



Established
1818

CHURCH on the HILL

HOMELAND

Poem Written by ALFRED BAER,
Revere, Massachusetts February 2, 1971

*Is This the land of those persecuted?
Those people whose lives were prostituted,
By all the world's infamous tyrants,
Now look at how they walk like Giants,
With heads high up in the air,
And a Yarmulke, like a crown, atop the hair.*

*Is This the land of those homeless people?
In this homeland of Minaret and Steeple,
Look at their gentle determined faces,
Smiling and fighting for this home of all races,
Men and women, all Jews of the World,
Proudly together under one flag unfurled.*

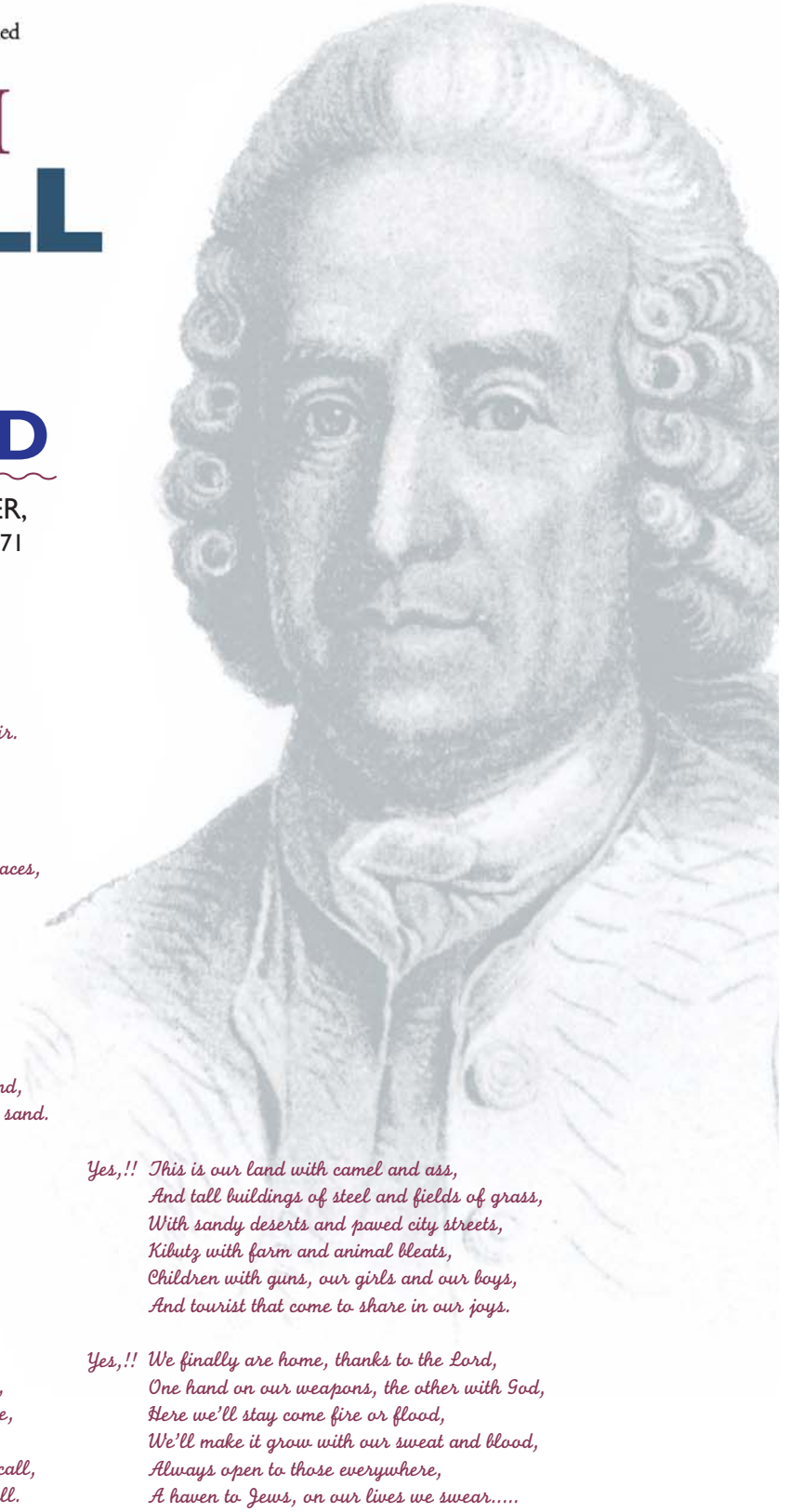
*This is the their land, 'twas given by Him,
To give up one inch would be a sin,
The bones of their great lie here in dust,
This they protect with love and guts,
In thousands of ways they improved the land,
They built and have grown on rocks and on sand.*

*This is my land, and your land too,
The major religions stem from a Jew.
Here Abraham, Moses and Joshua trod,
They all had an ear that listened to God,
Atheists, Moslems, The Arabs and More,
All Christian religions this country adore.*

*This is our land, the world must agree,
The land where God's chosen can walk free,
The land that waited for Jews to come home,
That none ever again shall walk all alone,
Where our voice can be raised in prayer to call,
At Solomon's Temple near the Western Wall.*

*Yes,!! This is our land with camel and ass,
And tall buildings of steel and fields of grass,
With sandy deserts and paved city streets,
Kibutz with farm and animal bleats,
Children with guns, our girls and our boys,
And tourist that come to share in our joys.*

*Yes,!! We finally are home, thanks to the Lord,
One hand on our weapons, the other with God,
Here we'll stay come fire or flood,
We'll make it grow with our sweat and blood,
Always open to those everywhere,
A haven to Jews, on our lives we swear.....*





Ministers:

The Reverend G. Steven Ellis, *Senior Pastor*
The Reverend Dr. J. Ted Klein, *Pastor*



Executive Officials:

Rex B. Ellis, *President*
Mary Guarino, *Vice President*
Tina Burm, *Secretary*
John Burke, *Treasurer*

Emeritus Officials:

Michael Latkowitz, *President Emeritus*
Thelma E. Hawkins, *Secretary Emeritus*

THE CHURCH ON THE HILL (SWEDENBORGIAN), also known as The Boston Society of the New Jerusalem, Incorporated - was organized as the Boston Society of the New Jerusalem on August, 15, 1818, and incorporated in the City of Boston under the Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on February 10, 1823.

The church is an independent organization for the observance of Swedenborgian teachings and the value inherent in those teachings. The church has no formal affiliation with any other Swedenborgian organizations.

The purpose of the church shall be to establish and maintain the public worship of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the Holy Word, and the teachings revealed in the writings of Emanuel Swedenborg. In following those teachings, the church shall maintain free and open worship of the Divine, and being independent, nondenominational, and interreligious, shall honor the good in all religions that seek to foster a positive regard for all humanity.

The church, through its directed wisdom and Divine guidance, shall foster stewardship, within the Doctrine of Uses, of the spiritual and physical assets which Divine Providence and labor and the work of God have made possible.

About The Church on the Hill

The roots of the Boston Society of the New Jerusalem are traced back to 1784, to the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston. Admirers of the philosophy of Swedenborg gathered at the tavern in a theosophical group that eventually organized the church in Boston in 1818. Chartered in 1823, the Boston Church of the New Jerusalem is the first Swedenborgian church established in Massachusetts. Members of the church met in several locations before finally settling in 1845 in its present location atop Beacon Hill, a location that inspired the more informal and more recognized name by which the church today is known: The Church on the Hill.

Through the years, membership of the church has included the noted Timothy Harrington Carter; founder of the Old Corner Book Store; Sampson Reed, mentor of Ralph Waldo Emerson; Lydia Maria Child, abolitionist; Warren Felt Evans, Healer; Theophilus Parsons, Dean of Harvard Law School; Theophilus P. Chandler, Architect; Clarence Barron, financier/editor of the *Wall Street Journal* and President of Dow Jones; George James Webb, hymnologist; and The Honorable Malcolm Nichols, Mayor of Boston.

A beautiful Gothic Revival structure served the membership until the mid-1960's when it was replaced with a new church facility and an eighteen story high-rise apartment building. Today, the main sanctuary of the church is accessible from Bowdoin Street. The Boston Society of the New Jerusalem is the birthplace of the Boston Clergy and Religious Leaders Group for Interfaith Dialogue that was founded by The Reverend G. Steven Ellis and The Reverend Carl Scovel, Rector Emeritus of King's Chapel. The church has also served as a place of worship and gatherings for the local Muslim Community and other faith-based communities. The church organizes and conducts monthly senior luncheons as well as musicals, and concerts. Use of the church facility is offered to human service and outreach organizations.

Church GOALS Adopted by Church Council and Trustees

- 1. Location:** To maintain our present church plant at the Bostonview Apartments, 140 Bowdoin Street/Beacon Hill, Boston, Massachusetts in perpetuity, in order to maintain our historical place and marked visibility in the surrounding community.
- 2. Theological Stance:** To maintain our Church as a non-denominational, independent, and interreligious Swedenborgian Church, and in accordance with our by-laws, public worship according to the Bible, the writings of Swedenborg, and other inspired works. (See Bylaws~The Church on the Hill.)
- 3. Uses-Stewardship:** To maintain our church community and outreach services in accordance with Swedenborg's Doctrine of Uses; i.e., service to the beloved Community (Church Members and Friends), and service to the Greater Boston Area.
- 4. Envisioning:** To enhance, keep viable, and expand our church programmatic services and outreach to our church community and the greater Boston community.

REX ELLIS UPDATE

We are happy to have Rex Ellis back following a weekend stay at the Massachusetts General Hospital where he had a checkup and some "medical maintenance." Rex expresses his appreciation for all the prayers, calls, and visitations. Rex got some much needed rest, yet he was sorry to miss the weekend services and some time with his daughter, Alex, and her friend, Doug, who were visiting from Kentucky. (Alex and Doug gave a report and slide show on their missionary trip to the Caribbean Islands.) We are happy to report that Rex is feeling fine, and is fine-tuned and back in the swing of things at the church.

A Service of Remembrance for

Alfred (Al) Baer

Sunday, June 12, 2005 at Church on the Hill



*Sargent Alfred (Al) Baer
Church Member, Retired Law
Enforcement Officer, Revere, MA
& Operation Israeli Advocate*

Al Baer died quietly in his sleep on Saturday, May 21, just hours before he had planned to come to his church on Sunday. We extend our most heartfelt condolences to Al's son, Steve, and daughter, Alicia Hamdy. Al was a regular attendant and joyful celebrant at our Sunday services. He rarely ever left a Sunday service without sharing how much he enjoyed coming to this church where there was always something inspirational, diverse and spiritually fulfilling. We thought it altogether fitting and proper to dedicate to Al a Sunday morning service in which we also honored Flag Day and Feast of Shavuot, an important Jewish holiday. Reverend Steve's extemporaneous eulogy was beautiful – and thankfully it was videotaped. A brief tribute was from the pulpit by Eddie Mac. Eddie's tribute, and photos celebrating Al's life, are printed in this newsletter.

CHURCH RECORD

Reinstated into Full Membership, June 12, 2005: Andrea Martin, Dr. Minor McLain, and Carolyn Peebles McLain.

Received into Full Membership: The Reverend Catherine Ono, Timothy Flynn, Ramona Chapin, Renee Rotondo, Josephine Hernandez, Sandy Kinarwdis, Lisa Nashowati, and Kelley Burke.

New Church Council Member: We are glad to announce that Mike Bancewicz has recently been appointed to serve as a member of the Church Council. Mike brings a wealth of experience and knowledge from the Interfaith Community, and a great knack for networking with the public. He is an active participant in Ecclesia Ministries and the organization known as common cathedral. Mike was also the caretaker for our dear church member, Tom Molloy, who passed into the higher life of uses last fall. We are appreciative for this energetic and zealous member of our church community.

ENDINGS & BEGINNINGS



*Based on Sermon of May 22, 2005
Rev. Dr. Ted Klein*

The idea of "endings and beginnings" came to me as I thought about events that occur in May and June. This is a time, for example, of graduations. A graduation is often called a "commencement." Graduation involves a completion and also a new beginning. Also, at this time, we are nearing the end of a church year. This

will be a completing or ending, but the life of our church community will go on and there will be beginnings. Think of this last church year. Consider what has reached completion, what beginnings are taking place, what future new beginnings might be.

Both endings and beginnings are vital to growth, and each phase or part of growth is vital. With others, ourselves, and our lives in community, there are endings, beginnings, and movements from beginnings toward completion. As beings interdependent with others, endings and beginnings for us are bound up with endings and beginnings for others. With whatever is happening, we can prayerfully be open to what God is guiding in beginning, moving along, ending.

Sometimes, a beginning will start something very new and different. For example, parts of [Isaiah](#), Chapter 65, picture a new creation with a beginning that grows into something radically new. God is nurturing this new creation – a creation of peace and harmony. [Ezekiel](#), Chapter 17, Verses 22 and 23, offers a wonderful image and story of growth. God plants a shoot, which grows into a great sheltering tree. In [John](#), Chapter 3, the reply of Jesus to Nicodemus, there is an account of being born again. This new birth or rebirth is different from, yet like, being born and growing up.

Swedenborg's work, [Divine Providence](#), in parts of No. 332, speaks of God's constancy in guiding each moment and phase of growth. God's providence continually works for needed beginnings, movements, and completions. The movement of providence with people is compared with the growth of a tree.

In nature there are many cycles of endings, beginnings, movement from endings to

beginnings, and completion and new beginnings. Spring is a time of new growth and planting. Completion of readiness has been reached, making way for new beginnings.

Let us look at our lives. Perhaps every moment in our lives has its endings and beginnings. Consider what you are aware of now. What is being completed for you?

What is beginning for you? In people's lives there are many kinds of endings and beginnings. Someone in an office or at home may complete one project and then go on to a new one. In relating to a person, we may reach a closure, and from that go on to new beginnings with that person. A child grows up to be 18, and then goes on in life as an adult. We can also think of communities in our lives, including our church community. At different times in a church year some efforts are completed and others are begun. With our church community we can now consider what needs to reach completion, what needs to begin, what next steps are needed, where is God moving and guiding, and how we can best respond.

Each of us, in looking to God and seeking to live well with others,

needs to be engaged again and again in rebirth. Sometimes a phase of rebirth will end, leading to a new phase. Sometimes, in rebirth, something needs to be ended and one needs to begin anew.

God's providence is continually guiding us. Sometimes God's leading may involve a completion or new beginning we don't see. Perhaps later we will be able to see how we have been guided. God's guiding involves grace and is beyond our part. Our task is to respond as best we can.

Pause to consider a situation in your life. What is needed in a situation? What can you contribute? What needs to close, what needs to begin, what needs to move along?

Prayer

As we consider our lives, let us turn to God. God, help us see something of Your guidance. Help us to see needed endings and beginnings – for others and ourselves. Help us to see what needs to be completed, to change, to begin, to go forward – in communities of which we are a part. Help us to do our part, to take needed steps. Help us to join with others for continued rebirth and proceeding forward in greater service. Amen.



AWARDS of APPRECIATION

...were given at the June 12, 2005 Annual Meeting to the following members of our church for service to the church above and beyond the call of duty:

Mary Guarino, Josie Calareso, Thomas Kennedy, and Anna Hunt Brown.



Maria MacKenzie showers praises and love on her church, as she recalls how God brought her to the Church on the Hill through His Loving Grace.

Tribute to Al Baer

Delivered by Edward J. Mackenzie on June 12th, 2005 at Church on the Hill

Al Baer, what a great guy, what a super guy, what a wonderful friend and member of our congregation. We are saddened that Al is gone, but we are happy that he does not suffer anymore- and that he is in a better place. He has gone to the Life of Higher Uses. Today, we celebrate the life of Al Baer: But, you know, while today we celebrate the life of Al Baer – the life of Al also celebrates our congregation. Al is still giving to us.

We are a congregation and a community of faith that is inclusive – that invites and welcomes people from many different religious backgrounds.

Yes, we are a Swedenborgian church – but worshipping here are Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus Buddhist, Unificationists, and people from other religious traditions.

Al Baer was Jewish. He grew up in and learned the Jewish faith. A few years ago, he became a member of our church. When Al joined the Church on the Hill, both the church and AL benefited.

Al and the Church on the Hill shared in the commitment to improve the world. Al and his Jewish faith and culture strengthened us. And we hope that all of us strengthened and improved Al's life.

The world could use more Al Baer's.

You know, Al was a cop in Revere for many years. And for many years I was the type of guy that Al Baer would be after – the type of guy he would be chasing. Al knew about my past – but he preferred to think of my past as just that – *my past*. Al let me know that he was more concerned and interested in what type of person I was now. He was more concerned and interested if now I was living the good life.

Yes, Al had wisdom. And so many gifts that he shared with us.

We are better by experiencing Al's smile, his bear hug, and his zest for living. I know that the term "zest for living" is something of a cliché. But the fact is there are too many people who just mope and just exist. That wasn't Al. Al may be gone in the flesh, but he remains with us in spirit. And he continues to counsel us in living life fully and with that zeal.

At sundown today, the major Jewish holiday Shavuot begins. Shavuot – also know as the Feast of Weeks – celebrates the harvest season. Shavuot also commemorates God giving the Ten Commandments to Moses and the Israelites at Mount Sinai.

So it is fitting that today we celebrate the life of Al Baer:

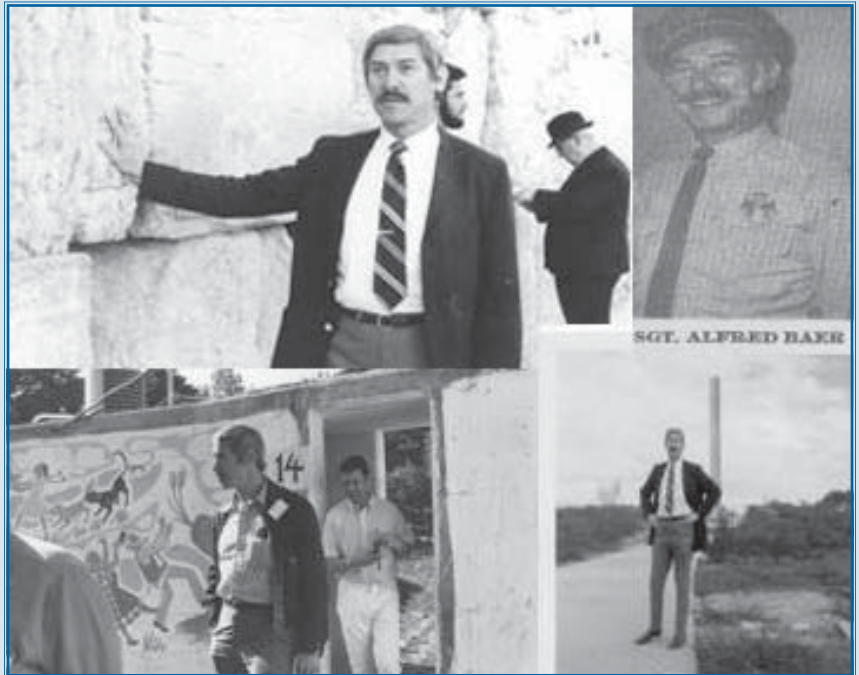
For you see, while the Ten Commandments were given to the Israelites, the commandments are moral directives that can improve all our lives – no matter the religion we follow.

Al was Jewish – and he was *our* brother in faith and good will. And he was *your* brother in faith and good will no matter if you were a Christian, or a Jew, or a Buddhist, or a Hindu, or a Unificationist, or an adherent to another religious doctrine.

We thank God for having blessed us with Al. And today Al lives a blessed existence in the Life of Higher Uses.

And I am sure that someday all of us will meet again- and he will surely meet us with his customary smile and bear hug.

Thank you and God Bless,
Edward J. Mackenzie, Jr.



Clockwise starting from top left:
Al Baer at the Western Wall, Photo 1971. Revere, MA Police Officer. Al at the Yad HaShem Shrine For Victims of the Holocaust. Al at Bomb Shelter for children on the West Bank.

A Daughter SENDS HER THANKS

From Alicia Hamdy, daughter of Al Baer,
on the passing of her father.

Dearest Reverend Steve,

Thank you so much for the kindest emails. My father was very fond of you as well as Brenda. He spoke very highly of you and others that gathered at your sweet little church on the hill. This is such a difficult time, but through it all, I have to say, that I believe your church and fellow "soul mates" had a wonderful effect on my father's life. I believe you all brought a peace and joy to him that he could not find elsewhere.

My Dad was a man of many questions and many answers as well. It is touching to see and feel the warmth of everyone in these letters and phone calls. I wish I could bundle them all up and spread them throughout our world so others can see that even strangers make such a difference in our lives.

It took me several days before I could open these letters because I am so beside myself with sadness, grief, and anger. But, now that I have, I would like to thank you all for giving me back what I always knew: my dad really was a special man, and he, like all of you, makes a difference. May God bless and keep all of you safe, happy, and healthy.

Always,
Alicia

P.S. Some of you may know me as Lisa, but my given name is Alicia.

INTERFAITH MEMORIAL FOR THE HOMELESS

“People continue to die homeless both on the street and in shelters. This is a fact we can never allow anyone to forget.”

Sister Linda Bessom

On Wednesday, May 25, from 12 to 1 p.m., at the Church on the Hill, The Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance (MHSA), Faith Into Action Together (FIAT), and Social Action Ministries (SAM) held the Interfaith Service of Remembrance for those who have died homeless in Massachusetts.

This service, in which those who died homeless in the Commonwealth are remembered,

is held annually on the Wednesday prior to Memorial Day. This was the first year that the ceremony was held at our church. The ceremony was not only a memorial for the homeless in Massachusetts, but it also served as a transition to the National Day of Remembrance that will be held on December 21, 2005.

We were honored to have Massachusetts Representative Anne M. Paulsen, D., District Twenty-Fourth Middlesex, from The Massachusetts State House in attendance. Special appreciation is given to Jocelyn Hoey, Joe Finn, Executive Director, Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance (MHSA); Sister Linda Bessom, SND, the coordinator of Faith Into Action Together Coordinator/ Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless; and the staff of the Church on the Hill.

A report of the Remembrance Service for the Homeless with photographs of the service held in our church was published in *Spare Change*.

Thank you to Solutions at Work founder, Macey Delong, for the good write up with quotes from members of our church and the touching testimonies given by the homeless

Sister Linda Bessom of FIAT/Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless sent the following letter to our church in response to the service:

The memories of yesterday's Interfaith Service of Remembrance continue to linger and touch me deeply, and I'm sure for us all.

I wish to thank you for your graciousness, collaboration and caring as hosts of our Service of Remembrance, as we now transition to December 21, 2005 the National Day of Remembrance. The piano accompaniment and the soloist La'Tarsha Long, truly added to the spirit of this service. The delicious fellowship luncheon provided a further context for feeding each other, and the unexpected soloist from the Falmouth Baptist Church was inspirational and a delight. Eighteen people have signed up for the December 21st Interfaith Planning Committee! I'm sure this is the result of a compelling call that came from the service itself! I am sure this committee will expand over the next few months. Thank you again for your generosity and hospitality in hosting this service at the Church on the Hill!

Most gratefully,

SISTER LINDA BESSOM, SND

ADVOCACY for HEALTHCARE REFORM

Reverend G. Steven Ellis and the Church on the Hill hosted a Religious Leader Press Conference on June 8 as part of Health Care Action Day. Health Care Action day is an attempt by the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) to increase awareness of the hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents that have a little or no health insurance.

GBIO members who attended the conference marched in solidarity across the street to the State House and presented their GBIO Health Reform Platform to members of the Legislature and the Romney Administration.

What a wonderful outpouring of support and community! When Brenda and I arrived at the church at five in the morning, Ed and Rex were already in the kitchen preparing a fantastic continental fare for the overflow of interreligious leaders and social activists from the city of Boston. The TV stations NECN, FOX 25, and Channel 7 were on hand to report on the event.

Perhaps the central component of the inspiring and educational event was the eloquent, poignant, and uplifting messages in support of social reform that the city clergy delivered from the pulpit.

The event was reminiscent of the earlier days of the Boston Interfaith Clergy Group, founded by the Reverend Carl Scovel and me. There was so much energy and good will as the ministers, spiritual leaders, and other activists gathered for a meeting with officials at the State House. Several have reported seeing Brenda on the Channel 7 News proceeding from the Church to the State House. It was a real treat to have the Rev. Olsen, former member of our church choir, leading the singing. Rev. Olson, past President of the GBIO, will be moving to Flint, MI. We were highly honored to also have with us the new executive director of the GBIO, Sherry Andes. The exuberant chanting of the Hebrew scriptures

and singing lifted us in the spirit of advocacy. What a thrill to hear all the dynamic speakers, and to see our own Rev. Dr. Tina Saxon center stage with so many clergy representing congregations from throughout Greater Boston!

The Reverend Dr. Ted Klein even made it over to the State House, after participating in the church event. Special thanks to Ed MacKenzie for directing the physical plant and operations. Thanks to Ronnie MacKenzie for a thorough job as church sexton. Special thanks to Brenda Ellis, Interfaith director for the Church on the Hill, Rev. Dr. Ted Klein, Rev. Ellis, Sandy Felder, and Father Edward Boyle, executive director of the Massachusetts Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice. The occasion was so festive with the blue and white balloons, and the GBIO T-shirts. It was a day of accomplishment not only in the GBIO endeavor, but also in getting our routine duties done all the same, thanks mainly to Tina Burm. Our church has a lot to be proud of, but mostly because we were able to host such a worthy cause at the Church on the Hill in fulfillment of our belief that to worship the Lord implies being of service in a Life of Use. It was really good to see Mom Ellis make her way to the event, and to see that she was feeling well enough to visit! Thanks for your prayers and thank you, Lord, for this day you made for the rejoicing of our hearts.

PASTOR STEVE



Correspondence

Welcome GUESTS

We were delighted to have as guests and visitors to our church, **Angus and Janet Macpherson**, from the Church of the New Jerusalem in Scotland. Rex sent the following letter in appreciation of their visit:

Angus and Janet Macpherson,

As President of the Boston Society of the New Jerusalem, Inc., and Chairman of the board of trustees of the BSNJ, Inc., I would like to thank you for taking time out of your holiday schedule in America and stopping by our Church on the Hill during your visit in Boston, Massachusetts. I trust that your visit to our church was enjoyable and you will come back and visit us for a regularly scheduled worship service on your next visit to Boston.

We extend our warmest greetings to you and the members of your Church of the New Jerusalem in Scotland and welcome any and all visitors to come and worship with us when you visit America. May the spirit of Swedenborg dwell in your assembly.

REX B. ELLIS,
President, BSNJ

GREAT TO HAVE YOU HERE, REV. McCLUSKEY

We were honored happy to have the **Reverend Robert McCluskey**, Convention Minister, and former minister of the Portland, ME and New York Society, in attendance at one of our recent church services. Rev. McCluskey and Rev. Steve started at the Swedenborg seminary the same year: Rev. McCluskey, Paul Gunita (deceased), and Rev. Ellis were the only members of the first-year class.

A Note from JANET SECKEL-CERROTTI

Janet Seckel-Cerrotti, of Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers, writes:

Dear Steve,

I was happy to read such an upbeat report from you of the service, annual meeting and activities. You have suffered long and hard but I do believe I see a renewal and shall I say even much joy!!!

Happy Shavuot! Many blessings to you and your congregation. -Janet



The Kennedy Clan: In the middle are Tom and Michelle. Far left is their son, Matt, and far right is their son, Mike. Front row, from left to right are Tom and Michelle's grandsons, Jared and Mike.

Called to the Life of Higher Uses

Our sympathy is extended to Allan Hodgskins on the passing of his mother, **Melba Hodgskins**, on March 1, 2005, at the grand old age of 103.5 years. Our church had visited and performed a concert at the nursing home where Melba resided.

ON THE WAY!

It is said that often with a death comes a life. Allan Hodgskins's son, Scott, 41, and his wife, Carol, 38, are expecting a baby sometime in December.

CloeyARRIVES!

Congratulations to Nicole and Bret Brockway on the birth of their beautiful daughter, Cloey, on June 16, 2005. The Brockways reside in Germany where Brett is stationed in the Air Force. He recently served a tour in Iraq and is expected to do a second tour soon.

Our best wishes, love and prayers are extended to the newly born baby girl, Nicole and Bret. We salute Bret Brockway for his service to our nation and pray that God will surround Bret with protection and peaceful resolve.



Bret and Nicole Brockway.



MARY AND ALLAN HAVE MOVED

Mary Ann Burdett and Allan Hodgskins have moved to their new summer home in New Hampshire. For their new address, please call the church office.

Mary Ann Burdett and Allan Hodgskins

Carlton Doctor, Boston Church on the Hill choir member and chair of the Choir Committee, has recently appeared at Boston's Schubert Theatre in seven performances of the classic lyric opera, "Eugene Onegin," written by Tchaikovsky, and based on the novel of the same name by Aleksandr Pushkin. Carlton has been singing with the Boston Lyric Opera for ten years. Richard Dyer, Boston Globe critic, writes, "The Boston Lyric Opera's version of 'Onegin' is a bold brave effort, and much of it is compelling." T. J. Medrek, Boston Herald critic, writes, "The Boston Lyric Opera's 'Eugene Onegin' performance is as close to perfection as you would want." The Boston Phoenix says "The Boston Lyric Opera's Eugene Onegin trumps the enjoyable 'Camen' that Teatro Lyrico brought to Boston two weeks ago." Carlton hopes to sign with the Boston Lyric Opera again next year.





MEMORIAL DAY

On Memorial Day Weekend, Sunday, May 27, 2005 our church gathered for worship at the graveside of Rev. James Reed, Sampson Reed, and other members of the Reed family, as well as graves of other early pioneers of our Boston Church. It was the first service held in the old section of the spacious and beautiful garden memorial at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts since the early 1950's. It was a history-making event as we reached out to touch the past and recall the vision and goodness of those whose lives were lived, in support of our faith community, for the generations of people who were yet to come. Like these pioneers, we are called to live our lives unselfishly, and to make our world a better place for our having been here. At the service, our choir, accompanied by a skilled and gifted bagpiper, performed "Amazing Grace" and "Auld Lang Sine." The wonderful music, performed amid such a beautiful landscape, transported our thoughts and feelings to a calm and serene place. Robert von Wolfgang, our church historian, gave us an insightful presentation and history lessons about Mount Auburn Cemetery. As "Taps" was played, the congregation placed a beautiful wreath at the tomb of the Reed's.

A Surprise Spiritual Father's Day party...

...honoring Rev. Dr. J. Theodore Klein, was held on Sunday, June 19, 2005, following our morning service honoring Father's Day and New Church Day. The event was a special time to honor our dear church member, pastor, and friend who has graced our church with his steady and loving devotion. Rev. Ted is a man of immense love and integrity. He has stood firm in his conviction with the church in Boston, and has suffered unwarrantedly for his stance. Rev. Ellis said, "It is high time we pay tribute to and honor this great giant and man of God who consistently ministers to the needs of our church community and outreach."

We are blessed to have Ted as a minister in our church. He is an incredible inspiration to us all, and truly a Man of God.

During the party, Ted's lovely wife and soul-mate, Dr. Mary Kaye, gave a brief talk in which she said, "Sunday, June 19, would have been Ted's father's 100th birthday. Harald Immanuel Klein was born on June 19, 1905. He passed on in 1976. Harald Klein's father (Ted's grandfather) was the Rev. David Harald Klein, Swedenborgian minister, who was serving in Glenview Illinois, at the time of Harald's birth. We always wondered if Ted's dad got his middle name as a result of being born on 'New Church Day,' June 19th. Ted is also related to the Rev. David Powell, another Swedenborgian minister; through his mother's family. Not sure of the exact relationship, though, I think David Powell may have been his great-grandfather's brother. (This same David Powell is also an ancestor of the Rev. David Powell Johnson, current Swedenborgian minister, who is distantly related to Ted.) So, you can see, there is a long family history of Swedenborgian ministry!" Dr. Mary Kaye Klein also shared with those gathered at the celebration that her husband is really looking forward to the future, and to the Church's activities and accomplishments, as a force for good, both within the parish, and in the city of Boston through various outreach and inter-faith efforts. For those of us who know Rev. Dr. Klein there can be no doubt that Swedenborg's doctrine of USE is very important to him.

We were honored to have at the celebration, Rev. Dr. Klein and Dr. Mary Kaye, and their son, Kevin; their daughter, Karen, and her husband James. Their

A True SCHOLAR

David Dorsey earned the highest grade point average in his animation course program at program at Boston University, Waltham, Massachusetts. David also won first place in the Third International Animation Contest held by Digital Tutors, a leading online graphics school. David received the following letter from Hillary Ahrens, director of operations for Digital Tutors:



David Dorsey,
US Marine

Dear David:

Congratulations you won 1st place in the novice category of the Digital-Tutors Teratology challenge. We enjoyed seeing your work and appreciate your participation. We would like to feature some of your work in our newsletter. If you have some you would like us to use, we would appreciate you sending it to us.

Once again, thanks for participating and congratulations!

Best Regards,

Hillary Ahrens, Director of Operations, Digital-Tutors.

Note: When the Church on the Hill has computer problems, it turns to David to save the day. Thanks, David, and good luck in your studies and career choice.

Edward J. Mackenzie, Jr, the father of six lovely girls writes:

Many kids take fathers for granted. I know this well; they mean well, but haven't truly learned appreciation. As an avid reader, I remember a passage from Mark Twain that often reminds me of how kids take fathers for granted. Twain wrote,

"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I turned 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

Father's Day
June 19, 2005

other son, John, and his wife, Myr, and Willow, John and Myr's daughter, were unable to attend.

From the Reverend Dr. Ted Klein (a note he sent along on June 20th):

I want to thank all involved in the church for the special recognition I received yesterday. It is a great blessing to be part of the church and to work with Pastor Steve and the church. I am also really blessed by the people I work with in the office; those I see the most in the office are Steve, Brenda, Tina, Ed, and Rex; but of course when I come in I see other members of the church as well.

Blessings to each of you, Rev. Ted



Clockwise from Top: Dr. Mary Kaye Klein, wife of Rev. Dr. Klein; Rev. Dr. Klein and his son Kevin; Rev. Dr. Klein's special Father's Day cake on which he is pictured with his Family.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost Sunday, was a really great day at the church; it was a great day because so many of you worked so hard to make it a great day. The day before, Ed and Courtney worked all day at the church cooking and getting the dinner ready and the aroma of the food was exquisite when Rex and I came in late Saturday evening to clean my office. The young people really pitched in and all worked wonderfully together on the dinner preparations and serving and cleaning. Sherry and Maria Mackenzie really put their elbows to the grease and cleaned the kitchen, with help from some of the ladies in the church: Mary Guarino, Josie Calareso, Josephine Hernandez, and others. It was so good to see the young people at church assisting on the platform, with the magic and supervision of Mary Benjamin. Christopher Palluccio opened the Word; he reads expertly. Rebecca Palluccio, and Kaelyn Burm were sweet and helped to snuff the candles and close the Word. The platform was full of devoted members sharing and speaking. Thelma did a great job greeting Dr. Head and Bob Keller, and talking about Urbana and her experience there. Reverend Tina Saxon gave an electrifying prayer and mini-talk.

Reverend Dr. Ted told about his days at Urbana, and Ed MacKenzie gave a profound introduction to Dr. Head, as well as talking about the importance of higher education. I preached on Pentecost, and the early history of the Boston Church, the Boston Massacre near the Bunch of Grapes Tavern, and Boston's early connection with Ohio and eventually Urbana University. The band was dynamite and truly riveting! Juliet did a great job directing the choir, singing, and overseeing and managing the instrumentals. We had the doors to the street open and people would come in to hear the music and to catch a few words. Brother Louis Partin read the story of the day of Pentecost, and interacted with the congregation to help illustrate and effectively describe the story. From the front door to the back, many people were helping and getting involved in the dynamics of the worship service. Dr. Head gave a short and poignant speech.

At the Johnny Appleseed Luncheon we had special music: Grace Lu, Chinese artist performed on a 2500-year-old instrument. It was astounding. Dr. Head gave a Power Point presentation of Urbana and we all left satisfied that the day had been worth the effort. Now, I no doubt left someone out of the picture, but that was not my intent. So, if I failed to mention you, toot your own horn, because if you came you helped to make it all worth the toot!

Thanks also to Rex, David, and Robert von Wolfgang. Nancy, you are a great photographer! Say cheese!

REV. STEVE



SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

Tuesday, July 5

Happy birthday to Pastor Rev. Steve Ellis

Sunday, July 31

11:00 am Church Service: "Our Efforts and God's Grace"
Noon - Luncheon

AUGUST

Sunday, August 14

11:00 am - Swedenborg Class:
"Why Do Bad Things Happen?"
Noon - Devotional
12:15 pm - Luncheon

Sunday, August 28

11:00 am - Swedenborg Class:
"Going On When Bad Things Happen"
Noon - Devotional
12:15 pm - Luncheon

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 11

11:00 am - Special Remembrance Service for 9/11

Sunday, September 18

11:00 am - Opening Service of New Church Year



Church on The Hill (Swedenborgian)

The Boston Society of the New Jerusalem, Inc.

140 Bowdoin Street, Beacon Hill
Boston, MA 02108-2799



“ Everything can be improved. ”

- Clarence W. Barron
Beloved Member of the Boston Church
Born July 2, 1855, in Boston; died Oct. 2, 1928
President, Dow Jones & Company (1912-28)
Editor of the Wall Street Journal
Founder and Editor, Barron's, (1921)

“Religion is wholly a matter of life and its life is doing what is good.” - Emanuel Swedenborg