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# *Herald of Good* TIDINGS

*“Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah,*

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## **The Eucharist We Share** The Rev. Duke T. Gray

Dear friends in Christ Jesus,

On October 3 we celebrate the sacrament for *World Communion Sunday*. This is a day designed to highlight the Communion sacrament we share in common with more than a billion Christians around the world. Not all churches, however, have held it up with the esteem it deserves.

*World Communion Sunday* was established by the Presbyterians in 1936 to mark the importance of the Eucharist to our faith. We know that the 16th Century Reformation sought to restore *the Word of God* to its rightful place at the center of our worship. We sometimes forget that these same Reformers sought equally to restore *the Eucharist* to center stage. Both Martin Luther and John Calvin argued for serving Communion every week - and *in both kinds* (bread and wine).

Too many Protestants today mistakenly think that only Roman Catholics believe it should be celebrated every week. The Reformation agenda upheld by both Martin Luther and John Calvin sought to *bring the sacrament to the people* every week, because in the medieval Church, Communion was served to the people *only once a year at Easter*, and then only the Bread.

When we move from *practice* to *meaning*, both Martin Luther and John Calvin upheld the truth of *the Real Presence* of Christ in the sacrament. Ulrich Zwingli of Zurich, another major Reformer, held to a merely “memorial” *remembering* of Christ at the Lord’s Table. This conflict of interpretation separated the Lutheran and Zwinglian branches of the Reformation for more than 500 years. Authentic Calvinism weighs in with Luther, against Zwingli - although the truth of this matter has often been lost to us down through the years. We do not gather at the Lord’s Table to celebrate *the Real Absence* of Christ - although that is the essence of the “memorial” meaning held by many Protestants today. Luther and Calvin both would be appalled.

These major issues of teaching and practice from the Reformation give us our shape today. World Communion Sunday is a welcome opportunity to refocus our attention on things of central importance to our life in the Lord. The *Augsburg Confession* of 1530 identifies *the True Church* according to three foundational principles. It is (1) a congregation of *believers*, where (2) the *Gospel* is purely preached, and (3) the *Sacraments* are rightly administered. The *Sacrament* is as important as the *Word*, and *believers* are the foundation of both.

These are matters that shape our eternal destiny, but they concern our week to week practice of faith in the Church. How blessed we are to receive these gifts. Guard this treasure well, now and for the generations to come.

- Pastor Duke



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October Birthdays include:

Eric Rockwood - October 21st  
Carolyn Slongwhite - October 21st  
George DuHamel - October 27th

Happy Birthday!



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

On October 8th Rich and Jean McPherson will be celebrating their wedding anniversary - Congratulations!

Happy Anniversary to George and Laura DuHamel who will celebrate their special day on October 31st.

### Joyful Noyse Schedule

10/3, 10 & 17	11:15 a.m. rehearsal
10/24	9:15 a.m. rehearsal <i>God of Wonders</i>
10/31	11:15 a.m. rehearsal

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Thank you to Ellie Lowell and Connie Hanks for helping out with Sunday School during the month of September. We are looking for volunteers for the coming months. Please speak with Jean McPherson if you're able to help out. Thank you!

### CRADLE ROLL ATTENDANTS

10/3 Besse Morgan  
10/10 Kay Shapter & Devon Orcutt  
10/17 Nick Stockhaus  
10/24 Linda Hardy  
10/31 Judy Murphy  
11/7 Nan Johnson  
11/14 Carole Murray

THANK YOU to Jen Bohn and Diane Moore for assisting during September.



"This can't be the day that the Lord has made, Stanley...I'm sure He'd have given me a better view to start it off with."

### **Auburn Cultural Council Grants Available**

The Auburn Cultural Council announces that grant applications are now available for the 2011 monies to fund art, science, and historical endeavors or programs that will benefit town residents. The applications are available at the Auburn Library, Town Hall or online at [www.massculturalcouncil.org](http://www.massculturalcouncil.org). The deadline for submission is October 15, 2010. Applications and two copies should be sent to: Auburn Cultural Council c/o Town Clerk, Auburn Town Hall, Auburn, MA 01501.

*Congratulations to Amy Seeley and Michael Gorgievski on their recent wedding held here at our church on August 28th. Amy is the granddaughter of Carole and Henry Sundeen. May the Lord richly bless you!*



**COMMUNITY SUPPER  
CHECK OUT OUR NEW  
LOWER PRICES**

**\$8 - adults    \$4 - children**

**Join us on Saturday, October 16th  
for a delicious Roast Beef Supper.**

**Why not stop by and select a pumpkin  
and then stay for our community supper?**

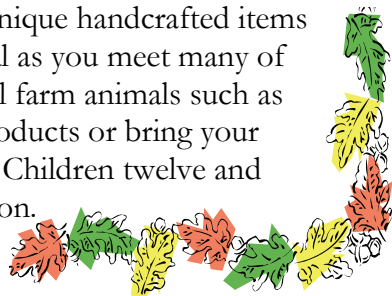
**The supper will begin at 5 P.M.**

We are looking to hire an individual to serve as an emergency back-up for snow removal when our sexton, Craig, is unavailable due to his full time position at the MACUCC. Snow removal will consist of clearing church building entrances, steps and sidewalks. Other sexton duties may be added as needed. If you're interested, please call the church office at 508-832-2845.

In an ongoing effort to reduce costs, we are asking members to consider subscribing to the electronic mailing of the *Tidings*.  
Currently we mail almost 300 newsletters a month. We only need 200 to take advantage of the bulk mailing rate. Please call Denise at 508-832-2845 or contact her with your email information at [secretary@auburnfirstucc.org](mailto:secretary@auburnfirstucc.org). Thanks!

**HEIFER INTERNATIONAL HARVEST FEST — OCT. 2ND & 3RD 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

Explore the homes in the Heifer Global Village to learn about traditional harvest celebrations in Peru, Poland, Kenya and more. Browse [Shope@Heifer](mailto:Shope@Heifer) that features fair trade and unique handcrafted items from around the world. Throughout the day, learn about Heifer International as you meet many of Heifer's animals including a pair of water buffalo, a yak, llamas and traditional farm animals such as pigs and goats. Purchase a home-cooked lunch prepared from our farm products or bring your own picnic. The event will continue in the event of light rain. Admission: Children twelve and under are admitted free; all other attendees are \$5 per person.





October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Dental Hygiene Month, Eye Injury Prevention Month, Healthy Lung Month, Liver Awareness Month, Pharmacists' Month, and Physical Therapy Month. We have several breast cancer survivors amongst us. Early detection is so important!

October 3rd-9th is Fire Prevention Week and October 15th is Mammography Day. If you don't have an appointment, ladies, today's the day to make one!

Fire safety is something you should have already talked about. Today review your plan for getting everyone out safely. Have a meeting spot outside and away from the home. Make sure you have an alternate plan in case the fire blocks you in a room.

I have visited the new Hyperbaric Chamber in Charlton. It is an amazing way to treat many wounds that are otherwise difficult to heal. I have information for anyone that is interested and I am willing to take anyone out there for a consult visit. UMass Hospital has a wound clinic, but they don't have the chambers.

October 31st is Halloween. Be safe and have fun!

God Bless!  
Debbie Pranaitis  
Parish Nurse

### Estate Planning?

Have you included the church in your will or estate planning? Please prayerfully consider if the Lord would have you remember your church when completing your will.

*"One of the greatest missing teachings in the American church today is the reminder to men and women that nothing we have belongs to us."*

Gordon MacDonald, American Pastor & Teacher

### Coffee Hour Hosts

- |              |   |                                  |
|--------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 10/3         | ~ | Historians/Memorial Committee    |
| 10/10        | ~ | Prudential Committee             |
| 10/17, 10/24 | ~ | Stewardship Committee            |
| 10/31        | ~ | Prudential Committee             |
| 11/7, 11/14  | ~ | Financial Secretaries/Treasurers |

### AUBURN WALK FOR HUNGER

Instead of a CROP Walk this year, Auburn will be having a **WALK FOR HUNGER** and all proceeds will go directly to the Auburn Youth and Family Services' food pantry. Currently the pantry services 70 families per week, and they feel this may increase by 35% next year. **The need is great!**

The **AUBURN WALK FOR HUNGER** will be held on Sunday, October 24th. Sign-in will be at Auburn Youth and Family Services (AYFS), 21 Pheasant Ct. at 12:45 p.m., and the walk will start at 1:00 p.m. It will follow the same route as the CROP Walk has in the past and will run the same with Auburn Police crossing at major intersections and volunteers checking walkers along the route. All checks should be payable to Auburn Youth and Family Services. If you would like to participate in the walk, or to donate, please contact Sue Campbell at 508-799-2718. Look for more information to come on the table in Fellowship Hall.  
Thank you for your support!

### **Here We Grow** Preschool



With the second month of **Here We Grow's** 22<sup>nd</sup> school year beginning, we are all getting settled into a comfortable routine. As I write this, we only have a handful of three-year-old criers. We look forward to the day when all children come to school happy with no more tears. I will let you know next month if it happens, or if it was just wishful thinking on my part.

*Here We Grow* began the school year with 54 three-year-olds and 80 four and five-year-olds. At this time we have just two openings in the a.m. 3's class. If you know of someone who would like to send their child to preschool, have them call the school at 508-832-8184.

During the month of September the children became familiar with their teachers, new friends and new surroundings. They had a tour of the church offices, rooms and sanctuary. This reinforces how large a church this is.

Each child had homework the second week of school. Continuing on with one of our traditions, the children created a picture page of their families and added it to their classroom family album. It is one of the ways we become familiar with all the families attending HWG. It is also a great way for the children to open up to someone, just by talking about their families.

We had a great parent turnout for the three Parent Orientations which were held on the first days of school. Many questions were answered and hopefully any fears were put to rest. For the first time we also offered a "Meet the Teachers" time before the actual first day of class. Again, we had a large turnout.

I would like to thank Craig Premo, Wayne Prouty, David Sampson & Stan MacPhee for all the help in preparing HWG for another school year. We wouldn't have been ready without their continued support. So THANKS, guys.

On a sad note, I wanted to let you know that one of our moms, and a member of our board of directors, passed away just before school started. For those of you who knew Karyn Slomski, you will understand how saddened we are for her family and friends. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers.

Upcoming events for the month of October: No more criers? Apple Orchard field trips, visits from the police and fire departments, and Halloween parade and parties.

Until next month, stay healthy and enjoy the beautiful weather we've been having.

Dawn Murphy

**Here We Grow** Preschool Director

*A combined message from your Stewardship and Nominating Committees...*

***“Faith in Action”***

Due to the spiritual faith of many over the last several months, First Congregational Church of Auburn has remained alive and active.

From the faithful members of our congregation who've led the weekly services during our time between interim pastors..... to the faithful Deacons who see to the needs of each service and more...to the dedicated members of our Pastoral Search Committee who faithfully continue to meet each week in search of a full time pastor... to the religious education team who strive to spiritually enrich the lives of our young ones...and to all members in between.

All of the above are examples of our ***“Faith in Action.”*** While challenging our faith, at the same time it is our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ that continues to see us through each day.

We frequently read about thinking “outside of the box” to meet an extraordinary situation. We have two immediate situations we need to think long and hard “outside of the box” for regarding 2011.

The first is our treasures. If the numbers we have truly reflect our position, and we truly want our church to thrive and continue its various ministries, then we really need to pray long and hard about our pledging for the next year because that is what we base our budget and church's profile around, and what the Trustees and Pastoral Search Committee need to consider in order to be successful in the tasks before them.

The second is our talents. The above examples are just a few of the ways in which the members of our congregation have put forth their efforts in keeping our church alive throughout this difficult time. But, no one person can do it alone. We are at a point in time where it is going to take all of us to pitch in and lend a hand if we want to remain active and grow spiritually and in numbers.

Prayerfully consider how you can put your faith to action using your treasures and talents for 2011 and beyond to help make this church even more alive and active than ever.

If you have questions or concerns regarding your pledge for the upcoming year, please speak with any member of the Stewardship Committee. We look forward to seeing you on October 24<sup>th</sup>, Consecration Sunday, when we'll bring our pledges forward to God and his church.

If you have any questions or concerns on how you can showcase your talents within the church, please see Michele or Pat. They have a list of needs for the upcoming year and would love to hear how you want to help fulfill those needs.

*...In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.  
We have different gifts, according to the grace given us... Romans 12:5-6*

In His Love,

Stewardship Committee: Michele Schillinger, Ron Klaucke, Mike Dube, Donna Dube, Linda Hardy

Nominating Committee: Michele Schillinger, Pat Bukoski

## From the Director of Religious Education

Rally Day was a success! We have 14 children enrolled. We are still in desperate need for a teacher(s). I am currently teaching children from Kindergarten through grade 8! Preparing a lesson to engage such a wide age group is an extreme challenge. Also, the pre-school aged children who were all excited to go to "the big room" are not able to have a class. If you would like to volunteer for cradle roll please see Jen Bohn. If you would like to teach or help in our one room class please see me. I will also have a sign up sheet on the Sunday school board by the stage in fellowship hall.

On the 4th Sunday of the month, the Library Committee will place children's books for all ages in the pews for everyone to view. If you wish to bring them home, there will be a sign-up sheet in the rear of Fellowship Hall. Books can be returned downstairs in the Children's Library (where you may then select another book) or you may also place borrowed books in the basket provided by the sign-out sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please return the books within the four week period so that they may offer them to others. This service is provided for all parishioners young and old alike.

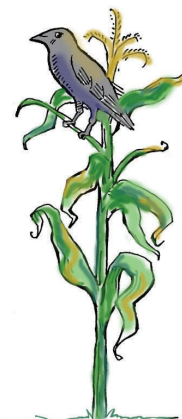
Youth on a Mission will continue to sell Joe Corbi items during coffee hour through October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The delivery date will be October 31<sup>st</sup> after church. Please help support the teens' endeavor and gain some yummy treats in the process.

Youth on a Mission currently has four members with a possibility of at least three more. Anyone from grade 6-12 is invited to attend. Please talk with me if you know of someone interested. Currently there is a fall activity planned, a winter retreat and possibly the 30 hour famine in the spring.

On October 24th Youth on a Mission will be attending Worcester Fellowship and serving lunch after the service.

Please take some time to wonder at the beauty of the changing leaves and remember to whom we should give thanks.

With his guidance we serve,  
Jean McPherson  
Director of Christian Ed.



Our Church will be providing lunch for the congregation of Worcester Fellowship on October 24<sup>th</sup> on the common at City Hall. We are requesting monetary donations for lunch fixings. We will also be collecting new white socks and t-shirts. Of course, anyone, and everyone is welcome and encouraged to join us for worship and to share the meal with Worcester Fellowship. Please see me for more information.

Worcester Fellowship is a congregation of homeless and less fortunate people in the City of Worcester. Thank you for your help and support of this important ministry.



Jen Bohn

## HAITI TRIP UPDATE

We have reached our goal of \$2,700 for the trip itself !!! Yipppeeee! If people would still like to make donations, they can donate to the new orphanage they are building just outside of Port Au Prince. More information can be found on the Monadnock website [www.monadnockbible.org](http://www.monadnockbible.org) They are also in need of sponsors for the children already in their existing orphanages. (Checks should be made payable to our church with Haiti trip indicated in the memo section.)

Randy and I had our "orientation" up at Monadnock on September 11<sup>th</sup>. We have now met everyone in our group including Paul Deasy, our group leader. There are 18 of us in total. The age range is from early 20's to early 60's with people from all walks of life. Most of the group is from a church down in Easton, MA.

We have been given our packing lists. Randy and I are each allowed to bring one 50lb bag with our personal possessions and clothing. We have been told that most of our personal belongings will be left behind, not because we have to, but because we'll WANT to. We will each be responsible for a second 50lb bag loaded with supplies packed by the group at Monadnock. We have to be at the airport by 3:00 a.m. on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> and will return somewhere around 10:00 on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Our plan still includes staying in Port-Au-Prince on our first night then an 8-9 hour truck ride the following day to St Michel. We've been told our work on the school addition will include A LOT of concrete work. We will also be part of a mini-dental clinic for the children in the orphanage, as we have a dental hygienist in our group, and that's the closest some of these children will ever get to a dentist.

Randy and I want to say thank you SO MUCH to everyone who has donated to this trip and who will make additional donations to the orphanage. We feel that this is something God is really calling us to do and we are proud to go and represent our wonderful congregation. We could not do this without your love and support.

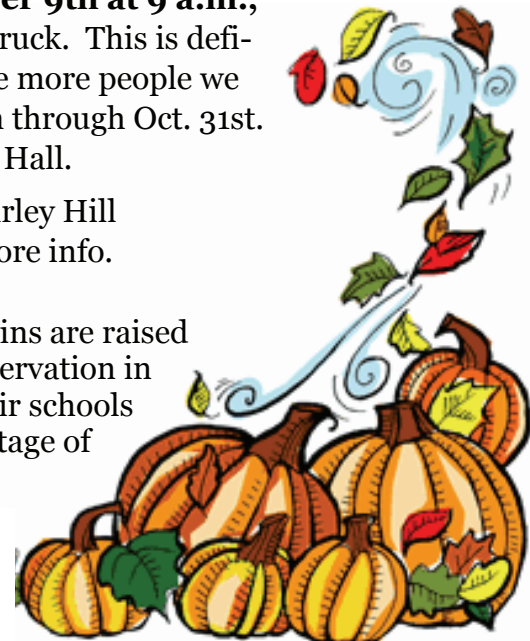
Jennifer Bohn

**The pumpkins are coming! The pumpkins are coming!** The pumpkins are scheduled to be delivered on **Saturday, October 9th at 9 a.m.**, and we're looking for a lot of bodies to help unload the truck. This is definitely a case of MANY hands making LIGHT work. The more people we have, the easier it will be. The patch will be open Oct. 9th through Oct. 31st.

Please see the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

Feel free to call Diane Moore 508-832-8078, Shirley Hill 508-832-6335 or Jen Bohn 508-832-0428 for more info.

Where do these pumpkins come from? The pumpkins are raised and harvested by the Navajo Indians on their reservation in New Mexico. The money they receive helps their schools and other programs and, of course, a percentage of the sales also goes to help our church!





## Stewardship Message

### We Are Family

*To the church of God that is in Corinth...together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*1 Corinthians 1:1-7*

When Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, our partner church in Mozambique sent a financial contribution to the UCC to help the people affected by the flooding. You see the people there knew about floods and the damage they could do, and they understood that we are one family in Christ. So, despite the limited resources of their churches, they wanted to send whatever help they could.

The first Sunday of October is World Communion Sunday. The third Sunday in October is Children's Sabbath and the fourth falls this year on United Nations Day. This whole month reminds us that we are not alone in our individual congregations, nor are we alone as American Christians. We are part of a family that, from its very beginnings, included people of many nations, ethnicities and languages. The apostle Paul regularly reminded the churches of their connections with other churches, and he also asked them for financial contributions to help the struggling mother church in Jerusalem.

All of us are one in Christ Jesus. We learn from one another, we rejoice with one another and we mourn with one another. We share our resources of imagination, of skills, of time, and of money with one another across the worldwide Christian community. Thanks be to God for our family in Christ!

*Rochelle A. Stackhouse is the Senior Minister of The Church of the Redeemer, United Church of Christ, New Haven Connecticut.*

### October 2010

God is still speaking,

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



This resource is a free service and is made possible by your gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission.

## LEDGER

1773-1786

A few years ago I read and copied a ledger that was stored in the town hall basement. I don't believe this book has been read in the last two hundred years. It is a complete record of the step-by-step decisions made by our men in building our meetinghouse and forming our town.

The following is just one of a series of excerpts from these writings.

George DuHamel and Paula Lubin, Church Historians

Ward Town Book beginning May 4, 1778.  
State of Massachusetts Bay.

In the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred & seventy eight.

An act for erecting a Parish lately set off from the towns of Worcester, Oxford, Sutton & Leicester the County of Worcester into a Town by the name of Ward. Whereas the Inhabitants of the Parish lately sett off from the Towns of Worcester, Oxford, Sutton & Leicester in the County of Worcester have represented to this Court the great difficulties & inconveniences they labor under in their present Situation & have Earnestly requested that they may be incorporated into a town by the name of Ward. — Be it therefore Enacted & it is hereby Enacted by the Council, House of Representatives in General Court Assembled & by the Authority of the same.

That the said Parish now to be incorporated into a town by the name of Ward shall be bound as follows: Viz. beginning at a heap of stones in the Line between Sutton & Oxford and from thence running North Thirty five degrees East upon the Sutton line Twelve hundred & forty four rods to a heap of Stones from thence North sixteen degrees West upon Worcester Line Two hundred & Eighty Eight rods to a heap of stones , from thence North Thirty two degrees West upon Worcester line Eighty rods to heap of stones from thence, North Eleven degrees West upon Worcester line, One hundred & Seventy four rods to a heap of stones from thence West three degrees South partly on Worcester & partly on Leicester lines nine hundred & Twenty four rods to a heap of stones, from thence South forty three degrees West on Leicester line three hundred & twenty nine rods to a Grey Oak tree, from thence North thirty three degrees & thirty minutes West upon Leicester line five hundred & twenty rods to a heap of stones, from thence (partly on a Gore & partly on Oxford line 567 rods to a heap of stones from thence East forty degrees South on Oxford Line three hundred & fifty Eight rods to a white pine tree and from thence East six degrees South upon Oxford line three hundred & twenty rods to the first mentioned heap of stones. Which described Plot of Ground contains Eight thousand three hundred & forty acres and is hereby Erected into a Town by the name of Ward.

Dan'l Boyden, Mod.

*Daniel Boyden*

## Library Tidings

by Gloria Whitehead



Shorter and cooler days lead to raking instead of weeding unless it's "weeding out" passé treasures for Fall yard sales. Speaking of passé, here's a reminder that the Library Committee always appreciates your input on books which might currently be misfits in your library. There are also volumes which are valuable and, if handled with "tender and loving care," *One Nation - America Remembers September 11, 2001* by Life Magazine will be among them in years to come. It will remain on the display table in the Adult Library for you to browse through or borrow for one week, through mid -October. Afterward, it will be on the shelf in category #6.

Among recent purchases is *The Sanctuary*. Beverly Lewis' husband, David, is co -author with her in this novel. From page one, chapter after chapter, a reader is kept in suspense wondering, "What's up?" Why such a sudden change in what appeared to be a happy existence for Melissa? From what is she running away? The writing style superbly enhances the mood. We'll say no more, but a faithful reader of B.L. has said that she thoroughly enjoyed *The Sanctuary* that held more intrigue than usual.

*On-My-Own Reader Bible* is a new children's book, illustrated by Shari Warren. It's designed to meet the specific needs of beginning readers.

Be certain to read your Director of Religious Education news which includes a bit about how you, too, are to be exposed to some of the outstanding (and they really are) books that are in your Children's Library downstairs.

Take time to observe to the fullest God's miraculous Fall paintbrush and feel his inspiring hand at work again in another way.

### YANKEE CANDLE FUNDRAISER

*Here We Grow* is currently selling Yankee Candle merchandise as part of a fundraiser to help offset the costs of field trips and other preschool activities.

Why not stop by the church office and browse through the catalog? There are wonderful items for gift-giving.

### A.E.D. - Automated External Defibrillator

The A.E.D. is temporarily located in the church office, until we obtain a cabinet to store it in. Several of us recently attended a training on the use of the AED. Hopefully, we'll never need to use it, but it's a great source of comfort knowing that, should the situation arise, several of us are now equipped to respond.

We want to take this opportunity to thank Drs. Arthur and Martha Pappas for making all of this possible.

## Calling All MEN

The women are back from a relaxing and spiritually recharging weekend and now it's your turn. Man Camp is coming to Berea! Two extraordinary weekends November 5-7 or November 12-14. Enjoy some time with International Ministry Leader, Duffy Robbins, or former NFL Patriot, Ron Davis, and other Christian men as you take time to focus on your spiritual needs and have some fun with volleyball, flag football and awesome food. I have a brochure on the Sunday school bulletin board in the rear of fellowship hall. Let me know if you are interested so we can have you all sign up together.



Jean McPherson

*TIDINGS is a monthly publication of*

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United Church of Christ  
128 Central St., Auburn MA 01501**

Phone: (508) 832-2845

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Pastor's Office Day: Thursday

*God's church in Auburn Center  
doing Christ's work in the world.*



BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Non-Profit Org.  
Permit No. 6  
Auburn, Mass

### October 2010

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