December Worship

Sunday, December 6, 2015 10 a.m.
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Ceremony
Peter Johnson Preaching

Sunday, December 13, 2015 10 a.m.
Third Sunday of Advent
Poinsettia Sunday
Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Ceremony
Annual Christmas Pageant: “CHRISTMAS CHILDREN OF THE WORLD”

Sunday, December 20, 2015 10 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Advent Wreath Candle Lighting Ceremony
Rev Ann Suzedell Preaching
Leadership participation by Confirmation Students, Mentors and Youth Group Members

Thursday, December 24, 2015 6:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Guest Musicians: String Quartet with Allan Espinosa
Meditation by Peter Johnston

Sunday, December 27, 2015 10 a.m.
First Sunday after Christmas
Peter Johnston Preaching

Wednesday, December 30, 2015 10 a.m.
Monthly Communion Service at E. Wing Chapel, 1000 S. Artery

Dear Friends,

Last week Adam McGhee and I met with the Confirmation students and their mentors. We were exploring the meaning of Advent and Christmas and began to look at the Nativity story. I asked: “Why did God first reveal the good news of the birth of the Christ Child to shepherds?” The response: “Because they were ordinary people – like us.” When the glorious, glamorous angels appeared overhead, the shepherds were working the night-shift. Most probably cold and tired and endlessly worried about “making ends meet” they were surely startled, even frightened by the appearance of the angelic host and the divine glory in their bleak work environment.

These ordinary people with no influence, power or fame were the first to receive the birth announcement. And they were able to rush immediately to see the blessed child, for the baby was not born in a fortified palace or an exclusive estate with gates and guards, but in a common stable where just about anyone could walk in and out.

This year we are learning about Christmas customs and music from around the world. The French (especially from Provence) must have loved the part of the story that the manger was so easily accessible to the ordinary shepherds – as well as everyone else….So they put themselves in the stable as well.

It all began at the time of the French Revolution when churches were closed and large public Nativity scenes prohibited. Refusing to give up their faith traditions, many folks started making small nativity scenes for their homes. Not only were the Biblical figures present, but ordinary people from their own village made their way to the manger scene as well. Figurines were made of friends and neighbors from everyday life in the village: baker, farmer, knitter – everyone found a place in the Nativity scene. These small figures are called santons, or little saints.

Hopefully, we will have some santons in a crèche at church by Christmas Sunday. Come, and find your own place at the manger. “For unto you (to us, to all people) is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

Blessings,
Ann Suzedell, Pastor
Many thanks for the recent donations made to the Access Fund
By Ardes Burns
Friday Night AA Group ~ In Memory of Mark Wigandt
By Anne Baker and Loreen Barrett and Patricia C. LaFond

Quincy Point Congregational Church welcomed four new members on 11/1/2015. The new members in the photo below are: Christian Rowe, Linda Sherman, Vic Ann Aloquina and Cid Aloquina.

WELCOME

Church School Christmas Pageant “Christmas Children of the World” Mission Project

Rev. Ann selected the pageant “Christmas Children of the World” for our church school this year.

It involves angels visiting the children of the world to find out how they celebrate Christmas. One of the countries visited is Malawi located in Africa.

Our Church School Curriculum promotes Heifer Project this year as a mission project, so when information from Heifer Project – Malawi came to our attention, it was decided to support the Malawi project.

According to a Heifer project report, “almost 62 percent of its 16 million people live on $1.25 a day or less, an 14 percent of its children under five are malnourished”.

In 2014, Heifer Malawi assisted 8,660 families and placed cattle, goats and chickens to target smallholder farmers.

We are asking you to fill in the form “Be a Star, Buy a Star” and donate a Red and Green Star for the Christmas tree this year to help support Heifer Project - Malawi.

You will find the order form in this issue of To The Point.

Joyce Romeri

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT INFORMATION

* Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal November 29th & December 6th – following worship
Pageant Dress Rehearsal will be in Sanctuary for Children and Adults.

* Christmas Pageant during worship
“Christmas Children of the World” December 13th – please arrive at 9:15am

Youth Group and Confirmation class

12/6 at 10am: Confirmation @10.
12/6 at 11:45 am: Middle school youth group
12/13 at 11:45am: Youth group @11:45
12/20 Confirmation class will be taking part in worship service.
12/20 at 11:45 am: Youth group will exchange Secret Santa gifts

Tree of Life

Armand Joseph Riendeau
was baptized during worship at QPCC on 11/8/2015 by his godfather, Peter Johnston. Pictured below are: Armand Riendeau, and godparents: Peter Johnston and Lori Riendeau Harris.

Christmas Fund/ Veterans of the Cross (envelope enclosed)

Included in this edition of To The Point you will find the Christmas Fund/Veterans of the Cross envelopes.

This fund provides gift checks to low-income, retired clergy as well as widowed spouses, emergency assistance to retired and disabled clergy families in financial need, financial help for the UCC pension and health benefits for low-income retired clergy and lay workers.

Please prayerfully consider a gift as we remember those who serve the church.

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Joyce Romeri
“Be a STAR – Buy a STAR”
Put Stars on the Narthex Christmas tree!

When you purchase a Star you will help support your choice of the following projects:
- A Red and Green Star for the Church School Mission – Heifer Project-Malawi
- A Silver Star for the Access Fund
- A Gold Star for the Scholarship Fund

This is how:
- Use the form provided.
- Fill in the names of your loved ones – (In memory of or In honor of).
- Select the Stars you want placed on the Christmas tree for December 13th.
- All the names will be printed in the Christmas Memorial Gifts Bulletin.
- Please donate at least ten dollars ($10.) for each star

Please fill in and return to the church office – Deadline: Sunday, December 6th.

Special Christmas Gifts 2015

Please print. Thank You!

Name _______________________________________________
Phone _____________________________

Heifer projects-Malawi (red & green star) 
Amount $_________
In memory of _________________________________________
In honor of ___________________________________________

Access Fund (silver star) 
Amount $_________
In memory of _________________________________________
In honor of ___________________________________________

Scholarship Fund (gold star) 
Amount $_________
In memory of _________________________________________
In honor of ___________________________________________

TOTAL $_________

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Quincy Point Congregational Church
On Memo Line please note “Access Fund”, “Scholarship” or “Malawi Fund”

Veterans Housing Ribbon Cutting

11/10/2015 the ribbon was cut on the 12 new apartments built for veterans and their families at 178 East Howard Street in Quincy, MA. The community project by NeighborWorks of Southern MA was officially opened with the help of many city and state officials. Rev Ann Suzedell, Deanna Van Schagen and Joyce Romeri of QPCC also shared in this special day.

Veterans will start to move in soon and our QPCC “Home Sweet Home for Veterans” care packages will be there to welcome these families to Quincy Point.

Recently discovered in one of the closets of the church was a hooked rug picture of the church.

The person who made it was obviously talented and an accomplished rug hooker. The only clue to the person’s identity is the initials “VM” in the lower right corner of the rug.

We would like to be able to give proper credit to the person when the picture is displayed in the church. So if you have any information on who you think this person is, would you please contact the church office.

Thanks,
Bob Romeri
December 2015

**December 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1   | 9am: 12 step  
10am: Bible Study | 2   | 10am: AA Meeting  
7pm: Daughter's of Scotia  
No Prayer Shawl | 3   | 10am: AA Meeting  
7:30pm: AA Meeting | 4   | 9am - 2pm Olde Fashioned Christmas Fair  
4:30pm Tree Lighting |
| 5   | 8pm: AA Meeting | 6   | Communion  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Be a Star forms due back today!  
Deacon: Jane Raymond  
8:15am: Chancel Choir practice  
10am: Confirmation  
10am: Worship – Communion  
After Worship: Pageant Dress Rehearsal  
11:15am: Quincy Pointers practice  
11:30am Missions meeting  
11:45 am Middle School Youth Group |
| 7   | 9am: 12 step  
10am: Bible Study  
7pm: South Shore Camera Club | 8   | 8pm: AA Meeting  
10am: AA Meeting  
7:30pm: AA Meeting | 9   | 7:30pm: AA Meeting | 10  | 6pm: Christmas Movie Night |
| 11  | 7:30pm: AA Meeting  
Tree Lighting | 12  | | |
| 13  | Poinsettia Sunday  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Tree of Joy gifts due back today!  
Deacon: Christina Mendez  
8:15 am: Chancel Choir practice  
9:15pm Pageant participants arrive early  
10am: Worship and Pageant  
11:45am Youth Group |
| 14  | 2pm: set up for  
7pm: SSR Christmas Party  
9am: 12 step  
10am: Bible Study  
7pm: South Shore Camera Club |
| 15  | 16  | 8pm: AA Meeting  
No Prayer Shawl | 17  | 10am: AA Meeting  
6:30 Christmas Eve Service  
7:30pm: AA Meeting | 18  | 7:30pm: AA Meeting |
| 19  | | |
| 20  | Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Deacon: Deanna Van Schagen  
8:15 am: Chancel Choir practice  
10am: Worship lead by Confirmation Students, Mentors and Youth Group  
11:45am Youth Group Secret Santa gift exchange |
| 21  | 22  | 8pm: AA Meeting  
10am: NO Bible Study  
10am: NO Bible Study  
7pm: South Shore Camera Club |
| 23  | 24  | 9am: 12 step  
10am: NO Bible Study  
10am: AA Meeting  
6:30 Christmas Eve Service  
10am AA Meeting  
10am Confirmation at 1000 Southern Artery  
10am Communion at 1000 Southern Artery  
10am AA Meeting |
| 25  | 26  | |
| 27  | First Sunday After Christmas  
Deacon: Sheena DeMonte  
8:15 am Chancel Choir practice  
10am: Worship |
| 28  | 29  | 9am: 12 step  
10am: NO Bible Study  
10am: AA Meeting  
10am AA Meeting  
10am AA Meeting |
| 30  | 31  | 7pm: AA Meeting  
10am: AA Meeting  
7pm: Daughter's of Scotia  
No Prayer Shawl |
| 32  | 33  | |

**Missions**

This is the season of Thanksgiving and Joy. We live our lives as grateful people. Grateful for the lives we have been given and joyful to share our gifts with others.

The South Shore Camera Club left a huge amount of food for Interfaith Social Services, both for Thanksgiving and beyond. We are grateful to the club for helping us provide so much food for those in need.

On Thanksgiving Sunday we gave out tags for the Tree of Joy. We had ninety tags and we have only 12 left. I am no longer amazed at the generosity of QPCC, but am grateful for it. Again the giving goes beyond the church as Teresa Vangelis’ colleagues took 45 tags for the Quincy Public Schools. Our circle widens with so many good people helping us. Gifts for the Tree of Joy need to be returned to the church on December 13th. And please check with the Missions Committee when you bring them so we can make sure all the gifts are returned. If you cannot shop and would like to make a monetary donation, please do so. We can shop for you.

I remember Christmas as a child. There were four children and our Mom and Dad. I remember that our parents could only afford to spend five dollars on each of us. But we always had presents and we always had a great Christmas. We made gifts and we shopped wisely for our parents’ gifts. It might have been a plastic bracelet for my Mom or a pipe for my Dad and they were always thrilled to have them. I never remember a Christmas that was not happy even though we had little money. So I am grateful that QPCC can help those who cannot afford gifts for their children; it is truly the spirit of Christmas.

Thank you in advance for all your generosity and we wish you all a blessed Christmas.

*Carol Johnston, Chair*

**The Tree of Joy**

provides gifts to needy families in our community referred by Interfaith Social Services Holiday Adopt-a-Family Program and Project Access.

Some Tags available, contact Carol Johnston

All gifts should be returned to the church by Sunday, December 13, 2015

The gifts should be left unwrapped.

*Carol Johnston, Chair*

**Thanksgiving Ingathering Collection**

*Organized by the Youth group*

**First Sunday After Christmas**

Deacon: Sheena DeMonte

8:15 am Chancel Choir practice

10am: Worship
**Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service**

On November 24th at the Annual Joint Ecumenical Service, Ward 2 Councilor, Brad Croall received the Quincy Point Community Service Award.

To the Left: Father Boyle of St. Joseph’s Church, Councillors: Kevin Coughlin, Brad Croall and Ian Cain along with Rev. Ann G. Suzedell of Quincy Point Congregational Church share in the moment of Brad Croall receiving the award.

His award read:

Quincy Point Community Service Award  
Presented to Brad Croall  
For his continued dedication to community and diligent service as Quincy’s Ward 2 Councilor.  
ON OUR BEHALF,  
he initiated the Citizens Alert Police Program, serves as an advocate for the concerns of seniors, and became a champion for parks and playgrounds.  
We appreciate and celebrate his leadership among us.  
St. Joseph’s Church  
and  
Quincy Point Congregational Church

"I SERVE BECAUSE I BELIEVE SERVICE IS THE FOUNDATION OF COMMUNITY"

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**QPCC Tree Lighting**

SATURDAY, DEC. 5TH  
4:30 PM  
TREE LIGHTING  
CAROLS  
SIMPLE SUPPER OF  
HOMEMADE BAKED BEANS  
AND HOT DOGS.  
(NOTE SAME DAY AS CHRISTMAS FAIR)

**FAMILY CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT**

Saturday, December 12th, 2015  
6:00 pm  
In the QPCC Social Hall

Showing  
**Home Alone**

Wear your Pj’s  
Free cookies, candy and treats.  
Movie Trivia Game  
Holiday Fun!!
On Thanksgiving Sunday, The Quincy Pointers performed the anthem, “Worthy is the Lamb” during worship. Abbie Barrett showed us her amazing voice. The veteran members of the band, as always, also rocked the song: There was Anthony Thornhill on the drum, Joseph Suzedell on Saxophone, Elizabeth Suzedell on piano and Antonio Alves, Jessica Sweeney and Adam McGhee on guitar.