



The Courier

Semi-monthly Newsletter September 19, 2008

Melrose
Highlands
Congregational
Church

www.mhcc-ucc.org

FALL WORSHIP PLANS



September 21

“Envy: The Wrong Kind of Green”

Matthew 20:1-16

Laborers in the Vineyard

September 28

“The Chosen”

Exodus 12:1-14

October 5

World Communion Day

Philippians 4:1-9

Be of one mind

October 12

Columbus Day Weekend

“The Journey Was Hard”

Exodus 14:19-31

October 19

Joint Service

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

The Message & The Holy Spirit

October 26

“The Golden Rule”

Matthew 22:34-45

The Greatest Commandment

Calling All Ushers!



Can you smile, shake hands, and help our church? If you answered ‘yes’ to any of these then you would make an excellent usher.

Ushering requires a commitment of only five Sundays during the church year. Usher tasks include arriving 20 minutes before worship for some very light tasks, handing out programs, taking the offering and some tasks after the service.

We are looking for new and returning ushers, young and not so young, newcomers and veterans alike.

If you would like to usher please contact John Oteri of the deacons at 781-665-5715 or by email at joteri@comcast.net and John will put you on the schedule. We look forward to many volunteers! Thanks.

WHAT’S NEW AT CHURCH

Peek into the sanctuary and what do you see? New carpeting! The color is just right and the new padding makes it positively springy. Thank you to Property, the Capital Campaign and to all of you who are giving to the Campaign so we can make these improvements.

SPQOK-tacular

Church Fair

Saturday, October 25

The Spooktacular Harvest Fair is “*creep*”ing up on us and we need your help!

What can you do? Glad you asked! Here are a few suggestions to help you, help us:

- Items for the Holiday Table: Christmas & Thanksgiving decorations; etc.
- “Timeless” treasures (gently used linen, china, silver, jewelry, etc.)
- Hand-made items: knitted, crocheted or sewn;
- Gift Baskets valued \$25.00 or less.
- Silent Auction Items: Home-made crafts from wood to needlework and new items valued over \$25.00;
- Baked goods, cookies and candy!

When thinking of baked goods think Fall Harvest and Halloween: pumpkin bread & muffins; pies: pumpkin, squash, apple, pecan; apple tarts, candied apples; beef stew, pickled veggies (green beans, beets, cucumbers, zucchini), bat or pumpkin-shaped cookies, a small cornucopia filled with cookies, etc. Most needed: 2 to 4 serving size, as those are the most popular!

NEXT COURIER DEADLINE

Wednesday October 1st at noon.



Summer is just about over but we do not need a calendar to tell us this.

Just come to the church any day and see how busy things are!

As you all know Temple Beth Shalom is worshipping in our chapel two to three times a month and the Christ the King's Ministry Assembly of God congregation is worshipping in our sanctuary three nights a week. In addition we are hosting regular Girl Scout and Boy Scout meetings, a new group doing ballroom dancing on the first Saturday of every month, a scrapbook group, a divorce group, and the Course On Miracles group. And of course we have our own church meetings as well. MHCC is a busy place these days.

To try and find some balance amidst all of this hustle and bustle, I am offering a mid-week time of quiet prayer, music, and reflection on Wednesday nights from 7:00-7:30 p.m. **in the chapel.** We will begin on October 1st... come by and give it a try. See if it makes a difference in your life.

Another way the church will try to help you find balance in your life is through my challenge to find two or three FUN activities that everyone can get involved in and enjoy. Over the next week or so I will be collecting ideas and then you will be asked to vote on them so we can pick the most popular ones and get them onto the church calendar. So get me those ideas and watch for upcoming announcements of time of FUN here at the church.

Rev. Peggy O'Connor

Rotation Workshop Wraps up Its Cycle



Believe it or not, we wrapped up the final year of the 3½ year cycle of the Rotation Workshop curriculum at MHCC in our Church School. The program began in January 2005 with the Creation story and has covered 27 bible stories. This September, the curriculum begins the story cycle again. Each of the 27 stories will be studied again over the next 3½ years. Children who learned about the Creation story as kindergarteners in 2005, will revisit the story as 4th graders this fall.

Rotation Workshop offers our students the opportunity to explore a specific part of the Bible for a four week period. Each week classes visit a different workshop relating to the story or a theme. Our current workshops are:

- ♦ Our Daily Bread (cooking, food preparation)
- ♦ Divine Dramatics (drama, storytelling, music)
- ♦ Holyword Theater (audio visual media)
- ♦ Thou Art (creative arts, crafts)
- ♦ Glorious Games (Bible skills, active games)

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who have demonstrated caring and commitment to the children and youth of our Church. Our Church School program would not be viable without the support of the congregation and our Christian Education Board. Please consider participating in Rotation Workshop this fall.

Rotation Workshop Restarts!

The Church School year began officially on Sunday, September 7th. The traditional welcome back breakfast was served in Fellowship Hall. Families were invited to register for the school year at this time. Our first Sunday together in Church School was filled with fun activities including music & crafts.



On September 14th the Story of Creation began our Rotation Workshop Program. With the completion of our 3-1/2 year rotation of stories this past spring now begins our second run through of rotation! This year six bible stories will be revisited and the theme of the enrichment Sundays will be "The Bible."

We are once again in need of teachers & shepherds. All adults of the Church are encouraged to participate in this year's Rotation Workshop. You may choose to be a teacher or assist as a shepherd. Share your time in an area of your liking; workshops include art, drama, music, cooking, or movie. A four week commitment is all that is needed. Lesson plans are provided for this fun and rewarding experience.

Listed below are the dates and stories that will be covered this fall. Email me at barrissfamily@verizon.net and let me know how you would like to be a part of educating the children of our community.

Upcoming Workshops:

- ♦ Jonah & the Whale: October 19, 26 & November 2, 9
- ♦ Lydia November 16, 23, 30

Looking forward to a great school year!

MaryAnn Barriss

CONGRATULATIONS!

Miles Lindor Fisher was born on July 26th at 1:37 p.m. He was 8 lbs. 20" long. Everyone is doing well. Kaya, his older sister, loves her new baby brother. Miles is the son of Carola Emrich-Fisher and Colin Fisher.



Roman Anthony Pecci was born on April 2nd weighing 8 lbs. 11 oz. and 20-1/2" long. He was welcomed home with love by his family: Matt (Dad), Meredith (Mom), big sister Anna and big brother Mason AND he will be baptized in our sanctuary on September 28 during our Sunday worship service. Come and welcome him into the family of God and the love of this Church.

FLOWER MEMORIAL SEPTEMBER



The flowers that grace the altar are given

September 7 - in celebration for the start of a new MHCC year. A warm "Welcome Back" to all!

September 14 - in loving memory of Arlene and Allison Hayes

September 21 - in loving memory of The parents of James and Kathy Lacey.

September 28 - in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Gardner W. Oakes.

Carolyn MacGregor to perform in Needham!



Carolyn MacGregor, former *Children of Note* director, invites you to a concert at her new church in Needham. The concert will be held at the **Congregational Church of Needham on Sunday, October 19, at 3:00 pm.** Carolyn will be joined by pianist, Shiela Kibbe and harpist, Beth MacGregor Cuddy. The program includes works of Barber, Handel, Debussy, Grandjany and Foster. Carolyn would love to see some MHCC friends there! The cost will be \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for youth and a family rate of \$25.00. Please note, however, that the concert is not appropriate for young children. For more information, please call Carolyn at 781-400-5360.

LUNCH BUNCH



**Wednesday, October 8th
12:30 P.M.**

DANVERSPORT YACHT CLUB

161 Elliot Street, Danvers
Route 128N to Exit 22E

For reservations or a ride please call Virginia Howe at 781.665.4644. Everyone is welcome!

SPIRITUALITY OPPORTUNITIES THIS FALL



REVIVE: SPA FOR THE SOUL

A mid-week, half-hour, gathering in our chapel aimed at helping you to refresh body and soul. It begins October 1 and will continue through November 12. Consider giving it a try!

Bible Study is every Tuesday morning at 11:00 a.m. in the Library with Arnold Carlson. Bible Study is expected to restart October 7.

Labyrinth Walk is held every second Wednesday each month at 7:30 p.m. Please join us!

Prayer Group meets with Peggy every Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. Watch the bulletin for more information about their restart date.



The family of **Robert (Bob) Hancock** who passed away on 9/16/08. We hold his wife Jan, son John, daughter-in-law Helen, grandchildren Daniel, Alex and Garrett, and step-grandchildren Brandi and Kerri in our prayers.

Georgia Blow who was recently hospitalized.

Polly Harlow who loves it when church members visit.

Rotation Workshop
Story: The Story of Creation

Date	September 14	September 21	September 28	October 5 <i>Communion Sunday</i>
<i>Thou Art</i>	Grades 5 - 8	PreSchool - Grade 1	Grades 2 - 4	<i>Children of Note & Creation Games</i> PreSchool - Grades 4 Call to Worship Grades 5-8
Divine Dramatics	Grades 2 - 4	Grades 5 - 8	PreSchool - Grade 1	
Holy Word Theatre	PreSchool - Grade 1	Grades 2 - 4	Grades 5 - 8	

STAFF

Church Office: 781-665-4200

Ministers: People of the church!

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Emergency 781-444-3299

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Christian Education:

Patricia Sevier 781-438-2653

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Harold Prenatt 781-932-9375

High School Youth Leaders:

John Everett 781-665-2409

Liz Faughnan 781-438-3346

Middle School Youth Leader:

Jim Dunne 617-395-4386

Children of Note Choir Director:

Lara Ruoss 479-871-3931

Highlands Nursery School Director:

Sue McGrath 781-665-4202

Sexton:

John Angel

Parish Administrator:

Kelly Fung

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