



# THE TIDINGS

**A Publication from Tabernacle  
Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
May 2010**



## **Ordinary Life: What Does Yours Look Like?**

An ordinary day in my life begins very early with a hot cup of coffee. Holding the handle of steaming liquid, I settle into my study area in my house where I read books and articles that help inform my upcoming sermon. Once engaged in studying the Bible, I relax into my relationship with God. When my daughter enters the kitchen in need of her morning cup of coffee and some light conversation, I allow my attention to shift to her.

Exercise is always an important part of my ordinary day. I walk the dog a mile or two and sometimes take a dance class. With the weather as lovely as it has been, I wait until later in the afternoon to ride my bicycle along my 20 mile course.

On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday each week, I travel to Salem for visitation and office hours. I work with the staff on worship and communication. There are always people in need of an hour of undivided attention. And occasionally, I respond to an emergency situation. Each Friday, I write my first draft of my sermon. And each Sunday, I awaken early enough to edit the sermon for its final version.

Sunday worship is easily the most significant ordinary experience in my week. Even on a day when we have extraordinary music and themes, I love the routine of arriving at church with Raeleen and Valerie, planning for last minute revisions in our bulletin and listening to the choir rehearse the music that we have chosen with such care.

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## **Ordinary Time**

Begins with the fire  
of Spirit on  
Pentecost.

Please join us on  
Pentecost Sunday,  
May 23 as the  
Confirmation Class  
joins our church as  
“adults” and full  
members. Our 2010  
confirmands:

**Philip Lutts, Connor Reardon,  
Francheska Schaufler, Deena Dilorio,  
Jonathan Chesbro, Ian Carter, and  
Sean Curtin.**



*Save The Date!!  
Children's Day  
May 16, 2010*

Ordinary life for me is focused on you, on God and on my family.

On May 23, 2010, we enter the realm of **Christian Ordinary Time**. This season in our liturgical calendar lasts through the summer and fall. We learn what a day in the life of Jesus was like. We study his every day teachings, his relationships with disciples and with the sick and impoverished. We walk with him through the dusty roads of Judea and His parables speak to our ordinary lives.

Churches in New England tend to "take a break" during this ordinary season. We send each other off to our ordinary summertime lives with a blessing. I would like to challenge Tabernacle Church with a new and different approach to Ordinary Time. Include church in your ordinary rituals and routines. Come every Sunday, not just the convenient Sundays, to study with me and with the Deacons. Learn about the daily life of Jesus so you can incorporate his life into your own.

God bless you.

**Rev. Laura**



## 2010/2011 All Church Planning Meeting

We ask that **ALL** Chairs of **Action Groups (or a representative)** attend the **June Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 8 from 7:00pm-8:00pm for the 2010/2011 All Action Group Planning Meeting, with Liz Nelson** in the Bigelow Room. Please bring with you your Action Group dates of monthly meetings, dates of special events, dates of fund raisers and holiday happenings. We want to make sure these dates get put on the "official church calendar!" Please plan to attend this very important meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Liz in the office.

## May Worship Themes

### May 2, 2010 **Communion**

Scripture Lessons:

Revelations 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

Sermon: **What's new with you?**

*Resurrection creates something new. Jesus rises from the grave and there is newness everywhere. After the resurrection, new ideas spring up, new hopes for the future emerge, new life for today is born, and new possibilities for tomorrow are spun. Jesus is ready to say good-bye. His work on earth is complete. Now it is time to carry his message: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."*

### May 9, 2010 **Mother's Day**

Women and Children Chorus

Scripture Lessons:

Psalms 67

John 14:23-29

Sermon: **God Bless You**

*As Jesus prepares his disciples for their life after his life, he gently blesses them: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled."*

### May 16, 2010 **Children's Sunday**

Our Sunday school classes will lead us in worship and we will honor our teachers and youth leaders.

### May 23, 2010 **Pentecost/Confirmation Sunday**

Scripture Lesson:

Acts 2:1-21

Sermon: **The Voices of Youth**

*Pentecost Sunday is the day we celebrate the beginning of the Christian Church. The Holy Spirit draws people together and then stuns them with the sound of a violent wind, the rush of adrenaline and the power of fire. Be prepared to be surprised by our newest members of the Christian grown-up family: Our 2010 Confirmation Class.*

### May 30, 2010 **Memorial Day Weekend**

Scripture Lesson:

Luke 6:27-36

Sermon: **War & Peace**



## Annual Tabernacle Church Hiking Trip Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup> Lonesome Lake Hut, New Hampshire

**Adults: \$91.69 per person, Children (normally 12 and under, but the AMC is offering the child's rate for teenagers because we are a church group): \$53.62.**

The annual hiking trip will be on Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> to Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. We will hike to the Lonesome lake hut on Friday, stay over night, and return home on Saturday. It is an easy hike to the hut (about an hour and a half), but there are other more challenging hikes from the hut that hearty souls can pursue. Dinner on Friday and breakfast on Saturday is included. The hut is very rustic. There is running water but no showers, and the sleeping quarters are shared bunk rooms. There is a lake at the hut for swimming.

Please refer to the AMC website at [www.outdoors.org](http://www.outdoors.org) for more information on the huts and what to bring. Be sure to bring sheets and a pillow case as the bunk mattresses are used by many hikers.

Please reserve your space by **May 21<sup>st</sup>**. There is limited space so it's first come, first serve. Make checks payable to the AMC (Appalachian Mountain Club) and indicate the number of people. Give reservations with checks to Rachel Lutts or mail them to her at 92 Orne Street, Salem, MA 01970.

## News from the Missions Action Group

Missions Action Group was pleased to send \$517 collected for OGHS-One Great Hour of Sharing. Thank you for your generous giving. Too soon to report on the outcome of our fundraising for Healing Abuse Working for Change from the HAWC Walk stay tuned. We are looking for cooks and helpers for Lifebridge (Salem Shelter) suppers on the 4th Monday of the month during May, June, July and August. Please sign up on the sign up sheet hanging up in the Bigelow Room or speak to Jane Kelly. Summer months are sometimes particularly in need of volunteers, so consider to give a bit of your time and talent during those "off" months.

## Talent Show ~ Saturday, May 15 @ 7:00pm

Join us for a Talent Show/Mini-Silent Auction/Dessert Potluck for Missions Action Group. If you have a song to sing, instrument to play, joke to tell, dance to perform, or simply like dessert, please come to the Tabernacle Talent Show at 7:00 on May 15. In addition to having a lot of fun and enjoying some tasty treats, we are raising money to support our missions programs, so we have added a small silent auction to the evening's festivities (Please note that full size Silent Auction major fundraiser is planned for November). We need the help of our talented and generous Tabernacle community to make this a success! Please sign up in the Bigelow Room. If can help with a donation to offer, to add to the planned gift baskets, please send the auction item description and suggested value/starting bid to Missions member, Allison Kilcoyne at [allisonkilcoyne@comcast.net](mailto:allisonkilcoyne@comcast.net) by May 5. Items can then be dropped off at the church office anytime up to May 14. Joe Bennett will be our MC for the evening, so you won't want to miss that! Please come out to support us help in any way you can. Thank you for supporting Tabernacle Missions work!





**From Our  
Christian  
Education  
Director**

Greetings during this season of Eastertide:

Eastertide is the six Sundays following Easter Sunday. The season of Eastertide prepares us for the time of Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday this year is May 23. It is the “birthday” of the church and it is also the day at Tabernacle when we will celebrate our confirmands joining our church as “adults” and full members.

Confirmation is a right of passage for our teens as developing Christians. It is when they take responsibility for the promises made on their behalf by their parents. Confirmation celebrates the occasion of affirmation of baptism in the life of the individual and of the local church. The entire congregation assumes the role of sponsors as its members promise to provide a supportive Christian community in which a child may grow in awareness and understanding concerning the meaning of life in Christ.

Our promises of love, support and care as a congregation to an infant and his/her parents are restated and affirmed at the Confirmation service. Please come show and state your continuing love support and care for our teens at Tabernacle Church.

Shalom,  
Betsey

**Committee Meetings**

CEAG meets Thursday, May 6, 7:30 PM  
O.W.L. meets Wednesday, May 5, 7:15 PM

**Serving lunch to  
Habitat for  
Humanity  
Workers**



**Saturday, May 1  
for grades 3 – 6,  
parents invited**

We will meet here at Tabernacle at 9:30 AM to prepare the luncheon and pack it up. We will travel by car to Tabernacle Baptist Church in Peabody to set the lunch up. We will serve and clean up. We will return to Tabernacle about 1 PM. Sign up in the Bigelow Room to volunteer to help and donate food.



**Children's Day, Sunday, May 16**

**10 am worship**

Our theme this year is:

***Jesus and the Children***

Each Sunday school class will be presenting a part of the worship they have chosen and designed. Interspersed will be musical interludes by individuals or groups. Come hear and see our children and ‘tweens praise God in their way. Rehearsal will be **Friday, May 14 at 5 PM for one hour**. We will gather on Sunday morning, May 16 at 8:30am for breakfast and final preparations.



## Vacation Bible School

August 23 – 27, 2010

9am – 12pm,  
with a small show  
on Friday for  
Parents

### Planet Zoom

This year we will meet Jesus as a young boy visiting the temple, we will help Jesus feed a large crowd, we will watch as Jesus raises Jairus's daughter from the dead, we will greet the women at the tomb, and we will be with Peter when god rescues him from jail. Of course we will make fun crafts, sing groovy songs, eat yummy snacks, and play fun games. We are open to any ages 3–14. Tweens will lead our groups from activity to activity. Teens will help the adults with lead the activities. Sign up in the Bigelow Room or see Betsey to volunteer. The cost is \$25.00 and includes a CD of our songs for the week and a T-shirt with the theme and dates. We will conclude our week by sharing what we've learned with the parents and guardians on Friday, 12–12:30 PM.

### Youth Group Meetings

Sunday, May 2, 11:30 – 1 PM  
for grades 6 – 9  
Wednesday, May 5, 4 – 5:30  
PM for grades 3 – 5



### TWA

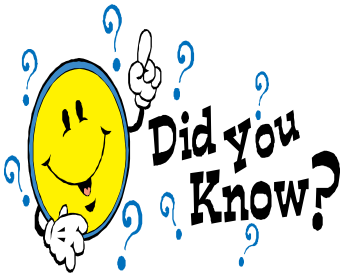
Our meeting in May will be on Tuesday, May 18th at 10:30 in the Bigelow Room with Kay Piemonte serving as hostess. Bring a sandwich for lunch; dessert and coffee will be provided. Betsey Bennett has been working with Godly Play and each month we have a stimulating discussion on the Bible story she presents and how it corresponds to life today. Please join us in this social and learning meeting.

The ladies decided at their March meeting to continue supporting Heifer, International. The Palm Sunday collection for this project netted \$198.00 giving us, with our penny collection, a total of \$245.00. The ladies are using this money to purchase two goats from Heifer. These goats will both be pregnant females and presented to a family in need. The family will give away the first born from each goat to another family who is in need. The chain will continue through the generations with the first born from each goat given away. These goats provide Meat, Milk, Manure, Manual Labor and Money for all the families involved.

People have asked when the coin collection happens. The answer is anytime you want to give us your coins. We will begin accruing money for our next project right away. Please check your coins and give them to us. Thank you from the ladies of the Tabernacle Women's Association.

### St. John's Prep School Men's Chorus in Concert

The annual St. John's Prep School Spring Concert will take place on **May 5, at 7:30pm**, at Tabernacle Church. Featuring the 100-voice Men's Chorus, and the Chamber Ensemble, the program will present a wide variety of music to celebrate spring. Music from the Broadway tradition, folksongs, love songs, and classical music will all be included. There is no admission charge and all are welcome; the church is accessible to all.



## Did You Know???

**Sites of Meetinghouses  
and Churches  
Kay Piemonte**

In 1718 the third edifice of the First church was erected. No picture of this structure remains but it probably was a long barn like structure with doors on all four sides but with no tower or adornment.

It had been the custom of the ministers to give a mid-week lecture, every other week. Mr. Fiske who was now the minister, said that he had not agreed to this, but he did give the lectures during his first few years. However, in 1718 a controversy arose about whether a vote had been taken at a meeting. Those at the meeting thought there had been a vote, but Mr. Fiske disagreed. The lectures took place for six or seven years, then Mr. Fiske discontinued the lectures, after due announcement, for lack of attendance. This caused a great deal of consternation between the members and the minister.

James Phillips says that, looking over the writing in the musty pamphlets after 200 years, it looked as if Mr. Fiske became irritated with the congregation for not attending the lectures, which must have been unutterably boring, and gave the parishioners a tongue lashing which went too far!

On August 6, 1729 Mr. Fiske preached "a very agreeable sermon from the seventy eighth psalm. But the parishioners were divided in their views and the wealthy and intelligent parishioners were against Mr. Fiske.

After several years of dissension and disagreement a council was called and they sent a letter to First Church advising them to call a church meeting. No meeting was called however. "The aggrieved brethren met the following week at the home of Benjamin Lynde, Jr. which stood on the southwest corner of what is now Essex and Liberty Streets. The streets were then called Ye Main Street and Burying Point Lane. They were considering withdrawing as a body from the church."

In October when the court met, they tried to get the two groups reconciled, but could not, so the council pronounced a sentence of non-communication against the pastor and the church. This meant that the church was now expelled from the fellowship of New England churches, but the aggrieved brethren were exempted from the sentence.

Mr. Fiske was now a pastor without pay and would not call a church meeting!

On March 10, 1735 a large parish meeting was held at which time Benjamin Lynde, Jr. was elected moderator and his group of brethren voted Mr. Fiske out. A month later they called a church meeting and that afternoon they dismissed him and hired Samuel Mather to preach.

On April 27, Mr. Fiske led an undignified mob to try and keep Mr. Mather from preaching, and succeeded in doing this, however, that afternoon when Mr. Fiske wanted to preach he was prevented from doing so!

Mr. Fiske's party were good fighters and although the civil, judicial and ecclesiastical authorities were against them, his friends started to build a new meetinghouse for him. The leading men in town asked the court to stop it, which they did. They eventually forbade him to build his meetinghouse any closer than 220 yards from where the First Church stood. Mr. Fiske, Mr. Kitchin, Mr. Orne and Mr. Jeffrey tried to stop this from being signed by the governor, but did not succeed. Mr. Fisk was now powerless to interfere with the first Church but he took with him all their record books which were not returned until after his son died 75 years later, and the dispute over the church silver was not settled for years. After April 18, 1735 he never again preached in the "Great Meeting-House"

The new meetinghouse was finished in 1736, and was situated east of Timothy Orne's house, or at approximately 256 Essex St.

Stay tuned next month for more of *Sites of Meetinghouses and Churches*.



## May Steeple Lighting

The church steeple is lighted for the month of **May in loving memory of Judy Burge by Brian, Joyce & Brett LeBlanc.**

## May Altar Flowers



May 2: **In Celebration of Jack and Kate Duda on their 6th and 4th Birthdays,** Love Mommy and Daddy.

May 9: **In loving memory of Our Mothers,** from Barbara Burgess Maier and Robert Maier.

May 16: **In loving memory of Our Mothers, Katherine Ring and Margaret Curtin** by Carol and Ed Curtin.

May 23: **In Celebration of Lindsey and Cormack's First Wedding Anniversary** from Val, Bob, Whitney and Ross Peterson.

May 30: **In loving memory of Arthur and Bertha Doyle,** by the Dionne Family.

## Memorial Fund Donation

A donation was made in Memory of **Norma James** to the Memorial Fund from the Tabernacle Women's Association.

## May Birthdays

The following members and friends are celebrating birthdays this month:

- 4 Jessica Reardon
- 8 Jennifer Strom
- 8 Doug Karam
- 8 Becky Young
- 13 Michael Parr
- 13 William Kilcoyne
- 14 Stephen Bogan
- 15 Rachel Lutts
- 15 Jean Karam
- 15 James Patch
- 15 Bridget Sullivan
- 18 Alex Grover
- 19 Robert Peterson
- 20 June DeRoin
- 21 Owen Grover
- 23 Kate Duda
- 26 Valerie Peterson

## Prayer Shawls

With the hot weather coming upon us we won't want to be knitting prayer shawls but the need continues through the summer. If you have started a shawl and want to finish it, please do so as soon as you can. If you have started a shawl and don't want to finish it, please bring it to church and give it to Jane Dionne because we have knitters who will finish that shawl for you. Thanks a lot.



Prayer Shawl Ministry