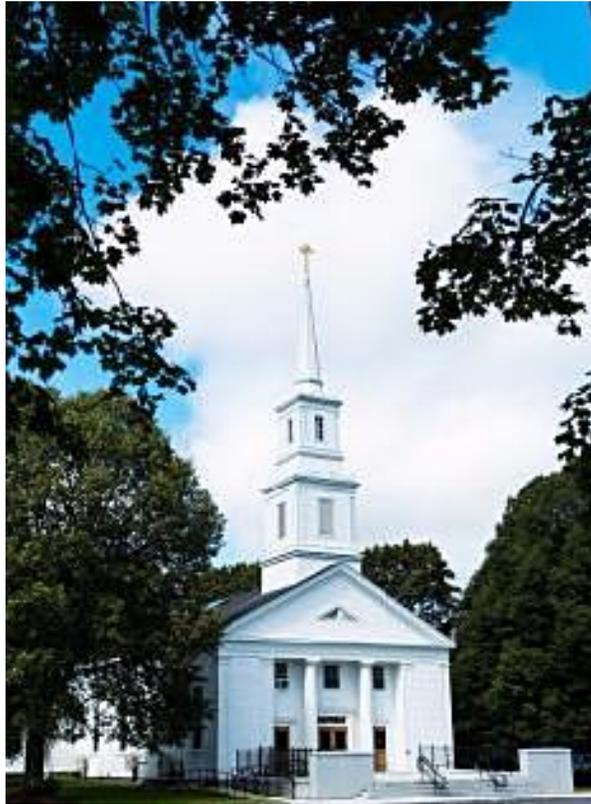


Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Sudbury United Methodist Church. Don't forget to add sumc@sudbury-umc.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



The Weekly Chronicle

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Dear Friends in Christ,

It has happened twice to me in the last week. During conversations with two different Lutheran friends, each has said to me, in so many words, "Enough already! No more celebrating! It's time to get back to work!" What they were talking about - both of my friends - was the twelve-month Lutheran Love Fest that was launched almost a year ago to mark the 500th

anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

During the sermon I preached on October 1, I spoke about the authority crisis in the church and in the Western world that Luther launched by making your personal interpretation of the Bible and mine the "only authority we can really trust." The chaos we have endured for 500 years since Luther's hammer struck the cathedral door in Wittenberg can be credited to him, I suggested, though Luther had no idea how dangerous the world would be without external authorities to lean on. In that sermon, like almost everything I have said about Luther during my 30 years as a pastor, I was admittedly grumpy about a schism that split not only the church Jesus gave us but also the family into which I was born. My opinion of Luther, I confess, has been obnoxiously snippy. How dare he shatter the unity of God's church?

But two things have caused me to reconsider the grudge I have held against Martin Luther most of my adult life. Two summers ago, when we were worshiping at Temple Beth El, because our own sanctuary was being renovated, I remember comparing Luther's Reformation and the ongoing work it launched to the church's "research and development" department. During a series of sermons following the outline of the Apostles Creed, I claimed for progressive Protestants a willingness to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit in directions that more tradition-bound Christians might never embrace. Without Luther and his willingness to decentralize authority in the church and in the world, I can now gratefully confess, how likely would it be that new paths of liberation and justice would have been opened, explored, and charted for women, for people of color, and for neighbors confined to the margins?

The other surprise that has helped this Protestant pastor to rediscover my "inner Luther" has been the resurgence of Martin Luther's signature issue with the Roman Catholic Church into which he was born: Indulgences. For some reason, leaders of the Roman church have decided to reintroduce the availability of indulgences at almost exactly the same time Protestants have been celebrating our 500 years of non-stop witness against them. If reuniting the Church of Jesus Christ is a goal that Roman Christians share with Christians shaped by Luther's Reformation, why have they decided to revive a practice that they know is repugnant to us and contrary to the emphasis Protestants place on the primacy of God's grace?

Five hundred years ago, it was the sale of indulgences - get out of Purgatory cards - that lit the fires of Luther's passionate witness for the authority of the Bible and the primacy of grace. Blessedly, the sale of indulgences was abandoned by Rome during Luther's lifetime. But the granting of indulgences, much to my surprise, has never gone away. As recently as the Holy Year of Mercy heralded by Pope Francis in 2016, indulgences were reemphasized as an opportunity to shorten one's own time, or the sentence of a departed Christian, in Purgatory's purifying fires. By doing a charitable work, while also maintaining a disposition free from sin, and praying for the pope, Catholics can be granted a full indulgence as often as once per day! So much for sanctification as the

work of God's grace! If we put our faith in indulgences, the cart of salvation is self-propelled! Forget about the horse!

My Lutheran friends are right! "Enough already! No more celebrating! It's time to get back to work!"

See you in church!

Pastor Joel

PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

Prayer Concerns on Sunday, October 15

- ☞ Alice Vannerson was admitted to Emerson Hospital for much of last week and hoped to be discharged last Saturday. She welcomes your prayers, cards and calls.
- ☞ Michelle Cobb asks us to hold Grace in prayer. She broke her right arm last week but the repair did not hold. Surgeons planned on installing a plate to hold the radius in place on Sunday and there maybe a second surgery later for the ulna.
- ☞ We continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Dominica. Pastor Dodds has told us that what we've seen on TV or the internet doesn't nearly capture the reality on the ground. SUMC's short term fundraiser for Dominica relief ended on Sunday and we are grateful to all who contributed.
- ☞ More troops are being sent to Afghanistan. More families will spend months in fear for their deployed loves ones. Please pray for them and the people of war-torn lands. We continue to pray for peace.

Prayer Celebrations on Sunday, October 15

- ☞ Rev. Ruth Pratt and the people of our sister churches in Dominica, Ebenezer and Zion, send their greetings and love. "Thanks so much for your care and concern," she writes. "It is truly a blessing to know of your efforts. They will be greatly appreciated."

DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

- Oct. 20: Youth Group at Chris Tomlin Concert
- Oct. 22: Organ Crawl
- Oct. 22: Disciple Bible Study Sunday class
- Oct. 22: Home Suites Inn Halloween Party
- Oct. 25: Disciple Bible Study Wednesday class
- Oct. 27: Greenwood Harvest Banquet
- Oct. 28: Trunk or Treat



- Oct. 30: Women's Fellowship
 - Nov. 11: Trustees' Fall Clean-Up
-

LEARN

The Magnuson Moment

This past week my clan expanded as my son and daughter-in-law welcomed their third child (my sixth grandchild) into the world. That gave me a chance to spend extra time with her seventeen-month-old brother while Mom, Dad, and Luna were in the hospital. The household now has two children under age 2.

The first two years of life show tremendous growth in brain development and neurological connections. Young children are continually learning new concepts, emotions, and attitudes as they grow through life and interact with others around them. As I sat on the floor clapping my feet together, my grandson sat down next to me and started to clap his feet together....imitative behavior. What a blessing and opportunity we have in our families and in our "church family" as we interact, instruct, and pray for the young members of our community at SUMC.

In Sunday School, the children are given the opportunity to participate in a special offering for the church in Dominica which is being collected each Sunday during the month of October. This past Sunday, the children gave a total of eleven dollars!



Also, there is a special food basket in the downstairs church school classroom where children can bring items to support our local food pantry.

Prayer Pals. The key word for Week 7, Oct. 22-28 is: Faithfulness, "Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you." 1 Samuel 12:24.

Greetings from the SUMC Youth!



Our first high school Bible study met on Sunday (with donuts!) after worship, and it went really well. We learned a lot. Zack learned that there exist things called "apple cider donuts" and "bass flutes," and the youth learned about first-century wedding customs and that the best donuts in the world are only available from 7pm-2am from a small shop in the middle of a residential area of downtown Hagerstown, Maryland, called

Krumpe's Do-Nuts. Knowledge was dropping out of the sky, and we will continue to drop such knowledge every Sunday during coffee hour unless otherwise noted. We did have leftover donuts, and Zack's goal is have enough high scholars show up that he's forced into buying more donuts each week. Here are a couple of other things to keep in mind...

- **Camp Berea 2018:** Youth are asked to sign up for Camp Berea by October 29. You can sign up by turning in a \$25 deposit (total cost will be \$100 per youth). Our 2018 Berea weekend will be March 2-4, but we must sign up this early because 1) the camps will fill up, and 2) they raise the price after October 31.
- **UMCOR Hurricane Relief Kits:** We made sixty hygiene kits that will be shipped to UMCOR, who will distribute the kits to people displaced by the recent hurricanes. Thanks again to youth and parents who made this outreach effort possible.

Finally, parents should be sure to check their email for details and information on everything going on with the youth group. If you are a parent of a 6th-12th grader and you are not receiving the weekly youth updates from Zack, please send him an email zack@sudbury-umc.org and ask to be added to the recipient list.

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/>

Sunny Hill Pre-School

Sunny Hill Preschool is now enrolling! We are accepting enrollments for our 3 and 4 year old programs. Sunny Hill's philosophy integrates academic learning through purposeful play. By creating developmentally appropriate curriculum for children ages 2.9 through 5

years of age, we ignite children's passion for lifelong learning. For those interested in programming, we offer programs for 2.9-5 years of age including a Stay, Play and Learn program that offers flexibility, fun and learning! To schedule a tour, call 978-443-2627.



CONNECT

Devastation in Dominica

Can you fathom living 21 DAYS without enough food and water?

Without a roof over your head, and no power or fuel? This is the reality for most people in Dominica, 21 days after this island was brutalized by the hurricane.

UNICEF estimates that 20,000 children in Dominica are in need of immediate assistance.

Information indicates all livestock in Dominica was destroyed in the hurricane. This is devastating for an island where most residents survive on subsistence farming - they eat what they grow and raise. Hard to do when your chicken and goats have been wiped out.

Our brothers and sisters in Dominica are suffering and need our help.

We thank those of you who have so generously contributed to SUMC's short-term fundraiser. This preliminary effort to help concluded on October 15. You can continue to donate via this link: <http://sudbury-umc.org/give>. On the right side of the page, under Give On-line, use the pull down menu, and select "Dominica Hurricane Relief," or, write a check to Sudbury UMC with "Dominica Hurricane Relief" in the memo line and send to the church at 251 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury, MA 01776. Please continue to hold our brothers and sisters in Dominica in prayer. And, stay tuned for phase two of SUMC's effort to help. But before you move on...

Can you spare 8 minutes?

If so, watch this video...[A Day in Dominica](#).

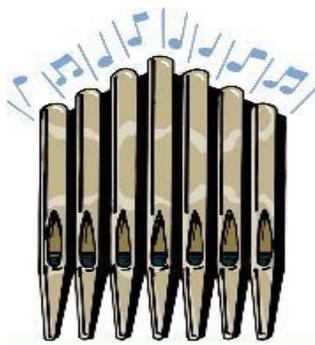
Share the Excitement of Halloween with Kids from Homesuites This Sunday, October 22

The Outreach Commission invites you to help throw a Halloween party for the families of The Homesuites 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 Sunday, October 22, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The address is 455 Totten Pond Road in Waltham. Questions? Call Jeannette D'Alessandro at 617-462-4343. Looking for a fun afternoon? This is it!



Organ Crawl this Sunday, October 22



ORGAN CRAWL

Come join music director Kevin Murphy for an organ crawl after worship service this Sunday, October 22. What is an organ crawl? We will take 10 minutes in the altar space to learn about the instrument and another 10 minutes to go to the basement and the tracker chamber. Come with your questions, and perhaps your kids, to learn about our fine instrument! We'll begin right after the postlude concludes.

Trustees' Fall Clean-Up on November 11

It's fall clean-up time again, and we will need your help. The Trustees are looking for volunteers for the fall clean-up at the church on Saturday, November 11th beginning at 8:30 am. The more the merrier and the faster our task will get done. Most of the work will involve collecting and moving leaves, but we will also be cleaning some garden areas, trimming trees, as well as some other tasks. Bring rakes, tarps, and wear gloves. Other useful tools are leaf blowers, and wheelbarrows. Please come even if you only have an hour or two to spare. Coffee and donuts will be provided. This event is both an enjoyable and rewarding experience. See you there.

Trunk or Treat - Saturday, October 28th -3:00-5:00 p.m.

TRUNK OR TREAT
OCTOBER 28TH
3:00-5:00

HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED?



 **SIGN UP TO DECORATE YOUR CAR
& PASS OUT CANDY**

Sign up in Hawes hall after church
or
email Jen Gero: tjgero@verizon.net

Sudbury UMC Is a Nut Free Zone!

Please be aware that a number of preschoolers and staff members have serious allergies to nut products and coconut oil. It is important to keep food products containing tree nuts out of the church building and be mindful of coconut oil in non-food related items such as soaps and lotions. Thank you for your cooperation in



ensuring the safety of all!

Women's Fellowship Group

The fall meeting of the Women's Fellowship will be on Monday, October 30, at 7:00 p.m. in Hawes Hall. We will start with refreshments, followed by a slide presentation by Bob Cooke of his trip to Antarctica and the scientific research that is being done all around the ice cap. Men are welcome to attend this program.

Please mark your calendars for our December meeting on Monday, December 4, at the Hosmer House for the "Not so Silent Auction." More details later.

Computer Needed!

Do you have a computer that has outlived its usefulness to you but might serve as an audio workstation for SUMC? The laptop that has recorded services for several years has developed a fatal problem and needs replacing. Most computers made within the last 5 to 7 years might be able to do the job. If you believe you have such a machine that needs a new home, speak to Kevin by emailing him at kevin@sudbury-umc.org. Many thanks!

A-Capella Group Now Forming!

Are you a fan of a cappella? Some of you may be familiar with the lively tradition of informal singing that has been especially successful in the high school and university scene in the last decade. Well, the musicians of SUMC would like to attempt their own version of a cappella.

Starting Wednesday, 18 October from 6:30pm till

7:30pm and for the next three Wednesdays (25 Oct, 1 Nov, 8 Nov) we will meet for an hour to learn a modest list of a cappella items with a sacred twist. A cappella groups typically work without printed music, so you do not need to read music to participate. You also don't have to have a vocal degree from the conservatory to add your voice. We do have a keen interest in making a musical opportunity for SUMC members who have never joined in a SUMC music project. We know your time is precious, so let us combine your evening meal with music by including a "simple supper" after the manner of Advent and Lenten suppers. We will also arrange for child care, young parents, if you want to attend but are not quite sure what to do with small people. (Been there.)



Our only request is that you SIGN UP. It is extremely helpful to know who will attend so our planning can be good quality. Here's the link:

This will take you to a Google doc where you can tell us what works for you. Of course, you are also quite welcome to call or email me and/or Rob (see the contacts information on this Chronicle).

Check your calendar, keep singing in the shower, and let Kevin or Rob know if this is a project for you! Don't be afraid to jump in... this might be just the mid-week spiritual break you need! kevin@sudbury-umc.org

Join the Thursday Bible Study

Sudbury UMC's Thursday Bible study group always welcomes new participants. Meetings take place at 10:30 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 or cool to sip.

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

October 22	John 8:31-36
October 29	Matthew 5:1-12
November 5	1 John 3:1-7
November 12	Matthew 25:1-3

Stephen Ministry - No Concern Is Too Small

'Tis the Season when Friends & Neighbors May Need Care



Hello Friends. Many of you are aware of the Stephen Ministry program at SUMC, and some of you have received the gentle care of one of our caregivers. Did you know our Stephen Ministry program is now 25 years old? It is one of the longest-lived programs in the country.

As the fall and winter seasons arrive, the darker days and even the holidays can sometimes trigger loneliness, sadness, or anxiety. This is especially true if a loved one has suffered a loss, a sudden change, or a difficult life transition. Perhaps you have a family member, friend or neighbor who could benefit from a caring relationship.

We have thirteen active Stephen Ministers (caregivers). Ten of our caregivers are currently available to offer their gentle support. They can walk with those who need kindness, a listening ear, and distinctively Christian care-giving.

On Sunday October 22, Stephen Leaders will briefly share information about

Stephen Ministry during the Stewardship time of the service. We will also be in Hawes Hall with information about the program and its caregivers. Please stop by to see us and ask questions. We will share videos that do a nice job describing the kind of care people have received from Stephen Ministers. You can see videos at the Stephen Ministry website here: <https://www.stephenministries.org/>

If you know a friend - including yourself - who might benefit from a caring relationship, you can speak to Pastor Joel, Lori Granger or Richard Smith. And every Sunday morning, one Stephen Minister is available after the worship service in the O'Reilly room. They are there to listen to your concerns and pray with you, at your request.

On October 22, it will be Eric Lind and on October 29, it will be Melody Karian.

God's Love & Blessings to You and Yours

COMMUNITY

Drivers Needed for FISH and Meals on Wheels

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) needs volunteer drivers. Volunteers use their own vehicles to transport Sudbury residents to and from medical appointments. Interested in volunteering or learning more about FISH? Please dial 978-443-2145.



Meals on Wheels - Our drivers deliver 3,000 healthy meals, every weekday, to elders and adults living with disabilities. They may deliver the only meal of the day to our homebound clients in addition to providing critical social contact a safety check.

Today additional drivers are needed to meet the increasing demand for home delivered meals in our service are that includes 11 cities and towns. If you are interested in giving back to your community through this part-time job, apply today! Please call Sara at 781-324-7705 ext. 689 or visit our website www.mves.org/join-us/.

MetroWest Free Medical Program Seeking Volunteers

On Tuesdays, about 20 volunteers gather to provide healthcare services to people who don't have insurance. The program serves an average of 35 patients, using the sanctuary at Congregation Beth El as the clinic site.

Volunteers are needed to help put the medical supplies and equipment away in the shed behind Beth El. Specifically, people are needed to help move the screens, exam tables, buckets of medical supplies, as well as tables and chairs. With enough volunteers, this can be done in 30 minutes.

This is a great job for high school students looking to finish up their community service hours or anyone who wants to get an extra 30 minutes of exercise! When? Tuesdays, 9:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Questions? Contact Kim Prendergast at kim.prendergast@gmail.com.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS™

Helping People Make a Home.



Household Goods, 530 Main Street (Rte. 27) in Acton, needs additional volunteers, especially:

*Furniture movers during the week and on Saturday/Sunday afternoons. These volunteers assist both on the road (picking up donations) and at the facility in Acton (moving donations in and client furniture out to waiting vehicles).

*Truck drivers who can also move furniture

*Volunteers who are willing to be trained and make a commitment to scheduling donation pick ups

*Quality control/triage volunteers who will help check appliances/electronics for completeness and working order, cleaning appliances and preparing rugs and upholstered furniture for display (vacuuming).

The minimum age to volunteer independently is 14. Hours and days of the week are flexible. Whether you can spare as little as three hours a month, or a day or more a week, we invite you to join us in our mission to assist those in need. For more information, please visit this [Volunteer page](#) on the Household Goods website, or call 978-635-1710 x6.

Donations Urgently Needed: Your Extra Could Be Someone's Only

Every day, Household Goods welcomes new families emerging from homelessness or other difficult circumstances, and strives to offer them the dignity of choice as they set up a new home. Immediate needs: Our inventory of pots and pans, kitchen utensils, glasses and other kitchen items is running low. If you have pots and pans (or other items) to donate, please consider us. We are also in urgent need of mattresses and

kitchen/dining tables. Donated goods should be clean (no rips, tears or stains) and in working order.

Donations are gratefully accepted on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon at 530 Main Street (Rte. 27) in Acton. Your repurposing gift could make a real difference for someone in need! Find more details at this [Donations page](#) on the Household Goods website.

[Sustainable Sudbury's Styrofoam Recycling this Saturday, October 21](#)



Styrofoam Recycling Collection

Saturday, October 21st, 9am - noon

Curtis Middle School Cafeteria



**Hard Packing Styrofoam and
#4 LDPE spongy foam only**

NO food trays, egg cartons, cups, etc.

Free for members; \$5 drop off fee or renew your membership



www.sustainablesudbury.org
sustainablesudbury@gmail.com

[Sudbury Clergy Association Joins the Framingham Solidarity Network for Concert](#)

SINGING IN SOLIDARITY With Our Immigrant Neighbors



Music from Many Faiths and Cultures
Featuring:
Willie Sordillo Quartet
Nick Page of the Mystic Chorale
Other Musical Groups from Local Faith Communities

Sunday, November 5, 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Greater Framingham Community Church
44 Franklin Street, Framingham
RSVPs Encouraged at pastor@edwardschurch.org
Please give generously to our free-will offering!

Proceeds will go to the Neighbors Fund of the Framingham Solidarity Network, to support immigrants who need legal or bail assistance and families who are in crisis. To contribute now go to: <http://bit.ly/2x0zb42>

Sponsors include:

First Parish UU, Framingham; Greater Framingham Community Church; Edwards Church; Congregation Beth El, Sudbury; St. Andrews Episcopal Church; Community of St. Luke; St. Stephens; Plymouth Church; Temple Beth Shalom; First Parish UU, Sherborn; Ma'yan Tikvah, Wayland; First Parish UU, Wayland; First Church in Natick; Common Street Spiritual Center, Natick; Community Chaplaincy Council, Inc., Framingham; Metrowest Worker Center; Walker Center for Ecumenical Exchange; Roots and Wings Yoga and Healing Arts; Just Peace Players; Unitarian Universalist Mass Action Network; Members of the Sudbury Clergy Association

For more information: 508-877-2050 Facebook Page – Singing in Solidarity Concert



Church Office: sumc@sudbury-umc.org

Website: <http://www.sudbury-umc.org>

Church Staff

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[Pastor Joel](#)

Business Manager: Mike Greb

[Mike](#)

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[Eric](#)

Director of Youth Ministries: Zack Moser

[Zack](#)

Music Director/Organist: Kevin Murphy, AAGO

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