

St. Paul's Church of Palmer

Universalist-Unitarian

Box 307, 1060 Central Street

Palmer, MA 01069-0307

www.uuchurch-palmer.org

MAY 2010

Barbara Stone, Music Director

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NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends,

I recently came across the story presented below which I wrote a few years back. Please enjoy it.

Peace, *Craig*

The Sermon

While walking down a familiar path one day I came across an elderly man. His hair was gray, his posture stooped, and his pace slow, his eyes however, were radiant. As we began to pass each other I smiled and said "Hello".

He stopped, looked at me and said, "Have you heard?"

"No, I guess not, what?" I said.

"God is preaching today at the cathedral", he exclaimed, "I've just returned from hearing the sermon".

"Really?" I said, "What cathedral?"

"The cathedral beyond those hills", he said pointing far into the distance.

"How do I get there?" I asked.

"Just follow this path", he said, "but be prepared, it takes many seasons to get there." The old man then continued on his way. Eager to hear what God might say, I embarked down the path, determined to find the cathedral. Along the journey I was met with steep, rocky hills, torrential rain, thunder and lightening, and blinding snow, but I also encountered green pastures dotted with fragrant flowers, warm calming breezes, and awesome sunsets. Then one day, after many seasons, I came upon a sign. It was covered in moss. I wiped it off. It simply read "Cathedral". I looked up but there was nothing but a dense grove of tall trees before me. My heart sank for a moment as I thought of how far I had traveled only to find the cathedral and God were gone. Discouraged, I entered the grove to wallow in my misfortune. I continued far inside the grove, into the darkened space lit only by some occasional soft, diffused rays of sun that managed to bypass the thick lush foliage of the trees. Exhausted, I sat down on the mossy earth that blanketed the grove. I soon noticed the complete solitude and silence that filled the air. My mind became free of all concerns as I quietly reveled in the mystical beauty that surrounded me. I glanced around, observing the all at once eerie, yet, serene arrangement of light and shadow within the grove. Just then I noticed another sign nailed to a tree. I stood up and walked over to it. It was worn, but still legible. It read, "Quiet Please, God speaking".

- Craig M. Nowak

CHURCH CALENDAR

Services are at 10 AM in Sanctuary

May 2	Craig Nowak
9	Rev. Jon Rehmus
16	Craig Nowak
23	Rev. Jon Rehmus
30	Rev. Bill Baughan

*** Coffee Hour immediately following the Sunday Service in Fellowship Hall. ***

Coffee Hour

Coffee hour is the time when we get to touch base with and care about each other. Verna Besaw makes that time "sweeter" for all of us. Thank you Verna for bringing goodies to coffee hour week after week. You are truly our "Coffee Hour Angel."

Anniversaries and Birthdays

May 2	Barbara Clark	May 14	Larry Boulanger
3	Rob Faulkner	19	Linda Henrichon
4	Heather Harvey	20	Holly Boulanger
5	Jim Keydel	26	Joan Allen
8	Art Alois		
10	Barbara Foy	31	Mary & Gene Papineau
13	Brad Salzmann		

Cares, Joys and Concerns

Prayers and thoughts go out to Cathy Senecal and her family on the loss of her mother, who passed away recently.

We recently heard from Maurice and Ginny Tierney: "To all our friends, Maurice and I are happy to announce the up coming marriage of our daughter, Sharane Alyce Tierney to Rashad Carnel Austin.

The wedding will take place at the Holyoke Merry Go Round in Heritage State Park on Saturday May 22, 2010 at 6:30 pm.

We will be traveling back to New England to attend the wedding and visit with family and friends.

Just wanted to let you know about this exciting news. Look forward to the newsletter each month so we know what is happening.

You can reach me at vatierny@aol.com "

Food Share

A Food Share Box is located in Fellowship Hall near the coat closet. Please feel free to place your non-perishable items in this box. Palmer Food Share at 39 Walnut St. is open on Tuesday and Friday from 10 am to 11:30 am. Those in need must register prior to receiving food, and then are eligible to receive food every 3 months. You can even mail donations to Food Share, 39 Walnut Street, Palmer 01069.

Church Greeters

Gordon and Irene Christiansen and Verna Besaw have graciously offered to be greeters on Sundays. If you would like to also greet, you can call the church office at 283-8185.

Community Meals

Community Meals are held the 4th Saturday of each month. If you would like to donate a food item or make a monetary contribution, you can let Barbara Stone know at 413-283-5257. The next meal will be **May 22, 5 pm.**

FYI



MAY TAG SALE

May 10-15

Same as Brimfield Flea Market

We are accepting useable furniture,
Kitchenware, books in good shape, etc.

NOT accepting clothing, computers,
printers, mattresses, encyclopedias

Call Gordon Christiansen for more information.

The Book Sale and Curio Shoppe in Fellowship Hall opened in April; and will be open on Saturdays from 10 am until 1 pm.

Memorial Day is celebrated on Monday, May 31. Why not go to a cemetery and thank your parents or other relatives for the wonderful life you have !

On Sunday, May 30 at 3:00 pm there will be a special Memorial Day service at the Second Congregational Church, featuring the Ecumenical Choir. Barbara Stone and Bob Faulkner will be participating in this service. Watch for more information to follow.

If you would like something to appear in a newsletter, you can contact Barb Windoloski at bwindoloski@charter.net or 413-593-1936.

Did you know that if you buy a dog a toy and it will play with it forever. Buy a cat a toy and it will play with the wrapper !!!!

Robert Frost said, "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: **It goes on.**"