



# The Tidings

A Publication of Tabernacle  
Congregational Church, UCC  
November 2011



## Fall's Splendor

Dear Members and Friends,

Last weekend, I served as the Spiritual Advisor for a conference for military families. General Mark Graham and his wife Carol, have been the key note speakers for the last three years. Their story is a sad one - within 8 months, eight years ago, they lost their two sons. The older son Jeff, was killed in Iraq by a roadside bomb 8 months after their youngest son Kevin took his own life.

Jeff and Kevin were on full ROTC scholarships at the University of Kentucky. Everyone expected Kevin to follow in his grandfather's footsteps and be a warm and compassionate physician. He was considered the family's perfect child. While General and Carol Graham were stationed in Korea, they noticed that Kevin's grades were slipping. A psychiatric nurse recommended he take antidepressant medication.

Carol didn't make a big deal out of it. "I thought it was like he had an infection and was taking an antibiotic and would be OK." When the school year ended, Jeff, Kevin's brother who was stationed in Iraq, learned first of the suicide. When he delivered the horrible news to his parents, they were overwhelmed with unimaginable grief. Carol says that she rolled out of bed and crawled to her Bible, the place where she had gone when she was most in need. And she wept for weeks. General Graham, speaking openly at the conference last week, said "I knew Kevin was sad. I didn't know he could die from being too sad." When he talks about both boys' deaths he says: "Jeff and Kevin died fighting different battles. Jeff's was external and Kevin's was internal."

Today, this couple spend much of their free time speaking to people around the world about the importance of community coming together to support and care for one another. Because they know that if Kevin had an aware community at college and in the army, supporting him, he may have received the help he needed. And they know that after the loss of both boys, their healing has happened in community.

Being a community of Christians is a daunting and wonderful responsibility. We are led by Jesus, who consistently speaks about *loving our neighbors as ourselves*. And who always points to God as the way to live each and every day of our lives.

"Love God with all your heart, mind, body and soul."

November is the month during which we give thanks to God. On Thanksgiving Sunday, November 20, we will also celebrate our willingness to be a community of Christians by pledging our dollars for the upcoming year. I hope everyone will participate in this unifying effort. Tabernacle has an opportunity this year to exceed our expectations - because we expect miracles!!!

With gratitude for all you are and all you do in this world.

Rev. Laura

## **NOVEMBER CHALLENGE ~ SEND A THANK YOU NOTE EACH DAY!**

This month, we have a challenge before us: saying Thank You. Each day, let's write a thank you note to someone in the community to let them know how much we appreciate them!

## November Worship Themes

November 6, 2011

Mission Sunday/Communion by Intinction

Heifer Preacher, Sandi Watson

Scripture: Psalm 78:1-7

Matthew 25:1-13

*How shall we live while we wait for the reappearance of Christ? Today's text invites patience when waiting for God, but encourages maintaining hope and high expectations. Jesus reminds us to be ready to follow him with courage and joy in our hearts. Keep spiritually awake at all times!*

Theme: **Food for the World**

November 13, 2011

Scripture:

Psalm 123; Matthew 25:14-30

*The greatest risk of all, according to Jesus, is not to risk anything – to play it safe, to live cautiously. Taking a risk with money, on behalf of God, is a risk worth taking. God entrusts us with talents and resources so that we might further God's love and justice in the world.*

Theme: **Taking risks for God's sake**

November 20, 2011

**Thanksgiving Sunday/Stewardship Sunday!  
2 Baptisms**

Scripture:

Psalm 100; Matthew 25:31-46

*"What you do for me, you do to the least of these – sick, hungry, homeless, thirsty." Jesus wants to teach the fundamental truth about being faithful to God: love and care for the people most in need. To love "the least of these" is to live fully in the footsteps of Jesus. Caring for people who are destitute, ill and imprisoned, is the primary way for us to express our devotion to God.*

Theme: **Food from God**

November 27, 2011

**First Sunday of Advent**

Communion in the Round/Advent Workshop  
right after church -

Scripture:

Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37

*As we enter the new Christian year on this first Sunday of Advent, we look at the contrasts between the shadows and the light. In shadow, there is suffering and sorrow. Today, we look at loneliness and find where God's light promises hope. Stay alert! Because even in the darkest hours, Jesus leads us into the light of a new day.*

Theme: **God's Promise**

Children: Communion in round

## CHRISTMAS CHOIR

**C** - ome....

**H** - igh or low voiced....

**R** - ejoice in the music of the  
season!

**I** - vy and the holly....

**S** - ing....

**T** - ell it on the mountain!!

**M** - elodies you love...

**A** - ngelic voices....

**S** - ing!!!!

**C** - ome...

**H** - ark the herald...

**O** - h, Holy night!!!!

**I** - lluminate **your** season....

**R** - ehearse on Nov 3rd



SING WITH THE CHOIR  
FOR CHRISTMAS

*Tabernacle Church's Third Annual*

# *U2charist*



***Saturday November 5, 2011***

***7:30 pm***

***Tabernacle Church UCC***

***50 Washington Street, Salem MA***

***Handicapped Accessible***

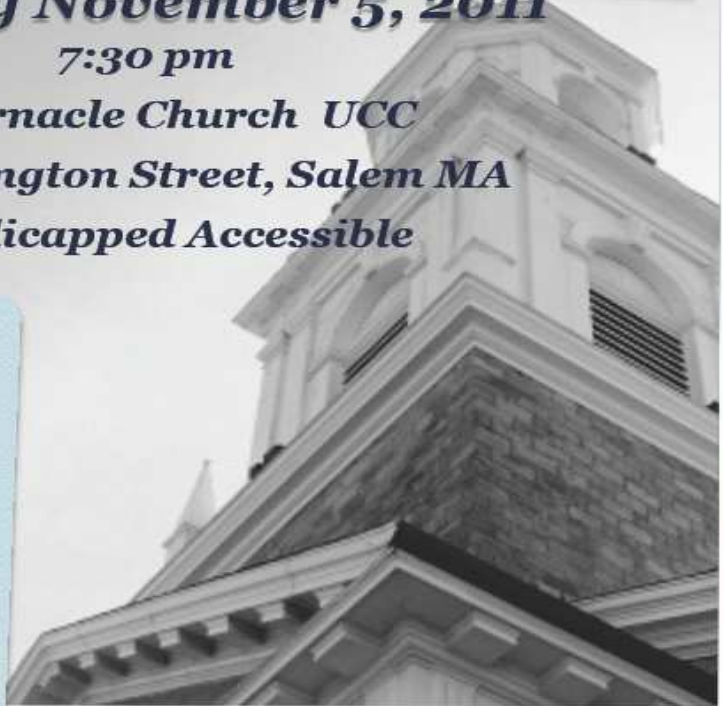
**FREE ADMISSION**

**An evening of music,  
community and worship**

*featuring live performances of songs from  
the band U2*

*Please bring a non-perishable food item for  
the local food pantry*

**All donations benefiting  
Heifer International**



## Mission News...

*Lord, to those who hunger, give bread. And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice." Latin American prayer*

Don't forget...Mission Sunday is Nov. 6. It's also "**Each One Bring One**" Sunday, so bring a friend to church....and we will show them an extravagant welcome and that God is still speaking through our works. As a follow-up to the U2charist, Mission Sunday sermon and Time with Children will be given by Sandi Watson, Heifer International Area Volunteer Coordinator, Boston-North.



After our Saturday night benefit for Heifer, it will be great to hear more about the work of that valuable organization. If you didn't get a chance to donate to the cause on Saturday, donations to Heifer will gratefully be accepted on Sunday.

In addition there will be a Mission Moment presented by Ginny von Reuden, a member of the Old North UCC church in Marblehead, who has taken part in their mission to South Africa. She will speak to us about the Thokozani Women's Sewing Group, who have formed a business making and selling pillows to become more self-sufficient. Ginny will bring some of their beautiful pillows for sale, so bring your wallets, as all the money will go directly to the women who crafted them.

Please continue to bring non-perishable food items to place in the basket in the Narthex. Food is collected on an on-going basis for the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry. The Food Pantry has a new home, located now on Highland Ave. in the former Hillcrest Auto site. You have been reading about the Mission:1 in the inserts in the bulletin recently. Help us collect 111 items between Nov.1-11.



Thanks go to our October Lifebridge supper cooks and helpers, Nancy and Joe Savy, Joe Bennett, Jane Kelly, George Louisos, and Noreen Nelson. Come join our cook, Joe Bennett, on Monday Nov. 28 and Dec 26. If you haven't been part of the monthly Lifebridge supper crew, come try it out..just show up at 5:30.

## Shelter Meals

Mission Action Group will once again be setting up a Christmas tree for Advent Sunday on Nov 27. Look for it to appear in the Bigelow Room, as a "giving tree" to local charities...more information to come .

## Coffee Pourers



2012 has lots of openings for volunteers for coffee pourers. It's a great way to talk to people you don't know. If you've never done it, its easy. You just need to bring creamer, and some kind of breakfast treat. The coffee's all made, you just have to pour it. If buying food is a bit of a challenge, you are welcome to reimburse yourself from the donations collected at the table. There are printed instructions to take home at the sign up board. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to any of the ladies in Hospitality. Thank you.



Dear members and friends,

On Friday evening, November 11, our youth group will join with youth groups from across the Essex Association for an event focusing on the UCC's Mission: 1 project. The kids have been challenged to bring with them to the event, 11 from their group and 11 items of non-perishable food. At the event, they will be writing letters to Congress asking for help with the growing hunger crisis. Statistics show that 1 in every four children goes to bed hungry each night! This youth event has been designed to bring awareness to the problem of hunger here in the United States and to learn some about our denominational identity as the United Church of Christ.

Mission: 1 is an important opportunity to reflect on Jesus' prayer and the UCC's motto, "That They May All Be One." Refer to John 17: 20 – 26 for details and reflection on Jesus' prayer "that they may all be one."

During Mission: 1, an 11 day project from 11/1/11 – 11/11/11, the UCC has challenged its member churches to collect **1 MILLION ITEMS OF HEALTHY FOOD**, and other household items for local food banks and outreach services. To contribute an additional **\$111,111 to Neighbors In Need**, offerings that will be shared for hunger action purposes with agencies of justice and compassion throughout the United States. To write **11,111 LETTERS** to Congress, asking our government to reform US foreign assistance in a way that more effectively benefits hungry and poor people worldwide, helping to provide a major final push to Bread for the World's 2011 "Offering of Letters".

Help our youth help others by contributing to the food collection in the Narthex or in the Bigelow Room. They will deliver the collection to the Harvest of Hope/St. Joseph's Food Pantry for you. We are especially interested in: canned fruits packed in their own juices, canned meats and tuna, and whole-grain cereals with low sugar content.

Blessings to all, Betsey

## Calendar Items for Christian Ed.

**CE Meeting: Thursday, Nov. 3, 7 PM**

**MEETING WITH HIGH SCHOOL  
YOUTH and THEIR PARENTS  
REGARDING FEBRUARY VACATION  
MISSION TRIP**

Thursday, November 3, at 6 PM. An email was sent out in early October with a flyer for the trip attached. To have a flyer snail mailed contact: Betsey at betseyben@aol.com or leave a message on the office voicemail, 978-744-3164.

**YOUTH GROUP FOR GRADES 6 – 9,  
NOVEMBER EVENTS:**

**1) U2charist, November 5**, plan to arrive at 6:30 for practice serving communion/Eucharist during the concert. Parents, plan to come, a video of your children at Overlook Farm, at Dorchester making lunch and kayaking will be shown during the U2charist. Concert begins at 7:30 PM ~ **FAMILY EVENT**

**2) regular meeting on Nov. 6:** 11:45 - 2 PM, we will be working on items to sell during Christmas to make money for our spring trip, white water rafting and zip line. Lunch provided by the Reardon family.

**3) Mission: 1, Challenge 11 on Nov. 11 in Topsfield.** Our kids will meet with other UCC kids from local churches for this fun event. Every one brings \$1.11 and a non-perishable food item for admission. Towns involved include: Topsfield, Rowley, Georgetown, Lynnfield, and Wenham.

**4) Regular meeting, Nov. 20:** 11:45 - 2 PM, same as Nov. 6. Lunch provide by the Clark family.

**PILGRIM YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEETS FOR  
THE FIRST TIME ON SUNDAY NOV. 13,  
11:30 – 1:30.**

Jenn Santo will provide lunch and assistance. Parents will take turns assisting with the meeting and providing lunch. We will be making dinner favors for the Council on Aging, Meals on Wheels program.



## ADVENT WORKSHOP IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

ADVENT  
WORKSHOP

We will start with a luncheon provided by the CE Action Group. Please reserve your space at the luncheon in advance. Find the reservation sheet in the Bigelow Room. Cyndy Collins is organizing the crafts. Many of you said you would help. Please speak with Cyndy about the craft you can provide or the help you can give. This year we are bringing back the narcissus bulbs (paper whites) and there is an opportunity to order and decorate a wreath for your front door. See the bulletin insert included in the Tidings. Other crafts will include the popular "crackers" and a craft with food.

### HELP OUR YOUTH EARN MONEY FOR THEIR SPRING TRIP

In the Bigelow Room with the other recycling bins, the kids have put a bin to collect your returnable bottles and cans. Please be generous with your recycling. Thank you! They want to go white water rafting in May or July.



**FALL BACK, SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 5!!!! CHANGE  
YOUR CLOCKS.**

### Acolyte Schedule for November 2011

Nov. 6: Kelsey Currier-Dougherty  
Nov. 13: Emma Currier-Dougherty  
Nov. 20: Erin Kilcoyne  
Nov. 27: Chloe Burge

Acolytes should plan to arrive at church by 9:45 AM to get into robe and get their last minute instructions about lighting the altar candles, which means bringing in the Christ light. Grades 3 and up are old enough to be Acolytes. We have written instructions for "new-bees." We have openings in December.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS SCHEDULE, SESSION 1: continued through NOVEMBER 13

**Beginners** meets with Cyndy Collins for **Godly Play** stories.

11/6: Ten Best Ways to Live, 11/13: Promised Land, 11/20: How the Church Tells Time, 11/27: Advent 1 & 2

**Grades 1 & 2** meets with Mary and Jessica Reardon and Doreen Marquis. They will follow the same schedule as Beginners. 11/27: Pageant Rehearsals begin

**Grades 3 – 5** meets with Kathy Dougherty for **Feasting on the Word**, our new lectionary based curriculum.

11/6: Living In Hope

11/13: Risk Taking

11/20: The Least of These

11/27: Pageant rehearsals begin

**Grades 6 – 9** meets with Anne Bogan and Joe Bennett for **Feasting on the Word**, too.

11/6: Hurry Up and Wait!

11/13: Parable of the Talents

11/20: We Like Sheep

11/27: Faith In Community

**Our Nursery** is open and supervised by Jannell Viel.

### TEACHERS NEEDED:

We are still looking for a teacher for Grades 3 – 5 and Beginners for session 2, which begins November 20 and runs through December 18. Please see Betsey or the current teacher of that grade.

**Miscellaneous information and quotes about hunger and food come from the 2010 Resource Guide for Churches Food Week of Action published by the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance based in Geneva, Switzerland.**

**What Is Food Security?** The World Health Organization defines Food Security as existing “when all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. In 2009, according to the USDA 85.3% or 100.8 million US households were considered food secure.

**What Is Food Insecurity?** According to “Household Food Security in the US”, a report released by the USDA, almost 15% (approximately 18 million) of US households had trouble getting enough food at some point in 2009. Food insecure households are those who are uncertain of having, or unable to acquire, enough food to meet the needs of all their members because they had insufficient money or other resources for food. Food insecurity may be chronic, seasonal, or temporary, and it may occur at the household, regional or national level. Food insecure households include those with low food security and very low food security.

1 in 6 Americans do not have access to enough food. More than 50 million Americans live in “food insecure” households. [Source: *Feeding America*]

### **Miscellaneous quotes:**

*Lord, to those who hunger, give bread. And to those who have bread, give the hunger for justice.” Latin American prayer*

*“Faith-based charity provides crumbs from the table; faith-based justice offers a place at the table.” Bill Moyers*

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”  
Margaret Mead*

## **Tabernacle Volunteers Needed for *Christmas in Salem***

Tabernacle is pleased to be again hosting Christmas In Salem sponsored by Historic Salem Inc. on December 3 & 4.

*(please see article on page 8)*

We are looking for some folks who would like to be a “**Tabernacle Greeter**” for Saturday and Sunday. It would be nice to have someone represent Tabernacle as many folks come and buy their tickets/booklets, stay for guest speakers and musical offerings. It would involve being “present” to say hello and maybe guide folks to the bathrooms or answer any questions. If you would like to volunteer for an hour or two, please contact Liz in the church office.



### **Save the Date**

The Hospitality Action Group and Friends, invites one and all to **The Tabernacle Dress-Up Christmas Party. Sunday, December 18** after our worship service. There will be a lunch buffet, singing, games for kids and an optional cookie sway. Formal attire is encouraged.

More details will be available with the official invitation later this month.



## *Holiday House Tour*

# **HISTORIC SALEM PRESENTS CHRISTMAS IN SALEM 2011 December 3 & 4, 2011**

This holiday season, we invite you to explore the McIntire District, a residential area of Salem containing one of the greatest concentrations of notable pre-1900 domestic structures existing in the U.S. Named for Salem's celebrated architect-carver, Samuel McIntire, who lived at 31 Summer Street, the district is comprised of Chestnut Street, Federal Street, and portions of Essex, Broad, and Warren Streets.

**Tabernacle Church** is pleased to be part of *Christmas In Salem*, for the 2nd year, which is sponsored by Historic Salem, Inc. Tabernacle Church will be the **Tour Headquarters on Saturday, December 3 and Sunday, December 4 in the Narthex of the sanctuary.**

The Tour Headquarters will be opened as follows:

**Saturday, December 3:** Tour sales will begin at 10:00am.

**Sunday, December 4:** Tour sales will begin in the Narthex at 12:00pm.

**FREE Trolley Service** you will be able to hop the Trolley to view the houses in North Salem right from Tabernacle Church!

### **How to Purchase ADVANCE Tickets**

Advance Tickets are now available...\$25 for Historic Salem, Inc. members and \$30 for non members. For more information on purchasing advance tickets please check out this web site:

**[christmasinsalem.org](http://christmasinsalem.org). Day of Tour Prices are \$35.00 which can be purchased at Tabernacle Church!**

### **Part of the tour events include:**

**Lectures on ~ Saturday, December 4, 1:00 PM and Sunday, December 5, 1:00 PM...**

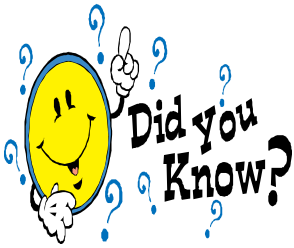
Jim McAllister, Local Historian will be talking about the McIntire Historic District and Dean Lahikainen and Carolyn & Peter Lynch, curator of American Decorative Arts at PEM will give a lecture on Salem's famous architect and carver, Samuel McIntire.

**Holiday Music ~ Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**The Tunebugs** quartet, a women's a capella group singing four-part harmony in barbershop style, will put you in a festive mood with a selection of holiday favorites. The group met while singing with the Liberty Belle Chorus of Sweet Adelines International, a women's barbershop chorus out of Arlington, MA. The members of the Tunebugs are: Jane Beaton, tenor; Susan Kapur, lead; Maureen Dalton, baritone; Marilyn Drew, bass.

**Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**The Harbor Flutes** will present a classical repertoire of holiday classics. The Harbor Flutes have played together for five years and include 7 flutes, 2 cellists, and a viola. They represent 8 music educators, 1 choir director, a retired music educator and a professor of sport and movement science. They play a wide variety of music including classical, contemporary, sacred, and secular. The members of the Harbor Flutes are: Eileen D'Amour, **Amy Everitt**, Kate Ferris, Holly Fraser, Kristy Foye, Cara Hanson, Caitlin Mieli, **Valerie Peterson**, Amanda Roeder, and Becky Stout.



## Did You Know???

We continue with a handwritten letter about the Salem Fires....  
Kay Piemonte

Our Annette sat down once and began to cry, but her papa said, "Brace up, girlie!!!" Got up and brace up she did, and went to work again, they worked till they had to get out, brands as large as your hands and larger were all around.

She saved as much as she did, but she says that toward the last there were 7 men in her house and she was trying to get things for them to take out. It was about five o'clock when she left the house, and would you believe it people way over in South Salem, a mile or more away, were ordered out at the same time. She saved all the silver, most of her clothing, bedding and rugs, most of her dinner set and some books. She tried to think of what she would need the most, so she could not take everything, but had to leave her delicate china, cut glass, etc. many being her beautiful wedding gifts. They did not save a bit of furniture. I tell you I am proud of my girls, May went through the fire and did finely, Annette has been through this, and at midnight they got bundle after bundle in sheets to take out of our house here, when it seemed as if the fire would reach us, and thank God, we did not have to go!

After Annette got out of her house she went to find Father and Mother Comer, and Ernest's aunt Ida Tenney, who had taken refuge in a house that was now in danger. They had gone from the house and were sitting in chairs by the burying ground and they would not move. Finally a young man they all knew came along and really only by pulling them up, were they persuaded to go to his house. After Annette saw they were in safer quarters, she went back into the cemetery, which is back of her house, and which was full of people and furniture; but the brands were coming and setting fires [?] so she had to leave.

Her father stayed with her till she left the house (but she went back twice) and then went with the auto-truck full of goods which they left at the Court House. The men had brought one load before and put the things in our parlor and front-hall. It is full, now of different people's belongings.

Annette went then to the house where Mother Comer and the others were and tried auto after auto to have them taken to Middleton where Father Comer has a widowed sister. Finally she conceded. In the meantime Rob Lord (in papa's office) had taken Uncle James and Aunt Hittie to the Court House, where Miss Ferguson, one of the young ladies at the office, had the hardest work to keep them there, and not let them go back to their house. They paced arm in arm, around and around and around till Ezra brought them down here. It was pitiful to see them coming. There was so much excitement here that their son Harris, from Brookline, who had come down, thought they had better go over to Warrens in South Salem where it would be more quiet, so our next door neighbor took them over in his auto.

Before Annette came home, Ernest came, and he was wild to know where his father and mother and wife were, but we could tell him they were safe as Annette had telephoned a little while before and had said that she would be home within an hour. We almost had to tie him to keep him here, and finally he couldn't stand it and started off with someone with him, to go two ways; and he found Annette and learned that his father and mother were safe, so felt better. He did not know a thing about it till on the train bound for Salem. He had to leave the cars way beyond the station and he tried to go toward his home, but was nearly overcome by heat and smoke, so tried to find a way to get down here. He rode on an auto a little way, then had to leave it, then finally hung onto another auto that was already full and they could not come down over the turnpike as a bridge had burned, so had to go round the [?????????????]. If Annette had not had a telephone I do not know what she would have done as she would not have dared leave the house and she could not have done much alone. The good Lord was good to her.

Stay tuned next month for more of "The Salem Fires"



### Altar Flowers

November 6: **Happy Anniversary to all the November Brides and Grooms** with love from the Carter Family.

November 13: **In loving memory of Lucy and Roscoe Gould** by their family.

November 20: **In loving memory of Judy** by Ed and Chloe Burge.

November 27: **In loving memory of Charles and Florence Maier** by Rob and Barbara Maier.

### November Birthdays



- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 2  | Betsey Bennett     |
| 5  | Scott-Glenn Tanch  |
| 5  | Ninette Dilorio    |
| 6  | Susan A. Dionne    |
| 7  | Teagan Santo       |
| 8  | Sarah Davin        |
| 9  | Ed Curtin          |
| 10 | Brad Skeffington   |
| 14 | Holly Parr         |
| 14 | Erin Kilcoyne      |
| 15 | Kathy Dougherty    |
| 16 | Robert Lutts       |
| 17 | Rosamond Dennis    |
| 19 | Richard Lutts      |
| 20 | Marcia Olsson      |
| 22 | Brad Ayers         |
| 23 | Jane Dionne        |
| 24 | Rev . Laura Biddle |
| 28 | Ann Scott          |
| 30 | Joe Piemonte       |

### Steeple Lighting



The church steeple is lighted for the month of **November in loving memory of Judy Burge by Ed & Chole Burge.**

### TWA

At our October meeting the TWA ladies presented Betsey Bennett a gift to thank her for working with us on Godly Play for the past few years. The pin is a PEM exclusive, a ginko leaf carved from pear wood. Thanks so much , Betsey, we love "playing" with you and our discussions after your presentations.

The November meeting will be the **15th** of the month at 10:30 in the Bigelow Room. Bring your lunch and dessert and coffee will be provided. The hostess is Betty Lutts.

### Prayer Shawls

The need right now is not for the long fringed shawls but for Baptismal blankets. They are knit with two skeins of yarn and there is no fringe. If you are interested see Jane Dionne for yarn and directions. Of course, if you like knitting the prayer shawls we are always ready to take care of you with the yarn for those. Call Jane at 978-745-1324. Thanks so much.

### A note of Thanks

This is the time of Thanksgiving and I want to thank all my friends at Tabernacle for their love, care and prayers over the last few months! Betty Lutts