



Have We Got Trouble?

No, Not Really. So Let the Trombones and Cornets Sound!

By Bill McIvor

It was too hot to sleep the other night and to while away the wee hours I happened to find on TV the 1962 classic musical, “The Music Man” starring Robert Preston and Shirley Jones. Its big song was the grand march: “Seventy-six trombones led the big parade, with a hundred and ten cornets close at hand.”

You remember the story. In July 1912 a “traveling salesman” named Prof. Harold Hill arrives in River City, Iowa, intrigued by the challenge of flimflaming the famously stubborn natives of “I-O-Way” out of their hard-earned dollars.

Prof. Hill swindles the good folk of River City by insisting that their kids have loose morals because of the new pool hall in town.

*Trouble, oh we got trouble,
Right here in River City!
With a capital “T”
That rhymes with “P”
And that stands for Pool, ...
We’ve surely got trouble!
Right here in River City, ...
Gotta figger out a way
To keep the young ones moral after school!*

So Prof. Hill cons the River City citizens into paying him to create a boy’s marching band, including instruments, uniforms, and music instruction. Once he gets the money and the instruments and uniforms arrive, he intends to hop the next train out of town, leaving them without their money or a band. (Of course, Prof. Hill falls in love with Marion the Librarian and presumably gives up his swindling ways. But that’s a story for

another day.) Back to “Oh, we got trouble.”

Have you ever noticed how a lot of charities raise money by constantly saying “we’ve got trouble”? Merrie and I give most of our charitable giving to the church. But we support other causes too and (too) often their appeals are all about trouble. I don’t doubt their great need. But sometimes they could just say “thanks for helping” and leave it at that for awhile.

Last November during our stewardship campaign, I said to you, “Despite the bad economy, I’m not worried about our church because God is faithful and you are faithful.” Someone commented later that perhaps I was overly confident. I don’t think so.

God is faithful *and* you are faithful. Yes, we did make difficult but prudent cuts in the annual operating budget. And we are doing okay. Most everyone is current in their giving. People are paying the second year of their capital pledges. Newly renovated facilities are appearing before our eyes. And in another month we pay off the 20-year mortgage that funded the Fellowship Hall and Chapel expansion.

So no con and no trouble. Just **THANK YOU!**





"Alive with the Sound of Music"

By Peter Raymond

I wanted to reflect upon our common encounter this past Sunday (July 19th). That experience, to my way of thinking, profoundly circumscribed who we are as it prefigured who we may become. Setting aside the less than poetically cooperative geodesic configuration of the Sudbury River Valley — the "hills" between PCIS and Wingate Nursing Home were that day vibrantly "alive with the sound of music." We all sang. We all sang hymns. Some of us with more ostensible (and understandable) vocal enthusiasm than others but each of us with an engagement and an embrace which was intense, lovely and powerfully spiritual. As we lifted our hearts and voices (frequently both) in the sacred poetry and melodies of beloved standards — we expressed a love indelibly imprinted on our hearts and there embraced spiritually. We didn't study, theologize, systematize or ruminate about the place of the pious or the domain of the devout. We didn't define it — we just joyfully *did* it. Good for us. Good for the prospect of spiritual health and well being. Good for God and praise to the One of Infinite Grace.

We were joined in our "Hymn Sing" with disciples from the earliest of Christian times who relied upon the Psalter (Prayers) and other poetic passages of Holy Writ for inspiration and direction in the adoring and praising God. While God's Word is decidedly central to worship — *prayer is at the heart of worship*.

Along the way of our "Hymn Sing" were enlightened and lightened to discover Luther's "Battle Hymn of the Reformation"¹ — the only hymn most Christians (probably) know by heart (at least the first verse)² — the last of the "Crusaders Hymns"³ — a hymn sung in a tiny congregational church on Long Island at the

1 *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* (1529) — Martin Luther — (paraphrase of Psalm 46)
 2 *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty* (1861) — John Bacchus Dykes
 3 *Fairest Lord Jesus* (1671) — authorship still unsettled

of the outbreak of hostilities in the American Revolution in direct and open defiance of Hessian demands that the parishioners sing "God Save the King"⁴ — and a poignant composition of arguably America's most prolific of hymnodist (800+ including *Blessed Assurance* and *Tell Me The Story of Jesus*), professor and soloist at President Grant's funeral — who (following a childhood farm accident) — remained sightless her entire life.⁵



But far more important than the anecdotal embellishments was our reaction of a people in covenant and community. As we fulfilled the admonition of ancient scripture — *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth — Worship the Lord with gladness — come into his presence with singing* (Psalm 100) — I sensed a burgeoning joy permeating the sanctuaries both at PCIS and Wingate. I felt a flowing intensity and a lessening of barriers which so often accompany perceptions of "personal space." I perceived harmony and a ripening eagerness to embrace each other as we engaged the God of all.

Most of all I sensed an aura of joy which I can only envision as the pleasure of being in communion with God and God's creation. I felt us being renewed, lifted and built up — empowered and emboldened — drawn close to God. That, friends, is as good as it gets on this walk of faith we tread. I urge us to "sing a long" again — soon, often and regularly.

And I commend unto us all the joy and blessing in all of that as we glorify God and enjoy God forever. Blessings.

4 *Come Thou Almighty King* (1769) — Felice deGiardini

5 *To God Be The Glory* (1875) — Fanny Jane Crosby

Pastoral Care

Vacation time is here and Susan DeHoff is enjoying hers now! She looks forward to resuming her column in September.



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What's In a Color?

What's in a color? Actually quite a lot, especially when it relates to the redesign of our church's interior colors! Early this year, the Session's Shepherding Team was asked to be responsible for the selection of colors and furnishings as part of the PCIS Capital Campaign. The team, Dave Hamel (chair), Christine Clark, Jack Kaiser, Tom Shineman and Peter Welsh have met regularly. Our decisions have been guided by the assistance of a professional interior decorator.



Warm green tone accents stained-glass window

The feelings expressed in the 2008 *Survey of Congregational Life* weighed importantly in our color selection for walls and carpeting. Greens, yellows and earth tones prevail because of the survey's results. "Attracting new members" was the number one area of congregational life needing improvement. Hence, the warmth of green on accent walls, below the chair rail in the Fellowship Hall, and the predominant carpet color. Eighty-five percent of survey respondents felt that "PCIS is appropriately warm and welcoming" ... hence yellow in muted and bolder shades.

In response to areas of congregational life in which we excel, a very close second to "Preaching" was "Outreach and Service/Mission." That is why we chose earth and baked clay tones in certain insets and cushion/window treatments. Speaking of preaching, we didn't mess with tradition or success. The Sanctuary paint will be freshened and slightly warmed ... but still in white.



Upstairs hall in progress!

Selecting carpeting is tough! We



New look - Warm colors, new bench, new doors!

staircase from the entryway. Good quality but less expensive compatible carpeting will go in offices, the Chapel, and the tower staircase.

As this is written, the various interior painting projects will be completed by mid-August. We hope to have all carpeting down by Labor Day. In the meantime, we appreciate the patience and support of the PCIS congregation as we introduce these needed improvements.

Your Capital Campaign Dollars At Work - Outside!



Fellowship Hall makeover - new paint and counter!

No doubt you noticed the large lift truck in the parking lot. Yes, it is for the long anticipated exterior work now in progress! We expect most of the work will be completed by the end of August. (Exterior painting depends on good weather!). The overall objective is to address the obvious (and not so obvious) effects of time and weather on the building and to provide a clean to overall look to the church. The work includes replacing weathered items (i.e. all rotten wood-work, thermoplastic material protecting stained glass windows, ornate moldings, and screening and railing on bell tower), power washing vinyl siding, painting all woodwork, and replacing the exterior doors facing the parking lot (which may take a bit longer.) Thanks for your patience during this project! If you have any questions, please contact Karen Penn Quinlan (karen@thequinlans.com or 978-897-4061) or Trevor Haydon (megtrev@msn.com or 978-443-3364).

The Session

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PCIS News and Announcements



Framingham Resource Center's Back to School Program Needs Sponsors!

The first day of school is a big day! For many children it is one filled with dread, because they know that they won't have the new things (backpacks, folders, etc) that other children do. Please help alleviate this problem by sponsoring a disadvantaged child. You will receive a profile of your child along with requested items that are needed for their grade. Your contribution will help provide a child, living locally, with a good start to the school year while putting a smile on their face that first day of school. The sign-up sheet will be posted in the front foyer.

Galveston, Here We Come!



On August 8th, the Youth Gone South mission team will leave for Galveston, a hurricane-ravaged portion of Texas hit hard by Hurricane Ike last year. Our full complement of youth and adult leaders will spend a week working on labor-intense hurricane sites that desperately need attention. We thank all of you who have supported this mission trip and helped make it possible for us to do some much-needed work!

Publicity Coordinator Wanted!



A volunteer is needed to help coordinate announcements to the community. It requires minimal time and is a wonderful opportunity to get more involved! There are many local community mailings and newspapers that welcome announcements and general information from churches and we would love to take advantage of this opportunity. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information, please contact Dave Hamel at 978-579-9551 or dhamel@arizant.com.

Paint Fumes Warning



The Sanctuary will be painted during the week of August 10-14. We expect to hold morning worship in the Sanctuary on August 16th. However, lingering paint fumes may still be relatively noticeable on that Sunday. If such might cause you discomfort, please plan accordingly.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

We all enjoy flowers in the Sanctuary during worship. It is a special way to honor or remember a loved one. The sign up sheet is posted in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$35.00. Please contact Jane Dossett for more information at 508-820-7219 or janedossett@comcast.net.

Help Bring New Life to Our Banners!



If you are handy with a glue gun, have a good eye for color, or even know how to work a sewing machine? We could use your help! Possibilities are literally endless and no skill set is too small. Lively conversation and fellowship are sure to fall in naturally as well. Interested? Please contact Allison Latta (978-443-9678 or ablatta@comcast.net.)

We Need You to Start Up the Coffee!



Please consider volunteering to "host" this important time of fellowship immediately following the 10:00am worship service! The sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall with a full set of guidelines posted. For questions, contact Christine Clark (978-443-8417 or christineclark_us@yahoo.com).

The Board of Deacons

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What's Happening in August

Salvation Army Dinner Friday, August 14th, 6:00pm

The Salvation Army in Framingham provides meals to those in need nearly every night of the week. Along with many other Churches in the area, PCIS donates dinner on a regular basis. Join us in this great opportunity to do something tangible and provide for others who have a lot less than you. It is very satisfying! Recipes and a sign-up sheet is posted in Fellowship Hall. You can make a meal or serve.



WORSHIP at WINGATE

Ministry at Wingate Sunday, August 16th, 1:00pm

Please join us for Worship at Wingate. This ministry is dependent upon volunteers. The commitment is approximately one hour a month. If you can help, please contact Peter Raymond at 978-443-9151.

Meetings and Events

- | | | |
|-------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| August 2 | 10:00am | Dr. Mclvor, preaching |
| | 7:00pm | Senior High Youth Group |
| August 3 | 7:00pm | Session Meeting |
| August 8 | 7:00pm | Duplicate Bridge |
| August 8-16 | | Youth Gone South Mission Trip |
| August 9 | 10:00am | Peter Raymond, preaching |
| | 12:00pm | Trustees Meeting |
| | 7:00pm | Senior High Youth Group |
| August 14 | 8:30am | Shepherding Team |
| | 6:00pm | Salvation Army Dinner |
| August 16 | 10:00am | Rev. Risley, preaching |
| | 12:00pm | Mission Team Meeting |
| | 1:00pm | Ministry at Wingate |
| August 23 | 10:00am | Dr. Mclvor, preaching |
| | 7:00pm | Senior High Youth Group |
| August 30 | 10:00am | Peter Raymond, preaching |
| | 7:00pm | Senior High Youth Group |

If you are currently receiving the newsletter in your mailbox and would like to help us save paper and postage, please sign up to receive it by email! Contact Donya Platt in the office and let her know (978-443-9151x10



Save Paper! Let Us Mail Your Newsletter!

or pcsudbury@
pcsudbury.org).

Master Calendar: Our calendar is online! Check it regularly for updates at <www.pcsudbury.org>. For assignments, feel free to stop by the office and check the bulletin board or call the office at 978-443-9151.

Newsletter Deadline: The deadline for all submissions to the September PCIS Newsletter is Wednesday, August 19th. Please mark your calendars. Feel free to call 978-443-9151 if you have questions.



Summer Schedule will run through the summer up to and including Start Up Sunday, September 13th and returning to the two service schedule along with Education and Programming on September 20th.

We Sang,
We Ate,
We Played!



On July 19th,
we gathered

together and lifted our voices in praise singing over 30 hymns all chosen by you during a special worship service! Afterwards, we gathered outside for a potluck barbecue and fellowship and enjoyed the gorgeous day. Some even joined in a whiffle ball game! Many thanks to all who provided the delicious side dishes! And thanks also to Dave, Lynne, and Doug Hamel and Peter Welsh for working hard at the grill!



Community Events

E-waste
Recycling
Day in
Sudbury!

On August
15th, a

collection of various electronics for recycling will be gathered from 9:00am-3:00pm in the parking lot behind PCIS and the Sudbury Town Hall. Small fees will be charged for disposal of items such as computers, monitors and parts, televisions, miscellaneous electronics, appliances, and car batteries. A donation from the proceeds of this independently run environmental project will be given to PCIS. If you have questions, please contact Dennis Wood at denwaynewood@yahoo.com or 508-277-7513.

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