

The Courier

Semi-monthly Newsletter

June 26, 2008

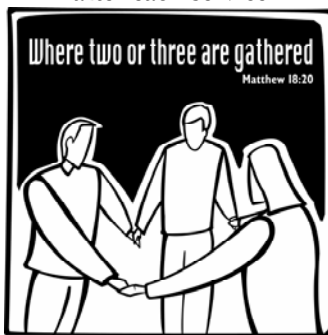
**Melrose
Highlands
Congregational
Church**

www.mhcc-ucc.org

UNION SERVICES

10:00 a.m. Worship

Childcare provided.
Light refreshments served
after each service.



Green Street Baptist 179 Green Street

June 29: Rev. Taranowski

July 6: Rev. Taranowski

First United Methodist 645 Main Street

July 13: Rev. O'Connor

July 20: Rev. Starr

Unitarian Universalist 70 West Emerson Street

July 27: Rev. Threet

August 3: Rev. O'Connor

First Congregational 121 West Foster Street

August 10: Rev. Hartman

August 17: Rev. Threet

Highlands Congregational 355 Franklin Street

August 24: Rev. Hartman

August 31: Rev. Starr

PASTORAL SEARCH NEWS



We have taken our first significant steps in gathering the information we need to complete our Church Profile, which is the descriptive document that will go out to prospective candidates. Our first step was the informal conversation we prompted at the church annual meeting last month, where we sat among luncheon attendees and asked a few simple questions. Our second step was to develop the more formal Congregational Survey, which has been available online and in paper form. Please see separate article, regarding the survey. We recently accepted (with regret) Nick Constantine's resignation from the Committee, as he decided that the time commitment might be more than he could handle in the coming school year, but we are pleased to add to our ranks Margaret Valliere, recently back from her latest year in France!

Our discussions have been spirited, thoughtful and fruitful, and over the summer we will continue meeting regularly to discuss the survey results, gather other factual information, and plan for the very important PASTORAL SEARCH

RETREAT to be held in the fall. Please **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** now for a one day retreat to be held on **Saturday, October 24, 2008**, location and time TBA. The conversations we have at this retreat will be critical to our church's work of identifying what we seek in our next pastor.

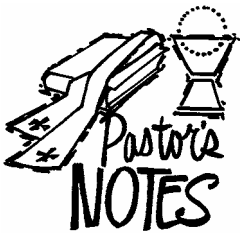
CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY



The Pastoral Search Congregational Survey has gone out via email and has been available in paper form, at the Church Office, for those who don't use email. While it makes it easier for us if you can complete the survey online, as the (anonymous) results are being tabulated by the online service we are using, we don't want anyone to be left out! If you need a survey mailed to you, please let us know via Kelly, at the Church Office. Either way, we hope you can complete the survey by June 30. Thank you – your input is very important to our work!

A note to email users: if the church has your email address (our list has census updates

included), you should have received the survey on Saturday, June 7. If you did not, please check (if you are able) to see if the survey was filtered out as spam. The email sender is Kelly@mhcc-ucc.org, and the subject line is “*MHCC Congregational Survey*” (although in at least one instance it looked like gibberish in the subject line, when it was in the spam folder, and only appeared correctly when later delivered to the inbox!) If you did not receive the survey at all, please email Kelly via the email address you wish to use, and we’ll get it out to you ASAP.



This past Sunday was our last “regularly scheduled” service in our sanctuary until September. June 29th is the first summer “Union Service” and will be at the Green Street Baptist Church.

MHCC will host two Union Services this summer: August 24 and August 31. The Reverend Church Hartman will preach on the 24th and the Reverence Larry Starr on the 31st.

As people left the sanctuary this past Sunday, many said they hoped that I have a great summer. Well, I hope that too. But I will be here at the church throughout the rest of June and July.

You might wonder, given that there is no worship service, what a minister could find to do at the Church over the summer. Well, this week I am finishing

things up, like the Prayer Group which will meet on Thursday and then take the summer off. Then, there are Courier articles to be written for July and for August. There is Pre-marriage counseling to be completed for a couple planning on getting married in August. And there is an entire year of worship services and sermons to plan for. This is what I will be working on for three of the weeks in July. Happily, two of our deacons, Paul Lind and Anne Whelan, have agreed to help in this process which is very exciting for me.

And, of course, there is visitation of those in the hospital or at home who cannot get out. Plus, the Pastoral Search Committee will be meeting all summer and I will attend some of their meetings to offer whatever help I can.

So, I will be here, in the office through the end of July. If you would like to see me it is best that you call for an appointment as I may be out on visit or appointment.

Peace and Blessings,
Rev. Peggy O’Connor

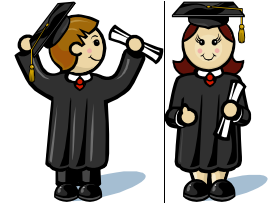
Dear Friends,

I wish to thank you for honoring my husband, Dave, Bonnie Bowden and Rev. Wendy on Sunday, June 15th. I was sorry to see you Peggy with such a painful injury. We wanted you to know we appreciated that lovely service.

Love & best wishes to you all,
Margaret Cheney & Family



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!!



Our graduates were recognized in worship on June 15th:

Sandra Chen, Kirby Graham, Will Valliere, Melrose High School. **Caitlin Nasella**, Mystic Valley Regional Charter School.

Molly Egan, B.A. in Equine Science from Otterbein College, OH.

David Bassett, Masters of Science in Healthcare Mgt. from Marymount University, Arlington, VA.

POLY HARLOW will be celebrating her 90th birthday on July 17th.



Joyce Nixon and all of Polly’s family invite her MHCC family to visit and share birthday cake during the week that begins Sunday, July 13th through Friday, July 18th between the hours of 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Polly and her family look forward to seeing you saying “this is nothing fancy and please remember no gifts.” Polly’s home address is 12 Greenwood Street, Wakefield.



Summer Labyrinth Walks

Wednesday, July 9 &
Wednesday, August 13
@ 7:30 p.m.

Please join us for
some quiet reflection!



The family of Alice Planta who died June 11 and whose life was celebrated here on June 17th.

Georgia Blow – recently hospitalized.

Barbara Bemiss – continuing with treatment.

Traci McNulty – continuing with treatment.

Wesley Planta – recently hospitalized.

LUNCH BUNCH



Wednesday, July 9
12:30 p.m.

THE CONTINENTAL
Route 1 North, Saugus

Please call Ed Vickery at 781.665.5971 for rides and reservations. Everyone is welcome!

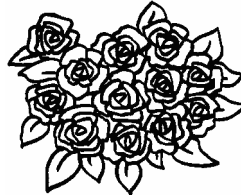
A FEATHER IN YOUR CAP



AWARDED TO MARYLOU GRAHAM

Marylou, once again, organized the 8th Grade Year End Celebration Dance, from coordinating the food, marketing the event, managing ticket sales, decorating the hall to cleaning up. This was a great fundraiser for the Church and as always the highlight of the year for the youth of Melrose. Thank you Marylou for your time, talent and commitment to this annual event!

FLOWER MEMORIAL JUNE



The flowers that grace the altar
are given in loving memory of

June 1 - Ellen Duggan in honor of her birthday, from the Wingeraths and in loving memory of Mary & Alfred Tonks, and Robert L. Tonks.

June 8 – Hildur H. Lyons and Arthur L. Lyons, Sr., and Jennie M. Lyons and Mary J. Lyons.

June 15 - Mr. Burton Harlow and Kenneth Harlow.

June 22 – Agnes, Albert and Wilbur James.

NEXT COURIER DEADLINE

Wednesday, July 2nd at noon.



We welcome
Arianna

Casterlin who
was baptized on
June 15th.

Arianna is the daughter of Brian Casterlin and Monique Jacobs. Grandparents are Ellen & Tom Doucette and Dorothy & Bruce Casterlin; sister of Tiara & Chantal Jacobs.

CE DIRECTOR OPPORTUNITY



The Board of Christian Education is still looking for a new Christian Education Director. Do you or someone you know have the gift to work with children? Some of the gifts we are looking for are the love of children and youth, the ability to see big picture, be a visionary, and be able to develop supportive relationships with volunteers.

The position requires 15-20 flexible hours a week, Sunday mornings are required. This would be a wonderful opportunity for a teacher or perhaps an at-home parent. If you or someone you know may be interested in this opportunity please contact Joanne Hartung at jhartung@fundquest.com and we can provide additional information.



Dear Friends:

I am writing on behalf of VNA Hospice Care, formerly known as Hospice Care, Inc. We serve patients and families in your community. As you may know, hospice cares for patients who have a life-limiting illness and are seeking care and comfort. Volunteers are an important part of our team, which also includes nurses, social workers, home health aides and chaplains. Hospice volunteers are men and women who come from diverse

backgrounds and range in age from their 20's to their 80's. They are caring and compassionate people who provide patients with company and emotional support, give the spouse or other caregiver a needed break from caregiving and/or help caregivers run errands or get to and from appointments. There is also a need for volunteers who speak English and a second language.

We are asking for our help in spreading the word about the need for volunteers and about our upcoming training. Volunteer training will begin in summer or fall. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about becoming a hospice volunteer, please contact me, Lisa Palais, Volunteer Coordinator at 1.866.279.7103 or 781.569.2888. Thank you!

STAFF	
Church Office:	781-665-4200
Ministers:	People of the church!
Pastor:	
Rev. Peggy O'Connor	781-665-4200
Emergency	781-444-3299
E-mail:	Pastor@mhcc-ucc.org
Christian Education:	
MaryAnn Barriss	781-665-3594
Laura Hume	781-665-9136
Music Director:	
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
Fax # (call first)	781-665-4201
WEB SITE: www.mhcc-ucc.org	