

**BOSTON SOCIETY**  
of the **NEW JERUSALEM**  
Established 1818



Alzheimer's & Brain  
Awareness Month

**HAPPY  
FATHERS  
DAY**

**CHURCH**  
on the **HILL**

*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*

**Summer**



Vintage Boston Postcard (circa 1910)

**Ministers**

Rev. Colin Leitch  
Rev. Kevin Baxter

**Music**

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

**Board of Governors:**

Douglas Peebles - President  
Jenifer Whitmore - Vice President  
Patricia Blakeney - Secretary  
Susanne Rogers - Treasurer  
Nicholas Tranquillo  
Paul Logiudice  
Vicki Davis  
Ann Klein  
Janet Forbes

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*A mission for our future: what do we believe God is calling us to do? Our core purpose ~*

- ❖ To be a progressive Christian presence in the city of Boston, a reflection of Swedenborgian theology of service and mission, through our commitment to education, social justice, and human rights and the faithful stewardship of our financial resources.
- ❖ To make a difference in the lives of strangers and seekers through our compassion and acceptance by transforming them into members of our community who share our common values.
- ❖ To be a “rock” of stability and support in an uncertain world - a tranquil and peaceful “home away from home”, where you are missed when you are absent, and where you can find comfort, healing, strength, hope, and constancy when things aren’t going well.

*Therefore, we covenant to ~*

- ❖ Show the love, compassion, acceptance, and forgiveness in our common life;
- ❖ Value the diversity and variety of gifts within our community;
- ❖ Seek to consciously understand other points of view by listening deeply;
- ❖ Encourage all to speak and to share our own ideas respectfully as we seek consensus;
- ❖ Strive to be transparent and honest in our personal interactions, communications, and decision-making;
- ❖ Welcome and facilitate the participation of all.

## 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.

**JUNE  
ALZHEIMER'S & BRAIN  
AWARENESS MONTH**

**10 Ways To  
Love Your Brain**

- Engage in regular cardiovascular exercise
- Take a class online, at a local college or community center
- Quit smoking
- Reduce risk factors for cardiovascular disease and stroke
- Protect yourself from head injuries
- Eat a healthy and balanced diet that is lower in fat and higher in vegetables and fruit
- Get enough sleep
- Take care of your mental health
- Pursue social activities that are meaningful to you
- Challenge your mind



**CONGRADULATIONS TO  
EDUARDO & CINTHIA  
ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR NEW  
SON  
"LIAM"**



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And more ...



## Kevin's Corner

We are entering the last month of the typical church year -- churches often shift to a lighter operational mode in July and August. I am proud of the work the office staff has produced

over the past five months. Certainly, the newsletter is a shining example of this work, which also shows the dedication of the various people who have been contributors to it as well. Improving communication is one of the major concerns of all organizations so in addition to reinstating a regular newsletter, we need to do more.

This summer, we will have a single-issue July/August newsletter to allow the office some extra time to focus on new initiatives that will be in place for "Back to Church Sunday", which is normally the second Sunday of September. We hope to have an updated web page that will host sermons and other more dynamic content. In addition, there will be a weekly email that will offer reminders and highlights of happenings at the church which will also be posted in the church for people who do not have email access.

In the Swedenborgian tradition, the Sunday on or after June 19<sup>th</sup> is called *Holy City Sunday*. It is the day when we celebrate the beginning of the descent of the Holy City, New Jerusalem. Basically, this descent is a spiritual opening in each person and in humanity itself. Swedenborg cites the rise of democracy and the enlightenment as an outward sign of this inward spiritual change. One aspect of this spiritual change may seem a bit unspiritual to many, and that is rationality.

We often think of rationality as heady and academic and of spirituality as loving and dreamy. Rationality, however, is a process of decision-making using logic

(which sounds academic). I would say that rationality and logic are just heady words for good decision-making. Swedenborg would offer that rationality is an understanding of ourselves as divinely created beings that are loved and that can share the love God gives each of us in unique ways-- to be able to ask questions like: what is loving, what is true? We can raise our rationality above our personal desire and love. We can shine the Lord's light from a hill into the valleys and caves of our lives.

Rationality is the ability for us to ask hard questions and to see beyond our selfishness. The question we are asked when we come together to worship on Sundays is quite simple. If we can see good choices, if we can see what it means to love, are we going to choose to act on what we see? We can as individuals: we can as a community. We must decide on principles and hold each other accountable in love if we are going to achieve true loving community.



*And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*Revelation 21:2*

*In everything one thing is impossible: rationality.*  
*Friedrich Nietzsche*

*If one devalues rationality, the world tends to fall apart.*  
*Lars von Trier*

# From Rev. Colin Leitch

## Pray For Our Troops

We celebrated Memorial Day on May 28th by singing God Bless America and the Battle Hymn of the Republic and by praying for the men and women of our armed forces. Good and important to do.

How thoroughly do we understand what we ask of our troops in Afghanistan and around the world?

We have been at war in Afghanistan for 16 years. Sixteen years. Dear God in Heaven. What is being accomplished? What responsibility does the average American take for American military involvement in the Middle East?

And we expect young Americans to risk their lives for such ungrounded polices and heedless carnage? Who is taking responsibility for the ongoing tragedy? Certainly not our elected officials. And certainly not us. Most of us barely think about it.

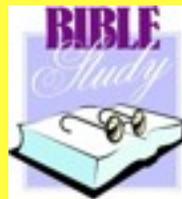
We will continue to pray weekly for our troops wherever they are. Please listen for their mention during Sunday prayer.

Not a bad thing to be reminded of how much our troops risk and how little most Americans really care. It's another example of a society gone astray.

Let us continue to be uneasy and continue to pray and to ask questions. Our men and women in the military deserve at least that much.



### Bible Study will continue Wednesdays in June



**Bible Study Series**  
continues on  
Wednesdays. at 7:00 PM.  
\* There is no Bible Study  
on June 7.

Coffee will be available .

*Everyone* will get several chances to give their analysis of the reading.

All Are Welcome!!

Please join us!  
Colin

# SAIL BOSTON

JUNE 17-22 ★ 2017



## Public Boarding of Ships

**Saturday, June 17 | 4:00 – 10:00 PM**  
**Sunday, June 18 – Wednesday, June 21 | 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM**  
**Boston Fish Pier, World Trade Center, Fan Pier and Charlestown Navy Yard**

Following the Parade of Sail on Saturday, June 17, the Tall Ships will be berthed at various piers for the public to view and board. Boarding times will be posted closer to the event and may vary at the Captain's discretion.

## Oprah's Summer Reads

### *As Close to Us as Breathing*

by Elizabeth Poliner

If summer, for you, recalls days spent by the seashore, Poliner's saga of three Jewish sisters and the beachfront cottage they share with their families — until life-altering tragedy strikes — will enthrall you.

### *The After Party*

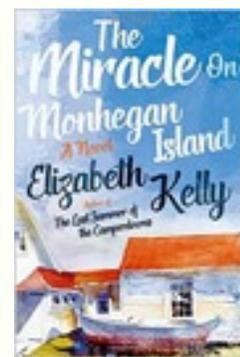
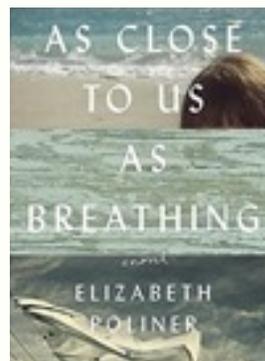
by Anton DiSclafani

In her follow-up to 2013's sleeper hit *The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls*, DiSclafani moves from 1930s North Carolina to the world of Houston debutantes 20 years later, with a tale of lavish balls, garden clubs, and enduring female friendship.

### *The Miracle on Monhegan Island*

by Elizabeth Kelly

Three generations of men try to reconcile their differences — involving abandonment and the exploitation of a boy's mental illness to further his grandfather's cultish agenda — in this tragicomic romp set off the coast of Maine. The best part? Its canine narrator is a snobbish shih tzu named Ned.



**The members of the Church passed the following resolution at the Winter Members' Meeting:**

*In listening to the fears and concerns of the congregation which arose in response to the recent letter about the Bostonview Board election, the Governance/Bylaws Committee recommends that we postpone the election until the Annual Meeting in June, to provide time for the Board of Governors to appoint a committee to develop a clear and orderly process for nominations and to make recommendations concerning stipends for Bostonview Board members. We further recommend that this committee work on revising the Bostonview Bylaws as a whole prior to December 31, 2017.*

Following the meeting, President Doug Peebles, with the approval of the Board of Governors, appointed a Bostonview Review Committee to discuss these issues and to develop recommendations for the June 25 Annual Meeting. Committee members are: Vicki Davis, Janet Forbes, Stanley Goldstein, Lisa Hadley, and Mary Kay Klein.

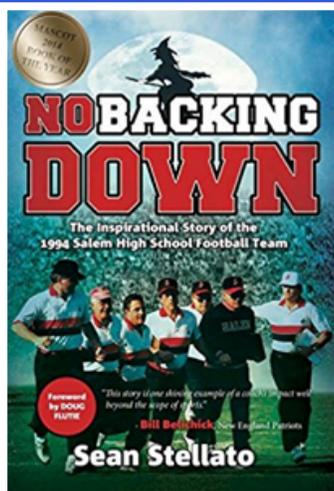
Please feel free to contact members of the committee to offer input or to ask for information.

Boston Society of the New Jerusalem, Inc.  
 199th Annual Members Meeting  
 June 25, 2017 12:45 PM

All Members are encouraged to attend!

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.*

- 1Peter 4:10



The Oasis Book Club is going to try to come back from its long hiatus. Starting Tuesday, June 5 at 1:30 aM Ann Vega will begin facilitating the group on the first tuesday of every month. Participants can return on every Tuesday at 1:30 to discuss their progress and intrigues of the current book. The group will begin with the title “No Backing Down” by Sean Stellato.

**No Backing Down is the true story of the 1994 Salem High School football team. With a contentious teachers’ strike jeopardizing their season, the Witches banded together to unify a fractured community. Led by famed head coach Ken Perrone, this team of underdogs scored improbable victories in the face of adversity. Books provided by the author.**

Then God said, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:9-10



Then God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens."

Genesis 1:20




Happy Birthday Jesse N.	3rd
Happy Birthday Vlad L.	7th
Happy Birthday Andrea Y. M.	12th
Happy Birthday Craig W.	14th
Happy Birthday Mike L	24th

**What are you grateful for?** In the July/August Newsletter we may dedicate a page to what you are grateful for! If you let us know (by phone, mail or email, signed or anonymous) that would be greatly appreciated.

**Please help enhance your newsletter with any content and contribution you think others in the community will enjoy!**

## *From the Minister of Music, Mr. Carlton Doctor*



Dear Church Members,

For the past 199 years the Church On The Hill has had a vital music program. This year has been no exception, as the congregation continues to enjoy and take pride in the exceptional musical

experiences during church service and other gatherings.

The music committee and I are researching music that was performed and composers writing during the early years of our church. We look forward to sharing our findings with you and eliciting your participation in some new activities.

During the past year the church choir has been made up of singers who have graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music and Boston University. Some of the newer singers are enrolled in degree programs at Bard College at Longy School of Music.

Congratulations to Rachele Schmiege for her 2016 win at the Classical Singer Musical Vocal Competition/ Boston. "Competitions are a fact of life for up-and-coming singers. Nerve wracking as it may be to ask experts to judge your performance, the experience of auditioning with your peers and getting feedback from the panel is highly educational". (**Classical Singer**, Vol. 30 No. 5, May 2017) We are extremely proud of Rachele.



Christian Schwebler will be leaving the choir to pursue a master's in speech language pathology at University of Massachusetts Amherst. He has included some parting remarks: "Since 2015, I have been singing with the Church on the Hill

chapel choir, a group of immensely talented and gracious musicians. Unfortunately, it is now time for me to say goodbye to them. My departure is bittersweet, as I have never encountered a group so dedicated to making music

at the highest level across a broad range of styles. This choir's commitment to quality and excellence is inspired by the leadership of Carlton Doctor, who encourages us to create music from the notes and rhythms printed on the page.

During my tenure at the church, there **WERE** some real professional highlights for me. This spring, I appeared as Harlequin in Lowell House Opera's *Ariadne auf Naxos* and as a soloist with the Arlington Philharmonic Orchestra. But my biggest professional achievement was not a musical one. I helped my friend and mentor get his book published by Simon & Schuster before he succumbed to Parkinson's. Working on this project was the most profound experience of my life, and it was the primary reason I decided to pursue a master's degree in speech language pathology, a field where I feel that I can have the most impact working with populations in dire need of clinical intervention.

I send all my love and thanks to the choir and congregation. God bless."

On May 7, 2017 a young violinist, Isabel Garita-Chin, an 8th grader at Presentation of Mary Academy performed on the Church's Spring Concert. I attended her May 21<sup>st</sup> recital at Symphony Hall and the audience was as impressed with her performance as members of our congregation were on the seventh. We look forward to having Isabel give another performance during the Church's 2017-2018 concert series.

Respectfully,  
Carlton Doctor  
Minister of Music

*"Music is the divine way to tell beautiful, poetic things to the heart."* (Pablo Casals)



# Food For Thought...

## Sleeping Through the Storm



*A Parable-like Story -- Author Unknown*

A young man applied for a job as a farmhand. When the farmer asked for his qualifications, he said, "I can sleep through a storm."

This puzzled the farmer... but he liked the young man. So he hired him.

A few weeks later, the farmer and his wife were awakened in the night by a violent storm ripping through the valley. He leapt out of bed and called for his new hired hand, but the young man was sleeping soundly.

So they quickly began to check things to see if all was secure. They found that the shutters of the farmhouse had been securely fastened. A good supply of logs had been set next to the fireplace.

The farmer and his wife then inspected their property. They found that the farm tools had been placed in the storage shed, safe from the elements. He sees that the bales of wheat had been bound and wrapped in tarpaulins.

The tractor had been moved into its garage. The barn was properly locked tight. Even the animals were calm and had plenty of feed. All was well.

The farmer then understood the meaning of the young man's words, "I can sleep through a storm."

Because the farmhand did his work loyally and faithfully when the skies were clear, he was prepared for any storm. So when the storm did actually break, he was not concerned or afraid. He could sleep in peace.

### **Moral:**

If we tend to the things that are important in life, if we are right with those we love and behave in line with our faith, our lives will not be cursed with the aching throb of unfulfilled business. Our words will always be sincere, our embraces will be tight. We will never wallow in the agony of 'I could have, I should have.'

We can sleep in a storm. And when it's our time to go, our good-byes will be complete.

### **Ecclesiastes 11:3-4**

**When clouds are full, they empty  
rain on the earth; whether a tree  
falls to the south or to the north, in  
the place where the tree falls, there  
it will lie. Whoever observes the  
wind will not sow; and whoever  
regards the clouds will not reap.**

**CHURCH ON THE HILL  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
NOMINATIONS JUNE 25, 2017 MEMBERS ELECTIONS**

As you are aware, at our member's meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>, we will be electing members to serve on the Board of Governors, and various committees with pending vacancies. The following represents your nominations for these vacancies:

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS EXECUTIVE**

Secretary/Clerk	No nominations were submitted
Treasurer	No nominations were submitted

**AT-LARGE GOVERNORS**

Janet Forbes	Incumbent	Nominations submitted
Marvin Gonzalez		
Victoria Davis	Incumbent	

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Stephen Dyson	Nomination submitted
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**GOVERNANCE/BY-LAW COMMITTEE**

Reverend Dr. Ted Klein	Incumbent	Nomination submitted
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**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Reverend Dr. Ted Klein	Incumbent	Nomination submitted
Stephen Dyson		

**MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Stephen Dyson	Nomination submitted
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Should you not be aware, additional nominations can be made from the floor at the time of the Members' meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Please note that all of the nominations included in this report were made on or before May 15, 2017 adhering to the deadline requirements.

Respectively submitted

Victoria Davis - Nominating Committee

**Expired Terms      Officers**

Treasurer	Susanne Rogers
Secretary	Patricia Blakeney
Governor	Janet Forbes*
Governor	Victoria Davis*
Governor	Nicholas Tranquillo

**Expired Terms**

Governance Committee
Membership Committee
Membership Committee
Membership Committee
Membership Committee

**Committees**

Rev. Dr. Ted Klein*
Rev. Dr. Ted Klein*
Al Cortese
Lisa Hadley
Robert Goode

\*Denotes incumbents running for re-election.



FUN FRIDAYS  
THE HIGHLAND FOUNDATION  
*PRESENTS*  
85 MUSEUMS & CULTURAL  
EVENTS

10 FRIDAYS. 100% FREE  
June Events

JUNE 23

Lyric Stage Company of Boston  
Mary Baker Eddy Library  
The Sports Museum  
Clark Art Institute  
The Mount: Edith Wharton's Home  
Worcester Art Museum  
Peabody Essex Museum  
The Discovery Museums

JUNE 30 Boston Children's Museum

MIT Museum  
Norman Rockwell Museum  
Springfield Museums  
EcoTarium  
Maritime Gloucester  
New Bedford Whaling Museum  
The Gardens at Elm Bank (Mass Hort)



Mary Guarino with Congressman Joseph Kennedy III at President John Kennedy's birthplace in Brookline MA, commemorating JFK's 100th Birthday on May 29.



We will be enjoying a Saturday excursion to the Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge NH, on July 1st for a pleasant reflective service and picnic lunch. To sign-up for a seat, please call the office at 617-523-4575 or email [info@churchonthehillboston.org](mailto:info@churchonthehillboston.org)  
Bus leaves at 9:45

# Church Calendar Events 2017

All are welcome. Come as you are.

## June 2017

Sunday June 4	2:00 PM	Rev. John Odams Installation First Baptist Boston
Sunday June 11	1:00 PM	Board of Governors
Sunday June 18	All Day	Father's Day
Wednesday June 21	12:00 PM	Senior Lunch
Sunday June 25	12:45 PM	Annual Members Meeting/Holy City Sunday



**Below are addresses of members and friends whom you may want to visit or send a card to.**

Michael Latkowitch  
Soldiers Home  
Center Building 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
91 Crest Ave  
Chelsea, MA 02150  
617-884-5660

Bill Davis  
Cambridge Rehabilitation  
Nursing  
8 Dana St.  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Al Cortese  
Marion Manor  
130 Dorchester St. Rm. 222  
So. Boston, MA 02127  
617-997-3036

Carolyn McLain  
Saugus Care & Rehab  
266 Lincoln Ave.  
Saugus, MA 01906

Alice DeRosa  
North End Rehab  
70 Fulton St. 4<sup>th</sup> fl.  
Boston, MA 02109

Andrew McLain  
2 Rogers Ave. Apt B.  
Lynn, MA 01902

# Church Calendar Events 2017

All are welcome. Come as you are.

## July 2017

Saturday July 1	9:45 AM	Cathedral of the Pines
Sunday July 9	12:30 PM	Board of Governors Meeting

More to come.

### ON GOING EVENTS

Every Sunday  
11:00 AM Worship

Every Monday &  
Thursday the Oasis  
Women's Group Meets  
9:00 AM

Every Monday Night is  
the Oasis Monday Night  
Dinner. 5:30 PM

Every Tuesday the  
BSNJ Children's Choir  
3:45 - 4:45 PM

Every Wednesday is  
Computer Class  
1:00 PM

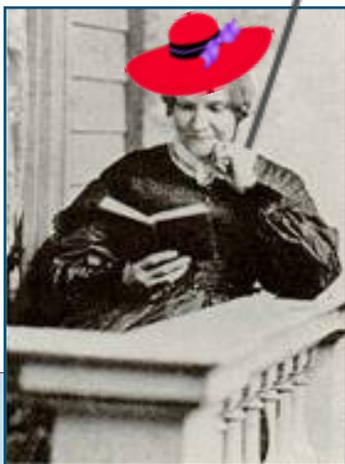
Bible Study continues  
on Wednesday  
evenings at 7:00 PM  
except June 7.

Every Friday is Friday  
Flix. 1:30 PM



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

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



**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**

