

Next Newsletter Deadline: April 11, 2007

Next E-News Bulletin Deadline: Wed., April 25, 2007

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Helping Our First Parish Friends

We at First Parish of Sudbury have a new caregiving model that we have tried twice this month and seems to work well. It begins when we learn that one of our congregants has a short-term need of help. We identify just what kind of help is needed – maybe some occasional meals or a ride to the doctor or sometimes a friendly visit – and then what (and how much) our FPS community can do. Then, we recruit a “Caring Coordinator” who will match the needs with the offers of help. The coordinator serves as the point person for scheduling. One volunteer is on call each day who calls in the morning, asks what is needed and provides it as best as s/he can. So far it seems to be working for everyone.

You may be receiving emails or calls asking if you are able to sign up for one day of help. We hope you can, but don't want anyone to feel burdened by these requests. If at any time you would prefer not to receive such emails or calls, let Fran know in the office. She will be glad to take you (temporarily or permanently) off of the list of folks who receive information about our people in need. Thanks for all your help!

and Helping Our Sudbury Neighbors,

Our friends at Memorial Congregational Church have asked for help from all of the congregations in Sudbury. Many of us associated with the Loring School already know of the S family who are in great need due to the terrible toll that ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) has taken on the mother, Ellen, and on the entire family. Fundraisers are going on currently to raise money to help them keep their home. If anyone would like to contribute directly, a fund has been set up with Bank of America. Donations can be made at any branch of Bank of America nationwide (including the branch on Union Ave. in Sudbury) with a check made out to "The Ellen S Fund".

and Katie Lee and Mother Earth, too

Did you remember that Katie Lee asked you to help her prepare for the worship service on Earth Day, April 22? Here's a step-by-step to-do list. Your assignment is due on Tuesday, April 17 by 5 PM:

1. Find a pencil.
2. Find a piece of recycled paper.
3. Find a time and a place when everyone in your household can sit down together.
4. Sit down together at the agreed upon time and place. (Maybe have some snacks)
5. Make a list of all the things you ALREADY do for our Mother the Earth. Do you recycle? Put it on the list. Do you walk instead of drive sometimes? Put it on the list. Do you use energy-saving devices? Write it down. You get the idea. It'll probably be a long list (You might even need more snacks).
6. Send the list to Katie Lee at minister@fpsudbury.org by Tuesday, April 17 at 5 pm.
7. Circle Sunday, April 22 and join us for worship that morning (Don't bother to dress up.)
8. Bring a neighbor or some friends.
9. We'll provide the snacks and have lots of fun, too.
10. Hey, ya know what else we could do? Sign up for the Annual Roadside Cleanup on Saturday, April 28

**It's a Birthday Party!
Saturday, May 5, 6:30pm**



Were you born in 19X7?

Well Katie Lee was, and we are having a birthday party. Please come on the evening of May 5th in the Parish Hall. Everyone's invited to come eat, drink and dance. It's a potluck, so bring what you cooked/ate in the 60s. [Is that a give-away?]

Bring a hat to decorate, bring your children (care provided), bring your dancing shoes. Don't forget - If your birthday ends with a "0" this year, we would like to celebrate you as well. Please contact Geneviève D for more details.



In lieu of other gifts for Katie Lee, please bring a check made out to one of her favorite ministries, the Refugee Immigration Ministry.

Katie Lee writes:

"This is going to be some birthday bash! I hope everyone will come --family, friends, First Parish and Sudbury friends -- to help me and all of the other "0" birthdays this year kick up our heels. But for me, this is more than a party. It's also a chance for all of us to do something really helpful at the same time -- we can support the Sudbury Refugee Immigration Ministry. This is an interfaith initiative; three local congregations have committed to the project, First Parish being one. For that reason alone it is something very close to my heart. It's also an example of "thinking globally, acting locally." There are millions of people around the world who are oppressed or suppressed for more reasons than I can list. We can't help them all, but we can help at least one family. The family we are supporting in Sudbury are refugees from Algeria, seeking political asylum in our country because their voices were suppressed and their lives were in danger. The Refugee Immigration Ministry is supporting this family with legal and financial aid. First Parish is an important part of the support network for this family. Remember Margaret Mead's words: 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world, indeed it's the only thing that ever has.' Well, to celebrate my 60th birthday, I want you to help me change the world, in this case, one family at a time. It's the best birthday present I can imagine."

What's New on the First Parish Bulletin Board...

-  Boston Gay Men's Chorus benefit performance for Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School Gay Straight Alliance. Thursday, April 12 at 8:00pm. The concert will be at L-S, \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors and others; L-S students are free.
-  Relay for Life—benefiting the American Cancer Society at Curtis Middle School, June 2-3
-  "Let There Be Music" concert by the Golden Tones Sunday, May 6, 3:00pm at the Wayland Middle School



Home phone numbers are not included in the E-News Bulletin. Please check your First Parish directory, or call the office at 978/443-2043 for help.