announce your gift. Over the years, TCC has supplied thousands of blankets to this wonderful CWS ministry, and we are honored to continue to do so today.

While We Worship ~ Thanks to your donations of travel-sized toiletries, our 7-12 grade students are assembling toiletry kits this morning. Based on the abundant supply of donations, we expect that at least 200 kits will be created today. This combination donation/service project provides our children with a unique opportunity to help others as part of their Religious Education experience. Thanks for your partnership, RE!

Brownies and LTLC ~ February went by quickly, didn't it? It's already time to sign-up to serve dinner at LTLC on Thursday, March 11th or Sunday, March 14th. We also welcome people to bring brownie ingredient donations to church next Sunday (3/7) so that we'll be stocked for baking on March 10th. Sign up sheets are ready and waiting on the Helping Hands Bulletin Board.

Save the Date! – R.E. Lenten Workshop on March 21st.

The R.E. Committee will host a Lenten Workshop after services on March 21. Please plan on enjoying a simple meal followed by craft projects for youth. RSVP and sign-up information will follow soon.

Easter Flowers

As part of our celebration that Christ is risen, we add flowers to the beauty of the sanctuary for Easter. Please see the order information insert in today's service order. **Ordering will begin next week. Please order early to secure your choice.**

Faith notes!

February 28, 2010

Notes on worship (from the Pastor)

Sometimes our New Testament quotes Jesus. At other times it lives his message so deeply that we feel the presence of his beloved Spirit at work over and over again in other parts of the Bible. It is Lent and the nature of Jesus' ministry as a death to life experience is with us. It comes to us as Jesus looks at Jerusalem and predicts his own death. It comes through in the apostle Paul's awareness of the possibility of death in his life. It is with us in Psalm 27 that we are reading today. We don't seem to be able to get away from the theme of death and sacrifice as a road to life.

How do we hold another's pain or failure, their death experience, if we aren't familiar with the same theme ourselves? This is the fellowship of the cross... a place for small resurrections every day... and the promise of the resurrection of the body at the end of time.

*There are two primary choices in life:
To accept conditions as they exist,
Or to accept responsibility for changing them.*

Denis Waitley

Notes of Interest:

Today - Giving Attention to Your Child in a Way s/he Can Receive, February 28, 3:30-4:45pm – Rita Masters will be talking about how to give appropriate attention to kids. Class is geared for families with children in grades three and under, *however*, all parents are welcome. Childcare will be available in the nursery. Please RSVP to Sue Panilaitis, DRE, at the following email: education.tewksburycc@verizon.net.

March 14th – Scholarship Breakfast – Please join the RE Board for a breakfast of pancakes, eggs and other favorites. Donations will be accepted to support the Scholarship Fund.

How to Turn Members into Missionaries

Be part of a team that plans for our church’s warm welcome of newcomers.

Saturday, March 27, 2010, 9am – 3 pm, at Tewksbury Congregational Church

We are looking for a team of 10-12 people from our church who will come to this outreach workshop. Please contact Pat Takach, Carol Sturtevant or Pastor Jonathan for more information.

Today

Childcare is available in the nursery for infants to toddlers age 3.

Coffee Hour

10:30am, Fellowship Hall

Cherub Choir

10:45am, Room 9

Jr. Choir Festival Rehearsal

11:00 – 11:30 Fairgrieve

Confirmand Mentor Session

11:00am

New Member Class

1:30pm, Pastor’s Office

Parenting Class

3:30pm, Nursery

Sr. Youth Group

6:00pm - Vestry

Jr. Youth Group Meeting

2:00pm Attend Mystic Gospel Concert

Interfaith Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm, Fairgrieve Room

The **Junior Youth Group** will meet at the church at **2:00 pm** today to attend the Mystic Gospel Concert.

Monday

3:30pm
Kids’ Drama Team
6:00pm
Jubellation Ringers

Tuesday

Wednesday

6:30pm
Lenten Bible Study
6:30 Supper
7:00 Program
8:00pm
Carillon Ringers

Thursday

7:30 PM
Senior Choir Rehearsal

Lenten Series continues on Wednesday, March 3rd.

Our Lent series is about opening your hidden gifts. Donna Jean Collins leads this week’s session. Donna is starting a new church in the Saugus, Danvers area. She is a gifted songwriter with a powerful story of coming to faith as a young adult. She will be leading us in a prayer retreat, using the sanctuary as the backdrop for a time of music and personal reflection. Come join us!! Supper, served by the board of deacons, is at 6:30pm, program at 7pm. Childcare is provided on request.



Have you ever wondered where the beautiful, fresh flowers, placed on the altar, come from Sunday mornings? It's easily arranged between people from within the church and the altar flower coordinator, Carolyn Fialkowski. If there's a particular date you would like to have flowers on the altar along with a blurb in the bulletin, please contact Carolyn @ 978-256-0897.

Next Steps: Reorg Info Sessions

Thank you for your thoughtful participation in last Sunday’s Church government reorganization discussion. So that we can receive additional feedback and provide a forum for answering your questions, three more working sessions have been scheduled as follows:

3/7 - 9-9:25am (for church school families, but open to all)

3/9 at 7pm (pre-ABCs meeting, but open to all)

3/14 at 11:15am, following the Scholarship Breakfast.

Babysitting will be offered at the 3/7 and 3/14 meetings. At this time, the vote to suspend by-laws, which was tentatively scheduled for 3/14, has been postponed. We warmly welcome you to join us and learn more about this exciting opportunity to create a model that uplifts our members’ gifts and talents while respecting their church/life balance.

From the Administrative Assistant’s Desk:

We are beginning to see a burgeoning pile of recyclable paper gather in the office. It is our wish that volunteer members of our congregation would be so kind as to gather said paper and bring it home to recycle with their bi-weekly pick-up. This would be a fantastic project for a whole family, involving the children. Give it some thought and discuss it over supper and let either Suzanne or JOJO know if you would be willing to help the cause!