



## **In This Issue**

[FROM PASTOR JOEL](#)

[Dates to Keep In Mind](#)

[PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS](#)

[A Wedding Invitation](#)

[MUSIC](#)

[LEARN](#)

[ADULT EDUCATION](#)

[HEALTH MINISTRIES](#)

[Membership](#)

[Women's Fellowship](#)

[SOCIAL JUSTICE](#)

[PARTNERS](#)

[CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REGISTRATION](#)

## **FROM PASTOR JOEL**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Except for the banana trees everywhere I looked and the tropical humming birds feeding on their flowers, it would have been easy to imagine that I was still at Sudbury UMC when Rick Houpt and I first visited the new church hall we had traveled twelve hours to dedicate. To be honest, the piles of scrap building materials inside and outside the structure filled me with the same desperate panic I remember lots of us feeling one month ago when we spent the morning and early afternoon cleaning our sanctuary for its re-consecration service on September 11. "This cannot be done!" I heard myself saying four weeks ago in Sudbury and then again - the very same words - last Saturday, October 8, in the village of Wesley on the island of Dominica. At eight o'clock in the morning it was abundantly clear to me that two ordained ministers and a professional fundraiser would be no match for the challenges facing us that day.

But Rev. Dodds, the now retired pastor of Ebenezer Methodist Church, knew exactly what he was doing. By ten o'clock in the morning, the word had traveled around the sleepy village. A pair of paunchy Americans and their elderly minister were laboring alone at the new church hall. It was time to make short work of an impossible - and embarrassing - situation. With paint brushes and rakes, with push brooms and shovels they arrived by the score. "Good mornin', Rev!" they greeted Dr. Dodds. "Thank you for coming!" they said to Rick and me. By sunset, the hall was clean and ready.

The impossible mess that required concerted community effort last Saturday was not the only parallel with recent events at Sudbury UMC that Rick and I experienced before, during, and after last weekend's church hall dedication. For example, though the auditorium in which 200 people gathered last Sunday afternoon was brightly painted, lit,

and decorated with native flowers and plants, the smaller rooms clustered on the building's north and south ends are still unfinished - just like the classrooms under our own Hawes Hall and the new chapel entrance still under construction where our kitchen used to be. Chairs for the auditorium had to be borrowed from a local school - just as our choir had to borrow its own chairs from their practice room for our new chancel - because construction costs ate up the "cushion" that was supposed to cover furnishings.

And even the dedication ceremony itself was surprisingly similar to the one you and I participated in at Sudbury UMC on September 11. The people gathered outdoors. A ribbon was cut. The door was opened. The congregation processed into the hall. The parable Jesus told about a house built on rock was read. A sermon was preached. Prayers were offered. And hymns were sung with grateful joy.

Were there any differences between our Pave the Way projects and the celebrations and proceedings in Dominica? Yes, the Methodist bishop of the Leeward Islands preached, pronounced the official blessings, and insisted that all the clergy officiating that day wear clerical vestments in 90 degree heat and 75% humidity. At Sudbury UMC, four o'clock on Sunday, November 20, will be the date and time of our bishop's visit. And, last Sunday, two paunchy Americans from Sudbury were recognized repeatedly as representatives of the church hall's most generous financial supporters. After five mission team visits from Sudbury UMC and an investment of many thousands of dollars, a building that should have cost \$900,000 in Caribbean currency to erect will probably be completed for about \$300,000 - or roughly \$100,000 US.

To mark the occasion, I presented a mosaic tile depiction of the Last Supper to the Rev. Ruth Pratt, Ebenezer's newly appointed pastor. In the Gospels, I recalled, four verbs convey Jesus' formula for Holy Communion. He took the bread. He gave thanks. He broke the bread. He gave it to his disciples. If they wanted their new church hall to create a spirit of Holy Communion in the village of Wesley, I suggested, our friends at Ebenezer will need to follow Jesus' formula: "Take this hall, give thanks for it, break it open, and give it away to your neighbors. Building a facility is easy," I said. "Giving it away to your neighbors - that will be hard - for you and for us at Sudbury UMC after we finish Pave the Way."

See you in church!

Pastor Joel

## Dates to Keep in Mind

- October 16: Guest Preacher, the Rev. Garvin Warden
- October 16: Science & Religion Class: After Worship
- October 16: Installation of the Rev. Dr. Imani-Sheila Newsome-Camara, Greenwood UMC
- October 22: Wedding of Laura Houpt and Raymond Brown at Sudbury UMC - All Invited
- October 23: Science & Religion Class: After Worship
- October 23: Connexions Concert I: 3:00 P.M.
- October 23: Youth Group: 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.
- October 24: Women's Fellowship
- October 30: Science & Religion Class

## Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

## Prayer Concerns on Sunday, October 9

- ✦ Dorothy Morgan is continuing to recuperate at Emerson Hospital. She still needs rest and is not ready for visitors. Dorothy appreciates your prayers and your cards.
- ✦ Greg Bockweg's Aunt Leanette requests prayers for Tracy and Grace. 8 year old Grace saw her mom, Tracy, injured during a building collapse while they were on a school field trip. Tracy is out of the hospital and hopefully on her way to recovery. Grace is having a hard time emotionally. We also pray for Valerie, another mom on the field trip, who has multiple broken bones and is not expected to walk again. Additionally, please keep all the children and adults on the trip in your prayers as they cope with the traumatic events they experienced.

## Prayer Celebrations on Sunday, October 9

- ✦ We celebrate the life of Don Williams who passed away last Friday. A service of remembrance was held on Tuesday at Newbury Ct.
- ✦ Sophia and Oscar Harrell were with Oscar's sister, Mrs. Charlene Duff, in Philadelphia last Friday as she went on her journey to be with the Lord. We pray for the Harrells and Charlene's family and friends as they mourn her loss.



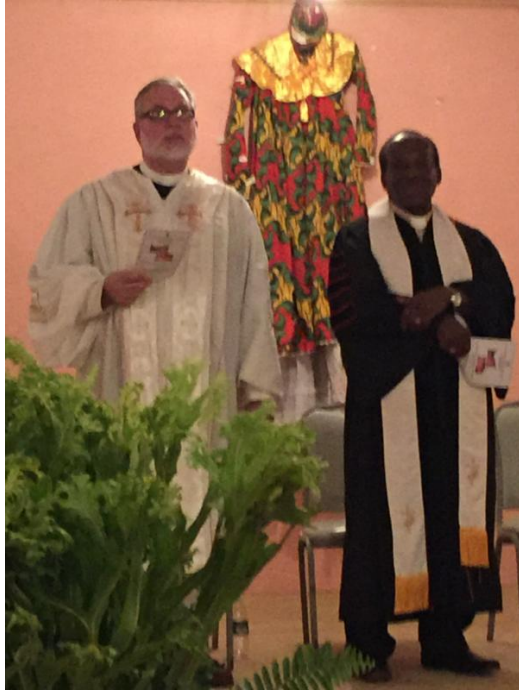
The Entryway



The Microphone is Ready,  
and the Hall is all setup!



## Carlotta Dodds Cutting the Ribbon!



Looking Uphill To the Church Hall



The People Gathered

**Pastor Joel and Rev. Dodds Leading Worship**

## You Are Invited

Together with their families, Laura Houpt and Ray Brown would like to extend an invitation to the celebration of their marriage to the entire SUMC family. Please join Laura, Ray and their families in the newly renovated Sanctuary on Saturday, October 22 at 3:30 PM.

## MUSIC

### The Connexions Concert Series

Get Ready! The 2016-2017 Connexions Concert series is about to begin. The first concert will be held on October 23rd at 3:00 p.m.

Please reach out to Kevin Murphy for more information at [kevin@sudbury-umc.org](mailto:kevin@sudbury-umc.org).

# LEARN

## Church School

Sunday School is back with its regular classroom groupings this Sunday, October 16th! After the children's moment, the 3-5 year old class will meet in their classroom in the Sunny Hill wing. 1st-2nd grade, 3rd-5th grade, and 6th-8th grade classes will be meeting in their classrooms below the sanctuary. For the month of October, all of the Sunday School classes will be learning about Moses. Get excited for new stories and music to come! After worship, please pick up your children in their classrooms to ensure that everyone makes it back to their families safely. See you Sunday!

## Youth Update

### ***First Youth Group Gathering on October 23rd!***

We are having our first youth group gathering on Sunday, October 23, from 6:30 p.m. -8:00 p.m. for an introductory ice-breaker session so I can meet youth-and vice-versa! We will have snacks, get to know each other, hear from the youth what they want from youth ministries at SUMC, and discuss the Camp Berea winter retreat that will take place in early 2017.

Parents are encouraged to arrive early when picking their children up at 7:40 p.m. to meet Anthony, receive information and a tentative calendar of youth events, and to turn in/fill in Basic Contact Forms and Permission Slips. I am looking forward to kicking off Youth Ministries at SUMC- hope to see you there!

If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail me at [anthony@sudbury-umc.org](mailto:anthony@sudbury-umc.org).

## ADULT EDUCATION

### Science and Faith Speaker Series

***Sundays After Worship in the O'Reilly Room: October 16th, 23rd, and 30th***

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 science and faith speaker series the last three Sundays in October: 16th, 23rd, 30th. Taking place after worship in the O'Reilly room, participants and discussion leaders will have an opportunity to unpack the complex relationship that science and faith seem to share. We are fortunate to have many members of our congregation currently working in, or earning degrees in, a scientific field. Through this adult education opportunity, we hope to hear a wide range of perspectives and voices; sharing their experiences and perspectives, while facilitating a dialogue among all that attend.

## 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/>

## 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.

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

- October 16: Luke 18:1-8
- October 30: Luke 6:20-31

## HEALTH MINISTRIES

### Cancer and Caregiver Support Group Meets Monthly

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 at Sudbury UMC in the O'Reilly Room on October 19 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](mailto:SUMC.MA.Cancer.Care.Group@gmail.com).

### Workshop on Practical Positive Psychology

**Monday, October 24, 7:30 p.m.**

Health Ministries and Stephen Ministry 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.

While alleviating suffering understanding and treating disorders - depression, anxiety, and phobias, to name a few - psychology has not paid as much attention to promoting psychological health. Positive Psychology, founded about 20 years ago by Dr. Martin Seligman at the University of Pennsylvania, promotes research, training, and education to build strengths that enable people to achieve the best things in life.

### Talk to a Stephen Minister

Stephen Ministers can provide a listening, supportive and confidential presence. If you would like to have a Stephen Minister "walk" with you on a regular weekly, every other week, or monthly basis, please contact Pastor Joel. No concern is too small to share with a Stephen Minister.

### Three Ways to Become a Member of Sudbury UMC

During the 9:30 a.m. service of worship on Sunday, October 30, Sudbury UMC will celebrate the sacrament of Baptism before welcoming new members to our growing congregation. There are three ways to become a member of a local United Methodist church. 1) For baptized Christians who have never formally joined a church, it is possible to become a member by professing your faith in Jesus Christ and promising to support the church you have chosen by your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. 2) For members of other United Methodist churches, becoming a member of Sudbury UMC is as simple as asking Pastor Joel to write to your last church requesting a "certificate of transfer." 3) And for members of local churches affiliated with other denominations, most will send a "certificate of transfer" to Sudbury UMC but some will not. Without a written transfer, however, option 1) is still quite doable. If you would like to be

enrolled as a member of Sudbury UMC on October 30, please contact our pastor at [pastorjoel@sudbury-umc.org](mailto:pastorjoel@sudbury-umc.org).

## Women's Fellowship Fall 2016 Program

The Women's Fellowship of SUMC has scheduled their meeting dates and programs for the fall of 2016

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2016

Meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. to carpool for lunch at Kimball Farm Grill and Seafood Shack in Westford, followed by excursion to the Butterfly Place and Garden, also in Westford. The Senior Rate is \$7.00 between 1:00-3:00 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016

Outreach Service Project at the church at 7:00 p.m. for Pathways Homeless Shelter for Single Women and Infants. At this point there are 14 moms and children. There will be more details as we get closer to our November meeting

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016

The annual "Not So Silent Auction" to benefit the LS Scholarship Fund at Hosmer House in Sudbury - 7:00 p.m.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

### Change in Voting Rights

President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act on August 6, 1965. This Act prohibited racial discrimination in voting and 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 Shelby County vs. Holder case before the Supreme Court (2013) removed this requirement. The result? States can now change their voting rules without federal approval, even for a national election, and some states are now using this privilege to make it harder for people to vote.

The loss of Section 5 created perpetual uncertainty when it comes to protecting voting rights. Voters in fourteen states faced new restrictions at the polls for the first time in 2014, the first election in nearly fifty years without the full protections of the Voting Rights Act.

This massive restructuring of the country's voting rules impacts young voters, African-Americans, Hispanics, the elderly, and the poor. Numerous investigations and studies have shown that voter fraud is largely a myth. One rigorous academic study documented just 31 cases of voter fraud out of one billion ballots cast between 2000 and 2014. Voter fraud wasn't the real issue; race and political power were.

Excerpts are from Give Us the Ballot by Ari Berman, and The Matthew 25 Voter Protection Project by Rev. William Barber II and reported by Jim Wallis, 09-08-2016

It is your Right and Privilege to Vote!

Please Vote on Tuesday November 8, 2016

## Help PROTECT SUDBURY and SAVE the ENVIRONMENT

Eversource is proposing to construct a 115-kilovolt transmission line between Sudbury and Hudson, Mass. The new line would pass through our neighborhoods, our business district, and conservation lands of Sudbury, Marlborough, Stow, and Hudson.

The project would consist of 8.9 miles of overhead and underground line. The 7.6-mile overhead portion would be located within an existing MBTA railroad bed that runs through Sudbury neighborhoods, historic districts, as well as the Hop Brook conservation area and Memorial Forest. The underground portion runs only in Hudson.

### *What does this mean to us?*

The drinking water for all 18,000 residents of Sudbury is under threat of contamination; herbicides will be used to kill vegetation on a regular basis; 100 foot tall towers will be erected and close to 27,000 trees will be clear cut from our town and conservation areas.

### **IMPORTANT MEETING!**

Sudbury Selectman will host a meeting with Eversource at the Lincoln Sudbury High School on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 7:00PM. Your voice is important! Eversource needs to know that we do not want overhead high voltage transmission lines running through our community!

For more information please check the website, [www.protectsudbury.org](http://www.protectsudbury.org).

## **PARTNERS**

The letter below from our friends at Greenwood invites us to participate in the installation of Greenwood Memorial UMC's newly appointed pastor, the Rev. Dr. Imani-Sheila Newsome-Camara at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 16.

I remember with great joy the generous turn-out mustered by our Greenwood friends when Sudbury UMC hosted my installation service ten years ago.

Please spread the word and encourage your friends and acquaintances to make time for this important new beginning in our sister church's ministry.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Joel

- **A BUS WILL LEAVE FROM THE SUMC PARKING LOT AT 2 P.M.**

Greenwood Memorial United Methodist Church



378A Washington Street  
Dorchester, MA 02124  
Office: (617) 288-8410  
Rev. Dr. Imani-Sheila Newsome-Camara

September 21, 2016

Dear friend

You are invited to the installation service of Rev. Dr. Imani-Sheila Newsome-Camara, Pastor of Greenwood Memorial United Methodist Church on October 16, 2016 at 3:00 pm. The church is located at 378A Washington Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts-02124.

Rev. Newsome-Camara has been with the congregation since July of this year, but we want to officially introduce her to the many communities that Greenwood Memorial UMC serves. Rev. Dr. Newsome-Camara had a career in higher education before entering the ministry, she worked at the Boston University School of Theology and she comes to Greenwood Memorial UMC after serving United Methodist Churches in Waltham and West Roxbury. She brings many skills, gifts and her family to our congregation.

Our guest preacher for this event is Rev. Ellis Washington of St Paul Africa Methodist Episcopal Church in Cambridge. The choir and the liturgical dance ministry of his church will accompany him. A reception will follow the worship service and all are welcome.

Join us as we celebrate Rev. Dr. Newsome-Camara's presence in our church and in our community. Please RSVP to our invitation at [office@gmumch.comcastbiz.net](mailto:office@gmumch.comcastbiz.net) or call our church office at 617-288-8410. Please identify your organization when you RSVP.

Thank you,

The Greenwood Memorial UMC Family

## Christmas Pageant Registration Form

The Christmas Pageant Registration Form is here. It is also available online [HERE](#), as a fillable form. Paper copies are available at church, too.



## Pageant Registration!

Sudbury UMC's children are invited to be part of a Christmas Pageant at the 4 PM Christmas service! This year, pageant rehearsals begin the Saturday before Thanksgiving (Nov. 19th) and run until the Saturday before Christmas Eve (no rehearsal on Christmas Eve morning.) Rehearsals are generally held between 9 AM (8 AM for Dancing Angels) and 12 PM each Saturday. We are asking participants to be present for all of the rehearsals, if at all possible, so participants can feel comfortable with their parts. However, we know some families travel at Thanksgiving or may have another family conflict and we would like all children to be welcome to participate in the pageant; if your child cannot make one of the rehearsals, please speak with Kristin Murphy so we might find a perfect part and a bit of additional rehearsal time another day. Thanks!

**Name of Pageant Participant and Age:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Parent(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Would your child prefer a speaking or non-speaking role? \_\_\_\_\_

Would your child like a major or minor role?

\_\_\_\_\_

Would your child like to be a dancing angel (age 6+)?

\_\_\_\_\_

What parts would your child love? (It would be great if you could list a few, in case more than one child loves the same part! Thanks! Please note that preschool children are usually cast as animals.) \_\_\_\_\_

My child will be able to attend all rehearsals \_\_\_\_\_

My child would have to miss the rehearsal on \_\_\_\_\_. Please cast him or her accordingly.

**Would you be able to help with one or more pageant "jobs?" Please check the ones you might be able to do:**

\_\_\_ costume help

\_\_\_ providing food items for "cast lunch" on 12/17)

\_\_\_ acting help

\_\_\_ props and scenery help (finding and/or making)

\_\_\_ general "crowd control" at rehearsals and/or before pageant at 3 PM

\_\_\_ "stage manager" help

\_\_\_ preschool animals help (rehearsals and at pageant - involves dressing in shepherd costume)

\_\_\_ pageant band

Thanks so much!  
Kristin Murphy  
[Kbando@earthlink.net](mailto:Kbando@earthlink.net)

## COMMUNITY

2:30 - 4:30 pm  
Sunday, November 13

*League of Women Voters of Sudbury*  
*Presents*

MENTAL HEALTH: IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

*Join us for a discussion with:*

***National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)***

***Advocates: Jail Diversion***

***William James INTERFACE Referral Services:  
Youth Mental Health***

***Wicked Sober: Addiction Recovery Program***

***Sudbury Police Department: Seniors' Mental Health***

***Employment Options: Resources for Recovery***

**2:30 - 4:30 pm, Sunday, November 13, 2016  
Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Rd., Sudbury, MA**

[www.sudburyleague.com](http://www.sudburyleague.com)





[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward To A Friend](#)

Sudbury United Methodist Church | [alexandra@sudbury-umc.org](mailto:alexandra@sudbury-umc.org) | [www.sudbury-umc.org](http://www.sudbury-umc.org)