

Fourth Notes

July 2010

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GOSPEL CONCERT- Saturday, Aug. 14

It's a night for us to gather with people from other churches. It's a chance for us to send spirited melodies into the summer air. It's a chance for us to raise funds. And it's a chance to praise God.

This is our sixteenth annual Evening of Gospel Music and it happens at 7:15pm, August 14, at Fourth Presbyterian Church. We hope to have the Grant AME Church choir back, a joint choir from Covenant Church in Jamaica Plain and other Forest Hill churches, the Fourth Church Summer Singers, and one more guest still in the works.

Tickets are only \$10 and kids are free. Help us out by selling a batch. We've also got raffle tickets for two Red Sox tickets (for the Sunday of Labor Day Weekend) -- \$5 per ticket or \$20 for 5. Another way to help is to bring food items for the reception. (Talk to Sharon Matthews or Thatcher Freeborn, who are leading the coordination.) And to everybody we make this special request:

Please consider a commitment to raise at least \$200. We raise most of our funds through an ad book. You could purchase a memorial ad (a half page ad is \$150), or persuade your local store to buy an ad (quarter page is \$75), or even encourage friends to donate enough for a sponsorship listing (\$50 each). A few are making multiple appeals, but we need the rest of us to make appeals in order this to succeed as a fund-raiser.). If 65 people each raise \$200, we raise our \$13,000 goal. Our appeal letter is included in this mailing. Please feel free to copy and distribute

Pray for the event and think about how you can help make it a success. And do plan to attend!

VISION IV CAMPAIGN We Made It!

We made it, everybody! Thank you. We needed pledges and gifts totaling \$23,000 to meet our mortgage commitment for the next year (July 2010-June 2011), and we made it! If you meant to send us a gift and forgot, make a donation to Gospel Night!!

Many, many thanks to all donors. We will prepare a new framed document listing the shareholders for 2010-11. You are indeed a hall-of-fame bunch. Thank you.

church retreat- save September 10-12

Square Dance, canoeing, prayer time, singing... and elements still to be imagined. We have Camp Wilmot reserved for September 11-13. WE WELCOME PLANNING HELP! This is your chance to shape the weekend. Please let Burns or a session member know if you can help. Save the date.

christmas in july: July 25

July 25, 10:30am, is our time for a Christmas Pageant, and a day to remember God being born in our midst on a hot day. Our annual Christmas-in-July will feature a trumpet, carols, a mini-pageant, and potluck lite. Please bring turkey sandwiches, ham sandwiches, and basic side dishes. Remember to invite friends; folks like to come to this service.

It all starts July 6...

Summer has its own fullness here at Fourth. On July 6, we begin our sixteenth year of the Summer Meals Program with the Mazemakers component for the 9-13 year-olds. Registration has been high; and all together, we expect over 100 kids a day. Three evenings a week, we operate "Teen Crib" for local teens, also with a meal. Wednesday

night is cookout and worship night.

AUDREY HARTNESS brings her youth group from South Carolina in July.

CORI WILLIAMS is our summer intern from Princeton. Be sure to introduce yourself to him.

We have our big concert on August 14.

Please keep it all in prayer.

Wanted: summer singers

Summer Singers is a summer only choir. We rehearse on Wednesdays at 7:40, after the outdoor worship, and we will be performing in the August 14 concert. It is not too late to join us, but please jump on board quickly! You are welcome to sing in this choir even if you are not able to commit to our regular fall-spring choirs! It's a great way to give gospel singing a trial run.

Church picnic – DATE CHANGE! Aug 29

As you know, the deacons are leading us into our third annual church picnic AND WORSHIP at Castle Island. They had targeted August 8, but we have learned that there is a triathlon that day over by that part of South Boston. SO... we have booked AUGUST 29. We will gather for worship at Castle Island. (Same location as the last two years. From Sullivan's follow the sidewalk to the right.)

Sunday School will also be at Castle Island. Rides for Sunday School at 9am. Sunday School will feature intergenerational games.

RIDE INFO- Please arrange carpools as best you can. If you do need a ride, be at church no later than 10am. (Parking slots go fast at Castle Island.) Note that deacon drivers may not be leaving the Island until 1 or 1:30. This has been a fantastic event the last two years. Plan on being there.

July 11- Report on GA

Burns is the clergy from Boston Presbytery to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) this month. There are a number of important decisions being made, and you can track the daily business at the pcusa.org website. Burns comes back from GA on July 10 and will include some GA reporting in the sermon on July 11.

July 18- Getting Ready to Engage a New Rep!

Our local state representative seat is open and five candidates are vying to represent us. Fourth Church is holding an accountability action meeting with the candidates on Wednesday, September 8, 7pm; and we are preparing for that session this summer with a campaign of small group meetings to discuss the issues that matter

most to our community. **We are holding a bunch of these small group meetings Sunday, July 18, after church !!!** Please save the date! Bring other people who have an interest in this election! The service that morning will bring out the theological mission behind this campaign, and the hour-long meetings will be a chance to get ourselves ready to make the most of our candidates meeting! Come!! Done by 1:30.

summer wednesdays

Special summer Wednesdays are in full gear now. Here is what Wednesday evenings look like every week:

- 6pm Dinner (burgers, dogs, & whatever potluck dishes people bring)
- 7pm Vespers in the Yard
- 7:40 Choir rehearsal

For dinner, please bring a few dollars and/or side dishes to make the meal work.

Volunteers always needed for set up, grilling and clean up.

Worship Our theme is Romans 12: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." Each week, we SING, we hear one story of transformation (or "changed mind") from the Bible, and one through a testimony from somebody's life. Then we pray! All on the beautiful, rejuvenated Fourth Church lawn.

Remembering Margaret Brennan

Margaret Brennan passed on June 16. She was 97 years old.

Margaret grew up in this neighborhood and was an anchor of the Methodist church (in our current building) up until the time she moved away as an adult. In 1991, she moved back into her family house and became a key

disciple at Fourth Church—a church lady without parallel.

She helped us start a choir when we had none.

She played the organ when Lockie MacMillan needed a break

She organized church dinners and prepared the corn chowder.

She baked cookies for Albert to deliver to our first time visitors.

She cared for her sister, Ruth.

She also welcomed to her table and home those needing safe space.

We certainly mourn our loss. But we also celebrate her seat at the heavenly banquet with Ruth, Bob, Larry, Albert and Jimbo; and we thank God for her incredible ministry in this neighborhood.

prayers...

We owe major thanks to God and some dedicated servants of God...

To Karen Flaherty, for her steady stream of building projects, to Diane Fuller, for some great outreach work to connect to Summer Meals Program families, to Barry Monteiro, for watering the lawn faithfully, to Dawn Bezan, for her help with hosting choirs, and to Peter Brook, for tending to the walk and yard.

Congratulations to Lauren Gallant and Daniel Cochran. They are married!

Eoin Cannon and Michelle have a new son—Michael Patrick, born at over 11 pounds.

Prayers for Sheila Buckman, Erna Deeb, Barbara Turcotte, Alice Hageman, and Fred Corbitt. All have medical concerns recently.

Congrats to graduating eighth graders: Samantha, Simon, Isiah, Nathan. Rachel and Rickie Danilowicz are doing great in their job program in Maine!

Rae Huang and Cavan Concannon are getting ready to move to Australia for a new position for Cavan.

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340 Dorchester Street
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