



The Tidings

A Publication of Tabernacle
Congregational Church, UCC
October 2011



OCTOBER

Listening for the Sounds of Silence in the Midst of Haunted Happenings

Driving long distances on my motorcycle has offered an opportunity to practice being comfortable with silence. Even the thunderous purr of the motorcycle engine can't disguise the sound of silence. Every solo ride, every deserted road, every lonely night in a motel was a reminder that silence can be an enemy or a friend. During my three months on sabbatical, I learned to make friends with silence.

Do you remember "The Sound of Silence"
by Simon and Garfunkle:

*"Hello darkness my old friend,
I've come to talk with you again
Because a vision softly creeping,
Left its seeds while I was sleeping,
And the vision that was planted in my brain
Still remains
Within the sound of silence."*

As the days of light become shorter and darkness covers our city of Peace (Salem), there will be festivities and noisy trickery from the outside world. While Salem becomes a veritable honey jar for Halloween-hungry witch-wannabees, we locals are likely to find ourselves challenged to make enemies or friends with the noise and silence that comes with the darkness.

John O'Donohue writes, "Silence is the sister of the divine. Often, true feelings lie concealed in the silence. In modern life, there is an immense rush to expression. Sometimes, the quality of what is expressed is superficial and repetitive. A **greater tolerance for silence is desirable.**"

Making friends with **silence** in the midst of the dark and noisy festivities of Haunted Happenings, may be a way for us to practice our relationship with the **Divine in the darkness**. Let's practice allowing God to be our friend, who comes to talk with us again, within the sounds of silence.

God bless you
Rev. Laura

October Worship Themes

Oct. 2, 2011 WORLD COMMUNION
Communion by Pew

Sermon: God as Beloved Partner

Scripture:

Isaiah 5:1-7;
Philippians 3:4b-14

Oct. 9, 2011

Columbus Day Weekend

Sermon: On This Mountain

Scripture:

Isaiah 25:1-9;
Matthew 22: 1-14

Oct. 16, 2011 Beginning of Stewardship
2 Baptisms

Sermon: Your Relationship with Money

Scripture:

Psalms 96:1-9
Matthew 22:15-22

Oct 23, 2011

Guest Preacher Rev. Craig Collomer

Oct. 30, 2011

Communion in the Round



CALLING ALL WOMEN AND MEN!!!

Join Rev. Laura and the community of Tabernacle at Capt's in Pickering Wharf for a night like no other!!! We will have a lively discussion, tons of laughter and opportunities to make new friends all over drinks and food.

So mark the date now... Monday, October 17 at 6:30pm and also on Tuesday, November 29 at 6:30pm.

RSVP to Liz in the church office if you didn't already signup!

Missions News...

The Missions Action Group would like to share the following missions' opportunities with you:



Mission Opportunities

- The United Church of Christ annual Neighbors in Need offering will be accepted on October 2.
- We are maintaining our weekly food collections to share with the St. Joseph's Harvest of Hope Food Pantry. Just leave your food items in the basket in the narthex and we will deliver to the food pantry.
- Note that we continue to do a dinner at the Lifebridge shelter on the 4th Monday of each month. We are always looking for cooks and volunteers to help prepare and serve from 5:30 to 7:00.
- Mark your calendars for this year's U2charist which will be held on November 5. Among the performers will be Witch Pitch, Salem High School's acappella group lead by Alex Grover. We will be doing a food collection for the local food pantry and all monetary donations collected will be sent to Heifer International.
- Sunday November 6 will be Missions Sunday. A guest speaker from Heifer International will be part of the service, as well as a speaker from Old North UCC Church in Marblehead about their Mission to South Africa.

Thank you for your ongoing support of your mission's program.



Deacons Communion in the Round with Children

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me," and they did.

The children of Tabernacle have been participating in the sacrament of baptism for at least seven years now, but what about our other sacrament—communion? This year with the support of the Deacons, Christian Education and other action groups, Rev. Laura has inaugurated what will be a second monthly communion: communion in the round with children. Sunday, September 25 was the first communion in the round, and it deserves some special note.

Children have been welcomed to communion for some time now at Tabernacle where the communion table is open to all. What's different about communion in the round is that it is specifically intended to welcome the youth of the church to communion and to teach what communion means. We hope that as the year goes on our children will be able to take a role in serving communion in the round. I welcome this second monthly communion in part because when I was growing up, communion seemed sad and forbidding, and I don't want our children to grow up feeling that way.

At the September 25 service, Rev. Laura asked everyone to stand and form a circle around the sanctuary. She blessed the bread and juice, said a prayer of thanksgiving, and then invited the Deacons to serve everyone. We started from the four points of the compass and moved to each person with the bread and juice while everyone sang "Let Us Break Bread Together." At the conclusion of communion the children went to Sunday School.

Standing together in a circle lets each of us see the entire congregation, and gives us a sense of unity. Children see adults and adults see children as equal participants. It was great to stand together and say the Lord's Prayer, and it was even more wonderful to hear the children saying this prayer with us. In the round we were a community participating in communion. Our traditional communion will continue on the first Sunday of each month.

Communion in the Round will continue on October 30, November 27, January 29, February 26, March 25, April 29 and May 27.

Rob Maier for the Deacons

Mission: 1

11.1.11 - 11.11.11
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Keep an eye out for information about this coming program, the UCC's 11-day campaign to raise awareness and aid to combat food-related injustice. During "Mission: 1," Nov. 1–11, churches will donate 1 million healthy food items to local pantries; raise \$111,111 for national food-related justice ministries and \$111,111 for East Africa famine relief; and send 11,111 letters about food-related justice to Congress as part of Bread of the World's "Offering of Letters" campaign.

The Youth of the church will be participating by collecting 111 non perishable food items as part of an event planned for 11.11.11 in Topsfield.

On November 6, we will participate in Each One Bring One Sunday, where UCC/Tabernacle Church members are asked to invite friends and family to join them for worship. Another initiative from Mission 1



From Your Co-Moderators

Rally Day was the “official” start of our new church year. The morning service was followed by a time for us to sign up for volunteer opportunities and Action Groups. If you could not be there on Sept. 25th, we will have sign-up sheets available in the Bigelow Room. We need your energy and enthusiasm to reach our full potential this year.

In case you're not sure exactly what each Action Group does, the following is a partial description:

Deacons: works with the minister on the spiritual life of the church, looks after the well-being of the members.

Christian Education: works with the Director of Christian to set up Sunday School, train teachers, establish activities for the youth groups

Hospitality: coordinates coffee pourers for Coffee Hour, provides food for special events, new member meetings, annual meeting, Christmas party etc.

Missions: supports mission projects in our church, in Salem and in the broader community like serving dinners at LifeBridge, HWAC, Habitat for Humanity, U2charist, Neighbors in Need, to name just a few.

Sacred Arts: brings the arts to our church community; Artists in worship, concerts that have been opened to the community, works with Music Director

Trustees: upkeep & maintenance of our beautiful building

Stewardship: organizes the Stewardship campaign to gather pledges that are used to establish our operating budget

Flowers: coordinates the flowers & decorations that beautify our sanctuary

Personnel: responsible for yearly staff reviews and staff hiring.

Coordinating Council: Meets with chairs of the Action Groups to coordinate the events in the church

Pastor Parish Relations: works to keep lines of communication open between the minister and the congregation

Nominating: contacts members of the congregation to fill open positions on the Action Groups.

Delegates: represents Tabernacle Church at meetings of the Mass Conference and the Essex Association

If you have any questions about volunteering, please feel free to ask either one of us. We need all of you to extend your hands so we can receive the miracles the miracles that are out there waiting for us and our community. Please join us in this great faith journey.

Brenda Lewis - Co-Moderator

Amy Everitt - Co-Moderator

Choir Members Wanted!!!

If you have any interest in joining the choir please feel free to contact Valerie Peterson at peterse_09@yahoo.com

or give here a call at 978.745.3899. We rehearse Thursday nights from 7:30 - 9:00 pm and Sunday morning 9:00-9:45 with the service at 10:00.

No experience necessary and we do need all voice parts. If you can only join us for a season or a month or even a few weeks we would love to have you join us. Feel free to sit in on a rehearsal if you would like to as well.

Hope to hear from you soon.
Valerie Peterson
Music Director





From Our CE Director

As I drive around town, the signs of fall and October are quickly appearing. The “resident only” orange parking signs, the stalks of dried corn, the mums and bales of straw, all draw us into the harvest mode that is often referred to in the Bible.

The people of the Bible lived in an agrarian culture, tied to the seasons as they pass in the northern hemisphere, summer, autumn, winter and spring. Our church calendar follows the seasons in a circular fashion, beginning with Advent and circling the year into the great green growing days of Pentecost or Ordinary Time. In October we are nearing the end of the church year and the end of Ordinary Time. Our Thanksgiving often marks the end of the church year, and marks the end of the harvest. We then enter the darkest, shortest days of the calendar year. The ancient church in its wisdom chose this time to mark the “new year” and the “birth of Jesus”.

Our children review or learn about the church year in their classrooms. We adults see the passing of the seasons in the sanctuary through the color of the paraments on the Lectern and Pulpit. They are currently green, but come the first Sunday in Advent they will be changed to violet.

Let us take some time this month of October, to reflect on the passing of summer and revel in the harvest. Visit the farmers’ market on Thursdays in Salem, go to the Topsfield Fair and see how the farmers in our area display their vegetables, their animals and their canned goods. Or visit one of the many nearby farms, Gibneys in Peabody, Connors in Danvers or Brookslys in Peabody, to choose that special “jack-o-lantern” pumpkin. Enjoy the beautiful days of autumn, and come to church to worship and praise our one true God, our faithful God, who works wonders in the fields of crops, in the

ACOLYTES



ACOLYTE SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Oct. 2:	Joe Parr
Oct. 9:	Open
Oct. 16:	Open
Oct. 23:	Abigail Clark
Oct. 30:	Chloe Burge

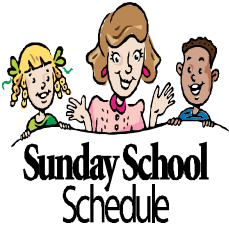
Acolytes should plan to arrive at church by 9:45 AM to get into robe and get their last minute instructions about lighting the altar candles, which means bringing in the Christ light. We have 2 vacant dates this month. Grades 3 and up are old enough to be Acolytes. We have written instructions for “new-bees.”

MEETINGS FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CEAG meeting will be on Wed. Oct. 5 at 7 PM. Note the day change from Thursday due to the annual Haunted Happenings parade being held on Thursday, Oct. 6.

Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF) meets twice a month. In October we will meet on **October 9** for lunch, fellowship and helping with the annual parking lot fundraiser. **October 23** we will meet with our church historian, Kay Piemonte for a tour of the Historical Room and learn a bit about Tabernacle’s long and interesting history. We will postpone our visit to Laser Craze or Laser Quest until November.

On October 9 at 11:30 AM: there will be a parent and child meeting for all in Grades 3 – 5 in their classroom with Betsey to discuss meeting time and volunteer helpers for **Pilgrim Youth Fellowship**. This group will focus on community building and mission and service projects. Please plan to attend to discuss this important step in your child’s Christian education.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS SCHEDULE, SESSION 1: OCTOBER 2 – NOVEMBER 13

Beginners will meet with Cyndy Collins for **Godly Play** stories.

10/2: The Light, 10/9: Creation, 10/16: Noah, 10/23: Abram and Sarai, 10/30: Exodus

Grades 1 & 2 will meet with Mary and Jessica Reardon and Doreen Marquis. They will follow the same schedule as Beginners with an addition of the Second Creation story on 10/9.

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

10/2: *Fruitful Followers* based on Matt. 21: 33-46

10/9: *It's God's Party* based on Matt. 22: 1-14

10/16: *Thankful for Church*, 1 Thes. 1: 1-10

10/23: *With Your Whole Heart*, Matt.22: 34-46

10/30: *True to Yourself*, Matt. 23: 1- 12

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

10/2: *Parable of the Wicked Tenants*, Matt. 21: 33-46

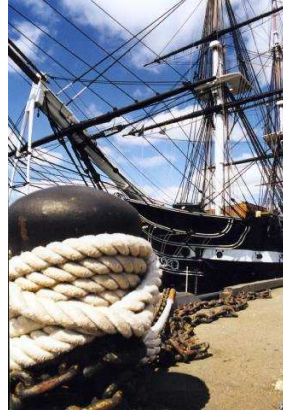
10/9: *Parable of the Wedding Banquet*, Matt. 22: 1-14

10/16: *Copcats*, 1 Thes. 1: 1-10

10/23: *The Greatest*, Matt. 22:34-46

10/30: *Gaps and Traps*, Matt.23: 1-12

Our Nursery continues to be open and supervised by Jannell Viel. The structure is free play and is designed for infants through 2.11 years old. 3 year olds go to the Beginners class next door to the Nursery.



A Wonderful day of Sailing

After long time planning a charter sailing adventure on Sunday, September 18 after church, the 200th Anniversary Celebration Committee held a collective breath as heavy clouds and

fog rolled across the sky early in the morning. However, we were blessed with a perfect Fall sailing day by the time we boarded the handsome Schooner Fame at Derby Wharf at noon. The Fame staff was helpful, pleasant, and informative. Amy Everitt, Vicky Morrison, and Vicky Dawson volunteered to hoist the sails and off we sailed into Salem Harbor with the sun shining and wind blowing. Some songs were sung, many conversations took place among the passengers, Bob Anthony provided historical facts about sights we saw on shore, Barbara Bowman served delicious smoked bluefish that her son sent to us to enjoy, and Betsey (a.k.a Ann Haseltine Judson) answered several questions posed to her about the sail that she, her husband Adoniram, and several other missionaries took on the Caravan on a cold and blustery February Day in 1812. It was a memorable trip that 40 of us shared and will serve as a reminder of the hardships the newly ordained missionaries endured. We look forward to celebrating the commissioning of the first missionaries from North American on February 5, 2012.
Linda Davis

October Parking

There are time slots available to help with our October parking, if you can volunteer during one of the time slots listed below please sign up under our *“Extend your Hand and Volunteer your Time”*

Sign up area in the Bigelow Room

Saturday October 8; 11-3pm

Saturday, October 15; 11-3pm

Saturday, October 29; 11-3pm

Monday, October 31; 6-8pm



Tabernacle Church's Third Annual

U2charist



Saturday November 5, 2011

7:30 pm

Tabernacle Church UCC

50 Washington Street, Salem MA

Handicapped Accessible

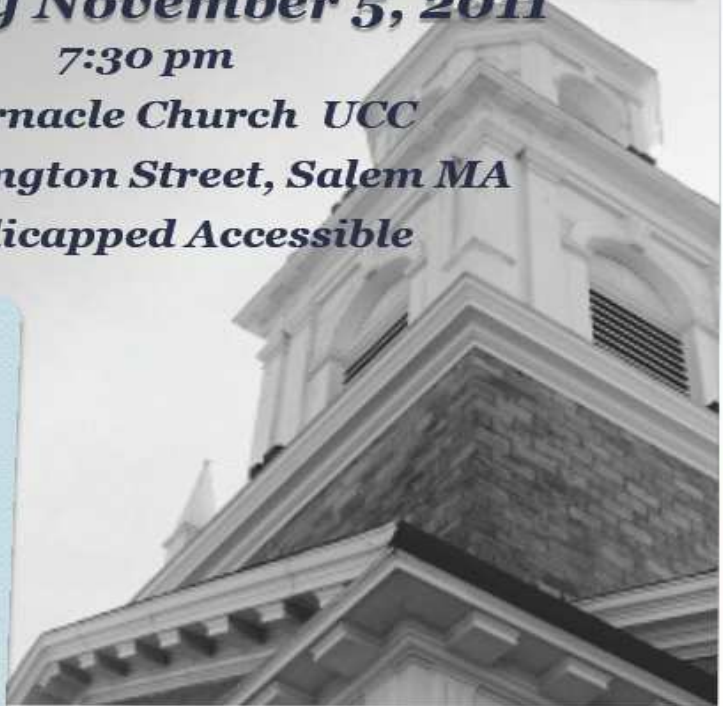
FREE ADMISSION

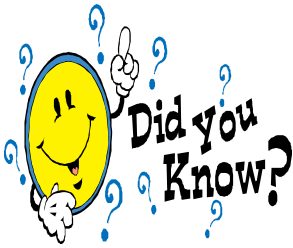
**An evening of music,
community and worship**

*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**





Did You Know???

This five page handwritten letter was left at the church in an envelope with several other things, a photograph and some clippings from newspapers, on August 27, 2011. This letter was addressed to Miss Mary Hale Woodbury, 40 High St., Springfield, MA. The postmark was June 18, 1923.

I believe the letter was written by Lydia Ann Woodbury, wife of Ezra Woodbury whose daughter, Annette lost her home in the fire. Other members of the family are mentioned and a separate note in the envelope, signed by Mary H. Woodbury contained this note: "So many letters, etc, have come, that I suggested that Mama write with telautograph ink, her long letter of details to my brother Ernest and his wife in St. Louis, so that we could send it to other friends. This enclosed letter is the one begun for them. "Papa" & "Ezra" are my father. "Alice" is my sister at home. "Annette" is my married sister, & Ernest is her husband, Ernest A. Comer. "Uncle James" is my mother's brother, nearly 20 years older than she. "Annie Geary" is maid."

Sincerely,

Mary H. Woodbury

**telautograph – a telegraph that produces a facsimile of the person's handwriting who sends a message.*

Salem, Mass. June 29, 1914

My dear,

I know you will be anxious to know if we are safe and I have tried to write before but could not find a chance. We have been thro' a dreadful ordeal. Thursday when Ezra was starting back to the office, just before two o'clock, the fire alarm rang in, & from our garden we could see that it was a terrible fire. Alice was ill in bed with a stomach upset, and had tried to get up about eleven o'clock but was so faint she could not; but alarm after alarm rang in, voluntary calls, and calls for out of town help; she couldn't stand it, so did get up and tried to do as the rest of us did; the alarms kept up till midnight.

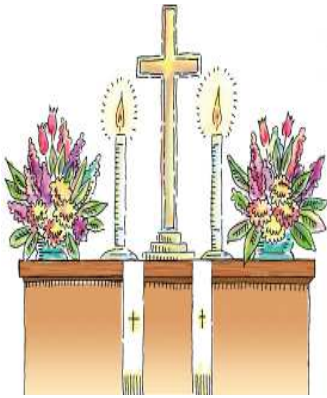
We found the fire was on Boston Street but the wind was blowing hard. Annette went up Broad Street with Uncle James to see it, and very soon she said to him that she was going home to pack up, but Uncle James tho't it was all nonsense. But she went home, & began to pick up all her silver;

she was all alone and uneasy so telephoned her father, how thankful she was she had a phone and he went right up and they both worked like Trojans. There was a man working in our garden, & I sent him up too. The fire was surely half a mile away, but coming toward her, sparks and brands were carried blocks away. The fire was moving & hissing & whistling & it was a perfect Hell; scores of houses were burning at once.

Well, they worked away & finally the fire went diagonally across the Mount Vernon St. corner so it looked as if she & Uncle James and Father Comer would be all safe; but soon the wind changed & the fire went back to the rear of Uncle James house, up the whole side of the street, and was across town the other side toward Annettes, hers being the last house in that section to burn. It is flat. I do not believe in the whole burnt district you would gather a wheelbarrowful of wood or anything burnable. Annette tried several times to phone Ernest in Boston but could not reach him. The man for whom a nephew of Ernest works in Peabody saw it was a terrible fire, and so sent his auto-truck down and he took all he could of the Comer families and of Annettes. The truck had to stop on account of the firehoses and heat, way up at the head of the street, and everything taken out of the house had to be taken up to it, the last bundles through the windows, it was so hot.

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

Kay Piemonte



Altar Flowers

October 2nd, **In honor of her parents, Bud and Shirley Agnew** by Shelly Sweeney.

October 9th, **In loving memory of Eleanor and Walter Rogalski** by Angel and John Rogalski.

October 16th, **In Celebration of all the October Birthdays and Wedding Celebrations** from Barbara Bowman and Jean Tanch.

October 23rd, **In loving memory of Dick and June Anderson** by Amy Anderson Grover and Family.

October 30: **Happy Birthday Betsey**, love from Mom and Dad!



October Birthdays

BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

The following members and friends are celebrating birthdays this month:

- 3 Gary Santo
- 4 John Hauber
- 11 Susan Earley
- 15 James Bailey
- 16 Carl Wathne
- 16 Peter Lutts
- 19 Cyndy Collins
- 25 Georgia Smith
- 26 Pat Morrow
- 29 Jane Kelly
- 30 Griffin Phelan
- 30 Liz Duda

Steeple Lighting



The church steeple is lighted for the month of **October in loving memory of Jane Harrison** by Ron Harrison.

TWA

The Tabernacle Women's Association will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 18 at 10:30** in the Bigelow Room. Please bring a bag lunch and Connie Hollis, our October Hostess, will provide dessert. New Members are always welcomed!



A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Extend a Hand, Snap a Photo!

We have a new section in the Bigelow Room, next to the elevator, for us to share our photos. If you have been to a recent Tabernacle event and have pictures, please feel free to put them up for all to see the Miracles of Friendship at Tabernacle.

Thank you so Much

Thank you for all your prayers, support, lovely cards and calls. I am on the positive road to recovery. Doug and I appreciate all your love and support.
Jean Karam

