



Sudbury United Methodist Church

**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
October 16, 2016**

Before worship, please feel free to greet those around you. Concerns or celebrations to be included in today's prayers may be recorded on cards in the pew pockets and passed to the ushers during the second hymn. During the prelude, let us prepare silently to worship God.

**indicates worshippers may stand, as they are able*

Welcome

Prelude: Improvisation

***Opening Worship**

Praise Song: UMH # 601 – “Thy Word Is a Lamp”

A Reading from the Scriptures: Psalm 119:97-114 – “Your Word Is a Lamp”

Praise Song: UMH # 600 – “Wonderful Words of Life”

***Opening Prayer:** *(Thomas Cranmer, England, 16th cent.)*

Blessed Lord,

**who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning;
Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,
that we may embrace and ever hold fast
the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Children's Time: “God's Word Is Our Shield”

Special Music: “How Shall They Hear the Word of God”

M. Perry/Choralbuch

***A Reading from the Gospels:** Luke 18:1–8

This reading is found on page 81 in the New Testament.

Sermon: “What Message Is Influencing You?”

The Rev. Garvin Warden

***Hymn of Response:** UMH # 522 – “Leave It There”

A Time of Fellowship

**Greeting Our Guests
Concerns and Celebrations
The Pastoral Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Stewardship Moment

The Offertory: “With a Voice of Singing” M. Shaw

***Doxology:** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” (*Tune: When the Saints*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Hymn of Commitment:** UMH # 500 – “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Postlude: “Sunburst Fanfare”

C. Cooman

Reconciling & Welcoming Statement: The United Methodist Church is a community of believers and seekers, with differences in age, class, nationality, race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, abilities, and limitations. We at SUMC recognize that there are attitudes, concerning these diverse characteristics, which violate the integrity of individuals and deny the richness of God's creation. Therefore we affirm our welcome to all people into our community of faith. We are committed to be a fellowship in which all persons feel a part of our family, enabling them to grow in their faith, to be fed by our fellowship, and to contribute their talents to the life of the church in its worship, programs, and outreach. We call the church and society to be sensitive to all persons and to advocate programs which attempt to ensure justice for all.

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Church Staff

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Communications Coordinator: *Alexandra Plotkin*
Interim Youth Director: *Anthony Harrison*
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We are a Stephen Ministry
Congregation



We are a Reconciling and Welcoming
Congregation

Sudbury United Methodist Church

Sunday, October 16, 2016

Welcome, Guests!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we welcome you with Christian love. Please help us get to know you by signing the attendance pad, remembering to include the name of each person attending from your household. Also, if you feel comfortable, introduce yourself midway through worship when our pastor greets our guests. And, if you have the time, join us after worship for fellowship and a tour of our building. Grab a cup of coffee and make a new friend!

Introducing Today's Guest Preacher: The Rev. Garvin Warden

Today we welcome the Rev. Garvin Warden as our guest preacher. Mr. Warden recently retired as pastor of Greenwood Memorial UMC in Dorchester, Sudbury UMC's sister church in Boston. Four appointments preceded Greenwood: Attleboro, MA; Portland, ME; Hockanum, CT; and East Hartford, CT. Pastor Joel and Rev. Warden have discussed pulpit exchanges over the years but the timing never quite worked out. Now that Rev. Warden is no longer tethered to a specific pulpit, he has been able to visit several churches as a guest preacher. Pastor Joel is very pleased to lead worship today with a treasured and trusted clergy colleague and friend.

Science & Faith Speaker Series Begins Today After Worship

Are you a scientist or science enthusiast? Are you a science novice? The Christian Education Commission invites all to take part in one, two, or all three segments of this month's science and faith speaker series today, on October 23, and October 30. Each session will take place after worship in the O'Reilly room. Participants and discussion leaders will have an opportunity to explore the complex relationship that science and faith seem to share. Sudbury UMC is blessed to have several members of our congregation currently working, or earning degrees, in a scientific field. Through this adult education opportunity, we anticipate hearing a wide range of perspectives, voices, and experiences, while facilitating a dialogue among all who attend.

Cancer and Caregiver Support Group Meets This Week

Sudbury UMC's Cancer and Caregiver Support Prayer Group meets monthly from 6:00 till 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday. This month, cancer patients, cancer survivors, and caregivers will gather in the O'Reilly Room on October 19 to pray for and support each other. All are invited to share their experiences and feelings in a caring, confidential, non-hospital setting. The Cancer and Caregiver Support Prayer Group is an initiative of the Health Ministries Commission. For more information, please email us at SUMC.MA.Cancer.Care.Group@gmail.com.

Is There Child Care During Worship?

Infants and toddlers are welcome in worship. Parents with young children may also visit our Family Room with visual and aural access to the sanctuary. Each Sunday, a pair of CORI-ed volunteers cares for children age two and younger. Look for the stairwell in the northwest corner of the narthex for steps leading up to a cozy room furnished with sofas and toys.

Hearing Assistance Available

Individual hearing assistance units are available. An usher will help you to borrow one.

Large Print Worship Books

Do you prefer large print materials? Special copies of *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The Faith We Sing* are available in the narthex. Please speak to an usher for assistance.

Where Is the Rest Room?

A unisex rest room is located a few steps beyond the side door of the sanctuary near the pulpit. Another rest room can be found just past the double doors. Look for the sign on the right.

Help Refill the Food Cart

The contents of the shopping cart near the O'Reilly Room entrance are delivered to food banks in Sudbury, Stow, Marlborough, Maynard, Wayland and Hudson. The Outreach Commission is grateful for your nonperishable donations. Canned vegetables and soups, canned tuna and meat, crackers, jams and jellies, canned pastas and tomato sauces, noodles, rice, cereals, and baby foods are staples. Remember: donations since past expiration date must be discarded.

Please Recycle This Bulletin

The Worship and Music Commission has placed blue recycle bins near the entrances to the sanctuary. Please recycle the materials distributed on Sundays either here or at home.

Thursday Bible Study Welcomes Newcomers

Sudbury UMC's Thursday Bible study group welcomes new participants. Meetings take place at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays at the Panera Bread located at 21 Andrew Avenue in Wayland's Town Center, just two miles from Sudbury UMC! Each week's focus text is next Sunday's preaching passage. Remember to bring your Bible and a few bucks for something warm to sip.

Save the Date for the Greenwood's Annual Harvest Banquet

Greenwood Memorial UMC invites you to their 27th Annual Harvest Banquet on Saturday, October 22, from 7:00 p.m. till midnight – with dinner at 8:00 p.m. This year's banquet will be held for the first time at Florian Hall, 55 Hallet Street in Dorchester, MA 02122. Tickets for the three-course meal are available for \$75. Entertainment and dancing will follow dinner. More information to come in this week's edition of *The Chronicle*.

Share the Excitement of Halloween with a Bunch of Kids!

The Outreach Commission invites you to help throw a Halloween party for the families of The Home Suites Inn, a residence for neighbors between homes. You will help the kids make masks and cards, pass out goodie bags, decorate cookies, and apply tattoos! The party is all set for Saturday, October 29, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at 455 Totten Pond Road in Waltham. Questions? Call Jeannette D'Alessandro at 617-462-4343. Looking for a fun afternoon? This is it!

A Reminder from the Social Justice Commission

President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act on August 6, 1965, prohibiting discrimination in voting; Congress later amended the Act five times to expand its protections. Section 5 required States to submit election law changes to the federal government for approval. The Supreme Court's ruling in *Shelby County vs. Holder* (2013) removed this requirement. The result? States can now change their voting rules without federal approval and some states use this privilege to make it harder for people to vote. Since 2014 this ruling has impacted young voters, African-Americans, Hispanics, the elderly, and the poor. Please vote on Tuesday November 8.

Women's Fellowship Resumes on Monday, October 24

The women of Sudbury UMC will kick-off the fall with lunch at Kimball Farm's Grill & Seafood Shack in Westford followed by an excursion to the Butterfly Place and Garden. It's going to be great fun to get back together. More details to come in *The Chronicle*. Stay tuned!

Justice for Our Neighbors

Are you interested in doing something to constructive help immigrants and refugees who bring their hopes and dreams to the United States? On Saturday, November 5, from 5:00 till 7:00 p.m., St. John's UMC in Lexington, MA, will host its annual "Justice for Our Neighbors" Dinner. Enjoy a tasty meal featuring international foods, a silent auction, and special music while raising funds for JFON's legal clinic in Woburn. The cost is \$25 per person. Questions? Please email the Rev. Ruth Odour at revruth14@verizon.net.

Celebrate with Greenwood Memorial UMC Today!

Today, at 3:00 pm., the Rev. Dr. Imani-Sheila Newsome-Camara will be installed as pastor of our sister church, Greenwood Memorial UMC. The church is located at 378A Washington Street in Dorchester, MA. The Rev. Ellis Washington, pastor of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in Cambridge, MA, will preach. The choir and the liturgical dance ministry of St. Paul AME will accompany their pastor. Members and friends of Sudbury UMC are warmly invited to attend. A reception will follow worship. A free bus will leave SUMC's parking lot at 2:00 p.m.

“To Witness and To Bless”

Together with their families, Laura Houpt and Ray Brown invite the Sudbury UMC family “to witness and to bless” their marriage on Saturday, October 22, at 3:30 p.m. here in the sanctuary.

Youth Group Kick-Off October 23

Sudbury UMC's Youth Group kicks off on Sunday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. Come and meet Anthony Harrison, our new youth ministries director, enjoy snacks, and games! Parents are urged to arrive at 7:40 p.m. to meet Anthony, receive information and a tentative calendar of events, and to turn in/fill in Basic Contact Forms and Permission Slips. Hope to see you there!

Connexions Concert to be Held October 23

Save the date! The first Connexions Concert of the 2016-2017 season will take place on Sunday, October 23, at 3:00 p.m. Questions? Please email Kevin Murphy at kevin@sudbury-umc.org.

Meet Your Muslim Neighbors

Come and learn about Muslim communities in our Metrowest area on Saturday, October 22, from 11:00 a.m. till 2:30 p.m. The Islamic Center of Boston, 126 Boston Post Road in Wayland, will host a number of short lectures, while also offering educational materials, books and films, an exhibit of the children's artwork, and, of course, refreshments, too. All ages are welcome!

Workshop on Practical Positive Psychology

Health Ministries and Stephen Ministries invite you to participate in a one-hour workshop to learn a few exercises from Positive Psychology that can build up muscles of happiness and well-being on Monday, October 24, 7:30 p.m. While alleviating suffering by treating disorders such as depression and anxiety, psychology has not paid as much attention to promoting psychological health. Positive Psychology, founded by Dr. Martin Seligman, builds strengths that enable people to achieve the best things in life.