

Fourth Notes

August 2009

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Fellowship Hall Renovations: August 17!!

We never stop praying, and we know that on any day we can get a curveball from a building inspector or a contractor, BUT at this point it appears that the way is clear for our major renovation of the fellowship hall and kitchen!

As Summer Meals comes to a close on Friday, August 14, we will mobilize to clear the hall, kitchen and attic. Everything goes, and we need helpers to move items that afternoon, 1-3pm. The bigger items will be moved Saturday morning. (Ken Shallow is in charge of that piece. Please volunteer with him: 617-593-6211 or kenSKJS@aol.com.)

After Saturday night's concert and Sunday's SMP Worship Celebration, DEMOLITION begins Monday morning. This is heavier work. Ken could use some volunteers, but realize that it is heavy work. We could also use donations of coffee, snacks, lunch, etc...

TUESDAY, August 18, will be a day of putting A LOT of garbage into the dumpster. We need MANY helpers and you don't have to be especially burly to be helpful. Carry what you can carry. Just be prepared to get dirty (and we suggest work gloves). We expect that this work may carry over to Wednesday morning, as well.

And then construction continues through September 19. We will have a fully insulated ceiling at long last, restored high ceilings (before 1900, this portion of the building was the sanctuary), a balcony with an 8 foot circular window peering over Vinton Street, new heating/cooling, an enlarged kitchen with new appliances and a Hobart dish-washer, a new floor, and built in cupboards for the pantry, office supplies, our chairs and our tables.

Special thanks to the family of Bob Jackson, which has made a generous donation to this project in memory of Edith Jackson, Libby McArtney and Jean McArtney. This new hall will be named in their honor. Special thanks also to a hard-working building committee: Ken Shallow, Trinity Ray, Erik Jacobs, Burns Stanfield and Philip Wilkinson.

Keep praying, and get ready to celebrate on JUBILEE Sunday, September 27, with a potluck in our new hall.

church retreat- save September 11-13

Square Dance, canoeing, prayer time, singing... and elements still to be imagined. We have Camp Wilmot reserved for September 11-13. Mike Motia and Lauren Gallant have stepped up to help with the planning and we welcome others.

Cost will be \$55 per adult and \$35 per child ages 4-12. Under 4 is free.

We need volunteers to organize particular meals (and in some cases can discount fees for your cooking/shopping efforts).

Music will be a big part of the weekend. Tell Mike and Lauren what you would like to play.

Jason is baptized, Lauren is received

As this newsletter goes to press we are preparing for the big outdoor worship service & picnic at Castle Island. That service will include a re-appearance of the boat built by the teens, a baptism in the harbor of Jason Thompson, and the reception of Lauren Gallant as a new member.

This should all be done by the time you receive this, so we can't really say "Be sure to come." But we can say: Be sure to give God thanks for the stream of amazing and wonderful things that happen here.

More Teen Crib, More cookouts

Summer Meals Program and Mazemakers come to a glorious conclusion with worship on August 16 (during which we will also ordain Sugar Long as an elder.) As you have read above, renovations start the next day.

HOWEVER, Teen Crib continues for ONE MORE WEEK (until August 21). And there is indeed a Wednesday Cookout on August 19!

Naturally, there is also a cookout on August 12. They have been great events. Come on down.

GOSPEL CONCERT- Saturday, Aug. 15

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 fifteenth annual Evening of Gospel Music and it happens at 7:15pm, August 15, at Fourth Presbyterian Church. We hope to have the Ghanaian group from Providence, a wonderful choir from Covenant Church in Jamaica Plain, The Grant AME church of Dorchesters and the Fourth Church Summer Singers.

Tickets are only \$10 and kids are free. Help us out by selling a batch. We also need DESSERT items for the reception.

We've also got raffle tickets for two amazing Red Sox tickets (behind home plate, near the section with the players' wives) for Sept. 16 against the Angels. Raffle tickets are \$5 each, or \$20 for five.

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.

Pack the house, everybody!

Getting Precinct Six to Vote..... (Aug 30)

We are a partnering congregation in a special GBIO project this fall. The goal: to increase voter turnout in our precinct (precinct Six) by 20 % compared to four years ago.

We are NOT encouraging (and CANNOT encourage) a vote for one candidate over another; but we are encouraging civic participation.

Why?

Because Jesus encourages us to be leavening for the world....

Because in our own Presbyterian tradition John Calvin encourages civic participation...

Because politicians pay attention to statistics. They know how to count! We want them to look at Precinct Six figures after the November election and be impressed.

We are planning to launch this effort with a taste of door-knocking on Sunday, August 30, after worship. (Volunteers will be fed.) We especially want volunteers who live in Precinct Six (neighboring streets, including those in Old Colony Housing), but we welcome everybody to help, no matter where you live.

Fall dates...

Special beginnings are on the way. Keep them in your calendar:

Tutoring begins (at 5 Vinton) on September 14.

Music and Art Registration is September 20 and 21.

Music and Art Classes begin September 28.

Pancake breakfast to launch Sunday School Season: September 20.

prayers...

Margaret Brennan is at Marian Manor.

Albert Aloise felt good enough to travel with his family to Holly's parents in Montana. He continues to recuperate, however.

Fred and Mary Corbett both have health issues.

Tim Ellis is having a rough time.

Erna Deeb.

John Senior & Raegan Dalbo are expecting child # 1.

The Slades and the Pierces have moved. Lori Wallace has moved also, and will soon be joined by Debbie Nicolellis.

Gail Hancock was in the hospital and now has a pacemaker.

Charlie has also had health issues

Alice Hageman was recently in the hospital.

Kathy Dawson will be visiting us at concert time.

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