



# HILLTOP HERALD

**MAY 2016**

**Rev. Angela V. Wells**  
*Pastor*

**Michael Lewis**  
*Moderator*

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Dear Friends,

I heard on the radio the other day that 47% of Americans couldn't come up with an emergency \$400.00 if they needed it. I posted this statistic on my Facebook page, and immediately the comments started rolling in from people with their own testimonies. Several friends disclosed that they are in that situation or have been recently, others shared information about their crippling credit card debt. This was one of those rare moments when Facebook felt like a sacred space, rather than whatever it usually feels like.

After hearing this statistic and hearing the responses from my close friends, this got me thinking about our community. I thought about the stories I have heard from you about your situations or those of people you love. I thought about what I have learned about our wider community, especially through my work with People Helping People and the Interfaith Clergy Group. Folks, the truth is that lots of us live with economic insecurity. Lots of us are one medical emergency away from not being able to pay our mortgages or utility bills. It's not poverty. It's not homelessness. It's not those taboo words that we'd never identify with (right?), but economic precariousness is incredibly burdensome. It's stressful. You have no safety net, you live with the constant fear of what you'll do if something in your life goes awry and you don't have the financial cushion to weather the storm. On top of that, we carry the burden of shame as well. We feel like a moral failure. I didn't plan right. I lived beyond my means. I could have done something differently. I don't want to be a burden to my extended family. I thought I'd be more secure than this by now. It's my fault. I am irresponsible. These thoughts can be crushing.

Friends, money is a tool, and sometimes we use tools correctly and sometimes we don't. We all have different gifts, and money management isn't everyone's strong suit. Also, sometimes life is random, and we find ourselves in these situations due to no fault of our own but because of a series of unfortunate events. For every person who lives with economic insecurity, there's a different story of how it happened to them. If you aren't struggling with this, then the odds are that you know someone who is. This affects all of us.

But we must remember that our fiscal status doesn't determine our worth. It doesn't determine our morals or our values. I hope that our community is one in which you can and be honest and feel a sense of relief, where you remember that you are more than your credit score. I hope church can be the place where you lift it all up to God in prayer and where you are reminded that you answer to God alone, not your mortgage lender. You matter. You are loved. You don't struggle alone. 47% of Americans are right there with you. People sitting on either side of the pew on Sunday morning are right there with you. May we be the beloved community, which constantly reminds each other that our financial worth has nothing to do with our sacred worth. Don't let the tool of money have that much power over you, remember what is Caesar's and what is God's. You are God's beloved child, and because of that, you are still worthy of the joy, beauty and happiness that this life has to offer.

With All My Support and Love,

*Rev. Angela V. Wells*

Rev. Angela Wells



## SUMMER 2016: SERMON SERIES IS BACK!

Because of you all, I have preached on everything from The Life of Pi to whether animals have souls.

I look forward to preaching again this summer on some unexpected topics, chosen by you all. Is there an existential question that has been nagging at your brain? Is there a story in the Bible that befuddles you? Do you want to hear a religious perspective on a current event? Have you always wanted to hear a sermon about a favorite book, movie or historical character? Well now is your chance to speak up!

I will be writing my summer sermons based on what YOU want to hear about. Send me an email with a suggestion or a question, and I will put together a preaching schedule for the Sundays in July and August based upon your requests. You can email me at: [RevWells@UCCBurlington.org](mailto:RevWells@UCCBurlington.org). Thank you and I look forward to receiving your suggestions!

## NEW SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM! - CAN YOU HEAR US NOW!

The week of April 11th we had the new sound system installed in the Sanctuary. This system provided new speakers, microphones, wireless microphones, ear piece microphones for Angela, receiver, condensers & mixers. The system will record through the microphone, so eventually we'll be able to upload the service to our website. All this was accomplished with the funds from Randy's memorial, the rest of the Capital Campaign money and the balance through the generosity of an anonymous donor at year end. Hopefully, all those in the back will hear us in the front much better. Let us know if you notice the difference!

## SAVE THE DATE! BOSTON PRIDE JUNE 11, 2016



We are organizing a group from our congregation to march in the Boston Gay Pride Parade again this year. We will be marching with the delegation of Open and Affirming (ONA) churches from the Mass Conference of the UCC. Pride is a fun filled day and it is open to **EVERYONE**. There is a worship service in the morning and the parade kicks off at noon from Copley Square. At the end of the parade route there is a big festival at Government Center with food vendors, music, entertainment and much more. Participating in Pride is a great way for us to spread God's message of love and welcome for all people while demonstrating our commitment to being an Open and Affirming Congregation.

In the coming weeks there will be more information and a sign up sheet at coffee hour.  
If you have any questions see Sara Goodrich-Byers.

## OUR SERVICES ARE ON BCAT!

*Our services are being recorded so that they can be broadcast on BCAT, our local cable access channel. You can watch the service on Mondays at 4:30pm and Sundays at 6:00pm.*

*Please note, the only people whose faces are on camera are the choir and those who lead the worship service.*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Save the date!** June 12 is our annual Children's Sunday service. The youth of our church will take an important part in this service that marks the end of our church school year. During coffee hour, CE has planned an ice cream buffet for all.

**Confirmation Class News:** We are sending a big "thank you" and "well done" to our confirmands who planned and help conduct our wonderful Easter Sunrise Service this year. Over 40 people attended the 6:30 service! This month the confirmands attended a weekend retreat in Becket, MA organized by the Mass UCC Conference. They were accompanied by their coleaders Rev. Angela Wells and Roberta Low. It was a great experience for all! This year, Confirmation Sunday is June 5. We hope many of the congregation will be there to support them on this important day!

**Sunday School and Nursery volunteers:** Thanks to all those who volunteered to assist in the Sunday school through the end of our church school year!

**Please note we are still in need of:**  
**Paid Nursery Attendant**  
**Paid Youth Coordinator**  
**Volunteer Nursery Coverage**

Please contact Rev. Angela Wells at [revwells@uccburlington.org](mailto:revwells@uccburlington.org)



## MUSIC NOTES

### **Thank you, Special Musicians!**

Thank you to Aline Beck for filling in at the organ on May 1<sup>st</sup>, and to Lee Tirrell and Debbie Claar, who will provide special music for us. Aline will be playing again on May 29 and the soloist will be announced later this month.

### **May Rehearsals**

The choirs will rehearse on May 4, 11, and 18. Youth Choir will meet from 5:45pm-6:15pm, and the adults will meet from 7:15pm -9:15pm.

### **June Organ Recital**

We are so happy to welcome back Sam Nelson to the organ bench! Sam will give a recital at our church on June 12, 2016 at 3pm. Stay tuned for the June newsletter for details on the program. A free-will offering will be received at the recital for the benefit of the Deacons' Special Music Fund and for the general fund of the church.

### **Keep in touch!**

**Email:** [music@uccburlington.org](mailto:music@uccburlington.org)

**Twitter:** @uccbmusic

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/burlingtonchoirs](http://www.facebook.com/burlingtonchoirs)

**Google+:** Joe Stoddard ([music@uccburlington.org](mailto:music@uccburlington.org))



**ANNUAL SPRING  
CLEANUP DAY AT UCC  
ON MAY 14TH 9:30-2PM**

Can't Wait for Spring to spend time outside in the Sun? Come join us!

The snow is gone and we will be looking for volunteers to help spruce up areas around the Church, especially cleaning up of debris left over from all of the storms and doing repairs.  
Signup sheets at coffee hour.



**THE GREEN TEAM!**



"The Green Team now has a bulletin board in the hallway. Anyone interested in helping with the Pollinator Garden please look for more information there and sign up to help. We will need help watering and weeding throughout the summer."

**May Green Tips:**

-Read and compare labels! FSC and Made in USA financially support sustainable forestry practices. Even paper products at the Dollar Tree can be found with these labels if you take the time to look for them.

-Challenge yourself to leave Dandelions growing somewhere on your property. They are one of the steady sources of nutrients for bees and one of the earliest flowers to bloom in the Northeast.

-Read and compare cleanser labels. Microbeads, tiny plastic beads, are in some facial and body cleansers as an abrasive. These Microbeads are not biodegradable, so they go down your drain and pass through water treatment into the ecosystem. Microbeads have found their way into natural waterways and into fish and other wildlife. These have been banned in the US from being used in products after 2017, but the products containing them are still on the shelves until July 2018.

-Replace old incandescent bulbs for CFL or LED bulbs. The technology has really improved! "By replacing your five most frequently used light fixtures with models who have earned the ENERGY STAR, you can save up to \$75 a year." ([energy.com](http://energy.com)) LED bulbs last 10 times longer than the CFLs, and the CFLs have a longer use life than the incandescent bulbs. ([eartheasy.com](http://eartheasy.com)) (Something to consider for those hard to reach outdoor security lights or garage door lights!)

-Appreciate water! Droughts, pollution and accessibility elsewhere make potable water scarce. As we go into summer and the water-table lowers, remember to turn off the tap when not actively in use. Avoid lawn watering in the middle of the day (10am - 4pm) when it is the LEAST effective. Put a clock or timer in your bathroom to help keep shower usage reasonable. Pour buckets of cleaning water on your lawn or down the indoor drain where it will get filtered; pouring it into the street drain sometimes puts that soap directly into local wildlife water.

## BOARD OF MISSIONS

### ROSIE'S PLACE

On May 7th, a group of volunteers will be heading into Boston to serve brunch at Rosie's Place, a women's shelter. Thank you to those of you who volunteered to join us!

If you have any books that would be of interest to women and new toiletries, there are bins outside Bobbie's office for your convenience. We would like to take as many items as possible with us this day!

Thank you in advance for your all your generosity with our many mission projects!

### RED WAGON



The last Sunday of the month we take a collection of specific items needed at the Burlington Food Pantry.

We have been asked to donate the following:

**Bags of apples**  
**1 lb bags of carrots**  
**Coffee/Tea**  
**Single rolls of toilet paper**

Please bring items to worship on **May 29th** and we will bring them forward during the service.



### BLANKET SUNDAY May 8th

Blanket Sunday is May 8th Mother's Day. Each donation of \$5 helps purchase a blanket to help shelter those in need. We will have a special collection during worship service or you can send a donation to the church office. Please make it out to UCC and add "Blanket Sunday" on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### CHURCH SERVICE AWARD



Applications have been sent out to our Graduating High School Seniors.

***The deadline is Sunday, MAY 8th.***  
Awards will be announced on Children's Sunday, June 12th!

### APRIL MISSION MOMENT

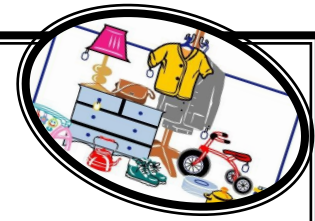
For those of you who missed George Garland's very informative talk on the Burlington DAV, here's a synopsis:

George enlightened us on the many services our Burlington DAV provides:

- Lunches for homeless Vets at area Veteran Hospitals , Community Centers and Homes
- Assisted in the addition of five flag poles representing the five Military branches at Simmonds Park
- Provides funeral support and Honor Guards to our fallen Comrades
- Place Flags on graves for Memorial Day and Veterans Day
- Sponsors a Youth Baseball Team
- Awards an Educational Scholarship
- And most importantly 100 percent of money's donated to our local DAVs go to providing services; unlike some Veteran Organizations recently in the news.

George's letter to Missions thanks our Church for their generous donation.

**FLEA MARKET  
SATURDAY, JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup> 9 AM - 2 PM  
RAIN OR SHINE**



Clean out your attics, basements, and garages and join us for our spring Flea Market! There are many ways to participate:

**SELL** your own items. Come to the church on June 4<sup>th</sup> between 7:00-8:30 am to set up your table(s). At the end of the day, simply take your unsold items home and donate 25% of your profits to the church.

**DONATE** items for the church table. 100% of proceeds of the church table will go to the church's general fund. Simply drop off items on June 4<sup>th</sup> between 7:00-8:30am. Items not sold will be donated to charity unless picked up by 2pm.

**VOLUNTEER** to help setup, breakdown, or man the church table to benefit the church's operating expenses.

**SHOP** on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Bring your family, neighbors & friends!

**Sign up at coffee hour to reserve a table or volunteer!**

**Contact Tina Brierley at 781-273-9591 or [tedtina@rcn.com](mailto:tedtina@rcn.com)**



**GIFT CARDS ARE AN ONGOING GIFT TO OUR CHURCH**

When you buy or reload a gift card with Shop With Scrip, a percentage of what you spend comes back to the church. Our next round of ordering is timed perfectly for Father's Day and graduations! Also, remember all the local stores, restaurants, gas stations and movie theaters that you frequent on a regular basis.

Order by      Cards Delivered by  
6/5                      6/12



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MAY14th  
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE POSTAL FOOD DRIVE**

On Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> the US Post Office is conducting its annual food drive. Volunteers are needed at St. Margaret's Religious Education Building that day from 1-6pm to sort and check dates on food donated.

THEN...on Friday May 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm help is needed at the Food Pantry located at St. Mark's church to help shelve food being transported from St. Margaret's.

If you can help, please contact Judy Walsh at [judyw621@gmail.com](mailto:judyw621@gmail.com) or call her at 617-797-6786. Thank you!

## PEOPLE TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

Woody Knowles' wife Betty and friend  
Jack McCabe  
Kendra's Grandfather Phil & Cousin Bucky  
Ruth Roach  
Joyce Carpenter's grandnephew  
baby Logan  
Bob Cuccio  
Claire Simas  
Jessy McNeil's Brother Mel  
Anne Stafford's grandsons Tyler and Zach  
Dorothy Murdoch's daughter Judy  
and brother Frank  
Lucy's cousin Brad Stanley  
Dot Drinkwater  
Frank and Ruth Reddig  
Dot Talalas

Everett Langley and his brother George  
John Heald's sister Susan & Mom  
Aimee Tredeau's friend Amanda  
Barbara Moran's friend Heather  
Kerry Beyer  
Joe Stoddard's parents Joseph & Lillian,  
and niece Kari  
Ginger Mungillo's son, Jim Mungillo  
Brenda Cahoon's dad John Buckley  
Karen and Doug Welch  
Aline Beck's friend Shirley  
Fred Garside



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new members to our congregation!

David Ierardi, Terry McNutt and Deb Ursino joined our church on the hill on April 17th. They will be a wonderful addition to our church family! Bless you all!

### MAY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

1	Joe Stoddard	16	Karen Butler
1	Dennis Huebner	17	Theo Brierley
3	Ron MacKenzie	19	Kari Lynch
4	Rachel McNeil	20	Cindy Phillips
5	Alex Lewis	21	Jane Raymond
7	Charles Onthank	23	Jennifer Eby
7	Rev. Angela Wells	24	Lee Tirrell
8	Janet Chin	24	Stephanie Samarjian
11	Aimee Salera (Tredeau)	28	Nicholas Candelino
12	Sally Mansfield-Smith	28	Barbara Howard
12	Everett Langley	28	Diana Sears
14	Jennifer Baylor	28	Kyle Barry
15	Marj Zamanian	30	Lorna Scolponeti
15	Alex Lewis		



## **Worship Participation Schedule**

May 1  
10:30am  
Communion Preparers: Kay Shute-Marge Zamanian  
Lay Leader: Lucy Damiani  
Organist: Aline Beck  
Head Usher: Marcia Rich  
Ushers: Marcia-Carol Downing-Bev Maher-Deb Raymond  
Greeters: Claire Simas-volunteer  
Kids Activity: Laraine Wilson-Chris Stahlinski  
Nursery Coverage: Sheri Wilson-Paul Raymond-Sara Goodrich  
Flower Deliverer: Nancy Davis  
Collector: Marcia Rich  
Coffee Host: Janine Towle  
Bakers: Janine-Cindy Phillips-Bev Maher

May 8  
10:30am  
Lay Leader: Chris Stahlinski  
Head Usher: Conrad Fong  
Ushers: Conrad-Bill Hitchcock-Donna Ferro-Deb Glancy  
Greeters: Kay Shute-volunteers  
Church School: Larianne Wilson-Aimee Tredeau-Sue Wisniewski  
Nursery: Sheri Wilson-Lucy Damiani  
Flower Deliverer: Bill Livezey  
Collector: Carol Downing  
Coffee Host: TBA  
Bakers: Jean Baker-Chris Stahlinski

May 15  
10:03am  
Lay Leader: Deb Glancy  
Head Usher: Mark Flecchia  
Ushers: Mark & Donna Flecchia-John Heald-Everett Langley  
Greeters: Nancy Davis-volunteer  
Church School: Laraine Wilson-Hilary Bonnell-Aimee Tredeau  
Nursery: Sheri Wilson-Donna Flecchia  
Flower Deliverer: Anna Karwan  
Collector: Everett Langley  
Coffee Host: Tina Brierley  
Bakers: Tina-Lynn Tirrell-Anne Stafford

May 22  
10:30am  
Guest Preacher: Joe Stoddard  
Lay Leader: Deb Raymond  
Head Usher: Dave McNeil  
Ushers: Dave-Lucy Damiani-Nick Karwan-Jane Raymond  
Greeters: Jean Bastos-volunteer  
Church School: Jan Costa-Deb Ursino-Aimee Tredeau  
Nursery: Bev Maher-Mark Flecchia  
Flower Deliverer: Sue Trefethen  
Collector: Everett Langley  
Coffee Host: Donna Flecchia  
Bakers: Donna-Sally Willard-Emily Deluca

May 29  
10:30am  
Lay Leader: Michael Lewis  
Organist: Aline Beck  
Head Usher: Janine Towle  
Ushers: Janine-Marge Zamanian  
Gordon Brown  
Barbara Moran  
Greeters: Karen Butler-volunteer  
Church School: Laraine-Amy-Susan Eby  
Nursery: Sheri-Sara Goodrich  
Flower Deliverer: Jessy McNeil  
Collector: Dick Butler  
Coffee Host: TBA  
Bakers: Wynelle Scenna  
Shirley Fong

If you cannot participate in Worship or Nursery contact: Donna Flecchia at 781-272-4756

If you cannot host/bake contact Jane Raymond at 781-272-9647.

### **June 5 Confirmation Sunday**

10:30a Communion Prep: Jessy McNeil-volunteer  
Lay Leader: Confirmands  
Head Usher: Bill Hitchcock  
Ushers: Bill-Dave & Janet Hooper-Kari Lynch  
Greeters: Jan McSheffrey-volunteer  
Kids Activity: TBA  
Nursery: Sheri Wilson-Damali Dakoye  
Flower Delivery: Marge Zamanian  
Collector: Marge Zamanian  
Coffee Hour: Janet Knudsen  
Bakers: TBA

# MAY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:45a Meditation 10:30a Communion  <b>WALK FOR HUNGER!</b>  	2 <b>3:30p Irish Step</b>  <b>6p Body Sculp</b> 7:30p Trustees <b>8p AA</b>	3 4-6p True North Pastor Hours <b>6p Body Sculp</b> 7:15p Deacons	4 1p C4C  5:45p Jr Choir <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15p Choir	5 9-11a True North Pastor Hours  <b>6p Body Sculp</b>	6 <b>Montessori Mother's Day Event in Big Hall 10-noon</b>	7 Rosie's Volunteers head to Boston to serve Brunch  
8 <b>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!</b>  8:45a Meditation 10:30a Worship Love Offering Blanket Sunday Church School	9 <b>3:30p Irish Step</b>  <b>6p Body Sculp</b> 6:30p CE <b>8p AA</b>	10 10a Missions  4-6p True North Pastor Hours <b>6p Body Sculp</b>	11 1p C4C  5:45p Jr Choir <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15p Choir	12 9-11a True North Pastor Hours  <b>6p Body Sculp</b>	13	14 9:30a UCC CLEANUP DAY!  
15 8:45a Meditation 10:30a Worship-Church School Baptism 11:30a Called to Care meeting	16 Rev. Wells Out of the office Thru May 24 <b>3:30p Irish Step</b> <b>6p Body Sculp</b> <b>8p AA</b>	17 4-6p True North Pastor Hours  <b>6p Body Sculp</b> 7:15 PC	18 1p C4C  5:45p Jr Choir <b>7p Scouts</b> 7:15p Choir	19 9-11a True North Pastor Hours  <b>6p Body Sculp</b>	20	21
22 8:45a Meditation 10:30a Worship-Church School	23 <b>3:30p Irish Step</b>  <b>6p Body Sculp</b> <b>8p AA</b>	24 4-6p True North Pastor Hours  <b>6p Body Sculp</b>	25 1p C4C  No Choir Rehearsals <b>7p Scouts</b>	26 9-11a True North Pastor Hours  <b>6p Body Sculp</b>	27	28
29 8:45a Meditation 10:30a Worship-Church School Baptisms Red Wagon	30  <b>No Irish Step</b>  <b>6p Body Sculp</b> <b>8p AA</b>	31 4-6p True North Pastor Hours  <b>6p Body Sculp</b>				<b>June 4th</b> FLEA Market  <b>June 5th</b> Confirmation  <b>June 11</b> Pride Day  <b>June 12</b> Children's Sunday

UCC  
6 Lexington Street  
Burlington, MA 01803  
Address Service Requested



**MAY 2016**

