

**October**



2006

# *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, ‘Behold your God!’”*

## FROM THE PASTOR

Our church is in the wonderful position of having many opportunities to provide ministry in numerous situations locally and nationally and globally. I say “wonderful” because the church and this church were established for ministry. Service and ministry is what saves us from becoming a comfortable, self-serving, feel good organization, and allows us to be a Christian church.

On October 22, we can participate in the CROP WALK which raises money for local needs (Auburn Food Pantry) and for CROP, an international relief and development agency. Sign up with Avis Britton.

On October 28, we will be rehabilitating a mobile home in Auburn inside and outside. The confirmation class and Youth on a Mission will be working. We are looking for about a dozen additional adults to help us. There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. For Christmas, our White Gift project will again be to supply coats and winter jackets for families in the main south area of Worcester through the Goddard School. We will keep you informed as we get specific information.

In January, we plan to send four or more adults to New Orleans to help rehabilitate the church of the Good Shepard, homes of parishioners, and other community needs. This is supported by the Outreach Committee and the Sibley Grant which was voted last year. Contact the church office if you are interested. We need to make reservations.

We are always in need of people to serve on boards and committees to provide leadership for the church. Please consider saying ‘yes’ when the Nominating Committee asks you to serve.

We are in need of more adults to work with our youth and to expand our youth ministry. This is a wonderful rewarding ministry if you can commit the time.

We also need the financial support of every member, parishioner and friend to provide such a broad spectrum of ministry.

Ministry is the object and purpose of church membership. Help us be what God has called us to be.

Thank You,

Rev. Dr. Kenneth E Knox

### Our Sympathies

**Our sympathies...** to Chris Messier and her family on the loss of her mom, Jean Carolyn (Trombly) Johnson on Tuesday September 12, 2006. May God comfort them during this time of sadness.

#### Happy Birthday

Eric Rockwood ~ 10/21  
Carolyn Slongwhite ~ 10/21

#### Happy Anniversary

Jean & Rich McPherson ~ 10/8

#### A Note From the Romkey's

Russell Romkey had a set back in August that put him back into a nursing home. Ralph, his son, says he likes to get mail from us and appreciates all the mail he has received. If you would like to write to Russell, it can be mailed to the house address and Ralph will bring it to him:

Russell Romkey  
53 Andrews Rd  
East Falmouth, MA 02536

~The family thanks you!~

#### Church Supper Servers

October 21 ~ Deacons  
(Ham)  
November 18 ~ Music/Scholarship  
(Turkey)  
December 16 ~ Outreach  
(Holiday Buffet)

If you are willing to help with any of our church suppers, please speak with Bill Storie prior to the supper night.

**Congratulations to Jeff and Kara Murray  
on the births of twin daughters  
Hannah Murray & Rachel Murray  
born on Tuesday, September 19, 2006. Happy  
grandparents are Bob and Carole Murray and  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Westerman.**

**WANTED:** A few good folks for the Crop walk on Sunday, October 22nd! I know we have a lot of walkers in our congregation so PLEASE sign up and help a worthy cause. Monies realized from the CROP WALK help stock the food pantry at Auburn Youth and Family Services. If you are willing to walk, please see Avis Britton for the details.

**FIRST DAY PROGRAM** ~ Many thanks to all who so generously donated to Auburn's "First Day Program". New shoes, clothes, back packs and school supplies were provided to 45 Auburn children.

**THE NEXT CHURCH SUPPER** ~ Bill Storie is looking for an apprentice to learn the ways of preparing his various church suppers. Bill will still do the suppers, but wants someone to learn in case he is ever unable to do it. Please speak with Bill if you are interested.

**YOUTH ON A MISSION** ~ We NEED help with Youth on a Mission. We're looking for one or two warm hearted people who would like to spend some time with the fantastic youth of our church. Specifically we need someone to help with the paperwork and organization of one or two of our fundraisers and to join us on some of our road trips in order to comply with our child protection policy. I can promise you will GET much more than you give by spending time with our kids. If you're interested please see Jen or Randy Bohn.

### Library Tidings

By Gloria Whitehead

We forgot to mention in last month's Tidings that during Here We Grow's Summer Camp session they borrowed 20 books from the Children's Library. It's a plus to note that the school is well aware that the library is there to serve them also.

The book titled Family by Margaret Mead and Ken Heyman (category #5) was on display on the Adult Library table during the summer. If you're looking for something to take your mind off of a stressed out spirit, take this book of outstanding - really incredible - pictures of life's main stream to a comfortable chair enveloped by warm fall sunshine. And, if you can't make this time, Family is a super book to borrow for a shut-ins. The reading material is expressive as well. That's why we've left the book on the table for a while longer.

"Learn to Read, Read to Learn" is what it says on the poster that's currently on the door of the Children's Library. If you are the parents of a child/children participating in the Sunday program for tots to teens, would you make a concerted effort to check out the Children's Library sometime between now and Christmas? We've old books and new books but there's a great selection to help youngsters learn and to enjoy doing so. Be sure to tell us that you are responding to our request AND in conclusion, here's another. There are still quite a few books that were borrowed a long time ago that have not been returned. If the reason is because they were damaged or lost, please tell us that. In some cases, we may want to replace them. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

*Enjoy nature's Fall paintbrush!*



October 29, 2006





In the June Tidings we spoke of the “purpose” of Stewardship. The second of the three purposes of Stewardship is that we should advance the kingdom of God and meet the needs of the Body of Christ. How do we do that?

Matthew 6:33 reads “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

This correlates with both the first and second purposes of Stewardship for as you honor God with your substance, He then takes that and uses it to continue on with His work. Another translation of the second purpose is to further the work of Christ in the earth and to help meet the needs of others.

When you truly value and appreciate the importance of spreading the Gospel, that understanding should motivate you to do what you can to ensure the work of the kingdom of God continues on the earth.

Are you doing what you can to advance the kingdom of God within your Church and with those around you?

Stewardship: It’s heart work. It causes us to examine the purpose for which we manage our money. When our purposes come in line with God’s plan, our stewardship becomes a great blessing to God, others, and ourselves.

Our Committee hopes that each of you finds Stewardship a valuable addition to the monthly Tidings mailing. We welcome any comments and/or thoughts you might have regarding this publication or about Stewardship in general. Please feel free to speak with any one of us or send your comments via email to [Stewardship@AuburnFirstUCC.org](mailto:Stewardship@AuburnFirstUCC.org). We look forward to hearing from you.

In His Love,  
The Stewardship *Committee*  
John Rockwood (Chair), Michael & Michele Schillinger, Al Boucher, Todd & Donna Dube

### Coffee Hour Hosts

Oct 1 & 8 ~ Historians & Memorial  
 Oct 15 & 22 ~ Stewardship  
 Oct 29 & Nov 5 ~ Prudential  
 Nov 12 & 19 ~ Financial  
 Nov 26 & Dec 3 ~ Music  
 Dec 10 & 17 ~ Nominating/Scholarship  
 Dec 24 & 31 ~ Deacons  
 Jan 7 ~ Trustees  
 Jan 14 ~ Deacons  
 Jan 21 ~ Outreach



“... and to you late arrivals ... anyone can get to church on time if he tries hard enough.”





October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Physical Therapy Month, Children's Health Month, Healthy Lung Month, Lupus Awareness Month, "Talk about Prescriptions " Month, Halloween Safety Month, and National Dental Hygiene Month. October 1st-7th, is Hearing Aid Awareness Week. October 2nd is National Child Health Day. October 8th-14th, is Fire Prevention Week. October 16th, is World Food Day. October 16th-20th is National Health Education Week, and October 20th, is National Mammography Day.

As usual, I have information on these subjects. For fire safety, make sure you have a plan, whether you have family or you live alone.

I still have a closet full of Durable Medical Equipment! I have wheel chairs, walkers, commodes, bath seats, Canes, crutches, etc. Please help yourself or ask me to help you get something out from the stash!

Have you made appointments for the Flu shots? The season is fast approaching. You can pre register at the Auburn Sr. Center, get it from your doctor, and Shaw's is offering it through Osco Drug.

Have a safe and healthy month.

God Bless!

Debbie Pranaitis

Parish Nurse

### SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Sunday School is off to a great start! We have great kids, great curriculum, and great teachers! We are still looking for one more teacher - it's only 2 Sundays a month, with lesson plans and materials provided!

Also, we are looking for volunteers to watch our little ones in the Cradle Roll. If you are interested in helping us, please sign up in Fellowship Hall or see me at Coffee Hour!

God Bless,

Heather Zautner

### 2006 NEIGHBORS IN NEED CAMPAIGN

Neighbors in Need is the foundation of a strong, multi-issue peace with justice movement in the United Church of Christ. One-third of the offering supports the Council of American Indian Ministry (CAIM), including the 20 American Indian congregations in the UCC. Two-thirds of the offering supports justice advocacy, just peace and peace with justice programs, and community grants. This offering addresses a whole range of social issues...poverty, economic development, human rights, peacemaking, violence, racial and economic justice, environmental concerns, advocacy for public education, multiracial implementation and public policy. Please use the envelope provided if you would like to donate this month.

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

**Church Council meeting will be Monday October 30, 2006 at 7 pm.**

**There will be a special church meeting on Sunday, October 15, 2006 to vote on a grant of \$5,000 from the Sibley Fund interest to Second Step program.**

**The meeting will immediately follow the worship service. All church members are urged to remain for this meeting.**



October 8, 2006



October 9, 2006

Office will be closed

# HANDS AND HEARTS NEEDED!

OCTOBER 28, 2006

***Our WAMS, UCC sponsored WAYS workday for this fall needs the help of willing hands and hearts.***

**Our primary project for this fall is the trailer park home of a disabled man and his family in Auburn.**

The floor is falling through, the weather-protecting metal skirt is eroding, the walls around the tub are rotting, the bay window is leaking the winds of autumn.

This project will be more financially demanding than most we take on and also needs many willing hands and a good core of skilled folk. *Can your church help?*

## **On Saturday 10/28:**

**9 AM to 5PM**

~We would like about 20 youth and adults to remove the present skirt and replace it – and a skilled person or two to supervise.

~We need about 8 skilled and unskilled folk to help with the floor and the other projects.

~Materials or money to purchase them can be donated – carpet, corrugated metal skirting, sub-flooring, tub surround, lunch, drinks or snacks for workers.

## **On Thursday, 10/26:**

6 to 7PM - We need about 10 folk to set up shelters for furniture storage and start to move a few possessions.

## **On Friday, 10/27:**

6 to 7:30 PM - We need 6 – 10 folk to move most of the possessions.

## **On Sunday, 10/29:**

3-5PM - We need about 6-10 folk ready to return any furniture and possessions to the home.

**PLEASE HELP!!!?**

***You must register in advance to participate.***

***We request a registration fee and a donation for materials.***

***To obtain application forms contact: Mellyn Shurtleff at [mshurtleff@marykay.com](mailto:mshurtleff@marykay.com)***

***For information contact: The Rev. Shantia Wright-Gray***

[shantiawg@gmail.com](mailto:shantiawg@gmail.com)

**978-422-6256**

### From the Choir Room

Musical highlight for October include:

'*We are the Hands of Christ*' to be sung October 22, and '*Jesus is the Song*' to be sung October 29. Both anthems are new for us. '

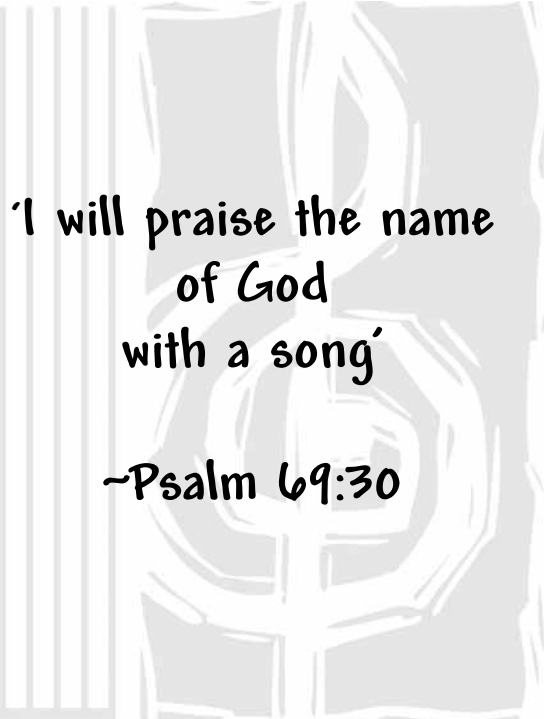
*We are the Hands of Christ*' by Joel Raney, opens in the soulful key of g minor. The minor key correlates to the text 'No voice to speak his kindness, no eyes to see the pain.' As the key opens up to G major, the text proclaims '*Christ has no hands except your own to reach the world and make him known, His love can change humanity by your touch alone.*' It is unusual for us as it is mostly unison. While not difficult chorally, the unison singing strengthens the message of the anthem, effectively forcing the listener to 'hear' the text above the music.

'*Jesus is the Song,*' by David Danner We sing in four parts.

This anthem gradually builds from a quiet and simple statement of faith to an exuberant and celebratory ending. There are occasional hints of black gospel in the accompaniment but the overall feel of the anthem is gentle and free flowing. The text joyously proclaims '*Jesus is the song of life, Jesus is the song of love, Jesus is the song!*'

Blessings,

Heather Moore  
Minister of Music



**'I will praise the name  
of God  
with a song'  
~Psalm 69:30**

#### Joyful Noyse Rehearsal Schedule

10/1	11:15 am rehearsal
10/8	11:15 am rehearsal
10/15	11:15 am rehearsal
10/22	11:15 am rehearsal
10/29	9:15 am rehearsal 'Children of the Lord' & 'Let's Talk About Jesus'
11/5	11:15 am rehearsal
11/12	11:15 am rehearsal
11/19	11:15 am rehearsal
11/26	9:15 am rehearsal 'Come Light of the World'
12/2	11:15 am rehearsal
12/10	11:15 am rehearsal
12/17	11:15 am rehearsal
12/24	9:15 am rehearsal 'Light One Candle Christmas Eve' 5:00 pm service 'Light One Candle' & 'Come Light of the World' (No rehearsal before the 5 pm service)

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE

### **\*\* NEW ORLEANS CLEANUP TRIP \*\***

We have funds to send 4 people on an adventure in compassion -- to New Orleans in January. This will be an amazing experience that you will never forget.

Jen Bohn and Cindy Dube are all set to go. There are two spots left, so please let us know right away if you're interested! We need to make arrangements and get plane tickets. Your airfare and lodging will be provided -- all you'll need are enthusiasm and a willing spirit!

Please contact Ken by October 1 if you want to go. First come, first to serve!

Right now we're focusing on the trip in January, but please let Ken know if you're interested in another of the trips that Shantia mentioned.  
(We have Shantia's literature if you need information on dates.)

### **\*\* OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY IN AUBURN ON OCTOBER 28 \*\***

Been watching too much "This Old House" or HGTV? All fired up to do home repairs and don't know where to start?

Help us help Craig, a disabled man in Auburn whose mobile home needs renovation. Bob Murray will be leading an enthusiastic crew from YOM and Confirmation. We need more adults to join them.

This event will be held on Saturday, October 28, from 9 to 5.  
Please contact a member of the Outreach committee if you're interested.

### **\*\* CROP WALK \*\***

The Auburn Crop Walk is coming up on October 22, which will be here before we know it! Avis Britton has volunteered to coordinate our group of walkers. It's a pleasant walk, only a few miles, for a great cause. Please contact Avis to sign up.

### **\*\* OFFERINGS OF HOPE \*\***

We have made a couple of "welcome buckets" of cleaning supplies for needy folks moving into their own apartments. It would be great to have a few more! All you need to do is buy a bucket and fill it with cleaning supplies. If you'd like a list of suggestions, just ask an Outreach member. We'll be giving the buckets to WAMS in mid-October, so please let us know if you plan on making a welcome bucket.

Thank you!

p.s. We're as close as your computer: just drop us a line at [Outreach@AuburnFirstUCC.org](mailto:Outreach@AuburnFirstUCC.org).

**The Outreach Committee**



## YOUTH ON A MISSION

Youth on a Mission held its kick-off meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup>. We're excited about our upcoming year and have a lot of things planned. Starting immediately and ending Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> we will be selling "Dutch Garden" bulbs. The flowers are beautiful and they will be in time to plant **THIS** fall for a beautiful spring garden. Later in the fall we will also be doing the popular Joe Corbi's pizza, cookie dough and cheesy bread sale. Don't miss the free samples at the end of October.

YOM will also be joining with this year's confirmation class on October 28<sup>th</sup> to help with the WAYS work camp. Under the guidance of Bob Murray we will be rehabbing a trailer for a disabled man right here in Auburn. We'll probably cap off the day with pizza and a movie at the Bohns'. We've wanted to do mission work on a local level and working with WAYS was the perfect opportunity.

We are also planning another trip to Camp Berea for their DEEP FREEZE program on February 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> please be watching for sign up information in your weekly bulletin. YOM is open to ANYONE aged 14 and up (or will be 14 PRIOR to our mission trip next July) Our next meeting is scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup> right after church please stop in if you think you might be interested.

I also wanted to say thank you to the congregation for your support of YOM and your warm response to our service on September 17<sup>th</sup>. I know that it's difficult for some to support all of our fundraisers and I have asked the kids to pursue fundraising outside of the church as well as through its members. We sincerely appreciate anything you can do for us as we are not funded by the church budget.

God Bless  
Jenn & Randy Bohn

Ham Dinner on  
October 21, 2006  
At 5 pm  
Adults \$8 Children \$4  
Servers will be:  
*The Deacons*



## MINI CHURCH FAIR DECEMBER 9TH

### HELP and DONATIONS NEEDED

Once again the Women's Fellowship will be having a Holiday Boutique including gifts and decorations for the Christmas season. We will also be serving breakfast and lunch. This event is in conjunction with the Christmas House Tours taking place throughout Auburn. The tour is being sponsored by the Auburn Historical Society. Buses for the tour will be leaving from the church parking lot which will generate a lot of business for us.

We hosted this event last year and it was a huge success for the Fellowship. We are in need of people to bake. A simple recipe for Denver Omelets will be given to those willing to bake. Also muffins and Christmas cookies will be needed. For the Boutique we are asking for donations of handcrafted holiday or gift items. Gifts suitable for an office grab or teachers were hot items last year. We are also accepting gently used items at the discretion of the committee.

If you have something new that you thought of "re-gifting" we may also be interested. Examples of what we received last year were unused candles, mixing bowl set, and small items we used in the making of gift baskets. Please contact Cindy Dube, 508-832-6646, if you have things we might be able to use or leave them in the office with the secretary.

New this year, if you have a number of handcrafted items or a large item such as a quilt you wish to put on "consignment" with us, please contact Cindy Dube. 25% percent of what is sold will be given to the church. We will also be accepting antiques to be sold on "consignment".

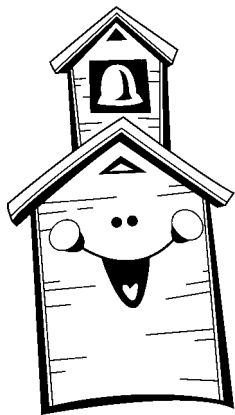


**Heifer International**  
**Overlook Farm in Rutland**  
**2006 Harvest Festival**  
*September 30 — 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.*  
*October 1 — 12 - 4 p.m.*

Enjoy a hayride to the pumpkin patch to pick your own pumpkins. Great foods will be available, including harvest corn chowder, pesto pizza and much more. Visit our gift shop, featuring crafts from around the world.  
 \$5/car parking fee.

(A small fee will also be charged for food & pumpkins)

Overlook Farm  
 216 Wachusett Street in Rutland, MA.  
 website: [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)  
 508-886-2221



### Here We Grow Preschool

Here we are beginning the month of October which means September is over and we have made it through the first month of school. I am proud to say that *Here We Grow* has a full enrollment at this time. That means we have 126 children and the majority of them are no longer crying. It takes a few weeks for the children to get comfortable with their new teachers, friends, and surroundings.

As most of you know, during the second week of school Chris Messier's mother, Jean Johnson, passed away. It was a very difficult and sad time for Chris and her entire family. They would like to thank the church families for their thoughts, prayers, and cards during this time. Chris is now back at work and enjoying her time spent with the children.

In the month of September the children have had a tour of the entire building to help them understand just how large this building is. It also helps them to understand that it is a church and needs to be respected as such.

Something new at HWG- we have asked the children and their parents to create a page of family pictures to go into the classroom family albums. The albums will be in the classrooms so the children can look at them if they are missing someone or maybe they will share their picture page with their new friends or maybe it will help children understand that not all families are the same, and that's okay. Whatever the reason for looking through the albums, it will be a great way to share each other's families.

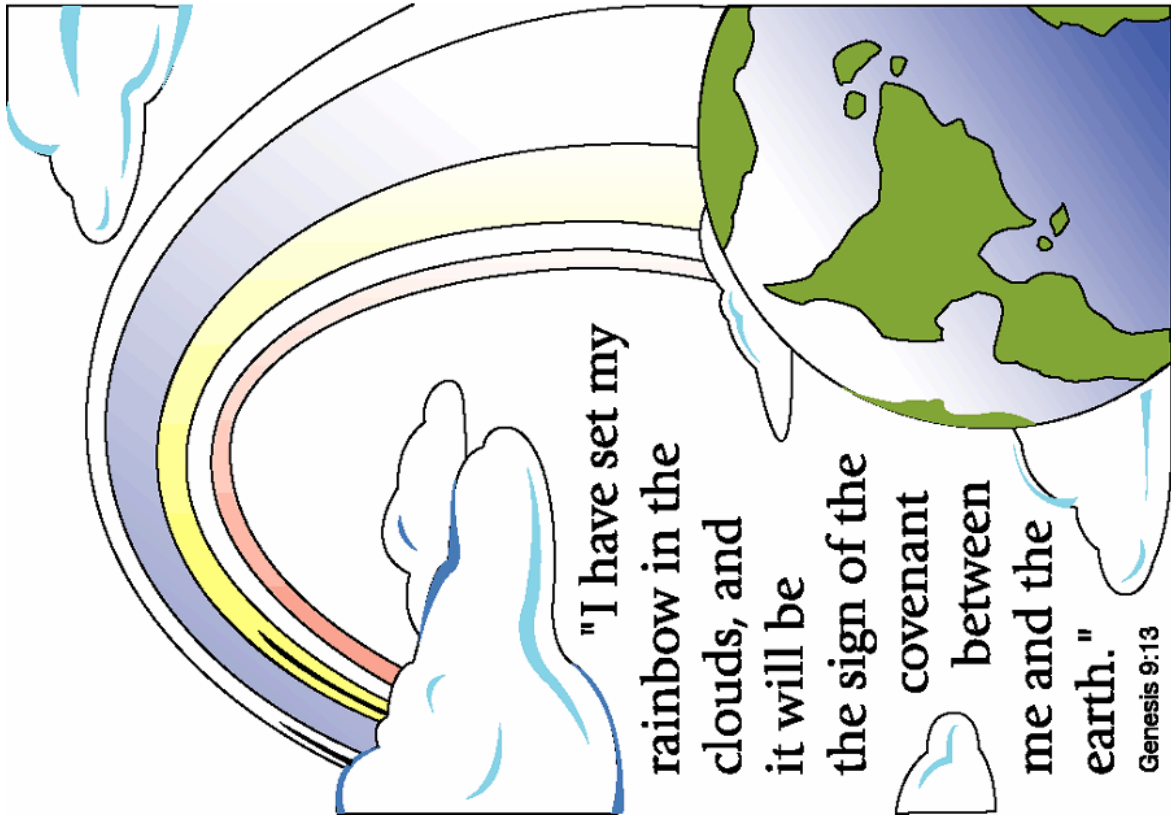
Something else new at HWG-this year we decided to have Parent Orientation during the school day. It was held three different times during the three different sessions. The turnout was great. Most of our parents attended, and those that didn't have been with HWG for 3 or 4 years. I was the only one that got a little tired since I was the one at all 3 orientations. I also got a little confused as to what I said at what group. But if I happened to miss anything, it is ALL in the family handbook.

Once again, two past HWG students received the award for "Student of the Month" at their schools. Meaghan Brennan and Isabelle Leahey each received this award in September. The "Student of the Month" award is for students that are outstanding in citizenship, manners and kindness to others just to name a few. *Here We Grow* is very proud that in the last two years, four HWG students have received this wonderful award. As an outreach program of First Congregational Church, this is something you can be proud of.

During the month of October we plan on visiting the apple orchard, having the police and fire department visit, and celebrating Halloween, but I'll wait until next month to tell you all about that.

As always, you are welcome to stop in and see what your preschool is all about. Until next month, stay healthy and enjoy the weather.

Dawn Murphy  
*Here We Grow Preschool*



*TIDINGS is a monthly publication of*

**First Congregational Church**  
**128 Central St.**  
**Auburn MA 01501**

Phone: (508)832-2845

*Web: auburnfirstucc.org*



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

**October 2006**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				