

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2026



From Woody: I wanted just to mention two special people in the last week of Black History Month. The first is Rosa Parks, who of course famously refused to give up her seat in the white section of a Montgomery bus and was arrested. This really was the beginning of the modern day Civil Rights Movement. Dr. Martin Luther King was chosen for the movement that organized a boycott of the buses in Montgomery and moved on to lead the movement throughout the South. When I was doing radio in the '90's, I arranged to do a telephone interview with Mrs. Parks, who was living in Detroit. When I called, she was a bit confused but as soon as I asked her to describe that event she was as clear as a bell as to what happened 40 years before. It was a great honor to talk to her.

The other person I want to mention just died within the past few days....Rev. Jesse Jackson, who ran for President in 1984. There was a debate in Hanover, and Barbi and I were up there with George McGovern. We met Jesse when he came onto the elevator with an entourage. He asked a black lady on the elevator why she was wearing a Fritz Hollings button and she said she worked for him. When the elevator stopped, Jesse led the whole group to Senator Hollings room, knocked on the door, and when Peatsy Hollings opened the door, they hugged. When the Senator came out, Jesse said, "Fritz get your button off of her, she's mine." We all broke up laughing, including the Senator and his wife. Jesse did the same thing a half an hour later when Barbi and I were on the elevator and she had on a McGovern button. I said "Jesse, you worked for the Senator in 1972 didn't you?" He replied, "Yeah, I worked for the Godfather." He was a good friend of George and Eleanor and often stayed at their home when he came to Washington. He was a great speaker, got a standing ovation at the end of every speech by finishing with a raising of his hands which got everyone on their feet and thus, he always got a standing ovation. He worked with Dr. King and was with him when he was shot. He got US soldiers released during the Gulf War with his diplomacy in the Middle East. He organized an active Civil and Human Rights organization in Chicago.

It was a great honor to speak both with Mrs. Parks and with Rev. Jesse Jackson. They are two of many people who changed America in the Civil Rights movement. Despite efforts to end the study of Black History in schools, we need to remember a courageous group of leaders and foot soldiers that made our land a far better place with their nonviolent courage. They took Jesus' teachings to the streets. Many went to jail and far too many were killed by the Ku Klux Klan and other racists, some of whom were the police. Let's keep Black History alive so we never forget a very crucial part of our history.



Peace Quote: "We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence." *Rev Jesse Jackson*



A Lenten Garden: Lent is a special time of reflection and prayer, in preparation for the events of Holy Week. This year we are honoring this time with a “Lenten garden” in the front of the sanctuary. It is looking great. Thank you to those have contributed their plants. We will gladly accept more contributions, if you would like add to the garden. Any questions? Ask Ellen Anderson or Janet White. andersel@njms.rutgers.edu, cell 973-747-2321



Sewing class: Interested in learning basic sewing skills? Then please join Kristi Citak and Judy Hull on Saturday, February 28 and March 28, from 10am-12:00pm in the Dignard room. We would love to hear what you want to learn as well. Some of you may learn how to make dresses for our Dress a girl dress making. HOW exciting would that be. I will have a sign up in the hallway. See Kristi or Judy.



Gail Cousins: The Celebration of Gail Cousins' life will be Sunday, March 29 at 1pm.



Lenten Pilgrimage: Many thanks to Dawn Sweet and a good turnout for an inspiring hour on Sunday afternoon. She will be back to take the “pilgrim travelers” to the Iron Cross, through organ music, on Palm Sunday, March 29, 3:00 pm.



SOUP-ER BINGO NIGHT

Community Church of New Boston

Saturday, March 14
5:30pm Soup
6:15pm BINGO

ALL AGES WELCOME!
Price: \$15 adults, \$10 kids
includes soup, drink, dessert, and
BINGO cards



We are looking for donations of a crockpot of soup (including ingredients), desserts, any items for prizes and help for setup, bingo and cleanup. :-) The signups are in the hallway or they can email me - sailkat@comcast.net.



QR Code: You can use the QR code to pay your pledge or other contribution—or click on the link: <https://www.zeffy.com/enUS/donationform/e47ab025-f0b0-40b4-90e6f262bb1a29e1>