



The Witness

Fall 2015 Edition

WINTHROP CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

10 Bowdoin Street, Winthrop, ME 04364

Tel: (207) 377-2063

E-mail: wccucc@fairpoint.net

Web Page: www.wccucc.org

Minister: Pastor Chrissy Cataldo Music Director: Rosalea Kimball Office Administrator: Cyndi Hall
Witness Editor: Dana Hall



Pastor's Reflections

Friends and Members of Winthrop Congregational Church UCC,

Did you know that 18 year-olds who are entering college this year probably have never used a rotary phone? They don't know what dial you're talking about when you say, "Don't touch that dial!" They have always been able to download music from the internet. They have no idea what a Sears Big Book is. They have never known a Communist Russia. They probably have never heard of Michael Jordan. They are completely unsurprised to see women on the Supreme Court, commanding warships, and serving as pastors.¹

Did you also know that, of the students in this age group who were active in churches as children and teens, between 40 and 50 percent of them will not stick with a faith community once they begin college? We here at Winthrop Congregational UCC already work to make sure that our kids are an integrated part of our church life right now. How can we also help to inspire them to carry that gift of faith beyond this church, as they graduate and move into their adult lives?

I have recently read some research that says that one key to fostering a sticky faith is developing intergenerational relationships in the church.²

Here are some examples of ways that churches have developed these kinds of relationships:

- Invite youth and children to read Scripture, lead worship, or sing in the choir
- Have an adult class and children's Sunday School class join together for Bible study a couple times per year
- Encourage older children to become mentors and helpers to younger children
- Have adults show up at church and community activities that the kids are involved in
- Adults are asked to meet a few times per year with a youth over a mutual interest (cooking, gardening, geology)



¹ This information is from the Beloit College Mindset List:
<https://www.beloit.edu/mindset/previouslists/2015/>.

² Kara Powell, Brad Griffin and Cheryl Crawford, "The Church Sticking Together: The Vital Role of Intergenerational Relationships in Fostering Sticky Faith," can be accessed at <http://stickyfaith.org/articles/the-church-sticking-together#fn-1-a>

This church already regularly shows up at the sports games and plays that our youth are in. I also see you talking with kids after church at fellowship hour. I urge you to build on the work that you are already doing and take the initiative to get to know our young people better. Seek them out, and develop a relationship with them and their parents. Try to learn something about them that you didn't already know. Help them to feel sought after by the adults in the congregation and work to be a model of how to actually apply your faith to your everyday life. The research I read challenged churches to create an environment where each child has a significant relationship with five adults in the church (outside of their own family). I say, let's take that challenge. Let's each find a way to Be One of the Five. Our church will be stronger for it today, and it will deepen the faith lives of our kids and our adults in the years to come. Be One of the Five. Help us foster a faith that sticks.

Glad to be on the journey with you,
Pastor Chrissy

Upcoming Events

† **Aug 23:** Worship at 9:30 am. **Also a Special Second Worship Service at Whispering Pines** at 5:00 pm - Bring a folding chair if you have one. Summer Casual. Contact the church office if you need directions or wish to car pool from the church.

† **Aug 30: Blessing of the Back Packs & Lesson Plans**
Worship at 9:30 Pastor Chrissy will be blessing the backpacks and lesson plans as children and teachers prepare to return to school activities. Bring your backpacks (and lesson plans) with you!



† **Sep 6:** Worship at 9:30 am

† **Sep 11: Fish Chowder Luncheon**

† **Sep 13 Rally Day:** Worship at **10:00 am** beginning of this year's Sunday School classes

† **Oct 3:** 4th Annual Pie Sale

† **Oct 4: World Communion Sunday and Deacons' Love Fund Collection** –
Worship at 10:00 am

† **Oct 9: Fish Chowder Luncheon**

† **Church Camp Close Up on Saturday, Oct 10 (tentative date):** 9 am- noon – help close up Whispering Pines for the winter.

† **Oct 16-17: Maine Conference Annual Meeting** at South Parish Church in Augusta

† **Nov 1: All Saints Day** – Worship at 10:00 am

† **Nov 8: Stewardship Sunday** – Worship at 10:00 am

† **Nov 13: Fish Chowder Luncheon**

† **Nov 26: Happy Thanksgiving!**

Wi-Fi available at WCC- contact the church office for details



CE Matters

Rally Sunday will be September 13th and we have been preparing all summer and are looking forward to a great Sunday School year. We will have several Godly Play lessons planned and all materials ready – if you would like to present a lesson to the children let us know. We would appreciate any help.



As you know we are losing a Board Member. We wish to thank Roxanne French for all of her hard work and guidance. Her gifts are greatly appreciated and we wish her the best in her next endeavor.

Board of Christian Education

News from the BCCC

The Board of Church and Community Concerns will begin its Fall Activities with the Stewardship Drive. Margaret Imber will be leading us with this year's theme, "Trust in the Promise".

Please, remember those in our community who do not have enough to eat and give generously to our local food bank. Last spring, JoEllen Cottrell started sending backpacks home once a week with school children identified by their teachers as not having enough to eat on weekends. We are now sending 48 backpacks home with parents who come to the food bank to pick them up. JoEllen expects that number will rise now school is starting. It is difficult to believe that in "this land of plenty" so many children are hungry.

Carol Whittier

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild held a social for all the ladies in the church at Whispering Pines on August 6th. It was a little too windy for kayaking so several ladies visited in the sun on the dock! Later in the afternoon, Marie and Cyndi got everybody involved in a game of Cornhole! An early supper of strawberry soup, hot dogs, sandwiches, pizza, casseroles, and potato salad was followed by blueberry cake, fruit and s' mores.

Our next meeting will be held at Ronda Watson's on September 24th. Ginger Smith will host our October 22nd meeting.

Prayer shawls were given to Ginny Webb, Dale Ashby and Lee Gilman to give them comfort as they recovered from accidents and illnesses.

Carol Whittier

Conference Dues

Each year every UCC church pays an assessment per member to the Maine Conference. The collected amount is used to support the Maine Conference office, some supports the Kennebec Valley Association, some supports the National Conference, and some supports mission work. To help our church pay this assessment, please contribute the \$15 fee per active member if you are able and willing to do so. Please identify your gift as "conference dues". Thank you for your continued support. Mike Burns

From the Treasurer

Good news! Year to date (as of July), we've kept our expenses low in spite of some unexpected costs like snow removal, the robbery, not to mention the leaky roof. YTD



Total Expenses are below budget by \$3,224. We've also been very generous with our special offerings; checks were sent to the following ministries in June: Food Pantry (\$75), OGHS (\$573), and Blankets (\$240). It should also be highlighted that we have collected YTD in 2015 almost \$1,000 more in Special Collections than was collected in 2014 at this time. Unfortunately as of July, we are behind in our offerings and pledges and total income is behind projections by \$2,598. It will be important to meet or surpass our income projections and manage our expenses throughout the remainder of the year so we can continue all the great work we've been doing in serving our community and supporting our missions.

From the Moderator

I cannot believe that this is now just past mid-August and this is the fall edition of our newsletter. Where has the summer gone? We all pack in many activities while the weather is good, re-connect with family and take vacations or short trips. Our church stayed active by helping each other in times of need; providing for the community through donations to and working at the food bank; gifts made from the love fund; providing a gathering place; and raising money through fundraisers. We have an active fall ahead of us.

Within the newsletter, Ginger has provided a financial update to share where we are financially. We are well ahead of last year in special offerings! As she stated we are on track where we expect to be at this point in the year with expenses lower than anticipated. If you are like Debbie and I, we missed a few Sundays this summer and are a bit behind on our pledge. By us catching up and anyone else in the same situation, it will help the cash flow and make it easier for Ginger.

Our boards and committees are working together with Pastor Chrissy to provide meaningful worship and educational programs for adults and youth alike. We will hear from the Vision Communication Team this fall as Eric Conrad, Sharon Coulton, Connie Mayette and Ronda Watson have taken our survey comments and will make initial recommendations for consideration. The team has worked hard this summer and that is very much appreciated.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and see you this fall. Mike Burns

4th Annual Pie Sale is on October 3rd

Mark your calendars to join us early for the best selection of pies! We will again offer a wide variety of pies- dessert pies, as well as savory pies (quiche and meat pies), and have half-pies for those who prefer a smaller portion or like to try a sampling of many. This well-received fund raiser for our church depends on the generous donations of bakers in our church family. Please offer to make a pie or two for this community-appreciated fall happening! Debbie Burns



Historical Records Committee

The committee (Margaret Imber, Sandra Smith, Marie Hatfield, Marie Pettengill, Ann Mitchell, & me) has met six times this summer. We decided to begin by making an inventory of all the church's historical records. After the inventory is done, we plan to scan the documents to make them available online. We've enjoyed finding interesting tidbits of info about the church as well as finding old pictorial directories and membership lists. Cyndi Hall

Hannaford Gift Cards Sales



The sale of Hannaford gift cards is an on-going fundraiser for our church that is beginning its 5th year and to date, has earned \$10,325. Sales have been brisk through the summer months with \$2100 in cards being sold in 8-10 days or 2 Sundays. That is earnings of \$100 for the church at the completion of each sales campaign. For every purchase made, you are earning 5% for the church. Cards are available on Sundays after church and if needed, I will deliver or one can come by for a card. Carol Ellingwood

Fish Chowder Luncheons

As we enter the fall season, we start to think about cool weather meals. At WCC, we start planning for our monthly chowder luncheons that are held on the second Friday of each month (except December) and run through May. Our next luncheon is on September 11.

Fish is ordered and the rest of the chowder ingredients are supplied by members of the church. Items like crackers, pickles, punch and coffee are also solicited. Others willingly bake pies and biscuits for every luncheon, but if there are enough bakers, then someone will have a month off. There are always miscellaneous items needed such as paper supplies, take-out containers, foil, food wrappers, etc., that are donated. Any monetary donations are used to pay for the fish. Besides all that members donate, many put in a portion of a day working during the luncheon. The chowder cooks, take-out person, waiters, cashier, pie server, delivery person and the dishwasher all help in making it happen for this fund raiser.

We welcome anyone who would like to fill in as a food provider, baker or work at the luncheon. Unless it is a sell out, we all sit together and enjoy a full chowder luncheon after serving is over. We never mind just biscuits and pie if the pot is empty. It means a successful day!

This year we will have a big void! After 20 plus years of volunteering on the chowder luncheons, Charlie Gove has decided to retire from handling all the take-outs. Behind the scenes, Charlie, along with Mary when able, would set up all the tables and chairs on Thursday afternoon and then wash them and clean the surface areas in the kitchen. He would then set out all the supplies he needed for take-out the next morning. One would find him back in the kitchen by 7 a.m. the next morning preparing packets of food for the take-out boxes and wrapping biscuits for the oven. Always cheerful, he still found time to chat with the many he knew who came for lunch. After all those hours, he always saw the last of the workers out the door. You will be greatly missed, Charlie, but deserve that time for yourself, now. One deserves a break at 86!!

Carol Ellingwood

Next Newsletter Deadline: Tuesday, November 17, 2015

Word Search Puzzle

From www.geocities.com/lectionarypuzzles/
Free to distribute for free with this notice

Words in a straight line left to right or top to bottom

T H A V E A P W W
H O F U L L S I O
E W A R E L A S R
M A N I F O L D K
I N R S V R M O S
E A R T H D S M U
M A D E P Y O U R
C R E A T U R E S

Psalms 104:24 (NRSV): *O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.*

Word List



CREATURES MANIFOLD WISDOM PSALMS WORKS
EARTH YOUR THEM NRSV MADE LORD HAVE
FULL HOW ARE ALL OF IN

September Birthdays		September Anniversaries	
4	Lauren Hastings Ann Dooling	9/13/97 9/14	Ted LaCrone & Amy Tague Eric & Martha Payne
6	Marie Pettengill	9/16/67	Doug & Carol Whittier
9	Peter Coulton	9/20/53	Don & Gerry Edgar
12	Sue Poole	9/22/51	Charlie & Mary Gove
15	Megan Patterson		
17	Betty Evans Cyndi Hall Eric Nelson Ruby Nelson	9/23/72 9/25	Jeff & Anna Brown Milton & Pamela Hadley
19	Marlene Douglas		
21	Bob Morgner		
October Birthdays		October Anniversaries	
1	Sonny Maxim Christopher Martin-McNaughton	10/11/86	Tom & Kathy Irwin
11	Rick McNaughton		
16	Wendy Dennis Pamela Livingstone		
22	Joshua Martin-McNaughton		
24	Wendy Wagner		
26	Jamie Martin-McNaughton		
31	Ginger Smith		
November Birthdays		November Anniversaries	
7	Roger Hanson	11/12	Peter & Sharon Coulton
12	Pamela Hadley	11/19/60	Alfred & Marie Pettengill
13	Ted LaCrone	11/20	Tasha Dunn & Chrissy Cataldo
19	Sandra Smith		
21	Madeline Patterson		
22	Dana Hall		
25	Fred Douglas		
28	Melissa deWolfe		
29	Justin deWolfe Ginny Webb		

Check us out on

facebook

Visit us at

<http://tinurl.com/WCCUCC>

Photos from the Luncheon on the Lawn

