
The Tower *Chimes*

Union Church of Pocantico Hills
555 Bedford Road
Pocantico Hills, New York 10591

The Rev. Dr. F. Paul DeHoff, Pastor

Janet Graham, Editor

March 2011

.....from the Pastor's desk

What happened to Ash Wednesday? Where is Lent? Not that they are lost, but did I miss them? No – you have not missed them, they are late this year because Easter's date is April 24th. Memory is short, perhaps, because in 2000 Easter was April 23rd. The latest date on which Easter can ever fall is April 25th. One thing this means is that the sun will be a bit higher than usual for the 6:30 a.m. Easter Dawn Service.

Ash Wednesday is March 9th. A Service of Holy Communion will be held in the Sanctuary at 8:00 p.m. Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ at the Lord's Table – He is our host. Invitations to a meal are often accompanied by an R.S.V.P. – how do you respond?

A few tickets for the Bruce Levingston Benefit Piano Recital, April 3 at 3:00 p.m., are available. If you plan to attend it would be prudent to buy as soon as possible. This recital will be followed by a Champagne Reception. They are \$25.00 each, available from the Church Office.

Tickets for Vivien Jacobson's March 27 lecture: "Chagall and The Bible" are available from the Church Office. She will bring the Chagall windows of Union Church to life for us. A Reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

The Boards of Deacons and Trustees are sponsoring an All Church Fellowship Dinner (Pot Luck Supper) April 16 at 6:00 p.m. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the Parish Hall. All members, friends, and their children are invited to participate – to break bread together – to enjoy one another's company. There is some magic in sharing a meal – come and see!

LAMPSTAND

The Upper Room By Carole Erdman

Every day we are bombarded with messages urging us to buy things. We hear them on radio and see them on TV and the pop-ups on our computer screens. Often the offer includes something that we will receive free of charge. What can be better than free? I want to tell you about a freebie that is very close at hand that you may have overlooked.

When you are going into or out of the Fellowship Hall, look at the literature rack. You will see many copies of *The Upper Room*. This is a daily devotional that is available to us bimonthly. It contains daily messages from people all over the world and from all walks of life. They share their experiences and the hope and strength they have found in their faith. On the cover is a lovely piece of art work that is discussed inside. Besides the daily reading, each page has a suggested bible passage, a thought for the day and a special prayer request. There are even pictures of some of the people who have contributed their stories.

I read *The Upper Room* every morning. These messages from people all over the world have taught me how similar we are no matter where we may live. I enjoy reading stories about how their faith has helped them cope with the circumstances of their lives. Their pictures make the message even more personal. These accounts of faith and hope encourage me and help set the tone for my day. Many times the message is exactly what I need in order to cope with a particular problem.

I urge you to pick up a copy of *The Upper Room* and see for yourself. It is truly inspiring and best of all, it's free!!

PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

March 6 – “*Belonging to God*”-
John 1:1-5, 10-13 (11)

March 9 - “*The Grip of a Loving God*”-
(Ash Wednesday) John 3:14-21 (16)

March 13 – “*Grace vs. Devils*” –
(1st Sun. in Lent) Titus 1:1-4 (4b)

March 20 – “*Those Ten Commandments*”
Matthew 22:34-40 (37-40)

March 27 – “*Encounter on a Lonely Road*” –
Acts 8:26-40 (35)

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight savings time will begin on
March 13. Don't forget to move
your clocks ahead 1 hour!

EASTER LILIES

It's time to start thinking about Easter, which falls on April 24 this year. We have enclosed an order form for lilies with this mailing. Forms also will be provided in our service programs beginning April 3. The price for each plant will be **\$14.00**.

Please complete your form and return it with your payment no later than **April 17**. It is important that you write legibly so that your dedication will be printed accurately on the Easter Lily list.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

As reported during the past several weeks, the Trustees set up a search committee to seek the next Organist & Choir Director for our church. The members of the committee are:

Nancy Burkley, Trustee
Charlie Carlson, Choir
Kathy Law-Imperato, Deacon
Kathy Murray, Chair
Rob Seixas, Trustee
Bob Sweeney, Deacon
Victoria Wooters, Choir
Paul DeHoff, ex-officio

This is a very good group of individuals, representing many perspectives on the position and evaluation of candidates. Each of them are actively participating in our activities, which have already included determining our guiding principles, agreeing on the search process, writing and sharing the position description and already, evaluating the resumes we have received from our posting the position on the American Guild of Organists' website. We are pleased with the quality of the resumes already received.

One of our guiding principles is "Transparency and Input – Share as much as we can when we can; seek input from each constituency of the church, when appropriate." This means we will keep you, as the members of the Congregation, informed throughout the process...within the confines of needed confidentiality. If you would like a copy of the position description to review or share, please contact Rev. Paul DeHoff or me. Or if you have any questions or comments throughout the process, please feel free to contact me or any member of the Committee.

We also thank Tom Zachacz for his continuing leadership of the choir and working with the church leadership during this transition.

Kathy Murray
Trustee, Chair of the Search Committee
646-662-3725
Kamaem2@yahoo.com

COMING EVENTS

"Chagall and the Bible" – March 27

Marc Chagall wrote: "I went back to the great universal book, the Bible. Since my childhood, it has filled me with vision about the fate of the world and inspired me in my work." Perhaps his finest bequest lives on in his **Biblical Message Museum** in Nice, France. Union Church is graced with nine stained glass windows by Marc Chagall, each with a distinctive, strong theme from the Bible. The themes are: the Good Samaritan, the Crucifixion, Joel, Elijah, Daniel, the Cherubim of the Garden of Eden, Ezekiel, Jeremiah and

Isaiah. Chagall was/is a powerful communicator in his chosen medium; AND he communicates truth. There are many powerful communicators whose message is, at best, spurious! Not Chagall – he was "right on"!

Vivian R. Jacobson was a close friend of Chagall who communicates his understanding of the Bible and his spirit through her lectures and slide shows. She will do that for us on March 27. Admission is by ticket.

The windows are exceptional to view, they are strong and vivid. They are beyond exceptional in message. Vivian Jacobson can and will share that with us. She too, in her own right, is a powerful communicator! Come and see and hear and be filled with the light of understanding.

Ms. Jacobson's lecture will begin at **3 p.m.**, and the doors will open at 2:30 p.m. The price of a ticket for this event will be \$10. If you wish to purchase a ticket, call the church office at 631.2069.

Benefit Piano Recital by Bruce Levingston – April 3

Pianist Bruce Levingston is one of today's leading figures in contemporary music. Many of the country's most important composers have written works for him and his Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center world premiere performances of their works have won notable critical acclaim. He has appeared internationally as a soloist and chamber musician in many concerts and music festivals and his recordings and performances have been broadcast throughout the world.

Mr. Levingston will perform in concert at Union Church on **April 3 at 3 p.m.—doors will open at 2:30 p.m.** The price of each ticket for this performance will be \$25.00 and all proceeds will benefit the Pastoral Endowment Fund. To purchase tickets for this event, call the church office at 631.2069.

All are invited to join us and our guests at a reception following each event.

SPRING TAG & FLOWER SALE

The Spring Tag and Flower Sale will be held May 6 and 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Flower portion of this sale is sponsored by the Dinner Club. Departments that will be open for this spring event are: White Elephants, Clothing for Children, Men and Women, Linens and Bake Table. The White Elephant tent will be set up May 3rd and the items for sale transferred to the tent that evening. Help is needed May 4 & 5 unpacking and displaying this "herd" of White Elephants. You may contact the Church Office, or Donna Murphy, at (973)728-0830.

It will be helpful if you do NOT bring in fall or winter clothing until May 15. We have our hands full dealing with spring and summer clothing. The deadline for Clothing and White Elephants for the Spring Tag Sale is **APRIL 17**. Thanks for helping us with this.

When delivering items to Union Church for the Spring Tag Sale and the Harvest Fair it is helpful if you take them to their preparation areas, as follows:

Children's Clothing outside Room 4 of the Education Bldg.

Women's and Men's Clothing outside Room 10 of the Education Bldg.

White Elephants & Antiques on hall tables, ground floor of Education Bldg.

Books and Linens to the room under the Sanctuary.

Furniture to Room 1 of the Education Bldg.

THANK YOU!

FALL HARVEST FAIR DATES SET

The **2011 Harvest Fair** will be here before you know it. The dates are **October 14, 15 and 16**. The success of the Fair is entirely dependent on donations, so please pass the word along to your family, friends and neighbors as they do

their spring cleaning. We are accepting the following:

Books (no textbooks); **Furniture** (no old box springs and mattresses) - delivery to the church is desirable; **White Elephants** (no outdated or non-working electronics, such as computers, printers, TVs, etc.); **Jewelry** and **Boutique** items; **Antiques**; **Clothing** – men's women's, children's (clothing must be clean, neatly folded or on hangers, not torn, etc.); **Linens** (must be clean, neatly folded, or on hangers). Thank you.

Special note: The **Jewelry Dept.** is in need of those pieces that you no longer wear. We would appreciate it if you would wander through your jewelry drawer/box and keep us in mind as you make your choices as to what to keep and not keep. Thank you.

Linda DeLaurentis and Janet Graham

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

- Prayers are requested for Elizabeth Grey-Pardo, who recently had surgery on her arm and for Tom Frutig, who suffered a mild heart attack in February. Both are at home recuperating.

IN MEMORIAM

We have received a gift from the Hadad Family in loving memory of Anne Klami. As Requested by the family, this gift will become part of the Pastoral Ministry Endowment fund.

Gifts to the Pastoral Ministry Endowment Fund in loving memory of Arline Weiss have been received from:

Jewel Baxter
Joan Coffman
Beth Coffman
Bill and Janet Graham

We gratefully acknowledge and accept these gifts.

Articles for the APRIL Tower Chimes are due by MARCH 27.
