Mattapoisett Congregational Church

"Coming Home" Community Series

Location:

Mattapoisett Congregational Church 27 Church St. Mattapoisett, MA 02739 "Serving our community since 1736" www.mattapoisettcongregationalchurch.org

About Our Community Series

The **Reverend Amy Lignitz Harken**, will be away on sabbatical through the beginning of November. This is a special time of renewal for our minister and her family.

This is also a special time for our congregation as we explore our community: the history, the land and the church's role as the heartbeat of the town with a focus on the interests of current and future generations.

Mattapoisett Congregational Church strives to be a positive, joyful, compassionate, inspiring presence. It is with this purpose that

We invite the entire community to join us in a variety of free activities intended to re-discover our shared heritage.

Please join us on July 24 at 9 a.m. for the sabbatical send-off service at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church. We will be wishing Rev. Amy and her family blessings & safe travels. A light brunch will be served in Reynard hall immediately following the service. All are welcomed to attend.

July / August Events

"Coming Home To Church"

Home Scoop Series

All ages are invited to these free, family-friendly events on the church lawn, Wednesdays, 5-7 p.m. Enjoy ice-cream, entertainment and fellowship. Bring your own picnic.

July 27 - Old Fashioned Games & Stories with the Mattapoisett Historical Society. "Making History Come Alive".

Aug 3 - **Storytelling and Song:** Engaging and artful way to hear Bible stories by the Rev. Bert Marshall, UCC Pastor, lifelong storyteller, musician, and songwriter.

Aug 10 - **Storytelling:** Sharing God's word through creative parable skits by H.O.P.E. Youth Puppet Ministry from Norwell Congregational Church.

Aug 20 - Nature Walk, Grace Pond & Preserve (located at the end of Bowman Rd), co-hosted by the Mattapoisett Land Trust. Walk a mile on easy trails. Bring water, bug spray, camera, shoes/ boots and wear long pants. Meet at the Barstow St. church parking lot for 2:15 p.m. Walk from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Free.

September Events

Sept 11 - **Homecoming Annual Celebration by the Sea**. All are invited to 10 a.m. worship at Ned's Point. Special Homecoming message from Rev. Don Remick, Associate Conference Minister of the United Church of Christ, Massachusetts Conference. Music by the Bob Williamson Brass Ensemble. Cook out to follow. Free.

Afternoon Community Lecture at 5 p.m Reynard Hall. Rev. Remick discusses the historic role of churches today and in the future. Free.

Sept 22 - **Opiate Abuse and Prevention community outreach presentation**. All community members are invited to learn about opiate addiction and how we can fight this growing problem. "Physicians and Nurses to Prevent Opiate Abuse" will present 7 p.m. in Reynard Hall. Free event. **Please register**.

Sept 24 - Nature Walk, Munn Preserve (adjacent to Antassawamock) co- hosted by the Mattapoisett Land Trust. A moderately difficult 2-3 mile walk on gravel or dirt trails, ending at Brandt Island Cove. Wear long pants, bring water, bug spray, camera, sturdy shoes/boots. Meet at the Barstow St. church parking lot at 2pm. Walk from 2:15 - 4:30 p.m. Free

October Events

Oct 1 - "Coming Home to Self" community workshop. Everyone wants to "follow their bliss," or "discover their life purpose". Even if you don't have a faith tradition, this is a spiritual journey and an exploration inward. This free workshop will help you re-discover what makes your heart sing and your spirit soar. Led by Rev. Cynthia Good who is a spiritual director, retreat leader, mother, kayaker and Mattapoisett resident. The workshop will be held at Reynard Hall, time TBD. Please register.

Oct 9 - Missions Sunday worship will special pulpit guest the Rev. June Cooper, Executive Director of the City Mission Boston. In the sanctuary, 10 a.m., followed by a reception and "missions fair", with representatives from church-supported organizations.

Oct 25 - "Going Home to God" - "What if" community workshop led by Gwen W. Morgan from 6-7p.m. in Reynard Hall. Gwen has been involved with the elderly and hospice for many years, thus seeing the importance of being organized about personal affairs. The presentation focuses on the issue of accountability and how we can put our personal affairs and final wishes in order as a Gift of Preparedness to those who may be affected by life changes. Free. Please register.

November Events

Nov 13 -Rev. Amy and Bruce return for 10 a.m. Worship Service. Join us for this special time of sharing followed by a light brunch.

Nov 19 - All Church post- sabbatical workshop. We invited our whole community to "Come Home to Church" during our sabbatical, and we invited ourselves to re-imagine who we are and can be as church. The workshop is the time to explore what we learned as a congregation. We will discuss a variety of topics such as: Are there lessons we can carry into the future? Are there ways to keep the momentum and ways in which we can be more responsive to the community and what that would take? Time, location and facilitator TBD.

To register for community workshops please e-mail or call: mattcong@verizon.net

508-758-2671