

The Union Church in Waban

Weekly Updates

December 12, 2014

PLEASE NOTE: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Saturday, Dec 13, from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. If you have questions, please be in touch with Karen Salides, our director of children and youth ministries.

Mitten Tree



Take a Mitten, Give a Gift, Share Christmas with a Someone in Need. Every December, the Union Church in Waban works with Project Care and Concern in Dorchester and the Waban Health Center to create a mitten tree that extends the spirit of Christmas giving to those easily forgotten. Each mitten on the tree includes the name of a person living in transitional housing or at the Waban Health Center, and a description of the specific that has been requested. These people are often without family or networks of friends, and they ask for practical items-such as sweaters, jeans, fleece pullovers, hats, and gloves. The gifts we offer are likely to be the only gifts these people will receive this Christmas. The mittens, decorated by the church's children, will be available today. Bring your wrapped gift, with the mitten securely attached, to church by December 21. If you have any

questions, please contact Kent Wittler (kwittler@AEW.com) or Jane Purser (jane@purser.org). This Christmas, please take a mitten from our tree and give a gift to let someone man know that they have not been forgotten.

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It is Pageant Sunday!

Bible Study, 8:00 a.m. in Stacy's Study.
Choir Rehearsal at 9:00 a.m.

Receiving New Members
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A Silent Protest March

Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Sunday is a special service as our children lead us in the Christmas Pageant. As such, our children will be with us for the entire worship service today. Our professionally-staffed nursery in the Rainbow Room is available for infants and toddlers.

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

Russell School Mentoring Program meeting 11:30. If you are interested in exploring the possibility of mentoring a student at the Russell School in Dorchester please plan on staying for this conversation. If you have questions please be in touch with Mark Smith.

Confirmation Class 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Please let Stacy or Karen know if your confirmand is able to join us. *Mentors you are invited to join us for dinner at 6:30.* If you are able to come could you please rsvp to Karen, so that we let our parents know how many to expect for dinner?

Christian Education this Sunday

There is no Sunday School today so that everyone may participate in and enjoy the pageant. Pageant costumes may be deposited in the bins in the Crocker Chapel on your way out of worship. Many thanks to the CE committee, parents and children for your wonderful work.

Nursery care for infants to three year olds will be in the Rainbow Room with Lisa Woloski-Barry.

Sunday School Resumes on December 21st.

Council at UCW

The governing Council meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The primary agenda item at our meeting on December 3rd was to consider communication at UCW. What are our primary avenues of communication? Are they working well? Do people

The Advent Devotional Booklet can be picked up this Sunday at Church.



New Church Directory now Available

Hard copies of the new UCW Friends and Family 2014 Directory can be picked up at church this Sunday.

have the information they need? How do new people come to learn about fullness of our life together. These were some of the questions we considered. Click [here](#) to see an assessment of our current communication pathways. We welcome your thoughts as well so please feel free to share them with the any member of council (Alicia Collins, Annie Gatewood, James MacDonald, Karen Weisgerber, Judy Nagle, Wat Matsuyasu, Liz Carona, Sandra DaDalt, Nancy Zoller, Frank Laski, Kent Wittler and Stacy Swain). Go [here](#) for a copy of the minutes from the November meeting.

Second and Fourth Thursday Bible Study



Second and Fourth Thursday Bible Study will resume on Thursday

Church members who would like a PDF version of the directory can e-mail the church office (ucw@ucw.org) and we will send you an electronic copy.

Christmas Greens and Tree Pick-up

The Christmas Greens have been delivered. If you have not yet picked up your order, it is waiting for you in the meeting room across from the church office. .

Christmas Tree Orders: There is still time to order your Christmas tree. E-mail or speak to David Spertner (dspertner@gmail.com) or contact the church office (ucw@ucw.org, ph. 617 527 3893).

"Wellness Walk" at the Arnold Arboretum

Although regular tours of the Arboretum do not resume until spring, there will be a series of guided "Wellness Walks" this winter. These 45 minute brisk strolls, starting and ending at the Hunnewell Visitors Center (just inside the main gate on the Arborway), are informative, free, and open to the public. The first one, on Sunday, December 14th, at 1:00 p.m., will be led by Bart Kelso. Free parking is available on the Arborway. Please let Bart know if you plan to come.

UPCOMING

Teaching Parish Committee

Monday at 6:00 p.m.

Lunch Bunch

Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.

January 8th at 9:30. All are welcome! Please, if you are at all curious to explore the Bible, come join us. There is no need for any prior Biblical study or even any slight idea about what Scripture is all about. Come bring your curiosity and let's explore together.



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](#).



New Members.

What a joy it was to welcome **Kyle and Erika Pond** into membership last Sunday!

We will be receiving new members into our life together again on during worship on **December 28th**. 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).

Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.



While Advent is a season where we light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, it can also be a season where we feel Hope, Joy, Peace and Love's absence. This contemplative service opens space for us to bring our whole selves our joys and our sorrows, our hope and our despair into the loving embrace of this beloved community and of our God. Child care will be provided.

News from the Pews

Waban Health Worship

Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

JAVA Gents

Friday, Dec 11, 7:00 a.m.



Earlier this fall, the Council (our governing body) at the Union Church in Waban granted a request for **Rev. Christy Lang Hearlson** to conduct qualitative case-study research for her PhD studies with this congregation. You may hear from Christy over the next several months as she seeks to interview people or observe events at our church. For more information about Christy's research please click [here](#).

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

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

Karen@ucw.org

FROM THE WIDER COMMUNITY

A Silent Protest March was held on Sunday, December 7th.



(photo by Dina Rudick/Globe Staff)

The community gathered at Myrtle Baptist Church on Sunday at 4PM to begin a silent protest march over the lack of indictments for the killing of black boys and men. The March concluded at the First Unitarian Society of Newton. Pastor Stacy, in her role as President of the Newton Interfaith Clergy Association addressed the gathered community along with Rev. Crowley from Myrtle Baptist Church and Rev. Splaine from FUSN. To read the Boston Globe article about the event go [here](#).



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