



## THE HARBOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

-Connect - Grow - Serve - Reach Out-

55 First Parish Road Scituate, MA 02066

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January 24 ~31, 2018

### From the Desk of the Pastor

Dear Church Family and all Friends of the Harbor UMC,

Those who were able to attend last Sunday's 10:30am worship service would agree with me that we had a wonderful time with Rev. We H. Chang, our District Superintendent, who was the celebrant and preacher. After the service, we all shared a well-planned Potluck Luncheon with a bountiful variety of food. The District Superintendent had a heart-to-heart conversation with all of us during the fellowship time. He gave us time to ask all the questions we had for him. It was a blessing for our congregation to have Rev. We H. Chang with us. I also enjoyed serving alongside him and getting to see him "in action" in our church. In multiple moments, the DS exhibited care, compassion, and mindful presence with me, with our church leaders, and with the entire congregation. We truly thank God for a very enjoyable and informative visit and sermon from our district superintendent. He left us with a lot to consider and implement as we move our church forward. The turnout for the Potluck Luncheon with the district superintendent was impressive! A big hand and thank you to the organizers of the "Potluck Luncheon" and all those who contributed food and for working hard to make our time with our district leader a success.

Allow me again to remind you that the Celebration of Life for Nancy Thurson is this Saturday, January 27 at 11:00am here at the church. The death of a mother ~ as we all know ~ is the hardest to bear ~~~ for she is the one who is always there for us. Therefore, for those who want to send their sympathy cards to her family, here are the addresses of her two daughters: Karen Eadie, 375 Chestnut Street, Hudson, MA 01749 and/or Inger Thurson, 817 Woodlands Way, Abington, MA 02351. Nancy Thurson's heart ~ even in death ~ is attached to her church family and friends. She served faithfully among us. Therefore, she made it clear that in lieu of flowers, all contributions in her memory should be made to her church, The Harbor United Methodist Church, 55 First Parish Road, Scituate, MA 02066. Thank God for saints like Nancy Thurson. She will be forever missed in our church. We all wish she could have stayed just a little while longer, even just to celebrate her birthday on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. However, we all find relief in knowing that we will see her again someday. May your soul rest in peace, Nancy! We are reassured of God's promises in his Word especially in **John 14: 1-4, which says**, "*Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.*"

We all dream of the day when Heaven's gates will open to receive all of us, and we'll see Nancy's smiling face and gentle hands waiting to receive us. Nancy was a pillar of strength right to the end. God Bless you for touching our lives with your love and gentle hands. You will be missed!

Pastor Abi

## Hi HUMC Missions Committee members and friends,

I have started to prepare for an upcoming mission trip to bring relief, hope and the love of Christ to the impoverished residents of sugarcane villages around La Romana, DR. Because we share a concern for mission, I feel led to write to you about this great big passion of mine.

Mobile medical clinics, construction, clean drinking water initiatives, and educational support are amongst the current mission goals.

However, in the past, the goal was to build a medical clinic / hospital for the poorest Haitians in and near the city of La Romana. When I first became involved 1995 and 1996, I chaperoned my son Nick, as well as Ian and Noreen White and other Scituate teens who did construction work. The hospital opened in 1997 and now serves 60,000 + patients each year. They are seen regardless of ability to pay. It is a hospital with a great reputation!!! Everything has been paid for with private donations ~ both large and small.

For the upcoming mission, I am beginning to pack donations of clothing, soap, toothpaste, over the counter pain relief and vitamins, etc. for hygiene kits that will be distributed in medical clinics along with prescribed meds. This morning I came across these photos taken during one of the mobile medical clinics last year...



The boy in the photo has been on my mind since my last trip. He is wearing a torn shirt and sandals. That is all. Because he does not have school clothes, he is not allowed to get an education. He is one of the reasons that I have put underwear high on my list for donations this time. More importantly, khaki pants, blue shirt and black shoes are required for school. They cost about \$35. I will likely not see this boy again. I wish that I could see him once more. I would like to go back and hand him underwear and school clothes. If I could do that, I would tell him "Dios te bendigo" (God bless you) and about the message of Jeremiah 29:11

In this photo, there is a batey (Haitian term for sugarcane village) water hole. This is where the entire village comes to fill containers. There is no electricity or running water in these homes. Home construction is not exactly up to "code" either!



The whole purpose of these villages is to have the resources to manually harvest sugarcane. Haitians are sometimes "trafficked" across the border for this work. The expectation of manually cutting cane, two tons of it per day by hand, is daunting. (Mechanized cutting destroys the quality of the product.) Working seven days a week for under \$5 per day never is enough to support a family. Prices in the village store are rigged to leave you in debt. Neither will it buy documentation of citizenship. It simply leaves you spent at some point in life.



In this photo you will see Jenn Mulkern and a little Haitian boy who trustingly came to greet her as our mobile clinic bus pulled into his village. After growing up in Scituate and going on mission as a teen, Jenn studied to become a registered nurse. She works as a cardiac ICU nurse at Tufts in Boston. Now in her twenties, she takes a week of vacation and returns on mission. These days her credentials are those of a medical professional with a great big Christian heart. I am delighted to be planning to travel with her again.

Thanks to each of you for your mission mindedness. Special thanks to Anthony and Nick for their loving support!

In faith,  
Nancy Antoniello

Dear Church Members,

Your church is looking for someone who can volunteer as our Finance Chairperson. Please find the summary of the responsibilities of the job.

1. Making announcements that inspire people to give on Sundays.
2. Budgeting and financial planning.
3. Writing articles in the eConnect that challenge people to give.
4. Develop an annual operating budget for the church with the team.
5. Monitor adherence to the budget.
6. Set long-range financial goals along with funding strategies to achieve them.
7. Develop multi-year operating budgets that integrate strategic plan objectives and initiatives.
8. Present all financial goals to the Leadership Team for approval.
9. Designing and sending a pledge letter to the members.



Thank You so much,

Pastor Abi for Nominations Committee



## Announcements

### 1. January is Human Trafficking Awareness month.

The Mission Team will be presenting educational programs to increase awareness of this horrific crime and what we can do to help. More info coming.

Thanks very much! Dianne Thompson

2. The Rev. Dr. David Abbott, Director of Stewardship for the United Methodist Foundation of New England, was supposed to meet with us on February 13<sup>th</sup>, has asked us to change our meeting to **February 6<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm**. This is due to a family gathering opportunity that has risen in his schedule. I invited Rev. Abbott on the recommendation of our DS, Rev. We Chang. All leaders and members of our church are invited to this important meeting. After the Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting with us, David will come back to us again on **June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am** as guest preacher in our worship service. We will have a Potluck Luncheon after the service as he suggests ways we can overcome our financial struggles.



Rev. Abbott was the New Hampshire District Superintendent and Dean of the Cabinet of the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church, before being appointed Director of Stewardship for the United Methodist Foundation of the New England. **Please mark your calendars!**

3.  **March 17 and April 7, 2018:** The Metro Boston Hope District will host its 2018 Lay Servant Academy in March and April (8:30am – 4:30pm) at the Holbrook UMC, 60 Plymouth St., Holbrook. Registrants must participate in BOTH full days in order to graduate. The Basic Lay Servant course is foundational for all courses in lay servant ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders. Cost is \$20; lunch is \$7 or you may bring your own. For more info and to register:

<https://www.neumc.org/newsdetail/mbh-lay-servant-academy-march-and-april-2018-10107516>

4. **May 5, 2018:** All church leaders in our district are invited to a district seminar / training called “Fresh Expressions Vision Day.” Location TBA. ALL Leaders: please mark your calendar for this training.
5. **October 6, 2018:** The Bishops District Day with pastors and all church leaders in our churches. Location TBA. Please ~ all leaders mark your calendars!
6. **Scituate Food Pantry:** is open!  
 Food Pantry hours: TUESDAY: 10am-12:45pm for clients (9am-1pm for donations)  
 THURSDAY: 3:30-5:30pm for clients (3:30-6pm for donations)  
 The immediate needs are:  
**Proteins: Canned Ham, Canned Hash, Canned Chicken, Canned Salmon, Beef Stew**  
**Ketchup, Mayo 64 oz. Juice Pancake Mix and Syrup**  
 Any and all sizes of donated items are needed; larger sizes are appreciated by larger families.  
*Isaiah 58:10-12 Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.*
7. **Women’s Bible Study:** We’ll meet again next Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Chris Longman at ([clong350@yahoo.com](mailto:clong350@yahoo.com)) or (text or call) 517-404-6816.
8. Please start thinking about the **Scituate Historical Society’s Annual Turkey Dinner** here at HUMC on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. They’re already selling tickets at the Little Red Schoolhouse. The topic is “The Blizzard of 1978” which promises to be very popular and well-attended.
9. Judy Ward is organizing the collation following Nancy Thurson’s Celebration of Life service this Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. Call Judy to see where you can help. 781-383-9381

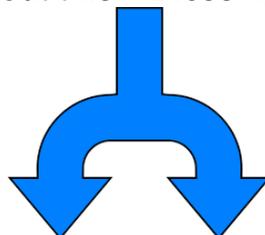


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|----------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|
| <b>Jan. 29</b> | Teddy Stephen Agni | <b>Feb. 2</b> | Wendy Love       |
| 30             | Mike Bruccoleri    | 3             | Carolyn Bearce   |
| 31             | Kerry Renzi        |               | Wayne Ross       |
|                |                    |               | Susan Scott      |
|                |                    |               | Liz Watson       |
|                |                    |               | Sheillah Moyo    |
|                |                    | 4             | Makayla Sullivan |
|                |                    | 5             | Helen Scott      |
|                |                    |               | Betty Leslie     |
|                |                    | 15            | Valerie Sweeney  |

*Please let me know your birthday. We’d love to celebrate YOUR day!*

Dear Prayer Warriors: You will see that I have removed several items from the prayer list. We are trying to get back to the Prayer Chain being for things of an urgent nature....those fighting cancer are certainly in need of continual prayers. This does not mean that we should not always be praying for our Church, president, pastor and family and friends. I pray that I have not offended anyone. This is not my intent.

Please let me know how you feel about this. Blessings, Mary





# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Please lift the following in prayer, that they may be strengthened, guided, and healed.

If there are other prayer concerns that you wish to have on the Prayer Chain,

please contact Alice Hamer at 781-545-4112 or

Kerry Renzi at 508-513-7193 or [kerryrenzi@yahoo.com](mailto:kerryrenzi@yahoo.com) or Mary Voelger at 781-545-9000 or at [zackzipp@aol.com](mailto:zackzipp@aol.com) Updated information is appreciated.

*“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” (Ephesians 6:18)*

**Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving:** For a very enjoyable and informative visit and sermon from our DS Rev. We Chang. He has given us a lot to consider and to implement as we feel the need. We had a great turnout for the “Pot Luck Luncheon,” and a multitude of “pots” to choose from. Also the Q&A with Rev. Chang where we covered a lot of topics. \* God is Good All the Time!

**Prayers for those fighting cancer:** Janet, friend of Dot Harris’s, has a fast-moving type of brain cancer ~ prayers for her and her Family. Paul Finnigan ... prostate cancer Ellen Hayes Cindy McCall Dianne ... friend of Jan Hawver Gary Stohler ... pancreatic cancer Dan ... prostate For Brian ... prayers for good news after Pet Scan George Neat ... prayers for good results after radiation Parker Sullivan, young boy fighting leukemia, responding well to treatment, prayers for continued success Amanda ... ovarian cancer and recovering from surgery related to the cancer. For Joanne M. for strength in dealing with lung cancer and finding a new treatment that might work.

**Prayers of the People:** For Georgina and her Family. \* For comfort and peace for all of Nancy Thurson’s Family and friends as we acknowledge the huge void her passing has left in our hearts. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for Nancy’s Celebration of Life Service this Saturday, January 27 at 11:00am at HUMC. \* For Julianna, that she will be able to put her life together and will know God is the one leading, guiding and protecting her. Prayers also that she will find meaningful work to do, quickly. \* Healing prayers for Skye McCall after hip surgery, and for Bill and Colleen as they help. \* Prayers for Lila Sparrell who’s continuing to have a multitude of tests, as her cancer from some 30 or so years ago has returned. They are trying to find the “base” location of it. Prayers please for strength to put-up with all the tests and for comfort as things proceed. As all of us “old timers” know, she and Charlie and their family is a big, happy and fun part of our HUMC family. Lila turned 91 this past January 2<sup>nd</sup>. \* Prayers for Barbara Crowley who’s back in Massachusetts for treatment of lymphoma at Dana-Farber in Hyde Park, Boston. She has a journey ahead of her. May the Lord our God give her strength to face the disease with dignity, respect and grace as we all carry her in our prayers. We will know more from her as time goes on. \* Prayers of patience for Coni Wessman while she awaits surgery early next month. \* Prayers for Peggy’s brother who’s having health issues and going through a difficult time. \* Prayers for Janet Simon who has on-going health problems and is now at Spaulding Rehab. \* Prayers for Grace Longman who’d love cards and notes from all of us: Worcester Recovery Center, Unit E2~Grace Longman, 309 Belmont Street, Worcester, MA 01604. Please keep her in your prayers going forward. May God work miracles on her behalf. \* Prayers for Joey ~ may he feel God’s love and accept help so that he may enjoy a long and happy life. \* Prayers for Kerry, Joey’s mom, for strength, patience, and especially God’s guidance.

**Please continue to keep the following in your prayers for healing and strength as they continue to recover at home or in a facility:** Carolyn Harbour, Wendy Murphy, Peggy’s sister Claire, Hope Crowell, and Sue Hands.

**For all in nursing care:** Charlie Antoniello, Lucy Morris, Martha Rotchford, Evelyn Murphy, Joe Rota, and all others. Please bless them with comfort and peace. Grant that their caregivers are kind, compassionate, and very well trained.

Blessings on all the men and women in the service of our country and for healthcare workers everywhere. \* Please bless Pastor Abi and his family. Bless our church with continued growth both in congregants and financially..... and blessings on all in our Church Family.

