



Annual Meeting: Treasure in clay jars



Clay jars.

For their 26 hours together, the 500 attendees of the Massachusetts Conference Annual Meeting in June were surrounded by clay jars.

Humble containers. Cracked pots.

And together they wrestled with the idea that God chose such humble, imperfect vessels in which to hold treasure.

Get a feel for the meeting - through articles, video and pictures by visiting macucc.org/2015am.

What you'll find:

VIDEOS: Watch *Treasure in Clay Jars* Testimonials - by a homeless woman whose life was turned around; by a pastor whose church was transformed by reading the Bible; by a minister touched by a parishioner's change of heart.

ARTICLES: Read about Keynote Speaker Nadia Bolz-Weber's take on the postmodern church.

VOTES: Find votes that were taken on issues including Mass Incarceration, the Israel-Palestine conflict, the Craigville Retreat Center and more.

READ & WATCH: Minister & President Jim Antal's sermon.

Summer, 2015 This & other versions available at: macucc.org/download.

Mass. Synod delegates blog about experiences



A group of 27 lay and clergy delegates from across the Massachusetts Conference recently traveled to Cleveland for the United Church of Christ's 30th General Synod, the denomination's biennial national meeting and gathering.

A number of delegates blogged about their experiences, writing on everything from trying out a solitary confinement unit, to wondering when it is appropriate to vote via secret ballot, to being surrounded by folks from the wider church when the Supreme Court legalized same gender marriage across the nation.

Read their posts at: macucc.org/synodblog. Read resolutions passed at the meeting, view videos and more at: synod.uccpages.org

Upcoming Events

Crossroads: Come & See Events

Saturday, Aug. 15

10 AM - Noon: Union Church in Waban

2:30-4:30 PM: Edwards Church, Northampton

Is your church lacking in vision? Dealing with a thin budget or dwindling participation? Seeking a renewed sense of purpose? Crossroads is a Conference ministry designed for congregations that find themselves at a crossroads and want to intentionally discern their path forward by entering into an intentional season of assessment, discernment, bold decision-making and implementation. Find out more at one of these free Come & See events: macucc.org/crossroads



Find a complete list of Conference events at: macucc.org/events

Rooted in the grace of God, the mission of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ is to nurture local church vitality and the covenant among our churches to make God's love and justice real.