

The Union Church in Waban

Weekly Updates

April 25, 2014

RUSSELL SCHOOL COMPUTER CLUB

Every Thursday through May 29th from 2:45 to 4:30 p.m.
Russell School, Dorchester

We're working with the Russell School in Dorchester to teach a cool new way to introduce students to programming. Volunteer to join us on one or more Thursday afternoons through May 29th. As a volunteer, you'll work with a few 4th and 5th graders as they explore this new skill creating projects in the Scratch Programming Language. No programming skills are required -- help the kids to focus on the goals of their projects and encourage them!

Contact Rob Purser (rob@purser.org) for more information. See Flyer [Here](#)

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SUNDAY

We will not have Bible Study this Sunday.
Bible Study will resume on Sunday, May 4th.

Heidi Carrington Heath will be our guest preacher this Sunday. We will explore together the story of doubting Thomas. What does this story of doubt have to teach us about faith? What do Jesus' wounds, visible in this story have to do with us? Heidi will preach on Las Fronteras (the borderlands) of our lives and our faith, and what this story tells us about these sacred, liminal spaces.

Ministry Links

Sermons

[Zambia Mission Trip](#)

*Mission Moment for
Nicaragua*

[The Russell School](#)

Heidi served as Union Church's Student Minister from 2011-2012. Currently, she is the Adjunct Pastor at the United Church of Christ in Keene, NH and also in her final semester at Andover Newton Theological School. Heidi was recently approved for ordination by the Metropolitan Boston Association. Her home congregation is Old South Church, Copley Square. She is thrilled to be back with UCW for worship this week!

Youth and Children's Ministry

Adult Education

Upcoming Events



[Click here for the UCW calendar.](#)

Recent Blog Updates

[Click here for a report and photos on the Hunger Banquet](#)

Contact Us

The Union Church in Waban

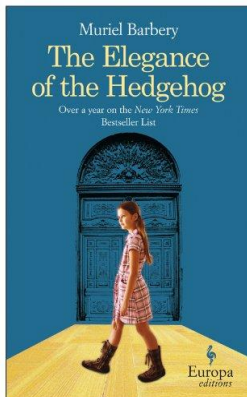
Rev. Stacy Swain, Pastor

Stacy@ucw.org

www.ucw.org

ucw@ucw.org

April Book Group



The April book for book group is "**The Elegance of the Hedgehog**" by Muriel Barbery. Our next meeting will be, this Tuesday (29th) from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Please join us.

This Sunday, April 27th, following the Time for Children, children in 5th grade and younger are invited to a One Room Church School. We will continue to prepare for Children's Sunday on June 8 as we delve further into our theme of the *Fruit of the Spirit*. We'll practice joy, love, peace, patience, self-control, kindness, gentleness, goodness and faith by eating lollipops and playing an interactive board game. We'll also think about how we could give the fruit of the Spirit as a gift to appreciate our Sunday School teachers this year.

Youth remain in worship.

For more information on what we are doing in Sunday School each Sunday through June, visit our website at ucw.org.

Parents Confirmation Meeting

Parents of the kids in next year's Confirmation class (that's the current 7th plus graders, or next year's 8th plus graders) are invited to a light lunch following worship on Sunday, May 4th. Thanks to Joanie Kelly for hosting us at her home in West Newton. We'll have an opportunity to talk with Stacy and Kathy about ideas for scheduling and content. **RSVP** to Kathy (Kathy@ucw.org).

All-Comers Party

Friday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m.

Please join us at the UCW's Spring All-Comers party at **Alicia Collins and Tony Abbiati's** house, **128 Avalon Road in Waban**. This is a great chance to mix and mingle with Union Church folks whether you have been a member for thirty years or you just started attending this spring. Childcare will be provided. Please **RSVP** to Alicia at aliciamaureencollins@gmail.com and let her know what you will bring to the potluck.



Easter Egg Hunt!



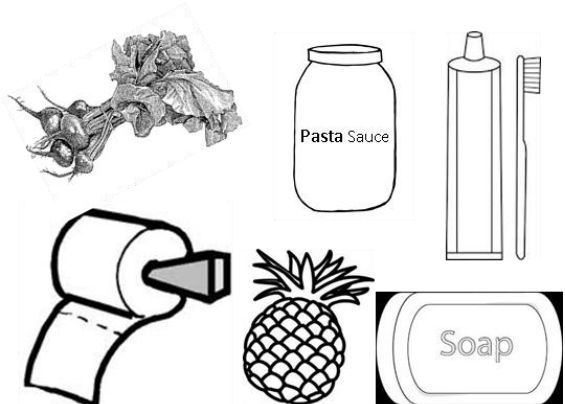
The Easter Egg Hunt was enjoyed by people of all ages following Easter worship last week. Thanks again to all those who donated the over 600 eggs, making this event possible.

Food/Supplies Drive for the Newton Food Pantry

As part of our church's Lenten theme around food, hunger and social justice, we are collecting donations for the Newton Food Pantry through Easter and the month of April. Please consider coming to worship with the following items and dropping them off in the side chapel.

These items are especially needed.

- Bar Soap**
- Toothpaste**
- Pasta Sauce**
- Canned Beets**
- Individually Wrapped Toilet Paper**
- Canned Fruit (pineapple in particular)**



Please consider coming to worship with the following items and dropping them off in the side chapel.

UpcomingUpcomingUpcomingUpcomingUpcoming

The Stewardship Campaign is in full swing. Pledge cards were mailed this week.

Please consider making a pledge before May 4th. It is through our stewardship campaign that we are able to partner in service of others whether that be at the Russell School in Dorchester or overseas in Nicaragua and Zambia. The money raised from the campaign also supports our annual overhead. Thanks you, The Stewardship Committee.

Continuing the Discussion on Hunger

Please join us on **Wednesday, May 7th at 6:30 p.m.** in the reception room to follow up on the Lenten theme of hunger and to discuss concrete steps we can take as a church community to help alleviate hunger. A light supper will be provided.

Celebrate spring with the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost, two of New England's

notable writers. "**Contours of Belief**" will explore poetry as an expression of faith and doubt, acceptance and resistance. Priscilla Kelso, who teaches literature, will lead the discussion on **Tuesday, May 13 and May 20, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.** at the church parlor. Bring your favorite poems of Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost.

New Parenting Group. Raising kids is holy work - but it's also hard work! Are you interested in a parents' group where you can talk about parenting challenges and joys, offer and receive support, and connect your faith to your role as a parent? A parents group is in the works at UCW, open to parents or legal guardians of children of any age. **Our first gathering will be May 12th at 7:00 p.m.** Contact **Christy Lang Hearlson** (Christiane.lang@gmail.com) or **Karen Weisgerber** (Karen@weisbrown.net) for more information.

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It is time to update the church directory: Please send a photo of yourself (family) to the church office ucw@ucw.org by Sunday April 27th so that we can include you in our updated directory. If your contact information has changed, or if you are new to us and are not currently in the directory, please let us know so that we can be sure to include you!

All Church Retreat

**SAVE THE DATE!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR !**

November 8-9 Veterans Day weekend

Rolling Ridge Conference Center North Andover, MA



Gorgeous setting! Close by!

Activities for children adults, youth.
Programs plus free time for hiking, etc.

Don't miss out! See you there!

(If you are interested in helping to plan the retreat, please see Stacy@ucw.org).

News From Our Wider Community

Rally in Boston for Jobs...NOT Jails!

**Saturday, April 26, at Noon
Boston Common**

Join the rally to support Jobs NOT Jails! Jobs Not Jails is an umbrella campaign, bringing together a diverse array of people who care about the future of our economy and about the damage that mass incarceration is doing to our communities.

The Patrick Administration has estimated that, if current criminal justice policies are not changed dramatically, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will have to spend \$2 billion in the next seven years to build 10,000 new prison units, as well as \$150 million more each year to fill them.

Massachusetts already has one of the highest rates of incarceration in the world and so many barriers to successful re-entry, that more than 60% of prisoners released from DYS, county jails, and prison recidivate within three years. Meanwhile, we are sliding quickly away from a full-employment economy.

Other states have overhauled their criminal justice systems using practices that are proven effective and so reduced their prison populations that they have closed prisons, saving taxpayers billions of dollars. Massachusetts can do the same, by ending practices that are proven ineffective, and implementing the best of what other states have already proven can work.

Learn more here. [Download a rally flyer here.](#)

Inequality for All

By Robert Reich

Thursday, May 1st, 7:00-9:15 PM

On May 1st, there will be screenings of "**Inequality for All**" throughout faith-based organizations around the country.

For more information visit www.inequalityforall.com

Join the Jewish community in addressing economic inequality with a film screening of "INEQUALITY FOR ALL" By Robert Reich

"We can have democracy in this country or we can have great wealth concentrated in the hands of the few, but we can't have both."

-Louis D. Brandeis

Join us for refreshments and a discussion of actions we can start working on together, to combat inequality in Massachusetts.

Temple Israel

477 Longwood Ave,
Boston, MA 02215

Mayor's Breakfast

The Honorable Mayor Setti Warren's Prayer Breakfast, Wednesday, May 21st at 7:15 a.m. at McElroy Common at Boston College. Boston's Mayor Marty Walsh will be giving the keynote address.

10th Anniversary of the Marriage Equality Act

The **Honorable Setti D. Warren, Mayor of Newton** invites you to celebratethe 10th Anniversary of the Marriage Equality Act on **Friday, June 6th, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.** on the south lawn of **Newton City Hall**. Participating in the celebration will be Ellen Wade and Maureen Brodoff, the first couple whose historic marriage took place that day in Newton City Hall.

Please **RSVP** by May 12th to

agonzalez@newtonma.gov

Reception

We are in need of several more hosts for reception this year.

Please check for openings on the schedule posted here and in the side chapel and the small kitchen, or contact [Judy Nagle](#) or the [office](#) directly. If you have never done reception before, how about starting with a "Bagel Sunday" where duties are a bit lighter?

Read reception guidelines [here](#).

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