



The Hancock Herald

January 2011

Inside this issue:

From the Sr. Minister	2
Hancock Helps City Mission With Manger Sunday Donations	3
Prudential Committee and a Special Quilt	4
Hancock Backpack Program and Projects with Purpose	5
Adult Christian Education	6
Annual Meeting	8
Congregational Care: Message from Meg	9
Adult Christian Education	10
The Notice Board	11

Year 1 of Interfaith Garden a Success



By Amy Swanson

Last spring we asked, **“What’s your Number”?** We ran a contest asking followers of the garden to guess how many pounds of fresh, healthy produce would be grown and given away to the Lexington Interfaith Food Pantry in our inaugural season. Guesses ranged from 200 pounds to 30,000 pounds (someone had great vision!). The season has ended; the numbers are in and we can report them to you.

It turns out that 995 pounds of produce were picked and delivered. Four people guessed 1000 pounds. The next closest guesses were 2 folks at 950 pounds. There’s lots of interesting tidbits about our garden’s 995 pounds, such as:

- 35 different vegetables and herbs were delivered...from A (acorn squash) to Z (zucchini). The full list included Acorn Squash, Asparagus, Basil, Beans, Beets, Bok Choy, Broccoli, Butternut Squash, Cabbage, Celery, Cherry Tomatoes, Chives, Corn, Cucumbers, Dill, Eggplant, Leeks, Lettuce, Onions, Parsley, Peppers, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Radishes, Reg. Peas, Rhubarb, Scallions, Snow Peas, Strawberries, Snap Peas, Swiss Chard, Tomatoes, Yellow Crookneck, Squash, and Zucchini.
- Can you guess what crop was the most productive? Potatoes at 146 pounds. (A lot until you consider that the Lexington Food Pantry buys 60 pounds of potatoes a week.) The 2nd largest crop was cucumbers at 123 pounds and in 3rd place was lettuce at 104 pounds. Who would have thought that lettuce would have made it into the top 3 crops? But it makes sense when you consider that salad greens are among the first planted and Carla, our head farmer, kept replanting new beds all through the summer.
- Our biggest harvest day was Aug 21st when 116 pounds were picked and delivered. Lots of tomatoes, cucumbers and potatoes were delivered! The next biggest harvest day was Sep 11th when 97 pounds were picked. It took a lot of hustle to pick, clean and deliver on time to the Food Pantry on those Saturday mornings!

Many thanks for all the support that Hancock supplied. Ed and Myrtle Cox and Connie Devereux passed along excess gardening tools as they downsized. Our gardener volunteers included: Linda Nason, Beth Schutt, Amy Swanson, Mark Sandeen, Linda Kilner Olivier, Carol Bukys, Faith Fenske, Susan Navia, MaryAnn Shupe, Keith West, Connie Gregg, Barbara Kay, Gerri Atkins, Tom Ransohoff, Katie & Mary Heveran, Lisle Swanson, Dana Allen Walsh, and the Parkers.

We look forward to Year 2.

To learn more visit <http://interfaithgarden.org>. This article was edited for length. To read the full text, visit the Hancock Blog at www.hancockchurch.org/blog.

LexMedia Cable TV
 Watch Hancock Services on RCN 3, Comcast 8 and Verizon 35 at:

- Sundays at 9:55am (LIVE) & 7PM
- Tuesdays at 10pm

Have an article for the Hancock Herald? Send it to sara.withee@hancockchurch.org. Next month’s deadline is Friday, Jan. 14 at 5 p.m.

From the Senior Minister



Dear Friends,

I am writing ten days before Christmas, and much work remains for me to do before I can bring 2010 to a close in my mind. Yet I can see 2011 from here, and even now, when the weather is coldest, and new life seems only a fantasy as I look out the office window, I am keenly aware of new and vibrant ministries emerging at Hancock. I want to celebrate and lift up a few of them.

The 2011 pledge drive is not over, and if you've yet to pledge, we look forward to hearing from you. But the inspiration of our matching gifts program has prompted 22 pledges from households that did not pledge in 2010, and new ministries are going to be possible because of both new and continuing generosity among church members.

Dozens of volunteers have been working to create visual banners, and symbols in our sanctuary, inspiring to both the eye and to the heart.

New adult education events and retreats are planned for the winter, with more information provided in these pages.

The Hancock Youth Group, the HYG is well along in their planning for their annual trip to Neon, Kentucky, occurring this year during February vacation.

An adult mission trip is headed to Honduras with a dozen folks signed up and ready to go.

Our Christian Service Committee is evaluating all the contributions that our church makes to various ministries and agencies working directly with the poor and powerless. The goal is to strengthen the ties that bind us to them and ensure that our dollars are having as much impact as possible.

The dozen members of our Confirmation Class will again lead our 5:00 pm Christmas Eve service.

The Prudential Committee has been a fountain of activity, improving the safety, appearance and functioning of our church building and grounds. With dozens of volunteers helping the church looks better than it has in years.

Our Congregational Care Ministry, under the leadership of Meg Anzalone, has revitalized our Community Prayer ministry, begun to provide Prayer Shawls to those recovering, and will begin visitations in January.

The Church School, (now enjoying new carpeting!) has created wonderful learning environments for our children, and welcomed new "shepherd" volunteers to support the teachers and to make each child welcome.

Our staff has welcomed several new members, and continued to work together with enthusiasm and commitment. What's more, we like each other and are a good team together.

Our Sunday evening worship service, called The Well, is vibrant and growing, averaging nearly 40 people in attendance. Mark Morgan has recruited and leads a vibrant ensemble with guitar, piano, fiddle, drums and other instruments.

Our new Communications Coordinator, Sara Withee, has begun developing a strategy for telling the story of Hancock Church to the wider community through the website, social media and more traditional means. More to follow!

The Standing Committee, with good leadership from our Moderator Robin DiGiammarino and Vice Moderator Charlie Wyman, are calling the congregation to begin the process of evaluation and vision that will lead to a capital campaign to raise money for our building, our mission, and our programs. Long necessary, this process will lead to much discussion, listening and consensus building until we are ready to prepare our building for the next generation of ministry to take place within its comforting walls.

All this is happening, and still we maintain our focus as a worshiping community of disciples of Jesus: loving God, caring for one another and serving the poor and the powerless. Come and see what is happening at Hancock United Church of Christ!

Grace and Peace,

Paul

Manger Sunday at Hancock



The Rev. Paul Shupe led the service, where the congregation gathered gifts for City Mission Society of Boston.



Hancock United Church of Christ choir



Mark Morgan, director of music, with his two featured singers



Our gifts to City Mission Society

Photos Courtesy of Paul Topalian

The Hancock Blog: www.hancockchurch.org/blog
Don't wait a whole month for your news about Hancock United Church of Christ. You can access your news and pictures at the Hancock Blog!

Come to "The Well" — Evening Worship at Hancock
Looking for worship that is intimate, modern & participant-directed? Come give evening services (6:15pm in the Chapel) at Hancock a try! Contact Rev Dana Allen Walsh for more details
January Schedule: Jan. 9, Jan. 23 and Jan. 30

Many Thanks to the Prudential Committee

More than a century old, Hancock United Church of Christ is steeped in history and has hosted thousands of services. Those years bring many good memories, but have also left much wear and tear on our building.

Caring for the building falls in the hands of our Facilities Manager Dan dos Santos and our Prudential Committee volunteers.

This year, our volunteers have worked especially hard, painting and restoring all corners of our building.

"We're fortunate these committee members are so willing to give of their time and energy to benefit the church," said the Rev. Paul Shupe.

The committee's accomplishments include:

- Renovation of basement after flooding.
- Roofing Project.
- Painting the front, side and back doors.
- Refurbishing the Upper Room youth area by repairing the bathrooms and replacing the ceiling tiles. Hancock Youth pitched in by painting the room.
- Plastering and painting the Tower Room and stairway.
- Inspecting and replacing of defective smoke and heat alarms in sanctuary.
- Landscaping and gardening.
- Hosting multiple congregational work days for general maintenance.
- Recarpeting the front stairs and church school wing hallways and replacing the back stairs' flooring.
- New handicapped ramp in basement.
- Contracting for restoration of two stained glass windows in sanctuary.
- Painting throughout the church, including the collector's Room and Sanctuary Coat Closet.
- Refurbishing and opening Pearson Room restroom.
- Organizing and renumbering keys for all the building's keys.
- Changing lights in the sanctuary.
- Replastering walls in the kitchen.

A Special Quilt Coming Soon to a Sanctuary Near You

By Joan Rutila

Unbeknownst to many at Hancock, a dedicated group of women have been stitching a quilted banner for our sanctuary.

The cathedral window quilting pattern has been used to create a beautiful cross, designed by Julia Flanders, MaryAnn Shupe, Cheryl Kraley and Joan Rutila.

This quilt is comprised of 609 base fabric squares and 10,212 fabric inserts! Our band of needle-wielders is 27-strong and includes:

Joyce Ananian
 Kristine Arena
 Daryl Battin
 Anita Chanoux

Jacky Deranian

Robin DiGiammarino

Julia Flanders

Connie Gregg

Barbara Kay

Cheryl Kraley

Margo Lacey

Evelyn Manley

Candy McLaughlin

Rebecca Parker

Sophie Parker

Karen Petersen

Joan Rutila

Nancy Schlecht

Sandra Shaw

Martha Sheridan

MaryAnn Shupe

Amy Swanson

Debbie Williams

Linda Williams

Ruth Williams

Janet Woit

Sally Wyman

Hancock Backpack Program Donates Food to Children



Last Thursday, December 9, the Greater Boston Food Bank truck pulled away from Hancock Church in Lexington with over 1,000 pounds of food headed for their Backpack Program.

This is the second year Hancock members and friends have donated food and money to help feed school-aged children in Lynn and Lawrence, MA on the weekends.

As part of Hancock's Feeding 5000

initiative, the Greater Boston Food Bank's Backpack Program provided congregation members and friends an opportunity to help relieve hunger in the local community.

"Hancock members enthusiastically participated in this program during October and November and felt as if they were really contributing by bringing in actual food items that would be placed in the backpacks, such as juice boxes, macaroni and cheese and healthy, ready-to-eat items," commented Keith West, one of Hancock's Backpack organizers.

A generous cash donation will also be presented to the Greater Boston Food Bank, courtesy of Hancock members and the Christian Service committee.

The first two pilot programs in the

Boston area were started last year in Lawrence and Lynn, due to the high percentage of public school children on free and reduced-price meals.

This year, the program is scheduled to expand to more schools in the Boston metro area.

We hope to schedule a Backpack "packing" day again this winter at the Greater Boston Food Bank's new facility in Boston.

Thanks again for all who participated and made a difference for hungry kids on the weekends.

For more stories about our community, visit the Hancock Blog at www.hancockchurch.org/blog.

Projects with Purpose: What are they up to Now?

By Janet Woit

It's been awhile since you've heard from us in the Herald and we thought you might like to hear how we have been spending our Monday mornings.

Pine Street Inn: For the past three years we have been knitting and crocheting 9 x 9 inch squares that are made into blankets for the residents of the Pine Street Inn's many homes the first week of November. Special thanks to **Beverly Hilliard, Pat Mcleod, Mouna Anderson and Shirley Hamblen*** for their continued contribution to this effort.

City Mission Society: We have knit, crocheted, sewn hundreds of hats that we contribute to the CMS Christmas Shop on Manger Sunday. Thanks to: **Amy Swanson, Margaret McAllister, Beverly Aker, and Anita Chanoux.***

School Bags: Three years ago we made and you filled 100 school bags for Church World Service. Last year **Harriet Chmela** made school bags we sent to Honduras with the mission trip and were filled by Hancock members on their arrival. She's already made some for the next trip, but we could use more.

And now for what's new:

Quilted Wall Hanging: (See article on Page 4)

Hugs from Hancock: To support the efforts of the Hancock Congregational Care team, we are knitting and crocheting Prayer Shawls for members who might need comfort and a reminder that they are not forgotten. Contact Meg Anzalone for more information.

Now that you know what we've been up to, why not join in the fun? We meet every non-holiday Monday from 9:30-11:00 in

the conference room (check the Sunday bulletin to be sure). Come work on one of our projects or your own. If you can't come, but would like to contribute here's how you can help: Do one of the ongoing projects at home. Donate yarn or polar fleece. We have a small supply of yarn for anyone to use for our projects.

* If we have let your name off the list, please know that your contribution is greatly appreciated and we will strive to do better next time!

For more information about patterns, yarn, etc. call or email:

Joan Rutila 781 862-6627
rutila@rcn.com

Janet Woit 781 861-6541
janetwoit@gmail.com

Hancock Helps City Mission on Manger Sunday with Donations

By Pam Cochrane
Director of Children's Ministries

A central image for the Season on Epiphany is light; the light of God's presence and action in the world. The Advent readings that lead to our January celebration of epiphany on the 9th reflected that image in a variety of ways, light in the darkness, light that illuminates in new ways light from a star. The word "epiphany" means "revelation" or sharing of God in Christ.

It can also refer to any surprising revelation of God in our lives. The giving of gifts on Manger Sunday and support of the City Mission Society by the Hancock community has been one of those "surprising revelations" of the season. So it seems appropriate to shine light on this particular mission as we begin a new year of outreach.

On December 5th, after five cars were loaded with jumbo size bundles of gifts offered during worship, toys, clothes, gifts cards and Christmas items arrived at First Congregational Church of Winchester, the distribution center for the City Mission Society.

I remember standing at the side door of the church as the last bundles were squeezed into the vans thinking, what happens next? I had heard we were one of many churches supporting this mission. The questions continued in my mind; how and where do the items get sorted and sent on to families in need? Thanks to the Christian Service Committee, Hancock was scheduled to take part in the sorting days the weekend of the 12th and 18th and the JYO (Junior Youth Organization) was championed to volunteer.

On December 12th, at 1 o'clock, my husband, Ken and I and three JYO families arrived in Winchester ready to lend a hand and learn the answers to our questions. We stood in the largest room you can imagine, vaulted ceilings and acres of floor space, lined with long tables labeled with signs; men's coats, woman's coat's, men's socks, children's pants, girl's tops, games, books, etc. On the far end of the room was a staging area with a multitude of boxes labeled; family 10, family 11, family 12, etc, and a huge pile of bags a top bags, just like the one's packed up the previous week at Hancock. Several volunteers gathered us in to offer instructions after a brief introduction.

It was very apparent that we were part of a much bigger operation. As the volunteer explained the process, he pointed to the side wall of the room where we could see posted sheets of paper listing the names of organizations the City Mission Society supports at Christmas with gifts and money. The list ran the length of the room, over 45 organizations were listed.

Over 1500 people, children and adults would be serviced this holiday. Our job today was to sort through all the bags on the floor and place them on the appropriate tables according to item and size, later other volunteers would follow to collect items per individual or family need to be boxed and delivered to the participating organization. Work began quickly as we all absorbed the scale of our task.

As we worked, more people arrived. A total of 130 volunteers would come through that day to help sort. Within an hour the tables were full, stacked and heaped with gifts all ordered and lined, ready for selection. Our work was deliberate and attentive, and the mission clear; we were contributing to something much bigger than ourselves. When we were done, we were all smiling, not for the work we had done, but for the realization that we could not have done any of this alone or with just a few friends. The generosity of so many, matched with the enthusiasm and unconditional care about people you have never met delivered joy. We needed each other, other volunteers and many hands to make this work happen. A revelation for all of us to discover ways that God's love shines through us.

The City Mission Society services over 4,500 people a year and is the oldest multi-service agency in New England offering assistance to low-income and marginalized men, women and children in Boston since 1816. Visit www.citymissionsociety.org to learn more.

Upcoming Opportunity

On January 15th, we will be invited once again to lend a hand along with many other churches and individuals. Come be part of the Martin Luther King Day of Service. The work of the City Mission Society continues and so shall our commitment to spread the light of God's presence and action in the world.

Photos of Giving for City Mission

Hancock Church members have visited the First Congregational Church of Winchester several times since Manger Sunday to sort donations for City Mission Society of Boston. At Manger Sunday, the entire Hancock Church community generously donated clothing, hats and other goods for the organization.



From top to bottom clockwise

- 1) Rev. Dana Allen Walsh and Theology on Tap members.
- 2) Warm hats and mittens to help City Mission Society
- 3) Ken and Pam Cochrane, Director of Children's Ministries at Hancock United Church of Christ

Warrant for the 143rd Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2011

ARTICLE I- Report of the Officers responsible to the Membership

ARTICLE II - Adoption of a plan for support of our Church's wider mission in 2011

ARTICLE III- Appropriations for current and other expenses

ARTICLE IV -Authorization for the Treasurer to borrow up to \$20,000 for current expenses

ARTICLE V- Capital Campaign.

a. To authorize an assessment of the needs and opportunities for significant improvements to Hancock's physical plant and programs, including outreach and service, for the congregation's consideration for funding through a capital campaign to be held no sooner than 2012, and to provide a progress report at the congregational meeting in May 2011

b. Subject to the approval of Article V (a), to authorize the Treasurer to borrow up to \$60,000 to fund the cost of a comprehensive building and program assessment and the cost of a financial feasibility study. These funds will be repaid from capital campaign contributions

ARTICLE VI- Approval of certain modifications to the Church's By-Laws (Articles I-VI)

ARTICLE VII – To transact any further business that may legally come before this meeting

Martha Sheridan, Clerk

Congregational Care Ministry: Winter Reflections from Meg

In Winter the bare boughs that seem to sleep work covertly, preparing for their Spring.” -Rumi

Winter is upon us. The sun sets earlier in the evening, and the mornings are dark. The earth we walk upon is frozen, birds fly south, and bear goes into the cave to hibernate. Our landscape in New England looks very different. Although the culture attempts to draw us outward, with holiday celebrations filling the air, the winter season beckons us and draws us inward, to take pause, for deep reflection. In the process of sitting still, we can begin to appreciate the wonders of nature, while pondering the deeper questions of life. Who are we? Where have we been? Where are we going? Will the economy get better? What in our lives gives us real meaning? What is the meaning of our Faith? The old year comes to an end, and a new year begins.

Happy New Year 2011! Celebrating the New Year we continue with our questions. What are our priorities for living as a new day, and a new year begins? Where are our connections with our church community as one year ends and a new one begins? How can we deepen our faith? How can we make deeper meaning for ourselves, for our church community, for our world? Where are our priorities and our commitments as a community of faith, as we remember our past with gratitude and forge toward our future with hope? The questions are deep ones we ask ourselves as winter settles in. Yet in the process time goes on and the Winter Solstice marks the shortest day of the year and the darkest. In that moment, the light begins to return and ever so slowly the light returns and becomes more and more illuminating. We have celebrated the light of Christ's birth. We continue through the dark of winter to follow the

light. We look toward the light and follow the star like the wise ones on the way to Bethlehem bringing their gifts for Epiphany.

We too, as a church community are celebrating the light of the varying ministries at Hancock. Many things have happened along our journey of faith together. Congregational Care is continuing to take shape and bringing forth new light into the community through development of a congregational care team which meets on a monthly basis to assess the needs of people in the congregation. Visitation has begun to those who are sick or in need. Card writing and phone calls are being made. Beautiful cards have been created by our children and youth for our seniors.

The Hancock Community Prayer has taken on a new form. You are invited to participate in this form of intercessory prayer as an ongoing spiritual practice, by intentionally holding in prayer or meditation the members and friends of our Hancock Church community who are sick or in need. At the end of January there will also begin a monthly gathering for anyone who wants to sit in meditation to hold close to our hearts the names of those for whom we have received requests for prayer. “Hancock Community Prayer” is for those who wish to participate in the spiritual discipline and joy of praying for others, both as a way to be more connected in the life of Hancock church and as a way of growing in faith. Prayer requests are made at times of loss, illness, joy, sorrow, desire, or particular need.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has also begun as part of congregational care, and in connection with the already established Monday morning Project group. Anyone in the community and beyond can participate in this ongoing

new ministry at Hancock. Prayer Shawls are made for those who are ill, being baptized, and for anyone in need. This will be an ongoing ministry. Patterns for knitting or crocheting prayer shawls, as well as a history of how this ministry first began can be found on the Congregational Care Table, and soon on our website. During the Worship service on January 9th celebrating Epiphany, there will be a special dedication and blessing of the prayer shawls already made, as well as a laying on of hands of those members of the Congregational Care Team who will be making hospital and other visitations to our Seniors and all those in need. There will also be a meeting for Congregational Care Team members and for anyone that may have an interest in joining the group on Sunday January 9th at 11:30 in the Wilson Room. The hope of the Congregational Care Team is to get everyone involved, so that caring becomes a hallmark of the congregation.

In this New Year, may we continue to experience the sense of newness, a deeper awareness of our surroundings, the sense of being more awake, more responsive to our church, to our community, and to our world. May we be more in harmony with nature, and in the dark and deep of winter, as we follow the light of Christ, and journey along with the Magi toward the light of Bethlehem's star, prepare for the coming of Spring! In the words of Rebecca Parker, *“Let there be a season where holiness is heard, and the splendor of living is revealed. Stunned to stillness by beauty we remember who we are and why we are here. These are inexplicable mysteries.”*

Peace and blessings of the season,
Rev. Meg Anzalone,
Congregational Care Coordinator

Hancock Adult Christian Education

Are you looking for ways to reinvigorate your faith? Wondering if Hancock has anything for you? Why not come and give one of the Adult CE offerings a try. There are no prerequisites, no advance registration required. All are welcome, including friends and family.

From Sunday morning Pastor's classes exploring the major theological issues to monthly "Pub Theology" get-togethers for off-site discussions about faith and religion; from Wednesday morning "Mindful Parenting" conversations to monthly book group discussions, or five-week Bible study sessions and more, there is something for everyone.

Sound interesting? You can read the complete descriptions of all the Adult CE offerings, including meeting dates and times, on-line on the Hancock website <http://www.hancockchurch.org/ministries/adults>. So why not come and see if you might find something to inspire you, too?

Pastor's Class: "The Once & Future Church"

Explores the Christian church yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Examines major theological issues that have been debated throughout the centuries (the divinity of Christ, authority for ministry, relation of church and state, and church and culture). Reviews the roots of the UCC. Within each topic, the pace and focus of discussion are tailored to the interests and questions of those present. Everyone is welcome — no pre-requisites. Come whenever you can. Each session stands on its own. Led by the Rev. Paul Shupe.

Meets 8:30 - 9:30 Sunday mornings in the Pearson Room, starting January 2.

Contact: Paul Shupe
paul.shupe@hancockchurch.org

Theology On-Tap (young adults)

Monthly conversations on theological issues — for young adults (ages 21-35). Third Mondays. Meets offsite; location chosen monthly. Led by the Rev. Dana Allen Walsh

Contact: Rev. Dana Allen Walsh.
dana.allenwalsh@hancockchurch.org

Wednesday Evening Class

1) **Winter** — Two standalone 5-week sessions running concurrently: 7:30 — 8:45 PM on January 12, 19 & 26, February 2 & 9.

A: "Women and the Bible" —

Women appear throughout the Bible, making their own particular mark on biblical history. In fact, there are 188 named women in the Bible and a host of unnamed others who identify as prominent queens, judges, military leaders and prophetesses. They are the mothers and grandmothers of kings, followers of Jesus, and companions to apostles. Come and learn from the women of the Bible who continue to inspire, enlighten and empower us as Christians. Led by the Rev. Dana Allen Walsh. Kathie Stuart Room. Contact: Karen Kishpaugh, Lexkaren@msn.com

B: "Spirituality of Work and Vocation for Men" —

discussion of work histories, mentors, career and vocation. For men of all ages and stages of life/work. Led by Rev. Paul Shupe. Pearson Room. Contact: Russell Schutt, 781-862-8109

2) **Spring** - 5-week standalone Lenten series. 7:30 — 8:45 PM. March 16, 23 & 30; April 6 & 13. Led by the Rev. Paul Shupe. Pearson Room.

Pub Theology

Monthly conversations on theological issues — for adults of all ages. First Tuesdays. Offsite: Nourish Restaurant, 1727 Massachusetts Ave in Lexington center. Led by the Rev. Paul Shupe.

Contact: Daryl Battin
dbjb1475@verizon.net, 781-789-3763

Parents' Discussion Group (First Wednesdays)

Monthly exploration of "Mindful Parenting" with other parents of young children. Led by the Rev. Dana Allen Walsh and Pam Cochrane. Third Wednesdays. 9:15–10:15 AM in the Pearson Room. Beverages provided. Infants and toddlers welcome.

Contact: Daryl Battin
dbjb1475@verizon.net, 781-789-3763

Book Discussion Group (First Thursdays)

This monthly discussion of life and faith will be centered on Ronald Rolheiser's *The Holy Longing: The Search for Christian Spirituality*. This hardback is available new and used on Amazon and through Barnes & Noble. Five sessions: Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 3, Apr. 7, May 5, 9:30-10:30 AM in the Wilson Room. Led by the Rev. Paul Shupe.

Contact: Lois Smith Martin Smith
Martin224@verizon.net, 781-270-0304

Adult Retreat Opportunities Spring 2011

1) Men's Retreat, dates and location TBA. Leader: the Rev. Paul Shupe.

2) Women's Retreat March 18 - 19 at Location to be announced. Leader: the Rev. Dana Allen Walsh

The Notice Board

Save the Date: March 12th 2011

4th Annual "Go Green" Dance to benefit Sustainable Harvest International

The local band, *Trial Run*, will be sponsoring the Go Green Dance and has invited Hancock's Feeding 5000 to work with them again this year on the dance as a fundraiser for Sustainable Harvest International.

Feeding 5000 has committed to fund Sustainable Harvest's work in Piedras Negras, Honduras, for 3 years. Proceeds from the Annual Go Green Dance will go toward that goal. Buy tickets, meet us there. More info coming later.

Church School Mission Project

Throughout the year the Hancock Church School supports Heifer International through the children's weekly offering. During January, children will explore in more depth the Heifer Mission through stories and creative activities. To support our children's mission, the Children's Christian Education Committee is sponsoring a Church Family Heifer Potluck Supper on January 22nd, at 6:30pm. Come for food, fellowship and to hear more about our support of Heifer International!

Lexington to Host the 18th Annual CommUNITY Commemoration Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sunday, January 16, 2011 1:30 – 4:00 pm

Lexington's CommUNITY Committee is proud to host the Eighteenth Annual CommUNITY Commemoration honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, January 16th, 2011 from 1:30 – 4:00 pm in Lexington, Massachusetts.

2011 marks the 25th Anniversary of the first observance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a federal holiday observed by all 50 states.

The CommUNITY Commemoration begins at 1:30 pm with the traditional Unity Walk from the Lexington Battle Green to Cary Hall, 1605 Massachusetts Avenue. The indoor program will begin promptly at 2:00 pm. Participants are invited to join the walk and/or attend the program at Cary Hall, which is wheelchair accessible and will be open starting at 1:30pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

The program on January 16th will feature the film *Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North*, a 90-minute documentary tracks filmmaker Katrina Browne's discovery that her New England ancestors, the Rhode Island based DeWolfe family were the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. Her film is a probing essay into divergent versions of a nation's history.

City Mission's MLK Jr. Day

On Jan. 15, City Mission Society of Boston will present *Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service & Learning*. It will be a day of fellowship, faith and fun. A day of fellowship, faith, and fun!

WHAT: A day of giving that brings to life Dr. King's dream through sisters and brothers in the Boston area who are united in the spirit of community through loving service.

WHERE: Join us in supporting the wonderful work of Boston Public Schools, Newton Community Center, Victory Shelters and Prison Book Program.

Service will be followed by lunch, reflection and a closing celebration at United Parish, Brookline.

~PROGRAM OF EVENTS~

9:15 am: Arrive at Assigned Service Site.

9:30 am - 12:30 pm: Serve at Assigned Site.

12:30 - 1:00 pm: Travel back to United Parish, Brookline.

1:00 - 3:00 pm: Lunch, Reflection, & Closing Celebration.

SERVICE SITES: **MIT/Boston Public Schools:** Volunteers will coordinate the assembly of LEGO Biology kits; **Newton Community Center:** Volunteers will clean, paint, and organize at ten non-profit agencies; **Victory Programs:** Volunteers will serve at residential treatment and housing facilities for homeless individuals and families; **Prison Book Program:** Volunteers will select, package, and mail books for distribution to prisoners throughout the U.S.

All participants must pre-register. Visit cmsboston.org for more information.



www.hancockchurch.org

Rev. Paul Shupe, Senior Minister
Rev. Dana Allen Walsh, Associate Minister

Phone: 781-862-4220
E-mail: office@hancockchurch.org

1912 Massachusetts Avenue
Lexington, MA 02421

Hancock United Church of Christ, Congregational

Non-profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Boston, Mass
Permit No. 52230

Hancock Calendar

The following is a list of January services. To see a full list of services and events at Hancock United Church of Christ, pick up a church bulletin or visit www.hancockchurch.org/events/event-calendar.

Sunday, Jan. 2: 10 am Morning Worship. Rev. Paul Shupe preaching.

Sunday, Jan. 9: 10 am Morning Worship, Epiphany and Holy Communion. Rev. Paul Shupe preaching.

Sunday, Jan 9: 6:15 pm Evening Worship in the Chapel.

Sunday, Jan. 16: 10 am Morning Worship. Rev. Dana Allen-Walsh preaching.

Sunday, Jan. 23: 10 am Morning Worship. Rev. Paul Shupe preaching.

Sunday, Jan. 23: 6:15 pm Evening Worship in the Chapel.

Sunday, Jan. 30: 10 am Morning Worship. Rev. Paul Shupe preaching.

Sunday, Jan. 30: 6:15 pm Evening Worship in the Chapel.