

Fourth Notes

April 2010

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Year Four of “Share the Vision” Mortgage Shares for 2010-11

Three years ago, after several years of working on a plan to expand our church building, Fourth Church had an opportunity to purchase the property next door. Given that the costs of building expansion were becoming increasingly unreachable, the opportunity felt like a Godsend, literally.

So we bought 5 Vinton. We made a substantial down payment and took out a mortgage, which we pay each year through extra mile pledges from our members and friends.

The space at 5 Vinton has made an incredible difference. Specifically, it has given us:

- An office for staff
- A pleasant and quiet space for confidential meetings,
- Program space (allowing Mazemakers to double, Sunday school classes to multiply, and new youth and children programs)
- PARKING!
- An apartment with affordable rent for a family.
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We’ve now had three years of “Share the Vision” campaigns. We have indeed paid our mortgage, made necessary repairs, kept up with bills, and all the rest. Congratulations, everybody, and thank you.

Now it is time for Year Four (July 2010-June 2011) and we again invite everybody to invest in “Mortgage Shares.” Together, we are investing in future ministry, and each \$100 share helps us take care of our mortgage commitment for 2010-11

Our goal: \$23,000. That is 230 shares. Mike Moyes and Jared Neilan will be leading this campaign. It is only *just* beginning. Soon a mailing will go to past pledgers, and many will also receive a phone call, but we invite the broad audience of Fourth Notes to consider contributing toward one share, or five, or fifteen, or more.

There are many ways we could reach the needed \$23,000. Here’s one path:

| Amount for year | # pledgers at this amt. | total raised |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|
| \$3500- 35 shares | 1 | 3500 |
| 2500 | 1 | 2500 |
| 2000 | 2 | 4000 |
| 1500 | 1 | 1500 |
| 1000 | 2 | 2000 |
| 800 | 2 | 1600 |
| 500 | 3 | 1500 |
| 400 | 3 | 1200 |
| 300 | 4 | 1200 |
| 200 | 8 | 1600 |
| 100 | 25 | 2500 |
| <u>Total - 53 pledges raising \$ 23,100</u> | | |

It’s worth noting that we are taking care of these mortgage payments while we continue to take care of key renovation pieces in our church building. Two years ago, we renovated the bathrooms, built a new roof and re-sided our exterior. This past year, we completely renovated the hall and kitchen, and replaced an ancient heating system. So while you help us do the necessary task of keeping up with the mortgage; the church is also moving forward in creative ways to improve our facility. Together, these efforts mean excellent space for this ministry we cherish so much.

So please consider this invitation to share in our vision. Contact the church with any of the addresses above. We want to be done with this campaign my Pentecost, May 23. Naturally we’ll have a party that day with a cookout potluck!! Come on down, wear red for the holiday, and take a place in our group photo.

BLUEGRASS BBQ - April 7

At press time our Bluegrass Barbecue Event is just around the corner. If you get this newsletter in the early few days of March, PLEASE make sure you come. Lindsey, Marcia, Karen, Foy, Allison and others have worked REALLY hard to put this together and we have an incredible list of auction items.

If you get this after the event, be sure to say thank you to all the helpers. We presume that we will be celebrating a successful night!

Appreciation day & potluck: april 25

The Deacons have a wonderful tradition of getting us together to thank each other. They will do with creativity and a great big potluck on Sunday, April 25. They have thank-you "puzzle pieces" available for you and ask for small donations to the deacons fund. Think about all the people you can thank...

Start gathering puzzle pieces and filling them out. Come April 25, we will see how they all fit together.

Visiting choir- apr 25

The Milton Academy Gospel Choir will be singing in worship at Fourth Church on Sunday, April 25 ! Easter season is a time to Receive the Joy, so on April 25 we will receive the Joy of some great music. Singing with the choir is Liz Stanfield.

WEDNESDAY- soup n study & prayer service

Our Wednesday Soup N Study has developed a strong core of people from the church and community committed to exploring the 12 steps of recovery and Christianity.

Beginning April 14, they start a new round where each week will include a healing story or a parable from the Gospels. Our schedule;

5:30 light supper

6pm prayer service & communion

6:30-7:30 our study

ALL WELCOME! And it's fine just to check it out!

New music & art classes

Registration for a new session of classes takes place Monday and Tuesday evenings, April 5 and 6. Art, voice, piano, violin, guitar, Hip hop dance, Zumba class for adults, video, Childrens Theater ("Shrek")... All great stuff. Classes start April 12.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Our date is APRIL 17-- a Saturday - 9am until noon. Please contact Burns if you have any interest in exploring membership at Fourth Church. Our workshop will cover denominational history, our own congregation's story, and the meanings of membership.

A marathon run...

Yes, one more time. Burns is running the Boston Marathon on April 19. There is a rumor that one or two or three runners from Fourth Church might join him for part of the race.

They will run for the Mortgage!! Specifically, every dollar will be used to pay down the principal of our mortgage. THAT MEANS... when you give \$100, you are actually saving the church \$400 since you are eliminating the need to pay interest over the next 27 years!

Give generously. Invite your friends to give. Pray for the runners.. Bless their feet on April

18. And cheer them on come April 19.

Environmental Group

Katherine Pater has convened a group to explore how we as a church might do more to care for God's good world. There are different projects they are exploring, including one to help the church transition away from our heavy use of paper tableware. Next meeting: apr 18

International Group leads worship - apr 11

Young Ra Rhee will preach on April 11 and work with our International Group in leading worship. This new ministry has already led some remarkable potlucks and helped ten to our sanctuary.

New Men's Breakfast

Thatcher Freeborn, Ken Shallow and others have organized a men's breakfast group to meet monthly on Saturday mornings. Next meeting is April 17 in the 5 Vinton Street building.

prayers...

Please continue to pray for...

Katie Harris

Ed Buccieri

Margaret Brennan

Erna Deeb

Helen McElmon (who came to church to celebrate Phyllis Curtis's 80th birthday with us !)

Erin Riddle

Tim Ellis

Eoin Cannon & Michelle (with a new baby on the way)

Thanks to the many, many people who made Holy Week so special!

Fourth Presbyterian Church
340 Dorchester Street
South Boston, MA 02127

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