

## Celebrating Our Church's History is November Sermon Theme

### *Church's History to Come to Life at November 6 Worship Service*

Some true facts about The Congregational Church of Needham:

- Since the original building was built, our church has recovered from several fires.
- Our church's roots can be traced back to First Parish Church founded in 1711.
- Josiah Noyes was one of the founders of the Evangelical Congregational Church in 1857 on Chapel Street.
- Dr. Herbert Rhodes Smith, who graduated from both Harvard Divinity and Law Schools, served as senior minister in the 1950's.

On Sunday, November 6, we plan to celebrate and honor our church's rich history with a worship service for all ages. Our Deacons will be giving voice to some of the most prominent names in our history. This intriguing worship service will bring our colorful history to life as the Deacons dress in period clothing and give dramatic readings.

An exhibit of historical photos, documents and artifacts from our archives will also be on display in the Kimball Room at church. The Kimball Room is the small sitting area just off the sanctuary.

We hope that everyone in the congregation will join us for this special worship service and month-long sermon series. *November 6 is also Open Choir Sunday. See page 6.*

## SAVE THE DATE FOR TWO TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVENTS: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

**Advent Workshop, 2-4pm:** Children of all ages are welcome to participate in making seasonal crafts, singing carols and eating Christmas cookies.

**Christmas Concert, 5pm:** The chancel choir will perform J.S. Bach's Magnificat, a glorious and monumental work written in 1723 for the Christmas vespers at St. Thomas Kirche in Leipzig. Also enjoy anthems and carols of the season. The concert will be accompanied by orchestra and organ. If you would like to support the concert, or make a gift in memory of a loved one, please contact choir director Bobby DeRegis at drderegis@verizon.net.

## Annual Giving Campaign *Update*

### **Give. Grow. Sustain.**

**Give** to the church.

**Grow** your faith.

**Sustain** a vibrant community.

Pledge dollars are THE deciding factor in how far our budget will go each year. We are nearly 60% to our goal of raising \$450,000 to support our worship services, music programs, youth initiatives, outreach efforts and building preservation. Every pledge counts towards making this a vibrant and spiritually fulfilling church home for so many.

Please pledge now by sending an e-mail to [pledge@needhamucc.org](mailto:pledge@needhamucc.org). Thank you!

**NOTE:** *Pledge cards were only mailed to members without e-mail addresses. All pledge communications are happening via e-mail in an effort to be more environmentally friendly.*

## FRIENDLY MARKETPLACE

**Sat, Nov. 19, 9:30am-2:30pm**

The church is happy to announce that a new version of our church fair is coming on Sat, Nov. 19! The Friendly Marketplace will include a lineup of vendors selling their unique items, such as handmade jewelry, pottery and artwork.

Many of the favorite features from our Village Fair will be back including our luncheon café offering succulent lobster rolls and other international selections, our attic treasures area, a used books sale, and the very popular Elf Shop for children to shop for their family members.

Proceeds will support the church's operating budget. Please contact Patty Stewart at [pattys-place@hotmail.com](mailto:pattys-place@hotmail.com) or call 339-222-2784 for more information.

### **MARKETPLACE IS LOOKING FOR YOUR DONATIONS:**

**ELF SHOP:** The Shepherd's Staff choir will once again host an area for kids to shop for gifts for their family members. Your donations to the shop are much appreciated! Please drop off your gently used items in youth choir director Joy Brewer's office.

**USED BOOKS:** We need your books, CD's and DVD's for the used book sale. Please drop off your donations in the library.

*Please drop off donations  
by Friday, November 18.*

**November Sermon Theme:  
Celebrating Our Church's History**

# November

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Key for choirs:</u>                      JN Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal, K-2nd grade                      HC Hallelujah Choir rehearsal, 3rd-5th grade                      SS Shepherd's Staff Choir rehearsal, 6th-12th grade</p>			<p><b>1</b>                      10am-noon Prayer Shawl Group, Reception Room                      7pm Deacons Mtg, Library</p>	<p><b>2</b> 7pm Ecclesiastical Council for Rev. Jamie Green, Chapel                      7:30pm Taking Care of Aging Parents, Fellowship Hall</p>			<p><b>3</b>                      7:30-9pm Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (CHECK CLOCKS!)  <b>6</b> NO Senior Hi Youth Lounge                      10am Worship /Communion                      All children in kindergarten and up will attend worship. Childcare for infants-preschoolers will be provided.                      11:15am Senior Hi Youth Group lunch/Giving Tree prep.                      11:30 JN; Noon HC; 4pm SS                      1pm Faith Circles, Reception Room                      4pm Needham 300th Church Service at First Parish, 23 Dedham Avenue, Needham.                      7pm Guatemala Partnership Meeting, Linden AB                      No evening youth group meetings</p>	<p><b>7</b>                      7:30pm Friendly Board Meeting, Linden AB</p>	<p><b>8</b>                      7pm Christian Ed. Committee Mtg, Reception Room</p>	<p><b>9</b>                      7pm Board Mtg, Library                      7:30pm Music Team Mtg, Reception Room</p>			<p><b>10</b>                      7:30-9pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	
<p><b>13</b> 9:30am Senior High Youth Lounge                      10am Worship/Church School (New Members join today)                      11:30 JN; Noon HC; 4pm SS                      5pm Junior Hi Youth Group                      7pm Senior Hi Youth Group</p>	<p><b>14</b>                      7pm Sunday School Teacher Training</p>	<p><b>15</b>                      7:30-10am Breakfast Club at The Center for sixth graders                      7pm Outreach Mtg, Library</p>	<p><b>16</b>                      7:30pm Friendly Society Christmas Stocking making/stuffing, Linden Hall</p>			<p><b>17</b>                      7:30-9pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	
<p><b>20</b> 9:30am Senior Hi Youth Lounge, Stevenson Hall                      10am Worship /Church School                      11:30am Climate Change Café, Linden Hall                      11:30am Senior Hi Youth Group Bowling Trip                      11:30 JN; Noon HC; 4pm SS                      5pm Junior Hi Youth Group</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>			<p><b>24</b>                      HAPPY THANKSGIVING</p>	
<p><b>27</b> FOCUS DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE                      NO Senior Hi Youth Lounge                      10am Worship                      No church school/childcare for infants-preschoolers provided.                      11-11:30am JN , HC and SS choirs rehearse in Sanctuary                      NO Junior or Senior Hi Youth Group meetings</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b>                      7-8pm Yoga &amp; NIA class, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>30</b>                      6-7:30pm Discovery Dinner, Fellowship Hall</p>				

# er 2011

Thu	Fri	Sat
Chancel earsal  4 Noon-1pm Career Tran- sition Lunch Group, Li- brary	5 5pm-9am Junior Hi Youth Group Lock-In Overnight DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (FALL BACK ONE HOUR!)	
Chancel earsal  11 Veteran's Day church office closed	12	
Chancel earsal  18	19 9:30am-2:30pm Friendly Marketplace & Lunch	
IVING!  25 Church office closed	26	

## New! FOCUS Calendar Section

We continue to try out the calendar format for the newsletter. We hope it is helpful to have a calendar outlining the many activities and meetings happening this month.

This is a calendar of highlighted events at the church in the month of November. For more details on the events listed, please see the articles in this newsletter and visit our website at [www.needhamucc.org](http://www.needhamucc.org). We now have a google calendar on the website that you can click on to find out more information about events.

Events are subject to change or to be cancelled unexpectedly, so please consult the church website for any updates.

### *A Message from the Senior Minister .*

**In Appreciation:** Thank you to all the members of the church who attended my daughter Sarah's wedding on Oct. 9 or who wished our family well. It meant so much to me that you supported us in so many ways. Several of you asked me how I felt about having my youngest daughter get married:

- I am happy to see Sarah so happy, but I am adjusting to her new name, Sarah Gillio.
- Paul Gillio is a wonderful young man, and I like his family, but we are still getting to know each other.
- Peggy's words were profound and personal, all at once.
- Bobby's music was uplifting.
- Cici's rendition of the song "Home" with my son Jonathan and daughter Elizabeth was a very touching moment.
- The flower girl, my granddaughter Ruth, coming down the aisle with bridesmaid, Nancy (her mom and my daughter-in-law) made me proud.
- It was fun to see so many of Sarah's friends from Needham High School. It reminded me of what fun we had with those teenagers at the parsonage many years ago.
- It was wonderful to have my mother here, even when she reminds me that she is concerned that each trip north may be her last.

You want your children to grow up and become independent, and when they do, your role changes, too. It is lovely, and sobering at the same time. So we have turned another corner.

But it was full of love. It was a moment we will all remember. I think of the church as part of our extended family. Thank you for sharing in this moment so gracefully.

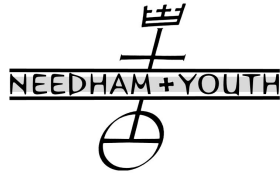
Peace, Susan

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH:

**Oct. 29, 5-8pm,** Haunted Carnival. Carnival prize stuffed animals come to life, a hall of mirrors, a fortune teller and more!

A not-so-scary game room is also part of the tour. \$5 donation is requested. *Donations of individually wrapped candy are still welcome!*



**Sat—Sun, Nov 5-6, Junior High Lock-In.** Arrive at 5pm, stay until after worship on Sunday. Dinner, snacks, movie, games, community service projects, and breakfast included. Cost: \$10.

**Sun, Nov 6th, 11:30am,** Senior High Youth Group meet for lunch and Giving Tree preparations.

**Nov 20:** Senior High Bowling after church at Kings in Dedham. Meet in Youth Lounge at 11:30am, back in Needham by 2:30pm. Cost: \$10.

### WINTER RETREAT INFO

**Junior High Winter Retreat: January 7-9 at Cody Outdoor Center in New Hampshire.** Leave Needham Friday afternoon, arrive Cody Friday evening. Meals, programming and small groups on Saturday, along with TUBING at King Pine Mountain. Breakfast, worship and leave Cody on Sunday to arrive in Needham by mid-afternoon. Total Cost: \$150.00. Need \$50 deposit by Nov. 1 to reserve your spot!

**Senior High Winter Retreat: March 9-11 at Round Hearth, Stowe, in Vermont.** Leave Needham Friday afternoon, arrive Stowe Friday evening. Meals and winter activities on Stowe Mountain on Saturday include skiing/snowboarding, snowshoeing, snowman building, hanging out in the lodge by the fire playing card games and board games, and having tons of fun! Breakfast, worship and leave Stowe on Sunday morning to arrive in Needham by early evening. Total Cost: \$200.00 (plus an additional \$39 for equipment rentals and \$39 for lessons if needed). Need \$50 deposit by Nov 1 to reserve your spot.

### *A Message from the ONA Team (Open and Affirming):*

#### Who Is Welcomed?

Please check the ONA Bulletin Board in the church hallway for interactive questions about the breadth of our church's welcome. Also see the bulletin board for regular updates on the community's work to make people from all backgrounds feel welcome and safe in this world.

### EXCITING CHANGES TO SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM ARE IN THE WORKS ! INTRODUCING NEW "ROTATION MODEL" Teacher Training on November 14, 7pm

The K-6 Sunday School is going through some big changes to make teaching easier and learning a lot more fun! We are recruiting teachers- old and new- to be a part of it.

Starting in January, we will be introducing the Rotation Model, where kids learn about a Bible story for six weeks in six different ways : through art, games, science, storytelling, video, and cooking.

We need parents and other adults in the church to volunteer to teach these sessions (especially if you have an interest in one of the six areas)! Please come to the training session, on Mon, Nov 14 or contact Rev. Jamie (revjamie@needhamucc.org or 781-444-2510) with questions or to set up an alternate date for training.

*All are invited to  
The Ecclesiastical Council for  
Rev. Jamie Green  
Wednesday, November 2, 7pm  
In the Chapel*

This council will bring together delegates of the Central Association of the UCC to vote on Jamie's privilege of call to officially transfer her ordination status to the UCC. Jamie would appreciate support from church members at this council as she presents and defends her ordination paper.

### Noah's Ark Preschool a place where children learn and grow

Looking for a preschool? Noah's Ark Preschool, founded in 2001 by members of The Congregational Church of Needham, is offering priority enrollment, dependent on availability, to church members now through November 22.

Noah's Ark Preschool's philosophy is that early childhood learning is best promoted through exploration and play. The school's primary objective is to foster the cognitive, social, physical, and emotional growth of each child, instilling confidence and enthusiasm for learning. Interested or have questions? Please call Frankie or Kelli at 781-449-2439 to arrange a tour or visit [www.noahsarkneedham.org](http://www.noahsarkneedham.org) for more information.

#### **Board Members Needed:**

Join Kirby Salerno, Rev. Jamie Green, Debbie Brennan, Joanne Cerame, Laura Cullen, and Becky Krechting as a Noah's Ark board member. Meetings are held monthly. Contact Kirby Salerno (781-400-5387 or at [kirbysalerno@gmail.com](mailto:kirbysalerno@gmail.com).)



### ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Check out these fun and enriching Adult Education classes coming up in the next few weeks.

**Sun, Oct 30, 11:30am-1pm, Pop Music & the Bible** led by church member Diana Conroy.

**Wed, Nov 2, 7:30-9pm, Taking Care of Your Aging Parents** led by geriatric and behavioral neurologist and church member Janet Jankowiak.

**Tuesdays, Nov. 29, Dec 6 & 13, Yoga and NIA** led by certified instructors and church members Carol Oberle and Jane Clayton-Matthews.



### Climate Change Cafe: Made in God's Image Why Our Personal Care Choices Matter Sun, Nov 20, 11:30am

Please join us on Sunday, November 20 after church for a Climate Change Café, sponsored by the Green Church Task Force, on how our personal care product choices affect the environment and our bodies.

Everyday we use personal care products such as soap, lotion, shampoo, deodorant, shaving products, cologne, or makeup. These products can contain toxic chemicals because they are not regulated by the federal government.

Church member Anne Hayek has been on an educational and spiritual journey over several years in the personal care product area. Motivated by a family health history and also a mother of a young daughter, she will share with the congregation what she has learned along the way. Please join us and bring along your favorite personal care product - or that of your teen - to enrich the discussion.

\* \* \*

- Congratulations to the Stewardship committee in their attempt to reduce paper consumption by conducting the majority of the church's stewardship campaign online and offering electronic pledging!
- Wanted: Old cell phones! Look for the yellow box outside the chapel and help support the cell phones for Soldiers program.
- Green tip: Save trees by using [catalogchoice.org](http://catalogchoice.org) to help reduce junk mail in your mailbox. See the flyer on the Green Church Task Force bulletin board.

See the entire 2011 Fall Adult Education brochure on the church's website at [www.needhamucc.org](http://www.needhamucc.org).



### Bikes Not Bombs Follow Up

The Guatemala Partnership supported Bikes Not Bombs, a local organization that collects bikes, refurbishes them and ships them to underdeveloped countries, by holding a bike collection day in the church's parking lot. More than 50 bikes were collected. Bikes Not Bombs ships over 4,000 bikes annually to be used for transportation, pumping water, grinding corn and other purposes. Thank you to all who participated.

### Friendly Society Stocking Stuffer Night Wed, Nov 16, 7:30pm

Join the Friendly Society on Wednesday evening, November 16 at 7:30pm in Linden Hall to sew Christmas stockings for The City Mission Society. We will sew about sixty stockings and fill them with toys for the inner city children of Boston. This is an informal time with a good purpose, and thanks goes out to Betty Peterson who has always organized this meeting.

*Friendly will hold its next Board Meeting on Monday, November 7 at 11:30am. Please bring a bag lunch.*

### THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER MUSICIANS

There are many people to thank for their musical contributions to our church services this past summer, and they are:

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Denice Koljonen      | Phil Hardebeck  |
| Elena Oberle         | Peter Evans     |
| Devon Oberle         | Dave Darmofal   |
| Rob Dunlavy          | Meriel Conroy   |
| Stephanie Oddleifson | Heather Salerno |
| Emily Mollerus       | Kirby Salerno   |
| Carolyn MacGregor    | Liam Salerno    |
| Carys Sutherland     | Soomi Lee Lowry |
| Meredith Sutherland  |                 |

Thank you all for participating and performing during the summer months. We had a variety of talents, genres of music, and ages of performers. What was clear and consistent however was the heart and spirit evident in each person's music. You added something very special, and we collectively say a hearty "Thank You!" and "Blessings." Oh, yes, and we will add one more note....."See you next year!"

— Cici Hunt,  
church member and Summer music coordinator

**CHANCEL CHOIR INVITES ALL TO OPEN  
CHOIR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

**Sunday, Nov 6 is Open Choir Sunday** — anyone in the congregation who would like to sing with the chancel choir is welcome! This will be a great time to sing again, or for the first time, with our chancel choir. We will perform two familiar and uplifting anthems: Martin Shaw's With a Voice of Singing, and Charles Villiers Stanford's When In Our Music God is Glorified.

Simply come to the sanctuary on November 6 at 9am before the service and we will rehearse the anthems. We will also rehearse the anthems on Thursday evening, November 3 at 7:30 in the choir room. If you are able to attend Thursday's rehearsal, that would be wonderful. It will be a good time to meet and talk with our regular chancel choir members.

\* \* \*

**GUEST ORGANIST TO PLAY ON SUN, NOV 13**

**On November 13**, we will have a special guest organist who will play the organ prelude and postlude for the worship service: Elizabeth Baker of Wilton, Connecticut, who is church member Mike Baker's mother (and Jen Cusack's mother-in-law). Mike and Jen bid on and won the organ lessons at last year's Village Fair and presented them to Elizabeth as a Christmas gift. Elizabeth is a very talented organist, singer, and musician. She studies organ at her home church in Wilton, and we are fortunate to have her share her talents with us on November 13.

***FOCUS***

*The Focus* newsletter is published once a month. Please submit materials by e-mail to [office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org).

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE  
Sunday, November 27, 2011**

The Congregational Church of Needham  
United Church of Christ  
1154 Great Plain Avenue  
Needham, MA 02492-2202  
tel. 781-444-2510 fax 781-444-3580  
e-mail: [office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org)  
[www.needhamucc.org](http://www.needhamucc.org)

The Rev. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister  
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister  
The Rev. Jamie Green, Youth Minister  
Christine Edmonds, Administrator  
Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries  
Joy Emerson Brewer, Director of Youth Music  
Heather Clarke, Office Assistant  
Doris D. Cook, Volunteer Office Assistant  
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

**Christmas Flower Offering Envelopes Available Now**

We are currently collecting donations in memory of loved ones for the poinsettias that decorate the church at Christmas-time. Look for Flower Offering envelopes in the pews at church or pick up one in the church office. Please return offering envelopes by December 14.

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM,  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1154 Great Plain Avenue  
Needham, Massachusetts 02492-2202**

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