

THE BEACON

**First
United Methodist Church**

57 Peters Street
North Andover, MA 01845
Telephone: 978-682-5305

Email:

firstunitedmethodist@comcast.net

Website:

www.northandoverumc.org

Worship with us:

Summer Worship Service
9:30AM

Nursery
9:30AM

Intercultural Worship Service
1:30PM

In this issue...

Pastors Message	Pg 1
Leadership Team	Pg 2
Christian Education	Pg 2
Charge Conference	Pg 2
Stewardship News	Pg 2
Reconstruction Update	Pg 3
Missions Team	Pg 3
Strategic Plan	Pg 4
Calendar	Pg 5
Mission Statement	Cover

Dearly Beloved,



My name is Tsitsi Moyo. I am both delighted and thankful that through God's graces, Bishop Peter Weaver has appointed me to shepherd the parish of the First United Methodist Church in North Andover. I would like to invite you to my first services, which will be on the 4th of July at 9:30 am, and 1:30 pm. I would be very happy to see you at any of these services and during the days thereafter. I am here for you; to serve you and to provide any pastoral needs you may have whenever you need them. Let me know how I can serve you as an individual, family and/or community.

As much as I am sent to shepherd the First United Methodist Church in North Andover, I am also sent to serve the community. I am available for all. Please do not hesitate to call or email me if you need anything, or just want to chat -- whether you are a church member or not, a Christian or not, a believer or non-believer; you are welcome. You are welcome to drop by the office. Remember, I am here to serve you. Help me to serve you. Help me to serve you and the community.

The office will be open every day. I will be in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 am — 3:30 pm. Tuesday and Thursday, although I won't be in the office, the administrative assistant will be there from 8:30 am – 11:30 am.

ALL ARE WELCOME

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!

Blessings,

Tsitsi



CHURCH NEWS AND NOTABLES

LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT

The Leadership Team met on June 9th at the church! It was wonderful to be able to be in our building at long last.

The Leadership Team would like to thank all of you who have continued to support our church by your worship attendance and financial support. Please continue to do so. At the present time we are struggling to pay our current and past due monthly bills and payroll. At our last meeting we approved the withdrawal of \$6,700 in earned interest and dividends from the Endowment fund and are awaiting those monies. In addition we will be receiving \$1,000 per month for the next two months as a result of renting parking spaces for the employees of the stores in the plaza across from our church. Our payment from the insurance company to cover the June rental from the Montessori School has been delayed, but is being addressed by Judy Birtles, Chair of Trustees.

The summer months present us with a real challenge since pledge income is greatly reduced due to low attendance at worship services. Since we will have a very limited amount of monies to draw on to make up shortfalls, it is vital to remain current with your donations and pledges. We need about \$13,000 per month to stay current with our expenses and catch up with past due bills.

In other actions a new petty cash procedure was approved in order to improve the accounting for these monies. Judy Birtles provided an update of the reconstruction process which is now underway after a lengthy approval process by Utica Insurance. Judy has provided more information in an article in this issue of the Beacon. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, July 14th at 7pm in room 401. All are welcome to attend.

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference has been postponed and will be rescheduled in August. Therefore people in current leadership positions whose term would have expired as of July 1, are being asked to carry over their duties until the Charge Conference is held and new people are appointed. If anyone feels the need to step down now please contact Rev. Moyo or Paul Carlotto.



This has been a very difficult year for our program. The flood and the resignation of our Christian Education Director led to the cancellation of much needed activities for our children.

The Leadership Team along with Rev. Moyo and the Christian Education teachers will be working this summer to find a way to re-establish our program for a September start. Unfortunately at this time, we are not able to hire a paid Christian Education director due to our current financial situation. Please pray for someone who has a passion for Christian Education to fill this need on a volunteer basis.



The Stewardship Task Team met on Tuesday, June 8th to begin the process of deciding on a stewardship campaign to launch in the fall. Present at the meeting were Rob Lynch, Debbie Cannella, Jeff Kress, Flora Manning, and Martha Schiepers. The Committee discussed a few ideas, but did not decide on anything. At our next meeting we will have input from The United Methodist Foundation. We want to learn what other congregations of similar size have found to be successful and the Foundation representative will help with that. The ultimate goal of the Stewardship Team is to design and execute an effective and sustaining stewardship campaign that will run from September to November 2010.

If you'd like to be a member of the Stewardship Task Team or want to offer a suggestion, please contact Rob Lynch at rob.lynch@earthlink.net.

Thanks
Rob

CHURCH NEWS AND NOTABLES



RECONSTRUCTION UPDATE

After several weeks of delay, construction is finally "up and running" at our church. Workers



from several trades have begun the reconstruction of our lower spaces. You may notice some storage units in the lower parking lot. The POD belongs to the Montessori School and holds all of their belongings. The other storage unit is there to hold construction materials.

Our contractor has put together the "project". With the delay in beginning, he is working to make up for lost time in every way possible. Obviously, Katie Gilman, owner of the Montessori School, has been very concerned about her space. She is planning to come back to our building, but as she begins to seek new families and children for her school this fall, she wants to be able to show them what the newly rebuilt area will look like. Towards that end, our contractor has assured her that there will be rooms completed by mid-July so that she can do this. Trustees will also be re-negotiating her contract in the coming month.

As has been mentioned, the plaza across the street has arranged to rent some parking spaces in our lot - for their employees only. Although this was to begin on June 15, it seems as though the employees haven't yet "gotten the message." Their first month's rental check for this space is due even as I write this. So, if you see cars along the back edge of our lot, they most likely belong to the employees of the plaza. This arrangement is for 2 months only. If it works out for both parties, then we will talk to them about continuing it.

If you have any questions about any of this - or anything else - please feel free to get in touch with us. We will be glad to give you any and all information you may want.



MISSION ANNOUNCEMENT

During the summer months we will continue our ongoing collection of food items for Neighbors In Need. The food donated to Neighbors in Need is distributed through local food pantries to those who need assistance. All non perishable food items are welcome. A list of requested items follows:



CANNED FOOD

- Goya Pink Beans
- Goya Green Pigeon Peas
- Vegetables—All Kinds
- Soups and Stews
- Peanut Butter
- Tuna
- Other canned Meats e.g. Chicken
- Spaghetti Sauce with Meat

PACKAGED FOOD

- Rice—Goya, Canilla, Carolina (NOT Uncle Ben's or Minute Rice)
- Pasta
- Macaroni and Cheese

BABY NEEDS

- Parmalat Milk
- Formula—Enfamil with Iron
- Baby Food

Looking ahead to August, we will be collecting food items for Bread & Roses Soup Kitchen in Lawrence. Requested items will be listed in the August Beacon. The envelope designation for August is Communities Together.

Thank you to all who donated receiving blankets for the UMCOR Layette Kits. Your generosity will provide for a child in need.

STRATEGIC PLAN TASK TEAM UPDATE

The task team met on Monday, June 21st to continue with the organization of the work the team members will be doing to build a vision for our ministry. Our first decision was to develop a prayer process to support the team members and the church community as we go through the visioning journey. We decided that we would ask you, our church family, to pray for this whole process of building a vision for our church. You can do this anytime during your day. We are also eager to hear about - your thoughts as you prayed. Did you feel anything or have an idea about the vision of ministry? If you are so moved, please write them down and drop them in the prayer basket in the rear of the sanctuary.

If you find you can't come up with a prayer, we have written some short prayers for you to use! You will find them in the church bulletin starting on Sunday, July 4th and throughout the entire visioning process. The members of the task team are already praying daily for all of the members of the congregation and other team members.

The communication of what is happening during the development of a vision for our ministries will also be shared via the bulletin board between the narthex and Wesley Hall. Some of the items you will find on this board are:

- The weekly prayers
- Up to date information about the Small Group Visioning sessions.
- Any thoughts you may have shared through the Prayer Basket.
- A schedule of the Strategic Plan Team meetings.
- Feedback from our interviews with local public and private organization leaders about issues facing people in our area and how can we help.

This will not be an easy process. When faced with change there will usually be some resistance. But we are hopeful that through prayer and leadership all of us will be able to come up with a plan for our ministry. Will you be praying? Members of the Planning Team include, Pam Picone, Ave Blatchford, Susan Lewis, Holly Vietzke-Lynch, Cindy Gardell, Val Zablocki, Paul and JoAnn Carlotto. If you feel that you can contribute to the success of this effort and would like to be a member of the team, please contact any member of the team or call the church office at 978-682-5305.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message (mission/ministry), so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ...

Colossians 4: 2,3

The following are suggested prayers that you may use to pray for our church community and for the Strategic Plan Task Team as we all work together to discover what God is calling our church to be.

1. Loving God, guide our church as we continue our journey as a community of faith.
2. All knowing God, help our church as we seek your vision for our ministry.
3. Caring God, bless our small groups as they meet. Help us to listen to each other with open hearts and minds.

You may use one prayer for a week, combine them, or pray your own thoughts. There is no set time or location. Pray at a traffic light, or in the shower, while exercising, or when you wake up in the morning. Our hope is that we will all be praying for the same thing... a vision of what God is waiting for us to be and do. You will be getting more little prayer suggestions in the future!

May God's blessings be with us all!
The Strategic Plan Task Team

JULY 2010

CHURCH ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4 Summer Worship Service 9:30AM Intercultural Family Worship 1:30PM	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Summer Worship Service 9:30AM Intercultural Family Worship 1:30PM	12 SPRC 7:30PM	13	14 Leadership Team 7:00PM	15	16	17
18 Summer Worship Service 9:30AM Intercultural Family Worship 1:30PM	19	20	21 Trustees 7:30PM	22	23	24
25 Summer Worship Service 9:30AM Intercultural Family Worship 1:30PM	26	27	28	29	30	31

*We are Christians committed to live our
faith by practicing love, embodying hope and
doing justice. Our mission is to invite all to join
us and to serve actively in our
local and global communities*

Mission Statement

First United Methodist Church
57 Peters Street
North Andover, MA 01845

July ★★

CHURCH TELEPHONE

978-682-5305

CHURCH E-MAIL

firstunitedmethodist@comcast.net

WEB SITE

www.northandoverumc.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Tues., Thurs., Fri.
8:30AM—11:30AM