



# The Messenger

The First Parish of Bolton,  
Interdenominational

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## FOUR SPECIAL SEPTEMBER EVENTS

### SATURDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER, 5 P.M. FIRST “SOULFUL SATURDAY” SERVICE, SANCTUARY

Many of our families find it challenging to attend worship on Sunday mornings because of their children’s sports schedules. We miss you! Beginning in September, we will have periodic Saturday worship services at 5 p.m. in the sanctuary or Davis Hall. These services will be different, and “child friendly” --- shorter (forty minutes max), less formal, with a mix of music. The first “Soulful Saturday” service is at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 10 September in the sanctuary. It will be a reflective service focusing on the tenth anniversary of 9/11 with poems, prayers, a string and piano trio, and a brief meditation.

### SUNDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER, 8:15 A.M. TENTH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF “9/11” THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING, WATTAQUODOC ROAD

Join Bolton’s Scouts, Police, Fire-fighters, EMTs, public officials, and clergy in this moving commemoration of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Music will be provided by the Nashoba Regional High School Band. The Clinton Polish-American Veteran’s Color Guard will also be present. The commemoration will end at 8:46 a.m., the time the first plane hit the World Trade Center ten years ago with a minute of silence, taps, and the ringing of church bells. Refreshments follow courtesy of Bolton Parks and Recreation. Please be sure to be in place by 8:15 a.m. Park at Trinity Church or Memorial Field. Wattaquodoc Road will be closed to other traffic.

### “HOMECOMING SUNDAY” 18 SEPTEMBER, WORSHIP 10 A.M.

- ❖ Register for RE in the vestry before worship.
- ❖ Enjoy the uplifting, toe-tapping music of Sandy Haddon and Kathryn Kaufman
- ❖ Welcome new members to our community.
- ❖ Hear acclaimed “Yankee” columnist Edie Clark who is the “guest preacher.”
- ❖ Visit with your friends in the vestry after worship and enjoy John Stephenson’s fresh donuts.

### CELEBRATE ACCESSIBILITY AND IMPROVEMENTS TO DAVIS HALL, SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

- ❖ Gather before worship in the new parking area to dedicate the “bridge.”
- ❖ Enter ceremonially to a newly painted and re-finished Davis Hall.
- ❖ Enjoy a free luncheon after worship provided by the members of the governing board

## **MINISTER'S MESSAGE, SEPTEMBER 2011**

After the annual Quaker worship service and brunch at Old Sturbridge Village, I suggested to my Aunt Betty that we have an adventure. Even at ninety-five, Betty is *always* up for an adventure. Since we were already in Sturbridge, I pointed the car west on Route 20 toward Brimfield and Monson. I wanted to see the damage from the June tornado first-hand.

Neither Betty nor I were prepared for what we saw. In Brimfield hillsides were stripped bare, trees had been reduced to matchsticks, and windowless, roofless houses were still covered with debris. The destruction in Monson takes one's breath away. On the hill that rises behind the First Church of Monson, it looks as if an atomic bomb has been detonated. There are no trees left and no grass. The few houses that were spared are surrounded by a desert landscape. From the top of the hill, we could see the path the tornado took as it approached Monson. Downtown, some buildings had crumbled and others were surrounded by scaffolding. All of the structures had at least one boarded-up window. Most had more than one.

Colleagues of mine from seminary are ministers at the Unitarian and Congregational Churches in Monson. Andover Newton prepares its students for many eventualities, but not for disasters like this. I can't imagine what my friends are facing, nor do I wish to. Several days after the tornado, another friend from seminary (and from Bolton), Sylvia Stocker, was awakened by a telephone call in the middle of the night telling her that her church in Brunswick, Maine was on fire. As Sylvia told me, "In a second, everything about my ministry and everything about my church changed."

When I returned to Bolton after visiting Brimfield and Monson I thought of how comparatively small the challenges our own church faces are, and how easily they might be solved. And I was grateful for the roof over my head, the trees I can see through the old windows, and for Christi, who dropped one of her toys at my feet and wanted to play. Everything was as usual, and yet it seemed a miracle.

I remember talking with a parishioner who had nearly lost her life in an accident that wasn't her fault. I asked her if she was angry. "No," she said. "I'm grateful."

Let us begin our new year together in that spirit, not fretting over what we lack, but grateful for what we have and determined to share it.

Blessings,

Richard (and Christi)

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER**

### **Sunday, 4 September: Pentecost XII**

#### **Worship, 10 a.m.**

Sermon: "Weeding the Garden"

*The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed today.*

### **BREAKING NEWS! Saturday, 10 September**

#### **Our First "Soulful Saturday" Service! 5 p.m., the Sanctuary**

Because of their children's sport's schedules, it's challenging for some of our families to make it to worship on Sunday morning. This year, we will be offering periodic Saturday services at 5 p.m. to accommodate the need for an alternative worship time.

The Saturday services will be different --- shorter, less formal, with more music.

The "Soulful Saturday" service on 10 September will be a forty-minute time of reflection on the tenth anniversary of the attacks of 9/11. It will feature guest musicians, poems and prayers, and a brief meditation. We look forward to welcoming you and your children! RE registration forms will also be available at this service.

### **Sunday, 11 September: Pentecost XIII**

#### **8:15 a.m.: Bolton Commemorates the Tenth Anniversary of 9/11**

#### **The Public Safety Building, Wattaquodoc Road**

Participating: *Bolton's police, fire, emergency services, Bolton's Scout troops, Bolton's clergy, representatives of local and state government, the Nashoba High School Band.*

Park at Trinity Church or Memorial Field.

*The town will come together to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. This service will take the place of our normal Sunday worship service.*

### **Sunday, 18 September: "Homecoming Sunday," Pentecost XIV**

#### **10 a.m.: Worship and RE Activity**

#### **Guest Preacher: Celebrated "Yankee Magazine" Columnist Edie Clark**

#### **Guest Musicians: Sandy Haddon and Kathryn Kaufman**

It's been ten years since our friend Edie Clark last came for a visit. When subscribers receive the latest issue of "Yankee," Edie's column, "The View from Mary's Farm," is the first thing they turn to. Edie has the gift of seeing the extraordinary in the ordinary. Register your children for RE before worship in the vestry. Enjoy John Stephenson's fresh donuts in the vestry after worship.

### **Sunday, 25 September: Celebrate Accessibility and Improvements to Davis Hall**

#### **Worship and RE, 10 a.m.**

#### **Special Features of this Sunday:**

\*Dedication of the new "bridge" to Davis Hall. We will gather outside on 25 September to bless the new bridge and then cross the bridge to enter the church for worship.

\*Stay for brunch after worship, provided by the church's governing board - salads, fresh bread, lasagna, and dessert.

### **Looking Ahead: Sunday, 2 October, 1 p.m.**

#### **Annual Blessing of the Animals Service**

#### **The Parish of the Holy Trinity (St. Francis Church)**

*This year, our two churches combine again to celebrate and bless our four-legged and winged friends. Father Terry and Richard will officiate at the St. Francis Church building.*

## OUTREACH NEWS

### Soup Kitchen Update

On the second Monday of each month, we serve a delicious dinner of American chop suey, salad and dessert to about 50 to 60 people at the Community Café at 242 High Street in Clinton. The meal is served from 4 to 6 p.m. The food preparation may be done on the weekend before. During these challenging economic times, these services are in much demand and are much appreciated. In July and August, the meals were prepared by Karen Dorhamer-Fadden, Susan Membrino, Kim Joly, Elaine Griffith and Julia Quinn-Szcesuil. They were served by Elaine Griffith and Natacha MacGregor. If you would like to help out in an upcoming month, please sign up on the sheet in Davis Hall of contact Karen Dorhamer-Fadden at 978-897-5088 or [Karen.Dorhamer@hp.com](mailto:Karen.Dorhamer@hp.com). Thanks!

### Learn About Volunteering With Habitat for Humanity North Central Mass.

These sessions are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the offices of Catholic Charities, 196 Mechanic Street in Leominster. You'll get an overview of Habitat and an outline of the many opportunities available for you. If you're ready to sign up, applications will be available. For more information about how you can help, contact **Tracy Spiegel** at 978-345-2749 or [tracy.spiegel@ncmhabitat.org](mailto:tracy.spiegel@ncmhabitat.org) to learn of the many ways you can support Habitat for Humanity.

## OTHER NEWS

### Small Group Ministry

We are excited to be planning for the fourth year of our Small Group Ministry program, which will be starting up in October. Small Group Ministry is a wonderful way to connect with other church members and to nurture our spirits. We meet once per month in groups of at most ten people to share experiences about a specific topic. For more details about the program, and to register, please see our new website (thanks to Lou Colon) at <http://www.firstparishofbolton.org/sgm/>. We will also have printed copies of our brochure available at church, so you can register in person, by mail, or by telephone if you prefer. Please contact Karen Dorham-Fadden (978-897-5088, [Karen.Dorham@hp.com](mailto:Karen.Dorham@hp.com)) if you have any questions.

### Birthdays in August (omitted in error-sorry!)

Evan Membrino	8/20	Joseph Membrino	8/20	Susan Membrino	8/24
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### Birthdays In September

Richard Corley	9/ 1	Romey McCracken	9/ 9	Jane Silverman	9/19
Adam Hornbaker		Carlina Tesini		Tyler Bonazzoli	
Steve Beckwith	9/ 2	Kathryn Pekkala	9/10	Katelyn Keane	
Rich Fadden	9/ 5	Wyatt Pearson	9/12	Kathryn Kaufman	9/22
Rachel Wendler		Eben McCormick	9/13	Abigail McCaffrey	
J. P. Henderson	9/ 6	Rhys Schoepke		Grace Romeo	
Nicole Evans	9/ 7	Joel Lindsay	9/14	Chris Tuck	
Rebecca Duffy		David Campbell	9/16	Matthew Lewis	
Erik Schoepke		Donna LeBaron		Victor Normand	9/23
Evan Tarullo	9/ 8	Scott Powell		Cindy West Anderson	
Sophie Fleck Teague		Alycia Ventura	9/17	Mark Curry	9/26
John Austin	9/ 9	Valerie Burdette	9/18	Jeremy Colon	9/27
Peggy Hines		Frank Celeste		Sharlene Gugarty	9/28
Riley LeFrancois		Rudy Goad		James Hamilton	
Rhonda Magazu		Peter James		Pam Chapman	9/29

## Anniversaries in September

Christine & Michael McCarthy	9/ 1	Bill & Lela Keysor	9/15
Curt & Holly Plante	9/ 6	Duncan & Caroline Robertson	9/16
John & Linda Austin		Barbara & Richard Corley	9/17
Barbara & Mark DuBois	9/ 7	Wendy & Eric Dwinells	
Don & Brenda Baum	9/ 8	Mark & Terry LeFrancois	9/18
Gigi & Shirley Bonazzoli		Nicholas & Johanna Katsonis	9/19
Bob Breidenthal & Roxanne Palmatier		Sophie Fleck & Daniel Teague	9/20
Bob & Charlene Rausch	9/10	Chris & Bonnie Broders	9/22
Chris & Pam Miller		Victor & Jackie Normand	9/25
Richard & Penny Dickson		Lou & Beth Colon	9/27
Jason & Kathy Romeo	9/12	Greg & Trish Childs	9/28
Liz & Erik Schopke		Sam Peirce & Nancy Federspiel	
	Bob Davis & Jeff Durachta	9/29	

## RESERVE THE DATES:

### Saturday, October 1, 7:00 p.m.

Move over, wine tasters! We are pleased to announce our first fundraiser in which you will be offered a selection of great craft brewed beers to sample. Enjoy a relaxing evening, admiring the wonderful American antique collection set in Nancy Skinner's historic home here in Bolton. We will have some great beer, great food and hopefully, great company! Details will follow via church e-mail updates. For further information, contact Linda Skinner Austin at [boltonpan@verizon.net](mailto:boltonpan@verizon.net).

### Saturday, November 19

Linda Skinner Austin and Brenda Baum will again co-host the church bazaar. Please keep in mind how you have helped in the past and how you might help this year! We will be in touch to secure "chairs" for each department and we will welcome any and all support! You can reach Linda at [boltonpan@verizon.net](mailto:boltonpan@verizon.net) with any questions or suggestions.

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Dear Davis Hall,

Thank you so much for letting us have some of our meetings at Davis Hall . We had so much fun dancing, playing games, and frosting cupcakes! A beautiful space, indeed!

Sincerely,

Bolton Brownie Troop 30214 (grade 3 going into grade 4)

Susan Unger, Troop Leader

[This note was accompanied by a generous donation to the Davis Hall Renovation Fund.]

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To the Saints of The First Parish of Bolton, Interdenominational:

Thank you for responding so generously to aid victims of the June 1 tornadoes that swept through western and central Massachusetts. To date [letter dated 8/5/11] we have received \$48,038.66 in funds for tornado relief from the collections in our churches and at our MACUCC Annual Meeting. Because of your ongoing support through OCWM and fellowship dues, we have the staffing and infrastructure in place to move your gifts right to the places of greatest need.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Dr. Jim Antal

Conference Minister and President

[This is an excerpt of Rev. Dr. Antal's letter acknowledging our contribution of \$335.00 to the relief efforts.]

# First Parish of Bolton Religious Education Newsletter

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### HOMEcomings SUNDAY

Our year together begins on Homecoming Sunday, 18 September. Before worship, you may register your children for RE in the vestry The registration form is included in this newsletter. Others will be available on 18 September. Registration continues after worship.

During the worship service, children will be introduced to the special fund-raising /outreach project of the year and enjoy music for guitar and harmonica. This Sunday is always a highlight of the year! Don't miss it!

### CHANGES IN WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Our children were enthusiastic about the workshops that are a part of the unique "rotation" curriculum we use, but leaders found the four week commitment challenging. This year, we will have a three week rotation, which we hope makes it easier to serve as a workshop leader.

### "CREATION" WORKSHOP BEGINS 9/25

Our first workshop for the year will be a workshop on "Creation". The workshop will be held 25 September through 9 October. These are some of the activities we'll choose from:

- **Photography/Scrapbooking** – This is an outreach project. The students in grades K-2 and 3-5 will take pictures of the things God has created. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> week, the students in grades 6-8 will take the pictures and put them into scrapbooks to be given to the shut-ins of our church.
- **Arts and Crafts** – The children will use play dough and clay to create different things that God has created
- **Drama** – Using music and motion, children will act out the seven days of creation.
- **Games** – There are several different games to choose from to learn about creation.

If you have never lead a workshop for our RE program, Holly makes it VERY easy! Holly emails you a curriculum and will have all of your materials in the classroom when you arrive. If you are interested in helping by teaching for the weeks of 9/25, 10/2 and 10/9, please email [holly@fpbrecoordinator@yahoo.com](mailto:holly@fpbrecoordinator@yahoo.com).

**CALENDAR OF WORKSHOPS:** We will have engaging workshops through December!

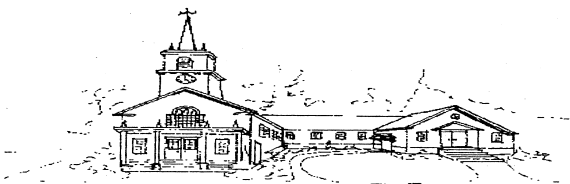
25 September-9 October: Creation (see above)

16-30 October: The Greatest Commandment – to love.

6 -20 November: Family, focusing on Jesus' "adopted" family, Martha, Mary, and: Lazarus.

4-18 December: Christmas through the eyes of Mary.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION TO OCTOBER NEWSLETTER: SEPTEMBER 22**



**The First Parish of Bolton  
Religious Education**

Please complete all parts of this form – there are 2 pages.

**Child/Youth Registration Form 2011/2012**

**Family Information**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Adult Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Child/children, Youth (Infant thru Grade 8)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (Sept. 2011) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs (Health, Diet, Allergies, Emotional, Learning, Special interests, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (Sept. 2011) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs (Health, Diet, Allergies, Emotional, Learning, Special interests, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (Sept. 2011) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs (Health, Diet, Allergies, Emotional, Learning, Special interests, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (Sept. 2011) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs (Health, Diet, Allergies, Emotional, Learning, Special interests, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide any information that will help us ensure a safe, positive classroom experience (i.e., medical (such as epi-pen, inhaler, medications, etc.) hearing/vision/attention difficulties or personal concerns. Alternatively, you may discuss this information with the religious education coordinator.

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**Emergency contact during religious education hour:**

- I will probably be in the church building
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include one additional emergency contact and name of child's pediatrician for child with a health/allergies issues

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## Suggested donations

The Board of Religious Education suggests a registration donation of \$25.00 for the first child, \$20.00 for the second, and \$15.00 for the third, with a cap of \$60.00 per family. This suggested donation insures that your children have the materials and opportunities they need for the best possible experience in the RE program. Additional donations are most welcome and will be used to further enhance our RE program.

Please enclose a check with this form. *Make the check payable to First Parish of Bolton & mark it "RE registration". Cash is also acceptable.*

AMOUNT OF DONATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION \_\_\_\_\_

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL DONATION TO SUPPORT RE \_\_\_\_\_

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## Permissions:

I hereby give First Parish staff or volunteers permission to release the above information to medical authorities and to obtain medical treatment when I cannot be reached or when delay would be dangerous to my child's health.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child/children to take walks within the church vicinity with their teachers. I understand that a special permission form will be provided to me for all other field trips.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission to include my child's/children photograph in our publications, on our website and in news releases?

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

In enrolling your child in religious education, you are committing your child to actively participate in the religious education program. Please consider religious education as a serious commitment for the entire year. It gives the children continuity in their class and ensures that we have the appropriate volunteer coverage.

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## RE Volunteer Assignment Selection

The religious education program is developed and implemented by religious education coordinator. However, the program cannot run without the help of volunteers. We encourage you to select any of the following areas where you are able to volunteer.

- Nursery help
- Workshop leader
- Workshop helper
- Youth group program
- Easter egg hunt
- Assistance with Children's Sunday
- Chaperoning during pageants
- An extra pair of hands if someone is away
- Food for special occasions