



Jesus said "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28

March 20, 2014

First Day of Spring



*Like the seeds dreaming beneath the snow
your heart dreams of Spring.*

- Unknown

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Carlton Doctor, *Minister of Music*
 Victor Cayres de Mendonca, *Organist and Pianist*

GOALS AND OUR LIFE AS A CHURCH

- ❖ Seeking to be guided by love of God, love of others, being in community, seeking to be of service.
- ❖ Church services and classes being vital and central.
- ❖ Nurturing teamwork and community throughout the church.
- ❖ The church welcoming diversity of people working together as one.
- ❖ Developing a pervasive spirit of caring in the church community.
- ❖ The church developing as welcoming of all generations (from children to senior).
- ❖ Concerted efforts to involve young people more fully in the life of the church. Perhaps with aid from adults, having leadership emerge from young people. Involvement of young people in service projects in the community.
- ❖ Strengthening of programs for seniors, drawing on resources both within and outside the church.
- ❖ Developing processes for ministry preparation.
- ❖ Growth of participation from the congregation in the church activities.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

New Jerusalem Church

Circa 1845

The foundation of the Boston Society of the New Jerusalem (BSNJ) can be traced back to 1784 and the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston. It was then and there that admirers of, and those interested in learning more about, Emanuel Swedenborg first met to hear a lecture on Swedenborg by James Glen. In 1818, twelve people, some of whom were among the early "Green Dragon Tavern crowd," organized a Swedenborgian Church in the city. Chartered in 1823, the Boston Society of the New Jerusalem, Inc. is the first Swedenborgian Church established in Massachusetts. Members of the Church met at several locations before finally settling in 1845 at its present location atop Beacon Hill. The location inspired the name by which many today know the society: the Church on the Hill (Swedenborgian). Through the years, noted BSNJ members include Timothy Harrington Carter, publisher, and founder of the Old Corner Book Store; Sampson Reed, writer and mentor of Ralph Waldo Emerson; Lydia Maria Child, author, social activist and abolitionist; Warren Felt Evans, writer and healer;

Theophilus Parsons, dean of Harvard Law School; Otis Clapp, apothecary, publisher, member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, co-founder of The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.), Boston University, and founder of The Home for Little Wanderers; 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 1960s when it was replaced with a new Church building and an eighteen story high-rise apartment. Today, the main sanctuary of the Church is accessible from Bowdoin Street. The Church has also served as a place of worship and gatherings for the local Muslim Community and other faith-based communities. The Church has organizes and runs many programs to meet the needs of the Church community and larger surrounding neighborhood.

Use of the Church facility is offered to human service and outreach organizations.



From Craig Williams



Hi everyone,

February was a month full of bitter coldness, heavy snowfall, brutal winds, and a few nice days mixed in. I'm excited for the winter to end and for spring to arrive. Just a few more weeks! Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 9.

We held our annual winter members meeting on February 23. We voted in three new members, so when you see them congratulate Charlie Pham, Lisa Hadley, and Richard Berman. Welcome to the Church on the Hill family!

The church hosting a Max Reger Foundation concert on February 11. It featured Rachele Schmiede, Alexandra Dietrich, and Lindsay Conrad, from our choir, and Mark McNeill on piano (see page 9). We had a great turn out and the music was beautiful.

As I mentioned last month, a few of my friends are working on a documentary that they will start filming in April. Over three months, they are going to drive from California and back through Central America, and into Brazil to the World Cup. Along the way, they will be stopping to interview locals about the impact of soccer on their community. Though soccer isn't a major sport in USA, it is very important to

many other countries. Some places depend on their soccer club for their economy to survive. They are looking for donations to make this project a reality. If you would like to help, please visit [Facebook.com/AmericanFutbolMovie](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanFutbolMovie).

We are going to be starting a Membership Workshop once a month. We will be holding one on one interviews with anyone interested on March 9, from 6-9 PM. You can read more about this on page 4.

With the warm weather getting closer, our Youth Leader Eduardo Gonzalez has begun planning some youth outings. Last year's scavenger hunt turned out to be a big success, much like the George's Island trip he organized. We will keep you posted when we have some definite plans and dates in place.

Church member Anthony Gonzalez is participating in "The Greatest Party on Earth" sponsored by Artists for Humanity on April 26th (see page 8). He has sold his paintings there in the past and we have two of his pieces hanging in our main hallway outside of the sanctuary. For more information, go to AFHBoston.org.

Baseball season is just around the corner! The Red Sox have their first game on March 31 and their home opener against the New York Yankees is on April 4. I can't wait for the season to start and hopefully we can bring home another World Series trophy!

Go **Red Sox!**

Craig



Walking in the
Way of Peace



The Rev. Dr. Karen Nell Smith



The Rev. Dr. Peter Wells

A ministry of conflict transformation and peace-building that has served over 100 churches throughout New England, the "Walking in the Way" program was created by Beverly Prestwood-Taylor and Karen Nell Smith in 2001 to provide neutral third-party assistance to congregations in times of transition and turmoil, as they work through issues of conflict, or in seeking to strengthen their peacemaking skills as communities of faith.

"Walking in the Way*" is more than a program, or a process, or a set of tools for addressing conflict. "Walking in the Way" implies a manner of living and a way of being. If we decide to "walk in the Way," we are choosing to be Christian peace-builders with a vision of covenantal relationship, both within our congregations and extending to our global community. "Walking in the Way" requires not only learning new skills and the theory and theology of peace-building, but also requires a willingness to undergo personal transformation.

In working with church communities in turmoil or transition, we take a three-fold approach.

First, we gather the facts and establish a covenant... Our first step is to gather and understand initial facts and perceptions in order to bring light to the issues and concerns at hand. This is accomplished by listening actively and respectfully to all involved. In this step we often ask the congregation to form a "core group" of 12 to 15 individuals who broadly represent all the voices in the congregation. This group will be invited to work and learn with us and to lead the congregation as they "Walk in the Way."

Then, we attend to 'the body' by facilitating a series of sessions... Beginning with the core group and joining them in expanding the dialogue to others in the congregation, we address the issues at hand by moving through the "Walking in the Way" process—standing, reaching out, joining hands, and walking together. Our focus is on bringing the skills and attitudes of conflict transformation to the leaders and members of the congregations we serve, so that they can bring them to bear on present and future conflicts.

Throughout, we strengthen the community of faith by encouraging spiritual growth, new awareness, and healing... Our work together includes the introduction of new skills and concepts including a "[behavioral covenant](#)," as well as on-going coaching and support as new approaches are immediately put into practice in addressing the current issues and challenges. We weave a thread of spiritual reflection and prayer throughout everything we do, believing that God's hand is always present in conflict offering each and all a divine opportunity to heal and to grow as individuals and as a congregation.

Hello Everyone,

2014 is really coming together nicely, We have come along way in the last year and it seems as though we have an outstanding momentum of energy and interests moving forward. I want to begin with something important and crucial to the well being of our church community;

IMPORTANT

In the past decade our church has undergone much transition, some good some rather painful. Through all of this, we have been able to pursue our mission of being of uses and provide a spiritual and nurturing home for us to worship and fellowship. I feel that we are healthier than we have been in quite some time and the climate is very conducive to working and growing in cooperation with one another. Change. With this in mind, the Church Council has elected to invite two facilitators from the Brookfield Institute, Rev. Dr. Peter Wells and Rev. Dr. Karen Nell Smith, to come and introduce to us a series of workshops called "Walking in the Way of Peace".

I strongly urge each and every one of you to be part of the process and participate as much as possible. Each of you, as part of the church family should contribute ideas and hopes of where we want our church to be and how we move forward, Prior to the workshops we will be mailing and handing out small questionnaires to be filled out by the members. I beg you to fill these out and contribute to the process.

The Workshops will be taking place on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 9:00 PM we will be serving light fare from 5:30 - 6:00.

You will be receiving a questionnaire in the mail that we would like you to fill out and return to the Church.

I will include the questions at the bottom of the page in the event that you did not receive one in the mail

Peace,

Mike

1. How long have you been a member of Church on the Hill? Briefly introduce yourself and describe your involvement over the years.
2. Describe a peak experience or a high point for you in the Church. This would be a time when you were most alive and engaged, or when you felt joy and the Spirit's moving.
3. What do you cherish about the Church, the congregation and its worshipping and working life together?
4. What is working really well in the corporate and spiritual life of the congregation, from your perspective?
5. What do you believe the congregation should be doing more of, and what needs to be strengthened or improved in order to achieve that goal?
6. From your point of view, what are the greatest challenges facing the Church at this time?
7. Ten years from now, you come as a visitor to the Church. What would you hope to see and experience? Describe what you're envisioning in as much detail as you can.
8. Other thoughts, questions or comments?

From the Minister of Music -

We all know that this has been the coldest winter on record. But, some of us also know that the Reger Concert Series had its largest attendance, to date, at the February 11th concert. You turned out in large numbers to support three of the singers that you hear on a regular basis on Sunday mornings, thank you. Lindsay Conrad opened the evening with music by Claude Debussy, her French was perfectly articulated, the musical phrasing was magical and the singing was beautiful. Rachele Schmiege sang the Strauss lieder with musical accuracy, expressive phrasing and rich vocal tone. The rich mezzo of Alexandra Dietrich was full bodied and had a bell like quality. Their singing in "Der Rosenkavlier Trio" was delicate and at the same time very powerful; they know how to make the dynamics and phrasing in Strauss' music work. At the end of the concert everyone was on their feet; Brava Ladies, 'this was great music'!



A few weeks later our organist/pianist, Victor Cayres gave a solo recital at Boston University. At 8:00 pm on February 26th Victor walked onto the stage at Tsai Center Auditorium and took a nice bow to acknowledge the applause that greeted him. Then he sat down at the piano and the magic began. He started the program with the Haydn's "Sonata in G Major". The articulation of each note was perfectly arranged within each phrase. Next came music by Bartok, then Franck's "Prelude, Choral et Fugue" and the program closed with Schumann's "Carnaval, Op. 9". As the program progressed one had the feeling that his playing portrayed an entire school of Fine Arts. One moment his playing was like the finest sounds ever made on a piano, at the same time his hands looked like a dancer, with every movement expertly choreographed and executed with poise, balance and strength. As he moved through each section of the Franck it was like seeing the finest piece of art, each image very vividly detailed in rich colors and texture. The concert was amazing!

Please plan on joining us on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 (7:30 PM) for a piano recital by Phuong Nghi Pham.

I will see you at our regular Sunday morning services.

Carlton J. Doctor
Minister of Music

Corinthians 13:4-7

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

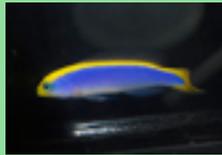
AQUARIUM UPDATE

Within the past month, our aquarium has gone from a mere glass box to a thriving marine ecosystem. The habitat is now a home to over two dozen fishes, one hundred invertebrates, and a large collection of corals. These animals are beginning to settle into their new environment, establishing their respective territories and finding a niche among the population. Some of these fishes are active open water swimmers, like the three Blue Reef Chromis, while others are cryptic, darting from cave to cave, like the Sunrise Dottyback. Fear not "Nemo" fans; there are two clownfish whom call this reef their home as well. In the coming weeks, a digital infographic component will be incorporated into the cabinetry allowing our patrons to not only enjoy the beauty of the tank, but learn about all the creatures within. Next week we will be demonstrating this educational component on the screen next to the aquarium. Look for further updates next week.

-Contemporary Aquatics



Blue Reef Chromis



Sunrise Dottyback



Fathead Anthias



Chalk Basslet



Fighting Conch



Brain Coral

"We must restore hope to young people, help the old,
be open to the future, spread love.
We need to include the excluded and preach peace."

Pope Francis

afh artists for humanity

THE 9TH ANNUAL

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Henry Goodwin at 617-268-7820 • hgoodwin@afhboston.org

02108272253

Michael Bancowitz
130 Bowdoin Street
Boston, MA 02108

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to change your clocks one hour ahead on March 9th. It is probably easier for people to change it the night of the 8th before going to bed.



SPRING
AHEAD

Our friend Richard Berman is hosting a continental breakfast to support the Best Buddies Hyannisport Challenge". The breakfast is at St. Paul's Cathedral (238 Tremont St.) on March 24 from 9 - 11 AM. There is a suggested donation on \$5.00 that will go to Best Buddies to directly support the challenge. The "Best Buddies Hyannisport Challenge" is a 5K walk on May 31. Richard has hosted several events for Best Buddies in the past, including some here at Church on the Hill. Best Buddies is a very good charity and hopefully you can attend.





Following the Max Reger Foundation Concert on February 11, 214 at Church on the Hill. There were a lot of people in attendance and it was a beautiful performance.

From Left to Right: Mark McNeill - Piano, Rachele Schmiege - Soprano, Alexandra Dietrich - Mezzo Soprano, Lindsay Conrad - Soprano.

Here are the correct answers from last month's Sudoku puzzle.

We had a lot of 100% winners this month as well as some with only a couple of mistakes, and they're going to keep getting tougher!

The winner of last month's Sudoku puzzle is...
Rene Rotundo!

Congratulations and we will get your gift certificate to you soon!

8	2	1	7	6	5	9	3	4
4	6	9	3	8	2	1	7	5
5	7	3	4	9	1	8	6	2
6	3	2	8	4	9	5	1	7
1	8	7	5	3	6	4	2	9
9	4	5	1	2	7	6	8	3
3	1	6	2	5	4	7	9	8
7	5	8	9	1	3	2	4	6
2	9	4	6	7	8	3	5	1

Church Calendar Events 2014

All are welcome. Come as you are.

March 2014

Sunday, March 2	11:00 AM	Church Service and Communion
Wednesday, March 5	4:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
	5:00 PM	Board of Trustee Meeting
Sunday, March 9		Daylight Savings. Spring ahead 1 hour
	6-9:00 PM	Membership Workshop interviews
	11:00 AM	Church Service
Sunday, March 16	11:00 AM	Church Service
Monday, March 17		St. Patrick's Day
Wednesday, March 19	12:00 Noon	Senior Lunch
	7:30 PM	Vagabonds Open Mic Coffee House
Sunday, March 23	11:00 AM	Church Service
Sunday, March 30	11:00 AM	Church Service



April 2014

Wednesday, April 2	4:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
	5:00 PM	Board of Trustee Meeting
Sunday, April 6	11:00 AM	Church Service and Communion
Sunday, April 13	11:00 AM	Palm Sunday. Church Service
Wednesday, April 16	12:00 Noon	Senior Lunch
	7:30 PM	Vagabonds Open Mic Coffee House
Thursday, April 17	6-7:30 PM	Maundy Thursday. Last Supper meal and service
Friday, April 18		Good Friday
Sunday, April 20	11:00 AM	Easter. Church Service
Sunday, April 27	11:00 AM	Church Service
	6-9:00 PM	Membership Workshop



Sudoku -

Fill in this box so that the numbers 1 - 9 each only appear once in each line (up and down and side to side) and only once in each of the 9 small boxes.

	4	1			6		2	9
3			7	9				
		9				3		8
8			6		4	2	9	
	7			5			6	
	3	6	1		8			7
4		3				9		
				3	2			4
6	5		4			7	3	

Whoever gets the most correct will be entered in a raffle to win a \$50 Gift Certificate.

GOOD LUCK!

Either send us a letter with your numbered answers or tear out and bring in/mail us the actual page.



**Church on The Hill (Swedenborgian)
The Boston Society of the New Jerusalem, Inc.**

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

**Check Out The New Website at
www.churchonthehillboston.org**



Lydia Maria Child (1802-1880)

Member of the Church
Writer, Author, Abolitionist,
Civil Rights Advocate
Writer of "Over the River"

"It is my mission to help in the breaking down of classes, and to make all men feel as if they were brethren of the same family, sharing the same rights, the same capabilities, and the same responsibilities. While my hand can hold a pen, I will use it to this end; and while my brain can earn a dollar, I will devote it to this end." Lydia Maria Child

