

The Messenger

Payson Park Church

United Church of Christ - Congregational

365 Belmont Street, Belmont, MA 02478

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October 2008

Our Mission Statement

*"We believe God is calling us to walk in the ways of Jesus Christ
and to bear witness to the Gospel through worship and service, empowered by the Holy Spirit."*

Do

F R O M T H E



PASTOR

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October Worship Schedule

Sunday, October 5, 2008 **10:30 a.m.**

The Reverend Lael Atkinson preaching

Sermon "Celebrating Our History Together"

Scripture Isaiah 11: 1-3; 6-9; Acts 1: 14-28

Anthems "Down to the River to Pray"

Gospel song, arr. Robert Lee

Our Fellowship Hour will be hosted by the Nursery School Committee. Altar flowers are given by Louise Lewis and Family in loving memory of Frank Lewis.

Sunday, October 5, 2008 **3:00 p.m.**

Consolidation Celebration

**The Reverend Lael Atkinson and
The Reverend Rob Asinger preaching**

Sermon "We Are Alive!"

Scripture Psalm 23

Anthems "We Are Alive" Manibusan/Meyer
Children's Music Ministries

Our Fellowship Hour will be hosted by the Music Committee. Altar flowers are given by Sally Markham in loving memory of her mother, Bunny Aldrich and Dennis Sullivan and Family in loving memory of Dennis C. and Sally M. Sullivan.

Sunday, October 12, 2008 **10:30 a.m.**

John Brock, Ministerial Intern preaching

Theme "Walking the Narrow Places"

Scripture Psalm 23; Phillipians 4: 1-9

Anthems "Guide My Feet" arr. Avis Graves
Pick-up Choir

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

arr. Hal Hopson

Kaori Emery & Sara Wyse-Wenger

Our Fellowship Hour will be hosted by the Kevin Cassidy. Altar flowers are given by Dennis Sullivan in memory of John F. Sullivan.

Sunday, October 19, 2008 **10:30 a.m.**

The Reverend Lael Atkinson preaching

Sermon "Our Helping Hands"

Scripture Isaiah 30: 18-22; Matthew 25: 31-46

Anthem "Inherit the Kingdom"
"Go Make a Difference"

Angrisano/Tomaszek

Alleluia & Junior Choirs

Our Fellowship Hour will be hosted by the Finance and Property Committee. Altar flowers are given by Joan Blackman in loving memory of Jack Blackman.

Sunday, October 26, 2008 **10:30 a.m.**

The Reverend Lael Atkinson preaching

Sermon "The Sounds of Love"

Scripture Psalm 100; Matthew 15: 10-20

Anthem "Kyrie" from *A Little Jazz Mass* Bob Chilcott
"Gloria" from *Coronation Mass* W. A. Mozart
"Agnus Dei" from *Missa Sanctorum Meritis*

Palestrina

"Jubilate, Sing to God" Dave & Jerry Perry
Youth & Senior High Choirs

Our Fellowship Hour will be hosted by the Finance and Property Committee. Altar flowers are given by Joan Blackman in loving memory of Jack Blackman.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Thanks to so many members, friends, deacons and ushers. Here is the attendance for September 2008!

September 7 - 115

September 14 - 123

September 21 -

September 28 - TBA

Other Worship News

CELEBRATING OUR CONSOLIDATED CHURCH: WE ARE ALIVE!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 5, at 3:00 p.m. as we join with members and friends to celebrate the new life of our church. Marking the first anniversary of the consolidation, The Reverend Jim Antal, Minister and President of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, will be present to commission us. The Reverend Wendy Vander Hardt, Area Minister of the Metropolitan Boston Association, as well as members of the Belmont Interfaith Religious Council, will also be participating in the service and festivities to follow. This is a time to renew our covenant to God, the church, our denomination, and with one another. We are alive in God's Spirit of love and service! Alleluia! Childcare for ages five and up will be in the gymnasium with Mr. S. from 2:30 on. Nursery care for toddlers will be held in the upstairs nursery.

BELMONT RELIGIOUS COUNCIL INTER- FAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

It's never too soon to plan for the holidays! As you dust off your calendars and make plans for the fall season, make a note of the annual interfaith Thanksgiving service. This is a beautiful way to get together in the spirit of thanksgiving and unity, as we gather with our neighbors and friends for a time of worship. The service is held each year on the eve of Thanksgiving, and while this year's location is yet to be announced, you may still want to mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 26 at 7:30 p.m. Singers of all ages and abilities are invited to join the choir (rehearsal time 6:30 p.m.). Fellowship and refreshments follow.

WORSHIP LEADERS WELCOME!

Would you like to participate in worship? All are welcome to join in the leadership of our Sunday services. If you would like to read Scripture or sing with the Choir, please speak with Lael or Terry. We want YOU!

DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS: THE FALL MEETINGS OF OUR ASSOCIATION & CONFERENCE

Do you enjoy gathering with members of other churches? Would you like to attend a meeting of our denomination? This fall there are two opportunities for us to be a part of the wider church:

The fall meeting of the Metropolitan Boston Association will be held on Sunday, October 19, at the Allston/Brighton Congregational Church. The topic will be "Racism," led by the Reverend . Typically over a hundred representatives from area congregations attend.

The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Conference will take place on Saturday, November 1, from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. in Worcester. Often nearly a thousand members of the United Church of Christ gather for this event.

If *you* are interested in attending either or both of these events, please speak with Lael Atkinson.

CABLE BROADCAST TIMES

If you or a loved one are unable to attend worship on Sundays, we hope you'll join with us in the spirit of prayer during the week. The Sunday services of our church are broadcast on local cable networks at the following times: In Belmont, Sundays at 9:00 a.m., Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m., Thursdays at 9:00 p.m., and Fridays at 5:00 p.m.; in Waltham, Sundays at 9:00 a.m., in Arlington, Sundays and Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m.; and in Watertown, every other Tuesday at 9:00 p.m.

Education and Fellowship Opportunities

"DO NOT BE AFRAID"

STORIES OF FAITH AND PERSEVERANCE WEDNESDAYS, OCTOBER 8, 15, & 22

So often the stories of the bible include the phrase "do not be afraid." Through the angels assurance to the shepherds at Jesus' birth, to the offer of comfort and hope given to the women at the empty tomb, the Spirit often seeks to assuage the anxieties of the first disciples. What are our fears? How can these stories inspire us to be filled with God's presence in new ways? Join Lael Atkinson and John Brock for a time of prayer, study, and sharing as we appreciate the healing power of our faith.



BODY & SOUL

A TIME OF CARING CONTEMPLATION

Mark your calendars for a new fellowship and educational opportunity! On Monday, October 20, interested individuals will gather for a time of meditation and sharing as the group "Body & Soul" will meet for the first time at 7:00 pm. This gathering will offer a way for us to consider how we care for our bodies and minds as people of faith. A time of extended meditation and prayer will begin and end each session, with a discussion of recent scientific findings about health and well-being included at the core. Please speak with Lael if you have questions or suggestions about this new group. Its conception was seeded by interest in discussions at The Good Afternoons.

CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF LIFE:

MEMORIAL SERVICE

PLANNING WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.

"For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die...a time to weep, and a time to laugh...a time to mourn and a time to dance." The wisdom of Ecclesiastes reminds us always to treasure the gift of life, holding in balance our mortality. While there are many end of life issues that remain shrouded in mystery until death approaches, there are others we can prepare for. To that end, Lael Atkinson will be leading this workshop to help us think about the meaning and content of memorial services. Reflecting on our theology of memorials in general, to hymn and scripture selections specifically, this will be a time in which you may contemplate how you'd like your faith and values to be communicated to those you love in your death. Come in the spirit of prayer and community.

Note: this workshop will also be offered at the October 28 gathering of The Good Afternoons. If you need a ride, please call the church office.



Families of the Church

A Night for Parents & Children

In support of healthy and loving relationships, we are happy to continue "Parents Night Out" this year. This program seeks to help those with young children have a moment's quality time with their partner or spouse. Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 18, and please call the Church Office by Thursday, October 16 if you plan to participate so pizza and other snacks can be prepared. As this program enjoys great success, volunteers are greatly needed. Please consider helping soon!

Education and Fellowship Opportunities

CARING FOR CREATION: A GROUP TO ENCOURAGE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND ACTION

Are you interested in learning more about the environment and how you can be more responsible? Would you like to help make this church and your home more ecologically sound? A new group will form in October to reflect upon the issues of our environment and how we passively and/or actively contribute to global warming. If you are curious about this new opportunity for education, fellowship, and social action, please speak with Isabel Best or Lael Atkinson.



THE GOOD AFTERNOONS: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2:00 - 3:30 P.M.

Do you have free-time in the afternoons? Would you like to get together with fun, loving (and fun loving!) people at the church? This is a fellowship and discussion group that continues to give thanks for the gift of life by sharing tips about caring for the mind, body, and spirit. By popular request, this month's meeting will focus on the special theme, "Celebrating the Gift of Life: Memorial Service Planning Workshop" (Please see the description of this workshop on page 3). If you have the afternoon free please join us!

CAREGIVERS UNITE: A TIME OF SUPPORT AND SHARING THURSDAY, OCTOBER , 6:00 P.M.

Offering care to a loved one in times of illness or decline is a joy and privilege. It is also physically and emotionally taxing. If you are caring for someone near or far away and would like the support of others in similar situations, Caregivers Unite may be for you. This group provides a time of confidential sharing for those tending to the physical, financial, and emotional needs of loved ones and will gather again on Thursday, October . Please join John Brock and other in the Pastor's Study for an hour of sharing and prayer. Caregivers unite: a YOU night for caregivers!



A TOOL TO HELP US GROW: OUR NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

The new Payson Park Church photo directory is a great source of information as we grow in faith and sharing, and we thank Kay Hudgins and Lorraine Clifford once again for their hard work in bringing it to publication. If you have not yet received a copy, call Carol in the Church Office so that one can be mailed to your home. Also, if you identify any incorrect information in the listing of your address or phone number(s), please let Carol know. An updated listing will be printed and distributed later this fall.

FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE FELLOWSHIP WEDNESDAYS, 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.

All women of the church are invited to join together on Wednesday evenings in the church parlor. Inspired by the knitting of prayer shawls that are given to those receiving medical or hospice care, this is a time of fellowship in the spirit of "faith, hope and love." Whether you knit or not, please consider getting

Administrative News

CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHURCH... IN TIME AND TALENT!

Beginning a new program year together, the Treasurer and members of the Finance & Property Committee want you to know that your contributions to the church are needed and valued! If fulfilling your pledge through the summer months was deterred because you were away, please consider "catching up" soon. Our financial planning for the final months of the year depends upon our faithful contributions.

The church is also now looking for help with counting our weekly offerings. After many years of laying fallow, the "Teller Committee" will form once again to assure all contributions are deposited in a timely way. If you would like to give an hour of your time after worship on periodic Sundays to help count the collection, please speak with Rick Marsh or Jeff Cronin. *We need you!*



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REQUESTS

The Nominating Committee is currently seeking volunteers to help on the Mission & Outreach and Nursery Committees. This work not only helps build community at Payson Park, but also aids us in reaching out to the wider community. Please contact Carl Miller if you are interested in offering your time and talents in this way!



SPECIAL FORUMS: SUNDAYS, OCTOBER

Through the weeks of summer, the Bylaws Committee met to begin the initial review and update of the governing documents of our consolidated church. With the new program year beginning, the committee wants *you* to be a part of this process, too. In order to help facilitate community involvement, special forums will be held after worship on Sundays regularly through the fall and winter months. The first of these forums are scheduled for Sundays, September 14 and 28. Please join us for this important time of discussion. If you are not available, feel free to call committee chairs Fred Isaacs or Bob Phillips for information and updates.

UPDATE FROM THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

Worship survey update



Answers to Kidspage: 1. Read your Bible. 2. Think about God's words. 3. Pray every day. 4. Pray for others. 5. Do at least one loving thing for someone each day. 6. Try to please God in everything you do.

Mission and Other News



A PRAYER FOR INSPIRATION IN TIMES OF CHANGE

May God bless us with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may seek truth and love deep within our hearts.

May God bless us with anger at injustice and oppression, so that we may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless us with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, hunger, or loss, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them.

And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we really CAN make a difference in this world, so that we are able, by the Spirit's power, to do God's will.

As adapted from a Franciscan Blessing and shared by Bob Phillips at Church Council last year.

IN LOVING SUPPORT

We continue to offer our prayerful support to Joan Blackman's grandson, Sergeant Michael Ricci. Michael was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for exemplary professional service and is currently on his second tour of duty in Iraq. Please send him and his colleagues a note or care package soon.

His new address is:

Sgt. Ricci, Michael R.

9th, COMM BN Det 3 (Ramadi)

Unit 42573

FPO AP 96426-2573

BRISTOL LODGE FOOD KITCHEN

Reminder for those who have signed up for Monday, September 29, speak to Susan Clark or Marilyn Brownlie with questions.

Date: Monday, September 29, 3-5 p.m.

Menu: Chicken cornbread casserole, green beans, tossed salad, rolls

Next Date: Friday, October 31, 3-5 p.m.

Menu: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, tossed salad, dinner rolls,

Why not consider preparing all or part of a hot meal for 12 people? Speak to Cynthia Lasker with questions. Sign up on the Mission bulletin board outside of the church office and take a recipe.

PAYSON PARK CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL:

A NEW YEAR BEGINS

With the start of a new school year, the Payson Park Church Nursery School reached full enrollment! Students and parents of the program were greeted on the first day of class by the Director, Janet Coleman and two teachers and two new classroom aids as they entered rooms freshly painted and decorated. We give thanks to the staff and members of the Nursery Committee for their planning and preparation work, in addition to Rick Marsh and Doug Ertelt of the Finance and Property Committee who all worked together with the painting, carpet, and playground work.

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY NEWS

Kim Fraser will be going to maternity leave at the end of October. Michelle Fraser will be taking care of the nursery at this time. We are looking for adult volunteers to help supervise the children during Kim's absence. The hours are 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon on Sunday morning. We will have a sign-up sheet in the nursery. Thank you for your time and your kindness.

Music

Serve God, Have Fun, And Be Healthier - All At The Same Time... Try The Chancel Choir This Fall!

Does singing regularly in a chorus make you healthier? Yes, says Dr. Gene Cohen, the director of the Center on Aging, Health and Humanities at George Washington University. Dr. Cohen recently published results of a federally-funded study on 300 people in three cities. In each city, half of the people participated in an arts program at least once a week, and the other half (the control group) did not. After one year, the singers reported better health than at the outset of the study, while the health of the control group was worse, said Cohen. The singers “of a certain age” also experienced fewer falls and greater improvement in measures of depression, loneliness, and morale. “If a person is regularly involved in an arts program, especially with other people,” said Cohen, “that is doing very good things for health.”

That’s yet another reason to give the Chancel Choir a try this fall. The Chancel Choir is a group that meets almost every week from September through May to prepare wonderful music for the worship of God. We rehearse at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, and work pretty hard while having lots of fun. We are a warm and welcoming group, open to people of all levels of musical skill. Our wonderful section leaders help our amateur singers prepare and learn the weekly anthems.

We realize that many people have busy lives and many commitments. Therefore, it’s possible to sing with the Chancel Choir on a part-time basis. Some of our singers already do so.

Interested in finding out more? I’d love to hear from you! Please give me a call (617-491-0766), drop me an e-mail (musicminister@paysonpark.org), or speak with me on a Sunday morning.

Many blessings!
Terry Halco



**The Pick-up Choir
Welcomes YOU!**

There are many reasons to join the Pick-up choir, but one of the reasons I hear the most often is that it is such a welcoming group to be a part of. You don’t have to be a trained musician, prior experience singing is not necessary, a beautiful voice is helpful but not required. The important thing to remember is that singing in church isn’t about perfection, it’s about returning to God what God has given us. Here is what some of our singers have said about our group:

- “When I sing with the Pick-up choir, it is because I want to support my church. I know I am not as confident with some of the music as most of the group, but it always feels good to join in and be a part of the Pick-up choir. Everyone is very willing to help!”
- “I would encourage anyone who wants to sing to participate!”
- I’d like to offer that anyone can sing. We take violin lessons before playing in a concert, piano lessons before accompanying, but no one needs a voice degree to know how to use the only instrument God built into our bodies. What a gift! What’s to stop us from using it?”

Our next opportunity to sing in worship will be Sunday, September 14. Rehearsal is at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Music is always available the week prior on the table in the narthex for those who would like to preview what we’ll be singing. So why not come and give your gift!

Cathy Meyer,
Music Director

Youth Programs



C HILDREN'S



MUSIC



MINISTRIES

*growing in faith,
through music*

We are looking forward to welcoming God's Garden and the Children's Music Ministries participants to our fall programs! We are very excited about our upcoming year and the opportunity we have to share God's love with our faith family. On September 7 and 14 we will offer a One-Room Schoolhouse with nursery care available at the 10:30 a.m. service. Starting September 21, we will continue with our traditional Church School Program using the Workshop Rotation Model for grades K through 8. For our Pre-school and Senior High Class, we offer the "Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum staffed by trained and certified teachers. Weekly children's choir rehearsals will start Tuesday, September 30.

In order to participate in these exciting programs, registration forms need to be submitted as soon as possible. We have consolidated our God's Garden and Children's Music Ministries registration forms to serve you better. If you would like to register your child(ren) and have not received a registration packet in the mail, please contact Cindy Lou Benson or Cathy Meyer as soon as possible, either on a Sunday morning, by calling the church office, or emailing cedirector@paysonpark.org or musicdirector@paysonpark.org.

The Children's Music Ministries Fall Schedule is Here!

Weekly rehearsals begin Tuesday, September 30th. We hope you'll join us! For more information or to register, please contact Cathy Meyer, Director of Music at musicdirector@paysonpark.org.

Cherub Choir (*infant - pre-K*) Tues. 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Alleluia Choir (*pre-K - gr. 2*) Tues. 4:15-5:15 p.m.

Junior Choir (*gr. 3 - gr. 4*) Tues. 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Youth Choir (*gr. 5 - gr. 8*) Wed. 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Senior High Choir (*gr. 9 - gr. 12*) Wed. 4:30—5:30 PM

The mission for our Children's Choir program is to provide musical training for children of all ages with a focus on God and spiritual development. We believe that through the participation in and the understanding of church music, children can see how music can be a vehicle for praise, worship, prayer, fellowship, and evangelism. Our goal is to nurture and educate each young person, so that they may have the opportunity to participate in a variety of Christian musical programs, develop their musicianship at their own pace, and celebrate their role in the supportive faith community that surrounds them.

Each children's choir sings in Sunday worship services approximately once each month during the rehearsal seasons: September through December and February through June. All the groups play active roles in presenting special dramatic productions throughout the year (presented in our church, in neighboring churches, and in local retirement homes), including our annual Christmas pageant and other musicals. Children of all musical and theatrical levels are encouraged to participate in all our of programs.

Youth Programs (con't)

Youth Group & Confirmation Class To Begin in September

As a new school year begins, the Christian Education Committee is excited to continue its programs for youth and teenagers.

The Youth Group will reconvene, meeting twice a month for times of fun and fellowship in addition to faith exploration and service.

Confirmation Class will also begin again, a new set of students ready to think about what it means to be a Christian in this modern day and age.

Preparing for these growing programs, and with Victoria Gaisford's departure from the area, the Christian Education Committee has received approval from the Church Council to recruit a new Youth Minister. This part-time position will help provide dynamic leadership for those we often refer to as "the future of the church." If you have questions about these programs or would like to enroll your children, please speak with Lorrie Herzberg, Chair Christian Education Committee, or Cindy Lou Benson, Director.

Thank You Elizabeth Smith and Welcome Jennie Reis, Church School Teacher

Elizabeth led our Church School Program throughout the summer months. She was assisted each Sunday by Jennie Reis, a fellow seminarian. Jennie is the Campus Minister at Emmanuel College and has a MA in Pastoral Ministry from Boston College. Jennie will be staying on and leading the Senior High Church School class this fall. We welcome Jennie! If you have any questions about our program, you may contact Cindy Lou Benson, the Christian Education Director: cedirector@paysonpark.org

God's Garden, Growing in Faith

For our elementary and middle school children, our Church School uses the Workshop Rotation Model. This model celebrates our children as it understands that children have a variety of talents, interests and abilities. The curriculum's Bible story lessons are presented in 4-6 week units with children rotating to different workshops each Sunday. Each workshop will involve children in different learning activities, which might include storytelling, drama and puppetry, cooking, arts and crafts, science, videos and more. All workshops give children hands-on participation that enhances their learning potential. Most importantly, a child's ability to understand and retain the stories of the Bible and their meaning are greatly increased. We have found as a teacher in God's Garden you have the wonderful opportunity to offer your energy, abilities and gifts in the ministry of children, to instruct the children in a creative, loving manner that will lead to spiritual growth. We offer up to 7 workshop choices which invite teachers to match their interests or talents to the passing of faith. Teachers are assigned to one workshop for the unit, teaching the same lesson for that unit to each of the three classes. We have more workshops than classes, you will teach only the three classes with some Sundays off during that particular unit, while the children rotate through the other workshops. As different grades rotate through the workshops, teachers make age appropriate adjustments to their lessons using suggestions from the curriculum, as well as changes based on their experiences from previous weeks and from the teacher training available. The theme for the coming year 2008-2009 is "Be Not Afraid" and can be found all throughout the bible. Our upcoming units are: The Miracles of Jesus, Angels, Psalm 118, The Fruits of the Spirit and Joshua. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please speak with myself on Sunday or email me at cedirector@paysonpark.org.

Sincerely,
Cindy Lou

Sharing and Caring



WEDDING BELLS ARE RINGING!

On Saturday, October 11, Elizabeth Bolton and Michael Stanley will be married at Payson Park Church with The Reverend Rob Asinger presiding. Liz is the daughter of Dana and Gladys Bolton and we give thanks for the family's presence and participation in the life of the church. Congratulations Liz and Mike!

Also, our Pastor Emeritus, The Reverend Terence R. Willis, writes to let us know that he officiated at the marriage ceremony of Ashleigh Giles and Jason Twomley on August 31, 2008 at The Spruce Point Inn in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. We offer our prayers and love to the couple and to the Giles family in this exciting time.



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR BABY SHOWER

The Payson Park Church will be lovingly hosting a baby shower for Kimberly Fraser, our Payson Park Nursery Attendant. Mark your calendars today for Sunday, October 12 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. in the MacDonald Parlor Room. All are Welcome! Kimberly is expecting a baby girl on October 26.

Please feel free to contribute to our potluck afternoon tea. RSVP requested, please contact Jennifer O'Connell or Pat Cappadonna. We look forward to seeing you and celebrating new life within the church!

cappadonna86@aol.com

bobandjenn@yahoo.com

A NOTE ABOUT BIRTHDAY LISTINGS IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

For many years a listing of birthdays has been included in "The Messenger." After a discussion at a recent gathering of the Diaconate, it was decided this information will not appear on our Sharing & Caring page as too many men, women, and children were being overlooked. If you would like to "resurrect" this listing by being responsible for the collection and upkeep of accurate information, please contact Sally Markham, editor of this Newsletter. For now, may we continue to reach out to old and new friends alike in times of celebration and sorrow.

CELEBRATING NEW LIFE IN OUR CONGREGATION

Giving thanks for the children in our midst, we look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with Stella Lafferty, daughter of Scott and Cerissa, on Sunday, October 5 in our morning service. This is a time marking our covenant with God and one another to support a child's growth in spirit and community. Mark your calendar for this special part of our worship service!

A WORD OF THANKS FROM OUR PASTOR

I thank you all for your prayers and support in this challenging time as my father's health fails. Being in Seattle nearly every month since the spring has given me the chance to spend valuable time with him, my mother, and my brother and sister. My most recent trip on September 12 came as a surprise, as doctors thought he would not survive the weekend. While his condition stabilized, we know he will not be on this earth long. Again, I thank you for your care in a time filled with faith and abiding love.

With gratitude from,

The Reverend Lael Atkinson

October 2008 Calendar

Wednesday, October 1

7:00 PM Faith, Hope & Love Fellowship

Thursday, October 2

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 3

8:30 AM Payson Park Nursery School Orientation

Sunday, October 5

10:30 AM Worship & One Room Schoolhouse

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Monday, October 6

8:30 AM Payson Park Nursery School opens

7:00 PM Bylaws Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 7

1:00 PM Staff Meeting

7:00 PM Church Council

7:30 PM Finance & Property Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 8

7:00 PM Christian Education Committee Meeting

7:00 PM Faith, Hope & Love Fellowship

Thursday, October 9

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 12

9:00 AM Pick-up Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship & One Room Schoolhouse

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

12:00 PM Bylaws Forum

Monday, October 13

7:00 PM New Members Class

7:00 PM Bylaws Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 14

1:00 PM Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 15

7:00 PM Faith, Hope & Love Fellowship

Thursday, October 16

6:00 PM Caregivers Unite

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 19

9:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Worship & Church School

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

Monday, October 20

7:00 PM Bylaws Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 21

1:00 PM Staff Meeting

2:00 PM The Good Afternoons

Wednesday, October 22

7:00 PM Faith, Hope & Love Fellowship

7:00 PM Diaconate Meeting

Thursday, October 23

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 26

10:30 AM Worship & Church School

11:30 AM Fellowship Hour

12:00 PM Bylaws Forum

Monday, October 27

7:00 PM Bylaws Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 28

10:15 AM Cherub Choir Rehearsal

3:30 PM Junior Choir Rehearsal

4:15 PM Alleluia Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 29

3:30 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal

4:30 PM Senior High Rehearsal

Thursday, October 30

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Do You Need to Reach the Pastors?

The Reverend Lael Atkinson can be reached through the Church Office or at home (617) 464-4990.

The Reverend Rob Asinger can be reached through the Church Office or at home (781) 891-5605.

THE MESSENGER

PAYSON PARK CHURCH

365 BELMONT STREET

BELMONT MA 02478-3438

Rev. Lael Atkinson, Rev. Rob Asinger, Pastors; Rev. Terence R. Willis, Pastor Emeritus; Cindy Lou Benson, Christian Education Director; Terry Halco, Minister of Music; Cathy Meyer, Music Director; Walter Guertin, Treasurer; Kevin Cassidy, Sexton; Sally Markham, Messenger Editor; Carol Martinos, Administrative Secretary; Janet Coleman, Nursery School Director

We Are Alive!

A Celebration of Community and Faith as the first anniversary of consolidation is commemorated at Payson Park Church.

**Join us for this time of thanksgiving & prayer on
Sunday, October 5, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.**

Nursery care and activities for children provided.

Reception at 4:00 p.m.

Celebrating the consolidation of Payson Park Church of Belmont & Phillips Congregation Church of Watertown, we recognize our place in the history of the United Church of Christ and the wider faith communities of Belmont and Watertown.