



WINNERS

A Word from our Pastor

Carol Steinbrecher

When you think you can't make a difference, that you *don't* make a difference, that your efforts are going unnoticed and unappreciated, reflect upon this.

One Solitary Life

"He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. he grew up in still another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30. And then for three years, He was an itinerant preacher.

He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family. He never owned a house. He never went to college. He never visited a big city. He never travelled more than 200 miles from the place he was born. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

He was only thirty-three when the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. his friends ran away. he was turned over to



His enemies, and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves.

While He was dying, His executioners gambled for His clothing, the only property He had on earth. When He was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave

through the pity of a friend. Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today, he is a central figure of the human race, a leader of mankind's progress.

All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of human beings on earth as much as that One Solitary Life."

We live in a broken world filled with chaos, pain, and suffering. It can be overwhelming and discouraging

sometimes. We also live in a world filled with beauty, kindness, and love, that inspires and lifts us when we least expect it, and often when we most need it.

We hear and read about Jesus and it is intimidating! We think that we can't make a difference in the way that he did, but we can. Because Jesus changed the world, one heart at a time.

We can do that.

Each one of us has the power to change someone's day, change someone's mood, change someone's mind, change someone's life...often in ways we can't see or even know about.

If we live our lives with hope in God, cultivating Christ's peace in our hearts, celebrating with Joy the gift of each day, and offering love to all of our brothers and sisters....

All of us together, we *will* make a difference.

We *will* change the world...
...one heart at a time.

STATE OF THE CHURCH

**Sunday January 10:
"State of the Church" Meeting**

One year ago, we decided to participate in the Crossroads: New Beginnings program. We decided to embark on a journey of faithful exploration, not quite sure where we are going or where we are going to end up. The promise and hope of success is keeping us pressing onward. Each day we offer our gifts, our time, our talents, and our tithes, and we push on doing what we can do to make a difference in our community.

The Stewards have been making progress on many priority building projects. The Deacons have been faithfully meeting to enhance our worship and fellowship. We have been exploring what it would take for us to take over the West Roxbury food pantry that closed in August. The Council has been discussing how we can expand toward a discipleship model of being together where our shared mission and ministry help us to prioritize how we utilize our resources. We can't do all that we used to do, but there is still plenty of meaningful work and service to be done.

In order to get the whole church on the same page, the Council is planning a "State of the Church" presentation for Sunday, January 10. We will have a shortened time of worship and then remain in the Sanctuary for a Council presentation and a time for questions after. Please mark your calendars and do your best to attend this important event. The Council is trying to develop a plan for how we can streamline our budgeting process and how we can restructure to best utilize our limited human

resources and prioritize our most important projects and ministries.

If you were unable to attend on Sunday, you can view the presentation slides by clicking [here](#) or contacting Pastor Carol.

THE PERFECT GIFT

Relieves Tension - Improves Blood Flow
 Reduces Stress - Non- Polluting
 Helps Self-Esteem -Generates Good Will

No Batteries Required
 Absolutely No Cost
 Non-Taxable
 Silent Performance
 Extremely Personal
 Fully Returnable

- A HUG !!
 (Get One Today)

Recommended for ages 1 to 100 and up
 Submitted by Bud Waite

January Birthdays	
8th	Eve Anna Rosskothén
10th	Angela Ortiz
22th	Emily Parla
25th	Evelyn Ortiz
27th	Andrea Faust
29th	Noah Tedesco
30th	Tom Parla
31st	Zac Our

IMAGES FROM OUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



October to December 2015 Mission Report

*Courtesy of Nancy Eng
Mission Financial Consultant*

ABC of MA - United Mission Basic - \$600
 MACUCC - United Mission Basic - \$900
 Help A Child - \$240.
 Gordon College/Leah Abercrombie
 Irish Mission -\$105
 Pastor's Discretionary Fund - \$450

Special collections:

ABC of MA - World Mission \$176.50
 MACUCC - Neighbors in Need \$176.50

Annual donations to:

Boston Rescue Mission \$200
 Casa Myrna Vasquez \$100
 Free Wheelchair Mission \$100,
 Roslindale Food Pantry \$150
 Future for Farato \$100
 The Way Up \$200.

The Deacons Fund donated \$500 each to ABC of MA and MSCUCC to support their respective Retired Ministers program.

WE ARE THE CHURCH WHEN WE SHARE ONE ANOTHER'S CONCERNS



Keep in your Prayers:

Diana McNamara who had a bad cold.

Evelyn Ortiz asked prayers for her neighbor, Dr. David McCarthy.

Michael Yaffe asks for prayers for 402nd Forward Surgical Unit, his unit in Afghanistan returning home in January and the 912th FST, the unit he trained in Miami, replacing the 402nd in January.

Judy Tucker asked for prayers for her sister-in-law, Ginny, who is back in the hospital with complications that are making it difficult to identify a course of treatment.

Pastor Carol asked prayers for the Sullivan family. Their son, Zackery is friends with Melanie, and his Mom, Cheryl, died on Christmas Eve. She had been sick with a rare cancer but we were all praying she would have more time with her family.

We mourn the death of Sung-Yun's 2 year old patient who did not survive the infection he contracted after his bone marrow transplant. We pray for his parents. We pray for Sung-Yun and her colleagues who work with such heart in the care of these sick children. Sung-Yun had returned early from her trip to Florida and was grateful she could be with him and his parents when he passed.

We mourned the death of George and Stella Moseley and held a celebration of their lives together on Tuesday, December 1st.

Prayers for Greta's coach, Mo Hamel.

Prayers for Judy Jose-Roddy's brother and sister-in-law, both recovering from surgery.

Prayers for Michael's Uncle Fred and his friend Alex Qeral.

Prayers for Leah Abercrombie as she prepares for her mission trip.

Prayers for Nadia's Dad, Sam Tammo, and her sister, Nada.

WE ARE THE CHURCH WHEN WE SHARE ONE ANOTHER'S JOYS

In December:

We celebrated that Indra's 10 year-old great-niece is 5 years cancer free!!

We celebrated that Jeanne Gavrilles is home from her son's after recuperating from her hospital stay.

We celebrated that Bei's sister had a tumor removed and is now cancer free. We pray that the cancer does not return again.

We celebrate with Dawn McNamara on the good news that her son has been accepted to his first-choice college in Texas. We wish him safe journey.

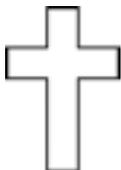
We celebrated that both Gussie and Jeanne were able to join us for our Christmas Eve service, many thanks to Jeanne's niece, Amanda!

Pastor Carol gave thanks for everyone's prayers for her brother, Marc and his family. He has gotten a large customer which means a regular pay check, and his wife, Katharyn earned her Real Estate certificate and sold her first house! They are grateful for our prayers.

We celebrate that Greta Minos' cousin Trisha, is moving back to Massachusetts.

We celebrated that Glenn was once again voted one of Boston's top docs!

SEND A CARD



We continue to hold Sue Robison in our prayers as she rests at home after keeping vigil with her Uncle, George Moseley, in his last days. She is resuming chemotherapy treatments. If you want to send her a card, her address is: 1327 Phillips Street, Vista, CA 92083.