

FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

Sunday, May 10, 2009

hope church



open minds · open hands · open hearts

www.hopeboston.org

Tree

Look at me, Lord;
with my arms spread out,
my hands open,
and my heart filled with goodness.
I am like a tree!

And I am even bigger
than the tree there in the wood:
because Lord, I bear fruit in all seasons,
even in winter, when skies are grey
and cold seizes the earth and its people
in an icy grip.

Look at me, Lord, I am like a tree,
and I say to everyone I meet,
Come and eat the fruit of my tree!
Come and share my smile
If sadness has brought you down!
Come and taste my forgiveness
If malice has enveloped you!
Come and pick my friendship
If fear has seized you!
Come and taste my joy
If misfortune has wounded you!
Come to my tree and help yourself!

Look at me, Lord:
Just as you asked,
I am a tree which bears good fruit.

--Charles Singer



GATHERING IN WORSHIP

*You are invited to light a candle at any time during worship that we might all share in the Light.
During Communion you will find members of our prayer team available to pray with you and lay hands on you.
Our prayer team will pray through the week the prayers that you offer either verbally or via the prayer request form.
We hope you will let us know that you have been with us by completing the form in the bulletin.*



Welcome

Invocation

Gathering Music Joyful Joyful, We Adore You

Confession, Assurance and Celebration

Prayer & Silence

Sung Confession: Solo: I come to the garden alone, While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses.

Congregation:
And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

Assurance of Forgiveness and God's Presence

Passing of the Peace One: The peace of Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

Sung Celebration: Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!
Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!
Halleluja! Halle-lu-ja!

Call To Prayer

Hope Church Singers

Prayers of the People

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

As we pray for those whom we love, for ourselves and for the world, we invite you to share your joys and concerns, highs and lows, praise and thanksgiving...and our prayer team will include your prayers throughout the week.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

⌘

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! (hum)

(Al - le - lu - ia)

First Reading Acts 8:26-40

Psalm Psalm 128

Gospel John 15:1-8

One: The Word of Truth All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon DESPERATELY SEEKING SOMETHING The Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade

Hymn Many Are the Lightbeams

COMMUNION

Offering

Invitation to Joyful Stewardship

* Sung Response (*Amen*) and Procession of Gifts

* Prayer of Dedication

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Feast: *This is an open table; everyone is welcome. You are invited forward to receive the bread and dip it into the bowls of grape juice or the chalice of wine. Gluten Free "bread" is available. Should you need assistance; a server will bring you the communion elements.*

Communion Prayer

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of our Savior (sins; sins against us)

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever, amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Invitation to Discipleship: *Joining Hope Church means entering into covenant with this community to engage in practices of Christian spirituality, in order to grow more deeply into the people God created us to be.*

Closing Hymn I Love to Tell the Story

Benediction

LIVING HOPE

CHURCH SCHOOL

During worship children are invited upstairs to hear a Godly Play story and then work on what they desire to process the story (or what is going on in their lives). They are encouraged with special crafts, materials, books, and especially their very own fellowship. The room is their own and thus limited to two adult staff/volunteers at any time. We invite all the children to explore the stories of our faith together and then come to the table with the whole church family. There will continue to be nursery care downstairs for children under three. Many blessings.

WORSHIP THIS WEEK & BEYOND: Invite a friend to come along and join us for worship.

Today, Sunday, May 10, Festival of the Christian Home (aka: Mother's Day)

The Fifth Sunday of Easter: Jesus tells us in the scripture for the day, "I am the vine, you are the branches." As we consider images of family and community, Rev. Wendy preaches on the topic: "Desperately Seeking Something".

Next Sunday, May 17, The Sixth Sunday of Easter: Rev. Wendy preaches on the topic: "Abide in me and your joy will be complete".

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

Search Committee Meeting: Monday, May 11, 2009, 7 – 9pm at the Hope Office, 67 Poplar Street, Roslindale Sq.

Knitting Group: Hope Church Knitting Group meets on Thursdays from 7-9pm. For more information please contact Robin (rmjoyce@mac.com) or Beverly (bas2360@gmail.com).

Welcome Wagon meeting: Thursday, May 14, 2009, 6:30 – 9pm. Help new visitors getting more deeply involved in life at Hope Church! We meet at one member's house for pot luck supper, reflection and business. Rotating - call office for specifics.

Hope You Drop In Book Group invites you to consider joining for the next book, *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant is available on the Welcome Table. Call the office for date and location for May group.

Career Transition Group at Hope Church: Are you laid off or looking for employment? Trying to discern God's call in your life and work? Join us for a weekly networking lunch for all those going through work transitions in this challenging time. Gatherings are informal and designed to provide job seekers with peer support, encouragement and spiritual renewal. Wednesday May 13, 2009 - 10:30am-12:30pm at the home of Bruce Baker - 96 Highland Street, Hyde Park, MA 02136 Ph. 617/669.2974. No doorbell - call when you get there. All are welcome; bring brown bag lunch or something simple to share.

The Seminarian, In-Care, Searching Support (SICS) Group will meet on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 6:30 – 8:30pm at the Hope Church Office, 67 Poplar Street, Roslindale Sq. for a simple supper and gathering.

Leadership Circle Meeting: Sunday, May 17, 2009, 3– 5pm at the Roslindale Congregational Church in the Church Parlor



Call Me Malcolm: The Film will be shown Saturday, May 16, 2009, 7:30 – 9:30pm at the Congregational Church of Needham, 1154 Great Plain Avenue, Needham, MA 0249, (781) 444-2510 Website: www.needhamucc.org A documentary feature about a transgender seminary student and his struggle with faith, love and gender identity. **Rev. Malcolm Himschoot will join Hope Church for Worship on May 31st at 5:30.** he will preach that day and we will follow with refreshments and Q&A.

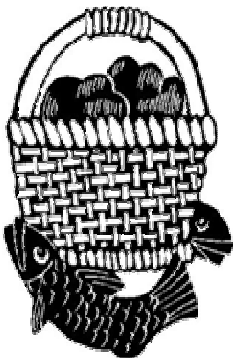
NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE AND OUR CHURCH FAMILY

“Growing Hope Together: *Me: Capricorn, composts, good at pulling weeds, likes to pickle. You: little extra yard space, outdoor faucet, wants some fresh veggies all summer long. Want to meet up?”* Are you looking to build community, get your hands dirty, invite covenant members into your yard, learn from your fellow neighbors, see who can grow the largest zucchini? If you are interested in sharing a section of your yard or putting some time into a garden and sharing the bounty, please meet up after worship on Sunday May 10th. We're pulling together folks who have yard-space to share in JP/Roslindale, individuals who want to work together to tend a garden and some more experienced gardeners and farmers. If you are interested in the yard-share or splitting a Community Supported Agriculture share, contact Laura Everett at 617-285-7558 or lauraeeverett@yahoo.com

The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO): Judy Wagoner and Stacey Schamber will host a house meeting this Wednesday, May 13, 7:00pm at Hope Church office at 67 Poplar Street, Roslindale Square. The purpose of this meeting is to talk about the effects of economy and how we can both support each other at Hope and collaborate with other faith communities to respond or take action. All are invited to attend; please RSVP to Stacey Schamber [sischamber@gmail.com] or Judy Wagoner [judywmw@gmail.com]. **Also please also save the date** of Thursday, May 26 for the next GBIO delegates' assembly at People's Baptist Church, 830 Tremont Street, to hear the stories of the impact of the economy and be part of GBIO's strategy for social justice in action.

Help your sister church! Eliot Congregational Church in Roxbury, U.C.C. is one of 25 finalists for a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's *Partners in Preservation* program. You can help them receive a grant by voting for them on-line (visit www.partnersinpreservation.com). The top recipient of votes will receive a \$100,000 grant for preservation work (another \$900,000 will be awarded by a panel that is reviewing proposals). You can vote once each day between now and May 17th.

Fair Trade: Help make Hope Church a fair trade church, and help other organizations in Roslindale and JP make the switch, join the Hope fair trade team. Contact [Abbi oldeforest@gmail.com](mailto:Abbi.oldeforest@gmail.com) for more information.



Loaves and Fishes: With continued steady leadership and an excited congregation we are confident that we can achieve secure financial footing soon. Our successes keep us highly motivated and continuously giving of our own time and treasure. We are utterly committed to making Hope Church a beacon of Christian renewal and justice for years to come. You can help us by completing one of the “green sheets” telling us the names of individuals who have witnessed what an important force Hope Church has become in your life. We will contact them with information on how they can support our mission of justice, inclusion, and faith. Pick up a green sheet at the Welcome Table if you have not received one.

HOPE CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Ministers: All of us!

Interim Pastor:

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade, pastor@hopeboston.org

Children's Church :

J.C. Mitchell, johnchristianm@yahoo.com

Administrative Manager:

Frederick Hayes, office@hopeboston.org,

Leadership Circle:

J Conlon, board@hopeboston.org (Moderator)

John Brock, Bob Drake, Christie Dustman,

Kathie Mainzer, Stacey Schamber,

Frank Stevens, Kevin Tucker , Judy Wagoner

Music Leadership:

Hope Church Singers,

Jeanne Lucas, Sara Goplin,

Bobby Hall, Neil Helme, Todor Stoinov

HOPE CHURCH MINISTRIES

Hope Church is a vibrant and growing community with lots of ways to get involved. Please contact these leaders and let us know where you feel called to serve and we'll plug you in!

Casserole Care:

Kathy Bermingham

Children's Church :

J.C. Mitchell

Finance:

Frank Stevens

Hospitality:

Ron Scanlon

In Care Committee

Polly Hamlen

Nominating Committee:

Laura Everett

Prayer Ministry:

Beverly Pacheco

Search Committee:

Beth Chandler

Seminarian Support:

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade

Rev. Steven Vandergrift

Social Justice:

Leadership Circle

Stewardship:

Ellen Snoeyenbos

Welcome Baby:

Barbara McQueen

Welcome Wagon:

Jean Vandergrift

Worship, Arts and Music:

Nanette Savides/Sarah Goplin

HOPE CHURCH OPERATING STATEMENT

01/01/2009 thru 4/30/09

	Budget to Date	Actual to Date	total 09 Budget
INCOME			
Pledges Received	46,667	46,923	140,000
Offerings	7,333	4,582	22,000
Total Contributions Income	54,000	51,505	162,000
Other Income	333	-	1,000
TOTAL INCOME	54,333	51,505	163,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	75,422	60,210	226,266
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(21,089)	(8,705)	(63,266)
CASH BALANCE as of	4/30/09	\$58,624	

Note: Pledge Income on budget for first four months while offering donations are lagging behind projections. Expenses for the period are \$15,000 less than budgeted for the period, all expense categories are below budget.

**Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, and single people.
Welcome to people of all colors, cultures, abilities, and sexual
orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners –
and welcome to questioning believers.**

Welcome to everyone!

Tonight we are all invited to live into God's love, peace, and justice

CONTACT:

Hope Church
United Church of Christ & Disciples of Christ
25 Cummins Highway
Roslindale, MA 02131
617.522.0600
info@hopeboston.org

The Office:
67 Poplar Street
Roslindale, MA 02131



hope church
open minds · open hands · open hearts
www.hopeboston.org