First Parish
Weekly Update
October 4, 2007

Sunday, October 7
9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
HUMOR, FIRST PARISH, AND TONY GREELEY
For over 50 years Sidney ("Tony) F. Greeley, Jr., and First Parish have been inseparable. Tony has seen and heard it all and will share some great stories.

We also welcome long-time member the Reverend Judy Mannheim who will lead this service which is sponsored by the Worship and Arts Council.

Around the Parish

- We send our love and deep concern to long-time members Lois and Ray MacIntire who are both facing pancreatic cancer. Below is the e-mail from Ray that we received yesterday.

Dear Joyce,
I am sad to announce to you and the First Parish that Lois is suddenly seriously ill with terminal cancer of the pancreas, the same that I have, only mine is not yet advanced nor progressing rapidly. She had not felt well for over a week and had attributed her discomfort to an intestinal stoppage. After fruitless efforts to gain relief, we took her to the hospital emergency room. She was admitted on Saturday, September 22, and after three or four days of diagnostic imaging and testing, we knew the worst.

She will be receiving only immediate family member visits, and not be taking telephone calls as she tires easily. Cards and short notes will be welcomed.

Ray MacIntire
116 Montague Street,
Turners Falls MA 01376

Around the Parish
(continued)

- After 25 years of service, Joyce McNeil is planning to retire as Church Administrator! We will miss her friendly professional support. Many have benefited from Joyce's help. It is easy to understand her retirement intentions to "enjoy the present more deeply," which will include spending more time with her family. We will be sure to organize an appropriate farewell to thank Joyce for all her contributions. Her last day as our Administrator will be on October 31, but we certainly hope to see her frequently after that as a fellow parishioner and friend.

Rich Lawson
Chair, Board of Assessors

———————-

- Congratulations to Lynne Damianos who was recently elected Vice President of the ASMP Foundation which exists to support the education of American Society of Media Photographers members and their creative community. Their goal is to encourage the professional and artistic growth of photographers. Lynne has been charged to create a strategic plan for the charitable organization.
- <<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

You may still donate to Perkins School

Share the Plate Sunday was last Sunday, Sept. 30, and the recipient of the offertory is Perkins School for the Blind. If you were not in church but would like to contribute to this organization, please write your check to *Perkins School for the Blind* and either leave it in the Collector's mail slot in the Parish Office or mail it to the Parish Office by October 10. Thank you to all the generous folks who have already contributed!

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

PIES ON THE COMMON is only nine days away — Saturday, Oct. 13!

This coming Sunday, Oct. 7, please stop by the Pies table during coffee hour in Scott Hall to file your last minute pie pledges, buy quilt raffle tickets, and volunteer for work assignments.

We are still short of our goal of 500 pies. If you need an added incentive, this year we have prizes for the man and woman who bake and bring in the most pies.

Coffee, tea, chocolate anyone?

Have you been curious about the coffee, tea, and chocolate available from Equal Exchange but haven't tried any yet? This Sunday is your big chance. We will inaugurate our bimonthly program to offer small amounts for sale at coffee hour. Come see what's available! Also, orders placed in September will be distributed during coffee hours this Sunday. The next order will be placed in mid-November and will be distributed on the first

Sunday in December.
Nine people have signed up to join in purchasing organic mini chocolates from Equal Exchange. We need 7 more. For $11 you will get approximately one-half pound, 55 minis, and the satisfaction of knowing for sure that no child slaves were used to grow or harvest the cacao beans. A great Halloween treat! Sign up at coffee hour on Sunday.

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

Petition for Peace

Eighty people signed the Petition for Peace that Rev. William G. Sinkford, President of the UUA, will take to Congress on October 10! Hope to see many of you at the Peace Rally on Oct. 27th.

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

Cell phone disposal

Discarding cell phones into the waste stream is harmful to the environment. Bring them to Parish House to recycle in the red box on the bench near the Parish Office.

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

Health insurance presentation

Mark Oct. 28 on your calendars for presentations about the new health insurance programs in Massachusetts. Information sessions will be held during both coffee hours that day.

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

Next Social Action Coordinating Council meeting, Sunday, October 14, 12:15 p.m., Allen Room

From the Steeple Committee:

Thank you to everyone who has made and fulfilled their commitment to the steeple project. And thank you to everyone who has filled out a commitment form, indicating their willingness to contribute to the project. We are well on our way to collecting the $100,000 needed to pay for the repair and restoration of our steeple.

To those of you who have yet to commit, there is still time to be a part of this important stewardship project. We are specifically looking for one-time gifts to be paid in full by January 1, 2008, so we encourage parishioners to commit only those monies they can realistically donate during this time period.

Members of the Steeple Committee will be available at coffee hours on Sundays to answer questions and accept your donations, every Sunday through November.

And don't forget "Mary Rose's Italian Dinner" on October 20th, all proceeds going to the steeple project. (See second page on how to make your reservation.) We can't thank Mary Rose and Greg enough for their incredible generosity, spirit, and commitment to First Parish in Framingham.

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

Italian Dinner Night

Please call Mary Rose and Greg Wells to reserve your seat at their Italian Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m. in Scott Hall. Seating is limited. Price: YOU decide—Remember it is a fundraiser for the Steeple Fund. The Wells' telephone is 508-473-2333.

<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

Caritas Coordinator:

Susan Moody, 508-429-8881

<<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>>

Calendar
October 7—13

Sunday, October 7
» 8:30/10:15/noon AM music rehearsal
» 9:15 AM church service
» 11:00 AM church service
» 12:30 PM AShenton, church
» 12:30 PM Lay Leader orientation, sanctuary
» 7:00 PM YRUU, Cave

Monday, October 8
» COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY
» 12:00 PM Women's Alliance
» 6:30 PM Round Dance
» 7:30 PM Bell Choir, church
» 7:30 PM Meditation, OBrown

Tuesday, Ocober 9
» 3:30 PM Brownie Troop, OBrown Rm
» 5:30 PM Yoga, Huntley
» 7:00 PM Heritage Chorale,
» 7:00 PM Covenant-JB, Memorial
» 7:30 PM UU Forebearers, Huntley
» 7:30 PM Pies Committee, Allen

Wednesday, October 10
» 9:30 AM Yoga, Huntley
» 11:30 AM W&A, Allen
» 1:00 PM Stitches, 110
» 1:00 PM Staff, Allen
» 7:00 PM Tai Chi, Huntley
» 7:30 PM Stitches, 110

Thursday, October 11
» 8:00 AM Coffee & Muffins
» 6:30 PM Fairs n'Squares, Scott
» 7:00 PM Anybody Can Paint» 7:30 PM BOA, Huntley

Friday, October 12
» 2-9 PM Pies delivered, Scott Hall

Saturday, October 13
8-noon Pies delivered to Scott Hall
» 10-3 Pies Fair on Common