



The Witness

Summer 2016 Edition

WINTHROP CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

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Pastor's Reflections

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? ~ Proverbs 8:1

Given this week's snow storm in Northern Maine, I am almost afraid to say it out loud. I'm trying to be both brave and hopeful, so I will at least write the following words: I think spring is here to stay. Summer will soon be here in earnest. As I write these words, I am giving thanks for a beautiful blue-sky day and the bees that are beginning to circle the daffodils and dandelions in our yard. I'm even trying to be grateful for the black flies and deer ticks, because if they are back, it really must be Spring. In this Sabbath season, where much of our church is looking forward taking some rest and slowing down, I know that you will be looking for good books to read as you sit in the warm, summer sun. Here are a couple good ones:

- *Openings: A Daybook of Saints, Psalms, and Prayer* by Larry James Peacock- this is a lovely daily devotional with rich, creative, full-bodied prayers
- *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation* by Parker J. Palmer- a short meditation on finding one's true calling
- *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* by Karen Armstrong- Armstrong shares concrete methods to help cultivate and expand our capacity for compassion
- *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Gregory Boyle- inspired by 20 years of work in impoverished parts of LA, the essays invite us to imagine how full our lives could be if people could find the joy in loving and in being loved
- *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates- written in the form of a letter to his son, Coates shares the story of his understanding of his place in the world by exploring several important experiences in his life
- *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church* by Rachel Held Evans- a spiritual memoir about her evolving faith
- *Children of God Storybook Bible* by Desmond Tutu- developmentally appropriate versions of many Bible stories accompanied by rich and diverse artwork
- *Not Alone: Reflections on Faith and Depression* by Monica A. Coleman- Writing as a minister and someone who lives with depression, Coleman has created a 40-day devotional tool that embraces personal exploration and experiences of strength, hope, love and spirit.



I hope your spring and summer are fruitful. I know that God's wisdom will rest with you whether you are at church or traveling or at your own home. I pray that you can cultivate Wisdom just as easily as you plant your summer garden.

Pastor Chrissy

We are an Open and Affirming Church

Summer Hours for Worship – 9:30 am

Starting June 26th, Sunday Worship Services will begin at 9:30 AM and continuing each Sunday at that time through Labor Day Weekend. Worship returns to 10 am on Sunday, September 11th.

SPRING EVENTS

- † Tuesday, May 24th – Crafty Ladies – 10 am to 2 pm, Sunday School Room
- † Thursday, May 26th – Ladies Night Out – Join the Women’s Guild at the Augusta Country Club at 6 pm for dinner. Carpool from the Church parking lot at 5:30 pm
- † Sunday, June 5th – Choir Appreciation Sunday
- † Sunday, June 5th – Study on Anti-Racism as a faith practice - study sessions using material from “The Thoughtful Christian”
- † Sunday, June 12th – Conference Minister Rev. Deborah Blood will preach the sermon.
- † Sunday, June 12th – Study on Anti-Racism as a faith practice - study sessions using material from “The Thoughtful Christian”
- † Sunday, June 19th – Children’s Service – Last day of Sunday School – Recognition of College Graduates - Father’s Day: Men of the church dig out a special tie to wear - Special Offering for Pilgrim Lodge
- † Sunday, June 19th – Study on Anti-Racism as a faith practice - study sessions using material from “The Thoughtful Christian”
- † Tuesday, June 20th – Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- † Sunday, June 26th – **9:30 am** Worship
- † Saturday, July 30th – Summer Fair – Your help will be needed!
- † Tuesday, August 2nd through August 14th – Pastor Chrissy vacation – Germany
- † Saturday, August 20th – Sidewalk Art Festival Bake Sale and Luncheon on the Lawn– Please help!
- † Sunday, September 11th – Sunday Worship at **10:00 am**



From the Board of Church and Community Concerns



Thanks to all of you who supported CWS Blankets Plus with your donations! As of now your donations total \$291. With all the tornadoes and floods we have had in our own country, plus the earthquakes and floods in other countries, your donations will help the many people affected by these disasters.

On Fathers' Day we will be taking up a special collection for Pilgrim Lodge, our Maine Conference Church Camp, to support the

operations and maintenance of the camp.

In September, the BCCC will begin to think about our annual Stewardship Drive! Our theme for 2016 will be “GO and Do the same.” You will be hearing more about this in the Fall!

Enjoy your summer!
Carol Whittier, Chair

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Page 2 of 7

From the Treasurer

Year to date the Church has a positive cash flow of \$4,841. Total income is ahead of projections by \$1,846 with Total Offerings ahead of budget by \$825. Total Expenses are below budget by \$3,421.

CE Matters

Children's Sunday will be Sunday, June 19th and we are hoping that the children will participate in the worship service on that day. Although Sunday School is ending for the summer (on June 19th), we would like to remind everyone that nursery care will be provided for our youngest ministers during the summer months.

Children's Sunday School



We would like to thank all the folks that have helped us to have a great Sunday School year. Our members have helped build Godly Play kits and have taught lessons to help enrich the spirituality of our children. We are planning ahead for the fall. If you are interested in helping to build kits over the summer please let us know.

From the Financial Secretary

Summer in Maine can be fun and hectic and your activities may result in a few absences from Church Worship Services on Sundays. Please try to remember to keep your pledges up to date. If you won't be in Church on Sunday, you can mail your check to the Office.

Hannaford Gift Card Sales

May 16, 2011, was the start of the Hannaford Gift Card Fundraiser which is now into its sixth year. On average, \$200 in income is earned for the church each month. Usually our Church families and friends buy \$2,100 worth of cards every two weeks for which the Church earns \$100. Approximately 15 household units regularly purchase cards. Through your support of this fundraiser, you have now earned \$12,025!



If anyone is interested in obtaining a card, they are available for sale in amounts of \$50, \$100 and \$200 every Sunday after church in Fellowship Hall. Cash or checks are paid directly to the church. Thank you for making this a worth-while project.

Carol Ellingwood

Summer Fair

Please save the date of July 30th for our Summer Fair. We will be having a Luncheon and Silent Auction along with our traditional tables of Baked Goods, Needle & Thread, RADA Cutlery, Jewelry, Books, and Second Time Around items. Plan to help out or stop by that day to support one of the church's big fundraisers. We usually have a great time, so come join the fun! Check the Kitchen door for a Sign-Up Sheet coming soon!

Luncheon on the Lawn & Bake Sale

Please save the date of Aug 20th for another of our big fundraisers. In conjunction with the Winthrop Sidewalk Art Festival, we will again host our "Luncheon on the Lawn" and Bake Sale. We will offer Lobster rolls, BBQ Chicken sandwiches, and lots of baked goodies. Come and check out the art work along Main Street and stop by for lunch and baked goods. We hope to see you then!

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Fish Chowder Luncheons

Our monthly chowder luncheons ended in May for a summer break and will resume in September. Sales have been great through the winter and early spring months with over 60 meals, on average, being sold and selling out of two pots of chowder. When there is enough fish on hand, earnings are close to \$600. A box of 40 pounds of haddock costs \$126. It takes 30 pounds for two pots of chowder so every 4th month there is no expense for fish. A lot more goes into the preparation of the meal served that mostly the same members are generously providing each month: potatoes, onions, butter, milk, pickles, biscuits and homemade pies. Thank you to all those that continue to support this forever fundraiser through: monetary donations for supplies, chowder ingredients, baking, the chowder maker, servers and the dishwashers. It is a great team effort that is much appreciated.

Carol Ellingwood

New Fish Chowder Chef Needed

I will be curtailing my activities as chowder maker with the monthly Fish Chowder Luncheons beginning September, 2016. Standing on my feet over 5 hours is taking its toll on my feet, legs and back. I will continue to order, transport and cut up the fish prior to Friday's chowder. However, I will work with a replacement for September and October's luncheon date in order for a smooth transition. Alan Ellingwood



Women's Guild

The Women's Guild is planning a "Ladies Night Out" on Thursday, May 26th with a delicious dinner at the Augusta Country Club! All the women in the church are invited to attend this fun and relaxing evening in a very pretty setting! We will meet in the church parking lot at 5:30 pm to carpool to Manchester.



Our next meeting will be at Marie Hatfield's home on Thursday, June 30 at 6:30 pm. Last year, it was such a beautiful evening; we had our meeting on Marie's deck over-looking the lake!

We will not meet in July as everyone will be busy with the summer fair, but on Thursday, August 25th, we will have an afternoon of boating, swimming and playing lawn games at Whispering Pines followed by a potluck picnic. All ladies are invited!

Have a relaxing summer!
Carol Whittier, President

Crafty Ladies

The Crafty Ladies group is winding down for the summer. Our last gathering until fall will be on Wednesday, May 25 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. All ladies are welcome to bring a project that they are working on and join us for a time of fellowship and learning. Most ladies bring a lunch and do their crafting until early afternoon. We have rug hookers, knitters, paper project crafters, quilters....whatever you enjoy doing! If you haven't joined us before and have some time on the 25th, we'd love to have you show up. We guarantee lots of laughs!

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Anyone Want a Lucky Visit?

Would anyone from my Church Family be interested in having my dog, **Lucky**, as a “house guest” for a couple of days (2 nights) while I’m attending my grandson’s wedding June 24-26? Lucky is well-behaved, laid back, friendly and quiet (mostly, though he will bark to defend me and our house). He is typically friendly with other dogs and lives with three cats with which he only tries to play occasionally. He doesn’t jump up on people or get up on furniture.

He doesn’t ask for much attention or care other than a scoop of his food each morning and night, water, an occasional treat, and a chance to go outside to do his business every eight hours or so.

He would come on Friday, June 24 with his food, dishes, a leash (with rabies tag attached), a pooper scooper, and his bed which is in a kennel, though he often leaves it to sleep on the floor. He can be shut in the kennel, if need be, for whatever reason. I would return Sunday, June 26 to pick him up.

Let me know if you would like my sweet doggie to love for a bit!

Lee Gilman

Catch me at Church, or call me at 377-9640 or email me at: Lsgilman@aol.com



Historical Records Committee

After making an inventory of the church’s historical records, the Historical Records Committee was ready to start scanning the documents.




In January, Marie Hatfield and I attended a very timely workshop about digitizing records. The speaker was Adam Fisher who is the Director of Collections at the Maine State Library (MSL). He encouraged workshop participants to utilize the resources at the MSL, such as their high resolution book scanner.

We arranged our first trip to the MSL on March 18th. Seven of us (Marie Hatfield, Ann Mitchell, Sandra Smith, Ginger & Hariph Smith, Dana, and I) were trained to use the various scanner/reader machines. Adam then uploaded the scans to the MSL Repository, which is accessible on the library’s “Digitize Maine” site.

A smaller group (Ann Mitchell, Sandra Smith, Dana Hall & I) returned to the MSL on Mar 25th, Apr 1st, Apr 29th and May 16th to continue scanning documents. We have completed four large ledger books, one church manual, and all of the deeds and Annual Report booklets. The group has been busy and Adam has been extremely helpful with the process. The church webpage is also linked to the MSL Repository. Check it out! <http://www.wccucc.org/historical-documents.html>

Cyndi Hall

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

June Birthdays		June Anniversaries	
1	Alfred Pettengill	6/22/72	Hariph & Ginger Smith
4	Jared Hanson	6/24	John & Ann Mitchell
6	Susan Payne-Nelson Marty Hensen		
15	Luke Lazure		
16	Marie Hatfield		
17	Andy Burns		
21	Nancy Ponzetti-Dyer		
21	Mark Dennis		
25	Joe Emerson		
29	Sean Putman-Labbe		
July Birthdays		July Anniversaries	
1	Margaret Imber	7/2/76	Bill & Becky Gillespie
2	Gaby Lazure Don Edgar	7/4/53 7/8/78	Fred & Marlene Douglas Dana & Cyndi Hall
3	Vicki Jackson	7/25/92	Roger & Sue Hanson
5	Kate Morgner-Dobrzelewski	7/28/75	Peter & Marie Hatfield
9	Amy Tague		
13	Ron Dyer		
15	Shirley Foster		
16	Cadence Malcolm		
17	Dayle Ashby		
18	Rosalea Kimball		
22	Chris Smith		
24	Sue Hanson		
27	Alan Ellingwood		
31	John Mitchell		
			
August Birthdays		August Anniversaries	
9	Alice Lazure	8/16/75	Kelly & Ann Dooling
10	Linda Ruman Becca Irwin	8/24/96	Barbara Walsh & Eric Conrad
13	Lee Gilman Barbara Walsh		
16	Lisa deWolfe Charlie Gove Hariph Smith		
18	Chris Dyer		
21	Mary Gove Erin Putman-Labbe		
21	Darren Hatfield		
22	Joe Dressler		
24	Susan Mauro		
25	Martha Payne Diane Richardson		
26	Julie deWolfe Marianne Martin		
30	Doug Whittier		

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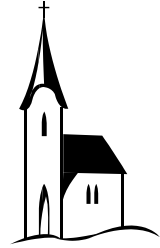
Next Newsletter Deadline: Tuesday, August 17, 2016

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<http://tinyurl.com/WCCUCC>



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

C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	J
C	H	R	I	S	T	F	Y	E
G	A	L	A	T	I	A	N	S
O	R	F	L	Y	N	I	R	U
D	E	O	L	O	F	T	S	S
T	H	R	O	U	G	H	V	C

*(Galatians 3:26) For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.
(NRSV)*

Word List

GALATIANS CHILDREN THROUGH CHRIST JESUS FAITH NRSV
YOU GOD FOR ARE ALL OF IN