

DEACON'S CORNER

Last Call on Valentine Care Packages for Our Young People

The Deacons will be compiling Valentine Care Packages to send to our UCW young people who are in their first year of being away from home. We want them to know that the church is thinking of them and sending love. If you have a young person who is newly away from home whether as a college freshman or in another setting, please send Pastor Stacy (stacy@ucw.org) their mailing address so that we can send them a box of treats.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL: FOCUS NICARAGUA!

During Sunday School today and next week, our kids of all ages will help prepare gifts of notebooks for the children of our partner church in San Juan del Sur Nicaragua, Alpha-Omega. The travelers on our Nicaragua Mission Trip will hand-deliver the notebooks to the children when we worship with them on Sunday, February 16th. Alpha-Omega has more than 100 children, which means a lot of notebooks to decorate! If anyone can help by taking a few home over the week between Feb. 2nd and Feb. 9th, please let Pastor Amy (amy@ucw.org) or Jill Coull (jillcoull@gmail.com) know. We'd be so grateful for the help!

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS – Events Coming Up!

Many thanks to the awesome kids and families that made our Middle School Friday Night Dinner Out on the Town such a great evening! Please save the date for upcoming Middle School get-togethers:

- **Feb. 28th, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.: Cookie Baking and Delivery** – Middle and High Schoolers will have dinner together, and then bake and deliver cookies to members of our congregation who could use a little extra sweetness!
- **March 1st: High School Youth Group** – Please hold the afternoon on this day for a fun activity TBD.
- **March 8th: Common Cathedral** – All ages are invited to help prepare food in Sunday School, and then to serve lunch and worship with our friends experiencing homelessness on Boston Common.
- **March 27th-28th: Middle School Overnight!** We'll gather for an awesome night of fun, games, food, connection and worship.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH – Visit to the Islamic Center in Wayland: February 9th

The Islamic Center in Wayland generously opens their doors to visitors, and we will gather with them for a time of learning and worship on February 9th. Exploring our Faith students and other high-schoolers are especially encouraged to attend, and mentors are always welcome! We'll gather after UCW worship for a brief lunch, and then head to the Islamic Center by 12:30 p.m.

MISSION OUTREACH

The Haley House Bakery is Back in Our Community!

The Grand Re-Opening was yesterday, Saturday, February 1st. Haley House is a multi-faceted organization that provides permanent, affordable housing, promotes urban agriculture, and offers economic opportunities for people with barriers to traditional employment (especially those transitioning out of incarceration). Details at <http://haleyhouse.org/hhbcrelaunch/>



TODAY, February 2nd – *common art* Show at the Union Church



Valentine's Day will be upon us before you know it! Come find a gift for that special someone after church service on Sunday, Feb. 2nd, when we will host artists from *common art*. *common art* is a program of *common cathedral* which provides space, materials and support staff to unhoused and low-income individuals as they develop their artistic abilities. Artists gather every Wednesday at Emmanuel Church on Newbury Street to draw, paint, sculpt, make crafts, and to share with other artists in like circumstances. For many

common art members, art is a way of life. For others, it's a new discovery. But for all, art is passion, expressing and affirming life itself, a defiant or gentle "yes" in the face of stigma amid the constant struggle of poverty and homelessness.

Next Sunday, Feb. 9th, 11:30 a.m. — Zoned Out: Who gets to live in suburban Boston

Ever thought about why you live where you do? Or considered what unseen forces might have led you there? Join Kathleen Hobson, Nancy Zollers, and Frank Laski, three of our Advocates for Racial Justice, for a discussion about the origins of the Boston suburbs, the roots of our chronic housing shortage, and what it will take for us to achieve a more equitable and inclusive community. Everyone and all ages are welcome, no preparation necessary—but these three easy-to-digest pieces create a helpful frame for the conversation we envision*:

- The Character of the Neighborhood—Rev. Howard Haywood, Newton TAB (op-ed), 1/21/15, during the Austin Street fight.
- "Special: Richard Rothstein, The Color of Law Mission YIMBY event"—Rothstein here gives a particularly clear and vivid version of the argument in his book (The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America). You can skip to 5:10, where his lecture begins. (Infill podcast, approx. 45 min.)
- "You have a better chance of achieving 'the American dream' in Canada than in America"—Ezra Klein interviews Raj Chetty, Aug. 2019 (both in written and podcast form, vox.com)



**Visit the Union Church website homepage at ucw.org to follow these links.*

CRADLES TO CRAYONS COLLECTION THROUGH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

Please bring in *new or gently-used* donations for Cradles to Crayons ! Donation bins are located in the chapel and will be available through Sunday, February 16th. Cradles to Crayons provides children from birth through age 12, living in homeless or low-income situations, with the essential items they need to thrive – at home, at school, and at play.

Most Needed Items: • Everyday shoes/sneakers • Boys clothing • Sweaters/sweatshirts

Other Accepted Items:

- Clothing and coats (youth sizes 0–20 and adult sizes small & medium)
- Baby equipment, especially strollers and car seats within five years old
- New and like-new toys (Gently-used toys must have all pieces. We do not accept stuffed animals, ride-on toys, or plastic play structures. No large toys, please)
- Baby equipment, especially strollers and car seats within five years old
- Shoes, boots, sneakers, and sandals (infant/child sizes 0–13 and adult sizes 1–10)
- New socks and underwear
- Pajamas (can be new or gently used)
- Books, especially baby board books
- Brand new arts and crafts/school supplies
- Baby supplies and bedding (up to size twin)
- Diapers, all sizes
- New hygiene supplies for ages 0 to 12
- New batteries

Thank you!

March 1st – Public Voice Speakers from City Mission

We are privileged to host two speakers from City Mission's Public Voice program on March 1st, after fellowship. Public Voice provides trained storytellers/speakers whose lived experience gives insight, understanding and perspective to the issues underlying homelessness. City Mission's Public Voice Project customizes storytelling training and presentations to help participants find and share the stories which break down barriers and build understanding within oneself as well as across groups, cultures and communities.

March 8th – Potluck with Speaker, Josephine Bolling McCall, author of: *The Penalty for Success - My Father was Lynched in Lowndes County, Alabama.*

The speaker will tell the story of how her father's success as a businessman in Alabama led to his lynching and how that impacts his descendants and the community even today. This speaker will provide updates on the Legacy Museum and the Memorial in Montgomery both of which honor her father as one of many victims. This sensitive information will make a strong impact on students as they strive for improved social justice and diversity. Josephine McCall will also challenge participants to rethink the reality of life for blacks and whites in the mid-20th century rural



South by considering joining a literacy campaign. Research shows that children who have learned to read by the third grade have a much better chance of completing high school. Alabama has a new law that children will be retained if they do not successfully complete the third grade. The speaker hopes her presentation will set the stage for dialogue on creative ideas for participants to help improve literacy in Lowndes County, Alabama. If you are interested, please RSVP to Pastor Stacy (stacy@ucw.org).

TODAY'S FELLOWSHIP HOUR- ALL ARE WELCOME!

Thank you to Liz Caronna for laying our table and hosting our fellowship time this morning. If you would like to host a future, after-church Fellowship Hour, please sign up through the Sign-Up Genius webpage. The link can be found on the UCW website at ucw.org and in the Friday e-blast.

NEWCOMERS – WE WELCOME YOU!

Nametags – Knowing each other by name is important to us. It is a way to say to each other that you and I matter and it is an invitation into friendship and community. If you are new to us and do not yet have a name tag, please use the welcome card in the pew pocket to let us know that you would like one to be waiting for you the next time you come into this place.

Friday e-Blast – Every Friday an electronic newsletter/update is sent to the community. features much information about upcoming events as well as reflections on what has been. If you would like to subscribe to this vital information channel within the church, again please fill out the welcome card and indicate such.

Membership – Could the Union Church be a spiritual home for you and your family? Would you like to learn more about the Union Church in Waban, its history, its present-day programs and offering, and its vision for the future? If so, please reach out to Pastor Stacy (stacy@ucw.org or 617-759-9016).

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun., Feb. 2	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	common art Gallery Showing in the Vestry
	11:45 p.m.	Nicaragua Youth Planning
Mon., Feb. 3	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Tue., Feb. 4	6:00 p.m.	Deacons
Wed., Feb. 5	6:30 p.m.	Council
Thur., Feb. 6	7:30 a.m.	Prayer Group
	9:00 a.m.	Yoga with Andrew
Sun., Feb. 9	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	“Zoned Out” – Educational Forum on Housing
	12:30 p.m.	EOF Visit to Wayland Islamic Center
	5:30 p.m.	Nicaragua Travelers Meeting

**The Union Church
in Waban:**
14 Collins Road,
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For a complete
listing, and details
of upcoming
events, please
visit our website,
www.ucw.org

COPY DEADLINE: Material for inclusion in the Friday e-blast newsletter or the Sunday Announcements should be e-mailed to the office at ucw@ucw.org, by **9:00 a.m. on the previous Wednesday morning.**