



Summer Gleam, 2011

From the Pastor

Dear Church Family:

Once again it is time to change our church lawn sign to read, *Summer Union Services* (the schedule is printed in this edition of *The Gleam*). As we now “plunge” into the season of “Summer Light,” my prayers and best wishes go out to our church family: May we all find opportunities for quiet rest, reflection, physical and spiritual renewal, so that each of us will be energized for our wonderful Homecoming journey in September.

Our congregation is already very excited about the Fall program which is shaping up. This will definitely be a season of renewal in our congregational life, with some entirely new things coming our way. Let me mention just a few items from what will soon be an ever-expanding list of the *new things* God is doing in our midst.

First, after an entire year-long search for a new Organist & Choir Director, God has answered our prayers and longing. Watch for an exciting letter from our SPRC Committee to arrive in your mailbox very soon!

Second, we resume our Fall schedule on the second Sunday in September, the 11th, with both our 9:00 Chapel and 10:30 Sanctuary Services. This year, we will be stretching the Homecoming theme over two Sundays. On **September 11**, during the 10:30 Service, we will hold **Church School Rally Day** to celebrate our children’s return to Sunday School. On **September 18**, we will celebrate **Homecoming Sunday** at both Chapel and Sanctuary services. Scheduling activities this way allows us to plan events without running into conflicts with the City of Melrose Victorian Fair, scheduled for September 11.

Third – something entirely new! – we are all very excited about our first **All-Church, Intergenerational Family Retreat**, scheduled for **Friday, September 30**, through **Saturday, October 1**, at the Craigville Conference Center on Cape Cod. Anne Hillman and I have been amazed at the number of responses we have received upon inviting our congregation to “steal away” for a time of sharing food, fellowship, singing, laughter, fun and games, worship, prayer, and quiet time, in a most beautiful and welcoming retreat setting. Well over thirty individuals have sent in their reservations, including adults, children, and youth! Not only whole families will be able to “get away” and share some wonderful, quality family time together; but also several adult couples or singles will be able to share some “church family” quality time. From our eldest seniors, to our youngest children, we will share together a memorable overnight retreat experience, thanks to the wonderful responses from our congregation. Even more exciting – **it is not too late for you to sign up if you haven’t yet!** Just call the church office, or speak to Anne or me, and we’ll be so happy to add your name to our list of Fall “pilgrims to the Cape.”

These are some of the new and exciting things that will be coming our way in September: launching a renewed music program with our new Organist & Choir Director, the autumnal call and “pull” of Homecoming invitations, a new stewardship campaign beginning in September, and a wonderful church family retreat! So please, *everyone!* Enjoy your Summer vacations (those among us who can), the quiet, restful and renewing season of “Summer Light,” and share with your church family the prayers and dreams for a new growing season together in God’s grace, love and power.

With great hope and much joy, until then . . . see you in September!

Peace, love, joy!
Pastor Chuck

Upcoming Events:

Feeding Ministry	July 26
VBS	August 1—5
Planning Day & BBQ	August 7
Sunday School Rally Day	September 11
Home Coming Sunday	September 18
Senior Saints Outing	September 20
All Church Retreat	September 30 - October 1

Office	781-662-7060
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E-Mail: fumc@fumcmelrose.org	

Rev. Charles G. Hartman	Pastor
Anne Hillman	Director of Christian Education
Moonkyum Kim	Coordinator of Youth Ministries
Beth Murphy	Office Administrator
Joseph Canova	Custodian

Summer Office Hours are	
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	
Monday through Thursday.	

Dear Church Family,

Welcome to Summer! I hope you all have wonderful plans of time spent with family enjoying the wonderful summer weather. I look forward to seeing you at the Union Services as we celebrate the connection we have with our sisters and brothers in Christ.

I am very happy with the amazing job all of our children and youth did during Children's Sunday. From the sermon given by the High School class to the wonderful singing of our younger children, I think it was a wonderful way to wrap up the Sunday School year. Thank you to all of the students who put in so much effort, to the teachers who lead their classes with such grace all year, and to all of the parents who support the Sunday School ministry with your presence and time. I hope everyone enjoys the summer break, and I look forward to starting a new year with everyone in September.

We will be having Vacation Bible School this summer for children in grades Pre-School-Fifth for the week of August 1-5th from 1pm to 3pm. We will be using the Circle G Ranch curriculum to lead our children through Bible stories, arts and crafts, and music fellowship. Vacation Bible School will be open to the public, so please let your child's friends know that they are welcome. Registration forms will be mailed to all families in the next two weeks.

I am looking for volunteers to help run Vacation Bible School this summer. Ideally, a volunteer would be available for the whole week; but if you can only help one or two days, that would be wonderful as well. This is sure to be an exciting opportunity to work with kids having fun with faith.

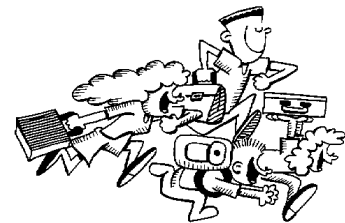
I am also starting the search for new Sunday School teachers to start in the fall. We will need teachers for all grade levels. Teaching Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity to enrich your own spiritual growth; preparing the lesson allows you to examine your own understanding of scripture and tradition in a whole new light. The goal is to have at least two teachers per classroom so that the teachers are able to rotate weeks they are teaching.

Dates to remember:

Aug 1-5th – Vacation Bible School – 1-3pm
Sept 11th – Sunday School Rally Day – 10:30 service

Things to remember:

Volunteers needed to teach VBS – volunteer one day or five!
Sunday School Teachers needed for all ages – start in the fall



Blessings,

Anne

Among Our People

Our Graduates



Davis Gould ~ Stoneham High School,
Attending West Virginia University,
Ryan Wicklund ~ St. John's Prep
Attending University of Vermont majoring in Biology,
Jean Adams ~ University of NH ~ BS in Business: Marketing,
Pam Cahill ~ Mass College of Pharmacy & Health Services ~ Masters - Physicians Assistant,
Mac Ciampa ~ Worcester Poly Tech,
Matt Warren ~ Northeastern University,
Rachel Downey ~ Suffolk Law School,
Nicole C. Allen, graduated from the New York University School of Medicine
(she is the granddaughter of Mal and Jean Allen)

New Baby

With great pleasure we announce the birth of Madeline Elizabeth Young, daughter of Jennifer (Lucas) and Steven Young, 2:59 a.m. on Friday the 10th of June, 8 lbs. 4 oz., 21 inches.

The Lucas Family



RANCH HOUSE KIDS ADVENTURE OF THE OPEN DOOR

Vacation Bible School
August 1-5th, 1-3pm
Ages: Pre-School through 5th Grade
Registration Opens July 1st
(email ahillman@bu.edu for registration from or contact church office)

UMW Board

Next UMW Board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 23rd, at 2:00 P.M.** We'll be discussing whether or not to have a September event.

Feeding Ministry
Tuesday, July 26th
St. Paul's Church
26 Washington St.,
Malden



Please sign up to donate desserts, helping hands or cash. Any questions, please contact Kelly Ilebode at 781-397-7813.

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

235 Park St.
N. Reading, MA 01864
978-664-2951

Is in need of a piano. If you know of one, please call.



Widows and Widowers Support Group

The Widows and Widowers Support Group will not meet during the months of July and August.

We will resume meeting in September with a guest speaker, Judy Seifert, who is the Bereavement Counselor at the Hallmark Health VNA & Hospice Care Department.

All are welcome.



Needed:

Join a friendly group of volunteers introducing children to a life of faith through weekly Sunday School classes. Teachers are needed for all age levels. Teaching Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity to be part of the life of the church as you guide children through Bible stories and introduce them to a life of faith. You'll find your own faith-life is enriched by concentrated engagement with the themes and lessons of the Sunday School classroom.

Archbishop Chacour
at Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center
Wednesday, July 27th. 5:30 PM

Archbishop Chacour will be at Rolling Retreat and Conference Center on Wednesday, July 27th. 5:30 PM dinner (reservations required) with a 7:30 address. There is no cost, but a free-will offering will be received to support his peace-building work.

Archbishop Elias Chacour is an Arab Palestinian Christian who is a citizen of Israel. He has worked tirelessly for reconciliation and peace in the Middle East and is a three-time nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize.

We all have so many questions about what is happening in the Arab-Israeli area. Come and find out what this amazing man is doing and get an up-to-date report on recent events.

Merrimack Valley People for Peace is a co-sponsor of the event. We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join us.

This link has all the details -- <http://www.rollingridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/WEB-Archbishop-Elias-Chacour.pdf>

Mary Todd
Merrimack Valley People for Peace



The Farmers Market is back!
Come to the church lawn on Thursdays from 2-7 pm

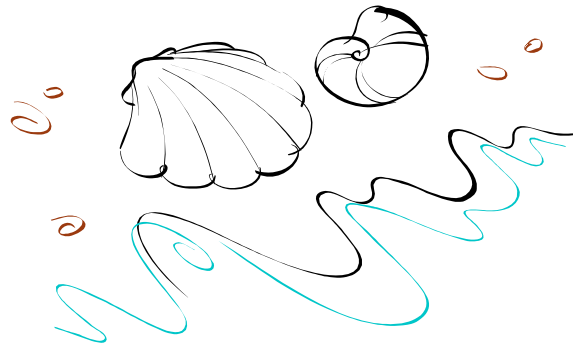
Hopefully we'll have a good weather and provide a fun community event!

Summer Union Services ~ 2011

10:00 A.M.

Worship Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
July 3	Green Street Baptist	Rev. Dominic Taranowski
July 10	Green Street Baptist	Rev. Dominic Taranowski
July 17	First Congregational Church	Rev. Larry Starr
July 24	First Congregational Church	Rev. Beth Horne
July 31	First United Methodist Church	Rev. Barbara Threet
August 7	First United Methodist Church	Rev. Beth Horne
August 14	Unitarian Universalist	Rev. Chuck Hartman
August 21	Unitarian Universalist	Rev. Chuck Hartman
August 28	Highlands Congregational	Rev. Barbara Threet
September 4	Highlands Congregational	Rev. Larry Starr





Church Planning Day & BBQ

Mark your calendars for:

Sunday, August 7

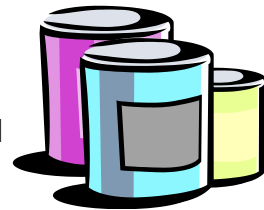
After Summer Services

At the home of the Barnums

9 Beacon St., Wilmington

Members attending the Planning Committee meeting are encouraged to bring items for the Food Pantry or a bag of groceries. Below is a list of suggestions:

Coffee, Tea, Fruit Juices (either bottled or canned), Spaghetti Sauce, Tomatoes (diced or stewed), cooking oil, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup, Peanut Butter, Jellies, Hearty Soups (Select Harvest, Chunky Campbells), Canned Ravioli, Spaghetios with meat, Spam, Stews, Corned Beef Hash, Canned Chili, Tuna Fish, Canned Chicken or Turkey, Canned Vegetables, Baked Beans, Crackers, Instant Potatoes, Rice-a-Roni, Rice Pilaf, Macaroni & Cheese, Hamburger Helper, Snack-pack puddings, Brownies, Cake or Bread mixes, Pop Tarts, Granola Bars, Fruit Bars and Non-Perishables (toilet tissue and paper towels).



Needed: Vacation Bible School Leaders

Join a friendly group of volunteers leading children into a relationship with God through bible stories, music, and crafts. Volunteer for as many of the sessions as you can. Introduction to the material and training will be provided before VBS starts.



Come to the Fall Retreat....

There's still time to sign up. Call the Church Office 781-662-7060. Registration fees and payments can be made at any time.

**First United Methodist Church
645 Main Street
Melrose, MA 02176
(781) 662-7060**

Please note:

Summer Office Hours will be:
Monday – Thursday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Starting on Friday, July 1st



**FIRST CLASS
POSTAGE**

This material was mailed June 30.

September GLEAM Deadline
Will be on Monday, August 15th .