



Christmas is coming... get ready for the 3rd Festival of Trees and Wreaths!

This year at the annual Christmas Fair & Lunch with Santa we are presenting our 3rd Festival of Trees & Wreaths. The sanctuary full of beautifully decorated and cleverly themed trees and wreaths has been a big hit over the last two years, and we hope to continue that success. Here's the plan:

1. Members of the congregation (i.e. you) provide an artificial tree or wreath, completely decorated in the theme of your choice (see ideas below).
2. All who attend the Fair & Lunch with Santa (i.e. the whole town) see these wonderful creations and have an opportunity to purchase a chance to win the tree/wreath of their choice.

Please consider donating a tree or wreath for the Festival. The date this year is December 6. It'll be here before we know it! So put on your thinking caps and plan your theme.

If you, or your family, or a group of friends would like to decorate & donate a tree or wreath, please contact Sharon Schmidt (772-1453) to learn more. Items need to be delivered to the church by Wednesday, December 3rd. Setting up the room is a challenge, and it helps to have the items well in advance.

Theme ideas: consider a "hook" with your tree (gift cards, toys, something somebody wants)

DVDs/Movies

Sports (Go Celts or Go Pats / trading card ornaments or game tickets)

Children's stuff (matchbox cars / teddy bears / Disney or cartoons / toys / animals / Barbies)

Born to shop (gift cards!)

Music (itunes, concert tickets)

Animal Themes (pet friendly, cat/dog lovers)

Cooking / Kitchen / Food

Winter (skiing/snowboarding / ice & snow / all white)

Tropical/Vacation (use palm trees / flip flops / beach stuff)

Home Improvement or Gardening

Office Supplies

Harvard themed (apples / photo ornaments from around town)

Colors (all gold & glittery / all red / rainbow)

Style (Victorian / traditional / southwestern / Asian)

Use your imagination! When you think about it, the possibilities are endless



MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Mission Family

We have received some information about our new mission family, and what kinds of things we might be able to provide for them. The family lives in Fitchburg and members include: Desiree (mother), Maritza (age 7), Monica (age 6), Elijah (age 4), Gabriel (age 2) and Anthony (newborn). We have information on the children's clothing sizes and interests, as well as things that the household needs. We asked if Desiree would be comfortable with any of us visiting to help out, and she welcomes this.

There are many ways to help:

We could help insulate her windows (more detailed information to follow)

We will plan to make monthly donations, as we did last year, which would include food and things to celebrate holidays and birthdays or to help out with specific needs. **It would be great to have a couple of people coordinate the monthly food donations.**

For the home:

Curtains and blinds for the windows

Living room furniture

Washer and dryer

Easel/chalkboard for the wall

Age appropriate activities for mom to do with the kids

Right now we are looking for donations for a Thanksgiving meal. We want to provide healthy foods and we need everything from a turkey to dessert, even some fun decorations!!

If you can donate one of the above items or can either provide food or coordinate a monthly donation, please contact Marcia Conant (456-9814 or conants4@charter.net) or anyone on the Missions Committee. Thanks!

Missions Committee: *Judy Cavanaugh, Marcia Conant, Susan Buck, Andrea Dickson, Buddy Schmidt, David McDonell, Chip Hurd*



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Movie Night Discussion meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30 in the corner classroom. Watch the chosen movie at your leisure and then join in on the monthly discussions. A new approach and dialogue is offered on some of your favorite films. The next movie up for discussion is *The Hustler*. Watch the movie and join us on November 3.

Book Discussion Group: Greg is offering an opportunity for readers in the congregation to gather and discuss books that contain religious/faith themes. The group will meet on the third Monday of the month. For those who prefer daytime gatherings we will gather at noon and for those who are available for evening, we will meet at 7:30 pm. Both meetings will be in the corner classroom. For November 17, please read *American Gospel: God, the Founding Fathers, and the Making of a Nation* by Jon Meacham.

Bible Study: The Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings. There is time for catching up and socializing at 9:30. The studying begins at 10. We are studying lectionary readings for Wednesdays. A list of readings is sent out each month. Newcomers are always welcome.

Sunday School News: The theme for Sunday School classes through Thanksgiving is *Making A Difference*. The multi-age curriculum will explore passages from the gospels as we look to answer the question, What is God calling us to do? Readings and projects will center on the hope and peace of faith in action to tend the light of God's love in ourselves and encourage it in all people, as Jesus did. This is a big undertaking but if we work together we can make a difference. Look for more information on the Christian Education bulletin Board and the At-Home pack distributed in the classrooms. All classes will be working on service projects with their offering collection.



Special Lunch Program sponsored by the Senior High Youth Group:

November 16th, 11:30 in Fellowship Hall

Come hear about the youth and adult service projects available through Down East Mission. Several of our kids have taken part in this service ministry and will share their experiences through slides and informal discussion. Lunch will be provided.



Advent Wreath Making - A Church Wide Event sponsored by the Christian Education Committee on November 30th, Celebrate the season of Advent in fellowship hall following the worship service. Enjoy lunch and learning about the tradition of the advent wreath as well as making a living wreath to use at home during the Advent Season. Supplies and lunch will be provided. If you have greens, holly, pine cones, berries & clippers please bring them along. If you have any questions, please speak with Pam Cochrane.

PRAYER LIST



Our prayers are with:

Linda LaRocque (Larry Hettinger's sister)	
Jim Wallace	Victoria Smith Ubben
Chrissy Audibert	Claire Watkins
Nancy Schmalz	George Mayo
Norman Schmidt	Dick Reed
Edward Culverhouse	Carol Shaw
Bill & Anita Tilley	David Crabtree
Claire & Bob L'Heureaux	Z Opalka
Richard Wells	Buddy Schmidt

All those serving in the armed forces and their families

FROM THE OFFICE

Reserving Rooms

Please call the church office, (978) 456-8788 or email office@harvarducc.com when planning meetings, fundraisers, etc to be sure the space is available.

Bulletin Announcements

Weekly announcements to be included in the Sunday Bulletin are due no later than **Wednesday 12 noon**. They should be directed to the **Church Office at: (978)456-8788** or send your information via email to: **office@harvarducc.com**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the November issue of THE TALE is Friday, November 14 (early date due to vacation week).

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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2008



Celebrate Advent
Advent lunch and Wreath making
Sunday, November 30
Following worship

