



2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 17, 2010



hope church

open minds · open hands · open hearts

www.hopeboston.org

UPDATE FROM THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

January 12, 2010

Dear Church Family,

Greetings and happy new decade from the Search Committee. It's been several months since our last update and we wanted to touch base with you.

Following a few months of reading profiles, we began the first round of interviews in October. To date, we've interviewed ten candidates and anticipate concluding first round interviews by the end of January. While we had hoped to complete first round interviews before the holidays, several factors intervened: the challenge of coordinating schedules, especially during the holiday season; Bob Brown and Chad Smith needing to resign from the Search Committee due to personal reasons; and most significantly, we continue to receive and review interesting profiles from highly qualified candidates. So far, we have evaluated over 80 profiles.

In earlier communications we suggested that we would likely conduct second round interviews before hearing candidates in a neutral pulpit. Because liturgy and preaching are so integral to who we are and what we do at Hope Church, the Search Committee has decided, instead, to hear select candidates in a neutral pulpit prior to meeting for additional interviews. This has the potential to extend the process a bit, but we feel it's the right way to proceed in finding the pastor prepared by God for Hope Church and Central Congregational.

Finally, we met with members of Central Congregational Church to both listen to their hopes and dreams for the future and to provide them with a sense of what we have been seeking. Feedback from those who attended afforded us confidence that our path is on target for the united congregation that the new settled pastor will be leading.

We know that it's easy to feel anxious and even disheartened as the search process continues. We encourage you not to despair. We are confident that the Holy Spirit is in our midst and our new pastor will be with us in God's time.

Please let us know if you have any questions. You can always reach us at search@hopeboston.com.

Respectfully submitted,

The Search Committee

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 find members of our prayer team are available to pray with you.
Our prayer team will pray through the week the prayers that you offer 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.*



Living Hope

Welcome

Opening Song

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Confession, Assurance and Celebration

Prayer & Silence

Sung Confession: “Within our Darkest night”

Within our darkest night, you kindle the fire
that never dies away, never dies away.
Within our darkest night, you kindle the fire
that never dies away, never dies away

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: “This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Call To Prayer

Hope Church Singers

Prayers of the People

In addition to our open prayer time, you are encouraged to use the prayer circles that are available during Holy Communion and the Prayer Request in this bulletin which will bring your prayers to the attention of the pastor and the prayer ministry team.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture

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

(Al - le - lu - ia)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! (hum)' are written below the treble staff. A second line of lyrics '(Al - le - lu - ia)' is written below the bass staff. There is a repeat sign at the beginning of the treble staff.

Psalm 36

1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11

John 2:1-11

One: The Word of Truth

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

EXTRAVAGANCE?

Rev. Wendy

Hymn

"They'll Know We are Christians"

COMMUNION

Offering

Invitation to Joyful Stewardship

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

Closing Hymn

"He's Done So Much for Me"

Benediction

CHILD CARE

Child Care and is available in the parlor,
(through right hand door at the front of the sanctuary).

LIVING HOPE

Worship This Week & Beyond:

Invite a friend to come along and join us for worship.

Today, January 17, 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany, 5:30 pm worship: In the extravagant sign given in Jesus' first miracle at the wedding of Cana, God's abundance is revealed. Even in the midst of apparent scarcity, there is enough wine. Mary knew and trusted, and points us to know and trust that God's love never runs dry. Join us for worship as we consider that many ways that God's extravagant love continues to guide and fill Hope and Central's future.

Next Sunday, January 24, 5:30 pm worship: As we face the significant decision to unite with the history, heritage and people of Central Congregational Church, Rev. Wendy will consider the question: "Whose Body", using the well know text of 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a.
Whose body indeed!

Congregational Meetings

Tonight, Sunday, January 17, 6:45 pm after worship

Agenda: Vote on proposal based on feedback sessions



Next Sunday, January 24, 6:45 pm after worship

Agenda will include:

- I. Present Budget for united congregation
- II. Elect Leadership
- III. Review Plans for Uniting Congregations
- III. Other business that may come before the congregation in regards to the aforementioned topics.

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

Fast Track Grant

In response to the disaster in Haiti, Jasmine Beach-Ferrara and Abbi Holt each requested and have been granted fast track grants in the amounts of \$250 for Partners in Health, an organization that our own Angela Letizia works with. Partners in Health focuses on developing local leadership for health care projects that will be sustainable beyond their direct involvement . They have health clinics throughout Haiti and are already up and running in providing extensive medical services.

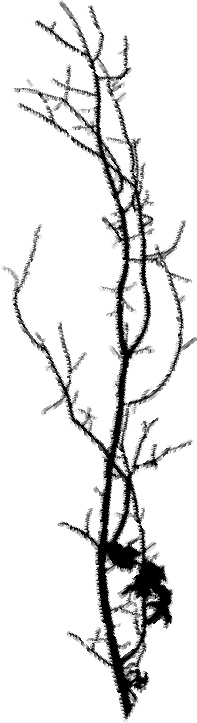
Any and all support that will help them respond to the immediate needs and continue their mission of strengthening the public health system in Haiti is greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate to this vital organization to help them in their efforts to bring relief to the people of Haiti, please visit <http://www.pih.org>

Seminarian Support Group: Will meet on Thursday, January 21 at 6:30pm at the Hope Church office.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE AND OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Voices Rising chorus will perform on Saturday., January 23, 4:00pm, at the Congregational Church of Needham, "Where the Heart Is" a concert that examines the subject of home from different musical and conceptual perspectives. With texts from Ursula LeGuin and Francisco Alarcon and music by Dvorak, Hoagy Carmichael, Paul Simon and even a medley of Broadway tunes, the concert has something for everyone, young and old alike. Donations of non-perishable food will be collected for those in need and donated through the Greater Boston Food Bank. Go to <http://www.voicesrising.org/> for ticket information.

Join Boston PFLAG and Support Transgender Equality on Thursday, Jan. 21, 2010, 2-5 p.m. at the Nurses Hall in the Massachusetts State House. They need your help to send a strong message to Beacon Hill: All people in Massachusetts should be treated equally. Please call now and make appointments to meet with your State Representative and Senator on 1/21/09. To find out whom your legislators are go to <http://www.wheredoivotema.com>. Please rsvp to Jesseb@masstpc.org.



HOPE CHURCH OPERATING STATEMENT			
	01/01/2009 thru	12/31/09	
	Budget	Actual	Total
	to Date	to Date	09 Budget
INCOME			
Pledges Received	140,000	134,075	140,000
Offerings	22,000	11,444	22,000
Total Contributions Income	162,000	145,519	162,000
Other Income	1,000	3,533	1,000
TOTAL INCOME	163,000	149,052	163,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	222,266	189,834	222,266
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(59,266)	(40,782)	(59,266)
CASH BALANCE as of	12/31/09	\$25,808	

HOPE CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Ministers: All of us!

Interim Pastor:

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade, pastor@hopeboston.org

Administrative Manager:

Frederick Hayes, office@hopeboston.org,

Interim Music Director

Jeanne Lucas, jeannemlucas@hotmail.com

Music Leadership

Hope Church Singers,
Sara Goplin, Bobby Hall, Neil Helme, Todor Stoinov

Interim Minister

Spiritual Formation & Christian Education

Leadership Circle:

J Conlon, board@hopeboston.org (Moderator)
John Brock, Bob Drake, Christie Dustman,
Kathie Mainzer, Stacey Schamber,
Frank Stevens, Kevin Tucker, Judy Wagoner

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:

Frank Stevens

Finance:

All of us....

Hospitality:

Polly Hamlen

In Care Committee

Laura Everett

Nominating Committee:

Beverly Pacheco

Prayer Ministry:

Beth Chandler

Search Committee:

Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade

Seminarian Support:

Rev. Steven Vandergrift

Social Justice:

Neeka Stanley

Stewardship:

Ellen Snoeyenbos

Welcome Baby:

Barbara McQueen

Welcome Wagon:

Jean Vandergrift

Worship, Arts and Music:

Nanette Savides/

Welcome to Hope Church...

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and to old friends.

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

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hope church

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