



# The Hancock Herald

October 2010

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## 2010 Stewardship Campaign to Focus On Community and Hospitality

As we approach our annual Stewardship campaign here at Hancock Church, we can be proud of the momentum and accomplishments of the past year, including the welcoming of our new senior minister, dedication of the Memorial Corridor and Garden, participation in the Lexington Interfaith garden, Music and Bells concerts, Feeding 5000 campaign, youth and adult service trips and many opportunities for all age groups to participate in Christian education—just to name a few.

Our accomplishments in 2011 will depend on what our congregation pledges in support. We have the opportunity to preserve the momentum we can all feel and the opportunity to attend to additional ministries. In particular, after we do what is necessary to maintain our critical ministries we would focus on resources toward Membership Growth and Christian Education, empowering the Prudential Committee to

improve the physical welcome at our entries and corridors. A significant goal is to increase the percentage we contribute to Christian Mission and Outreach.

Our stewardship campaign will focus on "Community and Hospitality". Our hope for 2011 is to extend Hancock's hospitality to those we know and have yet to meet, those we serve now and those we hope to serve across our metropolitan area and the world. Our goal and focus is to strengthen this wonderful community we share, and with your help and support we're confident we can do so.

In several weeks, you will be receiving a letter from the Stewardship Committee asking you to consider this financial commitment to Hancock for 2011. Please begin to think about your relationship with Hancock Church. Reflect on what Hancock brings to your life and to our community. In addition to the

letter, you will receive materials with details about potential priorities, challenges and opportunities facing the church in 2011. Watch for notices announcing fellowship opportunities to ask questions.


We know these difficult economic times continue. Recovery from the recession still seems to be years away. As with last year, it is times like these when we need a strong Hancock Church more than ever – as a place for spiritual growth and moral guidance, as a source of fellowship and support, and as an instrument of the service God calls us to do.

How much we accomplish next year depends on what we do with our time, our talent and our money. We look forward to celebrating our hopes and our faith community with you on Sun., November 14th.

Dean Rutila, Chairman  
Stewardship Committee

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

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



## From the Senior Minister



Dear Friends,

You will likely be hearing a lot about hospitality and community this fall and winter. These words have been chosen to describe our priorities at Hancock for the year to come. It is not by accident.

Often in his letters to his beloved congregations, the Apostle Paul would exhort the folks not just to believe in God or in Christ, but to actually do the sorts of things that people who believe should do. If you really believe, he as much as argued, then your faith will manifest itself in particular behaviors. Let's take a look at the last two behaviors that he mentioned to the Romans.

Contribute to the needs of the saints, he wrote. Now by saints he did not have in mind the big giants of the faith that would later be called "Saints" with a capital "S". He had in mind the saints, small "s", by which he meant the members of the church community. Followers of Christ are called to love, and Paul told them to let their love be genuine, and to him that meant being aware of the needs of others within the church community. Certainly he meant that if any of them were hungry, we should feed them. But he also knew that various needs would be present in the church: learning, friendship, caring, serving, praying, raising children to name but a few. Our faith calls us to love, and if we truly believe in the love of Christ, we can't help but manifest our beliefs in generous sharing to meet the needs of others in the church community. "Contribute to the needs of the saints," he wrote, support the community, strengthen it with your gifts contributing time, talent, money, and caring.

Extend hospitality to strangers, Paul added. Hospitality is a word whose meaning has changed a bit in our world. The "hospitality" industry is made up of restaurants and hotels and resorts. There isn't anything wrong with restaurants or hotels or resorts. But the hospitality that Paul had in mind isn't the sort that anyone has to pay for. He's not suggesting that the church should be an industry. Rather, Paul just thinks that if you love God, you'll want to love others, including strangers, people you've never met. In the desert culture of the ancient world, if strangers appeared at your home or campsite, you welcomed them in, because you knew that their life might depend upon the food or drink or shelter you could provide. What's more, you knew that you might one day need this same welcome from someone else. In the church as Paul understood it, when strangers show up, you extend to them the same love that you give to one another. Church must be a place of welcome, inclusion, caring and acceptance. For Paul hospitality is a spiritual practice, not an industry. We want to strengthen this part of our life at Hancock UCC. We want new friends to find us and to make themselves at home with us.

Hospitality and Community are words declaring our intention to live in particular ways here at church. We're dedicating ourselves to these spiritual practices. In so doing, we're only bringing into the 21st century the teachings of Paul. If we love God, we'll love others to show it. May God's blessings be upon our work in the coming year.

Grace and Peace,

*Paul*

**"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers."**

**--Romans 13:9-13**

## Hancock Serves: Ministry & Service Opportunities

### Second Annual Greater Boston Food Bank "Back Pack Program"



Based on the enthusiastic participation of Hancock

members in last year's Greater Boston Food Bank's "Back Pack Program" -- we helped feed 300 kids in Lynn and Lawrence -- we've decided to do it again! This year our goal is to exceed 1,000 lbs of food.

The mission of the Back Pack Program is to meet the needs of hungry children by providing them with nutritious, easy-to-prepare food to take home on weekends and school vacations when other

resources are not available. The program provides food that is child-friendly, nonperishable and easily consumed with little or no preparation. The food is distributed in bags to be put into the children's backpacks on Fridays or the last day before holiday vacations. 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.

Look by the church office and in the narthex for posters, drop-off boxes, and lists of the specific items needed. Help



Hancock members at the Greater Boston Food Bank after packing food for the BackPack Program

us reach our goal by the end of November! For more information call Keith West at 617-851-5199.

### Concord Prison Outreach: Book of Thank You Notes Available

For the last few years, members of HUCC have participated in the Concord Prison Outreach's "Holiday Gift Program" and given gifts to the inmates of the two prisons in Concord. Although the list of allowed gifts may seem sparse, these packages are often the

only holiday remembrances that many inmates receive. The members of Concord Prison Outreach have assembled a book of letters written by recipients to express their appreciation for the gifts. This book will be available in the dining room at coffee hour for the next three

weeks. We invite everyone to take a moment to read-through these moving letters. Look for more information to be posted soon about the list of items for giving this year. Donation boxes will be set-up in the church.

### Indoor/Outdoor Work Day at Hancock: Sat., 10/30

As you've probably noticed, a lot of great strides have been made with sprucing-up the Church, inside and outside. The Prudential Committee would like to acknowledge everyone who worked so hard to get the Church in such beautiful shape -- thank you! With the arrival of

Fall, and to continue on the positive track already begun, we invite you to join us and friends on **Sat., 10/30** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., to move forward on the projects on our never-ending list. No experience required, and we'll be glad to teach you any

needed skills. If you can join us, we encourage you to bring gardening/work gloves, small gardening hand tools (weeders, trowels, etc.), rakes, and your favorite painting supplies. Question? Contact Lucy Miller (978-371-9632 or [lucyvmiller@gmail.com](mailto:lucyvmiller@gmail.com)).

## Ministry/Program News: Children's Christian Education (CE)

### Spotlight on Children's Ministries

The Christian Education Committees for Children and Youth at Hancock adopted new curriculums to guide

learning in the Church School and JYO programs. Both are engaging and encouraging creative learning for the chil-

dren/youth participating as well as the adult leaders facilitating the classroom experience.

### The Church School Invites All to "Come Join the Circle"

Each week more than 30 children process from the sanctuary to the Education Wing to join in the exploration of Bible stories through music, drama, games and creative arts. In its second year at Hancock, the curriculum from Logos Productions, "Come Join the Circle," is coming to life in the classrooms and inspiring creative thinking for our children and adult leaders. The curriculum offers a rotational style format that taps into children's God-given gifts of learning by offering age appropriate and meaningful story presentations in a variety of learning centers. The rotation model also allows leaders to bring their unique gifts where strengths build confidence both for the

leader and the learner.

This year the Children's CE Committee has worked to adapt the classrooms to reflect the learning center approach. Children begin in the Children's Chapel, a room without tables and chairs, where wall to wall carpet, pillows, a tent and small worship table define the space. The space offers time for gathering, reflection, sharing of joys and sorrows and prayer before the kids head off to the activity rooms for exploration. In September, the children explored the story of God's amazing creation as found in Genesis 1:1-Genesis 2:1-3 as they moved from one learning center to the next. In the Creative Arts Room, the kids worked with their hands

to make mixed media collages and colorful wool globes. In the Games and Brain Teasers Room, they used their problem-solving skills to look at the story through numbers, science, and wondering questions. In the Storytelling/ Music/ Show & Tell Room, the kids used storytelling and drama to retell the story of "In the beginning..."

The new curriculum model is helping us stay focused on our Christian Education goal to welcome and support with love and rejoicing all children as we continue to create a sacred place for learning. Along the way, each child and adult is invited to connect to personal and shared faith stories as we all strive to grow in our faith.

### JYO Explores Faith Practice of Hospitality

Teens in the JYO (Junior Youth Organization) are gathering on Sunday mornings during worship in the upper room to explore topics of a new curriculum released by the UCC called Faith Practices. Designed to foster a rich dialogue on faith practices, both ancient and contemporary, the curriculum is proving to be a catalyst for a new approach to creative learning and faith formation.

Our first topic, Hospitality, is pushing us to look at the definition of the word and its meaning in respect to our daily practice of welcoming others:

"Hospitality begins when we perceive ourselves and others as strangers in a community of welcome. Seeing Christ's presence in the other enables us

to welcome Christ into the midst of the community; with all the costs and joys of discipleship. Gentle, attentive, patient and consistent care is required to create a community where members are intentional about seeking and welcoming all, especially those whose abilities, experiences, and cultural traditions are different from the mainstream of the current community. A community of hospitality is aware, sensitive, and open to divergent cultural practices. It reaches far beyond the limits of the familiar in a highly mobile world, transforming both the newcomer and the established community." (*Faith Practice: Giving and Receiving Hospitality*, Pilgrim Press 2010)

This passage offered new meaning to our understanding of hospitality, and is helping the class define a new lens to hospitality in our community of faith and beyond the doors of the church. We have asked questions of ourselves. How do we greet people? How do we open our door to others? What are some of our customs and cultural traditions for welcoming friends, family and foreigners? The answers have helped us reflect on our shared experiences as well as the diversity that surrounds our church, our homes and our country.

In the chaotic world that we live in, this new lens will undoubtedly bring new (continued on next page)

## (Cont'd) JYO Explores Faith Practice of Hospitality

(continued from prior page) meaning and understanding to how, where and when our actions reflect a welcoming congregation. Defining hospitality as a faith practice is fostering a rich dialogue for the youth of the JYO. Through the sharing of personal stories, Christian

traditions and Scripture, we are exploring a new path of welcoming; one calling us to exhibit radical hospitality at Hancock where all are welcome.

If you'd like read more about Faith Practices, Google faith practices.ucc or

Dorothy Bass, practicingourfaith.org

JYO welcomes the participation of parents and/or members in class sessions. To volunteer, contact Pam Cochrane, Acting Director of Children's Ministries <pam.cochrane@hancockchurch.org>.

## Ministry/Program News: Adult Christian Education (CE) What Does Lifelong Learning Mean to You?

By Caroline Nijenberg

I moved around a lot as a child. The first place my family headed to in a new town was church. I always went to Sunday School. I went to church camp in summer. Church members were probably my best friends as I was growing up. Church was a place of comfort and strength when I lost both parents.

I was a member of 20/30, a young adult group in NYC. Most of my social life centered around its activities. I taught Sunday School in NYC (sometimes staying up late Saturday night to memorize stories and lessons for third graders - praying they wouldn't ask any questions that I couldn't answer!).

I met Wim, my husband, in church at coffee hour. I guess you would call me a regular church-goer.

I read the Bible, the Jesus Mysteries, Gnostic Gospels, and other books on religion - books like: *The Secular City* by Harvey Cox; *God is Alive and Well in Mexico City*; and Henry Sloane Coffin's writings. The history of the Templar Knights fascinated me. I read Biblical history and archeology magazines.

I always wanted to learn more. Always felt I didn't have the whole story - only

snippets of stories through listening to verses.

I used to ask people how I would know God's spirit. Most times I would get an answer like, "You will just know" or "You will feel the spirit" or "The spirit will move you." Well, I think I have felt the spirit and it is alive and well at Hancock.

A few years ago, after I joined Hancock, I began to feel there was a pattern to things happening or not happening in my life. I felt a spirit that was guiding and speaking. I think it had been there all along, but I never bothered to tune in. So, I decided to tune in. Sometimes it was as if someone was speaking and sometimes it was just a feeling that I was being shown the way - a path through events. About a year ago I joined Paul's class that met before worship service here at Hancock.

As we studied about biblical people and events, I began to see the continuous journey of people living their faith. It all began to pull together for me. The verses and stories were no longer snippets. They had backgrounds and meanings and clearer lessons.

And so, back to life at Hancock. There is a wealth of knowledge and a belief that God is still speaking here. Hancock is full of people willing to teach, to listen, to learn,

to work for change when necessary and to work for no change when not necessary. Hancock and its members have been an inspiration for me. It's a life long learning process, and I'm never too old to learn or be inspired.

How about 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 or advance registration required. All welcome, including friends and family. From Sunday morning Pastor's classes exploring the major theological issues debated throughout the centuries to monthly "Pub Theology" get-togethers for off-site discussions about faith and religion; from Wednesday morning "Mindful Parenting" conversations to monthly book group discussion, 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?

## Ministry/Program News: Congregational Care

### Message from Rev. Meg Anzalone; New Name for “The Cordon”

It was great to meet many of you at the Annual Senior Picnic held at the home of Iris and Larry Larssen and their daughter, Robin Caloggero in Chelmsford on September 11th. It was a great day of fun, food, and friendship for Hancock seniors to get together!

The Activities Fair was another wonderful way for me to get to know some of you and the multiple programs and service projects that keep Hancock such an exciting place every day of the week, in addition to the Sunday service!

As most of you know by now, a new Congregational Care Team is in the process of being created here at Hancock. Responding to the call of love and compassion, the goal of the Congregational Care Team is to provide a ministry of compassionate care and hope. We believe that no member of the congregation should feel isolated or alone during time of need. Recruitment is still underway, and further training will be provided. Even if you cannot be a part of the Congregational Care Team, there are a variety of ways you can help out and be of service. Remember to fill out a Congregational Care Volunteer Form

and return it to the church office.

The “Cordon Of Prayer” has been an important and active part of Congregational Care ministry in the life of Hancock Church for more than forty years. In order to preserve and revitalize this component of Congregational Care, members of the Congregational Care Team have decided to change the name from “Cordon Of Prayer” to “Hancock Community Prayer”. It is our hope that by making a change in the name, that more people will participate in this form of intercessory prayer as an ongoing spiritual practice and become more connected with each other, so that prayer and caring becomes a hallmark of the congregation.

“Hancock Community Prayer” is intercessory prayer. What is intercessory prayer? Quite simply, intercessory prayer is the act of praying to God on behalf of others. “Hancock Community Prayer” is a vehicle of prayer for families, friends, members, or ministers of the church to be more connected and bear witness to the various moments and milestones that enter our lives as human beings on the journey of life.

“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. As in the past, there will continue to be the Weekly and Monthly “Hancock Community Prayer”, along with a weekly telephone recorded message by a member of the Congregational Care Team. A new “Hancock Community Prayer” brochure is being created with further information including: a protocol of how to make a prayer request; issues related to privacy; important phone numbers; email address, and other specifics.

For further information about any aspect of Congregational Care, or if you would like to become a member of the Congregational Care Team please contact Meg Anzalone, Congregational Care Coordinator, by calling the Church Office or by email at [meg.anzalone@hancockchurch.org](mailto:meg.anzalone@hancockchurch.org).

Peace and blessings, Meg

## Lexington Interfaith Food Pantry: Donations & Volunteers Needed

When you donate to Lexington Food Pantry, consider donating their “focus food of the month.” October is **“canned beans” month (no baked beans)**. Donation baskets are in the narthex and outside the church office and dining room.

**Have extra veggies in your garden?** You can donate them, too! Just bring washed produce to the Pantry on

Saturday mornings *only* from 8:30-9am. The pantry operates out of the Church of Our Redeemer at 6 Meriam St. Enter via the third doorway (closest to back parking lot) on driveway side of church; take hallway to lower level.

**Be part of the Hancock team** that volunteers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month. The commitment is from 8:45-

11:30am and the learning curve is short! Find out how rewarding it can be to work at the Pantry, knowing you are helping provide a community service. Volunteers are needed for Hancock’s slots on **Sat., 11/ 13 and Sat., 21/11** to help distribute the food at the Pantry. For more information, contact Caroline Nijenberg ([carolinen@rcn.com](mailto:carolinen@rcn.com) or 781 862-4465).

## Christian Service Round-Up: Hancock In Action

### Lexington Interfaith Garden: Notes from the Field

By Amy Swanson

Week 27 — September 14<sup>th</sup> Hancock volunteers.

Tuesday couldn't have been a nicer day to work...not too hot, and not too cloudy.

The crew of Connie, Linda, MaryAnn and I picked pole beans and tomatoes and did basic "maintenance" garden-

ing. That included weeding, some watering, thinning one lettuce bed to start another lettuce bed, pulling the last of the cucumber plants and putting up a new rabbit fence around the young lettuce.

The first thing I noticed when I arrived was that instead of seeing potato furrows, I now saw green rows of broccoli and lettuce. I find it amazing how our head farmer keeps optimizing the use of this fertile soil. This activity is waning as the month progresses....It is not too early to add frost into the garden calculus and slow down the replanting.

The next thing I noticed was the beautiful purples and greens of the bok choy (I

think donated by Guy Doran) and lush Savoy and purple cabbages. Makes you want to paint them.

With the significant Asian population at the Lexington Food Pantry, these greens should be appreciated.

What is not thriving: Celery—some bug appears to have

taken root.

Broccoli—the more mature bed is being attacked by some critters...chipmunks?

What is thriving: Everything else. We were going to pull the squash plants, but lo and behold, there were more flowers and young squash so we'll wait a bit longer.

What I learned: I've noted before how I even admire the weeds--how healthy they are compared to those in my yard. Well, I discovered from Linda, my co-weeder, that one of the fat succulents I had been pulling is purslane, a valued green eaten in many other parts of the world. According to Wiki, "...the stems, leaves and flower buds are all edible.



Purslane can be used fresh as a salad, stir-fried, or cooked like spinach." In fact, Purslane contains more Omega 3s than any other leafy vegetable plant. Linda gladly collected some to take home!

And by the way, I heard that almost 100 pounds were picked and delivered to the Pantry last Saturday!! Lots of big juicy tomatoes and more!

Hancock's upcoming slots at the garden are on **Tue., 10/5 (5-6pm); Sat., 10/9 (7:30-9am); Tue., 11/2 (5-6pm); Sat., 11/6 (7:30-9am)**. Interested? Contact Connie Gregg (congregg@rcn.com) for more info.



Hancock and Lexington Catholic Community volunteers: Sara, Gerri A., Amy S., Mark S., Lisle S.

### 10/10/10: Global Work Day at the Interfaith Garden

When Bill McKibben was at speaking at Hancock in August, he mentioned his efforts to organize another worldwide day of action on October 10th (10/10/10) and asked us if we could organize an event at the Interfaith Gar-

den. Well, we've done just that! Come celebrate those who grow, eat or serve local food **on Sun., 10/10** from noon to 1pm at the Interfaith Garden. We are encouraging anyone who grows, eats or serves local food to meet us at the gar-

den and bring some produce or food that has been grown locally. At the end of the event all the produce will be donated to local hunger relief groups. For more information, visit their website: <http://interfaithgarden.org>.

## Building-Up the Hancock Community

### New Seminarians Welcomed to HUCC



On Sun., 9/26, two new seminarians, Joy Fallon and Eric Sherlock, became

part of the ministerial team at Hancock United Church of Christ for the 2010-11 academic year. Joy, a third year student at Harvard Divinity School, will be assisting with our Sunday Evening Worship Services and other duties. Joy is preparing to be a UCC pastor, after an earlier career in law and government. Joy served as the Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Michael Dukakis at the end of his tenure and as Executive Assistant US Attorney in Boston during the Clinton administration, where she worked on programs to prevent gun and gang

violence. She served for five years at Trinity Episcopal Church in Boston, overseeing their many social justice programs, and worked briefly in the Patrick administration before beginning at Harvard Divinity School in 2008. This summer Joy worked at a small church on Cape Cod, where she enjoyed preaching, teaching and visiting members. She looks forward to working at Hancock, especially on the continued development of the alternative Sunday evening service, and the efforts to support lay pastoral ministry. You can reach Joy by email at [joy.fallon@hancockchurch.org](mailto:joy.fallon@hancockchurch.org)



Eric Sherlock is in his first year of studies in the Masters of Divinity program at Boston University School of Theology and will work primarily with our HYG. He is origi-

nally from the south shore of Massachusetts, and served as Youth Minister for North Congregational Church UCC, in Middleboro for two years. Prior to BU School of Theology, Eric completed his undergraduate work at Bridgewater State College and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. While attending BU School of Theology he hopes to explore and learn more about liberation theology. Eric's email address is [eric.sherlock@hancockchurch.org](mailto:eric.sherlock@hancockchurch.org).



Seminarian field education has been a tradition for over 30 years at Hancock. We look forward to learning and growing with Joy and Eric and to the important contribution that their ministry will bring to our congregation.

## Music & Arts “Hymn Sing” Linger Lunch: Sun., 10/17 After Worship

Have you ever wondered where the words and music for the hymns we sing came from? Which came first, the music or the text? What might have been the inspiration? Why do different denominations have different words for many of the classic hymns? Are new

hymns still being written? If you would like to get answers to these and other questions about the hymns we sing in church on Sunday then plan to come to the Music & Arts Linger Lunch after church on **Sun., 10/17**. Sign-ups are available after worship this week and next

week (note: childcare will be provided, so please indicate your need for that when you sign-up.) And be sure to bring your list of favorite hymns with you on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Come to enjoy the meal...and the singing!

## Upcoming Information Sessions: Getting to Know Hancock Church

Interested in learning more about Hancock and the United Church of Christ (UCC)? We invite you to attend (and encourage you to invite others to attend) information sessions on two upcoming Sundays in October. The first session (**10/17** at 11:15am in the Wilson Room) will cover the origins of the United Church of Christ and Christian

Education at Hancock. Current members will also be on-hand to share their personal stories about Hancock. The second session (**10/24** at 11:15am in the Wilson Room), titled, “Hancock Church: Who Are We?” will include information about our church's history, organization, committees, stewardship, and key contacts, as well as information about how

to join. Everyone interested in learning more is welcome, members and non-members alike. (Note: For anyone deciding that they'd like to join Hancock UCC, the next joining service will be on **Sun., 10/31** during the 10am worship service.)

## Music Notes



### The “Rules of Ten”

By Mark Morgan, Director of Music

It is hard to believe that I am already entering my second season with you and the choir here at Hancock Church. And what a first season with you it was! From small, intimate a cappella moments to the grand scale of the Brahms *Requiem*, the choir outdid themselves on numerous occasions. What became clear, however, is that in order to do our job of leading worship effectively and meaningfully week after week, we needed to follow the Rule of 10:

**The choir needs to be 10% of the size of the size of the congregation on any given Sunday**

Now, our choir currently stands at about 23 faithful and hardy souls, which in general IS about 10% of our congregation on a

“regular” Sunday. The problem is, once you start subtracting people for illness, travel, business, childcare, etc. we really need to have 30+ people in the choir to achieve our ratio. This brings us to our next rule of 10:

**We need ten new members to join the choir.**

We are happy to report that we have had 3 new members join already this fall. Unfortunately, this has been partially offset by two of our long time members departing (see inset box).

So how can we follow our “Rules of Ten”? We need you to help spread the word about Hancock Church and its music program. If you know friends or co-workers who love music, invite

them to visit our website and come try us out. Or perhaps you are a closet singer yourself—come on by! We are a friendly bunch and have folks who have a wide range of backgrounds and abilities. The two key elements you need are a love of music, and a love of sharing that enthusiasm with others through song.

Chancel Choir meets on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:15 in the choir room downstairs. No auditions are required, no reservations needed—just come on by, and join the “happy chorus!”

### For Children: A New Year, New Arts Opportunities

As our new year kicks off, we’re pleased to announce some changes in our arts programs for children that we hope will meet the needs of more families and help us grow our youngest members in their faith:

- Our children’s choir, the Hancock Choristers has been revamped after consultation with parents and staff. The Choristers will sing at two services this year, with a 5 week session of rehearsals leading up to each occasion. Our hope is that this will encourage more kids and families to participate regularly for these short periods. Rehearsals will start on Sunday November 7th at 11:15 a.m. for Christmas.

- A new opportunity being developed is a Drama Group for kids grades 5-8. This will also meet for 4 or 5 weeks at 11:15 a.m. on Sundays, as preparation for helping lead us in worship through their art. This

program is still being developed, so stay tuned for further details. It will be led by Mark Morgan, who is a professional actor and has worked extensively with kids in theater.

- In our Bell program Munchkin Ringers (grades 3-5) and Marting To Glory Ringers (grades 6-8) are unchanged and underway and always welcome new members.

For information on any of these groups, please feel free to contact Mark Morgan, Director of Music, at 781-862-4220 ext. 212 or [mark.morgan@hancockchurch.org](mailto:mark.morgan@hancockchurch.org).

Information may also be found in the Music and Arts section of our website at [www.hancockchurch.org](http://www.hancockchurch.org)



### With Our Thanks

It is with sadness, but with great gratitude that the choir bids farewell to longtime members Jeanne Flynn and Esther Castenheira. Both

have sung in the Hancock Choir for nearly two decades. We thank them for their faithful service and hope you will as well! We will miss them.

# Seen Around Hancock

## Homecoming Sunday: New Year Brimming with Energy



From l to r: Marilyn Becker; Sybille Volz; Scott Martin; Ann Behravesh; members of Hancock Carillon; Mark Morgan; Chancel Choir; Kay Barney; Barbara Shinn-Cunningham



From l to r: Pam Cochrane and Church School students; members of HYG; Pam Cochrane and Courtney Jones with HYG and Church School members, Rev. Paul Shupe with HYG and Church School members; Rev. Meg Anzalone; Carol Bukys; Pete LaSonde; Merion Ritter; Mike Kraley; Scott Martin; Adam Jenkins; Andy McClaine; Nate Martin

## Homecoming Sunday Activities Fair: Something For Everyone!



From l to r: Andy McClaine; Carol Counihan; Connie Gregg; Caroline Nijenberg; Helen & Bill Levison; Hancock Consort; Nate Martin



From l to r: Peggy & Bob Bicknell; Susan Navia and an HYG member; David Cooke; Barbara Shafer; Kay Barney; Julia Potter

### Prime-Time Travels:

After coffee hour, **Rev. Paul Shupe** shares slides and stories of his recent trip to Israel.



All photos on this page of *The Herald* taken by and used with permission from our resident photographer, Paul Topalian. Thanks, Paul! If you'd like access to these or any other images from HUCC events, please contact Paul directly.

# The Notice Board



### Heifer International Catalogs Needed

Once again, we need donations of Heifer International catalogs, which we will use to make handmade cards signifying a gift of animals, trees and honeybees to a needy family, whether in the United States, Asia, Africa, Europe or South/Central America! Please drop Heifer publications into the blue box outside Rev. Dana Allen Walsh's office.

Thanks and please visit us at the Hancock Holiday Fair!

### Our Whole Lives (OWL) for Adults Offered at First Parish, Lexington

First Parish in Lexington will be offering the UUA/UCC OWL program of sexuality education specifically for adults, consisting of a series of workshops, discussions, and activities designed to present information, deepen understanding and encourage communication about sexuality. No assumptions will be made about any participant's sexual orientation, gender identity, sexual history or practices. Please visit the "OWL for Adults" section of the First Parish website for more info: <http://fpc.lexington.ma.us>



### Acting Together: A Community Response to Student Stress — Sun., 10/24, 3-4:30pm

Join the Lexington Interfaith Community on Sun., 10/24 from 3-4:30pm at Church of Our Redeemer (6 Meriam Street, Lexington Center) for an assembly to address unhealthy student stress, an issue affecting our elementary, middle school, and high school-aged children. Topics to be addressed include: the social and emotional life skills our children need to cope with stress; mindfulness, new techniques for stress reduction; freeing the schools of unnecessary sources of stress; what parents can do to help. There will also be an opportunity to speak with Lexington town officials, school leaders, community groups, and PTA. Co-sponsored by members of Lexington Interfaith Community (Church of our Redeemer, First Parish Church, Follen Church, Hancock Church, Lexington Catholic Community, Pilgrim Church, Temple Emunah, and Temple Isaiah). Contact Rev. Dana Allen Walsh for more information ([dana.allenwalsh@hancockchurch.org](mailto:dana.allenwalsh@hancockchurch.org)).



### Candlelight Vigil: Remembering The Victims of Domestic Violence -- Thur., 10/14

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. On Thur., 10/14 at 6:45pm a candlelight vigil will be held at First Parish, Concord (20 Lexington Rd) to remember the victims of domestic violence. State Senator Jamie Eldridge will deliver the keynote address. Dessert and coffee will follow. The event is co-sponsored by The Domestic Violence Services Network and the Sudbury, Wayland, Lincoln Domestic Violence Roundtable. For more information, email [dvvap@concordma.gov](mailto:dvvap@concordma.gov) or call 978.318.3421.



## Comments? Suggestions? We Want to Hear from You!

Have ideas, comments or suggestions for *The Herald*? We want to hear from you! Send your input to our Communications Coordinator, Angela Gaffney, at [angela.gaffney@hancockchurch.org](mailto:angela.gaffney@hancockchurch.org).

Have items for the November issue of *The Herald*? **The submission deadline is October 15<sup>th</sup>.**



www.hancockchurch.org

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Rev. Dana Allen Walsh, Associate Minister

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# Save-the-Date: Sun., October 31 (All Saints Day) — Dedication of Memorial Garden & Remembrance Hall



The new Remembrance Hall and Memorial Garden will be dedicated on **All Saints Sunday, October 31**. On that special day, we will read the names of Hancock Saints whose families or friends have requested that they be honored with a plaque in the Remembrance Hall. We will also have a special ceremony in the garden immediately following the service. If you would like to have your Hancock Saint included or if you have questions about the

name(s) and remembrances you have already submitted, you can email any of the committee members: Kay Barney (kbarney@amrf.com); Charlotte Dougherty (charlottedougherty@verizon.net); Bill Erickson (berickson@bfearc.com); Verne Henderson (vhender@aol.com); Rosemarie Sauermann (away 9/10-10/8) (rosemarie@sauermann.com); Linda Williams (williams.l@verizon.net).



## Come to “The Well” — Sunday 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 <dana.allenwalsh@hancockchurch.org>.

**Fall 2010 Schedule:** Sept 19 & 26; Oct 3, 17 & 24; Nov. 7, 14 & 21; Dec 5 & 12