

# *Spirit & Sparks*

JUNE 2010



The Congregational Church of Weston, UCC, 130 Newton Street, Weston, MA 02493  
www.congwestonucc.net 781-899-5417 781-647-1165-fax

## **PASTOR & TEACHER EDITORIAL**

At the end of the year, endless thanks are in order! It feels to me that this has been a particularly effective and faithful year which we have shared together; from my perspective perhaps the best one of my fifteen, given the net results of our common discipleship! While I need to refrain from Annual Report mode only half way through the annual year, I do need to share a heart of gratitude as the church year closes. But I am tremendously mindful not only of all that has been accomplished (dare I even start the list?). -From two major Jubilee events to your approval of our new church structure to two service-learning projects to three well functioning youth programs to six new members to a spate of new bell hand bell ringers to growing numbers of Faith Discovery children learning not just about Christianity, but this year about Judaism and Islam as well, as we shall soon see at Children's Day..... Yes, I do run on! Yes, I could even more!

The point I am reaching toward is a mighty THANK YOU! And BLESS YOU, ALL OF YOU who have worked so extraordinarily hard to create and lead and guide us through this wonderful and effective year! And, by gory, am I tired! And I assume the same "By Gory" for so many of you! But you know, there is a "good tired" and a "bad tired." And I am just wonderfully tired! And I hope that too is the case for so many of you! My own load of fatigue nonetheless over-flows with gratitude! Yes, God is good, and so are you to grant me a sabbatical and a vacation through the entire summer! I will be a better pastor for it. And God is good to all of us to give us this rhythm of the seasons, and soon, the glorious way in which we, unlike so many of God's four-footed species, hibernate in the summer! (That said, some

wonderful worship is being planned for my absence: stay tuned for next month's *Spirit and Sparklers!*)

And that is what is on my heart and mind as I think of what to say at the end of the year. For countless gifts, talents, hours of service, genuine support, truths spoken in love, generousities of spirit and time and checkbooks and so much more, thank you beyond telling!

Faithfully yours,

Joe Mayher  
Pastor and Teacher

## WORSHIP THEMES FOR JUNE 2010

### June 6 – Communion Sunday

Theme: Manna from Heaven  
 Text: I Kings 17: 8-24  
 Rev. Joe Mayher, Preacher

### June 13 – Children’s Day and All Church Picnic

Theme: Neighbors in Faith  
 Pageant based on *Old Turtle and the Broken Truth*

### June 20 – Father’s Day

Theme: On Losing and Finding One’s Faith  
 Text: I Kings 19: 1-15  
 Rev. Natalie Austrian, preacher

### June 27 – Summer Union Service – First Parish at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Harry Hoehler, preacher

## SUMMER UNION SERVICES BEGIN JUNE 27, 2010

The First Parish Church located on Boston Post Road, near the Town Green will host 10 AM Summer Union Services June 27 through July 25. Services then switch to the Congregational Church beginning August 1 with the final Summer Union Service on September 5. Regular worship services will resume on September 12.

Look for the listing of preachers and themes in the July/August summer edition of “*Spirit and Sparklers.*” All **Summer Union Services begin at 10:00 AM regardless of location.**

## JUNE REMINDERS

| <u>Date</u>               | <u>Altar Flowers*</u> | <u>Ushers#</u> | <u>Fellowship Hour#</u> | <u>Light Bearer</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 6/6                       | Braun                 |                |                         | Hannah Brown        |
| 6/13<br>Children’s Sunday |                       | Bull           | All-church picnic       | Trisha Mitchell     |
| 6/20<br>Fathers’ Day      |                       | Gunderson      |                         | Gillian Reeder      |

\* Altar Flower arrangements cost \$52 when the church office orders through Leiby’s or you may provide your own.  
 # Instructions for Ushering or hosting Fellowship Hour are in the Events Binder.  
 (P) Perennial Donor

## HELP US BEAT THE FINANCIAL HEAT

While many of us are away on summer vacations, and/or take a hiatus from church year commitments (and even attendance) the work of the church goes on, and we continue to incur expenses for salaries, maintenance, and other operating costs. Because pledge receipts typically slow down during the summer months, meeting these financial obligations can put pressure on our cash balances and force us to temporarily tap our bank line of credit. In order to

help us avoid unnecessary interest charges, please consider making a payment toward your annual pledge during the next several weeks.

Thanks and have a wonderful summer!

Paul Reeder  
Finance Chair

## JUNE 13TH ALL-CHURCH

Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 12am-1:30pm will be a fun day for all ages not to be missed! Please Join Us for the Annual Picnic -- Rain or Shine! What a great day to bring neighbors and newcomers to church for Children's Sunday Service 10:30am. Come enjoy hot dogs and burgers fresh off the grille! Potluck contributions of sides, salads, and desserts needed --

please see sign-up book. We need members to help clean-up, run game stations, and crafts.

Please contact coordinator Lisa von Lichtenberg (LisavL8888@aol.com) to volunteer or with menu contributions or sign up in the Events Binder after church on Sunday.

## ALICE FRENKEL LOOKING FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Alice Frenkel is a rising senior at Brandeis University, majoring in Economics and English, looking for a summer job related to Economics and Finance, with possible continuation during the year. She has taken courses in Econometrics, International Economics,

and Microeconomics, among other topics, and would like to learn more about how to practically apply her knowledge. The possibility of a volunteer job connected to these fields would also be appreciated. Please contact her at [alice.frenkel@gmail.com](mailto:alice.frenkel@gmail.com).

## MUSIC PROGRAM EVALUATION

Ruthanne Brown

As Music Chair, I am helping conduct an evaluation of CCW's music program before we break for the summer in late June. I invite any and all interested parties to fill out an evaluation form (multiple choice format). These forms will be on the information station in the church hallway. Your input will remain

confidential if you choose so and completed forms can be dropped in the designated box at church or mailed to the church with no return address. If you wish to receive an electronic version of this form, please contact the church office at [skuhrcw@comcast.net](mailto:skuhrcw@comcast.net).

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS...

**The Middle School Youth Group** had their last gathering for this school year on Sunday, May 16 at the home of Larry Carr and Roberta Harvest. We all enjoyed a cookout on a very nice early evening and participated in some community building activities. We also spent some time talking about their preferences for possible future events and activities for next year. We also reflected back on this year's activities to include the Rock Climb, Movie Night, Bowling, serving at Bristol Lodge and more. We also recognized and thanked our "graduates" from the Middle School Group, Eric Reeder and Julia Brown, for their friendship and leadership since joining us in the first year we started this group. We wish them both every success in high school next year. That is all from here. By Larry Carr

**Confirmation Class of 2010** will meet one last time this church year on Sunday, June 6, from 5 to 6:30 at Eric Reeder's house, 118 Scotch Pine Road. Confirmands are asked to read ahead of time chapters 5, 6 and 7 in our study book, which are titled Suffering, Sin and Grace.

**Senior High Youth Group** worked hard in May after returning from Alamosa to share their experience with the congregation on Pentecost, and wishes to express their thanks to all for their support at so many fund raisers that helped them achieve that ambitious goal.

**Many thanks to ALL the Adult Advisors who worked with all three of these programs this year!** We are most grateful to **Larry Carr** for his commitment to our Middle High group, to **Catherine Liddell** for co-teaching the Confirmation Class with Rev. Joe Mayher, as well as to mentors **Vic Claman, Larry Carr, Alex von Lichtenberg,** and **Sukie Dickie,** and Senior High Advisors **Mary Cross, Cindy Mayher** and **Jean Valle.** We owe particular thanks to Mary for working with the Senior High for so many years, always doing so much. Larry Carr has agreed to do Middle High another year, and Jean Valle will be taking over work with the Senior High.

## DO YOU KNOW ANY ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES OR JUNIORS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN CAMP IF?

First, what is Camp IF? Camp if is the springboard for the Anti-Defamation League of New England's "Interfaith Youth Leadership Program." The program brings together Muslim, Jewish and Christian teens for several days of community building and training about interfaith dialogue and relationships, prejudice reduction and anti-bias training, and education about the three traditions. All this leads up to post-camp regional action teams. The time frame has changed from the past week-long format due to the beginning of the Muslim month of Ramadan. Camp will be held for five days at New Hampton Academy from July 26-31. There is no charge for the camp, nor even for the bus transportation from Riverside MBTA station. A recommendation is needed from a participant's

mosque, synagogue or church. Perhaps you know of a young person who might benefit from, as well as contribute to, this highly formative experience.

Our Pastor and Teacher, Joe Mayher, helped to conceive the idea of this camp based program, and has served the overall program as Senior Facilitator since its inception in 1996, with the camp a key part of the program now for this eighth summer. Please speak to him with any questions, and/or find the camp brochure on our Information area in the church hall corridor.

# Faith Discovery for Children



## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY JUST AROUND THE CORNER: JUNE 13!

By the time you read this, we'll have made props for our dramatic reading of *Old Turtle* and the *Broken Truth* (by Douglas Wood), created signs for our *Attributes of Allah* processional, created an enactment of the *Good Samaritan*, invited our Jewish hosts to join us, learned an anthem in Hebrew. All of this to share with the congregation what we experienced during our *Neighbors in Faith* workshop rotation. This is a Sunday not to miss!!

And here's how we're getting there:

**June 6:** 9:45 song practice in the library  
10:30 straight to class for practice  
11:30 savory snack in the sanctuary  
12-1 run-through in the sanctuary

**June 12:** 9:15-10:15 run-through in the sanctuary

This rehearsal will be cancelled IF we have good attendance leading up to the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**June 13:** Arrival time to be determined. If we haven't practiced the day before, the arrival time will be 9:15 AM.

And don't forget the All-Church Picnic right after worship. We'll have games, face painting, food (of course!). Look for more information elsewhere in this edition of *Spirit and Sparks*. Why not bring a friend so he or she can see how much fun we have?

## STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH FOR CHILDREN - JUNE

- Bring in an offering to help families with children with Down's Syndrome. Use the envelopes that came in the mail, or grab one from the basket on the Faith Discovery table.
- Help make something for the Pastoral Freezer.
- Help your parents give water to the church plants during the summer.



## BUILDING AND GROUNDS SPRING CLEAN –UP THANK YOU!

Jane & Rob Purser

Thank you all for helping with the spring clean-up on May 16th. The mulch is spread, the gardens are weeded, trees and bushes are trimmed and the windows are sparkling. As always your spirited energy shows in our beautiful church.

Due to minimal support we have decided to delay the building of the lattice and plantings around the Jubilee tree. We will revisit the project in the fall.

Please don't forget to sign-up for a week of watering this summer. The plants will welcome your visits. Those who have signed up will receive an email reminder the week prior to your turn with watering instructions. Check the schedule below to see when you can help.

Have a wonderful summer!

| Week to Water at CCW   | Name              |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| June 27 – July 3       | Chuck Whitney     |
| July 4-10              | Janet Mitchell    |
| July 11-17             | Craig Tanny       |
| July 18-24             | Chuck Whitney     |
| July 25 – 31           | Janet Mitchell    |
| August 1-7             | Cathy Liddell     |
| August 8-14            | Faye Rogers Baron |
| August 15-21           |                   |
| August 22-28           |                   |
| August 29- September 4 |                   |

## FAITH COMMUNITY NEWS

### *Birthdays*

|        |                  |
|--------|------------------|
| June 4 | Michael Higgins  |
| June 5 | William Franks   |
| June 6 | Carolyn Paquin   |
| June 7 | Molly Nye        |
| June 8 | Charlie McVicker |



|         |               |
|---------|---------------|
| June 12 | Craig Tanny   |
| June 23 | Ann Jacoby    |
| June 30 | Jeff Heuer    |
| June 30 | Nicki Jimenez |

## OUTREACH WRAPS UP

Rebekah Lord Gardiner

On Friday, April 30th and Saturday, May 1st, Carol Griffin, Paul and Jessica Schendel, Joe, Cindy, and Jessamyn Mayher, along with Sue Turner, and Craig Tanny journeyed to Portland, Maine for our Adult Service Project to celebrate our year of Jubilee. Working with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland these fearless volunteers climbed ladders and "giftwrapped 3 houses." Not only did the group attach a moisture barrier at dizzying heights, they also insulated the many window frames with an expanding foam. I would not be surprised to find out that some

members of the group may still be sporting the foam as part of a new look. Staying overnight at the farmhouse worked out for those who could participate both days or who drove up on Friday night. I have heard a great time was had by all.



We have a request for volunteers for Bristol Lodge this summer on July 24th. Please sign up in the book or contact anyone from Outreach. Thank you.

## June 2010

|            |                   |  |
|------------|-------------------|--|
| Tue Jun 1  | 1pm – 4pm         | Spiritual Direction - Meditation Room        |
|            | 4pm – 5pm         | Irish Dance Lessons                          |
| Wed Jun 2  | 8am – 12pm        | Spiritual Direction                          |
|            | 4pm – 8pm         | Violin Lessons - CE Classrooms               |
| Thu Jun 3  | 4pm – 7:30pm      | Weston-Wayland Learning Center               |
| Fri Jun 4  | 12:00pm           | Countryside Playschool Closes for the Summer |
| Sat Jun 5  | 9am               | Violin Lessons                               |
|            | 8pm               | Violin & Piano Concert                       |
| Sun Jun 6  | 10:30am           | Worship with Communion                       |
|            | 11:45am – 12:45pm | Handbell Rehearsal                           |
|            | 12pm – 1pm        | Children's Day Practice                      |
|            | 5pm – 6pm         | Confirmation Class @ Reeder's                |
|            | 5pm – 6pm         | Spirit of Life Catholic Service              |
| Mon Jun 7  | 2:30pm – 4:30pm   | Weston-Wayland Learning Center               |
|            | 7:30pm – 8:30pm   | Family Support for Addiction                 |
| Tue Jun 8  | 9:30am – 10:30am  | CE Staff                                     |
|            | 12pm – 2pm        | Seniors Luncheon - CCW                       |
|            | 1pm – 4pm         | Spiritual Direction - Meditation Room        |
|            | 7pm – 8pm         | Playschool Advisory Board                    |
| Wed Jun 9  | 8am – 12pm        | Spiritual Direction                          |
|            | 9am – 10am        | CE   |
|            | 4pm – 8pm         | Violin Lessons - CE Classrooms               |
|            | 7pm – 8pm         | Council's Stewards                           |
|            | 8pm – 9pm         | Council Planning                             |
| Thu Jun 10 | 4pm – 7:30pm      | Weston –Wayland Learning Center              |
| Sat Jun 12 | 9am – 10am        | Violin Lessons                               |
|            | 9:15am            | Children's Rehearsal                         |
| Sun Jun 13 | 9am – 10am        | Children's Practice                          |
|            | 10:30am – 11:30am | Children's Sunday Worship                    |
|            | 11:45am – 12:45pm | Handbell Rehearsal                           |
|            | 12pm – 1pm        | All-Church Picnic                            |
|            | 5pm – 6pm         | Spirit of Life Catholic Service              |

*continued*

|                   |                          |  |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Mon Jun 14</b> | <b>All day</b>           | <b>Flag Day</b>  |
|                   | <b>2:30pm – 4:30pm</b>   | <b>WWLC</b>  |
|                   | <b>7:30pm – 8:30pm</b>   | <b>Family Support for Addiction</b>  |
| <b>Tue Jun 15</b> | <b>1pm – 4pm</b>         | <b>Spiritual Direction - Meditation Room</b>                                   |
| <b>Wed Jun 16</b> | <b>8am – 12pm</b>        | <b>Spiritual Direction</b>   |
|                   | <b>4pm – 8pm</b>         | <b>Violin Lessons - CE Classrooms</b>  |
| <b>Thu Jun 17</b> | <b>4pm – 7:30pm</b>      | <b>Weston –Wayland Learning Center</b>   |
| <b>Sat Jun 19</b> | <b>9am – 10am</b>        | <b>Violin Lessons</b>  |
| <b>Sun Jun 20</b> |                          | <b>Father's Day</b>  |
|                   | <b>8am – 12pm</b>        | <b>S&amp;S Article Deadline</b>  |
|                   | <b>10:30am – 11:30am</b> | <b>Worship - Guest Preacher</b>  |
|                   | <b>5pm – 6pm</b>         | <b>Spirit of Life Catholic Service</b>   |
| <b>Mon Jun 21</b> | <b>2:30pm – 4:30pm</b>   | <b>Weston-Wayland Learning Center</b>  |
|                   | <b>7:30pm – 8:30pm</b>   | <b>Family Support for Addiction</b>  |
| <b>Tue Jun 22</b> | <b>1pm – 4pm</b>         | <b>Spiritual Direction - Meditation Room</b>                                   |
| <b>Wed Jun 23</b> | <b>4pm – 8pm</b>         | <b>Violin Lessons - CE Classrooms</b>  |
| <b>Thu Jun 24</b> | <b>4pm – 7:30pm</b>      | <b>Weston-Wayland Learning</b>   |
|                   | <b>7:15pm – 8:15pm</b>   | <b>Women's Spirit</b>  |
| <b>Sat Jun 26</b> | <b>8am</b>               | <b>SERVE</b>   |
|                   | <b>9am – 10am</b>        | <b>Violin Lessons</b>  |
| <b>Sun Jun 27</b> | <b>10am – 11am</b>       | <b>Summer Union Services - The First Parish Church, Boston Post Rd, Weston</b> |
|                   | <b>5pm – 6pm</b>         | <b>Spirit of Life Catholic Service</b>   |
| <b>Mon Jun 28</b> | <b>2:30pm – 4:30pm</b>   | <b>Weston-Wayland Learning</b>   |
|                   | <b>7:30pm – 8:30pm</b>   | <b>Family Support for Addiction</b>  |
| <b>Wed Jun 30</b> | <b>8am – 12pm</b>        | <b>Spiritual Direction</b>   |
|                   | <b>4pm – 8pm</b>         | <b>Violin Lessons - CE Classrooms</b>  |

The Clamans have asked that the following excerpt be published in case you or someone you know can help:

### **A MESSAGE TO OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FROM JANE DIXON**

Dear Family and Friends,

A couple of weeks ago we had an informative - yet sobering - kidney education session at our home conducted by one of George's doctors at Beth Israel Hospital. At that session, we learned that George's best chance for long-term survival as he approaches kidney failure is to find a living donor. A kidney transplant from a living donor has a significantly higher success rate than one from a cadaver donor. In addition, the doctors have informed us that it is preferable to have a kidney transplant prior to starting dialysis

George has blood type O which is the universal donor, but unfortunately he can only receive a kidney from someone with blood type O. Only 25% of patients on the waiting list for a transplant survive long enough to receive a kidney. I am asking your help in finding a potential kidney donor for George. It must be someone with blood type O. If you have not done so already, would you please consider posting something in any medium you utilize to ask if anyone would consider helping your friend or family member George Dixon, who is near total kidney failure and needs a kidney from an individual with type O blood?

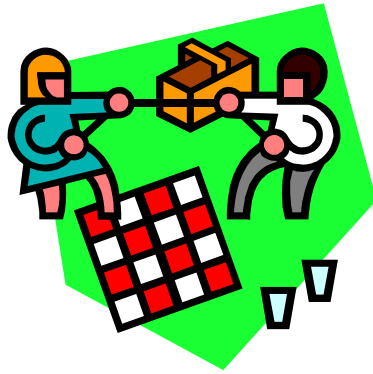
Anyone who is interested can confidentially contact the donor coordinator at Beth Israel Hospital and mention that they would like to explore the process of being considered a donor for George Dixon. The donor coordinator can provide information about the process, including required medical tests for any potential donor. The donor coordinator's name and contact information is below:

- > Nancy Salonpuro
- > Donor Coordinator
- > Transplant Institute
- > Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- > 617-632-9851

### **SPREAD THE WORD, COUNTRYSIDSP E PLAYSCHOOL HAS OPENINGS**

Countryside Playschool has openings in the Wednesday/Friday class for the 2010-2011 school year! This warm and relaxed environment is set up to serve as a transition between home and school. Two year olds are able to develop, grow, explore, question,

and experience at their own pace and style. Teachers and parents work collectively towards meeting each child's developmental needs as they emerge. Contact Director, Melissa Adler at 781-8995417.



**Weston Wayland Interfaith Action Group  
Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Supper**

**Disasters, Decisions, and the Divine:  
Knowledge for Action through Faith-full Communities**

How can people and communities of faith link knowledge about the nature of our world with humanitarian action?

Speaker: **Dr. Pablo Suarez**

Dr. Pablo Suarez is a researcher and practitioner on climate and disasters. He is Associate Director of Programs for the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Center, a consultant for the United Nations Development Program, visiting fellow at Boston University and research scholar at the International Institute for Applied systems Analysis in Austria. He has consulted for Oxfam America, The World Food Program, The World Bank, and numerous other international humanitarian and development organizations, working in more than 40 countries.

**Thursday June 10, 2010**

**6:00 pm**

**Temple Shir Tikva, 141 Boston Post Rd, Wayland**

**Pot Luck Supper**

Bring your favorite specialty for 10 according to the first letter of your last name:

- A through K Salad or Vegetable
- L through P Main Dish (casserole, vegetarian pasta, fish, egg or other)
- Q through Z Dessert

Courtesy Request: in respect of Jewish and Muslim practice, please avoid dishes with chicken, meat or shellfish.

Thank you

**Rsvp by June 1st To: Lynn Retik 781-647-0051 email [lretik@verizon.net](mailto:lretik@verizon.net)**

**MUSICAL JOURNEY**  
**from baroque to romantic**

**June 5, 2010**  
**8:00 P.M.**

**COMPOSITIONS**

**by F.Shubert, C.Frank, P. Sarasate,  
H.Wieniawsky, J.S.Bach, F.Kreisler  
for violin and piano**



*Vera Rubin*  
*violin*



*Yevgenia Semeina-Maroyan*  
*piano*

**Address:**  
**Congregational Church of Weston**  
**130 Newton St. Weston, MA**

***tickets: \$20.00, students \$10.00***