



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

April Showers



May Flowers

Ministers

Search Committee

Executive Officials

Mary Guarino, *President*
 Marvin Gonzalez, *Vice President*
 Lynne Payson, *Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees*
 Susanne Rogers, *Treasurer*
 Michael Bancewicz, *Secretary*

Craig Williams, *Acting Editor*

Emeritus Officials

Michael Latkowitz, *President Emeritus*
 Anna Hunt Latkowitz, *Church Council Emeritus*

Music

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

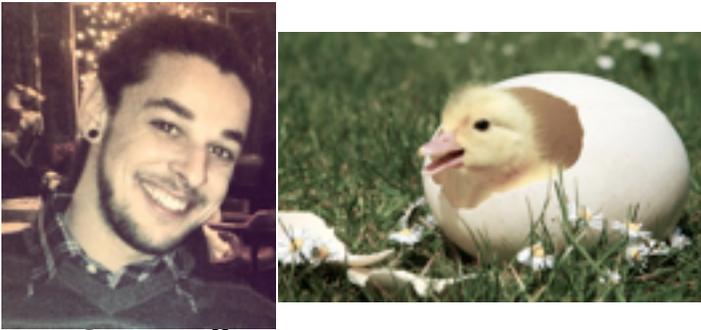
New Jerusalem Church

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 organized 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,

Spring is finally here and the cold weather seems to be all but gone. This winter was brutal and I hope everyone was able to stay warm and safe throughout.

I apologize for the late newsletter and for having to combine May and June but I have been incredibly busy between Oasis and other projects here around the office. Hopefully, I can get back on track with getting the newsletter out on time in July.

It has been a busy few months here at the church. Eduardo Gonzalez held a scavenger hunt in April for church members and friends. It was very successful and there was a good turn out. We held a Max Reger concert featuring Phuong Nghi Pham on piano on April 9. The music and reception were both beautiful. We held our annual Maundy Thursday dinner at the church which was very humbling and well received. We also had our largest Easter attendance in years.

We have a members meeting coming up on June 1 at 12:30 PM. This is our business meeting and all of the church officers will be giving updates. We recommend all church members attend.

The homeless dinner that I run on Monday nights has been serving food in the Common for the past 3 weeks. St. Paul's, where it used to be held, is under construction and I have yet to find a location that is willing to host the meal. I am hoping to find a venue soon. Church on the Hill is sponsoring the meal on June 30. If anyone is interested in helping Mike and me cook and/or serve, let us know. The more the merrier!

We have been continuing our Walking in the Way of Peace membership workshops. They are a great way to build a sense of community within the church as well as teaching us the responsibilities of being a good church member. The next workshop is on Sunday, May 18 at 2:30 PM. Everyone should try to attend, even if you are not a member but are active in the life of the church.

On June 15 we will be holding our Sunday service at Cathedral in the Pines (page 6) in New Hampshire. If interested, please contact Pat Blakeney. Buses will be leaving Beacon Hill promptly at 9:20 AM and will return sometime around 4 PM.

We will be closing the church office from June 30th until July 7th. We will all be taking some much needed time off.

I was very upset to see the Bruins lose game 7 against the Canadiens. I would have liked to see them win another Stanley Cup. Fortunately, the Red Sox have been improving their record and can hopefully have a repeat of last year's championship.

Go **Red Sox!**

Craig

From the Minister of Music -

Through your continued support of the music program we are able to maintain a high level of participation at all of the Church Services. We encourage you to continue to invite your friends and other guests to the regular church services. Of course with Easter approaching you might have more people whom you would like to invite.

When you arrive on Palm Sunday you will hear music played by a brass quartet as well as Victor on the piano and of course our outstanding Choir.

On Easter Sunday you will hear music played by a String Quartet and our regular musicians. April will be just one of the more musically exciting times of our Church Year. There is just one other event I would like to make note of, the Max Reger Concert on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. This concert will feature Phuong Nghi Pham in a piano recital. The Church has provided resources for her studies at New England Conservatory Preparatory School for the past two years.

Let me tell you about her:

Phuong Nghi was born in Vietnam and moved to the United States with her parents in 2004. She is currently a senior at Boston Latin School. While she enjoys learning and exploring new concepts in all of her classes, her favorite subjects are biology, languages, and literature. Phuong Nghi is a member of the National Honor Society, National Latin Honor Society, and National Foreign Language Honor Society (Societas). Throughout her career at Boston Latin, she has been awarded the Dixwell Prize for Excellence in Classics, the Lawrence Prize for Excellence in Conduct and Studies, and the Francis Gardner Prize for Excellence in Modern Studies for achieving approbation with distinction in every term since seventh grade. Phuong Nghi received a Gold Medal in the National Latin Exam for four consecutive years and was thus presented with a memorial award of an Oxford Classical Dictionary. She maintains a cumulative GPA of 4.42 and scored a five on four AP exams (US History, French, Latin, and Music Theory). In the Massachusetts Letters about Literature of 2012, Phuong Nghi received Top Honors and citations from the Massachusetts House of Representatives and State Senate. In addition to her schoolwork, she has also participated in various leadership programs, such as the Civic Leadership Institute in Chicago and YOUth Lead the Change at Harvard College, as well as served as an assistant for the music director of the Summer Music Intensive program at her school. Next fall, she will be attending Amherst College as a QuestBridge National College Match (full four-year scholarship) Recipient. Phuong Nghi began piano lessons at the age of five in Vietnam. She is enrolled in the full Certificate program at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. She has been in the program since September 2006, where she is currently studying with Heng-Jin Park. She has been named the John C. Holtz Ambassador Award Recipient of the Max Reger Foundation of America for the past seven years. Phuong Nghi appeared on *From the Top* in 2010 and is a Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist and Young Scholar. She is also a two-time Prizewinner of the Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition and has performed with the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall in 2011 and 2012. She recently performed at Weill Recital Hall as a First Place winner in the International Crescendo Competition in January 2013. In May 2013, she received Second Prize in the Steinway Society Piano Competition for Division 5. She recently won the New England Conservatory Concerto Competition of 2013 and performed with the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra in Jordan Hall. This March (2014), she will return to *From the Top* as an alumna in a taping in Calderwood Hall at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

Please plan on joining us on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 (7:30 P.M.) for the piano recital by Phuong Nghi Pham. In May the Reger Concert will be on Sunday, May 18th at 11:00 A.M.

I will see you at our regular Sunday morning services.

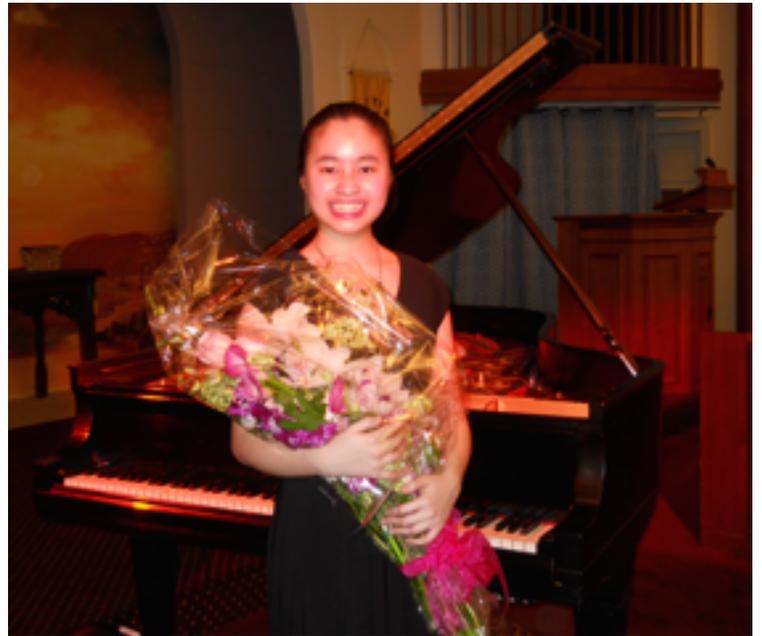
Carlton J. Doctor
Minister of Music



From the Minister of Music -

On May 18, 2014 the Max Reger Concert Series continued with a solo recital by Phuong Nghi Pham. Phuong Nghi is presently a senior at Boston Latin High School. She will enter Amherst College in the fall as a QuestBridge National College Match Recipient. She has excelled both in her academic and musical studies. A very large and enthusiastic audience was in attendance for her concert. She performed the music of Frederic Chopin, Ludwig van Beethoven, Claude Debussy and Max Reger.

Once she began to play it became very clear why she won the 2011 and 2012 competitions, enabling her to perform twice with the Boston Symphony Pops Orchestra in Symphony Hall. Her musicality is first rate. She has a clear understanding of how to use dynamics and phrasing to bring out the melodies and harmonies in all of the music she performed. She did this with such ease that it made the listener feel like he or she was listening to familiar and favorite tunes. She



drew you into the music to the point that you were listening just to hear how she would complete the shape of a particular phrase or melody, very magical playing. If you were sitting in the sight lines of the keyboard you could see her fingers reflected in the fallboard. Her fingers were always delicately poised above the keys both when playing soft and melodic passages as well as when playing fortissimo and marcato passages.

At the end of the concert she expressed her heartfelt gratitude to The Church On The Hill and The Max Reger Foundation Of America for all of the help provided for her studies at The New England Conservatory Of Music Preparatory Department.

Please mark your calendars for our next concert, which will feature the singers in The Church On The Hill Choir:

- Our Music Minister, Carlton Doctor who is currently appearing at the Schubert Theatre in performances of "**I Puritani**";
- Soprano, Suzanne Grogan who recently appeared at the Cutler Majestic Theatre as Rosalinda in performances of "**Die Fledermaus**";
- Tenor, Tyler Diaz who recently appeared at the Huntington Theatre in performances of "**Don Giovanni**";
- Soprano, Lindsay Conrad recently sang the role of "Mabrouka" in the Boston premiere of Mohammed Fairouz's opera "**Sumeida's Song**" at the Somerville Theatre;
- Bass-Baritone, Stefan Sigurjonsson recently appeared with the Boston Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Stravinsky's "**Symphony Of Psalms**", as well as in the Calliope Ensembles performance of "**The Cunning Peasant**" by Dvorak;
- Mezzo-Soprano, Alexandra Dietrich recently appeared with Lowell House Opera in a performance of Delibes' "**Lakmé**" as Mistress Bentson;
- Mezzo-Soprano, Lisa Hadley recently performed in three performances of "**LOL**", a concert of the hilarious look at life through song, with the metro-west professional vocal ensemble Labyrinth Choir. Alumnus Church On The Hill Leslie Tay, also sang in these performances;
- Tenor, Lukas Papenfusscline recently starred in a new Americana/Folk musical "**ICARUS**" that ran for two weeks at the Oberon in Harvard Square;
- Pianist, Victor Cayres has recently appeared as a guest artist at **Tanglewood Music Center** and **Interlochen Center for the Arts**.

On May 18th you will hear the music of Bach, Mozart, Faure, Strauss, Samuel Barber, Elton John and other composers. Please bring a friend and join us for the Max Reger Concert on Sunday, May 18, 2014 at 11:00 A.M. at The Church On The Hill, Beacon Hill, Boston.

On June 15, Church on the Hill will be holding our Sunday service at Cathedral in the Pines in Rindge, New Hampshire. We will be offering a bus service from Beacon Hill that leaves at 9:20 AM and you can expect to be back around 4 PM. If you are interested in attending, please let Patricia Blakeney know.



MEMBERS MEETING JUNE 1 ~ 12:30 PM

Our annual Spring Members Meeting is on June 1 at 12:30 PM. We encourage all church members to attend as the Spring meeting is our business meeting. There are seats available on our boards and this meeting is the best time for members to have their voices heard by the church leadership.





Rachele Schmiede, Alexandra Dietrich, and Lindsay Conrad after a Max Reger concert

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

By: Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.



We have observed that, in society and the world in which we live,
selfishness has increased more than love for others,
and that men of good will must work,
each with his own strengths and expertise,
to ensure that love for others increases
until it is equal and possibly exceeds love for oneself.

Pope Francis I

Oasis Monday Night Dinner

On Monday, June 30, Church on the Hill is sponsoring the Oasis Monday Night Dinner. Craig runs the weekly dinner and it serves anywhere from 100-200 guests per week. We will need help preparing the meal as well as serving it. We start serving at 6 PM and are usually finished by 7 PM. If you are interested in helping us prepare and/or serving the meal, please call Craig or Mike in the office at 617-523-4575.





**CHURCH ON THE HILL
140 BOWDOIN ST.,
BEACON HILL, 02108**

The Max Reger Foundation Concert Series

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014 ~ 7:30 PM

ANNA VIEMEISTER ~ SOPRANO

JEREMY GRIFFIN ~ BASS-BARITONE

FREE ADMISSION - FREE-WILL DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED

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

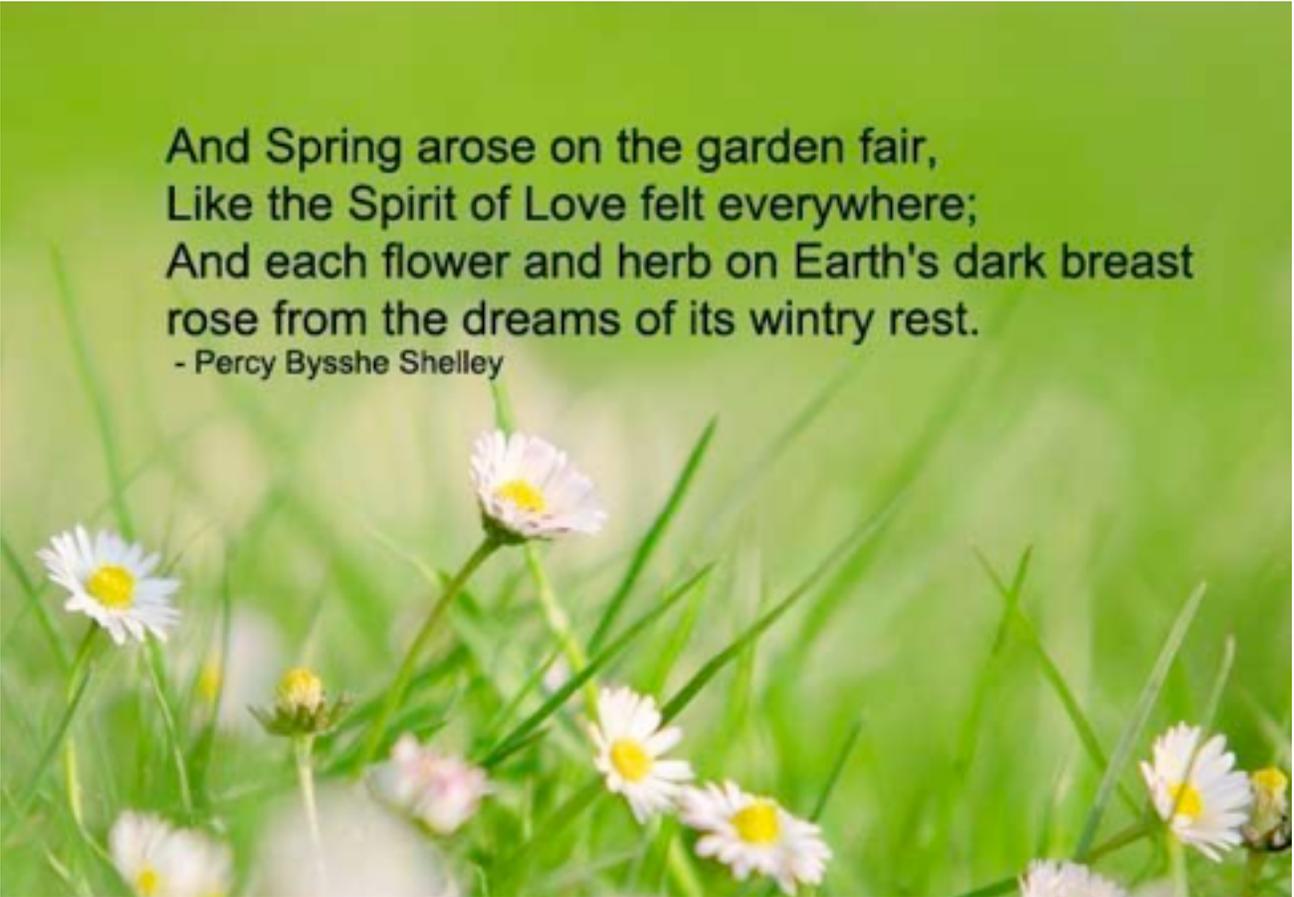
We had a lot of 100% winners this month as well as some with only a couple of mistakes, and they're going to keep getting tougher!

The winner of last month's Sudoku puzzle is...
John Mazwichuk!

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

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

And Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast
rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.
- Percy Bysshe Shelley



We need to find God,
and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness.
God is the friend of silence.
See how nature - trees, flowers, grass-
grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun,
how they move in silence...
We need silence to be able to touch souls.

Mother Teresa

Simple Acts of Kindness...

Family Ties Heart-Wrenching Letters To Balloons, Woman Miles Away Responds In A Beautiful Way

When a grieving family's gesture for their departed loved one ended up in the hands of some very kind strangers, something wonderful happened.

After Renee Finney, a 42-year-old mother of three, passed away, her children were grief-stricken and faced with funeral costs they could not afford. The children did their best to raise money to cover the nearly \$10,000 price, trying everything from bake sales to donation boxes, but they were only able to come up with a fraction of the funds they needed.

On Mother's Day, they decided to put their grief into words by writing letters to their late mother and releasing them tied to balloons: Then something incredible happened.

The balloons traveled roughly 35 miles to settle at the doorstep of Yvette Melton, a 55-year-old resident of Murrieta, Calif., on Monday morning. She was so touched by the letters, that she felt inspired to track down the family and do what she could to help.

"I felt intrusive by reading the messages in the first place but felt I had to," Melton told The Huffington Post in an email. "Once I did there was no way that I was not going to find this family and help out."

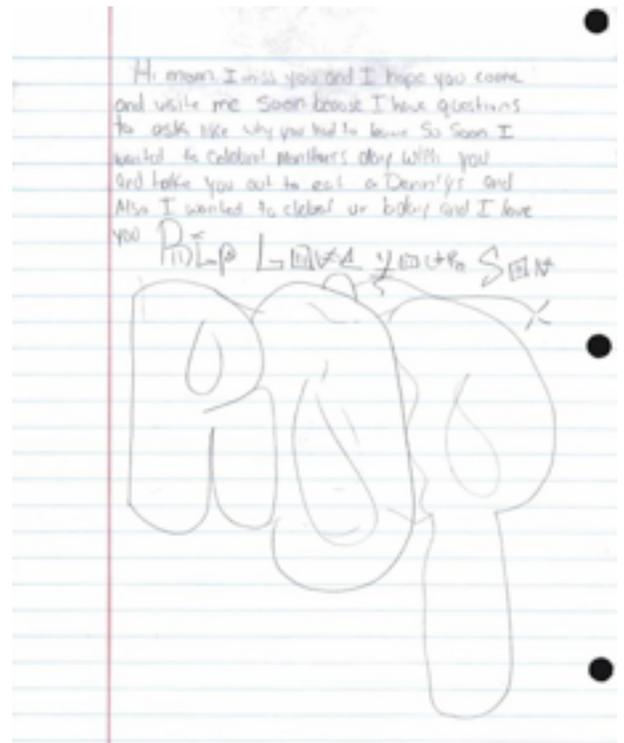
After doing research to locate the family, and talking with her boss, Jerry Halamuda of Color Spot Nurseries in Fallbrook, Calif., they decided to ask employees to chip in and help the family.

"The one part of the letter that really grabbed us was, 'We know you are up in heaven but we don't have any money to bury you' and so our thing was ... let's make this happen," Halamuda told ABC 10.

They quickly raised \$2,000, and are planning to raise more for the struggling family.

"I want to say thank you, I appreciate you, you are a godsend" Karries, the 25-year-old daughter of the late Renee Finney, told ABC 10. "My mom had no life insurance and you want to bury your mother the right way, you want to glorify your mother ... it means everything to my family."

"The balloons fell in my yard for a reason," Melton told HuffPost. "I have generous friends, family and coworkers and I knew we could get it done."



Massachusetts Communities Action Network (MCAN)
150 Mt. Vernon Street, Suite 200 E Boston, MA 02125
(617) 470-2912 cell, (617) 822-1499 (office) www.mcan-pico.org

March 30, 2014

Church on the Hill Swedenborgian
140 Bowdoin Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Church on the Hill,

Thank you very much for allowing us to have the March 26 meeting of community, labor, and faith based organizations in the Raise Up Massachusetts Coalition on our effort to Raise the Minimum Wage and enable all to have Earned Sick Days at work.

It was very helpful to be able to have the meeting at a downtown site and also one near the State House where those attending visited later on.

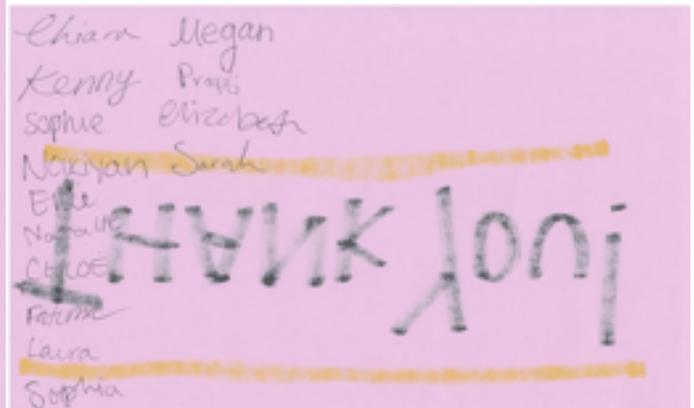
Thanks again for hosting us at your church.

Sincerely,

Lew Finler
MA Communities Action Network
Raise UP Massachusetts



Lisa Barbin, church member, with former Boston Mayor Tom Menino



"Too many people undervalue what they are, and overvalue what they're not"

Unknown

Dear Church on the Hill,
Thank you so much for letting us hold our event in your space this past week! The location is amazing and was vital to making our action go smoothly. We look forward to partnering with you again in the future.
Best,
Sub/Urban Justice

Church Calendar Events 2014

All are welcome. Come as you are.

June 2014

Sunday, June 1	11:00 AM	Church Service and Communion
	12:30 PM	Members Meeting
Wednesday, June 4	4:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
	5:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Sunday, June 8	11:00 AM	Church Service
Tuesday, June 10	7:30 PM	Max Reger Foundation concert
Sunday, June 15	11:00 AM	Fathers Day. Church Service at Cathedral in the Pines. Bus LEAVES Church on the Hill at 9:20 AM.
Wednesday, June 18	12:00 Noon	Senior Lunch
Sunday, June 22	11:00 AM	Church Service
Sunday, June 29	11:00 AM	Church Service

Note that the church office will be closed as of June 30

July 2014

Friday, July 4	9:30 PM	Independence Day Fireworks
Sunday, July 6	11:00 AM	Church Service and Communion
Monday, July 7		Church office reopens
Sunday, July 13	11:00 AM	Church Service
Wednesday, July 16	12:00 Noon	Senior Lunch
Sunday, July 20	11:00 AM	Church Service
Sunday, July 27	11:00 AM	Church Service



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.

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

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

