

The Union Church in Waban

Weekly Updates

November 14, 2014

What a wonderful all-church retreat!

"God's grace and love were alive and well through the whole weekend reflected in the joy and smiles of us all."

On Saturday and Sunday, November 8th and 9th, sixty three UCWers enjoyed time with each other at Rolling Ridge Retreat Center in North Andover. Drawing from the writing of the Apostle Paul in 1 Cor 12: 12-27, the theme for the weekend was "Body Building." We explored and experienced together "What is it to be the body of Christ and individual members of it." Through song, drama, reflection, play, worship, arts and crafts, and games we uncovered and celebrated the gifts that each of us have and how they can be of service in the building up of our church community and how our church community can be of service in building up the world.



"I really appreciated the opportunity to go deeper, both spiritually and in our relationships with each other; the chance to be creative and flexible in worship; the spontaneity in everything from songs around the campfire to choosing activities at rec. time; the peace and quiet."

The retreat began with Jandi leading us in singing followed by a rousing bingo game where we had to match clues with the people gathered. Our guest Melody Ward danced as Bart read our scripture from 1 Cor 12. Brita then led us in a playful and provocative exercise of identifying what member of the body we are and what gifts we bring to the wider UCW body.



After lunch adults had the choice of four different break out groups one of which a conversation about mission that Kent Wittler facilitated. Notes from that break out session are included [here](#). During this time, the children were engaged in their own learning and play exploring the theme of church as the body of Christ.

Saturday evening after dinner and more time for conversation, we enjoyed the "Marshmallow Challenge," a bonfire, singing, and some rousing board games in the library.

The retreat concluded on Sunday morning after an amazing worship service that all of us created together and participated fully in

"I really appreciated getting to know everybody a little bit better, and playing outside"

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Updates from Council

Council meets the first Wednesday of the month. The agenda for the Nov. 5th meeting included a discussion of mission/outreach at UCW wherein we discovered the need for greater clarity as to the changes to mission that were approved at the June 2014 congregational meeting. The attached was drafted subsequent to the meeting to provide needed clarity. If you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to see Stacy or any member of Council so that they can be

This Sunday

Bible Study continues in Stacy's study at 8:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal this Sunday morning at 9:00.

Worship at 10:00 a.m. This Sunday, our ministerial intern, Amy Feldman will lead us in worship.

Children's Choir Rehearsal 11:30 a.m.

Russell School Team meets at 11:30 a.m.

Christian Education this Sunday

Today's Sunday school classes are:

Grades	Room	Teacher
PreK - 1st grades	Muse	Sue Hadley & Karen Salides
2nd - 3rd grades	Littlehale	Cindy Spertner
4th - 5th grades	Vestry	Lara Gund
6th - 7th grade	Choir Room	Susan Gedrick

Sunday School Registration

Time to register for Sunday School. Registration forms are available [here](#).

Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner



Our annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner will take place on **Saturday, November 22nd at 2:00** in our vestry. The Union Church in Waban invites seniors, local families, and anyone else who could use a nice Thanksgiving meal to join us for an afternoon of food and fellowship.

addressed. Stacy's Pastor's report and minutes from the October meeting were also reviewed.

(Council members are: Moderators, Alicia Collins and Annie Gatewood; Tony Abbiati, Treasurer; Jim MacDonald; Judy Nagle; Nancy Zollers; Karen Weisgerber; Frank Laski; Liz Caronna; Kent Wittler; Wat Matsuyasu; and Stacy Swain, Pastor.)

New Bible Study Group Forming!



Come join us on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. in Stacy's for Bible Study. We are starting in the beginning both in terms of beginning to read from the beginning of the Bible with the Book of Genesis and also in beginning in that no previous study or experience with the Bible is needed. Come with an open heart and mind to engage your questions and to be led by the timeless wisdom of God's word and the thoughts of those gathered into new insights and understandings. If you are interested please reach out to Pastor Stacy.

Our Sunday 8:00 a.m. Bible Study continues to meet each Sunday in Stacy's office. Currently we are reading through the Book of Isaiah. All are welcome.

If you know of someone who would like to be a guest at our dinner, please email **Alicia Collins**, aliciamaureencollins@gmail.com for an invitation.

We need volunteers to set up the night before and to fill slots on the day of the dinner between noon and 5:00pm. Go [here](#) to sign up to help.

Advent Devotional Booklet



You are invited to contribute to our UCW advent devotional booklet. Please consider writing a reflection, poem or other piece of writing as we take time to prepare ourselves to receive the gift of Jesus.

Submission are due, Nov. 23rd to [Stacy](#).

(You can review last year's booklet [here](#).)

2014 Nicaragua Christmas Tree and Greens Sale

Please order your trees and your Christmas decorations

These perfect trees and other greens support our church's work in Nicaragua, now over 10 years strong. Will you take this flyer to work, to your neighbors and your school to get orders for trees, etc? Thank you.



Flyer and Order Form available [HERE](#)

UPCOMING

New Members.

We will be receiving new members into our life together during worship this fall. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Union Church in Waban or in learning more about the church and membership, please be in touch with Pastor Stacy. (Stacy@ucw.org. 617-965-3893).

CALENDAR

Note: The UCW website calendar will be updated regularly to reflect church meeting and activities over the summer months.



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

Contact the UCW

**Rev. Stacy Swain,
Pastor**

Stacy@ucw.org

Church Website

www.ucw.org

**Aidan Cunningham,
Office Manager**

ucw@ucw.org

CE team meeting

Monday, Nov. 17th at 6:30 p.m.

Lunch Bunch

Tuesday at 12:00.



Prayer Group

Wednesday Mornings
at 7:30 a.m.

Prayer Group continues to meet every Wednesday morning in Memorial Chapel.

Coffee with Stacy

Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m.

Starbucks in Waban.

This is a drop in time to share a cup of coffee and conversation. Please also feel welcome to set up a time with Stacy by emailing her [here](#).



Wellspring, Women's Group

Wednesday, November 19 at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP [here](#).

Waban Health Worship

Thursday, 20th at 10:30 a.m.

Teaching Parish Team

Thursday, Nov. 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Choir Practice

Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Java Gents

Friday, Nov. 21 at 7:00 a.m.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner set up

Friday, Nov. 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner prep and event

Saturday, Nov. 22nd 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. Go [here](#) to sign up to help.

Confirmation class (for students only)

**Karen Salides, Director
of Childrens and Youth
Ministries.**

Sunday, Nov. 23rd 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Karen@ucw.org

From the Wider Community

Boy Scout Troop #9 has invited us to their Pasta Night Supper on Sunday, November 23rd from 5-7:30 p.m. in the vestry. We have five complimentary tickets. If you would like one or more of these tickets to attend the Supper please be in touch with [Aidan](#) in the church office.

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