



The Clarendon Connection

June 2008

www.clarendonhillchurch.org

Clean Your Desk Campaign

Yes, it's that time of the year again; college students have packed up their dorm rooms and headed home, or out in to the world! And by the end of this month, usually all students are out of school. But what about all those school supplies that are left over at the end of the academic year? **We need your gently used (or NEW!) notebooks, paper, pens, pencils (regular and colored), crayons, etc. for our annual Clean Your Desk Campaign.**

Recycle, Reuse, and Renew Hope for Nicaraguan Kids!

Each year, with your help, Quest for Peace sends 60 tons of school supplies to Nicaragua for use in the rural schools. With an average annual income of \$250, families cannot afford supplies for their several children - nor does the government provide them. In addition to school supplies, "parents must come up with additional salary, desks, materials, school repairs, water and electric bills, and cleaning materials," says Nan McCurdy in *Education: A Privilege in Nicaragua*. Your educational supplies will build friendship between peoples, help educate Nicaraguan children and open a new world for you.

Donate school supplies such as:

**pencils and erasers
paper and notebooks
art supplies
crayons and markers
scissors and rulers
musical instruments
basketballs, baseballs, etc.**

Please--NO books, 3-ring binders or anything battery operated.

The supplies are put in large cargo containers and shipped to Nicaragua. They travel to the 300-plus schools which Quest for Peace serves in Nicaragua. (www.quixote.org)

Last year, Clarendon Hill shipped many pounds of supplies. There will be a box in the foyer of the church for you to deposit your supplies along with a more extensive list of the supplies that are needed. Remember to ask friends and neighbors to

participate too! And if you or your colleagues haven't cleaned your work desk (or desk at home), take a look to see what you can contribute. We will collect supplies throughout the month of June.

If you don't have school supplies to send, we would also be grateful for monetary donations to help defray the cost of shipping the items. Please see Ellen Schemerhorn (ellends@verizon.net) for more details.



Photos from Nathan Williams's installation at Hope Community Presbyterian Church in Virginia, Minnesota. Left: Nathan and Leanne Williams

Sunday Worship at Clarendon Hill

9:45 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
10:30 a.m.	Worship*
11:30 a.m.	Refreshments and fellowship

*Worship will begin at 10 a.m. from July 6 to August 31. Children's Education and the regular worship schedule will resume in September.

Do justice Love kindness

Walk humbly with your God

218TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2008)
JUNE 21-28 - SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

MICAH 6:8

Top Ten List of Issues before the 218th General Assembly (2008)

Before each General Assembly, the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly shares what s/he considers to be the top ten issues coming to the assembly. Here is the Clerk's non-prioritized list for 2008.

A Revised Form of Government

The Form of Government Task Force was created by the 217th General Assembly (2006) to propose a revised polity that would be more flexible, foundational and appropriate for a missional Reformed church in the 21st century. The task force is bringing a revised Form of Government for adoption by the assembly and recommendation to the presbyteries.

Partnership in World Mission

The 217th General Assembly called for a consultation between the General Assembly Council World Mission program and a variety of mission initiators in the PC(USA). The fruits of that consultation will be before this assembly in a call for an "Expanding Partnership in God's Mission" that involves a wide variety of groups working together for the renewal of PC(USA) World Mission.

PC(USA) Ecumenical Stance and Covenants

The 218th General Assembly will take action on a number of ecumenical items, including a proposed new policy on the ecumenical stance of the PC(USA) and covenant agreements with four different churches: the Korean Presbyterian Church in America, the Episcopal Church, the Catholic Church and the Moravian Church.

Peace, Unity and Purity of the PC(USA)

Several proposals concerning the peace, unity and purity of the church will be before this year's assembly, including fresh ways to use discernment in our life together, reconsideration of some or all of the actions of the previous assembly in this area and proposals to change the constitutional standards for ordination.

The Belhar Confession

This assembly will be asked to act on a proposal to take the first step toward adding the Belhar Confession to The Book of Confessions. This confession grows out of the experience of Christians in South Africa and is an affirmation of the biblical call to Christian unity and racial reconciliation.

Middle East Concerns

Before this General Assembly will be a variety of overtures and advocacy committee proposals to strengthen the PC(USA)'s witness to peace with justice in relation to both Israel/Palestine and Iraq.

Elections

A Moderator of the 218th General Assembly (2008) will be elected to a two-year term, and a new Stated Clerk of the General Assembly will be elected to a four-year term.

Growing God's Church Deep and Wide

The General Assembly Council is challenging the whole church to adopt a two-year commitment to grow the church in membership, in discipleship and in diversity.

Domestic Social Justice Concerns

This assembly will address a large number of social justice concerns, including the adoption of a new Social Creed, as well as the adoption of major policy papers on serious mental illness, energy and global warming, pay equity for women, homelessness and electoral reform.

A Church for Future Generations

One assembly committee will do generative thinking as it focuses on the church's ministry to and with youth to ensure a church for future generations.

Overtures Call for End to Discrimination at the 218th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA): It's About Time

"Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly with your God" is the theme for the upcoming 218th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in San Jose, CA, June 21 - 28. In a time like now, and in the world as it is, the ancient Hebrew prophet Micah's call has a profoundly contemporary and timely ring.

Many important matters of vision and mission face this Assembly and our Church: the election of a new Stated Clerk; the election of the Moderator of our Church; the growing needs of our country and world in terms of peacemaking, economic justice and addressing the real world problems of hunger, homelessness, HIV-AIDS within the USA and around the globe, fair and just immigration policy, etc.

And, before our General Assembly is the opportunity to respond to the Call from within our Church to end discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and their families through prayerful consideration and passage of the LGBT-Affirming overtures that support spiritual, ordination and marriage equality. This indeed seems to be a kairos moment in the life of our Church.

LGBT-Affirming Ordination overtures are the Hudson River and Cincinnati Presbytery Overtures. The Baltimore Overture that supports a loving and faithful relationship between two partners, regardless of gender, is an LGBT-Affirming Overture that promotes a more just and loving definition of marriage within our Directory for Worship. Correcting the mistranslation within the later Heidelberg Catechism removes the anti-gay prejudice placed into this historic confession and restores integrity to our Book of Confessions.

The National Board of Directors of More Light Presbyterians unanimously adopted the following statement at its February 2008 board meeting in Santa Fe, NM. As we approach the 218th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in San Jose, we covet your prayers, support, and help as we work to make our Church one that welcomes and affirms all of God's people.

Please do forward this statement, prayer and Call to Action for the 218th General Assembly to those who are praying, working and believing that God is at work in our midst; that the teachings, example and Gospel of Jesus Christ call and inspire us to be a Church that does not discriminate against any of God's children; and that the Spirit is doing a new thing in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Thank you for joining us in prayer for our Church and this General Assembly. Together We are Building a Church for All God's people!

Grace and peace,

Vikki, Bear and Michael

and the National Board of Directors, More Light Presbyterians

Vikki Dearing and Bear Ride, Co-Moderators, Michael J. Adee, Executive Director & Field Organizer,

It's About Time!

It's about time for all disciples of Jesus Christ to take a stand for those who are still denied full participation in our church --- lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender sisters and brothers, whom God loves and calls to faith and ministry.

It's about time to end the task forces, studies, judicial cases, interpretations, and other abuses that continue the unconscionable discriminatory policies of our church.

It's about time to lay aside our fears:
Fear of the unknown - fear of schism,
Fear of those who are different.

"God is love...there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear."

1 John, 4:16, 18

It's about time to do the right thing,
to delete G-6.0106b which has created so much strife
in our beloved church.

It's about time to trust in God's wildly inclusive love,
and remove the boundaries we have set
around God's free, unmerited grace.

It's about time to make our church a welcoming
community
where everyone has an equal place at God's table.
It's about time!



www.artsomerville.org

the nave gallery: 'Fanning the Flames' Evolving Works of Somerville Arts Council Fellowship Recipients

12 June-6 July 2008
Curated by Sandra Butler
and Rachel Mello

In this unique show a small group of visual artists, dancers, filmmakers, and writers who received Somerville Arts Council Fellowship Grants in early 2007, reflect on the evolution in their work over the course of one year.

Considering earlier work side-by-side with newest pieces offers the rare opportunity to look into a developing sense of process and direction in a handful of the city's rich population of dedicated artists. Artists featured include Karen Aqua, Sandra Butler, Benjamin Cariens, Betsy Connors, Karl Cronin, Christopher Frost, Shaun Lynch, Rachel Mello, Christina Renfer, Ethan Gilsdorf, and Bert Stern.



Karl Cronin, "Dry Earth fieldwork (still image from performance footage)", 2007

Opening reception, 12 June 2008, 6 p.m.-8 p.m., including readings and film screenings.



Peter Walker

13 July 2008, 7:30 p.m.

www.myspace.com/peterwalkerguitarist

Guitarist Peter Walker came up in the Cambridge MA and Greenwich Village folk scenes of the Sixties. He recorded two albums for the Vanguard label in the late Sixties in a style best described as American folk-raga. He studied with Ravi Shankar and Ali Akbar Khan, and was Dr. Timothy Leary's musical director, organizing music for the LSD advocate's "celebrations."

Peter Walker's 1967 debut album, *Rainy Day Raga*, features one of the first studio appearances by jazz flautist Jeremy Steig, as well as guitarist Bruce Langhorne, who recorded with Bob Dylan and many others. *Rainy*

Day Raga is a gentle and beautiful fusion of Eastern and Western musical traditions, and one of the earliest examples of a style explored by Sandy Bull several years earlier. A second album, *Second Poem to Karmela or, Gypsies Are Important* (1969) found Walker going even deeper into Indian instrumentation, playing sarod and sitar. During this time, Peter played or was associated with such musicians as Lowell George, Fred Neil, Tim Hardin, and Joan Baez, among many others.

Walker settled in upstate New York in the early Seventies. In more recent years, he has developed an intense interest in flamenco guitar and, through regular trips to Spain, been accepted into the flamenco's exclusive musical elite.

June 2008

June 1

Genesis 6:9-22; 7:24; 8:14-19
 Psalm 46:1-11
 Romans 1:16-17; 3:22b-28 (29-31)
 Matthew 7:21-29

June 8

Genesis 12:1-9
 Psalm 33:1-12
 Romans 4:13-25
 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 15

Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7)
 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
 Romans 5:1-8
 Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 22

Genesis 21:8-21
 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
 Romans 6:1b-11
 Matthew 10:24-39

June 29

Genesis 22:1-14
 Psalm 13:1-6
 Romans 6:12-23
 Matthew 10:40-42

Lectionary for Sundays

July 2008

July 6

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
 Psalm 45:10-17 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13
 Romans 7:15-25a
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 13

Genesis 25:19-34
 Psalm 119:105-112
 Romans 8:1-11
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 20

Genesis 28:10-19a
 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
 Romans 8:12-25
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 27

Genesis 29:15-28
 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128:1-6
 Romans 8:26-39
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Church Assignments

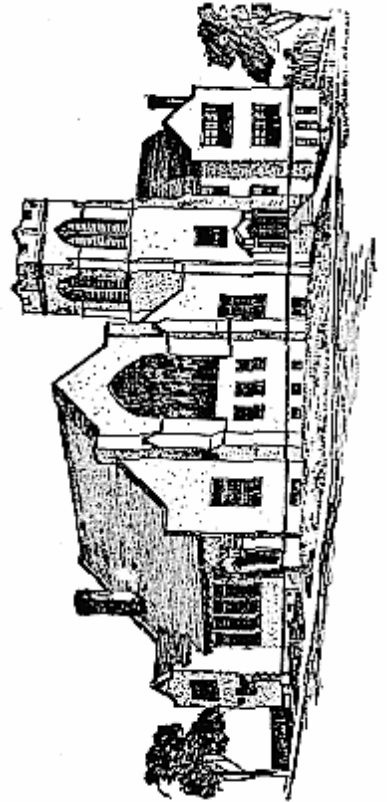
	scripture	focus on mission	coffee hour	nursery
June 1	M. Jirmanus	S. Rhodes	POTLUCK	N. Jirmanus
June 8	G. Newquist	T. Siggers	Chapman-Adisho	K. Gustafson
June 15	P. Beran	S. Donovan	Gustafson/Cavano	A. Chapman-Adisho
June 22	H. Rantisi	P. Auger	Schemerhorn	V. Donovan
June 29	M. Nickey	L. Cavano	Donovan	E. Schemerhorn
July 6	J. Auger	C. Milanesi	Siggers	N. Jirmanus
July 13	J. Bray	E. Schemerhorn	Jirmanus	A. Chapman-Adisho
July 20	R. Liberace	S. Otami	Augers	K. Gustafson
July 27	M. Reynolds	R. Winchester	Milanesi/Kumpa	E. Schemerhorn

If you would like to be added to the rotation for any of these opportunities, please contact Ann Crews Melton, anncrews@gmail.com or 617.646.9690.

The Clarendon Connection is edited by Ann Crews Melton. Articles for the July issue are requested by June 24th. Email Ann at anncrews@gmail.com with news, photos, tidbits, corrections or suggestions.

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Potluck for Salome	2	3	4 7:30 p.m. Session/ Deacons meeting	5	6	7 4:30 p.m. Party for Gusti
8 9 a.m. Post-Annual Meeting and breakfast 5 p.m. Ecumenical Pride Service, College Ave. UMC	9	10	11	12 6-8 p.m. Nave opening 7:30 p.m. Peace Justice & Mission meeting	13	14 Pride Parade
15 YOGA 12:15 p.m. Outreach "Not a Committee" meeting	16	17	18 7:30 p.m. Writing Group	19	20	21
22 YOGA	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



The LGBT-friendly faith communities of Somerville present...

Somerville Pride Celebration and Communion Service

Sunday, June 8, 2008 at 5 p.m.

College Avenue United Methodist Church
14 Chapel St.
Somerville, MA 02144



Just as the prism shows all the colors within the light, God's love and light honors us every one. The prism shows all. God's love honors all.

Join us as we celebrate the lives of LGBTQI folks in our community. Bring a friend! Potluck dinner following the service.

co-hosted by Cambridge Welcoming Ministries, College Avenue United Methodist Church, Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, First Church Congregational UCC, and Unity Church of God

Rev. Karl Gustafson, Minister • Augustus Kwaa, Parish Associate/Evangelist • John Adams, Music Director • Arnie James, Sexton

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