

The Lexington United Methodist Church

an inclusive and reconciling United Methodist Congregation

Newsletter

April 2004

Vol. 52, No. 4

From the Pastor's Study...

*Thou
who breathed in the womb,
who dwelled in the tomb,
mercy, have mercy
on us who wait.*

Written by Jan Richardson, in her book, *In Wisdom's Path*, this simple prayer captures the hope of these holy days just before Easter. We have spent the Sundays of Lent pondering and claiming our faith – a faith in a God who breathes life into all creation; a faith in God's beloved, who surrendered non-violently to a violent death; and a faith that worships a God of mercy, forgiveness and unconditional love. It is upon this One that we wait for the Good News of Easter morn. Jesus' resurrection will once again signal God's intentions for life and love, peace and justice to claim the victory. Individually and as a congregation, we will respond to this Resurrection News. Not only will we celebrate Resurrection but *we will practice Resurrection* as we commit ourselves to the fullness of life for all of God's creatures and creation itself.

I look forward to sharing the holy days of waiting and the joy of Easter with you.

With anticipation and hope,



Rev. Susan J. Morrison

Palm/Passion Sunday Features Dan Roihl's *St. Luke's Passion*

Lexington UMC's choir, soloists and a small orchestra will perform Dan Roihl's original composition, *St. Luke's Passion*, on Palm/Passion Sunday, April 4 at 9:30 am.

Lexington UMC specifically commissioned Dan Roihl to compose the work for the Palm/Passion Sunday service this year. It was written expressly for the Lexington UMC choir and its members. It is a setting of the complete text of the Passion narrative from Luke's gospel, incorporating a blend of spoken narration, recitative, lyric solo melodies, familiar hymn tunes, and choral passages. The premiere performance will be the centerpiece of our worship service on Palm Sunday, and will feature a small orchestra, John Kramer on organ, many solo voices of the Lexington UMC Senior choir and Rev. Susan Morrison as the narrator/evangelist, and congregational participation.



Dan Roihl has been active in the New England musical scene as a singer, conductor, and composer since 1990. As an undergraduate at Harvard, he studied choral and orchestral conducting, composition, and voice, graduating with highest honors in music.

After graduating from Harvard, he founded and spent two years directing The Concordia Society, a chamber choir of 24 voices specializing in challenging a cappella repertoire in a variety of styles. He received a master's degree in choral conduct-

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April Worship 2004

Daylight Savings
Time Begins!

April 4 Palm/Passion Sunday

*A Celebration of Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem and
a Remembrance of the Events of Holy Week*

Luke 19:28-40; Luke 22:14 - 23:56

9:15 am Praise Music

9:30 am Worship, *Godly Play*, Sunday School

We will begin with a Palm Sunday celebration and move to *St. Luke's Passion* told through scripture and original music for soloists, choir and small orchestra composed and conducted by Dan Roihl. Palms will be distributed.

Maunday Thursday
7:30 pm Worship

April 8 Maundy Thursday

7:30 pm Service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion

This year we will share this service with our friends from St. John's Korean UMC. The passion narrative will be read and the lights extinguished. Holy Communion will be shared around the table of the "Last Supper" in the chancel.

April 9 Good Friday

The Seven Last Words

Noon to 3:00 pm at First Baptist Church

1580 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington

Worshippers are invited to come and go as able. Also, our sanctuary will be available all day for prayer.

April 11 Easter Sunday

with the Celebration of Holy Communion

Psalms 118; 1 - 2, 14 - 24; Acts 10:34 - 43; Luke 24:1 - 35

9:15 am Praise Music

9:30 am Worship

"Amen!" Rev. Morrison concludes her sermon series exploring *The Apostles' Creed*. The service will celebrate the resurrection with Easter music from the Children's and Senior Choirs. Holy Communion will be celebrated. Time of fellowship and an Easter Egg hunt follow worship.

April 18 Second Sunday of Easter

Psalms 150; John 20:19 - 31

9:00 am Holy Communion served in the library

9:15 am Praise Music

9:30 am Worship, *Godly Play*, Sunday School

Resurrection in our Midst will be Rev. Susan's sermon topic. There will be an Easter hymn sing.

April 25 Earth Sunday

Roxbury Food Pantry Collection

Psalms 30; Revelation 5:11 - 14; John 21:1 - 19

8:30 am Blessing of the Animals

This annual gathering of God's creatures will take place on the front steps of the church. Rev. Susan will bless the animals. All creatures great and small are welcome!

9:15 am Praise Music

9:30 am Worship, *Godly Play*, Sunday School

Rev. Susan will preach on *Feeding, Tending and Loving Creation*.

Worship Goal:  **100** adults and children in worship each Sunday

March Attendance

March 7: 89 March 14: 79 March 21: 79

MAKE WORSHIP A PRIORITY OF YOUR WEEK.

.....
• May Newsletter Articles due •
• Monday, April 26, 2004 •
.....

Dan Roihl's *St. Luke's Passion*

continued from page 1

ing from the Yale School of Music, where he was awarded a full merit scholarship by the Institute of Sacred Music.

As a composer he has written commissions for the Harvard University Choir, S. Stephen's Church of Providence, Boston's Youth Pro Musica, St. Andrew's Youth Choirs of Wellesley, Lexington United Methodist Church, the 20th Anniversary RSCM Carolina Course, and the installation of Harvard University's current president. His senior thesis composition at Harvard, *Kyrie and Gloria for Mixed Choir and Orchestra*, was awarded Summa cum Laude and recorded by the Harvard University Choir. As a singer, he has performed extensively in opera, oratorio, and musical theater as both a baritone and a countertenor.

His current appointments include Music Director of the Lexington United Methodist Church, co-Conductor of the Elm City Girls Choirs in New Haven, Conn., and Choral Conducting Intern for Chorus Angelicus in Torrington, Conn.

As part of the Lenten sermon series on "I Believe:" Reclaiming the Apostles' Creed for the 21st Century, Rev. Susan preached about the "true" and "false" cross on March 14, the third Sunday in Lent. The congregation was invited to participate in naming "true" and "false" crosses in today's world. Here are some of their examples.

true cross

false cross



Adult Study Opportunities

Sunday Mornings 11th Hour

The Spirituality of Non-Violence

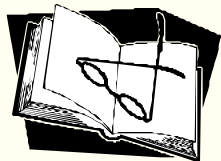
April 4: The 11th Hour will conclude its study on *The Spirituality of Non-Violence: From Violence to Wholeness*.

April 11: No 11th Hour - Happy Easter!

Middle East

April 18: The 11th Hour will begin a three week study of the Middle East.

April 25: Part two of a three week study of the Middle East.



Bibles and Bagels Study

The *Bible and Bagels* study group gathers on Monday mornings from 10:00 - 11:30 am. Prayer, fellowship and sometimes, even bagels, can be expected at our gatherings! Join the group for any or all of the topics below.

Questions of Faith Video Series

We will continue to view one of the series of *Questions of Faith* videos. Each week, a different topic will be presented. Lively conversation follows each video presentation.

April 5: *Remember Sin and Salvation?*

April 12: *What about Grace and Miracles?*

April 19: No Bibles and Bagels - Patriots' Day

Da Vinci Code Study

We will gather to study and discuss Dan Brown's *Da Vinci Code* for five weeks beginning on April 26. A Study Guide prepared by Rev. Susan's colleague, Greg Dell, will be used for the discussion of this best seller.

"The Passion" Panel Discussion Report

Harvard Divinity School sponsored a panel on Mel Gibson's controversial movie *The Passion* on March 18. The panel was excellent and is available for listening at <http://www.hds.harvard.edu/>. It raised much wider questions than I have heard discussed. All panelists were critical but some audience questions were positive and received by the panel with respect and probing.

Professor Kevin Madigan moderated a discussion on the recently released film. The panel also included Harvard Divinity School professors Ellen Aitken, François Bovon, Harvey Cox, and Robert Orsi, as well as columnist and author James Carroll.



Christian Education News

Godly Play in April

April 4	Faces of the Journey: The Face of the Cross
April 11	No GP - Happy Easter!
April 18	Crosses
April 25	The Twelve Apostles

Christian Ed. Cte. seeks Art Supplies

The Christian Education Committee is looking to restock its art supplies for *Godly Play*. If you have any extra art supplies or craft kits that are not getting used at your house, please consider making a donation to our Christian Education Program.

Questions? Please contact Andrea (lauxaj@yahoo.com or 617-718-0711). Thank you in advance for all of your generosity as a community of faith!



Have you played with God lately?

Godly Play is not just for children, but can also be an enriching experience for youth and adults! Perhaps God is calling you to consider sharing your teaching talents to help shape our children into the future of the Christian Church. Open your heart and listen for your name...

Two distinct opportunities are available for adults and youth. You could serve as a storyteller, sharing the week's lesson with the children and assisting in work time or you could serve as a doorperson, assisting with classroom management, work time and the feast. You could also try both roles, starting as a doorperson to get the feel of *Godly Play*, and then transitioning, if you are comfortable, into the storyteller's role.

Members of the *Godly Play* team serve approximately one Sunday morning a month and meet for team meetings four Sunday evenings a year. Current team members agree that *Godly Play* has enriched their own spiritual lives as well as the children's.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Becky Linton, Kathy Parks or Andrea Laux. No prior experience is necessary. Love for our children is a must.

Youth News!

Youth Leadership Series

In April, the youth will be preparing for Senior Sunday in May and Children/Youth Sunday in June. Our theme for Children/Youth Sunday this year is the Parable of the Leaven found in Matthew 13:33. The Youth Sunday School Class meets every Sunday Morning during Worship at 9:30 am in the Library. Come with ideas ready to share!

The Challenge is ON!!!

The LUMC Youth Leaders would like to challenge you to get to know your Youth, as well as to give you a chance to find out if you are HOT or NOT! The first three people to talk with a youth and submit the correct answers to the following questions will win a prize (designated by the youth).

So, are you HOT or NOT?!

1. What is the #1 best movie (recently released)?
2. Do you know what is the hardest thing to give up for Lent?
3. What is one of the worst things about having braces?
4. What is one of the top five fashion "Don'ts"?
5. Do you know who is the most famous (or infamous) person?

Answers can be submitted with your name to either Andrea Laux or Ben Beckwith at church or by email at lauxaj@yahoo.com or ben_beckwith@hotmail.com (please submit all answers on paper). Enjoy!

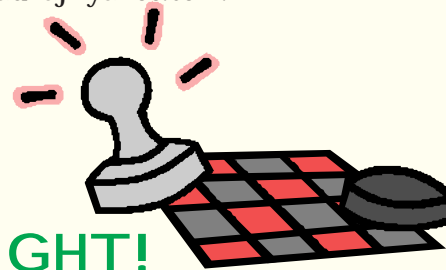
Ready, Set, BOWL!



The Youth will be having a Bowling Party on Sunday, April 18, 2004, from 1:30 – 4:00 pm. We will meet at 1:30 pm at LUMC and proceed to the bowling lanes as a group. This event will include FOOD and FUN!!! The challenge is up to see who can beat BEN! Bring a friend and come join us for a great afternoon! More details to come! Questions? Contact Andrea at lauxaj@yahoo.com.

NQMA News

The Winter Season for NotQuiteMiddleAgers will be finishing on Tuesday, April 6, 2004, at 7:30 pm in the LUMC Library. This is the last installment of our *Contemporary Theologians* Series by Father James Bacik. The discussion will be on Paul Tillich and Alfred North Whitehead. Questions? Contact Andrea at lauxaj@yahoo.com.



GAME NIGHT!

Come join the NQMA for Game Night on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, in the LUMC Library. We will be celebrating Easter with food, fellowship, and FUN!!!

All are WELCOME! Questions? Contact Andrea at lauxaj@yahoo.com.

NQMA Annual Retreat



This year the NQMA annual retreat will be at the peaceful Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford, ME the weekend of May 14-16, 2004.

The NQMA are pleased to invite ALL that are interested in joining us for this weekend of relaxation, refreshment, and renewal! The cost is \$125 for the weekend and includes meals and programs fees - scholarships are available.

Questions? Contact Andrea at lauxaj@yahoo.com.

NQMA Spring Session

This May and June, the NQMA will be gearing up for a study of Faith in Short Stories. If you are looking for a challenging discussion of some of your literature favorites consider joining us for this fun Spring Series.

This group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Library. All are WELCOME, so please come and Join Us!

Applications Available for 2004 Social Justice Endowment Fund Grants

The Social Justice Endowment Fund was inaugurated during Lexington UMC's 50th Anniversary weekend of May 3 - 5, 2002. The monies held in the Katie McPhee fund were rolled over into this newly established Endowment Fund.

Originally, the funds were held by the United Methodist Foundation of New England. On December 10, 2002, a vote was taken to transfer the funds to the Dodge and Cox Funds.

Applications due May 1, 2004

We received a transfer of \$74,468.62 on March 12, 2003. As of March 19, 2004, the balance is now \$94,148.10 - an increase of 26.43% in one year!

An anonymous donor contributed a gift of \$4,000.00 per year for two years so that grants could be awarded to ministries that the committee deemed appropriate during 2002 and 2003. This gift allowed us to receive and reinvest the income from our investment.

So far, we have awarded grants of over \$7,500.00 to four ministries and have received reports describing how the grants aided justice-oriented missions. Details are reported in LUMC's Annual Report.

Currently, we will send applications to three organizations. One of these, Project Chacocente (Cheryl Avery's project) is a project for the health and relocation of several families from the dump in Managua, Nicaragua. Cheryl has already sent details of her needs.

We would like to get more ministries involved. Perhaps you know of some ministries which could be helped by a grant of money for justice-making ministries? If so, please advise one of the members of the committee or Rev. Susan and we will send out an application. Applications will be mailed out for this year's grants by April 1, 2004 are **due to the committee by May 1, 2004.**

The committee members are Audrey Hale, Keith Herndon, Ken Kreutziger, Bob Miner, Bill Santelmann and Al Landers.

- Al Landers

LUMC Working on Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is one of the focus efforts of the LUMC Outreach Committee this year. Paul Linton and Ken Kreutziger were appointed to the Lexington Housing Partnership by the Board of Selectmen last year. The Met State affordable housing proposal comes before the Lexington Town Meeting this year. Town Meeting starts on March 29, and the Met State proposal is slated to come before it in early May.

The Lexington Housing Partnership has been working on analyzing the Met State project proposal, optimizing its characteristics to best serve Lexington's community needs, and promoting its desirability in accordance with the Town's vision and goals. In this regard, the Housing Partnership subcommittee chaired by Ken Kreutziger drafted a statement (printed on page 6) that was endorsed by the entire partnership presenting a case for affordable housing at Met State.

- Ken Kreutziger

Organic Lawncare Workshop

This free workshop is for St. John's and Lexington UMC homeowners who would like to learn how to transition their lawns from chemically dependent to natural, or who wish to beautify and thicken an already natural lawn.

In this class, you will learn about the dangers of pesticides and fertilizers to both human health, especially children, and to the environment. You will learn how to take a soil test and where to have it analyzed. You will learn about some common lawn weeds and pests and how to eliminate them naturally.

As part of the class, we will spread compost on the front lawn of the church.

Instructor Jan Johnson is a NOFA (Northeast Organic Foods Association) accredited land care specialist.

Date: Saturday, April 3

Time: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Location: Church front lawn

Registration: 978-779-0733





Lexington Housing Partnership

A Case for Affordable Housing at Met State

As members of the Lexington Housing Partnership, we have grave concerns over the lack of affordable housing in our town. The residential development of the Met State land represents an extraordinary opportunity for the town to significantly add to its affordable housing stock.

The Housing Element of the Lexington Comprehensive Plan in 2002 identified the following goals and objectives and outlined the difficulty of the Town meeting its goals.

Lexington seeks to have a socially and economically diverse community, both over the whole of the community and within its neighborhoods. In support of that fundamental social goal, a basic housing goal is to provide housing opportunities supportive of the population diversity we seek.

One clear housing goal is to seek to enable at least our own children to live here, and more broadly to provide housing opportunities for a broad social and economic spectrum. We want to accommodate not only the classic American husband/wife/kids family but also individuals living alone, seniors, young adults, those with physical or mental disabilities, and a variety of others.

For Lexington, meeting our housing affordability needs will require attention to the needs of a growing segment of middle income households who also are being priced out of Lexington. The small number of additional units, for which there is land capacity within current zoning, makes achieving housing goals difficult, since almost all of the housing that the Town will contain at "build-out" already exists.

Affordable housing at Met State can provide housing for these middle income households including many of our seniors and children's families. Qualifying for affordable housing in Lexington, a family of two can have an annual income up to \$50,100 and a family of four can make \$62,650. These figures represent 80% of the Boston Metropolitan Area's median income. Furthermore, we would like to see a portion of these affordable units be available to those who make 50% of the median income or \$31,325.

We realize that a development of this size will impact the town by creating more traffic and raising the number of school-aged children. Traditionally most housing units do not fully support by revenue their share of the total tax burden for schools and other services, but the Met State proposal does. The benefits of having more affordable housing in Lexington will far outweigh any added impacts.

By adding these affordable units to our housing stock, we will achieve the (albeit arbitrary) 10% affordable housing mark established by Chapter 40B thus leaving Lexington exempt from potentially divisive 40B projects. More importantly, this development, if approved, will allow us to further build a community enriched by socio-economic diversity. At present, many of our elderly parents, our grown children and our town employees on whom we rely for essential services are being priced out of Lexington. Many current residents moved into Lexington with housing opportunities that are no longer available. Due in large part to a lack of affordable housing, Lexington has the third lowest percent population of young adults, aged 20-34, in the state. It is in our immediate self-interest to act to increase the affordable housing stock in Lexington so that people who we know and love are given opportunities to live within our community. Given an increasing shortage of buildable land in Lexington, the Met State development is one of the last opportunities for the town to so significantly add to its affordable housing stock.

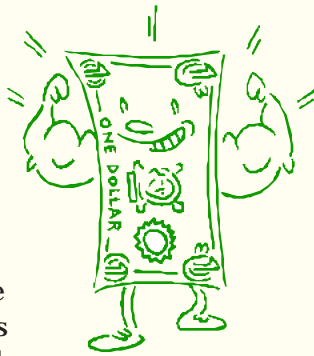
Ten Talents Summer Fun (d) Raiser

Summer is coming (yes, it is) and it's time to put your talents to work.

The Ten Talent Summer Fun (d) raiser is on!

A few summers ago we had a wonderful fund raiser where each of us received 10 dollars as capital from LUMC and worked with it to produce even more money to give back to the church. As a result, some of us had yard sales, or grew vegetables to sell, or sponsored dinners or boat trips – one gentleman even shaved his head after he got his friends to pay him to do it!

This was all inspired by the parable from Matthew 25 where the master leaves his three servants in charge of his wealth (his talents) and when he returns expects to get his own back with interest. The first servant who received ten talents returned twenty talents back to the master and the second servant who received five talents returned ten talents back. But the third servant, who received two talents, explains that he wrapped the talents in a napkin and buried them and had only the original two talents to give back.



Things do not turn out well for this chap.

So we are going to do it all again this year and here is how it will work. Starting on Easter Sunday there will be a table in Martin Hall after worship when you can sign out your ten talents (ten dollars in today's world). When you sign out your cash you will also indicate what personal activity you might undertake over the summer to raise funds. This is so that we can let people know via announcements what everyone is doing with their projects so that we can all participate with each other. Then in September we will bring what we have raised back to LUMC.

Of course it's not just about the money, that's why it's a Fun (d) raiser and not just a Fund raiser. The real point is to have a good time! This is a chance to participate with each other and with our communities outside LUMC to connect, explore and just get out of our usual lives. So hold a yard sale, hold a bar-b-que, sponsor a movie night, make your gardens grow or paint your hair green!

Start thinking about a fun (d) filled summer and raise your talents for LUMC!

..... *Keith Herndon*

Easter Plants



If you would like to order flowers to help decorate the Sanctuary for Easter, April 11, 2004, please complete the form below and return it to the church office (or put in the collection plate) with a check to cover your order **no later than Sunday, March 28, 2004.**

Easter plants available this year are Easter lilies, tulips, and hyacinths. Prices are given below.

Flower	Quantity	Amount
Lily	_____	@ \$7.00 = _____
Tulip	_____	@ \$5.50 = _____
Hyacinth	_____	@ \$5.50 = _____
Total Amount Enclosed..... _____		

Given by _____

In Memory of _____

In Celebration of _____

REACHING OUT. . .

OUTREACH NEWS

To avoid confusion (which we ourselves have created), the Outreach Committee voted to have the Roxbury Food Pantry collection on the last Sunday of every month and we will continue the practice of providing a basket for those who would prefer to make a monetary contribution. We collected 73 food items in February. Please remember those who don't have enough when you shop. Finally, if you or anyone you know needs food assistance, the number to call is 1-800-645-8333.

We voted to make a financial contribution in the name of LUMC to United Methodist Elder Care Housing. This is a Methodist program that provides low-income housing, assisted living facilities, and nursing home care. We learned that a residents council has a significant role to play in policies and procedures there and a current driving force in the council is resident Bob Mollar, former LUMC pastor.

OUTSIDE THE COMFORT ZONE

Jay Morrison

On our recent trip to Nicaragua I learned all about my comfort zone. I had fancied myself as a rather tough hombre, but I realized in getting ready to live in the community of La Borgoña for the first time that my thoughts were turning to worries about what food to eat; what water to drink; what about parasites; what about sanitation. "I'm still tough," I thought, "but maybe I'm just being reasonable." Well, actually I was scared. "I'm still young," I thought. "Maybe its not too late to back out." But it was too late.

When we arrived, it didn't help to learn that there were some scorpions wandering around and that "they shouldn't be a bother as long as you check your shoes before you put them on." Here I was, living with the family of Antonio and Idalia in their home and I was feeling very vulnerable. After a night's sleep on the board that they had provided us for a bed (complete with mosquito netting to protect us from malaria), I learned that Idalia, who was now cooking breakfast, had traveled an hour to Managua at 2AM to sell 40 avocados. She had sold many of them because she had gotten there early before the market was too crowded. I took my shower under a barely dripping cold water pipe and felt grateful for such a luxury. The food, consisting of fresh tortillas, rice, and beans and some fresh pineapple, was nothing to be afraid of. (I ate some of Susan's when she was full.)

I later learned that all of the inhabitants of La Borgoña live with the exact same worries that I was having. Every day. Since I have returned from Nicaragua, I have noted that I have been complaining much less, and I now know that my comfort zone is a privileged space from which the third world is totally excluded.

NEW NICARAGUA TRIP VIDEO READY

Marnie Bonner took a video camera on our group visit to La Borgoña this February and returned with almost four hours of videotape. She has edited it into a marvelous 23-minute presentation that will be shown to our congregation soon. What makes her video so very special is her fluency in Spanish! She understood and participated in the events in the video and has included English and Spanish subtitles throughout. The Spanish subtitles will let our brothers and sisters in La Borgoña enjoy it too.

HOMOSEXUAL PASTOR "NOT GUILTY"

BOTHELL, WA — After deliberating for a day and a half, the 13-member jury of Pacific Northwest Conference clergy members found their colleague, the Rev. Karen T. Dammann, not guilty of the charge of "practices declared by the United Methodist Church to be incompatible with Christian teachings."

The charge against Dammann resulted from a disclosure she made to her bishop in 2001 that she was living in a "partnered, covenanted, homosexual relationship." The denomination's law book states that "self-avowed practicing homosexuals" shall not be ordained or appointed in the United Methodist Church.

The jury chairperson, the Rev. Judy Schultz, delivered the verdict. "While sustaining the specification that Rev. Karen Dammann is a self-avowed practicing homosexual, we, the trial court, do not find the evidence presented ... to be clear and convincing that Karen Dammann has engaged in any 'practices declared by the United Methodist Church to be incompatible with Christian teachings,'" she said. "We cannot sustain the charge."

Of the 13-member jury, 11 voted not guilty and two were undecided. No jurors voted for a guilty verdict. A majority of nine was necessary to render a verdict, according to the denomination's *Book of Discipline*.

From the United Methodist News Service

For the Outreach Committee by Bill Santelmann

The Web Watch



Type these "URL" addresses into your Internet Explorer to see information pertaining to our LUMC theme "Peace With Justice" that you may not see elsewhere. Your comments, suggestions, and web contributions are welcomed and solicited. Please leave them in the Outreach box near the church office or send to Bill Santelmann at: n1au@rcn.com. Thanks again to Janis Roihl for most of this month's URLs!

If you would like an electronic copy of the URLs, write to Janis Roihl at jroihl@rcn.com and it will be sent to you each month. Previous URLs are also available and can be received as a Word attachment.

- www.sabeel.org

Sabeel is an ecumenical grassroots liberation theology movement among Palestinian Christians. Inspired by the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, this liberation theology seeks to deepen the faith of Palestinian Christians, promote unity among them, and lead them to act for justice and love. *Sabeel*, Arabic for "the way," tries to develop a spirituality based on justice, peace, non-violence, liberation, and reconciliation for the different national and faith communities.

The LUMC Outreach Committee contributed \$50 to the Friends of Sabeel in November, 2003.

- <http://www.soaw.org/new/>

School of Americas Watch. The Pentagon lobbies hard to keep SOA money flowing. At taxpayers' expense, the Army operates a huge PR campaign that is directed at Congress. We are countering their attempts with grassroots power. A vote on the School of the Americas/ *Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation* is coming up in the U.S. Congress in the summer of 2004!

- <http://www.trickleup.org/>

Founded in 1979, the Trickle Up Program's mission is to help the lowest income people worldwide take the first step up out of poverty, by providing conditional seed capital and business training essential to the launch of a microenterprise. This proven social and economic empowerment model is implemented in partnership with local agencies.

- <http://www.forusa.org/>

The Fellowship of Reconciliation seeks to replace violence, war, racism, and economic injustice with nonviolence, peace, and justice. We are an interfaith organization committed to active nonviolence as a transforming way of life and as a means of radical change. We educate, train, build coalitions, and engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions locally, nationally, and globally.

- Prepared by Bill Santelmann

Letters



March 1, 2004

Dear Pastor Morrison,

On behalf of Anne Marie and the rest of the staff, I want to thank you and the Lexington United Methodist Church for your very generous grant of \$250.00 to Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence.

Safe Havens is grateful to the Lexington UMC for its ongoing support. This support will allow us to continue strengthening the response of religious communities to domestic violence. Presently, Safe Havens is completing a formalized Program Guide that we hope will assist us in bringing the Safe Havens model to many other communities in need of building bridges between their faith communities and social service providers. Safe Havens appreciates your donation toward these efforts to end family violence.



- Andrea Bernard, M.A.
Associate Director

[Gerry and Dottie McLeod made a generous contribution toward our gift to Safe Havens. This was done in memory of their son, David. Other monies from their memorial gift were designated for the Morse School, Roxbury Food Pantry, LUMC Choir and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund (Samaritan Fund).]


Congratulations to George Walters-Sleyon who was certified as a candidate for ministry by the Metro Boston District Committee on Ministry at its March meeting. This is a major step in the ordination process.

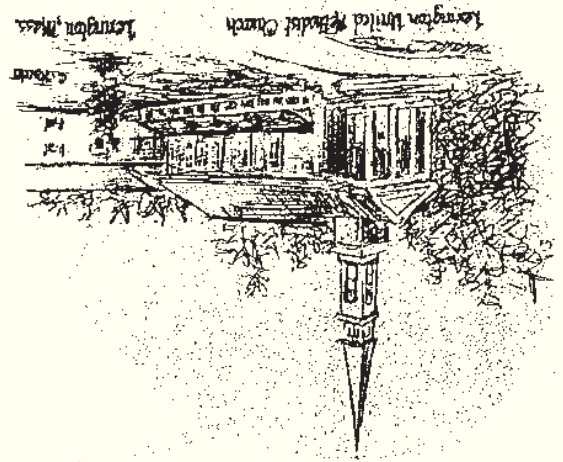
May Book Club

LUMC's Book Club will meet on Monday, May 17 at 7:30 pm at Ione Garing's home. The group will discuss *The Dive From Clausen's Pier: A Novel* by Ann Packer. Everyone is welcomed!



April 2004 - Lexington United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Important Date to Save in Your Calendar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicaragua Night – Good Food! Good Flick! Good Fun! Saturday, May 15; 6:00 pm 			1 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Covenant Group (Kreutzigers')	2	3 9:00 am Organic Lawn Workshop 2:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Daylight Savings Time begins</div> <p style="color: magenta; text-align: center;">Passion/Palm Sunday</p> 8:30 am Senior Choir Rehearsal 9:15 am Praise Music; Nursery Care 9:30 am Worship; <i>Godly Play</i> (N - 5); Youth Sunday School (6-12) 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Fellowship in Martin Hall 11:00 am Non-Violence Study 12:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm CWM Worship	5 10:00 am Bible and Bagels	6 7:30 pm NQMA	7 6:30 am Silent Prayer and Holy Communion	8 <p style="color: magenta; text-align: center;">Maundy Thursday</p> 7:30 pm Service of Tenebrae and Holy Communion	9 <p style="color: magenta; text-align: center;">Good Friday</p> Noon–3 pm Ecumenical Service (First Baptist) Sanctuary open all day for prayer	10 <p style="color: magenta; text-align: center;">Holy Saturday</p> 10:00 am Easter flower set-up
11 <p style="color: magenta; text-align: center;">Easter</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">Celebration of Holy Communion</p> 8:30 am Senior Choir Rehearsal 9:15 am Praise Music; Nursery Care 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship in Martin Hall 10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt 5:00 pm CWM Worship	12 10:00 am Bible and Bagels	13 10:00 am Metro Boston DCOM 7:00 pm MWS Cte. 7:30 pm Christian Ed. Cte. Mtg.	14 Noon Lexington Interfaith Clergy Assoc. 7:00 pm Finance Mtg. 8:00 pm Ad. Council	15	16	17
18 <p style="color: magenta; text-align: center;">Second Sunday of Easter</p> 8:30 am Senior Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Communion served in the library 9:15 am Praise Music; Nursery Care 9:30 am Worship; <i>Godly Play</i> (N - 5); Youth Sunday School (6-12) 10:30 am Fellowship in Martin Hall 11:00 am Adult Study: Middle East 12:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:30 pm Youth Bowling Party 5:00 pm CWM Worship	19 <p style="text-align: center;">Patriots' Day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	20 7:30 pm NQMA Game Night	21	22	23	24 9:00 am Lexington Food Pantry 9:00 am Metro Boston District Leadership Training
25 <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">Earth Sunday</p> 8:30 am Senior Choir Rehearsal 8:30 am Blessing of the Animals 9:15 am Praise Music; Nursery Care 9:30 am Worship; <i>Godly Play</i> (N - 5); Youth Sunday School (6-12) 10:30 am Fellowship in Martin Hall 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Adult Study: Middle East 12:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:30 pm Staff Meeting 5:00 pm CWM Worship <div style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Roxbury Food Pantry Collection</div>	26 <p style="text-align: center;">May Newsletter Deadline</p> 10:00 am Bible and Bagels	27 7:30 pm Corporation Meeting	28 7:30 pm SPRC	29	30 1:00 pm Newsletter Collation	<div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Rev. Susan in attendance at UM General Conference Pittsburgh, PA </div>



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LEXINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
an inclusive and reconciling congregation
2600 Massachusetts Avenue
Lexington, MA 02421-6718

Our Sunday Program

- 8:30 am Senior Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 am Praise Music; Nursery Care
- 9:30 am Worship; *Godly Play* (N - 5)
Youth Sunday School (Gr. 6 - 12)
- 10:30 am Fellowship in Martin Hall
- 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 am Adult Study
- 12:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal



April 2004 Newsletter

Rev. Susan J. Morrison, Pastor
Andrea Laux, Christian Education Director
George Walters-Sleyon, Intern/Pastoral Assistant
Daniel Roihl, Music Director
John Kramer, Organist
Nikki Katulak, Children's Choir Director
David Babbidge, Sexton
Allyson Printz, Office Administrator

Telephone 781-861-9301
Fax 781-861-7228
Website www.lexumc.org
Office Email office@lexumc.org

**Lexington UMC is accepting
applications for Social Justice
Endowment Fund grants.**

**Application deadline: May 1, 2004
Call or email the church for an application.
See page 6 for details.**