NEWSLETTER

BOUNDLESS GRACE: THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR ALL





www.GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

- 25 Francis Street, Worcester, MA 01606
- **(**508) -852-7727
- Office@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org





SUNDAY

05 05 24

ALTAR FLOWERS

"In honor of Barbara Sterner Lohnes and Nancy Hackett"

By Bill and Deb Hackett.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

You're invited to join us for Coffee Fellowship immediately after the worship service.

Coffee hour will be hosted by Kim Paré.

Order of Worship

9:30 am Chapel | May 05, 2024 | Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome Rev. Doug Cederberg Prelude Prayer of Invocation Rev. Doug Cederberg #402 "He Came Down" *Opening Hymn He came down that we may have love; He came down that we may have peace; He came down that we may have joy; He came down that we may have life; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have life; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have life; hallelujah forevermore. hallelujah forevermore. hallelujah forevermore. hallelujah forevermore. (choir: Why did he come?) Passing the Peace Rev. Doug Cederberg John 15:9-17 NRSV | Deborah Sobi First Reading Rev. Doug Cederberg Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer Doxology Acts 10:44-48 NRSV | Rev. Doug Cederberg Second Reading Rev. Doug Cederberg Message Song of Response "Spirit Song" Rev. Doug Cederberg Invitation to Communion Karen Allen **Announcements** *Closing Hymn #326 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" vs (1, 2, 4) You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, and you goaded your people with a law and a land; blow through the wilderness calling and free; blow through the wilderness calling and free; and when they were blinded with idols and lies, Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, then you spoke through your prophets wind, wind on the sea. stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea. to open their eyes. You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, from the valleys of sleep; blow through the wilderness calling and free; and over the eons you called to each thing: Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, "Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." wind, wind on the sea. Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes. blow through the wilderness calling and free; From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,

Benediction "Hallelujah Chorus"

our women see visions, our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions your people arise.

wind, wind on the sea.

Postlude "All You Need Is Love"



DO WE NEED A BETTER GOSPEL?

By Reverend Dr. Doug Cederberg

I attended an anniversary party for my in-laws last week. They have been married for 70 years! Family and friends gathered for a pleasant afternoon to honor the long-time husband and wife.

At one point in the afternoon, the conversation at my table focused on churches. One man said that over the years, as a choir member, he has been looking out at a sanctuary that used to be full of people for two services every Sunday. But now the sanctuary is mostly empty pews during its one and only service on Sundays.

As you would expect, each of the people at the table had an opinion of why this is happening in so many churches. I am sure you have heard most or all of

the things said before, so there is no need for me to mention them. One thing, though, is for sure – it is heartbreaking for people to see their beloved church dwindle away. And there are no easy answers or quick fixes. However...

About 15 years ago I was at a ministerial conference in which the main speaker described how over the 4000 years of Judeo-Christian history there has been a major upheaval every 500 years. The last major upheaval was in 1520, when



Christianity divided into Protestant and Roman Catholic branches. We are due, on the cusp of a new upheaval, she said. Exactly what will emerge remains to be seen, but all the signs of the eruption of major change are being noticed. What will come about will be different from what we used to be.

Her name was Phyllis Tickle, and she said that about every 500 years God "cleans out the attic," so to speak, and has a major rummage sale. You know how we accumulate a lot of unnecessary junk in our homes, and how nice it is when all the clutter gets cleared out. In the same way, we in the church need to get rid of a lot of old ideas, beliefs, customs, and

traditions that would make way for a whole new experience of faith. Tickle said that this is not a bad thing; in fact, it is God at work in a surprising way. God is making all things new, if we allow.

My passion is to think and talk about our ideas of God and what they mean for us as a church and as individuals. Some of our ideas could stand being cleaned out of the attics of our minds and replaced by new ideas. I realize that not everybody shares my passion, but if you are curious, please consider attending the upcoming Theology 2 class. I got the idea for the course while reading a book written by my former New Testament professor Klyne Snodgrass.



Klyne is a driven debunker. To debunk something is to take the bunk, nonsense, out of it. In his book, "You Need a Better Gospel", he clears out the attic of bad theological ideas that clutter our churches, and offers а alternative. As his former student, I can vouch for how he has no patience for outmoded, disproven, nonsensical ideas about God.

If you want to explore some fresh ideas and clean out your attic, come and join me! ◆

Rev. Doug Cederberg

Pastor, GPC



GPC Newsletter

Greendale People's Church 25 Francis Street, Worcester, MA 01606 office@GreendalePleoplesChurch.org (508) . 852 . 7727 | www.GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Support our mission

Your generous contributions enable us to continue our support to community outreach, and maintain worship services that bring us together. Every gift, whether large or small, fuels our mission and impacts lives.

For your convenience, you can easily donate by scanning the QR code with your phone. We greatly appreciate your support



FOOD PANTRY

Wednesdays, 10 am - 12 noon | Parking lot entry



In our mission to alleviating hunger and spreading happiness to families in need, we are continuing our weekly Food Pantry donation initiative, "HEROES AGAINST HUNGER." This week, we shine the spotlight on a vital ally in our mission: SOUP!!! Please bring your donations this Sunday or on the following Wednesday, during the pantry's hours of operation from 10am to 12pm. Or donate from the comfort of your house, at greendalepeopleschurch.org/give, or if you prefer, checks can be mailed to 25 Francis Street, Worcester, MA 01606. Next week needs: CEREAL.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Production line: Sundays



We warmly invite you to join the production line for 'Breakfast for the Homeless' in Fisher Hall, which convenes every Sunday after worship. This is a wonderful opportunity to spread holiday cheer and make a tangible difference in the lives of those in need. For more details on how you you can become involved as a donor, shopper, or delivery ambassador, please reach out to Lyn Wasilewski at omealaw@charter.net.

HUNGER IN ACTION

Greendale People's Church is committed to our community, and for years we have operated "Hunger in Action" programs dedicated to combating hunger and food insecurity. These initiatives include our Food Pantry, Mustard Seed, Thursday's Café (providing sandwiches for All Saints' Church), and our Breakfast Program.

Your generous donations are vital to sustaining our efforts to strengthen the community. We warmly invite you to continue your support, which enables us to make a lasting impact and transform lives. Please consider contributing to our mission; together, we can transform lives!.



MUSTARD SEED

Third Thursday of the month | GPC Kitchen

At Greendale People's Church, our Mustard Seed program stands as a beacon of hope for those in need within our community. On the third Thursday of each month, team members Jan Anderson, Sherrill McKeon, and Bill Trippi prepare a nutritious meal of meatball soup and salad. This meal is then delivered to the Mustard Seed in Worcester, MA by Kim Paré.

However, we cannot continue this important work without your support. Your generous donations can make a significant difference. Whether it's a one-time gift or a recurring contribution, every dollar helps us make a positive impact in the lives of those who need it most. Together, we can build a healthier, stronger community. Thank you for your support!.



THURSDAY CAFÉ: Sandwiches for all saints church

Fourth Thursday of the month | Genesis Room



Join us **Thursday, May 13rd at 10:30 am** in the Genesis Room to pack lunches for those in need. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Janet Whittall at teacup057@charter.net

PIZZA PARTY



Mo' Town, Mo' Pizza:

A Groovy Slice of the '60s & '70s

Step back in time with us to celebrate a groovy Pizza Party in honor of Stevie Wonder's birthday! Dress up in your favorite '60s and '70s outfits and get ready to

groove to classic Motown hits while enjoying delicious pizza.

It's the perfect chance to have fun, make new friends, and enjoy the community vibe!

Monday May 13, 2024 @ 12 p.m. Fisher Hall



UPCOMING EVENTS

YOGA WITH NANCY



Join us on Thursday, **May 9th, at 10:00 AM**, for a yoga session hosted in the 1st Conference Room. Unwind, stretch, and strengthen your way to a balanced day. Everyone is welcome, namaste!

PRAYER SHAWL

Third Saturday of the month | GPC Library



Join us for a Prayer Shawl Gathering on **Saturday, May 18th at 10:30 AM** in the church library. We welcome individuals of all skill levels to come together to knit and crochet prayer shawls for those in need, offering comfort and solace through our crafts.

EVERYBODY'S BIRTHDAY

May 19, 2024 | Following worship | Fisher Hall

Everybody's Birthday will be celebrated on **May 19, 2024** in Fisher Hall following Sunday church service. There will be cake and ice cream for all. Come and celebrate together!





FELLOWSHIP CLUB

Sunday, May 18, 2024, 6:00 pm | Fisher Hall



The Fellowship Club is thrilled to invite you to "Game Night" on Saturday, May 18th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Get ready for an evening filled with fun, games, and wonderful company! Stay tuned—more details will be posted soon!

Proto 4

Monday, May 20, 2024 | 6:00 pm | Fisher Hall



The next Proto 4 meeting will be hosted on Monday, May 20 @ 6 pm in Fisher Call.

Contact Deb Richards for more details.

CR/Zoom

GB MEETING

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 | 6:30 pm | 2nd

We would like to remind you that the next Governing Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 28th, at 6:30 p.m. in the second-floor Conference Room. This meeting is open to all members who wish to attend.

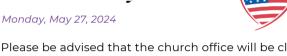
For those unable to join in person, you can attend by phone using the following details:

Dial any of the numbers below:

- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
- Enter the Meeting ID: 920 820 560 and Password: 020318

We look forward to your participation.

Memorial Day



Please be advised that the church office will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th, in observance of the holiday. We encourage our church family to take this time to honor the brave men and women who have served and sacrificed for our country. Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, May 28th.

Thank you for your understanding, and we wish you a peaceful Memorial Day!

CHURCH NEWS & UPDATES

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Sundays, following worship service

Coffee Fellowship is a wonderful opportunity to connect with friends after the service, and we're currently looking for volunteers to help with the coffee and snacks. It's a great chance to collaborate with a friend or a fellow attendee. If you're interested or have any questions, please contact Karen Allen. We look forward to enjoying this fellowship time with you!



ALTAR FLOWERS

Sundays

Flower Chart Openings for the Summer! Check the bulletin board outside of Fisher Hall to sign up to dedicate flowers for a Sunday this summer. The fee is \$35 per Sunday with your check payable to Greendale People's Church with "Altar Flowers" on the memo line. These may be in memory of, in honor of, or in celebration of a person or event. Be sure to fill out the green card

to let the office know the dedication and types or colors of flowers you want. Thank you for your continued support.

Success!

GPC has had a strong pledge campaign thanks



to all who participated. The Stewardship Team has received pledges of \$95,961 towards the goal of \$125,000 from 60 participants. That is two more than last year. Just remember that it is never too late to participate or to change your pledge if circumstances change. Again all of your support and help in making this happen just as the pledge campaign stated, these "blessings of the Holy Spirit are moving us forward." If you have any questions or concerns, see Karen Allen.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

WOMEN AT THE WELL

2nd & 4th Monday of month | 10:30 am | 2nd CR

Our bible study group is finishing its study of some of the women of the bible.

Our final class session will take place on Monday, June 10, after

which we will break for the summer. Classes will resume on Monday, October 14, meeting



OMEN AT

THE WELL

If you have suggestions for our studies or wish to join the class, please contact Karen Allen at karenallen2006@aol.com or call her at 508.942.2401. We look forward to seeing you!

THEOLOGY PART II:

The Gospel of Jesus Christ: Good News, Not Merely Good Advice.

Classes begin May 15, 2024 | 10 am | 2nd CR

Join us for another Theology session with Reverend Doug. This time Rev. Doug will explore the Christian faith as the proclamation of good (joyful) news, which is what 'gospel' means. This course will go back to the basics of Christianity. Pastor Doug will base the course, more or less, on a book written by his friend and former professor, Klyne Snodgrass. Dr. Snodgrass, now retired from teaching, remains a world-renowned biblical scholar. He authored the book 'You Need a Better Gospel: Proclaiming the Good News of Participation with Christ' recently in 2022.

START DATE: Wednesday, May 15

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: 2nd Conference Room

DURATION: 7 Weeks

WEDENESDAY THOUGHTS

Every other Wednesday / YouTube & Website



We are excited to announce that "Wednesday Thoughts with Rev Doug" is back for another season, featuring a series of engaging topics and thoughtful reflections. Join us every other Wednesday on YouTube or directly on the GPC website for new episodes.

Our first episode of 2024 is now available at www.GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS



Rev. Doug visited Charlotte LeBlanc in the hospital this week. Charlotte is now at Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital. She is on the mend and extends her love and best wishes to everyone.

COMMUNITY

Boost Your Spirits with K-LOVE 107.3 FM

Elevate your mood with uplifting music by tuning into K-LOVE 107.3 FM for positive music!





THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST: GOOD NEWS, NOT MERELY GOOD ADVICE.

Many churchgoers (and pastors) are unable to define what is meant by 'the Gospel of Jesus Christ.' Somehow, Christianity has been turned into a system of 'dos and don'ts' rather than the joyful news of what God has done in Jesus Christ and is still doing through the Holy Spirit. In some cases, political ideologies have become more prominent than the gospel in many churches. Alas, as churchgoing declines in our society, we become so focused on how to keep our church going that we overlook what God has done, is doing, and will do through those who participate in the ongoing life of Jesus Christ. If the church is to live on, we need life from God!

The Christian faith was first and foremost the proclamation of good (joyful) news, which is what 'gospel' means. This course will go back to the basics of Christianity. Pastor Doug will base the course, more or less, on a book written by his friend and former professor, Klyne Snodgrass. Dr. Snodgrass, now retired from teaching, remains a world-renowned biblical scholar. He authored the book 'You Need a Better Gospel: Proclaiming the Good News of Participation with Christ' recently in 2022.

START DATE: Wednesday, May 15

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: 2nd Conference Room

DURATION: 7 Weeks



508 - 852 -7727 www.GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Sign-up sheet (Fisher Hall) office@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Prayer Chain

Care Ministry

MAY Birthdays!

- Beverly
- Janice
- Stephanie Kissiday
- Jessica Angers
- Jim & Marie Wilmot •
- Teresa LaFleur
- June Avres
- Don Hebb
- Don Wilbur Laura Giurleo
- Astrid Essex
- Patty Harnois
- Lorna Rollins Kathy Freeburn
- Sheri Kline
- Charlotte LeBlanc
- Dave Raphael
- Tori Jones
- Sue Sundquist
- Dennis Christo

Fran Langille

Cheryl Brown

- Rose Mary G.
- Christine
- Brvce
- Ginna Hopkins
- Ed and Seija Nummelin
- Guernon Family

Forge meaningful connections with fellow GPC members through our Care Ministry. Extend your warmth and compassion by sending personalized postcards that beautifully convey just how much you care.

Marcia Hartleb

9 Fisher Road Holden, MA 01520

June Ayres

Beaumont Rehab & Skilled Nursing Fairbanks Unit 3 Lyman Street Westborough MA 01581

Join us in celebrating the special days of our cherished members!

Kyra Lohnes	05/01
Ryan Lohnes	05/01
Karen Allen	05/03
William Trippi	05/04
Devan Grensavitch	05/06
Max Galbraith	05/06
Stef Donev	05/10
Cynthia Schofield	05/11
Timothy Wilder	05/11
Jeanne Hellberg	05/12
Leah Francese-Wood	05/15
Anna Marsden	05/17
David Smith	05/18
Evi Galbraith	05/19
Marjorie Fair	05/20
Kathleen Lohnes	05/26
Thompsen Hartleb	05/27
Donald Hebb	05/29
Christine Corbin	05/30

Ministering to The Congregation

OUR TEAM

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Douglas Cederberg

RevDoug@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Music Director:

Annie Arsenault

Annie4music@gmail.com

Communications Director:

Carolina Mata

Carolina@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Office Volunteers:

Mondays: Karen Allen, Tuesdays: Jan Whittall, Wednesdays: Robert Converse, Thursdays:

Marion McLaren.

Deacons:

Deacons@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Care Ministry:

CareMinistry@GreendalePeoplesChurch

Food Pantry:

FoodPantry@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Custodian: Matt Duhamel

Custodian@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

GOVERNING BOARD

Chair:

David P. Raphael

BoardChair@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Vice-Chair:

Karen Allen

ViceChair@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Treasurer:

Bob Converse

rconverse8925@charter.net

Church Clerk:

Kim Paré

Clerk@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Membership/FUT/Stewardship:

Karen Allen

Office@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Christian Education Liaison:

Dennis O'Mallev

owensinned@yahoo.com

Coordinator of Teams:

Rev. Dr. Doug Cederberg,

RevDoug@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Camp Selah Use Liaison:

Karen Allen,

Office@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Building Use Reservations:

Karen Allen.

Office@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Facilities:

Carlo Cimato.

Carloc33@verizon.net

Pastor Parish Relation Team (PPT):

Rev. Dr. Doug Cederberg,

RevDoug@GreendalePeoplesChurch.org

Bob Converse,

rconverse8925@charter.net

Lyn Wasilewski,

omealaw@charter.net

Dennis O'Malley

owensinned@yahoo.com

Jan Andersen as alternate.













GREENDALE PEOPLE'S CHURCH

MAY 2024

SUN	MOM	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 10:00 am, Food Pantry, 1st Fl 10:00 am, You're With Us!, 1st CR, Eden Room 5:30 pm, Cub Scouts Mtg, 1st CR, Eden & Genesis room	2	3 10:00am You're With Us! 1st CR, Eden Room 7:30 pm Gamblers Anonymous 1st CR	4
9:30 am Worship Service, Chapel and online. Breakfast Outreach Program, During Coffee Hour 12:00 pm WilMS, Senctuary 12:00 pm NA Meeting, 1st CR 13:00 pm Girl Scouts, 1st CR, Eden and Genesis Room.	6 10:00 am You're With Ust, 1st CR, Eden Room 6:00 pm NA Group, 2nd Fisher Hall	7	10:00 am, Food Pantry, 1st Fl 10:00 am, You're With Usi, 10:00 am, Vou'se With Usi, 1st CR, Eden Room 5:30 pm, Cub Scouts Mtg, 1st CR, Eden & Genesis room	9 10:00 am Yoga with Nancy!, 1st CR	10 10:00am You're With Us! 1st CR, Eden Room 7:30 pm Gamblers Anonymous 1st CR	11
9:30 am Worship Service, Sanctuary and online. Breakfast Outreach Program, (During Coffee Hour) 12:00 pm WIMS, Sanctuary 12:00 pm NA Meeting, 3rd Library 13:0 pm Girl Scouts Genesis, Eden	13 11:00 am You're With Ust, 11:00 am You're With Ust, 1st CR, Eden Room 10:30 am Women at the Well, 2nd Conference Room	14	15 (10:00 am, Food Pantry, 1st FI) 10:00 am, You're With Usi, 1st CR, Genesis Room 10:00 am Theology III, 2nd CR 5:30 pm, Cub Scours Mtg, 1st CR, Eden & Genesis room 6:00 pm, Cub Scouts Mtg, FH	16 10:00am Mustard Seed, Kitchen	17 10:00am You're With Us! 1st CR, Eden Room 7:30 pm Gamblers Anonymous 1st CR	18 10:30 am Prayer Shawl, Library 6:00pm Fellowship Club Game Night, 2nd Fisher Hall
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