

Fourth Notes

November 2010

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THANKSGIVING POTLUCK- November 21 Dedicate Pledges, Celebrate Precinct Work!

We have a great tradition of celebrating Thanksgiving as a church community in some form every year. We continue that tradition with a special gathering on **Sunday, November 21**. We will have an early Thanksgiving with a special worship service AND a Thanksgiving dinner after worship. Think of it as *Potluck-Plus*.

If you are especially eager to roast a turkey, tell a deacon or email Burns. The rest of us should plan on bringing our favorite Thanksgiving side dishes, desserts, etc. It can be a chance to practice a dish before Thursday's real deal, if you want. We can also imagine as

something similar to the popular description of that original Thanksgiving, when different folks brought different specialties.

On this day we will also celebrate CIIC ENGAGEMENT in Precincts 5 and 6. The Youth Organizing Team has done incredible work, as has Young Ra Rhee and her adult volunteers. We are inviting elected officials to come join us so they can duly recognize how our leaders (young and old) can turn out the vote!!

AND on this day we will celebrate our pledges

In the next few days, you should receive a pledge card for the 2010 budget. Please fill it out prayerfully and present it before Sunday, November 20 (or mail it in, or email it to Susan suzzand@verizon.net or Burns at the address above). We begin this year without a formal quantitative goal. Rather, we want everybody to behold the ways *our cup overflows* and give generously as called disciples. We celebrate it all on November 21.

adult sunday school: The Gospel of John

Kristin Raley continues her adult Sunday School class on the Gospel of John. All welcome. Sundays, 9:30am.

Wed. Soup & Study: the lord's prayer

Soup n Study for November is a rich study of the Lord's Prayer, using John Dominic Crossan's new book, "The Greatest Prayer."

This continues until Nov. 17.

As always, dinner is at 5:30, with the tutoring group. Our session then goes 6-7pm.

Wednesday Night Taize Services start December 1

This is, in the mind of some, the best part of December! We observe Advent – and make our way through all the preparations for Christmas -- with weekly services of sung prayer.

Gather at 5:30 for soup and bread. Then at 6pm, we go into the sanctuary for Taize chants, scripture, and silence.

It is a time of peace-making.

Give it a try.

Every Wednesday of Advent, from Dec. 1 to Dec. 22

Wednesday Choir rehearsals

The Wednesday Prayer Service will finish around 7pm, and we'll then have choir rehearsal at 7:15. Put the pieces together and you have a wonderful way to spend Wednesday Advent evenings: supper, services of sung prayer, and choir.

CONCERT & TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA- Saturday, nov 6 -7pm

We need to raise \$2000.

We also need to have a good time.

Put it all together for a talent extravaganza SATURDAY night, November 6, 7pm.

Some highlights:

- Jimmie Lou sings!
- Dan Teager comes with his holy trumpet

- Trumpets, guitars and voices come together for a Beatles Love Classic
- A new fiddler!
- Dychel solos!
- Katherine does world class Irish Step!
- And more, more, more..

Afterwards, a little bit of food from local restaurants. AND we will have a raffle/auction for a few restaurant certificates, including one from 224 Boston Street.

Tickets are \$10 and we will have a free-will offering, too. Help us close the gap on the 2009 budget and have a good time in the process.

LET'S TALK- Congrats on 205 one-on-one's

Way to go, Fourth Church. We were aiming for 200 relational meetings, and even with only three weeks to work with and several special projects competing for participants, you hit 205 !! Special thanks to Katherine Pater and Sarah Manouchehri.

Advent 2010- “Broken- but not beyond repair”

Advent begins Sunday, November 28, and with it a brand new liturgical year. This is a season of preparation and we will make ready our sanctuary on November 28 with a Hangin of the Greens Service and Craft Party.

Our Advent planning team was inspired this year by an Erik Jacobs photo taken inside the church. You need to hear the whole story to get the full effect (and you will in worship), but we saw in his photograph of one (broken) item in our building our message for the season: Broken, But Not Beyond Repair.

The team will work with Erik to get more photos and they'll work with all of you to collect more stories. This theme is rich with possibilities.

Our advent services will include weekly communion. On Wednesdays, people will have a chance to chant Taize prayers. There will also be parties, studies, and challenges to give. It's all a part of yearning, seeking, and ultimately embracing Christ's incredible promise to repair broken places.

Nov 28, 7pm – Hanging of the Greens & Craft Party

The first Sunday of Advent is November 28, and will get our sanctuary in the spirit that Sunday evening at 7pm. That night, we prepare our space for the Christ Child with our annual hanging of the greens worship service. We will prepare our sanctuary and our hearts for the Coming Light in a 7pm service.

CRAFT PARTY: It is our tradition to have simple holiday craft tables following the service, along with simple refreshments.

Do you have favorite Advent crafts? We welcome leaders! We also welcome your favorite refreshment items! Tell somebody on the Advent Worship Team: Sarah, Burns, Katherine, Katie

Food items - We'll have some food for the party, but we welcome all potluck-style contributions.

church b-day: dec 13

Fourth Church will be 139 years young on December 12, so we will be having a church birthday party on Sunday the 13th. Birthday cake, for sure, as well as a chance to give birthday presents to the church.

Great work on Governor's Race

As part of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization, we held an accountability action meeting with all candidates for Governor in mid-october. Fourth Church was well represented and had leaders throughout. Congrats.

Remember our Mortgage Payment “shares”

Even as we move into the crucial time of making our regular pledge for 2010, we ask everybody to stay on top of whatever “shareholding” pledge they made in the summer toward this fourth year of mortgage payments. Many have already paid in full: THANK YOU.

New Partnership with Local School

The Michael J. Perkins elementary school is only a few blocks away from us (in the middle of the Old Colony Projects), and we're exploring ways to build a relationship with

their children, parents and teachers. We begin with relationships, but there are a lot of ways we might work together to strengthen our community. Karen Flaherty is already tutoring with them, and Burns is leading a weekly theater program at the school. Want to help us explore possibilities? Tell Burns or Karen or Tim.

december parties & performances

There are some great offerings of beauty on the way...

- Dec. 3, 4 - “Pippin” musical performed by older children
- Dec 10,11 “The Wizard of Oz ” performed by childrens theater, Friday & Sat, 7pm
- Dec 12 Recital of music classes
- Dec 18 Gingerbread House Party (proposed - 10am)
- Dec 19 Fourth Church Christmas Party for Children
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Pageant and Candlelight

prayers... Micah and Foy White-Chu have adopted a child from China: Claudia! Stewart has a sister!

Tyiesha and Brian have a new boy: Joshua! Isiah and Jason have a brother!

Pray for Alice Hageman with her health issues and significant travel.

Pray for Gloria McMaster, recovering from back surgery

Pray for Art Martin, recently in the hospital.

Lauren Gallant has passed all her ordination exams. Wheee!

Prayers for friends applying to doctoral programs...

Prayers for Erin Riddle, who is remaining faithful through a tough time.

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