

THE Wesleyan



John Wesley
United Methodist Church
The Official
“Welcoming Congregation”

open hearts • open minds • open doors

PO Box 696 • Falmouth, MA 02541 • (508) 548-3050 • www.jwumcfalmouth.org

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 am to 12 noon

Pastor's Message

The Answers Lie Within

In the Old Testament, the Book of Leviticus tells us of a sacred custom called the “escape goat.” When the troubles of people became too much, a healthy male goat was brought into the temple. In a solemn ceremony, the highest priest of the tribe placed his hands on the head of the goat and recited the list of woes. The problems were then transferred onto the goat, and the goat was set free, taking the troubles away with him.

That was about 4,000 years ago, but we still use ‘escape goats’ today. We frequently use other people, and other things in our lives to avoid accepting responsibility of who we are and what we do. Instead of working on what is going on inside us, we try to blame that which is around us. It’s always easier and more convenient to assume the answer lies elsewhere or with others.

At John Wesley Church, we are busy building a spiritual community where all sorts and conditions of people are invited to join in our worship and in our common life as full

partners in the life of the church and as children of God. This is fastidious work. Morris West once said in his book, *The Shoes of the Fisherman*, “It costs so much to be a full human being that there are very few who have the enlightenment, or the courage to pay the price One has to abandon altogether the search for security and reach out to the risk of loving with both arms. One has to embrace

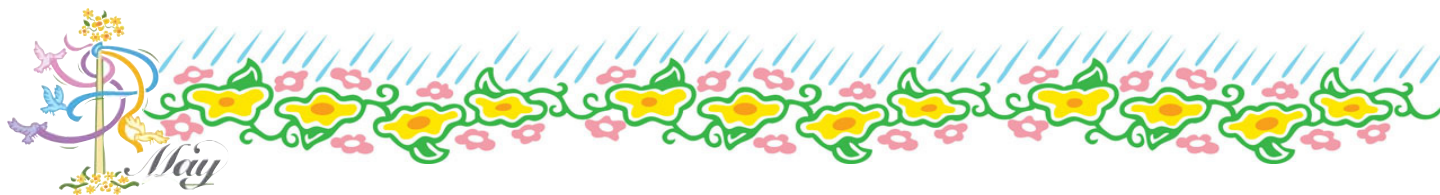
*As churches age,
many of us make
decisions that progressively
reduce the need
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narrowing our opportunities,
limiting our horizons,
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and sealing off
our potential for joy.*

the world like a lover, and yet demand no easy return of love. One has to accept pain as a condition of existence. One has to court doubt and darkness as the cost of knowing. One needs a will stubborn in conflict, but open always to the total acceptance of every consequence of living and dying.”

As churches age, many of us make decisions that progressively reduce the need to take risk, thereby narrowing our opportunities, limiting our horizons, reducing the input of fresh viewpoint, and sealing off our potential for joy. We have a beautiful opportunity at John Wesley Church not to do just that. We can, in fact, make a positive difference in the world, if we recognize the answers lie within.

Your minister,

David



Mega-Compassion (In His Steps)

by Sue MacKenzie
Lay Leader

Because our Newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month it's necessary, when writing an article or placing a notice, to look ahead, past the deadline, to the first of the next month when the newsletter is printed and sent out. So, though I'm writing this at the very end of March (to meet the April 15th deadline) I know that you won't be reading it until about the first of May!

By May 1 most of the 2011 spring-time babies in the animal (and bird) world will have been born. We will have seen baby birds being fed and be-

ing taught to fly and maybe, just maybe, we've been privileged to see some very young animals, perhaps a chipmunk or a skunk family.

I have a special friend whose name is Sheral. She is a state certified Wildlife Rehabilitator and has been for 19 years. This means that she is on the Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife List and, therefore, she receives requests to care for baby or injured animals until they are ready to fend for themselves. This, of course, can be very tricky because the animal has to be acclimated or re-acclimated to a natural (for them) habitat. The goal is always for a safe release.

Sheral has been trained to work with birds and animals in varied and special ways and to use her expertise in ways that most of us wouldn't know existed. She says, sadly, that when she began this work there were many people who were licensed. Now this is not so - due to economic tightening, stricter rules and regulations, peoples' time constraints and the fact that no one subsidizes an individual's work - they pay for all food and equipment themselves. One of her more unusual patients was a yellow nosed albatross (standing about 2 ½ feet high and with a 9 foot wingspan) which had been injured. She's also worked a lot with opossums and chipmunks. In the spring of the year there are often babies who have, for some reason, been separated from their mother and this is the stuff of which this tale is told!

Recently, Dick and I were privileged to watch as Sheral fed and took care of some other basic needs of four 6 day old squirrels. This intensive care needed to be given every two to three hours 'round the clock for about three weeks. She'd received a call from the Herb Chambers auto dealership in Braintree (who got her name and number from the Cape Cod Wildlife people in Cummaquid). When she picked up

the phone she heard a somewhat unusual story. It seems that a woman had brought in a car to be sold and when the mechanic opened the hood, there were the four babies in a nest of twigs and leaves. Why they hadn't been chopped up or burned up is something that, quite literally, God alone knows. Anyway, the Cape Cod Wildlife people had received the call for assistance and had referred the Herb Chambers people to Sheral. Now, at this moment, her life is in a bit of an upheaval with some major changes taking place. But (a big "but") after hearing the story and also hearing that the car owner had refused to take the nest (with babies) back to where the car had been (so that the mother could find them) and with the information that the woman had said "kill them", she consented to be their surrogate mommy for approximately the next ten weeks. The care is, as I have said, intense for a time (Moms and Dads - remember those two and three o'clock feedings?).

It was such a pleasure to watch Sheral as she fed and saw to the bodily needs of these tiny creatures. They were hairless, deaf and blind and about three inches long. They were a dark pink color and just beginning to show a tinge of gray, meaning that their fur was just starting to grow out. They were entirely helpless and dependent and really not yet particularly cute! They were three little boys and one small (the runt) girl. The "boys" - especially one which we called "the bruiser" nursed the syringe with formula voraciously. The little girl had some difficulty but finally she had her fill too. As soon as the first one began to feed, the others started making small noises in anticipation of their turn!! Sheral explained that a person needs training to feed them properly as it is quite easy to do it wrong and asphyxiate such little creatures. She's an old hand!

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PASTOR
Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

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Debra Bostwick

CHOIR & MUSIC DIRECTOR
John Yankee

KEYBOARDIST
Dr. Robert Wyatt

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Eva Peterson

EDITORS
Ed & Mary Jane Dyer

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WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

May 2011

2nd Sunday of Easter, May 1, 2011

Readings: Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

Liturgist: Henry Brown

Altar Guild: Pat Dinsmore and Betty Bailey

Acolytes: Ian Opaluch and Liam Clinkscales

Greeters: Bonnie and Tim Valade

Ushers: Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley, Carlton Hack

3rd Sunday of Easter, May 8, 2011 — Mother's Day

Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 Peter 1:17-23, John 24:13-35

Liturgist: Ken Peal

Altar Guild: Sharon Mulcahy and Eileen Rice

Acolytes: Ian Opaluch and Nina Clinkscales

Greeters: Joyce and Bill Ferney

Ushers: Sharon Mulcahy, Greg Brown, Karyn & Larry Briggs

4th Sunday of Easter, May 15, 2011

Readings: Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

Liturgist: Cathy Opaluch

Altar Guild: Linda Duane and Ginny Wass

Acolytes: Ian Opaluch and Julia Roy

Greeters: Harryette Alexander and Anna Blake

Ushers: Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson, Barbara Swenson

5th Sunday of Easter, May 22, 2011 — Heritage Sunday

Readings: Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

Liturgist: Ted Burt

Altar Guild: Linda Duane and Barbara Swenson

Acolytes: Ian Opaluch and Josh Cribben

Greeters: Jan Brooks and Ginny Waight

Ushers: Eric Tinglof, Dick Sherman, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt

6th Sunday of Easter, May 29, 2011

Readings: Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

Liturgist: Any Clantanoff-Brown

Altar Guild: Betty Bailey

Acolytes: Ian Opaluch and Andrew Roy

Greeters: Carl and Dottie Hack

Ushers: Russell Brown, Dick Mackenzie, Bonnie Cribben, Marilyn Mugno

THIS MONTH'S USHERS

Call Marilyn Mugno (508-564-5283) if anyone has to cancel or has problems.

Please team - do not forget to help straighten up the pews after the service so it looks nice for the next service or function. Thank you. Spring is around the corner!

May 2011

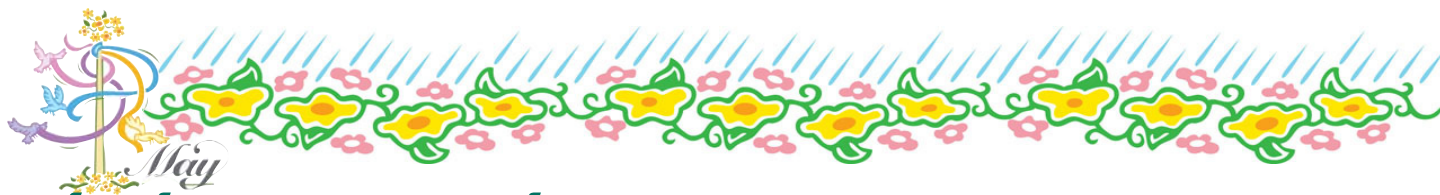
- 1st Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley, Carlton Hack
- 8th **Mothers Day**
Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn & Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 15th Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson, Barbara Swenson
- 22th Eric Tinglof, Dick Sherman, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt
- 29th Russell Brown, Dick MacKenzie, Bonnie Cribben, Marilyn Mugno

June 2011

- 5th Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley, Carlton Hack
- 12th Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn & Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 19th **Father's Day**
Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson, Barbara Swenson
- 26th Eric Tinglof, Dick Sherman, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt

July 2011

- 3rd Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley, Carlton Hack
- 10th Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn & Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 17th Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson, Barbara Swenson
- 24th Eric Tinglof, Dick Sherman, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt
- 29th Russell Brown, Dick MacKenzie, Suzanne Shermer, Marilyn Mugno



Missions Committee Report

In December your Missions Committee made distributions to the following organizations:

Pastor's Discretionary Fund	2500.00
Recovery Without Walls	1000.00
Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod	500.00
Cape Cod Center for Women	500.00
Good News Jail Ministry	500.00
Samaritans	500.00
Noah Shelter	500.00
Holiday support	245.00

At the January meeting the following distributions were approved:
Heroes in Transition

(Jones family foundation)	1000.00
Upper Cape Chaplaincy	1000.00
Noah Shelter	500.00
Carriage House	500.00
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	250.00
Community Health Center of Cape Cod (formerly Cape Cod Free Clinic)	500.00

this money will be donated during the CHCCC Capital Campaign Matching Fund this summer.

Please remember the John Wesley UMC's Missions Committee represents the entire congregation. Our church members help to raise the money that the Missions Committee distributes. Members of the congrega-

tion are welcome to submit information about non-profit organizations with which they are familiar, and that they feel would fit our church's mission, to any Missions Committee member. Anyone is welcome to attend Missions Committee meetings on the 4th Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the Lounge.



Mega-Compassion *Continued from page 2*

When all was done, back they went into their blankets and carrier with a hot water bottle for warmth and so to sleep for another couple or so of hours.

God the Father and God the Son had quite a lot to say about caring for this world's animals. From the beginning (Genesis 1:20-26) God the Father spoke over the birds and the fish and the land creatures and He said that His creations were "good". And then He gave man dominion over them all. This was not, I feel, permission to do anything we want with them. This was not license to abuse, to make a mockery of, to deface, to cripple, to kill for pleasure or for sport, to act without mercy in any way. But it seems to me to be a mandate to compassionately care for them.

God the Son points out in Matthew 6:26 that we are to observe how our heavenly Father feeds the birds ("and are we not much more valuable than they"?). (I wish He'd mentioned squirrels here!!)

And, of course, we the people are so often likened, in the Bible, to sheep (some references are Luke 15:1-7, Mat-

thew 25:31-46 and my favorite, John 10:11-16) with our Shepherd, Jesus, caring for us so completely. This can be looked at as an example for us to follow.

Yes, I think we can safely believe that the Creator of all cares greatly for every one of His creations and had our animal friends very much on His mind a lot of the time. One more animal Bible reference that I love (and think of when someone has lost a pet) is in Psalm 36, verse 6. It reads "Oh Lord, you preserve both man and beast. How priceless is your unfailing love".

Did I make my point about how we should care for our fellow creatures? I hope so and as Sheral nurtures her four little charges, I hope you'll sometimes say a prayer for them, that they grow to enjoy their reasons for being on this earth. And I hope that you'll also say a prayer for Sheral and for like-minded folks who do this compassionate work. I believe that they are truly God's hand servants as they feed and care for His creatures! I do hope that you agree.

Capital Fund Campaign Update

Our Capital Fund Campaign will end on June 30th. With 94% of the time elapsed, 75% of the committed pledges have been paid. About \$100,000 is outstanding. This amount is badly needed in order to pay off the mortgage and make the urgent repairs to the Sunday school roof. Those who have made pledges are requested to check their status and plan to fulfill their commitments. Those who have not made a commitment - for whatever reason - are requested to reconsider and make a one-time gift to the Drive - however small.

For any questions concerning your status or the campaign in general, please contact Bob Dinsmore (508) 540-2183 or rpdinsmore@aol.com.



Monday Morning Crafters Need Stuff and People

We are a group of ladies that work all year for our Holiday Fair's Craft Table. We are in need of yarn, material, ideas and some new people. If you would like to join us we meet every Monday morning in the Fitzgerald Room

at 10:00 A.M. for a couple of hours. Please remember us when cleaning out that craft room, cellar or wherever. If you would like further information, please call Linda Duane at 508-457-4407. Thank you.

Singles- Together Church Fellowship May 7

Come join us for our monthly lunch and fellowship gathering at La Cucina Sul Mare Restaurant on Saturday, May 7th, at 11:30am. The food is delicious, and it is always good to get together with other church friends. Anyone who is single, widowed, or divorced, is especially invited, but of course, married church friends are always welcome too. Last month, we enjoyed opening our get together with the singing of the Hymn "In the Garden", mindful that Easter was soon to be celebrated. Our thanks again to Deenie Reeves for helping with the reminder phone calls. Welcome back from vacation to Linda Duane, who will be helping coordinate our gatherings in the future. Over twenty-five church members have attended one of our lunches, and we were happy to have eighteen share last month's meal. To make a reservation, or for further information, call Rev. Barbara Brand-James, 508/495-1659. Hope to see you then!

Monthly Taize Singing

**TASTE OF TAIZE,
SATURDAY MAY 14, 7-8:30 PM,
SUGGESTED DONATION \$5
TAIZE SERVICE,
SUNDAY MAY 15, 6 PM**

We had a wonderful time singing Taize songs at our first Taste of Taize and Sunday evening service, on April 9 and 10. For those of you who were not able to come to either session but are interested, you are welcome to come to the sessions in May (or any thereafter), no prior experience necessary. The next Taste of Taize will be on Saturday, May 14th, from 7 - 8:30, followed by a Taize Service at 6 pm on Sunday, May 15th. We'll learn some new music, including some simple rounds that are easy to learn yet beautiful and inspiring to sing. All musical abilities are welcome, and you can also come and just listen if you prefer.

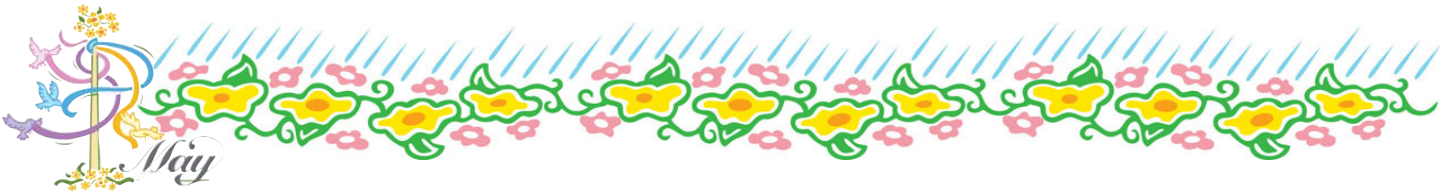
Most of the songs taught in the Saturday Taste of Taize sessions will be part of the Taize Service held the Sunday immediately following. Learning the songs ahead of time will allow for the spirit of the music to resonate at a deeper level during the service, but all are welcome to a Taste of Taize or the Sunday Taize Service, whether or not they participate in both events.

Songs are taught and led by Elizabeth Rogers. Elizabeth has been singing professionally for over 30 years, and recently moved back to New England after spending most of the last decade living in the Findhorn Community in Scotland. There she became a leader of Taize singing in addition to holding other roles such as choir director, musical director for workshops and conferences, theatre manager, and performer. For more information please see www.taize.fr, and www.elizabethrogers.com.

For those of you hearing about this for the first time, Taize singing is a type of sacred music developed at, and named after, the Taize spiritual community in France. These chant-like songs are usually sung in three- and four-part harmony and, while sometimes sung in different languages, are simple to learn. By learning and singing in the Taize tradition, we aim to create a joyful evening of song that helps to strengthen the stillness within as well as the community between us.



*A woman who fears
the **LORD**
is to be praised.*
Proverbs 31:30



Righteousness

**It's not easy to be righteous
As we live from day to day,
To turn the other cheek and smile,
To be careful what we say.**

**We must follow the Commandments
And the Golden Rule as well,
No simple tasks to accomplish
As most everyone would tell.**

**Strive for patience and be cheerful
When we have to wait awhile,
Accept one's lot with graciousness,
Instead of complaining...smile.**

**Judging others is not the way
To show fellow men respect,
Positive thinking and fairness
Is what we cannot neglect.**

**Put everything in God's own hands,
He will help us every day,
With faith and hope and righteousness
We must trust in Him and pray.**

Joy Stosz
March 24, 2011

Christian Education

May begins with our collection of "Spare Change for Heifer." The Sunday School children and WOW children will be taking up collections of "Spare Change" for our Heifer Project of chicks, bees and trees during three Sundays in May. Those dates are; Sunday May 1st, Sunday, May 15th and Sunday, May 22nd. We will then count up our combined collections to determine how many trees, bees and flocks of chicks we can purchase for families in need. We will let you all know our grand total. Thank you all for your continued support in our project. Sunday May 8th is Mother's Day. Please join us as we celebrate all our mothers in our parish. The last Sunday in May is the 29th, when we recognize the spirit's enduring presence through our community, with ideas honoring peace.





OLD TIME GOSPEL NIGHT



*A Community Sing - A - Long
Featuring Sacred Bluegrass
Spirituals & Hymns*

Music, Laughter, Entertainment & Surprises

Led By John Yankee
with Richard Gregory - Allen (Fiddle),
Rich Armstrong (Mandolin), Ned Quist (Guitar),
John Alden (Bass)

Friday - June 3, 2011 - 7:30 p.m.
John Wesley United Methodist Church
Gifford & Jones Road, Falmouth

Suggested Donation: \$10 but everyone is welcome.
Proceeds To Benefit The John Wesley Music Program

