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It's about the sheer joy of clicking the shutter...repeatedly! The sweet sound of the shutter and the explosion that occurs in your head and your heart when you make the shot. The deal is the shot, you know. You make the picture and you know something just froze solid in a shifting world. Something stabilized, for all time. You just hung your hat on a moment that otherwise would be gone forever, and now you can go back and take a look at that moment, be it amazing or ordinary, any time you want.

Joe McNally, photographer,

The Moment It Clicks

Dear Friends,

There is something unsettling about a photograph. A photograph makes a moment stand still. Or maybe the opposite; maybe a photograph lets a past moment break into the present. Either way, the worn black and white image of Grandma Lucy packs a sur-

prise. Her aliveness is obvious. Look closely and in a flash she is in the present, or perhaps it's that we are in the past. Whichever, a moment in life, fleeting as it was, is alive. Grandma Lucy is long dead, but her facial expression in the picture conveys life. The day is on her mind. You can see it. Her husband, her children and grandchildren, her home, the evening's dinner waiting to be made can all be read in her eyes. The sadness of losses to come does not register yet. The fact that she and most of those she cares about are gone escapes her. She is as she was before then. But we, looking at the picture from afterwards, have read tomorrow's newspaper. It's startling. Now and then collide and coexist in contradiction. Space and time bend even more than Einstein's formulas can account. In the end we may want to jump into the photograph and, like Emily Webb in *Our Town*, take another turn at the past.

Emily, you recall, was allowed to return from the grave to revisit her

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Children's Sunday and All-church Cookout ~ June 20

Start Father's Day with the church family, celebrating the children who are its future, and joining in the picnic/barbecue to socialize. Grilled items (including non-meat options) and beverages provided. Salads and desserts needed.

Upcoming Events

June 10						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

June

5 Saturday

10:00 AM Craft Making

6 Sunday

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Worship - Rev. Rose
Carvelli Coffee Group

9 Wednesday

7:00 PM Worship with a Twist

13 Sunday

9:30 Choir Rehearsal
Sandwiches for Outdoor Church
11:00 Worship - Rev. O'Brien
Beyerman/Bodwell/McKeown Coffee Group

14 Monday

Flag Day

17 Thursday

7:00 PM Trustees
7:30 PM Executive Council

19 Saturday

*Pizza and Movie Night. Pizza at 6:00;
Movie at 6:30*

20 Sunday

Children's Sunday & Picnic
9:30 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Worship - Rev. Rose
Father's Day

26 Saturday

1:30 PM Blessing of the animals

27 Sunday

11:00 Worship - Rev. Rose
Addison Coffee Group

July

4 Sunday

10:00 Worship - Rev. Rose
Carvelli Coffee Group
Independence Day

11 Sunday

Sandwiches for Outdoor Church
10:00 Worship - Rev. Rose
Beyerman/Bodwell/McKeown Coffee Group

18 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway
Ramsay/Parsons/Weinstein/Kelley
Coffee Group

25 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway

July 10						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 10						
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29	30	31				

September 10						
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October 10						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 10						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July

25 Sunday

Addison Coffee Group

August

1 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway
Carvelli Coffee Group

8 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway
Sandwiches for Outdoor Church
Beyerman/Bodwell/McKeown Coffee Group

15 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway
Ramsay/Parsons/Weinstein/Kelley
Coffee Group

16 Monday

Newsletter Deadline

22 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway
Addison Coffee Group

29 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway

September

5 Sunday

10:00 Worship Rev. O'Brien/Tom
Hathaway
Carvelli Coffee Group

6 Monday

Labor Day

12 Sunday

Sandwiches for Outdoor Church
11:00 Worship - Rev. Rose
Beyerman/Bodwell/McKeown Coffee Group

15 Wednesday

10:00 AM Knitwits (Knit and Crochet
for the Homeless)

16 Thursday

7:00 PM Trustees
7:30 PM Executive Council

18 Saturday

*Pizza and Movie Night. Pizza at 6:00;
Movie at 6:30*

December 10						
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January 11						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 11						
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26	27	28				

March 11						
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April 11						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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May 11						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Bible Stories We Thought We Knew



During the month of August, Rev. O'Brien and Thomas Hathaway will be preaching a series of famous bible stories involving couples of a sort. These stories are familiar to us, but do we really understand them? Come and hear Tom regale us with his preaching on the infamous Adam and Eve, and David and Bathsheba. Corey will take on Cain and Abel, and David and Goliath. Other sermons will include Moses and Miriam, and Jonah and the whale. Join us in the spirit of couples. Pair up and bring a friend.

Annual Meeting, Mass. Conference of the UCC ~ June 19

Provoke one another...to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24)

The Massachusetts Conference will convene its 211th annual meeting in Worcester this month. The theme, to quote the MACUCC website, "Encourages our deep commitment to the community of the United Church of Christ. As always, and more importantly in these challenging times, we need one another to do the work of Jesus in the world." In addition to the reports, discussions and votes that are essential to an annual meeting, there will be a slide show, storytellers, two worship services, with exuberant singing and communion, networking (and swapping suggestions) with folks from other churches, socializing, and a marketplace. Speak with either of the ministers if you are interested in attending..

Summer Worship and Office Hours

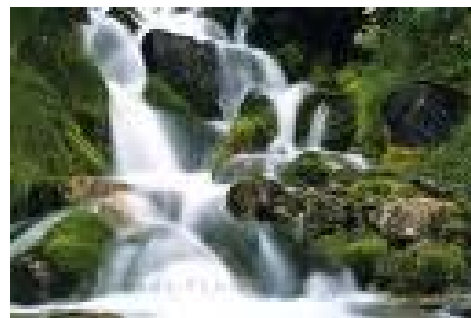
On July 4th, Sunday worship will move to ten o'clock, childcare will be suspended and the choir will be on vacation until the Sunday following Labor Day. Those wishing to share their musical gifts during the offering should speak with Bryce Sady; to be a lay reader, see one of the ministers. If you are responsible for a coffee hour, be sure there's coverage when you're away. And don't forget: the building is AIR CONDITIONED..



The ministers will be taking vacation time this summer, but at all times one will be available for urgent situations. You should call them at home, as always, for any matter that can't or shouldn't wait for Sunday. Dudley can be reached at 617-354-2385 and Corey at 617-926-8132. Office hours will be irregular during the summer, but the phone messages and email will be checked frequently.

Worship with a Twist: Set Your Spirit Free! ~ May

Perfect. Uplifting. Playful. Awesome. Tremendous. Fun and moving. Gave me a lift. Makes one think about the world we have. The theme of water, and the holiness of water was beautifully presented. Aqueous. Outstanding. Surprising and exhilarating. These are some of the words used to describe our recent Wednesday night service. The scriptural theme was water, and while slides were projected overhead behind them, Dudley Rose and Corey O'Brien read some of the many verses from Genesis to Revelations that featured water. The reverence for God's created world and the life-sustaining role of water felt in our sanctuary was probably more than that inspired by any Oscar award-winning documentary anywhere.



Worship with a Twist: Set Your Spirit Free! ~ June



Sacred. Meditative. The sacrament of communion experienced in a fresh, inspiring way. That's what we expecting for our second alternative worship celebration. John Read, music director at The Congregational Church of Mansfield, will be back at the piano with Elke Jahns playing Native American and classical flute. This festive service is a wonderful place to bring a friend or neighbor who does not currently have a worship community. Wednesday evening, June 9, 7:00pm.



Have you noticed how great our yard looks? Thanks to Penny Light and her helpers, the flowering plants are kept healthy and tidy. Care of the lawn, however, is a responsibility that rotates among us from May through fall. If you can sign up to take a week or several, please go online to the website or speak with Dudley after worship.



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, June 26th @ 1:30pm

BLESSING of the ANIMALS



Come, one and all, to the Second Annual Blessing of the Animals on at North Prospect Union, with the Rev. Corey F. O'Brien and Thomas Hathaway officiating. The event will be held rain or shine. Animals of every shape and size and their owners from all faiths are invited. There will be a service for the animals and an individual blessing for each pet. A certificate of blessing will be given to each pet. Refreshments and treats for the animals will be served.

We expect a procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and hermit crabs. If your animal does not travel, bring a picture or just tell us about your beloved pet. Every creature is important. The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic, the love we give to a pet, and receive from a pet, can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life, into the wonder of our common relationship to our Creator. Church is the place where the bond of creation is celebrated, so take this opportunity to bring your animal companions to church for a special blessing.

(Continued from page 1)

twelfth birthday. What she learned was that everyone, herself included, took the day for granted. The miracle of life became a miracle only when Emily was allowed to view it after the fact, from the future, from the grave.

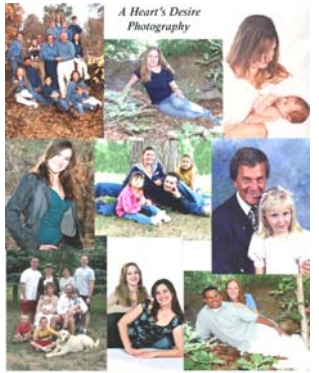
In one sense this is just the nature of things. That dinner and family that Grandma Lucy was thinking about when the shutter clicked were practical matters. She had things on her mind. She had things to do. But it can get away from you. John Lennon sang, "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans." It's something to think about.

The trick, of course, is to try to see and appreciate as much as possible of life as it flies by. At least then when you look at the photograph, or revisit a day of your life from the grave, you won't suffer the aching sense that you completely missed it the first time around. It's a matter of attention, awareness. There are lots of ways to cultivate it, I think. Taking photographs is one of them. Joe McNally' speaks of the sheer joy and the explosion that occurs in his head and his heart the moment he clicks the shutter. This is the experience of a man intensely connected to the miracle of life every time he looks through the viewfinder and squeezes. To see the miracle in the present, as it unfolds, that's the trick.

The old photograph in the family album will be no less affecting. The haunting ache of something past and lost will remain, perhaps even stronger. What we can hope for, though, is a sense of familiarity that will provoke us to say, "I remember it well. I was there, really there. I lived that moment well."

Photography may not be your thing. It doesn't have to be. It's just one way of being there, and sometimes it can get in the way of being there. But if you do take pictures, or write poetry or paint or meditate or walk on the beach, concentrate your attention on the miracle of which you are just now witness. Let it explode in your head and heart.

Blessings,
Dudley



Summer Reading



The church's library, at the foot of the front stairs, may not be the first place one thinks to look for great summer reading, but it deserves perusal. A quick look reveals titles by Henri Nouwen, Maya Angelou, Eli Wiesel and Bernie Siegel. There's Bonhoeffer's *Discipleship*, Morton Kelsey's *The Other Side of Silence*, Gail Godwin's fiction, a biography of Nelson Mandela and many issues of the three or four periodicals donated to the church. Check them out. (Literally: don't forget to sign out your books.) And while you're thinking about the library, see if you can donate a book or two from your own collection that would enhance the church's.

Joys & Concerns

Welden F. "Bud" Wheelock, 1944 - 2010

A memorial service was held at North Prospect Union on May 12 for Welden Wheelock, the younger brother of Kay Wheelock and Peggy Rice, known to most of us as Bud. He grew up in Prospect Church in Cambridge, where he was an usher - and where, someone confessed, half the young girls had a crush on the handsome, thoughtful young man - and after the mergers and moves he continued to attend worship on occasion and to be a very helpful presence at the annual fairs. At his funeral, Kay presented an image of a capable, loving and fun-loving man. A letter from Peggy's daughter Diane described how Bud had used their mutual affection for the Peanuts character Snoopy to teach his young niece important life lessons, celebrate her accomplishments and give her advice.

Bud also leaves his older brother Gil, of California and nieces and nephews.

A mixed blessing: Nathan Willard, who joined our church some years ago as a single young man in an unrelated field, just graduated from Harvard Divinity School! Congratulations, Nathan! The downside is that he is moving out of the area with his wife Beth and small daughter



JUNE BIRTHDAYS
6/14-Jen McGinley
6/26-Leona Graham

Is your birthday here? If not, please contact the office.

Our sympathies are with Tom Hathaway whose grandmother passed away recently.



Many thanks to the kitchen crews for the two fun, delicious meals served in May, Mother's Day breakfast and the pot luck!

North Prospect Union UCC

*144 North Street
Medford, MA 02155*

Address Service Requested

Phone: (781) 396-8435

E-mail: office@northprospectchurch.org

www.northprospectchurch.org

Summer 2010

Set Your Spirit Free!

Worship with a Twist

Wednesday

June 9

7:00 pm

