

The George Whitefield ROCK

George Whitefield
UMC

Volume 1, Issue 42

November 2001



Ever since September 11th, the generosity of Americans has been overwhelming. From donations of money, clothing, even their own blood, people have poured out their gifts to those affected by the attack on the World Trade Center in New York and, to a lesser extent, to those in Washington, D.C. So much has been donated that some agencies are not able to use or store all of it, and other helping organizations not directly involved in this particular crisis are concerned that their own organizations will experience a drop-off in support. It's a kind of "embarrassment of riches."

I don't know if there is any relationship, but our own church members have turned themselves inside out with generosity in recent weeks. Donations to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) for disaster relief have topped \$500, including the special offering received at the 5th anniversary worship service on October 10. In addition to this, members and friends of the church donated 110 teddy bears to the United Methodist Women, which were then sent on to the New England Conference Youth Group, whose goal is to collect one million (!) teddy bears by next June. These bears will be given to children in shelters and homes who have suffered abuse. By the deadline of November 11, we may not be able to get into the church through the front door because of the enormous and steadily growing pile of used clothing which will be taken to Epworth UMC in Worcester by Jane Dolan and crew and loaded onto their truck for transport to the Northern Maine Economic Mission. These clothes will then be sold at a thrift shop to people in the economically depressed area of Northern Maine. As if that weren't enough generosity, Marge Reim is busy collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts for children around the world, as part of Operation Christmas Child. Last year we collected more than 70 boxes, and so far this year it appears that we will easily exceed last year's level. Oh yes – one more thing worth noting. In this year's CROP Walk on October 21, nine adults, eight children and one dog from our congregation made the 5-mile walk to raise money for hunger relief through Church World Service. In addition, Tom McKeon (previous holder of the "golden sneaker" award) did his walk on a different day. This is the largest number of CROP walkers from our church since I've been your pastor (and possibly the largest ever).

All of this generosity is extremely heart-warming. It shows that you do indeed care about the ministry of the church as we seek to extend the love of Christ beyond our walls into the world. There's another opportunity coming up this month to show your generosity and gratitude for all of God's gifts, and that is on Pledge Sunday on November 18th. Your pledge to the George Whitefield UMC will help us continue our ministry of nurture, outreach, and witness to our communities and beyond. On September 11th and the days following the terrorist attack, the church was open to the community for prayer. Your pastor (whose salary depends on your pledges) ministered to the community on Tuesday night at a vigil on the Common and in other ecumenical worship services. The church offers stimulating worship services and other events throughout the year that help meet the needs of people during these stressful times. Now, more than ever, people need the church. Won't you make an extra effort this year to increase your pledge so that we can expand our ministry of love and compassion to all who seek a closer walk with Christ? In Christ's service,

Pastor Mary Jane

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The Church and You

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

This year's finance/stewardship campaign will take place during October and November, with Pledge Sunday scheduled for November 18th. The newly revived United Methodist Men's group will prepare a celebration brunch for us after church that Sunday. Please begin prayerfully considering how much the Lord is leading you to pledge to the church in 2002. We are a growing church with new ministries waiting to happen, and we need your support. You will be hearing more from Charlie Reim, chair of the Finance Committee, and of course, from your pastor concerning the importance of faithful stewardship.

Men's News

The United Methodist men meet on the 1st Tuesday of each Month at the church at 6:33 PM. The United Methodist Men's Bible Study meets at the church every Thursday at 7:03 PM.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD UMC—BIRTHDAY

Wednesday, October 10, at the church George Whitefield ----5 years old, made an unannounced visit to join in the celebration of the of the churches 5th birthday. Guests also included Bishop Susan Hassinger, District Superintendent Gwen Puroshotham, Rev. Matthew J. Wissell and Rev. Anne Y. Roberts. A delicious dinner was enjoyed by about 50 attendees, followed by a birthday cake for the church. In case you are wondering, George Whitefield was portrayed by R.J. Ducharme, an active member of the Sunday School. The congregation also shared worship with Rev. Hassinger and Rev. Puroshotham celebrating Holy Communion. A letter from Rev. Thomas McKeown, who guided the merger with love, tears and laughter and such capable leadership was also read during the service. A wonderful time!

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY SEEKING INFORMATION

Do you know the whereabouts of any of the following people? If you do have information, please give it to Judith Bartlett, membership secretary. We are still trying to sort out the membership of the former West Warren and Whitefield churches.

Marilyn McBain **Craig Nichols**
Mark Conrad **Bradford Couture**
Brenda Couture **Belinda Couture**
Elizabeth Faford **Richmond Laisure**
William Laisure **Harold Laisure**
Susan Laisure **Lenkarski ?**
Merrill Family **Dale Nutter**
Jackie Scott **Frank Stekuer**
Susan Smith **Jennifer Wilk**
M/M Alan Stone **Kelly Wilk**
Carol Wickens **Tracy Williams**
Betty Jean Koss **Phillip Taylor**
Francesanne Dufault

Please send the information to
 Judith Bartlett
 150 Shea Road
 West Brookfield, MA 01585



Apologies

Due to circumstances beyond my control some information may be missing from this issue of the **George Whitefield Rock**. The computer that this newsletter is edited on suffered a catastrophic crisis resulting in the loss of much of my data. Fortunately I do back my data up frequently and only lost information related to this month's edition.

If you sent my information for this month's newsletter and you don't see it printed.... Please except my deepest apologies.



IT'S FAIR TIME AGAIN!!

The all-church fair is almost upon us. Wings and Hands Craft Group has been getting ready. **HAVE YOU?????????????????** The date is November 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Lunch served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Karen Farrell is chairperson—
508-867-3927
Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.
Volunteer to do something -
(sign the sheet) or call Karen and
tell her what you would like to do.

Christmas gifts and crafts
 Baskets (filled)
 Plants
 Handwork (knit, crochet & sewn)
 Candy
 Baked Goods
 Country Store
 Grandma's Attic
 Coffee shop and lunchroom
Surely everyone can find something to help with, Make, Bake or supply materials for others to use. Need help or ideas??
Call Millie Silverberg-508-867-2300 or
Dell Marona-508-867-3772 or
Judy Bartlett-508-867-3002-----
They are Karen's backup people.



November 2001

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- Monday 11/5, 7:30 pm** Charge Conference at Church
(Staff/Parish Relations Committee meets with D.S. at 6:30)
- Tuesday 11/6, 6:30 pm** United Methodist Men at Church
- Saturday, 11/10, 9 am-3 pm** Whitefield Village Fair at Church
- Sunday, 11/11** Deadline for used clothing donations and Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes
- Thursday, 11/15** NO BIBLE STUDY
- Sunday, 11/18, 9:30 am** Pledge Sunday; Breakfast after worship
- Wednesday, 11/21, 7 pm** Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church
- Thursday, 11/22** Thanksgiving Day; no Bible study
- Sunday, 11/25** Christ the King Sunday; United Methodist Student Day Special Offering
Hymn Sing at 9:15 a.m.
- Monday, 11/26** NO WINGS & HANDS
- Thursday, 11/29, 7 pm** Church (Administrative) Council

CALENDAR – REGULARLY SCHEDULED

Every week (unless otherwise noted):

- ? Sunday at 9:30 a.m. - Worship with Sunday School
- ? Wednesday at 10 a.m. – Bible study on Book of Acts at the home of Annalee Collins
- ? Wednesday at 2:15 p.m. – Prayer Group at Parsonage
- ? Thursday at 3 p.m. – Lectionary Bible Study at Parsonage

December 2001

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

You And the Community

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The season of “giving” is upon us. What better gift can we give than that of ourselves and our time? If you can give one hour, one day a week, to assure that the homebound elders in your community receive a hot noontime meal, please call the Meals on Wheels program at 508-867-1411 (JoAnn). We deliver Monday-Friday to West Brookfield, North Brookfield, Warren and Brookfield.

COFFEE HOSTS FOR NOVEMBER

11/4----April Learned & Nancy Cook
 11/11---Jane Dolan & Tom McKeon
 11/18---~~no coffee hour~~—breakfast
 11/25—Terri Ducharme & Joy LaChambre

List is also posted on bulletin board in hall between sanctuary & fellowship hall.

If you cannot serve coffee the day you are listed please make arrangements to swap days with someone. Coffee, cream and punch will be supplied, the rest is up to you. Refreshments can be home baked or from the store or doughnut shop. Choice is yours. Thanks for your cooperation.

Prayer and Praise Service

There will be a *Prayer And Praise Service* at the *George Whitefield United Methodist Church* on the third Sunday evening of each month at 7PM led by Rev. Harvey Collins. All are welcome. Come and Praise the Lord with us.

WHITEFIELD VILLAGE FAIR

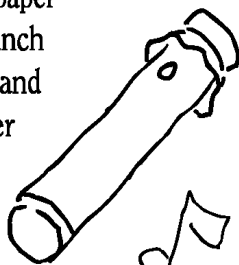
SATURDAY—NOVEMBER 10
9:00 AM—3:00 PM
CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND CRAFTS
COUNTRY STORE
PLANTS—CANDY—BAKERY
HANDIWORK—GIFT BASKETS
GRANDMA'S ATTIC
COFFEE SHOP --LUNCHROOM



Make a joyful noise with a "Tube Kazoo"

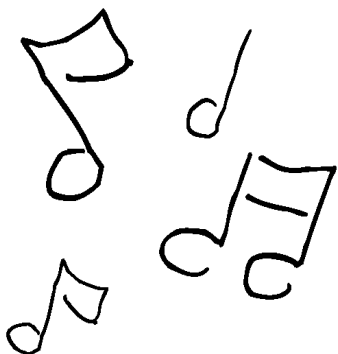
You will need:

- bathroom tissue tube or paper towel tube cut to 6" - 8"
- contact paper
- paper punch
- rubber band
- wax paper
- scissors



How to:

1. Cut contact paper a little longer than tube. Cover tube. Tuck long end inside.
2. Punch a 1/4" hole near one end of tube.
3. Cut wax paper a little larger than end of tube.
4. Fasten wax paper with rubber band over end that has punched hole.
5. Hum into open end to play.



Just for KIDS

Psalm 100

Find these words from Psalm 100.
Write the name of each picture on the lines.
Transfer the letters to the lines of the verse.

1 2 3 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 34 35 36 37
 4 5 6 7 8 23 24 25 26 38 39 40 41
 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 27 28 29 30 42 43 44 45
 31 32 33

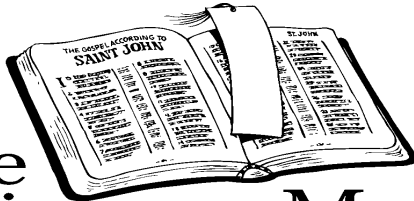
" 7 4 2 6 12 27 2 16 31 2 42 12 21 12 4 37 10 2 16 1 '
 17 10 10 12 4 8 8 17 16 12 13 '
 22 2 16 7 13 18 26 12 13 8 23 2 16 34 22 18 12 4
 3 10 24 1 19 14 7 7 ;
 9 35 25 14 20 14 27 11 16 8 4 18 25 22 18 12 4
 31 5 44 27 6 23 7 5 19 3 15 ' ' ' ' 14 19 12 14 16 13 18 7
 3 24 33 8 7 22 18 12 13 12 4 24 19 38 7 3 18 36 18 19 3
 17 19 1 4 18 7 9 5 6 16 12 7 22 18 12 13 26 16 17 18 7 8 ;
 3 18 36 14 33 13 24 19 38 7 12 5 4 18 25 17 19 1
 26 16 17 18 7 8 13 18 7 19 17 25 32 "

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name!"

Scripture Readings: Notice

Each month I will publish the readers for each weeks scripture lessons. It is requested that you read from the Lectern Bible. If you can not be in church on the week that you are scheduled to read, please arrange for someone else to read in your place or contact Paul Chicoine or Rev. Mary Jane.

Pastor Mary Jane is willing to give tips/lessons to anyone desiring them. Also if you are interesting in being included in the readers list please notify Paul Chicoine at 436-7744.



Bible Readings for the Month

November Scripture Readings:

4th - **Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4**
Psalm 119:137-144 (UMH 840)
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

11th - **Haggai 1:15b—2:9**
 Paul **Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 (UMH 857)**
 Chicoine **2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17**
Luke 20:27-38

18th - **Isaiah 65:17-25**
 Stewart **Psalm 118 (UMH 839)**
 King **2 Thessalonians 3:6-13**
Luke 21:5-19

25th - **Jeremiah 23:1-6**
 Liz **Luke 1:68-79 (UMH 208)**
 Sanford **Colossians 1:11-20**
Luke 23:33-43

Need a ride to Church???

If anyone in the local area needs a ride to church on Sundays or to any church function or meeting, please call Judith Bartlett at 867-3002 or the church office at 867-3667 for help in making arrangements.

Also, if you are willing to give anyone a ride, please have your name put on the driver's list in the church office.

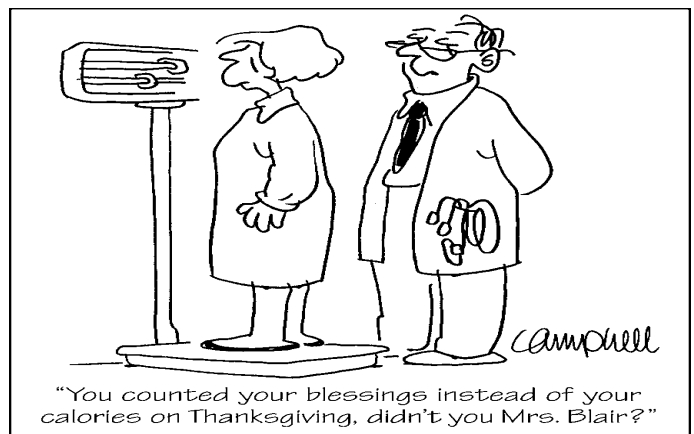
THANKS !!!

**Happy November Birthdays**

Robert Masterman	11/2	Theresa Frazier	11/2
Barbara Shailer	11/4	Edith Mongeon	11/6
Amanda Leneau	11/6	Janet Varnum	11/6
Nina Williamson	11/6	Ray Andrews	11/7
Walter Hazen	11/7	George Carpenter	11/9
Diane LaValley	11/10	May Jane Adam	11/24

Celebrating Anniversaries in November

Albion & Betty Prindle 11/13

**The Grief and Loss Support Group**

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE IN YOUR BE-REAVEMENT"

The last Wednesday of each month at 1:00 P.M. Sponsored by the **WEST BROOKFIELD COUNCIL on AGING** at the Senior Center, 27 Front St. Everyone is welcome. For more information call Frank Halloran 867-2497.

AN OPEN INVITATION

The George Whitefield Rock welcomes any and all submissions. We reserve the right to edit or reject any material. This is your newsletter, please feel free to make any suggestions to the pastor or the editors. Also if you would like to share your loved ones birthdays and anniversaries please send them for submission to the editor.

Have you visited our web site lately?

www.gbgm-umc.org/whitefield