

# Dearing Community Church

## The Newsletter



### Pastor's Corner

May - June, 2011



#### EASTER

Happy Easter everyone! Did you know that Easter lasts for 50 days and ends with Pentecost Sunday? Therefore, this Easter season will end

on June 12. It's a lot like the Christmas season. We prepare for four weeks in Advent and then often feel Christmas is over on 12-26. It actually ends on Epiphany, which is always January 6<sup>th</sup>; so unless Christmas is on Sunday, which it will be this year, we have 2 Sundays after Christmas.

So what might we focus on in this Easter Season? On Easter morning we share in the joy of Jesus' first followers, shouting, "He is Risen!" The second part of Easter is "Go and tell". We hear stories of the women and the apostles sharing the good news of Jesus' appearances: at the tomb, on the road to Emmaus and in the locked room. You can imagine what a mix of emotions these people had: joy, amazement, fear, and doubt to name a few. I wonder how you will continue celebrating that Jesus is with us always. Where will you see him--in the face of your child, in the stranger in the mall helping the old woman navigate her wheelchair, in the bread of Holy Communion, in the vigil keepers at the NH State House budget hearings, in the faces of the volunteers preparing dinner for families in transition?

Maybe some of you went deeper in prayer during Lent and intend to continue growing in prayer. I would like to share with you a story told by Dorothee Soelle, a theologian, teacher and author, who grew up in Germany during Hitler's time. She believed that intercessory prayer helps one to focus on real situations of suffering and need, thus becoming more connected and then accountable to

the situations and people prayed for. She used the expression, "borrowing the eyes of God." She takes an example of a play by Berthold Brecht, titled *Mother Courage* to illustrate what borrowing God's eyes might look like. She describes a young girl, Katrin, who cannot speak and who finds herself in a situation of danger as the soldiers attack the refugee home where she has taken shelter. The others were praying and were upset at her for not raising her voice in prayer. Katrin slips away up to the rooftop of the barn and starts banging her drum, thus waking the villagers and giving them all help and a chance to fight for their lives. Soelle says that Katrin's active prayer of protest against the impending violence is what intercessory prayer requires. We don't wait around for an external God to intervene; it is the God in us, (the eyes of God) who sees and then responds with action which promotes change.

I'm sure many of you have heard me say that prayer doesn't change God, but it can change us. Please keep praying and sharing what you are all about, to make a difference in our communities and our world.



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## Peace Corner

Pastor Barbara

### Conflict Transformation, Part 1

In April, Steve and Jane Waters, Susan Huggard, and I attended a Conflict Transformation workshop sponsored by our NH Conference's Peace with Justice Advocates. The title of the conference was "What to Do Right When Things Go Wrong" and was presented by Nancy Brown, MSW and Billy Brown, D. Min. For the next few newsletters I want to use the Peace Corner to share with you some of the things we learned.

Interpersonal Conflict: Nancy Brown defines conflict as "a dispute or disagreement between two or more people when tension is also present." She points out that conflict is not necessarily bad; it is a fact of life. There are many ways to handle conflict, and there does not have to be a winner and a loser. It's possible for us to learn ways of resolving the conflict in such a way that the underlying needs are addressed. The most basic underlying psychological need is BELONGING. Love, power, freedom and fun all contribute to the sense of belonging and at least one of these is always a part of any conflict. Interpersonal conflicts relate to resources (time, money, and property), boundaries (unclear, overstepping), and core values (principles, beliefs, and priorities).

Escalation: The Browns talk about how we can increase or decrease tension and conflict by the image of an escalator. Something happens and

feelings are stimulated. Everyone who starts on the escalator brings "baggage" with them. Among other things, this baggage can be past experiences with conflict or with this specific person or situation. It can be feelings about one's self or about the other person (s). It can be simply the mood of that day. Everything we do in a particular situation will either escalate or de-escalate the conflict. This process can be very slow and gradual or very fast. The higher one goes up the escalator the harder it is to come down. At some point the feelings become too intense to address the problem.

Conflict transformation is learning and utilizing healthier, more effective ways to engage others when problems come. There are many different ways to approach conflict. I'll go over these approaches in the next newsletter Peace Corner. In the meantime you might practice looking at what you bring to conflicts and what your psychological needs and baggage are.

I will end this with Nancy Brown's three goals of Conflict Transformation:

1. Non-violent, cooperative and respectful attitudes of all parties
2. Meets the most important needs of all involved
3. Improves the relationship by changing the way the parties relate to each other

## Month of May

Pastor Barbara

As part of our church's efforts to balance our budget, we agreed that I would take a month off. I will be gone for the month of May, except for Sunday, May 1. I will be doing some traveling, some resting, and some springtime activities. Our church is very fortunate that Rev. Pete Lovejoy has agreed to be with you on Sunday mornings while I'm gone. We are also very blessed to have such excellent lay leadership and secretarial support. There will always be a Deacon on call for pastoral care, whose name and phone number will be on the church's answering machine. Our faithful secretary, Debbie Matthews, will be sure to refer other needs to the appropriate people. Steve Waters as moderator and Stuart Huggard as chair of the Trustees are always good places to start for non-pastoral concerns if you need something and Debbie is not in the office. May the month of May be a blessing for all of us.

## Moderator's Musings

Stephen Waters

It has been nearly three months since the annual meeting at which we agreed that, because of inadequate financing, the church could not continue to operate as it has over the past several years. We further agreed to use this year as a time for long range planning/visioning, with a goal of determining what the Spirit has in mind for us in order to put us on firmer footing. These "Musings" constitute an update on progress toward "**A New Beginning**".

These are the steps in the process: 1) Develop a brief mission statement that tells who we are and why we are here and a reflection of the church today. 2) Conduct a survey to gather data on the perceptions and expectations of Deering Church. Current and former members would be surveyed on such questions as to why to you come to church, why don't you come, what do you think the church should do more of, what should it do less of, which of the church's activities are you interested in supporting? 3) The data gathered from the survey can be used to formulate a plan/vision for what the church might look like in 3 years, in 5 years, or even 10 years. 4) On the basis of this plan/vision, necessary resources to implement it can be determined and a workable budget can be formulated. 5) Once a year, we can look at the plan/vision, evaluate its progress, and make any adjustments necessary.

Following the March Council meeting, a committee

was formed to compose an updated mission statement with Jim Carpenter as its Chair and Pastor Barbara, Jeanne Bartlett, and Christine Nase on the committee. Their goal was to formulate a statement that we could all repeat whenever needed, that would give the listener a clear idea of what our church is all about. The committee completed its work in time for the April Council meeting, and with a minor tweak or two, the Council accepted and unanimously supports the following statement:

***Compassionate, open to all, where Christ's teaching leads to spiritual growth and action.***

A meeting will be held on a Sunday in May after church, the date to be determined, for the whole Congregation to cast a vote on this mission statement. Suzanne Huggard has accepted the opportunity of forming a committee to develop a survey, step 2 in our process. That work may take up to two months to complete.

I titled these Musings "A New Beginning" because the mindset is more upbeat and optimistic. "Adjustments to Hard Times" would be a downer. My hope for our congregation is that we can allow the Spirit to flow through us with a brightened forthrightness as we begin anew the process of determining and following God's will for us. Your participation in committee work and/or attendance at Council meetings is welcome and important.

## Of Special Note

Pastor Barbara

### JOSSLYN LUCKETT WINS PREACHING PRIZE

Pastor Barbara proudly announces that her daughter, Josslyn, won the Billings Preaching Prize at Harvard School of Divinity. Each spring there is a preaching competition under the Robert Charles Billings Fund. The Fund was established in 1904 to recognize preaching and "pulpit delivery" among Divinity School students, and it was named in the bequest as the "Billings Prize." The four finalists all preached at Chapel on Wednesday, April 13 and were judged by a group of faculty and community ministers. The first prize money was \$1000.

## Financial & Trustees News

Stuart & Suzanne Huggard

Our year began with the trustees proposing and the congregation accepting a very austere budget. Immediately after accepting the budget, we had the emergency expense of replacing the collapsed pipe to the septic system. This could not have happened at a worse time of the year. The area was frozen and under several feet of snow, all of which added to the expense of the project. I am happy to be able to report that there were several special donations made specifically to cover the cost of the septic repair. Also, there was a very generous unexpected donation to be used "where needed" that enabled us to pay for the repairs without adversely affecting an already fragile budget.

When the congregation accepted the 2011 budget, they also accepted the challenge of doing much of the maintenance of the church facilities themselves. We now are doing all the cleaning and soon will be doing the lawn mowing ourselves. So far, this is working very well. As my mother used to say "many hands make light work". Many hands have signed up for the regular chores that need to be done around the church, just like the ones that need to be done at home. I will not start to name these workers because I know I will miss some, and some that I don't even know about sneak in to do what needs to

be done. Various supplies like paper goods and garbage bags have appeared seemingly out of nowhere, so the shelves are well stocked. Not only is the work getting done, but sometimes we have fun doing it. We are still meeting on the first Saturday of every month for breakfast and work. All are welcome to join in those festivities. As we move into spring, there will be lots of outside work to be done, so there will be something for everyone.

As for the regular budget, for the first quarter, we are just about where we always are at this time. Budgeted expenses are less than expected and pledged income is higher because of 2011 pledges paid in 2010. It will be very important as we move through the year that we keep our pledges as current as possible. Also, we must not forget that we accepted a "to be raised" portion of our anticipated income. Anyone contributing a little extra toward that line item should mark the donation accordingly. It would also behoove us to think about what we can contribute to the annual fair in August. The fair is our major fundraiser for the year. The trustees thank everyone who is contributing time, talent, and/or money to make a difficult budget work. Stay tuned.

## Newcomers

Barbara Glauner



We all want to welcome the Carter family into our midst. Bob and Sara became members of our church on April 3 and their three children, Maggie, Sean and Noah, were baptized on April 10. Bob, a Civil and Environmental Engineer for the Turner Group in Concord, grew up in Milford with his twin older brother Mike and sister Ann. Sara grew up in Antrim, and her passions include riding as well as rescuing horses and helping dogs, cats and

ponies. Bob and Sara were married in 2003 at 257 Sky Farm Road, Deering, two weeks after purchasing this special home which had been in the Phinney family since 1950. Maggie and Sean are in the first grade at HDES. Maggie greatly enjoys riding her pony and playing anything horse related. Sean is an avid outdoorsy busy body and loves anything army at the moment. Noah is in First Friends preschool in Antrim, loves to play hard, and is a dinosaur enthusiast. Deering Community Church is proud to welcome them as members.



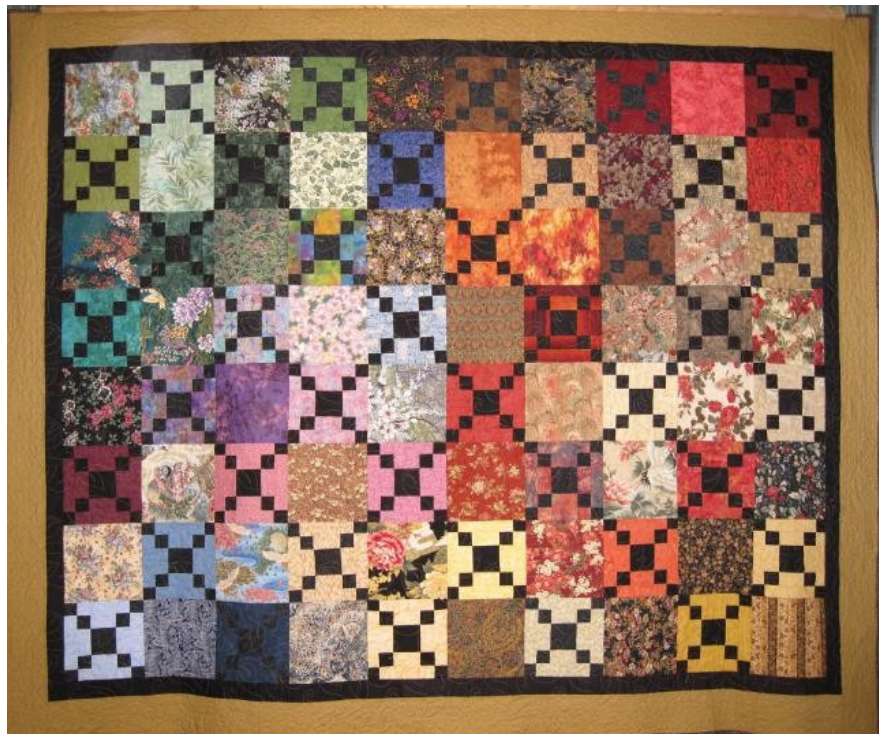
# Guild Gleanings

Barbara Glauner



Guild attendance has been improving during the past two months as more spring-like weather brings additional members out to enjoy each other's company. Anyone interested in joining our group is most welcome on the first Wednesday of each month at noon! After having our lunches and enjoying beverages and dessert provided by the hostess of the month, we hold our

business meetings. Minutes of our monthly meetings are always posted on the bulletin board in Sherwood Hall for all to read. We have begun to think about the summer church fair, to be held on August 13th, and will begin to talk about it in depth at our May meeting. The raffle quilt is made by our own Kay Daniels. Raffle tickets are ready to sell. We are so pleased that Betty Dishong, who did a fabulous job organizing raffle sales last year, has offered to do it again. We will be depending on everyone in our church to get behind the selling of quilt raffle tickets starting in May. This summer fair is the one big fundraiser each year for both the Guild and the Deering Church.



Kay Daniels has crafted this beautiful handmade quilt for the 2011 quilt raffle, culminating with the drawing of a winner at the **Deering Summer Fair on August 13<sup>th</sup>**. As you can see, it is a beauty! The queen sized quilt, called "Spectrum", is a collage of lovely multi-colored floral fabric prints, all pulled together with an Irish Chain design and border print. It is finished with machine quilting done by M-D Stitching Studio of Weare. Raffle tickets

for this quilt are available now and are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. If you would like to purchase raffle tickets, please mail your check with "quilt raffle" on the memo line to the Deering Community Church, 763 Deering Center Road, Deering, NH, 03244. We will fill out your raffle tickets for you with your name, address, and the phone number where you can be reached, and enter you into the drawing. You do not need to be present at the drawing to win. This quilt raffle is one of our most important fund raising efforts for both the Deering Community Church and the Women's Guild, so please support us by purchasing raffle tickets!

**Remember, every ticket is a potential winner!**

**Deering Community Church  
Women's Guild**

*Quilt Raffle*

**Spectrum Queen Size Quilt**

Drawing Saturday August 13, 2011  
Summer Fair, Deering, NH

Donation: \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## WSO

Jeanne Bartlett

World Service and Outreach continues to keep its pledge to help make a difference in the lives of the women incarcerated at the Goffstown prison. Several people make regular visits to participate in the worship service led by Rev. Beth Richeson. Beth lets us know how much the cards, bibles and craft supplies, donated by church members, mean to the women.

Lee and Christine Marcroft continue to attend Ukama meetings at the UCC conference building and keep us informed about our partner church, Rimbi, in Zimbabwe.

Our committee will be hosting a **potluck supper on**

**May 6 followed by a family film.** All are welcome to come for either or both of these events. Come at 6 pm with a “dish or donation” and a good appetite.

**On June 18<sup>th</sup> we will be providing refreshments for the contra dance** held at the Deering Town Hall. This dance is open to the public and it is where one gets a unique opportunity to “doe-see-doe” with the Fullbright Scholars visiting in Deering. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> year that we have had the pleasure of meeting professors from many countries in Africa, Asia and Europe. Carolyn Parrot will be there at the piano and to help newcomers through the steps. Watch for road signs announcing the time for this event.

## WSO - Newest Outreach of the Deering/Hillsboro Ministerium

Dear Friends:

The World Service and Outreach committee has reached a closer and deeper understanding of those in need, not hundreds of miles, or oceans away, but close by in our community. **Did you know that we have in our midst dozens of children without a permanent home?** The Hillsboro-Deering School and Hillsboro Youth Services have provided the facts. Vague rumors and stories about people living in cars, a deserted mill building, families bunking in with friends who become less friendly as time goes on, are now a reality.

**We have learned about the good things that are happening to help these youngsters.** One church has been providing food bags for middle school children, which helps to fill the hunger gap over the weekend. Girl Scouts have met the need for simple toiletries and found warm jackets for cold people. There is the wonderful food pantry, too, which has distributed as many as 125 bags of groceries every Tuesday.

We have listened and learned and prayed, too. Those folks who see our young people each day in school and in the local teen drop-in center have given us a wish list.

**Four churches have banded together and moved with amazing swiftness to put together a two-part plan:**

- 1) Food bags for teens, to be distributed from the teen center on Friday nights.**
- 2) A place (St. Mary's on Church St.) for families to gather once a week for a meal and conversation, with space for students to do home work and a tutor to facilitate.**

Our church council listened too and enthusiastically endorsed this project. A schedule with dates is already in place. Deering Community Church will take a turn on the fourth Tuesday of each month for the meal and conversation, and will provide teen food bags on the second Friday of each month. As we estimate the funds for the food bags, dinner supplies, to say nothing about man/woman power, some of us feel frightened that we perhaps have “over-reached” with Outreach. Therefore, we ask you, the “homed” (versus homeless), to help with a monthly pledge for supplies or for some of your time.

Sincerely yours, **Jeanne Bartlett, Chair of WSO**

# WSO– Ministerium Outreach Project continued

Jeanne Bartlett

**P.S. Ways to help:** Your availability on the last Tuesday of the month, to cook or clean up for dinner at St. Mary’s.

**Tutoring to homework students.**

**Shopping for supplies and food.**

**Donation of food or money.**

**Filling teen bags and delivering to Genesis center for the second Friday of the month.**

**We estimate that we will spend about \$150.00 per month for food and supplies.**

**For further information, please call Jeanne at 529-2540 or email [milsite4@comcast.net](mailto:milsite4@comcast.net)**

## Musical Notes

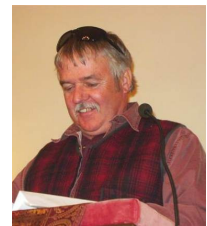
Jane Waters



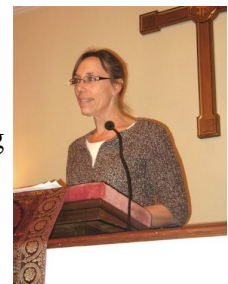
The choir has been very active with a wonderful potluck and hymn sing here together with Smith Church on March 11th.

They combined with members of the Hillsboro—Deering Community Chorus to participate in an Evening Soiree of music and poetry on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. It included music by the Bible Hill Boys, poetry reading by Peter Beard and Susan Bartlett, banjo offerings by Sam Kelly, and piano and vocal solos by Roberta Walmsley, Jane Waters and

Sissi Shattuck. This event was supported by the Deering Association. Both events brought people from outside of Deering, with over 70 in attendance at the Soiree. We felt a warm reception by the community.



Preparations for the Easter Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter services) have inspired the choir to sing the deeply moving music of this season.



## Pavilion Project

Peter Cram

Not much has changed visibly on the pavilion project over the winter, but that is not to say that we haven't made progress. Some fundraising has been done, but it has been with less fanfare, due to the budget issues that the Church has been facing. We believe we now have sufficient funds to build the actual building. Combined with the Town's plan to donate topsoil, we should be able to make some good progress this year. Additional funds will be needed however, and contributions will continue to be accepted toward this worthy project. These additional dollars will go toward those parts of the pavilion beyond the structure itself, including the barbecue pit, picnic tables, grass seed and more. Donations can be given through the church, with an appropriate annotation indicating that it is to be directed to the pavilion project.

Look for the actual construction to begin within a couple months, after the ground hardens, and final plans for the structure are put together. Please also know that we'll be looking for volunteers to help with the 'pavilion raising'.



### ***NEW CHURCH WEBSITE***

**[www.deeringcommunitychurch.org](http://www.deeringcommunitychurch.org)**

**David Glauner** is one of our behind the scenes "**Special Angels**" who deserves a big thank you for his volunteer efforts in the design and maintenance of our church website. The newly designed Deering Community Church website has been up and running as of March, 2011. It was developed by David Glauner, the webmaster for our church, who lives in Stow, MA. Pastor Barbara wanted a newly designed and up to date website. David worked to come up with a design and color scheme that also was easy to navigate; then he updated, organized and expanded the information, incorporating Pastor Barbara's suggestions about its content. Barbara Glauner collaborated doing some of the writing and submitted photos for the site. Now there is information about all areas of our church, giving a good picture of what our church is like and what we do. The events page will be updated every two months, as will the new church calendar. The Newsletters and Pastor's sermons are archived, starting back in 2009. And our website also can be accessed from the Town of Deering website, listed under non-profits, with a click of the mouse. We hope you will take some time to go and look at this new site with all its news and photos about our church, and refer to it for up to date information. It has been a big undertaking to implement it and to continue to keep it updated and safe from hackers. **Thank you, David!**

## ***Of Special Interest***



Our own **Lee Marcroft**, third from left, was sworn in as one of 5 elected members of the Weare, NH Board of Selectmen on March 14, 2011. He can be seen on the local Weare News Channel 6 every first and third Monday evenings at regular Board Meetings.

## For Your Information

### *Food Pantries*

We continue to collect alternating weekly donations of non-perishable food for the Food Pantries. Donations for Hillsboro start on **May 1** and **June 12**.

**Hillsboro:** For May and June, there is need for: small cans of meat such as ham, tuna, chicken, turkey; personal care products such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste and brushes; and paper products including paper towels, tissues and toilet tissue. However, each week we welcome whatever non-perishable items you have to offer. The Food Pantry always needs large brown paper bags.

**Weare:** Donations of all types of non-perishable food and personal care products are sorely needed.

**Cash donations are always welcome.** Please make checks payable to Deering Community Church and note "Food Pantry" on the memo line. Periodically, accumulated cash donations are divided and half is sent to each of the above food pantries.

Food Pantry donations are part of our outreach program to help others less fortunate. Please help if you can. **THANK YOU!**

Suzanne Huggard,  
Financial Secretary



### MAY

Stephen Waters, 3  
Marjorie Weeden, 12  
Joyce Peace, 14  
Hailey Nase, 19  
Angela MacConkey, 20  
Suzanne Huggard, 26  
Barbara Currie, 30

### JUNE

Debbie Matthews, 5  
Keith Robinson, 6  
Alice Keach, 9  
Sara Carter, 12  
Jami Boyle, 15  
Alfred Glauner, 24  
Bryan Terry, 24



## *Happy Anniversary*

### JUNE

Sara & Bob Carter, 4  
Charlotte & Glenn Price, 6  
Nancy & Tom Inui, 14  
Deborah & James Carpenter, 24  
Jeanne & Winthrop Bartlett, 25

### *UNSEEN "SPECIAL ANGELS":*

Ever since Pastor Barbara has been here and probably long before, Debbie Carpenter is the person who writes out the Baptismal and Membership Certificates with her beautiful handwriting. **Thanks to you, Debbie!**


Ever since I took over the production of the church newsletter, I have been thankful to Christine Marcroft who has taken many of the photos that appear in the issues. The photos in our church news bring the printed words to life.

**Thank you, Christine!**




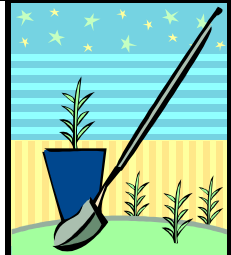
And a big thank you to everyone who takes the time to write articles for the Newsletters, keeping us all well informed about our church and its activities.

**Thank you all!**

# May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9 am Choir 10 am Worship &amp; Communion, Deacons Fund offering, Food Pantry gifts Children's Sunday</p>	2	<p>3 9 am Yoga</p>	<p>4 Noon - Guild 7 pm Deacons</p>	5	<p>6 "Dish or Donation" Potluck Supper 6 pm Followed by a family movie</p>	<p>7 7 am early breakfast, 8 am late breakfast &amp; WORKDAY</p>
<p>8 9 am Choir 10 am Worship, Food Pantry Gifts &amp; CE Mother's Day</p>	9	<p>10 9 am Yoga 7 pm Council</p>	<p>11 7 pm WSO</p>	12	<p>13 WSO Project - Pack food bags for teens in transition</p>	14
<p>15 9 am Choir 10 am Worship, Food Pantry Gifts &amp; CE Pflag 3 pm Comcord</p>	16	<p>17 9 am Yoga</p>	<p>18 7 pm Trustees</p>	19	20	21
<p>22 9 am Choir 10 am Worship, Food Pantry Gifts &amp; CE</p>	23	<p>24 9 am Yoga WSO Project - Feed those in transition St. Mary's Church - evening</p>	25	26	27	28
<p>29 9 am Choir 10 am Worship, Food Pantry gifts Memorial Day</p>	30	<p>31 9 am Yoga</p>				

# June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Noon Guild  7 pm Deacons	2	3	4 7 am early breakfast, 8 am late breakfast & WORKDAY
5 9 am Choir 10 am Worship & Communion, Deacons Fund offering, food pantry gifts, & CE	6	7 9 am Yoga  7 pm Council	8	9	10	11  WSO Project - Pack food bags for teens in transition
12 9 am Choir 10 am Worship, Food Pantry gifts & CE	13	14 9 am Yoga   Flag Day	15  7 pm Trustees	16	17	18  Contra Dance, Deering Town Hall, with refreshments
19 9 am Choir 10 am Worship Food Pantry Gifts & CE 3 pm Pflag, Concord Father's Day	20  Newsletter Deadline	21 9 am Yoga   First Day of Summer	22	23	24	25
26 9 am Choir 10 am Worship Food Pantry Gifts	27	28 9 am Yoga  WSO Project - Feed those in transition at St. Mary's Church- evening	29	30		

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*We're on The Web*  
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