

# THE TALE

## Let Me Live Grace-fully

*(a poem of Summer)*

Thank you, Lord  
for this season of sun and slow motion,  
of games and porch sitting,  
of picnics and light green fireflies  
on heavy purple evenings;  
and praise for slight breezes.  
It's good, God,  
as the first long days of your creation.

Let this season be for me  
a time of gathering together the pieces  
into which my busyness has broken me.  
O God, enable me now  
to grow wise through reflection,  
peaceful through the song of the cricket,  
recreated through the laughter of play.

Most of all, Lord,  
let me live easily and grace-fully for a spell,  
so that I may see other souls deeply,  
share in silence unhurried,  
listen to the sound of sunlight and shadows;  
explore barefoot the land of forgotten dreams and shy hopes,  
and find the right words to tell another who I am.

*Ted Loder*  
*"Guerillas of Grace"*

# MISSIONS



## Ways We Can Help Loaves & Fishes this summer Part 2:

### Noah's Ark (A Children's Consignment shop)

Shop - Donate Your Portion of a Sale to Loaves & Fishes - It's an Easy Way to Help!

Noah's Ark, a children's consignment shop in Littleton center, will accept various children's items and give the pantry a credit that can be used by Loaves & Fishes clients to purchase what they need. They will accept clothing for babies and children, toys, books, children's furniture. All items must be in good condition without damage or stains. They will not accept car seats or items which have been recalled for safety reasons.

This is a great way to help Loaves and Fishes clients "purchase" what they need. So please bring your used children's items to Noah's Ark and tell them you want to donate your consignment fee to Loaves & Fishes. If you have any questions regarding items they will accept, please call them first: (978-952-6788), 320 Great Road Littleton.

### Donations

Summer is a difficult time at the pantry. Donations tend to drop as people vacation or perhaps don't realize the need. With the current economic environment, the pantry is serving more families. Please drop a non-perishable food donation at the church. Monetary donations are also appreciated.

### Household Goods Recycling Ministry

If you have furniture or appliances to donate you can call the Household Goods Recycling Ministry at 978-635-1763 or email them at [hgrm@hgrm.org](mailto:hgrm@hgrm.org) or visit their website at [www.hgrm.org](http://www.hgrm.org)

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## MISSION FAMILY UPDATE

Last September Marcia Conant brought us the idea of sponsoring a mission family. Your gifts and generosity have been wonderful and it's been great for us to get their responses and hear the impact our involvement has had.

About a month ago, the boys were placed in a residential program. This changes the family's status. While the family is still somewhat needy, having Iliana at home, the truth is that many expenses are being met by the state. There are families that have a greater need. Therefore Marcia has suggested that we take on a new family in the fall. By sponsoring a different family, the church could have a greater impact on our little corner of the world.

This doesn't mean you can't send a birthday card or notes, etc. to the family should you want to, but they will not be the focus family for the church.

We will have the name of a new family in the fall. If you have questions, please speak to a member of the Missions Committee: Susan Buck, Marcia Conant, Judy Cavanaugh, Buddy Schmidt, Chip Hurd, David McDonell.



## APPLE FESTIVAL 2008

It may be August, but plans are already underway for the Apple Festival. Mark your calendars for a day of great food, fun, and fellowship: **Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**, rain or shine.

As most of you know, Carlson Orchards donates apples – drops that we must pick up. For the 2 weeks prior to the Festival we will be busy and need many hands to help us turn 1,000+ pounds of apples into 500 pies. As always, there will be many ways for everyone to help, such as:

- Picking up drops
- Peeling and quartering apples
- Making Harvest Soup
- Making pies (at home or church)
- Working the day of the Festival
- Helping with activities for kids (face painting, popcorn, etc)
- Having fun!!!

Look for more information in the September *Tale* and announcements at church.

The Apple Festival Committee: *Gretchen Henry, Pat Jennings, Dave King, Bruce Perkins, Liza Sullebarger, Jim and Lucy Wallace*

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## CAREGIVER UPDATE

The Caregivers have been busy giving support, care and love to members. A total of 24 meals have been provided in the last 4 months. In addition, rides have been given, cards sent, and check-in phone calls and visits and have been made. As part of organizing the Junior Youth Group, Debbie Noyes has contacted the Caregivers Committee to compile a list of local outreach needs this summer that our youth could help with in the fall. So if you know of anyone who could use some young hands and energy to help with chores or yard work they would love to help. We would like to line up volunteers to meet specific needs.

If you could use a little support or are aware of anyone in the church who would benefit from some extra TLC either from the caregivers or the youth volunteers, please let the Caregiver Co-coordinators, Kim Hildreth or Mary Garcia, know.

Kim's phone is: 978-456-3826 Her email is: [hildrethchef@hotmail.com](mailto:hildrethchef@hotmail.com)

Mary's phone is: 978-368-1391 Her email is: [leapforward@aol.com](mailto:leapforward@aol.com)



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



## Summer Sunday School

Join us for the *Awesome Adventure* in Summer Sunday School offered to children Pre-K through 3rd grade. Older children are welcome as helpers.

We are looking for volunteers to lead the multi-age class during the month of August. Lesson plans and supplies provided. Look for the sign-up display outside the church office.

## Fall 2008 Sunday School

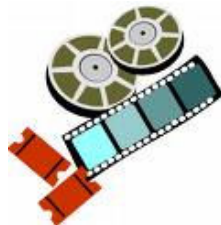
**Calling all (potential) teachers and helpers:** Be part of our growing Sunday School program, volunteer as a teacher or helper in grades Pre-K through 8th. Team teaching allows for flexible scheduling, teacher training and curriculum is provided. For more information visit the Sunday School Bulletin Board or contact Pam Cochrane at 978-456-2349 or [pccochrane@gmail.com](mailto:pccochrane@gmail.com) The Sunday School Program for the Fall begins September 7th.

## Bible Study

Our Bible Study continues to meet Wednesday morning. This summer the group is very casual. Participants are invited to bring a question, concern or favorite Bible passage to be discussed. We have talked about angels, the Trinity and shared some of our own beliefs. The group is open to anyone. We gather at 9:30 am for some "catch-up" time and start the discussions at 10 am. Please drop in when ever you are able.

## Movie Discussion Group

The Movie discussion group will meet on August 4, 7:30 pm, in the Room 3. The movie being discussed is *Peaceful Warrior*. The story is about a young gymnast ,Dan Millman, and his struggle to make sense of his life in which he is successful but still unfulfilled. Through a chance encounter, Dan meets a mentor who will transform his life and guide him through personal setbacks.



## **Fellowship Hour:**

Volunteers are needed to host Fellowship Hour during August. You can sign up on the office door. Feel free to serve cold beverages, bring a treat or do whatever works for you that day. If no one signs up to host, there won't be treats, but feel free to stay and chat anyways!



Thank you to all who hosted Fellowship hour in July: Gretchen Henry and David King, Debbie Kaegebein and Dennis Bradley, Mary Ann Prouty, and the Schmidt family for hosting our annual cookout!

## **Kitchen Cleanup:**

Nancy Graham and Nancy Gasser are leading the cause! The goal is to clean and reorganize the kitchen. The August date is to be determined by those who are willing to lend a hand. If you are willing and able, please speak with Nancy Graham or contact the office.

## **PRAYER LIST**

Our prayers are with:

Debbie Kaegebein and her family on the death of her father.

The family Alderson Family on the death of Lloyd's mother



Z Opalka

Chrissy Audibert

Nancy Schmalz

George Mayo

Norman Schmidt

Gordon Thomson

Greg Schmidt

Priscilla, Margaret, and James Sullivan (Relatives of T. Dawkins)

Claire Watkins

Suzanne Powderly

Charlotte O'Shea

Vincent Rymanski

Matthew Schmidt

All those serving in the armed forces and their families

Our mission family, Isaiah, Iliana, Isaac and grandparents

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**Congregational Church of Harvard**

United Church of Christ  
5 Still River Road  
Harvard, MA 01451

Phone: 978-456-8788  
Fax: 978-456-9779



*No matter who you are or  
where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*

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**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

August 2008:

Greg Schmidt will generally be in the office Monday-Thursday, 9 am—Noon. Greg will continue to hold Friday as his day off. Should you need to speak with him outside of these hours, please call him at home.

Susan Buck will be at the church office Tuesday-Thursday, 9 am—3 pm. In case of emergency please call her at home.