



The Weekly Chronicle

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From Bishop Devadhar

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In John's Gospel, when the resurrected Christ meets his disciples, he does four things:

- Offers them peace (John 20:19)
- Shares his wounds with them (John 20:20)
- Breathes the Holy Spirit on them (John 20:22)
- Challenges them to forgive the sins of others (John 20:23).

As disciples of Jesus Christ in the 21st century, how do we handle fears of war, nuclear explosion, and political uncertainty? How do we address questions regarding the future of the Church, particularly the institutional Church? What is the good news for those who feel they have no place or recognition in the Church? How does the good news challenge our inability to sit together at the table and discuss the sociological and theological issues that divide us?

It is my hope and prayer that we, as people of the Resurrection, as Easter people, look very seriously at and reflect biblically on what our encounters with the Risen Christ mean to each of us. Most importantly, what does it mean

to live the greatest sermon our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ preached - the Sermon on the Mount - or the prayer He taught all of us? What does it mean to be Easter people in such a time as this?

First, what does "peace" mean to us? Is it simply living with one another without raising any questions or openly addressing our wounds, hurts, or injustices? Should we suffer silently with pains and trials because we do not want to "rock the boat"? Or should peace be the result of extending justice, love, and grace? The prophet Ezekiel warned us about false peace when he said, "They lead my people astray, saying, 'Peace,' when there is no peace ..." (Ezekiel 13:10).

Second, after offering peace, the Resurrected Christ shows the disciples His wounds - the wounds He suffered to bring salvation to humanity. As Easter people, our faith becomes relevant only when we remember the story of Jesus as He internalized it through Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday or through the events of Good Friday in order to bring the hope and joy of Easter. In my humble opinion, what Christ demonstrated is the cost we need to pay to restore peace and justice. Reflecting further, I think of people like St. Teresa of Calcutta, Nelson Mandela, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Brother Roger, Bishop Leontine Kelly, and scores of others who paid the price to bring peace to situations they faced. As we celebrate 500 years of the Reformation, we are reminded that reformer Martin Luther took a risk when he nailed his 95 theses to the cathedral doors in order to bring reformation to a hurting Church!

Third, it is important to allow the Holy Spirit to mold us, guide us, lead us, nudge us, and move us forward. It is painful to hear someone say that relying on the "Holy Spirit" sounds shallow or is a cop out. Friends, I wish I could sit and share with each of you how I have witnessed the movement of the Holy Spirit to make impossible things possible - not once, but countless times - in my own life and ministry. I believe when we receive the Holy Spirit and surrender ourselves completely to the Spirit's movements, a real resurrection can be brought, not only to our individual lives, but to our institutional Church as well.

Fourth, Jesus challenges us to forgive the sins of others. Jesus emphasized this in His earthly ministry, and Himself demonstrated it from the cross. In my pastoral ministry, I have witnessed good Christians unwilling to forgive others, even in small or trivial matters, to the detriment of the church's mission and ministry. As Easter people, may we give earnest consideration to whom we need to forgive, so our ministry and mission as people of God and disciples of Jesus Christ do not suffer. You may say it is not easy - I agree! But we all know Christians who have demonstrated forgiveness and whose magnanimous posture and Christian witness have brought others to know Christ.

Easter people, may we prayerfully reflect on the Resurrected Jesus Christ's encounter with His early disciples and examine how it applies to our own lives. May we, with the power of the Holy Spirit, remember to offer peace and forgiveness for the sake of Christ's wounds and resurrection. Therein lies our hope.

In Christ's love,

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Prayer Concerns on Sunday, May 28

- ⚡ Linda Horton asks us to hold the friends and family of David Horton in prayer following his unexpected passing last week. David was 69, grew up in Sudbury and attended SUMC as a young boy. David was Linda's brother-in-law and a friend. He will be missed.
- ⚡ Please pray for our service people around the world, especially those involved in peace-keeping missions. May they and those they are watching over stay safe and healthy.

Prayer Celebrations on Sunday, May 28

- ⚡ We celebrated the new and comfortable pew cushions! They are very much appreciated.
- ⚡ Kristy Gulezian celebrates that her nephew Joseph, who was in critical condition after a skateboarding accident, is now in stable condition and does not need tubes or IVs. Kristy asks us to pray that he will continue to heal and most importantly, open his eyes and show his family his beautiful dimply smile.
- ⚡ Donna and Tom Watkins celebrate the birth of their third granddaughter, Leana Paige, in Sacramento last Thursday night. Leana's mom once sang in the SUMC "Cherub Choir" as a child.

Dates to Keep in Mind

- June 2-3: Youth Lock-In
- June 4: Baptism, Confirmation, and Reception into Membership
- June 4: Adult Education: Opening to Grace
- June 8: Magic Years Luncheon
- June 9: Church Conference Report Deadline
- June 9: Women's Fellowship - Rockport
- June 11: Peace & Justice Sunday
- June 11: Christian Education Celebrations
- June 17: Youth Group
- June 21: Cancer Support Group
- June 23-25: Youth Service Trip
- June 25: Annual Church Conference

WORSHIP

Remember to Wear Red on Pentecost, June 4

Red is the liturgical color for Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Easter joyfully celebrated as the "Birthday of the Church." Wearing red on Pentecost recalls one of the signs of the Holy Spirit's presence, tongues of flame kindled over

the heads of Jesus' followers Acts 2:1-4). At Sudbury UMC, the sacrament of baptism is celebrated and students in grades nine and ten complete their preparations for membership in the UMC by reaffirming their baptismal vows and professing their faith in Christ. Come and add your prayers to next Sunday's celebration!

SAVE THE DATE

Program Year Concludes with June 25 Church Conference

It's that time of year again! We're winding down the program year and the date of the Church Conference, Sunday, June 25th, has been confirmed by our District Superintendent, the Rev. Rene Perez. In preparation for the conference which will be held after worship, I will need your annual reports by Friday, June 9th. This will allow me a week to compile, copy and collate the booklet to be distributed on Sunday, June 18th.

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation!

Shetal Kaye

LEARN

Adult Education

Opening Ourselves to GRACE...

Sunday June 4th after church in the O'Reilly Room

The final installment of this four session course will be held this Sunday! On Sunday, June 4th, participants will continue their exploration into how God's grace affects our lives for healthier, vibrant living. There will be a new video capturing clergy and laity sharing their experience with God's grace. Additionally, there will be discussion regarding John Wesley's pilgrimage of faith and his understanding of grace as Prevenient, Justifying and Sanctifying. Mostly, we will enjoy being together...learning and sharing our journey as Christians. We are thankful for John McKinney and Jim Empfield who have been leading this four week Adult Christian Education course.

Church School

Celebrate with Our Confirmands!

It's Confirmation Sunday! We are hoping that all congregation members will join us in worship this Sunday, June 4th, to witness and celebrate the reception of our nine confirmands! After the Children's Moment, there will be regular Sunday School for the 3-5 year old, 1st-2nd grade, and 3rd-5th grade groups. There will be no Sunday School for the 6th-8th grade class as we hope our Middle School youth will attend worship and witness their siblings'

and peers' confirmation, as well as observe the confirmation process which they will be invited to begin in their Freshman year of High School. Although it is the first Sunday of the month, there will be no Holy Communion this week; Pre-K through 5th graders can be picked up in their regular Sunday School classrooms after worship. See you in church!

June 11th Christian Education Appreciation Sunday!!

Mark your calendars now because you will not want to miss our Christian Education Appreciation Celebrations! Christian Education Programming for children, youth, and adults would not be possible without the MANY teachers and helpers that contribute their time and talents. To celebrate the end of our program year, all teachers and helpers are invited to our pancake breakfast before worship at 8:30am Sunday, June 11th in Hawes Hall. Spouses and families are welcome! Please RSVP to Jackie Roder by Monday June 5th telling her how many people will be attending, and of any food allergies we should be aware of: jackie@sudbury-umc.org.

Sunday June 11th we will also be having a special Sunday School event to mark the end of our program year. Children and youth will not want to miss this!! We're looking for volunteers to assist with activities and supervision for each age group; if you're available and interested, please email Jackie Roder for more information.

Thank you!
Jackie

Youth Ministries

Hello SUMC,

I hope your Memorial Day weekend was restful, productive, and reflective. In the same breath I thank our fallen servicemen and women for their sacrifice while hoping for Isaiah 2:4 to come to pass. God be with us.

We have a youth lock-in this weekend! Our youth have been clamoring for another lock-in, and I am glad that the church improvements and construction has reached a point where we can put on such an event. We will be playing games, tie-dying shirts, have devotionals, and put on a midnight prayer service before (hopefully) getting some actual sleep!

Blessings,
Anthony

CONNECT

Magic Years Luncheon at Lotus Blossom in Sudbury!

Thursday June 8th at Noon

As tradition dictates, on Thursday, June 8th from noon-2:00 p.m. we will conclude our Magic Years program year dining at the Chinese restaurant,

Lotus Blossom, here in Sudbury: 394 Boston Post Rd, Sudbury, MA 01776.
Plan to meet inside the restaurant at noon, and bring your appetites!

Members are welcome to order from the lunch menu or to enjoy the buffet. Hope you are able to join us for our last luncheon of the program year! Magic Years programming is open to all retired persons, members, and friends, of the Sudbury UMC community. For this event, we'll need to give an accurate head count to Lotus Blossom for reservation purposes. With that in mind, if you are able to attend, please write your name on the sign-up list at church on Sunday, or contact Shetal Kaye in the church office: (978-443-4351) or sumc@sudbury-umc.org by Tuesday, June 6th to RSVP.

Women's Fellowship Meeting: Friday, June 9

The Women's Fellowship will be going on an All-Day Trip to Rockport, MA, on Friday, June 9th, to walk around the town and have lunch at a local restaurant. Gaynelle Weiss will be our hostess for the day.

We will meet at the church to carpool to Rockport. Departure time from the church will be promptly at 9:00 a.m. Departure time from Rockport will be around 7:00 p.m. It is necessary to let Nancy Stone know if you are going on this adventure, so that car-pooling can be organized, and Gaynelle can make reservations for lunch.

The Upper Room

The Upper Room booklets are available in the narthex. Help yourself to a free copy for your daily devotional readings. Or access it online by clicking here: <http://devotional.upperroom.org/>.

Join the Thursday Bible Study

Sudbury UMC's Thursday Bible study group always 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 the next Sunday's preaching passage. Remember to bring your Bible and a few bucks for something warm to sip.

We will look ahead to the passages being preached during worship on:

- June 4: John 20:19-23
- June 11: Matthew 28:16-20
- June 18: Matthew 9:35-10:15

Talk to a Stephen Minister

Stephen Ministers can provide a listening, supportive and confidential presence. Each Sunday after worship a Stephen Minister is available to listen and to pray with you. If you would like to have a Stephen Minister "walk" with

you on a regular weekly, or every other week basis, please contact Pastor Joel.

No concern is too small to share with a Stephen Minister.

June 4: Eric Lind

June 11: Linda Lombardo

June 18: Gail Smith

June 25: Richard Smith

Cancer Support Group Meets Monthly

Sudbury UMC's Cancer and Caregiver Support Prayer Group meets monthly from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday. This month, cancer patients, cancer survivors, and caregivers will gather at Sudbury UMC in the O'Reilly Room on June 21 to pray for and support each other. All are invited to come and share their experiences and feelings in a caring, confidential, non-hospital environment. The Cancer and Caregiver Support Prayer Group is an initiative of Sudbury UMC's Health Ministries Commission. For more information, please email us at SUMC.MA.Cancer.Care.Group@gmail.com.

PARTNERS

Christmas in September: An Eagle Project

Dear Sudbury UMC Members:

My name is Calvin Corrigan, I am a freshman at Saint John's High School in Shrewsbury, MA and a Boy Scout working on my Eagle Project here in Troop 60.

My Eagle project is bringing Christmas to 33 orphan boys at the **Be Like Brit Foundation** (BLB) in Haiti.

I am looking for people who felt the Christmas magic as a child, to share hope and love now with the boys of Be Like Brit.

I need to raise \$2,000 for their Christmas gifts and shipping costs to Haiti. My gift packages need to include items to make everyday life easier and a special magical gift for the boys. My budget is \$50 per boy for items and shipping. BLB requires me to have the gifts ready to ship in early September to dependably arrive by December 25.

This is where YOU are the magic in my project. Your involvement develops the "Tree of Life" for the 33 boys of the Be Like Brit Foundation. Your support provides the nutrition for the roots of the tree which is the home, school religious and medical needed of this community.

I am excited about coming and sharing my Eagle Project and the Be Like Brit Foundation mission on May 28th. The Be Like Brit Foundation is in Worcester and has a super informative web site www.belikebrit.org. Please visit it to

see how the Gengel family started the foundation after their daughter died in the Haiti earthquake.

This Christmas the bonds of happiness and faith will be stronger because we all cared and shared.

Thank you

Calvin Corrigan, Boy Scout Troop 60
71 Nixon Road
Framingham, MA 01701
508 877 7948 (home phone)
Calvinanddad@gmail.com

COMMUNITY

Help Wanted: Drivers

Drivers for FISH

Deb Galloway, director of the Sudbury Senior Center, reports that FISH (a network of volunteers that provide transportation to medical appointments to anyone in need, regardless of age or ability level) is currently in need of volunteer drivers. Volunteers use their own vehicles to transport Sudbury residents to and from medical appointments. When a transportation need arises, a FISH coordinator contacts all volunteers to see who is available to help. If volunteers are not able to help on that particular day, there is no pressure from the coordinator, and the volunteer coordinator understands and respects that decision.

If anyone is interested in volunteering or learning more about FISH, please contact that senior center at 978-443-3055, or click [HERE](#) for the FISH brochure.

Drivers for the Sudbury Food Pantry

The Sudbury Food pantry is looking for a volunteer to join (2) other drivers making our twice Monthly pick up at The Greater Boston Food Bank on the 2nd & 4th Wed. of every month. With (3) drivers they would drive (8) times during the year.

The driver will pick up a 26' Box truck in Framingham around 9:30, drive into Boston for a load time of 10:40. Returning to the pantry between 11:30 and 11:45 depending on traffic. It takes between 1-1 ½ hr. to unload the truck.

The Truck is loaded in Boston by the GBFB staff. After the truck is unloaded the driver will refuel the truck and return it to Penske in Framingham. If the driver is physically able to help with unloading that would be great but not required. Note, no special license required.

Any Question please contact Pat Mullen, Executive Director.
P_mullen@msn.com, 978-314-5247

Drivers for HouseHold Goods

Volunteer Truck
Drivers and Crew
Needed!



HOUSEHOLD GOODS™

Helping People Make a Home.

530 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720

978-635-1710

www.HouseholdGoods.org



Truck Drivers and Crew are needed for local furniture pick-ups from donor's homes and to off-load furniture at Household Goods' facility. Drivers must be at least 25 years of age, have a clean driving record, the ability to comfortably lift 50 pounds and the ability to qualify for a DOT Medical Card. Crew must be at least 18 and be able to comfortably lift at least 50 pounds.

If you are interested in joining a team of volunteers dedicated to helping people in need make a home, please call the Volunteer Coordinator 978-635-1710 x 6 or e-mail: volunteer@householdgoods.org

Household Goods provides a full range of donated furniture and household items, free of charge, to help people in need make a home.



Join Our Mailing List

Forward To A Friend

Sudbury United Methodist Church | alexandra@sudbury-umc.org | www.sudbury-umc.org