

Fourth Notes

May 2011

*Fourth Presbyterian Church * 340 Dorchester Street, South Boston, MA 02127 * 617-268-1281*

Pastor Burns Stanfield: bstanfield@hds.harvard.edu
www.fourthpresbyterianchurch.org

Dir. Children & Youth Tim Hughes:
timhughes79@gmail.com

Year Five of “Share the Vision” Mortgage Shares for 2011-12

A late Easter and a May auction event give us only a narrow window to raise the pledges we need for the next year of mortgage payments on 5 Vinton Street, but we are capable of amazing things, Amen?!

Officially, we launch Year Five of “Share the Vision” on Sunday, May 8. We then have five weeks to complete the drive before Pentecost (June 12), when summer begins to set in. Please respond to letters and calls quickly and generously. Better yet, tell us of your pledge even BEFORE you hear from a session member or treasurer.

We’ve done this four times before, but to remind everybody why we have this annual vision-sharing, here’s the story....Four 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. Over this time, we experienced the incredible difference 5 Vinton makes to our ministry. It gives us an office for staff, a quiet place for private meetings, program rooms, a youth center, parking, and an affordable apartment for a family.

Now it is time for Year Five (July 2011-June 2012) 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 2011-12

Our goal: \$25,000. That is 250 shares. Mike Moyes is again 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 \$25,000. Here’s one path:

Amount for year	# pledgers at this amt.	total raised
2000	3	6000
1500	2	3000
1000	3	3000
800	2	1600
600	5	3000
500	5	2500
400	6	2400
300	6	1800
200	6	1200
100	10	1000
<u>Total - 52 pledges raising \$ 25,500</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. Three years ago, we renovated the bathrooms, built a new roof and re-sided our exterior. Two years ago, we completely renovated the hall and kitchen, and replaced an ancient heating system. This year we are trying to renovate the sanctuary. 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, June 12. Naturally we’ll have a party that day!! Come on down, wear red for the holiday, and take a place in our group photo.

Fourth Fest- May 6

As this newsletter “goes to press,” our big spring fundraiser is just around the corner. On Friday, May 6, 6pm-10pm, we celebrate 140 years of Fourth Presbyterian Church with a grand party at the Carpenter’s Center (750 Dorchester Avenue). Tickets are \$50, and the proceeds will make possible the renovation of our sanctuary. We have phenomenal auction items, Blue Ribbon BBQ food, Tony Medeiros with a band, and some special theater scenes. This will be really, REALLY good. Bring lots of friends!!

Inquirers class- may 14

For all you new folks who are curious about membership... our spring Inquirers class is 9am-noon on Saturday, May 14. All are welcome, including those who just want to explore a little. Contact Burns.

Celebrate Confirmation- May 15

We have five wonderful young people who are preparing their faith statements and getting ready to request formal membership from session. You know these young disciples: Marguerite Belcher, Jackie Morales, Billy Whelan, Jena Benson, Grace Stanfield. If the way be clear, we will celebrate them in full force on Sunday, May 15. Let them know how important they are to this ministry!

WEDNESDAY- soup n study- Rob Bell on Hell!

There has been a cover story in Time Magazine, and an editorial in the New York Times. NOW it’s

time for a Fourth Church Soup N Study !!

Rob Bell is a leading preacher and writer from the Evangelical community who has a new book called Love Wins, which questions the traditional view of hell. In our Soup N Study, we will take our Wednesdays to consider that topic and Bell’s book (which is a short, easy read).

Burns has a few (subsidized) copies available for only \$10. He also has copies of the Time article and the NYT op-ed piece.

Light supper at 5:30. Study is 6-7pm. Choir at 7:15. All four Wednesdays of May.

International Group & POTLUCK – may 22

On Sunday, May 22, we will celebrate our International Group and its vibrant ministry. It is also Potluck Day, so we encourage EVERYBODY to think in international terms as you create food for the community! Young Ra Rhee will be preaching.

Helena’s baptism & Childrens Day- June 5

We know wonderful our kids are, and we know their special perspective on this life of Christian faith. Tim Hughes, Kathy Burger and Michelle Sanchez are working with the kids as they develop a special worship service for us on June 5. That will also be the day we baptize Helena Van Veller. Everybody save the date! There will be a party afterwards.

Pentecost- June 12

We also know it as group photo day. And Wear Red Day. And this year- Alice Hageman’s 75th birthday.

They are all causes to celebrate the glory of Christ’s church, and the wondrous mystery of the Holy Spirit, which brings all kinds of people together in mission and community.

Pentecost is a great day and the birthday of the church. Come worship with us!

Class on Belhar Confession—May 8, 15

We get so busy with the ministries of our own particular congregation, that sometimes we forget that there are exciting things going on in our larger denomination. One of those is the lively consideration of the addition of a modern confession of faith to our Book of Confessions. The Belhar Confession was written in South Africa during the apartheid era. You can find it online, and we also have copies at church.

On Sunday mornings, May 8 and 15, 9:30am, Katherine Pater will lead a discussion study of the creed. Across the country, presbyteries are voting on whether we include this confession. Come and be informed!!

prayers...

Terry and Joyce McDonough have a new boy! William!

Lots of folks graduating - Mike Motia, Lauren Cochran, Mia Kim, Young Ra Rhee, Brett VanVeller, Devin Berry, Kelly Schomburg... (and I’m probably forgettin somebody!...)

Mike M will preach on May 29 when his family will be in town.

Prayers for Erna Deeb (surgery), Ed Buccieri’s family.

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340 Dorchester Street
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