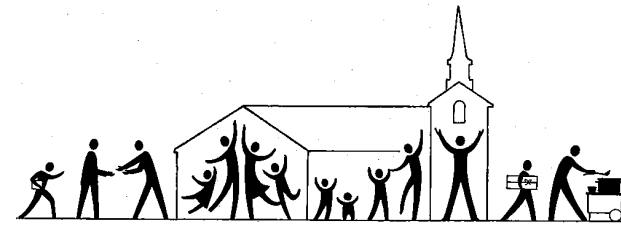


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THE BEACON

LEANING INTO CHANGE

*In spite of all our hopes, dreams, and efforts,
change is real and forever. Accept it
fearlessly. Investigate the unknown;
neither fear nor worship it.*

--Joseph A. Bauer

About a year ago the gym where I work out changed ownership and the new owners made numerous changes. They made staff changes, rearranged the weight room by swapping out many of the free weights and bars and moving many of the weight machines into new locations. They changed the placement of the mats where I did my stretching exercises. They even painted the walls two new colors. The changes disrupted my workout routine, and I had to find the machines that I regularly used but which had been kidnapped and placed in a new location. I didn't like most of the changes, considered finding a new gym, but stuck it out and now I am again in a routine striving to stay in shape.

We know that change is part of life, but have a tendency, nevertheless, to resist it. Perhaps it has to do with the fear of the unknown and our need to feel in control. In any case, the quotation above caught my attention and seemed especially appropriate for us as a church as we gear up for the fall and face this new season. As we adjust to Pastor Liz's absence—as the church board begins a church-wide discernment process about

staffing needs and positioning ourselves for future ministry—accepting change fearlessly seems to me the precise attitude we should adopt, especially in light of our Lord who loves us and promises to guide us with His presence.

I am thankful for Pastor Liz's faithful and fruitful ministry in our midst, and I am confident that God has much more in store for her. I am also confident that God has more in store for us, and as He continues to call us to greater creativity, courage, and challenges, God will supply us abundantly with what we need to accomplish His purposes. I am so thankful for the staff, the lay leadership, and the gifts and talents of the congregation and believe that God wants us to face the coming year with confidence as we continue to seek the Holy Spirit's power and guidance in our life together. In the words of Gary Haugen,

"[O]ur heavenly Father offers us a simple proposition: Follow me beyond what you can control, beyond where your own strength and competencies can take you, and beyond what is affirmed or risked by the crowd—and you will experience me and my power and my wisdom and my love."

With these words in mind, we can together fearlessly lean into the changes we face.

Pastor Phil

MEMBER NEWS

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Beginning Homecoming Sunday, September 13th, our worship service schedule will be as follows: **9:30AM** is the traditional worship service. Children in the Pre-K classes and nursery may be dropped off in their classrooms just before the service. Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade will attend the service with their families and leave for Sunday School classes following the Children's Message. **11:00AM** is the praise worship service held in the Great Room above Fellowship Hall. Children attending this service will have a multi-age Sunday School during the service. Parishioners attending either of the services are invited to join together for refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall at the conclusion of the first service.

PARKING

Please be considerate of our neighbors when parking Sunday mornings and during the week. Please do not park in the bank or real estate parking lots during their business hours (the real estate offices often conduct business on Sunday mornings as well). Please do not park

in the driveway of the Bank of America. There is parking along Miller Street. The Roberts-Mitchell Funeral Home has invited us to park in their lot off Park Street on Sundays. There is also parking behind the businesses across the street from the church. Please do not block access to any of the bank drive-through windows. Thanks and see you all soon!

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE – same address, new look. You'll find an up-to-date church calendar, information on Christian education and music opportunities for all ages, registration forms, active ministries of UCC Medfield. We will be conducting a registration period shortly that will allow congregational members to access additional areas on the site. We welcome your feed back. Many thanks to all the work that Mary Ellen Slater has put into this endeavor.

BIRTH:

Nathan James Garland was born on July 27th to Wendy and John Garland. Nathan weighed 8lbs and measured 21.5 inches. He joins big sister Nora in their Millis home.

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Philip J. Bauman pbauman@uccmedfield.org
Church Administrator	Laury Hunt lhunt@uccmedfield.org
Minister of Music	Michael Olbash molbash@uccmedfield.org
Youth Minister	Wendy Ludwig wludwig@uccmedfield.org
Director of Children's Ministries:	Susan Holbrook sholbrook@uccmedfield.org
Praise Music Leader:	Heidi Willson hwillson@uccmedfield.org

CHURCH CONTACT

Church Office:
Phone — 508-359-2351
Fax — 508-359-2352

Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday
8:30—4:30
Friday 8:30—12:30

Church Website:
www.uccmedfield.org

BEACON Editor: Laury Hunt
Layout: Donna Matson

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

On **Wednesday, September 9th from 5:30-6:45PM**, all incoming sixth graders are invited to **FOY Boot Camp** as we share pizza and orient students to the FOY routine and the acolyting procedure. It is important that your 6th grader attends! It will be a fun beginning to our many Monday nights together!

Focus on Youth (FOY)/8th Grade Confirmation (C8) begins on Monday evening, September 14th and runs from 5:30-7:15PM. An e-mail with important information and dates went out to parents at the beginning of August. If you have not received this letter, please be in touch with Laury Hunt in the church office (508 359-2351). If your student has friends or neighbors that are interested in attending FOY/C8, please have them check out the new website: www.uccmedfield.org and give Wendy Ludwig a call (508 785-4027). We welcome all interested middle school students and their families!

WELCOME BACK and opening meeting for Senior High Fellowship and 9th grade confirmation students will be held on Sunday, September 13th from 1-3:00PM at 100 Centre Street in Dover (Wendy Ludwig's house). Bring your bathing suit and a snack to share. Drinks will be provided. Pray for sun (we'll heat the pool if necessary) and YES! there really will be time to swim! Come and bring a friend – all senior high students invited! We'll have some fun and preview the coming year. Don't miss this event!

Local Mission

Senior High Soup To Go begins in October. All senior high students are invited to participate and to let this ministry touch their life as they touch the lives of others. Sign up on the SHF Soup To Go sign-up sheet in the Narthex to cook and/or deliver. Upcoming dates:

October 3 November 14 December 5 January 9

Youth Ministry Leadership Team Meetings for all small group leaders will be held on Monday evening, August 24th from 6:30-8:30PM and on Friday, September 11th 6:30-8:30PM. Dinner will be provided at both meetings; please RSVP (wendyludwig@uccmedfield.org) if you haven't already. I look forward to seeing you there!

Youth Ministry Leadership Team 2009-2010:

This team of dedicated leaders is excited about the opportunity to walk alongside middle school and high school students as they (and we!) grow as disciples of Christ. This year the team includes:

Terry Brennan, Cathy Chung, George Chung, Gary Greaves, Chris Grant, Heather Horan, Wendy Ludwig, Barry Mills, Tayne Quinn, Elaine Shea, Bill Sobo, Michele Stahl, Tom Sullivan, Bret Swedeen, Allan Willson, and Heidi Willson. FOY student leaders for this year will be: Brian Lonabocker, Katie Quinn and Megan Swedeen.



SOUP TO GO MINISTRY

It's hard to believe that this fall marks the start of our eighth year of Soup To Go. In some ways, the ministry looks very different now compared to our first time out. Our menu has expanded (over time our chicken soup and crackers have been supplemented with chili, sandwiches, fresh fruit and other treats), the delivery points have changed (streets of Back Bay and the Pine Street Inn have given way to South Station and the Veteran's Homeless shelter), our times have even changed (we use to start the cooking at 6, not leave the church until 9 and than found ourselves potentially getting back as late as 2am – clearly this was not a sustainable schedule!). But what has been consistent all this time has been the focus and intent of this ministry – namely, being disciples of Jesus by showing God's love to our disadvantaged friends on the streets of Boston.

Please consider getting involved! There are so many opportunities to participate in this ministry, including:

- Join us for the cooking and preparation – we ask that you arrive around 3:30 PM at Fellowship Hall. No cooking experience required! Jobs include food preparation, bagging toiletries, gathering items to go out that night, etc. Typically preparation finishes around 5-5:30.

- Join us for the delivery – we meet around 5:45-6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall to load up the vehicles and drive into Boston. Return time is usually around 9:30.
- Donate much needed items such as: small toiletry items (especially the hotel-sized shampoos, soaps, lotions, etc), underwear (men's and women's of all sizes), socks, T-shirts, sweatpants and sweatshirts, any type of warm clothing (if used, please make sure you wash it before bringing it in), gloves.

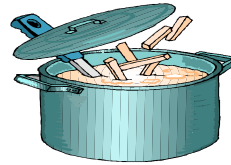
Signup sheets can be found in the Narthex (or you can call the church office); donated items can be placed in the Soup To Go basket on the shelves in the Narthex.

A big "thank you!" to all that have helped in the past and a big "Welcome!" to all who are interested in becoming part of this ministry.

Upcoming dates:

9/12, 9/26, 10/17, 10/24, 11/7, 11/21, 12/12, 12/26

Senior High dates:
10/3, 11/14, 12/5



PRAISE TEAM NOTES (CONTINUED)

songs that we will work on throughout the year, and which they can work on at home prior to rehearsals. Dates for rehearsals are listed on the church website. Please contact me if you are interested (singers really needed!).

Many thanks to Bret Swedeen and Allan Willson, who will again volunteer their time with these young bands, and to Ben Bushnell, Noah Willson, Nathan Cree Gee and Megan, Courtney and Greg Swedeen, who will run the audio/visual for praise worship this year.

I am excited to watch the SHF and FOY/C8 music ministries grow this year. The foundation of both my faith and my music was built in the church that I grew up in, and I am so thankful for the opportunity to watch other young people grow in this way! Please feel free to contact me, Heidi Willson with any questions at hwillson@uccmedfield.org

MEMBER NEWS (CONTINUED)

BAPTISM:

Ashley Ann Cleverdon, born January 23, 2009 to Valerie and Andrew Cleverdon, was baptized on August 16th by Pastor Phil. Her godparents are Daniel and Emily Knup.

SYMPATHY TO:

Hester Rhodes and family on the death of her husband Jack on May 23rd. The Rhodes joined UCC Medfield in 1961.

Priscilla Park and family on the death of Arthur on June 10. His funeral and collation were held at the church on June 19.

From Priscilla Park

Priscilla wanted to thank everyone for all their love and support during this difficult time with the passing of Arthur. She very much appreciated all the work that went into the collation that was held here

Larry and Lindsay Colvin on the death of Connie on June 28. Her memorial service and collation was held at the church on July 7.

Patty and Paul Foscaldo and family on the death of Patty's father, Earle Kerr, on August 10th. His service and collation was held on August 14th at the church

EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP IN UCC

MEDFIELD.: If you are interested in joining UCC Medfield or learning more about us, a two-part session will be held on **October 18 and 25** from 4:00-7:00 PM and will include supper and child care. Those desiring to join will be received into membership on **November 1** during the worship services. Contact the church office to sign up or if you have questions.



**October Beacon Deadline
Thursday, September 24**

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - Come one, come all for an evening of fun with the Prayer Shawl Knitters! We are having a workshop on October 13th at 7PM. This will be a night to share new patterns, attend mini workshops, or learn to knit or crochet. All levels of knitters or crocheters are welcome. This will be a great night of fellowship to learn what the ministry is about and enjoy some dessert, coffee, or tea. Please join us for this kick off to our new year of spreading God's love through a warm and embracing shawl. Look for the specific details in the October Beacon but save the date now.

Also we will continue to meet the first and third Thursday of the month beginning September 3 at 12:30PM and the second and fourth Tuesday beginning September 8 at 7:30 PM in the parlor. For more information please call Michelle Luhrmann 508-359-1586 or Donna Luft 508-359-4420, regarding day meetings or Sally Harris 508-359-4203, for evening meetings. If you prefer you can email Carol LaFreniere at cladedah@aol.com.

MEDFIELD FOOD CUPBOARD - Specifically from UCC for September, they have asked for juice, cookies, crackers, canned chicken, canned pasta, rice (white, flavored, and brown), pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, and cereal, but will gladly accept other non-perishable items. Please place your donations in the baskets located in the corner of the Narthex marked for the Food Cupboard. Thank you.

MEDFIELD DAY – once again UCC Medfield will have a presence at Medfield Day on **September 26** from 9:00-3:00. Bring your friends and stop by Booths 51 and 52 to indulge in "Heavenly Fudge" (compliments of Alex Weiner) sold by the UCC Women's group, and learn more about our congregations many ministries.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

September 6	9:30	Multi-age "Fun in the Son" SS program
September 11	6:30	CM & FOY/C8 teaching team dinner mtg
September 13	9:30 & 11:00	Homecoming Sunday
September 20	9:30 & 11:00	Regular Sunday School
September 27	9:30 & 11:00	Regular Sunday School

HOMECOMING SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13th

Welcome to the fall quarter of Sunday School at UCC Medfield. On September 13th, we will begin our Sunday School year together with worship services at 9:30 and 11:00 am. Our CM team of 24 adults is committed to making your child's Sunday School experience a meaningful one. The teaching teams for each class are outlined below for the 2009-2010 school year:

Pre-K	Beth Bauman, Jodi Holman, Laurie Nealon
Kindergarten	Hilli Passas, Dawn Stoddard, Wendy Carlson, Erin Langton
1st Grade	Megan Infantino, Denise Luczak, Janice Marble
2nd grade	Carol Scott, Una Smith
3rd grade	Monica Bushnell, Marybeth White, Carolyn Samson
4th grade	Art Davies, Jackie Anderson
5th grade	Rachel Brown, Barbara Seeglitz
Multi-age	Kathy Mills, Heidi Erickson
Nursery	Judy Lorantos
Cherub Choir	Heidi Willson

Our theme this year for ALL Christian Education programs is **"What Will We Discover About God This Year?"** and we pray that all our class offerings (children, youth and adult) will nurture many new discoveries. **Look in the Children's Ministry Center each week for a "clue" about the weekly lesson that may be used in a classroom game; more to come on this!!!**

As we partner with parents to nurture their children as disciples of Jesus Christ, we ask you to make a concerted effort to bring your child to church each Sunday. Our preschool students will be using a brand new curriculum called **Boz's Teach Me, Show Me, Grow Me** and will begin with the unit titled OUR WONDERFUL GOD. Our faith exploration this fall for the rest of the classes (except the 4th grade Bible Basics class) will begin in the Old Testament with stories about Joseph and Moses. Many of the classes will bring home a student leaflet each week which reinforces the classroom message. We hope this will spark some meaningful and faith-enriching conversations between parents and their children.

Sunday School Registration

If you have not filled out the registration form, please fill out the form ASAP. We require a new registration form each year. You can fill out the form on-line by visiting the Children's Ministry section of our church website (www.uccmedfield.org) and you can link to the registration form. Hard copies of the registration form can be found in the literature racks in the narthex or outside Susan's office.

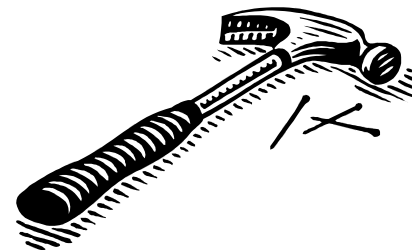
MISSIONS (CONTINUED)

Tri-Valley Habitat, Continued

We have much to celebrate in the number of people who have already devoted their talent and resources to get us to this point. Now we need even more volunteers for specific roles that will bring us to the next level of operation.

- Local Event Coordinator - Arrange for booths at town-wide celebrations
- Special Event Coordinator(s) - Work with Outreach Committee to create and implement "friendraisers" (No problem if they are fundraisers as well!)
- Publicity Materials Designer - Develop new outreach materials
- Newsletter Editor - Write/edit brief monthly email newsletter
- Food Coordinator(s) - Recruit and schedule snacks and lunches for construction volunteers by soliciting churches, civic organizations and local restaurants
- Construction Volunteer Coordinator(s) - Assist in recruiting and scheduling
- Fundraising Team Members - Work with current Fundraising Committee

We know that swinging a hammer for Habitat is a very fulfilling way to be involved, but helping to "set the stage" is of paramount importance – and brings its own rewards as well. Please contact us at info@trivalleylpc.com if you can participate in one of these roles. Check our page on the South Shore Habitat website for information about upcoming events and volunteer needs - www.sshabitat.org/lpcs/trivalley.php.



PRAISE TEAM NOTES

Praise Team

After a restful summer break, the Praise Team is excited to be beginning a new year of worshipping God through music. The Praise Team continues to grow together in our faith, our music, and our spiritual friendships. If you are a musician interested in joining the Praise Team, please contact me, Heidi Willson.

Praise Team Kids — The Praise Team Kids (PTK) will begin singing with the Praise Team on October 4th, with their first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 30th at 7:00 pm. The Kids sing on the first Sunday of every month (except in January), prior to being dismissed for Sunday School. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings prior to the Sunday on which they sing. The Kids receive a folder of lyrics and a CD, and can listen and learn their music at home, in the car, or wherever! If you have (or are) a child in 1st-7th grade who loves to sing, I would love to speak with you.

Senior High Band — Did you know that on Sunday nights, some of our high school students are helping to lead worship at Senior High Fellowship? Student participation has been transforming to our worship and our students! If you are a high school student interested in being a part of Senior High Band, please let me know. (We could really use a keyboard and bass player!) Each person receives a folder of music and a CD with which to practice at home prior to Sunday rehearsals at 5:30 pm, before SHF, with an occasional pizza party thrown in! It is a great opportunity to be a part of a small group that has fun and grows musically while we journey together on our walk of faith.

Middle School Band — This year, the Middle Band will play once a month at FOY/8th Grade Confirmation worship. The kids will receive a book of music and CD in the fall, and then again in the winter/spring, with a small group of

Cont. next page

MISSIONS

From the Missions Team

We hope that everyone has had an enjoyable and restful summer. The Missions Team is looking forward to an exciting fall of mission opportunities!

We would encourage you to take a look at the Missions page on the new church website (www.uccmedfield.org) for a brief description of our philosophy and a listing of the numerous ministries and organizations that we are supporting as a church. In addition, we have identified those that have direct involvement by members of our own congregation. Some of these include,

- City Mission Society (CMS)
- CMS Christmas Shop
- Cradles to Crayons
- Mature Mods
- Medfield Food Cupboard
- New England Aftercare Ministries
- Soup To Go
- South Shore Habitat for Humanity
- Visiting Nurses Association of Boston
- Healing the Children
- White Lotus Sharing Life Ministries
- World Vision
- UCC Medfield Adult, College,
and Youth Mission Trips

It is our goal to encourage every person in our congregation to take the opportunity to actively **serve** – one of the Six Marks of Discipleship. We hope that this fall you will feel called to participate in a missions opportunity either near or far, or continue in one that is already important to you. We have funds available to support new ministries; we want our choices to reflect the interests and participation of the congregation. These can be established organizations or new ministry teams that can be developed from within our own church. (Take a look at the Ministry Team page while you are visiting the church website.) If you have an idea or suggestion, you can speak to any member of our team or fill out a New Ministry Application form (available in the

narthex) and leave it in the church office.

Mission Opportunities

- √ As you prepare for fall, please remember that **The Medway Family Shelter** is in need of personal care items, such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, cream rinse, hand cream, Q-tips, and feminine products (no razors or toothbrushes). Donations can be left in the basket in the Narthex. Your help is greatly appreciated
- √ Mission Trip to Cambodia: You may remember a visit by Sherry Lile, Director of White Lotus Ministries, Cambodia last March. Donna Matson will be leading a small mission team in January 2010 to bring to White Lotus a set of handchimes for the residents, and to work with those missions engaged in anti-trafficking work. If you'd like to know more please call Donna at 508-785-1086.

Barbara Yates, Heather Todd, Bill Sobo, Heather Horan, Wendy Greaves, George Gray, Monica Bushnell, Cindy Brennan, Phil Bauman

Tri-Valley Habitat Effort Gains Momentum

South Shore Habitat for Humanity is looking forward to starting construction this fall in Medway through the Tri-Valley Local Partnership Committee. The Family Selection process is underway and the basic house design for the site at 9 Walker Street has been developed. The goal of raising \$75,000 (one-half the house cost) in order to start construction is within reach. A time-line has been developed so that we can start breaking ground by November 1. To quote a long-standing Habitat slogan, "The Excitement is Building". *Continued next page*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

Cradles to Crayons (C2C) - Service Opportunity

Our partnership with Cradles to Crayons continues to expand and we are excited about a new off-site opportunity this fall. We will start packaging winter hats and mittens---stay tuned for details for an upcoming "packaging" party in September.

This summer we continued to deliver carloads of donations from Medfield families to the warehouse on a weekly basis. We have also continued to sort and process bathing suits, summer hats, underwear, socks, newborn caps and tights. In response to a critical shortage this summer of socks and sneakers, we were able to deliver over 300 pairs of new socks and 75 pairs of sneakers.

Starting in September, we will resume our monthly workdays at the Quincy warehouse. If you would like to participate in this "hands-on" service project, we would love to have you join us!!! UCC Medfield has committed to four work days in the C2C warehouse in Quincy on the following days:

- Tuesday, September 15
- Friday, October 2
- Tuesday, November 3
- Friday, December 4

We will leave Medfield about 9:10 am and work in the warehouse from 10-1pm. A sign-up poster is in the narthex and you can sign up for one day or all four!!!

Our second annual pajama party to benefit Cradles to Crayons will be held on Friday night, November 6. More details to come on this program in an upcoming Beacon.

Bits and Pieces

Our **monthly Children's Church service** will begin in on October 4th during the first part of the 9:30 worship service. Pre-k through 5th grade students will participate in this 20 minute worship service in the Great Room that includes music, prayer, sharing of blessings (offering) and a short message. After our worship time together, children will be dismissed directly to their classrooms.

We would love some feedback on the parenting resource **The Parent Link** that is emailed to you each month. We pray it is a resource that supports you as you nurture the faith of your children in your home. Keep a lookout in upcoming Beacons for a course offering in Christian parenting. Please let Susan know if you are NOT receiving this resource by e-mail.

Classroom Volunteers-September

As part of our Safe Church initiative at UCC Medfield, two adults are required each week in every Sunday School classroom. Each month several Sundays will be staffed by teacher aides and the other weeks will be staffed by parent volunteers. **If you are unable to attend your scheduled date, please try to switch with another parent or call Susan Holbrook at church (359-2351) or at home (359-8378).**

	<u>9/20</u>	<u>9/27</u>	<u>9/28</u>
Pre-K	Thompson	Robertson	Merck
Kindergarten	Lynch	Masella	McCarthy
1st Grade	Jenkins	Koterba	Lussier
2nd Grade	Young	Murray	McKinney
3rd Grade	Walsh	Sarris	Previte
4th Grade	Bond	Caputo	Corzilius
5th Grade	Todd	Sullivan	Quinn

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

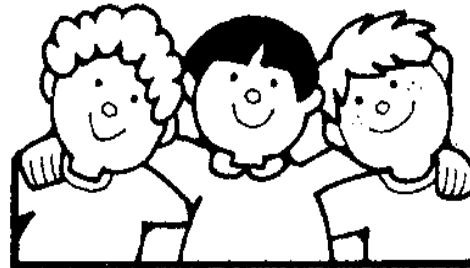
Many thanks to Greg Cassoli and Scott Holbrook for their leadership this summer in our weekly "**Fun in the Son**" **Sunday School**. We were blessed throughout the summer to have other college students assist Greg and Scott and we appreciate their service to the CM program. The students have decided to donate their weekly stipends to next year's senior high mission trip!!!

Our **September stewardship theme** will focus on learning what it means to live generously as expressed through the giving of our weekly offering. In class, each child will receive a new box of offering envelopes which highlights the theme of giving our **TIME, TALENT AND TREASURES TO GOD**. Your children will bring home a letter with the envelopes that explains how to talk to your children about stewardship and encourages parents to help their children fill out the time, talent and treasures section on the front of the envelope.

Look for the **UPDATED Christian Education Handbook** for the 2009-2010 year in your child's CM lunch bag.

Please mark your calendars for our **Living Gift Market** for Heifer International on Sunday, October 25th.

MUCH THANKS to **Ken and Marge Swedeen** for reorganizing the CE closet once again and making it a valuable resource room for the entire CM team!!



COLLEGE WITH A MISSION (CWAM)

Did you know that a group of college students met for seven weeks this past summer for Christian fellowship and Bible study?

Did you know that these students taught Sunday school all summer with Scott Holbrook and Greg Cassoli leading the team?

Did you know that these students elected to donate all funds paid to them to teach summer Sunday School back to UCC for the SHF/Senior High Mission Trip needs?

Did you know that this group cooked and served for Soup To Go on July 25?

Did you know that there are plans in the works for another mission trip for college students to New York City with the Center for Student Missions in January, 2010?

What a blessing these committed followers of Christ have been! They are already looking forward to serving during their winter break! Any student who is interested in the mission trip on January 3–January 6, 2010, should contact Carol Cassoli at c.cassoli@comcast.net or (508) 520-3488. A personal invitation has been extended to college students via email, as well. Signup deadline is **October 15**.

WELCOME AND FRIENDSHIP MINISTRY (CONTINUED)

Dinner Groups

Joining a 2009-2010 dinner group is a fun and easy way to get to know more people in your church family. In the past, dinner groups have enjoyed evening dinners, Sunday brunches, or buffet suppers together.

How does it work? We will take signups throughout the month of September and then we will "pick names out of a hat" to form groups of 8-10 people. Groups usually meet in the homes of members but you can be creative - meet at church or have a picnic at a park. All adults are welcome...it's not just a couples group!!! One person in each group will be designated as the contact person and will set up the first dinner. The host of each dinner usually provides the main dish and the other members bring another part of the meal - appetizer, salad, dessert and rolls. We are hoping to plan one big event with all the dinner group participants in attendance—stay tune for more information on this. If you have any questions, please email Gayle Edgar (gnedgar@verizon.net) or Susan Holbrook (sholbrook@uccmedfield.org).

Welcome Table Team

We still need a few more people to join our Welcome Table team. Starting in September, we will be staffing welcome tables on both sides of the building each Sunday. In addition to the main entrance, we feel it is important to have a person present on the bank side of our building each week to greet, direct and answer any questions that new guests may have. In addition, our regular attendees will be pleased to see a warm smile when they first enter our building.

MUSIC (CONTINUED)

(continued from page 9)

HANDBELLS FOR ALL AGES! Starting October 14

The Youth Handbell Ensemble and our adult group, the Chapel Bell Ensemble, will be postponing their first rehearsals until October 14, 2009, while our handbells get an "extreme makeover" in northern Michigan during the month of September. Each bell will be disassembled, repaired, polished, and rebuilt. Our five octave set of Whitechapel handbells will be in mint condition!

There are several openings in both groups! If you are interested in learning how to ring, please contact Michael Olbash. Ringing lessons for adult beginners will be available throughout September for anyone who is interested.

CONCERT SERIES 2009-2010

"On the Journey to the Kingdom"
September 27, 2009
4:00 p.m.

Our concert series begins with an afternoon of solo and duet repertoire featuring our own minister of music, baritone Michael Olbash, with mezzo-soprano Sarah Anne Rogevich (voice faculty, University of Massachusetts), accompanied by Elisabeth Pifer (Director of Music, St. Clement's Eucharistic Shrine, Bopston). The repertoire will include the *Geistlichen Duetten* of Heinrich Schütz, the *Three Latin Motets* of Daniel Pinkham, and songs by Copland, Mahler and Britten.

*Next Concert: The Stratus Ensemble
October 25, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.*

WELCOME AND FRIENDSHIP MINISTRY

Welcome Home!

To those of you who have been far and wide this summer, we missed you and look forward to seeing you on Homecoming Sunday, September 13th. Be sure to come to Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall to catch up with everyone, and sign up while you are there for a dinner group or an opportunity to be a coffee hour host.



Coffee Hour Hosts

We would love to have you sign up to host one of our weekly fellowship hours this year. Feel free to team up with another individual or family and remember, it doesn't have to be fancy; store bought cookies are fine!!! What is involved in being a host? We think of it as "SSS" - Snacks, Set-up/Clean-up and Serve. A member of our coffee hour team will be on hand to make the coffee and provide any guidance that is needed. If you miss the signup chart on Homecoming Sunday, there is

signup chart in the narthex. HOSTS ARE NEEDED EVERY WEEK FOR BOTH SERVICES.

Communication Cards

Just a year ago, we launched a new initiative in the Welcoming and Friendship Ministry that involved the use of Communication Cards during the Sunday worship services. These cards provide us with valuable information to follow up with our guests, as well as an opportunity for everyone to share prayer requests, request information, or sign up for a particular program or event.

There are several reasons why we need EVERYONE to fill out the card each week.

— First, we want our guests to fill out the cards so we can follow up with them on a timely basis. Guests are more likely to fill out the card if EVERYONE is filling it out. You can think of filling out your own card as an example of biblical hospitality because your actions might encourage a guest next to you to put their card in the offering plate.

— Second, we want to give you an opportunity to respond to the sermon you just heard in the Next Steps section.

— Third, you have shared with us so many prayer requests over the past year. These requests are immediately shared with the staff and are often lifted up in prayer by some of our prayer and Bible study groups.

— Fourth, this card gives our members and regular attendees a vehicle to share updated contact information. Remember, if there is no change in your contact information, all we need on the front of the card is your name!!!

Throughout the Old and New Testaments, scripture is filled with references to hospitality. In their book, *Widening the Welcome of Your Church*, Fred Bernhard and Steve Clapp write "the experience of hospitality lies at the very core of what it means to be a Christian." It is our hope that UCC Medfield is a place where biblical hospitality is fully embraced by all its members and friends and our guests feel warmly welcomed when they enter our doors.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



A Stephen Minister Is...

A member of UCC-Medfield who truly cares about people who are hurting;

A caring Christian friend who really listens;

A lay person who is trained and prepared to provide distinctively Christian care.

A Stephen Minister is not judgmental, casual, a counselor or therapist, or a problem-solver.

Through confidential one-to-one relationships, Stephen Ministers give those who are hurting the loving care and support they need.

Stephen Ministers provide emotional and spiritual support and care to people who are going through a difficult time, such as divorce, grief, hospitalization, unemployment, terminal illness, relocation, chronic illness, or loneliness.

Stephen Ministers:

- Listen
- Explore feelings
- Share Christ's love
- Maintain confidentiality
- Attend to the care-giving process and leave the results to God

I think I want a Stephen Minister. What do I do?

This is how the referrals process works:

You (or someone close to you) are hurting and in need of Christian care.

Our Stephen Leader learns about this need for care from the pastor, from you directly, or a friend, always with your permission.

The Stephen Leader meets with you to talk about Stephen Ministry.

With your permission, the Leader assigns a Stephen Minister to meet on a weekly basis with you.

The Stephen Minister continues to provide distinctively Christian care for you in strict confidentiality.

For more information, call **508-359-2351**.

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other."

1 Thessalonians 5:11



**SEPTEMBER IS THE BEST TIME
TO JOIN A CHOIR!**

There are choral groups for all ages, interests and abilities at The United Church of Christ in Medfield. Here are some of the choral groups that participate in the 9:30 a.m. services on Sunday mornings:

TRAINING CHOIR

Grades 1 & 2
Wednesdays, 4:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Starting September 9, 2009

HOW TO JOIN: Come to first rehearsal, or contact Minister of Music.

TREBLE CHOIR

Grades 3, 4 & 5
Thursdays, 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Starting September 10, 2009

HOW TO JOIN: Come to first rehearsal, or contact Minister of Music.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Grades 6 & up
Thursdays, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Starting September 10, 2009

HOW TO JOIN: Come to first rehearsal, or contact Minister of Music. Audition required to determine placement.

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Adults (and youth, with permission of director)
Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Starting September 10, 2009

HOW TO JOIN: Come to first rehearsal, or contact the Minister of Music



(continued on page 11).