



# 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!’”*

## Extravagant

The victory of Christ over death is astonishing. Jesus died, and God the Father raised him up. This was not like the resurrection of Lazarus, who died again of old age. Jesus rose to eternal life in glory with the Father. It is an extravagant display of the majesty of the Lord. It takes the breath away.

But that was then, and this is now, you say. What does that have to do with me? Well, the answer is: Everything. God did not raise Jesus from the dead for his own satisfaction, but for us. Christ did not rise for his own glory, but for ours. We are the point of this event - you, me, all of us.

Easter is not about an ugly worm turning into a butterfly, although butterflies are nice. The transformation of the worm is a rebirth of nature, like the first crocus of spring. We expect it. The resurrection of Christ is not natural. It is supernatural. When we are reborn in Christ it is a supernatural change in our lives. We become different from what we were before, in ways this world cannot bring about.

We grow into Christ in two different ways: (1) God gives us the promise of eternal life, beyond this mortal flesh, and (2) Christ comes to dwell within us now, during our time on this mortal earth. He dwells in us as we let him conform the shape of our lives to his.

We are reborn in Christ through the sacrament of holy Baptism. We grow into Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit working God's grace into our flesh and bones and hearts and minds and wills. Like growing in the flesh from a babe-in-arms to a fully mature adult, growth in the spirit is the process of a lifetime. But like the spurt of the infant from crawling to walking or of the child to the sprawling teenager, spiritual growth in our lives has its dramatic turning points. And we thank God for them.

God is an extravagant giver. Whatever we return in gratitude is a small portion of what he already gives to us, day by day. Stewardship is based on that. All that we have belongs to the Lord. Even the tithe we return is but a trifle in comparison. Receive the joy of the Lord this season - God's extravagant gift.

- Pastor Duke

**The Passion Story** (the story of Jesus' crucifixion told in song) will be presented on Palm Sunday, April 17th at the 10 a.m. Service.

**Maundy Thursday Service** will be held April 21st at 7 p.m.

**Good Friday** is April 22nd ~ Auburn's Ecumenical Service will be held here at First Congregational Church, 128 Central Street, Auburn at 12:15 p.m.

**Easter Sunday** is April 24th ~ with our Sunrise Service at 5:30 a.m. at Hillside Cemetery and two worship services - 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. at the church.



~ All Are Welcome ~



Happy Spring! I think we all are happy to see the snow melting away and the flowers starting to bloom. April is here!

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, National Autism Awareness Month, National Donate Life Month, Women's Eye Health and Safety Month, and Sports Eye Safety Month. April 4-10 is National Public Health Week, and the 23rd-30th is National Infant Immunization Week. April 7th is World Health Day and the 24th is World Meningitis Day. There will be information on the table in Fellowship Hall.

Enjoy the Spring! Happy Easter!  
Debbie Pranaitis, Parish Nurse

**Coffee Hour Hosts**

- 4/3 ~ Deacons
- 4/10 ~ Trustees
- 4/17 ~ Music
- 4/24 ~ Easter (no coffee hour)
- 5/1, 5/8 ~ Prudential Committee

Our next **Community Supper** is planned for  
**Saturday, April 16th at 5:00 p.m.**  
 On the menu: **Roast Beef Dinner**  
 Adults \$10 Children \$5  
 Servers: Board of Christian Education  
 and Memorial Committee

Greetings from the Central Association. As member churches of the United Church of Christ, we are covenant partners with the national denomination, the Massachusetts Conference, and the Central Association of the UCC. This covenant gifts us with blessings and rights, as well as responsibilities to each body. As such, please consider serving at the Association level by accepting a nomination for the Board of Directors or the Committee on Ministry. Participation of laity on these committees is vital to their integrity. The only requirement is membership in a Central Association church.

The Board calls and plans the Association meetings; has a representative preside over Ecclesiastical Councils, Ordinations, and Installations; meets at least five times through the year to hear reports from standing committee, the Conference and WAMS; serves as trustee for Association assets; creates Ad Hoc Working Groups or Task Forces to benefit the Association; and hears appeals from the Committee on Ministry or Fitness Review determinations. The Board meetings are held on Thursday evenings in Worcester. The term for officers is one year, for Board members two years.

The Committee on Ministry oversees all issues of clergy ordination, licensing, and fitness in the Association, as well as the standing of Association churches. The term is three years, and the Committee meets monthly on the third Thursday from 9am-3pm in Worcester. Partial-term slots are available for people who want to try it out before making a longer commitment. It is a big time commitment, but it is also an awesome, committed group of people doing important work. You will learn much about the denomination, the ordination processes, leadership and ministry.

Nominations will be made at the spring meeting in early May, so please give some thought to serving, and contact Rev. Doreen Oughton at [pastorfccleicester@verizon.net](mailto:pastorfccleicester@verizon.net) or by calling 978-846-6498. You can also contact Rev. Phil LaFollette at [revphilucc@comcast.net](mailto:revphilucc@comcast.net). Blessings.

## With "Change" Comes Hope

We've all had that feeling that change can be scary, and perhaps a little uncertain. With the many changes we have gone through as a congregation over the past few years, we, as the Stewardship Committee, feel that it would be appropriate to look at our stewardship campaign with a new sense of Hope.

Hope for a renewed feeling of faith.

Hope for a prosperous new year.

Hope for a congregation filled with new families, young and old.

And Hope for our new pastor, Brian and his wife, Jenney.

As a child or perhaps even as an adult, we all had that hope that if we filled up that "change" jar, we would be able to fulfill that dream of buying that new toy or perhaps a bigger dream of going on that trip we'd always wanted to take.

Well, we'd like you all to look at the "change" jar as a different symbol. We challenge you all to take that change jar out from the closet, wipe the dust off it and put it somewhere you will see it every day. And every day fill your jar with HOPE.

May God Bless you,

Your Stewardship Committee

Donna Dube, Chairman; Ellie Lowell, Shirley Hill, Linda Hardy

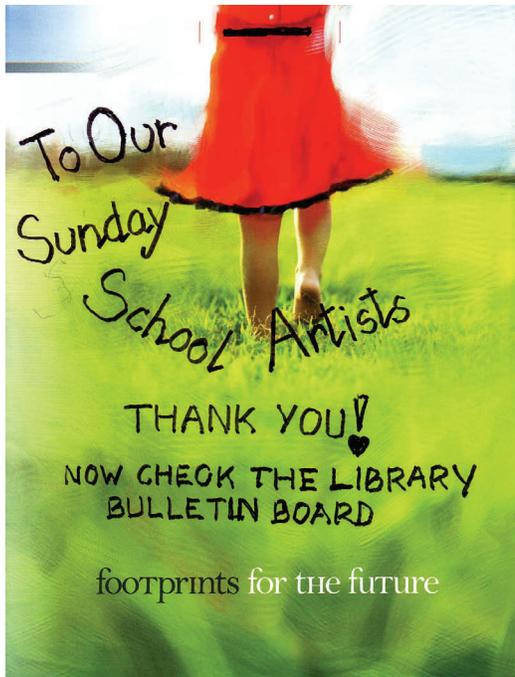
### SPAGHETTI SUPPER FUNDRAISER

As many of you know already, Tori Stockhaus and Devon Orcutt have been selected, interviewed and accepted to participate in the People to People Student Ambassador program and will be traveling to Australia for three weeks this July. The People to People Program was founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956. He believed that if people from different cultures could come together in peace and friendship, eventually so would countries.



The program tuition is \$7,339 which includes all transportation, accommodations, meals, educational activities and insurance. To help offset the cost, we are having a spaghetti supper fundraiser on May 21<sup>st</sup> here at the First Congregational Church in Auburn starting at 6:30 p.m. The tickets are \$15 for adults and \$6 for kids 12 and under. Following the dinner several items will be raffled (item donations to the raffle would be greatly appreciated). Please contact Alberta Orcutt (508) 864 -3964 or Lori Stockhaus (508) 865-6439 if you plan to attend so we can get a head count.

If you aren't able to attend, but would still like to make a donation, please make checks payable to People to People and give to Lori or Alberta. Thanks in advance for your support.



This month the Sunday School children have created the Library Bulletin Board downstairs. The theme of the board is "Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You." Each child has written their interpretation of what "The Golden Rule" means to them, in their own simple way, posted on the display. If you have a chance we'd love to have you stop by the Children's Library, located just below Fellowship Hall, to read their thoughts and to get to know our children a little better.

The Library Committee

### Joyful Noyse Schedule

4/3, 4/10, 4/17 11:15 a.m. rehearsal  
 4/24 (Easter) rehearsal - TBA  
 "Easter Acclamation"



Please continue to pray for the people of Japan. You can make donations to support emergency relief and rebuilding efforts made payable to our Church with "Pacific Earthquake/Tsunami" noted in the memo section. These donations will be sent through the Massachusetts Conference UCC and will then be forwarded to Wider Church Ministries. You can also go to our church website to make a donation at [www.auburnfirstucc.org](http://www.auburnfirstucc.org). Thank you for your support during this devastating time.

### **FRIENDS OF THE MERCY CENTRE FUNDRAISER**

Join us for an evening of fun including dinner and dancing!!!  
 Items will be raffled to help raise funds for the Mercy Centre.

**THANK YOU!**

Knights of Columbus Hall  
 49 Central Street, Auburn, MA  
**April 9, 2011 6:30-11:00 p.m.**

**HELP US MAKE  
 A DIFFERENCE!**

Seats are limited! Reserve today!  
 Please contact Garry Mahlert at 508-832-5860.



From *Here We Grow* Preschool

Welcome to spring and no more snow days. Although it seemed to be a long winter, I do agree that on some days it was beautiful and picturesque outside. Throughout the month of March we had some very busy days at *Here We Grow* Preschool. Many new faces were seen in the classrooms since we focus on Parent Volunteer Month. This has been a tradition at HWG for many years. The children had moms and dads who helped for a day and a few parents that were brave enough to do a science experiment. Many of our parents spent time in the classroom by reading a story at the end of sessions. It was also nice to have had some grand-parents spending time with us. The staff and children enjoyed having them.

Neal Primeaux spent two days for class and individual pictures of the children. Thank You to the Board of Christian Ed for allowing us the use of a Sunday school room for the individual pictures to be taken.

We held our Open House on March 9 with about sixty visitors. Once again comments were made on how well kept the church was and how bright and cheerful the classrooms are. At this time we have four openings for 4 year olds and six openings for 3 year olds. If you know of anyone looking for a preschool, please send them our way.

Our second fundraiser was done in March. The families of *Here We Grow* sold or ate many candy bars which then gave us a profit of about \$3,900.00. This money is used for the field trips taken during the school year. Our final fundraiser will be held April 5th through April 26th. We will be selling 10" hanging plants just in time for Mother's Day. Please stop by the Church office to place your order.

Also in March we were very lucky to have had a visit from members of the Massachusetts State Police, Auburn Police and the Amber Alert Team. They spent March 24<sup>th</sup> with us fingerprinting and picture taking our four year olds. All information was stored on a flash drive and then sent home to the parents.

Other visitors in March: two local veterinarians who shared their knowledge about animals with our four year olds and also the Tooth Fairy made a visit and spoke with all the children about the importance of healthy eating and daily brushing of our teeth.

Looking to April, *Here We Grow* will be on spring vacation April 18-22. I just know we will have great weather. We will be having Easter parties on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> with a visit from the Easter bunny.

Until next month, I hope everyone is well and enjoying the beautiful spring weather.

Dawn Murphy, *Here We Grow* Preschool Director

On March 20th we celebrated the baptism of Lily Katherine Nellis. Lily is the 3month old daughter of Patricia and Jason Nellis. We pray God's blessing upon Lily and her family.



**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Applications are now available in Fellowship Hall, and in the church office for anyone interested in applying for a scholarship.

**Applications are due by April 15th.**



Ernie Smith - April 9<sup>th</sup>  
Haydn McPherson - April 10<sup>th</sup>  
Bob MacLeod - April 27<sup>th</sup>

**BIRTHDAYS**  
THIS MONTH

**COMMUNITY YARD SALE RETURNS - SPACES AVAILABLE**

Spring cleaning? Do you have an accumulation of things that are just too good to throw away, but you no longer need? Don't throw that good "stuff" away. Recycle it by selling it to someone who needs it!

Don't have enough to hold your own yard sale? Join us on the church lawn **Saturday, June 18th** from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. Space is available for a fee of \$15. (non church members \$20 fee) and tables may be rented for \$5. Let us do the advertising. We promise to post plenty of signs at key locations in town and will advertise in the local newspapers. As usual we will also have a plant sale, and strawberry shortcake booth. Lunch will be available also. As always we expect a large turnout of shoppers. Reserve your space today by calling Cindy Dube at 508-832-6646 or the church office at 508-832-2845.

PLANTS NEEDED - Soon we gardeners will be cleaning up our perennial beds. Please keep the church in mind and pot and label a few plants for our sale. If done early they will be well established in their pots in time for our **plant sale on June 18th**. Be creative! Look around your yard for something unusual to contribute - a potted lilac shoot, rhubarb, or something that is just not working for you. Thanks in advance for keeping this FUNdraiser going!



*Plant Sale*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**

**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**South Acton**

**Congregational Church**

**35 School St, Acton**

**ARTISAN FAIR & CAFÉ**

Items include: handmade rag dolls, glassware, original paintings, pottery, handmade bags, wooden bowls, jewelry, artistic photographs. Have your child's portrait taken with a favorite stuffed animal.

... And so much more ...

**POTLUCK SUPPER & FELLOWSHIP**

Come, as we gather at the church for "Spirit Suppers" for an informal, potluck meal. All ages are invited to attend. The next supper will be held on April 13th at 6 p.m.

**Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ**

**212th ANNUAL MEETING ~ June 18, 2010**

**Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center, Sturbridge, Massachusetts**

**Changing Lives**

The theme of this year's Annual Meeting: Changing Lives "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation" based on II Corinthians 5:17. This passage encourages our deep commitment to the community of the United Church of Christ; excellence & transformational leadership in the work we do locally and collectively in the name of Jesus Christ.

Once again, this year our meeting will be one day filled with opportunity for talking together, sharing a meal together, doing business and filling our spirits with worship. The Annual Meeting Planning Committee, along with the Board of Directors, has made a commitment to keep the Annual Meeting both financially accessible and faithful to the business of the MA Conference of the United Church of Christ. The cost this year reflects a \$10 savings over last year's rate.

The Rev. Geoffrey A. Black, General Minister and President UCC, will be with us keynoting and leading us in communion. It is wonderful that Rev. Black is able to be with us celebrating our wider United Church of Christ community and our Communion in Christ. Pastor of Church of Christ in Millis and Stand-Up Comedian The Rev. Jennifer Munroe-Nathans will stoke our spirits with laughter. The band BFJ from West Brookfield, UCC will lead us in song.

I look forward to seeing you in Sturbridge on June 18th.

Grace and peace,  
Nancy Lawrence, Chairperson  
Annual Meeting Planning Committee

Register for the annual meeting online at [macucc.org](http://macucc.org).  
(Registration forms are also available in the church office.)



***First Congregational Church of Auburn***

***10<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament***

**Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Pine Ridge Country Club in Oxford**

**12:30 p.m. Registration – 1:30 p.m. Tee-off**

**Event features:**

**Raffle - Longest Drive – Closest to the Pin Contest – Prizes to top 3 teams**

**\$95 per player – includes golf, cart and dinner!**

**Non-golfers welcome to join us for dinner - \$30.00 per person**

-----detach here-----

Players:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor a Hole - \$100.00

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

or Business name: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: First Congregational Church (write "GOLF" in memo)

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Happy Easter! I pray you are all enjoying some nice spring weather.

I would like to thank Beverly and Cameron Scobie, Bessie Morgan, and my children for representing our church at the Special Olympics on March 12. I also want to thank Here We Grow who loan us their bean bag toss game every year, it is always a big hit. The athletes really enjoy the break from the tournament and love to play games with new faces.

On March 5th the **Confirmation Class** attended the UCC Super Saturday event at Ludlow High School. Thanks to your donations, along with the supplies brought from the other churches, we were able to complete 86 school kits.

March 16 the **Confirmation Class** participated in part 1 of the Urban Immersion program put on by the Worcester Area Missionary Society. On March 26, we participated in part 2 which involved touring the local shelters and programs for the homeless in Worcester.

March 20<sup>th</sup> **Youth On a Mission** began to construct a carpet ball table for all to enjoy. Carpet ball was a game they learned at Camp Berea during Deep Freeze. It soon became a favorite for young and old alike. I have contacted Camp Berea and I'm waiting for some dates for us to participate in a mini mission trip this spring. We will need SKILLED as well as UNSKILLED labor to help get the camp ready for the summer sessions. Please consider helping this worthwhile camp that has helped so many of our youth. You will enjoy a fun work weekend working along with the youth of the church on the banks of Newfound Lake in Hebron, N.H. I will keep you posted.

Also on March 20 and 27 **Youth On a Mission** sold Ever So Humble pies just in time for Easter. Delivery will be Palm Sunday. These pies have been a hit in the past. The fundraiser is to offset our expenses of trips and activities.

From pies we move to famine. The **Confirmation Class in combination with YOM** will be participating in a 30 HR Famine from Friday April 1 at 12:00 to Saturday April 2 at 6:00. We will "break" our fast with a pizza party. The youth will be seeking donations for World Vision. We will be donating all money collected to efforts in Haiti. Please help support the kids in this worthwhile cause. During our day on Saturday we will be participating in a community service project not yet determined. We hope to be working around the church on projects that need to be completed.

April 17 The **Board of Ed** will again serve up what is turning into our Annual Palm Sunday breakfast. Our menu includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, fruit salad and various baked goods. PLEASE sign up on the sheet in the rear of fellowship hall so we can plan accordingly. If you do not sign up and decide that morning you would like to come, please do.

Also on Palm Sunday we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt and craft afternoon. Kids both young and old enjoy this event. This would be a good event for Grandparents to bring the grand-kids and give Mom and Dad a little break. The sign up sheet is in the BACK of fellowship hall on the Sunday school bulletin board.

**FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** Continued . . .

April 24 Easter. The **Confirmation Class** will participate in the sunrise service at Hillside cemetery. The service starts at 5:30 a.m. in the rear of the cemetery.

April 29 and 30 you will find the **Confirmation Class** and leaders sleeping on the floor of Cathedral Church of Saint Paul in Boston as part of the City Reach program. During our time we will be serving food and clothing to guests and participating in a night time common cathedral service as well as outreach to the Boston homeless population.

As you can see, we are very busy sharing God's love in a multitude of ways. If you would like to participate in any or all of these activities, please don't hesitate to sign up or talk with me if you have questions.

With His guidance we serve,  
Jean McPherson, Director of Religious Education

**FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

From recent Global disasters, to all still recovering during the past few years, our prayers continue to be lifted up to victims of tragedy around the world; as well as, prayers for all persons helping our neighbors in need. Our faiths throughout the world may differ, but our LOVE for one another, is simply from the heart.

For many years during a week in the summer (typically the 3<sup>rd</sup> full week in July), through the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), the First Congregational Church in Auburn, has hosted homeless families for one week in which the families are moving from church to church throughout the year. During this week, the families live in the Sunday School rooms; are picked up each day and taken off site to attend to their daily functions of school, work or job hunting; and, then come back to a supper served in the Church's 1<sup>st</sup> floor vestry by our volunteer parishioners. This year we may not be able to house these families, as we have no one to take on the duties of Chairperson/s to prepare and orchestrate this week in July with IHN. There are many volunteer assistants; but, without one organizer, this year will be a pass for our Church, and we will be notifying IHN of our decision not to house families this year. If anyone would like to volunteer to organize this year's host week...or, would like more information on the duties involved, please contact Pat Bukoski (508) 798 -8765 or someone from Outreach as soon as possible.

We recently received a Hope for Housing Update Special: If you haven't seen it ... and even if you have ... please check out "**CBS's 60 Minutes Homeless Kids**" ... and [click on the video.](http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7358670n) <http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7358670n>... it's very much worth the time ... and please, if possible share with others. Let me also pass along the thank you we continually receive for the support First Congregational Church in Auburn has given from our weekly grocery card sales. "Thank You!"

Upcoming date, mark on your calendars May 22<sup>nd</sup> for joining Outreach's visit to Worcester Fellowship on Worcester Common (more info next *Tidings*).

In Love, Hope, Peace & Understanding,  
Sue MacPhee, Outreach Committee Secretary

## BACK TO HAITI

As you may or may not know, Randy and I will be returning to Haiti this fall (October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>). We will be traveling with Monadnock Bible Conference again, but this time we will be part of a medical mission that provides free medical care to the people of Haiti. In Haiti you have to pay “up front” for any medical care. The clinics provided by MBC may be the only care these people receive. It is also quite common for collections to be taken from the missions team to provide for surgical procedures that can not be performed by the clinics themselves such as hernias, abscesses and other more in depth treatments. We will also be spending some time with the orphans from Redeemer’s Child Orphanage and checking out the progress on the new orphanage we broke ground on last November.

“MBC ministries, are mercy and compassion based but do not diminish or lack the power of the gospel. At MBC we see it as counterintuitive and disingenuous to see a brother or sister in need and say, “Go, I wish you well. Keep warm and well fed” and yet do nothing about it. The Haitians have a proverb; “sak vid pa kanpe” an empty sack doesn’t stand up, meaning a hungry person can’t do anything. This person is so overwhelmed by their condition that words are seldom heard, but actions are understood. As we meet physical needs (hunger, thirst, naked, sick . . . ) we have the opportunity to speak to spiritual needs in Jesus’ name.”

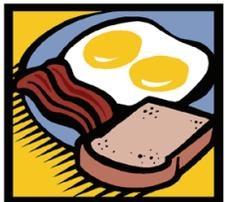
As the time for our trip draws closer we **may** take up a collection for some over the counter medications and such, but right now what we really need is our church’s help to get there. The Outreach Committee has generously donated \$500 for our trip deposits, but we still need to raise a minimum of another \$2200 (maybe more depending on what the on going crisis in the Mid East does to gas prices and therefore airfare). We are so grateful for your ongoing support and love.

One of our first fundraisers will be selling two cords of wood we have. This is seasoned, dried hard wood ready to go. Please see Randy or me if you’re interested.

In His Service,  
Jennifer & Randy

Congratulations to the Woodcock Family on the birth of twins, Annabell and Evelyn Laque, who were born Feb. 24, 2011. Annabell weighed in at 4 lbs., 14 oz. and 18 inches long and Evelyn was 5 lbs., 4 oz. and 18 ½ inches long. The girls are the daughters of Brittany and Michael Laque. Grandparents are Charles and Karen Woodcock and proud great-grandparents are Marion and Don Woodcock.

## BREAKFAST



## FELLOWSHIP

### PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST ~ WHAT’S UP WITH WAMS

The Board of Ed is hosting a **Palm Sunday breakfast on April 17<sup>th</sup>**. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. and will consist of scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausages, fresh fruit salad and baked treats. There is no charge for the breakfast, we just look forward to a time of fellowship. Also, Bob Bachelder will be joining us to update us on what’s happening with the Worcester Area Mission Society.

Please sign up in fellowship hall during coffee hour or give the church office a call if you plan to attend, just so we will be sure to have enough food for everyone. See Jennifer Bohn or Jeanne McPherson if you have any questions.

\*\*Also if you ordered an Ever-So-Humble Pie they will also be delivered on Palm Sunday\*\*

AUBURN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
"TOWN-WIDE CLEAN UP" SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2011

8:30-9:00 a.m. Registration at Auburn Fire Station, Drury Square  
9:00-11:30 a.m. Town-wide Clean-up

FREE LUNCHEON FOR VOLUNTEERS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLEAN -UP  
Hosted & Sponsored by: **Outback Steakhouse, 771 Southbridge Street, Auburn**

We are asking for your help to help clean up our town. Volunteers will meet at the Auburn Fire Station at Drury Square at 8:30 a.m. to register and pick-up trash bags, safety vests, gloves, confirm route assignments, and go to work. **CAPITOL SIDING & HOME IMPROVEMENT** located at 30 Auburn Street is donating safety yellow STAFF shirts for everyone volunteering that day. **FRANKENSTEIN'S RECYCLING** will take any METAL items to recycle. There will be a dumpster at the Fire Station the morning of the event. Items must be FULL METAL ONLY.

Questions??? Please contact: Eleanor Houbre, Director, Auburn Chamber of Commerce 508 -753-2924 x224  
(Registration forms are available in the Church office.)

CRADLE ROLL

4/3 Andrew Gemme & adult volunteer needed      4/10 Linda Hardy & Tori Stockhaus  
4/17 Judy Murphy & Julie Cove      4/24 **Easter Sunday (no cradle roll)**

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS: Cradle Roll coverage begins at 9:45 a.m.

Fire Alarm Fund

As many of you know, the church was completely destroyed by fire in 1896. We have therefore started a Fire Alarm fund to save up money to outfit the church with a fire alarm system. We have already received a \$10,000 anonymous donation to start funding this system, and anticipate we will need an additional \$25,000. If you would like to contribute, please write "Fire Alarm" on your donation. Thank you!

**EASTER EGG HUNT**



On Palm Sunday, April 17th, following worship we are planning an Easter Egg Hunt and Craft Time. This has quickly become a tradition — whether you're seeking hidden goodies or helping with the crafts, it's fun for all ages. Please see the sign-up sheet on the Sunday School bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

## Easter Plant Order Form

Once again we will be accepting orders for Easter plants. On Easter Sunday there will be a special insert in the bulletin noting who the plant is in honor of and who it's from. This is a wonderful way to pay tribute to a loved one while also decorating our Church Sanctuary. Just complete the order form below and drop it off at the Church or mail it to: FCC, 128 Central St., Auburn, MA 01501. Please submit your order form with payment **no later than Sunday, Apr. 17th.**

**Lilies (1 stem) \$10.00** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lilies (2 stems) \$15.00** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tulips 8" pot (11 bulbs) \$10.00** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tulips large pot (22 bulbs) \$16.00** \_\_\_\_\_

Color Choice: Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Pink \_\_\_\_\_  
 Red \_\_\_\_\_ Orange \_\_\_\_\_

**Hyacinth (6 bulbs) \$10.00** \_\_\_\_\_ ↙  
 Color Choice: Blue \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_

**Dedication: (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)**

**In Memory of** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Celebration of/for** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you have questions, please call Connie or Ron Hanks at 508-832-4227 or the church office at 508 -832-2845. Extra order forms are available online, from Denise in the office, from a Deacon or on the table in Fellowship Hall.

*TIDINGS is a monthly publication of*

**First Congregational Church,  
 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.*

*Web: auburnfirstucc.org*



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

### April 2011

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