



The Tidings

A Publication of Tabernacle
Congregational Church, UCC
May 2007



May is Peace Month.

May Worship Themes

When Jesus stood among his disciples after his death, he said, "Peace be with you." His words were a comfort to their hearts; his words and sentiments brought his students and friends together. The peace of Christ replaced the angst and despair that they felt at such a loss of innocent life. The regrets that consumed their thoughts, were soothed by Christ's simple words. "Peace be with you."

Peace begins in our hearts. Letting go of regrets and guilt, peace is a way to begin life all over again. Peace is the way of Christ. From our hearts, peace spills out into our homes. Whatever tumult there may be, the peace of Christ's way is readily available to all who turn and follow. Peace in Christ extends beyond our homes and taps into the breath of the neighborhood in which we live. With so many gun-related deaths in cities and schools all across the United States, holding Christ's peace for our neighbors is a way of re-creating life.

Children see and feel the peace of a home and a neighborhood. Because they are exposed to that kind of intimate peace, they expect peace in their lives and in the world. Children are the peace keepers and makers of our future.

May the peace of Christ which surpasses our understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Bright and peaceful blessings
Rev. Laura

May 6, 2007: **Communion**
Sermon: *"A New Day*
Scripture Lessons: Psalm 148
 Revelation 21:1-6

May 13, 2007: **Mother's Day**
Sermon: *Come, stay in my home."*
Scripture Lesson: John 5:1-9
 Acts 16:9-15

May 20, 2007: **Men's Sunday**
This service is lead by the men of Tabernacle!

May 27, 2007: **Memorial Day**
 Pentecost
Sermon: *"Voices of Spirit"*
Scripture Lesson: Acts 2:1-21





Prayer Shawl Ministry

We would love to have you join us in this ministry. Yarn and directions are available by contacting Jane Dionne at 978-745-1324.

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You are invited to attend and participate in the Installation of

***The Reverend Sara E. Marean***

As Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Georgetown

**Where:**

The First Congregational Church of Georgetown,  
UCC

7 Andover Street  
Georgetown, MA 01833

**When:**

Sunday, May 6, 2007

**Time:**

4:00p.m. in the Sanctuary

Followed by a celebration in the Fellowship Hall

*Laity are asked to wear a touch of red.*

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Our Life Together In Prayer

You will find our Intergenerational Prayer Tree located in the Narthex. Private prayers are represented by colorful ribbons tied on the branches of the tree. We also pray for people whose names have been spoken aloud during the month of April:

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| Michael | Lindsey |
| Richard | Corinne |
| Aunt Mary | Jim |
| Anna | Aunt Ida |
| Kristine | Marge |

With deep Thanksgiving

- **THANK YOU** to Marcia Olsson and Mary Jo Bennett for cooking and serving dinner at the Salem Mission in **March**.
- **THANK YOU** to Marcia Olsson, Linda Vaughan, Jane Kelly, Rachel and Rob Lutts for cooking and serving the dinner at the Salem Mission in **April**.

If you have a joy, celebration or thanksgiving that you would like printed in this section please contact Liz in the office.



Men's Sunday

Men's Sunday is scheduled for May 20 if you would like to participate in the service please contact Donald Whitehead at 978-745-5529 or donniedives@earthlink.net.





From Our C.E. Director

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Greetings and Salutations!

This month of May continues with Eastertide for the first three weeks. The parament will continue to be white, but will be replaced by the Holy Spirit with RED on May 27, the BIRTH day of the church. May 27th begins the season of Pentecost which lasts all the way through Advent when we begin a new Church year. The season of Pentecost is signified in the church with green. During this time of green and growth, we will be celebrating and learning about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Paul in his letter to the Galatians names the Fruits: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. These fruits are to be practiced by all of us who call ourselves Christian. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit differ from the Fruits by being bestowed on one by God. Each of us has our own special Spiritual Gifts bestowed by God. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit can be found in Isaiah: 11 and are not practiced but inherent in us. We do not possess all of them, but we do each display at least one of them. The Gifts are: Wisdom, Reverence, Knowledge, Fortitude, Counsel, Understanding and Awe (Fear of the Lord).

Now that the human Jesus has left us and become the SPIRIT, we are called to practice the fruits of that spirit by using our Gifts of the Spirit. How might we do this?

We might share our talents with the children of the church at Vacation Bible School or during Sunday school. We might share our faith story with the congregation during a summer worship service as the preacher for the day. We might play an instrument during a service or sing a favorite hymn or song for a Sunday worship service. We might help the physical plant of the building by cleaning the silver, organizing classroom space, or planting flowers in the buckets on the steps.

We might serve dinner at the Salem Mission on the fourth Monday of each month. We might help fund raise money for folks who would like to travel to New Orleans for mission work. We might give rides to or visit with our elderly members. These are only a few ideas. Perhaps you have some of your own. These next few months, Pentecost or Ordinary Time, are for us to really reflect on how to best demonstrate one's Gifts of the Holy Spirit by practicing the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. I challenge all to trust in the Holy Spirit that dwells inside to make the world a better place.
Shalom, *Betsey*

Communion Education

For all children and youth, grades 2 and older. Saturday, May 5, 10 – 11:15 AM. The children will participate in several different activities including hearing a Godly Play story, modeling a clay memory, making the Communion bread for May 6, and learning the two ways Tabernacle serves communion. While the children are enjoying this time, parents are invited to a fellowship coffee hour hosted by the CE Committee. Come and visit with each other and learn about the opportunities the Committee has to gather and connect with other parents. Children's Communion Day is Sunday, May 6. There will be no Sunday school that day for grades 2 and older. Pre K, K and 1 will have Sunday school.



**VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL
LIFT OFF!**
*Soaring to New
Heights with God*
August 20 – 24, 2007,
9 AM – 12 PM

Flight Plans for the week
are: Follow God with

Abraham, Trust God with Joseph and his
Amazing Coat, Listen to God with Mary and
Martha, Repent with Zacchaeus, and Serve
Others with Peter.

Volunteers are needed to help with all parts of
this important ministry to children of not only our
church family but also of greater Salem. We will
hold a get together for all interested teens and
adults on Wed., June 13 at 6:30 PM.
Registration forms are enclosed on separate
sheet. Return by August 1 for T-shirt orders.

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**Summer Camp Information**

is available from Betsey. There are  
opportunities at Grotonwood in Groton, MA and  
Oceanpark in Maine.

**Monthly Publications available to all**

The church is receiving several monthly  
publications that are of interest for families.

**Family Fun** and **Wondertime** both have terrific  
ideas for crafts, family outings and family  
vacations. I discovered the northern coast of  
Maine, specifically Cobbs Cook Bay on the Bay  
of Fundy, but still in Maine, in **Family Fun**. A  
terrific vacation spot with lots of outdoor  
wilderness and bald eagles to view! Just ask  
Betsey about these magazines. Another  
publication, **World Ark**, is from Heifer  
International and contains information regarding  
this valuable ministry. We also receive the UCC  
newspaper, **United Church News**,  
**Massachusetts Edition**, with lots of information  
from our denomination. It shares exciting ideas  
from other churches about a variety of ministry  
opportunities. All these publications can be  
found in the Bigelow Room near the CE and  
Mission bulletin boards.



**Sunday School Planning**

**In Our  
Classrooms for  
the Month of May**

This month the Godly Play classrooms, grades  
Pre K – 3, will be hearing stories that deepen  
their understanding of Jesus and Christianity.  
On May 6, Pre K – 1 will hear the Great  
Banquet parable and on the 20<sup>th</sup> they will enter  
the Wilderness with Jesus.

Grades 2/3 will be at Communion Sunday on  
the 6<sup>th</sup> and will be studying the different crosses  
on May 20.

All the classes on Mother's Day, May 13, will be  
making helping hands banners for Children's  
Sunday which will be celebrated on Sunday,  
June 17, 2007.

The final Sunday, May 27 is Pentecost. All  
classes will learn about the meaning of  
Pentecost and celebrate the Birthday of the  
church with balloons, candles and cupcakes.

**Grades 4/5/6:**

- May 6: Communion Sunday
- May 13: Mother's Day
- May 20: The Synagogue and the Upper Room
- May 27: Tower of Babel

**Grades 7/8:**

- May 6: Communion Sunday
- May 13: Mother's Day
- May 20: Guided by the Spirit
- May 27: Bound by the Spirit

**Thank You...**

Thank you Betsey Bennett and members of the  
JYF and PF who worked very hard on Earth  
Day, April 20, to help clean up the church yard  
and plant flowers. The outside of the church  
looks beautiful!

## Godly Play Trainings

### Learn the bible in a new way

Betsy Bennett has a brochure listing opportunities for training and support to churches and school using the Godly Play approach in the Northeast. These trainings are excellent, and a fantastic opportunity to deepen your spiritual studies into the Bible. Specifically there is one day training on Saturday, June 2, in Arlington at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church for \$50.00. Contact Beth Frasso at [bafrasso@comcast.net](mailto:bafrasso@comcast.net) or 781-291-7639 to register or for information. Also, on September 6-8 in Belmont at All Saints' Episcopal Church, there is an accreditation course for teachers and storytellers, or one can attend just for the day, Sept. 8, or the morning for the doorperson workshop. I highly recommend attending the June 2 course if you are at all interested in learning more about Godly Play or the Bible.



**Spring Fellowship  
Pot Luck Dinner  
and  
Financial  
Informational  
Evening  
Friday  
May 18, 6-8pm  
Bigelow Room**

Please join us on **Friday, May 18 from 6:00-8:00pm** for an evening of fellowship and finance, hosted by your church's Faith Financial Group. Too often, our discussions about the church's finances are concentrated on Stewardship and Budgets. The time for that discussion will be later this year.

In addition to enjoying the company of friends, we can discuss the long range financial needs and opportunities for Tabernacle Church. The committee has some ideas and we encourage you to bring other ideas as we build a strong financial future for our church. **For information about the Pot Luck Dinner please contact Marcia Olsson at 978-741-5292**

David Ives  
on behalf of Faith Financial



### Notes of Thanks.....

To the Tabernacle Animal Welfare Committee,

We are grateful for your kind donation . Thank you so much for helping our dogs and cats while they wait for new homes. Your mission has a powerful philosophy and we wish you all the best. Your contribution helps us to continue our work of finding every animal in our shelter a loving home.

Thank you for caring,  
*The Staff at Northeast  
Animal Shelter*



To the Congregation of Tabernacle Church, Dr. Borash and the Staff at Borash Vet Clinic would like to **Thank You** for your generous donation. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is much appreciated.  
*Dr. Myles Borash ~ Borash Veterinary Clinic*





## Meet Our Newest Members

**Ed and Tania Skeffington** are very happy to be joining Tabernacle Church. They have been attending

services and events here for the last eight months. Ed is a self employed energy consultant and he is involved with the Saturday Morning Cartoon Basketball League. Tania has been an active member of the Bentley School PTO for over 10 years and has been employed there since January. They enjoy watching their four children on stage performing, playing basketball, participating in Tae Kwon Do tournaments and many other activities. Ashley, the oldest, is a junior at Salem High and is currently looking at colleges. She aspires to be a high school English teacher. Brad is an eighth grader at the Collins Middle School. Bailey and Tyler attend the Bentley School.

**Joel Richardson** is a trustee at Union Street condos, across from the Hawthorne Hotel. He is a graduate of Beverly High School and attended Williams College. Since 1984 he has worked in check processing and is a 2006 graduate of Boston University, and also completed BU's Certified Financial Planner program. Joel also sits on the Church Council as a Member-at-Large.

**Ed and Judy Burge** would like to express how wonderful it feels to have found a church that so warmly welcomes new members. They look forward to their faith in Jesus and growing in the years to come, and sharing that faith with their daughter, Chloe. They are only at the beginning of their relationship with the church, but already feel much at home. They feel truly blessed to have found Rev. Laura and this community. Ed works for AA Services and enjoys working on their 120 year old home in Salem and Judy is an instructor at UMass in Boston and enjoys knitting and spending time with her family.

**Paul Lambe** lives in Beverly with his partner, Sharon Dinitz. He has two daughters, Mari, who attends Suffolk University and Grace who lives in Rockport with her mother and is a Junior in High School. Paul works as a Mediator and Trainer in Cambridge. He is looking forward to being part of this Dynamic and open Congregation and to developing his faith in God and his service to others.

**Tina Walker and Tracy Morin** just moved to Bradford, MA from Nashville, TN in December 2006. Tracy is originally from Salem, where she got her undergrad from Salem State before moving to Virginia for her Master's degree. Tina's a Suffolk, VA native and currently works in the development office at Merrimack College. (She's also an Indianapolis Colts fan...but PLEASE don't hold that against her!) While still adjusting to New England weather, Tina's settling in nicely as a loyal Red Sox fan. When we're not working or playing with our dog, Meka, you can probably find us at the beach this summer catching some waves surfing!



## Did You Know?

We continue with the Church Silver.....

As there were no banks in those early days, the church silver probably was kept in the homes of some of the parishioners. As the older members of the family died, perhaps the younger generation knew nothing about the mugs, which then became mingled in the family silver and so lost to the church.

### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Early American silver, with its beginnings in Boston, more than holds its own when compared with the silver of other countries of this period. It is noted for its simplicity and strength of design in contrast to the more elaborate English silver.

"Much fine, early American silver was destroyed in the melting pot. An example of this is the baptismal bowl lent to Towle exhibition by the Tabernacle Church in Salem. The original much larger bowl was melted down and made into two basins at a division of church stock."

*From the catalogue of Colonial Church Silver exhibited at the Towle Gallery, Newburyport, MA, June 7 – August 31, 1954.*

Until the early part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the usual word for workers in both silver and gold, was "goldsmith," the term used in England in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Although one worked wholly in silver, he could rightfully be called a goldsmith. But today we distinguish between those who work in silver and those who work in gold.

To judge the age of silver, one writer has said, it should be touched "for the cool smooth surface of antique silver has a distinctive feeling. The tiny surface scratches and the patina it has acquired through age and use, have given it a richness and finish which only time can duplicate."

English writers often speak of "Church Silver" as "Church Plate." This is correct for "plate" to them is like our "silver," not our "plated silver" which is a layer of silver over an inferior metal.

Many goldsmiths, both in England and the United States, used their own "makers' marks" on the objects which they made, but only the English used the "hallmark" regularly. A "Hallmark" is the official mark stamped on gold and silver articles at Goldsmith's Hall in London as a guarantee of genuineness.

Jeremiah Dummer (1645-1718) of Newbury, Massachusetts used three different makers' marks on his silver – the most easily recognized are the initials ID, with a fleur-de-lis below, in a heart shaped shield. The large beaker-shaped cup owned by Tabernacle Church is so marked.

Makers' marks which appear on silver belonging to Tabernacle Church are by:

Jeremiah Dummer (1645-1718)

Daniel Boyer (circa 1725-1779)

Benjamin Burt (1720-1804)

Zachariah Brigden (1735-1787)

One question still haunts me. Is the bell in the present Tabernacle (1961) the same bell that Paul Revere cast for "the house opened for public worship in 1777"?

When that church was demolished in 1854 to make way for the Tabernacle with the tall spire, one wag said "We don't intend to sell the sexton, nor the minister, the organ, nor the bell."

If so, where is that bell today? Was it installed in the Tabernacle of 1854, then later in 1924, in this present stone edifice?

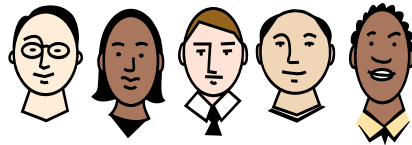
About that bell, Dr. Samuel M. Worcester wrote in his "*Memorial of the Old and New Tabernacle*" "In 1804, --during a gale--the dome of the roof started off in its entire body and--was found erect in yonder garden." "The steeple (designed by Samuel McIntire) was raised in 1805." --"For the first time the tones of a harmoniously sounding bell of the Tabernacle were heard the following year. --It was the first bell in Salem, that was rung for an evening Lecture!"

Alice Choate Woodbury

December 1961

## Board of Deacons

### From The Deacons



#### Reflections of Shadows

If you missed the Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service last month, you missed a superlative evening of spirituality, drama and music in worship (tenebrae is Latin for "shadow").

The evening opened with choir and accompaniment from Raeleen; call to worship; hymn; prayer of confession; words of assurance; scripture reading and communion. Maybe it's just me but the music seemed to have a special verve tuned to the theme of the service, it was especially uplifting.

Then the lights went out, the sanctuary went dark, candles were lit and a dramatic retelling of Christ's passion was played out by the deacons.

Reverend Laura wrote the script and stage managed the production that included seven soliloquys from a cast of characters featuring a woman, Judas, Mary, Chief Priest, Peter, Martha and a Roman soldier.

One at a time, each character spoke of their role in the Last Supper or Crucifixion and how they were transformed by it. The candle lit setting and black clothes conveyed a sense of conversations with ghosts, some haunted others liberated but all transfixed in their pivotal moments with Jesus.

The deacons spoke their lines convincingly, snuffing out their candles when done leaving only the single Christ candle before the cross with Mary in prayerful repose before the cross.

It ended with a powerful, extended silence, the audience leaving as the spirit moved them to rise from their pews.

Special thanks to our audience and all participants for a touching and moving worship in praise of Jesus' magnificent love and forgiveness.

Blessings to all, Donald Whitehead



### Our Graduates!

Our heartfelt congratulations to the following graduates:

#### Graduating from College:

**Eric Strom** from Marlboro College in Vermont

**Andrew Nelson** from Arizona State University

**Cowen White** from Salem State College

#### Graduating from High School in June

From Salem High

**Emily Karam**

From St. John's Prep

**Peter Lutts**

**Graham Ives**

From N.S Technical School

**Colin Dionne**

From St. Mary's JR/SR High School

**Aaron Carter**

From Peabody High School

**Vanessa Bentas**



### Church Council Meeting

**May 8, 2007**

**7-8:30pm**

Dessert Provided!

Members of Church Council are:  
Ed Curtin, Liz Duda, Ann Bogan,  
Gary Santo, John Phelan, Doug Karam,  
Collette Benoit, Becky Young  
and Joel Richardson.

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### Faith Financial Meeting

**May 13, 2007**

*Mother's Day*

**8:30-9:30am**

Coffee and muffins provided!

## Altar Flowers



## May Altar Flowers

May 6: **In Celebration of Jack and Kate Duda on their 3rd and 1st birthdays**, Love Mommy and Daddy.

May 13: **In loving memory of our mothers, Katherine Ring and Margaret Curtin** by Carol and Ed Curtin.

May 20: **In loving memory of Betty's Sister, Dorothy** from Betty & Dick Lutts.

May 27: **In loving memory of Arthur and Bertha Doyle** from their Family.

## May Birthdays

The following members and friends are celebrating birthdays this month:

- 4 Jessica Reardon
- 8 Jennifer Strom
- 8 Doug Karam
- 14 Stephen Bogan
- 15 Rachel Lutts
- 15 Jean Karam
- 15 Bridget Sullivan
- 15 James Patch
- 18 Alex Grover
- 19 Robert Peterson
- 20 June DeRoin
- 21 Owen Grover
- 26 Valerie Peterson



## Memorial Fund Donation

A donation in memory of **Bill Ives** has been received from Chuck Parthum.

## Church Steeple Lighting



The church steeple is lighted for the month of May **in Celebration of Aaron Carter's Graduation from St. Mary's Jr/Sr. High School** from Bob and Annette Carter.

## TWA

The TWA will be meeting in the Bigelow Room on Tuesday, May 15th at 10:30 . Hostess will be Jane Harrison. As always, new members are welcome. Bring a sandwich and join us for fellowship.

## Join Gems!!!!

A monthly luncheon club of Tabernacle men has been formed, **GEMS (Gourmet Eating Mens' Society)**. The first GEMS luncheon was held on Friday April 20th at the Lyceum. The next luncheon will be held on May 16 at 12:00pm at the Lyceum. All men are welcome. If you have questions or are interested, feel free to call Carl Wathne 978-741-3395 or Chuck Parthum at 781-631-5905.

## Blanket Fund

The Palm Sunday collection added \$686.31 to our fund bringing the total to \$795.74. Thanks so much to all of you who have supported us in this TWA mission. If you missed the collection or you are still holding on to jars of coins, please see Jane Dionne or any other TWA member. These checks should be made out to Tabernacle Women's Association. We will defer sending in our donation for blankets till June 1. Remember, five dollars buys a blanket and our goal is 200 blankets. We surpassed this goal in 2005 and would love to do so again.