

D⁺eering Community Church

The Newsletter



Pastor's Corner

July, August, 2013



GOD'S GRACE

A few weeks ago during my morning devotions I came upon a passage by Paul Tillich on **grace** taken from his book, The Shaking of the Foundations. It is not a

word that I use a lot, and

as I meditated on it I felt called to share some reflections with you.

Grace is used in the Bible in many different ways. I am focusing on grace as a gift from God to human beings, given completely without merit. We are given the gift not because we are worthy or have earned it but simply because God from God's love and goodness wants us to receive it. Wikipedia says that "Grace in Christianity is the free and unmerited favor of God as manifested in the salvation of sinners for their salvation." The New Testament scripture that goes best with this definition comes from Paul's letter to the Ephesians, chapter 2:8-9: "For by **grace** you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast." I also like Paul's writing in 1st Corinthians 15:9-11: "But by the **grace** of God I am what I am, and his **grace** toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the **grace** of God which is with me."

Tillich says that we cannot transform our own lives; we must let our lives be transformed by grace. We have no way to force grace, nor does it come to us when we feel we are not in need of it. Grace comes to us when we are in great pain, confusion, anxiety or in a new situation. Let me share an example from my life.

Over twenty years ago I left my job and home, giving away much of my "stuff" and putting the rest

in storage to follow a call to work with the homeless in Washington, DC. In spite of my great excitement, I was anxious about how I would get along in a big city filled with crime and poverty. My very first night there, the back and front windows of my car were smashed. To counter that, God's grace came through the supportive people I was living with in this intentional community. Next was my outreach into this community made up mostly of African Americans. Here I was, a middle aged white woman from suburban California walking the DC streets and parks, yet from day

one my relationship with the individuals in this community was filled with mutual kindness and caring. As I made known my desire to connect with those folks experiencing mental illness, others—many of whom had drug and alcohol addictions—reached out to me and connected me with those I was seeking. There's no way I could have had such a meaningful and helpful experience without God's grace. I felt so strongly the Spirit moving with me.

Another way grace comes is when we are not doing well emotionally, spiritually or physically; when despair and hopelessness sets in; when we feel deeply the separation of ourselves from the Divine and from earthly contacts. Paul Tillich says,



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Pastor's Corner Cont.

"Sometimes at that moment a wave of light breaks into our darkness, and it is as though a voice were saying: 'You are accepted. *You are accepted*, accepted by that which is greater than you... Do not try to do anything now; perhaps later you will do much. Do not seek for anything; do not perform anything; do not intend anything. *Simply accept the fact that you are accepted!*' If that happens to us, we experience grace."

Many of you have heard me talk about my long dark night of the soul. When I returned from my amazing year in DC, I simply could not find a church, a community, or any solace through what had been such a strong faith. Without taking the

space to share more details now, I had a sudden burst of light and actual physical feeling of being touched by God. I felt that was definitely God's grace. One of the scriptures that connect to this experience is from Romans 11:6 "But if it is by **grace**, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise **grace** would no longer be **grace**." I did nothing to suddenly have this spiritual experience that resulted in restoring my faith and a decision to go to seminary.

In closing, I pray that all of you will be open to God's grace; and when it comes, let it wash over you, transform you, and cause you to say with me: Praise God and thank you Jesus!

Peace Corner

Pastor Barbara

NH Peace Action

In this issue I want to share with you about NH Peace Action and some the information on their website. This organization exists for the purpose of making a contribution to world peace. "We envision a world in which nuclear disarmament, mutual security, global understanding, international cooperation and respect for human rights create social, economic, and environmental benefits for all humanity."

Currently their focus is on advocacy and education in the areas of calling for an end to the US occupation of Afghanistan; diplomacy with Iran; reducing the Pentagon Budget; and nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation.

If you are interested in becoming a member you may sign up online at <http://nhpeaceaction.org/donate/>. Individual memberships are \$30 with limited income members paying only \$10. Please consider joining/donating and supporting the good work that they do. The website lists many topics such as signing up for the newsletter, articles of interest, and one I especially liked was "Ongoing vigils" listing the place and purpose of regular vigils. One of the articles was on the Global Peace Index (GPI) for 2013. The GPI ranks 162 nations using 22 qualitative and quantitative indicators that gauge three broad themes: the level of safety and security

in society; the extent of domestic or international conflict; and the degree of militarization. Unfortunately over the last 6 years the world has experienced a decline in peacefulness—much of which is related to the intensity of internal conflicts within a country. Europe is the most peaceful region with 13 countries ranking in the top 20—the top three being Iceland, Denmark and New Zealand. Afghanistan is at the bottom, followed by Somalia and Syria.

I encourage you to go to <http://www.visionofhumanity.org/#/page/our-gpi-findings> to find out more, including a video presentation. In closing I would like to mention one more thing—the economic result of all this violence. The total cost of containing this violence is equal to 11% of global GDP or in US dollars: \$9.46 trillion. If this figure were cut only by 50% it would "repay the debt of the developing world, provide enough money for the European stability mechanism, and fund the additional amount required to fund the Millennium Development Goals." These figures are astonishing and shameful. My prayer is that each of us can start the peace and non-violence ball rolling, one by one, little by little till we see great progress in the Global Peace Index. Shalom, Peace, Salaam.

Moderator's Desk

Peter Cram

Dare I say it, that the warm (and dry) weather is finally upon us? Many view this time as the precursors to the 'lazy days of Summer', when activities slow down for a few months. Is that true at the Deering Community Church? I think not!

To see all of what is going on, and being planned by the various committees and groups within the church is really quite exciting. Be sure to read about them in the committee reports in this newsletter. The World Service and Outreach is a busy bunch indeed, and keeps us focused on our mission outside of the local church. The Women of the Guild and the Deering Church are busy planning for their annual fair. No small task when you consider all of the work that goes into planning and executing this remarkable event. The Choir may be taking the summer off, but this means that individual members will be stepping up to provide Sunday music specialties. The Trustees are working harder than ever on work projects, keeping the church tidy and in good shape. The

Chicken barbecue is on schedule for July 27, an annual event in the pavilion that seems to grow in numbers each year. And of course you can always find Angela out by the pavilion, working on the plants and flowers! The Confirmation class is in the planning stages of a short mission trip to help victims of Hurricane Sandy.

These are just a few of the activities that the good people of the church are involved with over the next few months. It is remarkable how a church of our size can stay involved, make things happen, and accomplish so much! I recommend anyone looking for inspiration to attend one of our Church Council meetings, held at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. They're open to all who are interested. There you'll really see the church in action as representatives from each of the boards and committees present reports on what their group is doing. Together, we have an incredible impact on the local community, and far beyond.

The Green Expanse

Peter Cram

(aka: "The Lawn")

Perhaps you've noticed in your own home, that with all of the rain we've had, it's a jungle out there! Perhaps like mine, your garden is a little over watered, but there's no question that the grass is thriving. It's certainly the case at the church! You may know that with the budgetary cutbacks, we actually have no budget for lawn mowing. Instead, we've relied on volunteers to cut the green stuff. Stuart Huggard, together with his lawn mower (the green bomber), has gone above and beyond the call of duty, in that he has done the lion's share of this work. Chris Nase too has been hard at work helping. Why just last Sunday after church, you may have noticed that she changed into her work clothes, and got out there do to some mowing. Bravo!



It's clear however that this is more of a job than we can reasonably expect only one or two people to manage. I'm looking for volunteers to sign up to help. As Stuart puts it, if we could get three people to volunteer for an early evening lawn maintenance session, we could get the whole job done in an hour or so.

We're thinking of having such an event say, every other week, on an evening to be regularly scheduled based on people's availability. If you think you could give an hour or so, one or more evenings this summer, please let me know. It can be fun if we all work together, and there's no doubt that the church is made that much more beautiful when the lawn is cared for.

Thanks very much for considering it.

W S & O - Forums

Don Johnson

The World Service Committee has planned three summer forums, supported by the New Hampshire Humanities Council. The programs are scheduled for three Sunday mornings over the next three months. Each of these forums will begin at 11:30am right after church.

The first program on **July 21st**, features Steve Taylor discussing "**New Hampshire's One Room Schools**". Some of our members attended one of Deering's one room schools.

The second forum on **August 18th** will focus on "**Cartoons in World History**".

The final program, on **September 15th** will feature a documentary on "**New Hampshire During World War II**".

All of these programs are free and open to the public. In the past our forums have attracted large and enthusiastic turnouts and we expect that tradition will prevail this year as well.

W S & O

Jeanne Bartlett

World Service and Outreach continues to support the work of chaplain Rev. Beth Richeson at the Goffstown Women's prison with visits to worship services and they are very grateful for two sewing machines and several yards of fabric which have been donated for the women's use.

Our Feed-A-Teen funds have swelled recently with fresh donations. This allows us to stock the 24 snack bags which we deliver to the Genesis Youth Center in Hillsborough each month. This program will be suspended for July and August but will resume in September. Thanks to all our supporters.

Shipping Boxes to Zimbabwe

Dear Church Family: The World Service and Outreach Committee is working on shipping a few boxes to our partner church in Rimbi, Zimbabwe. The anticipated shipping date is Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013. The following list shows what we are looking to collect this time. One box is meant for a non-partnered church as this is a requirement for all participating partnered churches.

Please contact Christine Marcroft at church or at 529 2863 and start bringing in your items to church. We will have the three boxes at Sherwood Hall where you can deposit your donations. The final packing date will be announced for some time later in August.

Since the cost for the shipping per box will be

approximately \$40.00, the committee asks for donations so we can send these much needed items to our partner church and others.

Thank you so very much!

Priority Items for 2013 Shipping Container to Zimbabwe

For School

Student Notebooks (no spiral)
Rulers, Erasers, Pens, Sharpeners
Art Supplies –Markers, Crayons
Geography and Science books

Tools

Nails, any size or variety
Screws, any size and variety
Sandpaper and blocks, clamps
Basic tools (hammer, screwdrivers etc.)

Clothing

Gently worn clothing for children and infants
Socks for males, females and children
New underwear for children and adults
Men's shirts and ties

Guild Gleanings

Barbara Glauner



May and June have been busy months

for the Women's Guild. The ladies have really enjoyed seeing each other at our gatherings and we look forward to this relaxing time as we catch up with everyone's news.

At our recent business meetings we have had reports on members Margaret Colburn and Esther McLain who are doing reasonably well. Priscilla Beaudrault will be going in for surgery at the end of June and we wish her well. We all miss her and can't wait until she returns to Guild. College student Kiah Walker won a \$1000 scholarship from the Guild this June, and a \$200 contribution was made to One Great Hour of Sharing. The lions share of the meetings were taken up with planning for the August 10th Summer Fair. Hazel Vogelien and Stuart Huggard are co-chairs for this event, sponsored by the Deering Community Church and the Deering Women's Guild. Hazel went over all the tables and booths with us, planning out suggested workers for each area. She will confer with Stuart later. Kay brought in the basket with her potholders and a sample sized piece of this year's quilt. Joyce

Peace and Barbara Glauner are working on the sale of quilt raffle tickets using a two pronged approach. Barbara has prepared a letter with raffle tickets attached which went out through the church e-mail system to everyone about purchasing or selling raffle tickets for the quilt. Joyce is setting up dates at Shaws and Butler Park for local sales of raffle tickets. And tickets are available at the church on Sundays after the services.



At the very end of our June meeting, Kay Daniels read a statement that she was resigning as president, effective immediately, due to health reasons, but would continue to come to Guild. After some discussion, Betty Dishong and Kay Daniels agreed to swap jobs, with Betty as President and Kay as VP for the remainder of this year.

Two new ladies recently joined the Guild, but the Guild is always looking for additional members living in Deering and surrounding towns who might benefit from socializing with other women once a month. Our meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at 12 noon in the Deering Church parish hall. Ladies bring their own bag lunches, and dessert and coffee or tea will be provided by the hostess of the month. We have a lot of fun sitting around chatting and laughing about life.

Raffle Ticket Sales and Dates Joyce Peace has set up the following schedule for selling quilt raffle tickets locally during July. This effort is critical in raising funds for our church budget since raffle ticket sales are the single largest revenue generator of any part of the Summer Fair, our only fund raising event. **It is critical that everyone in our church pitch in and sign up to do this during the month of July.** There will be a sign up sheet in Sherwood Hall. Please give some of your valuable time and talent to this effort. You can talk to Joyce Peace, Hazel Vogelien, or Stuart Huggard if you have any questions about signing up and what to do. We need to make the most of this time period before the Summer Fair. You will be given instructions and everything you need to do this. There should be two people for each shift except for after church which requires only one person. Please help raise money for the church budget and Guild charities.



Shaws Supermarket, Hillsboro- Friday, July 19 and Saturday, July 20, morning shift 9 am to 1 pm

Butler Park, Hillsboro Business District -- Every Saturday morning 9 am to noon July 6, 13, 20, 27.
Sundays after Church Service, Parish Hall - July 7, 14, 21, 28

Musical Notes

Sam Kelly

Hi, folks.

The choir will be on vacation these 2 months, but there will be music. We choir members love showing up on Sunday mornings and putting together good music for the services. Look forward to solos, duets, trios, and our summer choir members sharing their gift.

From the professional side of things, these events will occur:

1. The Monadnock Music will perform on Thursday, July 25 @ 7:30 PM (remember, we now

have screened windows so it should be cooler this year than last).

2. Will Ogmundson (piano) will perform on Sunday, August 4 @ 3:00 PM. We may expect cameo appearances by cast members from the forthcoming production by the Hillcat Players.

3. Shizue Sano (piano) will be in concert on Sunday, August 25 @ 3:00 PM.

Please, come, and enjoy yourselves. (Was somebody bringing watermelon?)

Monadnock Music

Barbara Glauner



Monadnock Music will present a free concert at Deering Community Church on Thursday, July 25 at 7:30 pm featuring a piano trio. Voluntary contributions support the Monadnock Music Village Concerts.

The piano trio will play:

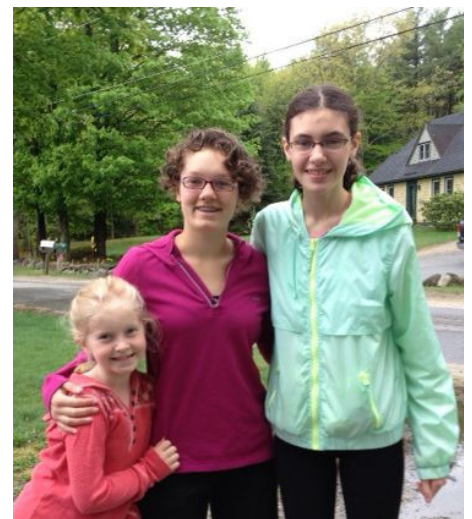
Horatio Parker, suite for piano, violin and cello, Op. 35 (1893); Anton Arensky, Piano Trio in D minor, Op 32 (1894); Scott Wheeler, Granite Coast (MacDowell Colony Fellow); Brahms, Piano Trio in C Minor, Op 101

Walking to Church 4/I Earth

Chris Nase



The confirmation class took part in Mission 4/I Earth to make the world eco-friendly. To decrease our carbon footprint Ruthie Robinson, Hailey Nase, Christine Nase, and Sydney Hawthaway (Christine's niece) walked 3 miles from Lauren Warner's house to Church. We encountered many Spotted Newts also known as red efts during our walk. Tim and Pat Finn also participated by riding their bikes to church.



Sidney, Hailey & Ruthie

Upcoming Major Events

Barbara Glauner

THE TENTH ANNUAL DEERING CHICKEN BARBECUE COME ONE, COME ALL



**SATURDAY,
JULY 27, 2013
RAIN OR SHINE
1 TO 3 PM**

SPONSORED BY THE DEERING
COMMUNITY CHURCH
AT OUR PAVILION BEHIND THE CHURCH
763 Deering Center Road, Rt. 149, Deering, NH
PLENTY OF CHICKEN,
CORN ON THE COB, & WATERMELON
IF YOU WANT TO BRING A DISH TO SHARE, WE
WOULD APPRECIATE SALADS AND OTHER SIDES
Gather With Members, Friends and Neighbors
for Fun and Games
Questions? Call the church at 464-5643

SUMMER FAIR

August 10, 2013, 9 am–2 pm

DEERING COMMUNITY CHURCH Rte 149 Deering
763 Deering Center Road, Deering, NH, 03244
www.deeringcommunitychurch.org or (603) 464-5643

CRAFTS JEWELRY CHEESE
Homemade JAMS, PIES, & BAKED GOODS
COFFEE & MUFFINS, HOT DOGS & SODA
PLANTS, FACE PAINTING, ICE CREAM, MUSIC
ATTIC TREASURES, BOOKS, CONSIGNMENTS
'LOG CABIN light & bright' QUILT RAFFLE



Summer Fair

Barbara Glauner

With the Summer Fair only 6 weeks away, it is time look around your house for gently used items you no longer need or want to keep that you could donate to Attic Treasures, such as books, games, kitchen wares, and so forth. Look around your garden for extra plants to pot up and donate to the plant table. If you have wonderful garden veggies by the time of the fair, bring some up to sell at the jams and jellies table. If you "can" your produce, bring a few samples to sell at the fair. The craft's table can always use costume jewelry you no longer wear.

Of course, don't forget the bakery table. Homemade pies sell very well -- contact Hazel Vogelien for the pie pans to bake them in. This assures uniformity of size for pricing. We also need cookies, breads, brownies, whoopie pies, cup cakes and so forth.

Watch for updates from Stuart Huggard as to when to start bringing in your donations to church. If you have a question about an unusual item you want to donate, ask Stuart if it is acceptable. Ask Hazel when to bring baked goods up before the fair or bring them the morning of the fair between 8 and 9 am.

Let's make the 2013 Summer Fair the best one yet!



Recent Events

Pictures by Christine Marcroft

Participation in Boston's Gay Pride Parade, 2013



Bon Vivant Dinner at Angela and David Bell's House



Sara and Bob Carter's 10th wedding anniversary with renewal of wedding vows



Fulbright Scholars & Towns People at Deering Contra Dance



For Your Information

Food Pantries

We continue to collect alternating weekly donations of non-perishable food for the Food Pantries. **July 7 and August 4 donations start with Weare.**

Hillsboro: There is need for small cans of meat for **July**, such as ham, tuna, chicken, etc., and personal care products for **August**, such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste and brushes, but each week you're welcome to bring whatever food or personal-care items you have. The Food Pantry is still in need of large brown paper bags.

Weare: Donations of all types of 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



JULY

Jean Lewis, 4

Tom Inui, 10

Margaret Colburn, 13

David Glauner, 14

Donald Johnson, 14

Nancy Inui, 15

Neill Currie, 15

Elizabeth Dishong, 16

Christine Hague, 19

AUGUST

Larry Palmer, 6

Leroy Marcroft, 10

Patricia Finn, 25

Kathleen Daniels, 26

Robert Fuller, 27



Happy Anniversary

JULY

Christine & Paul Hague, 20

Marjorie & Henry Weeden, 29

AUGUST

Jane & Stephen Waters, 8

Jean & Don Johnson, 13

Suzanne & Stuart Huggard, 25

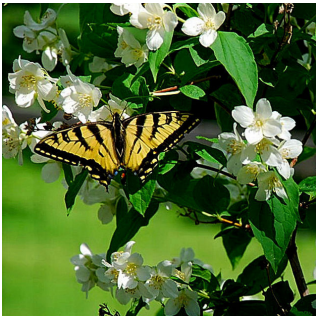
Mission 4/1 Earth results for Deering Church

266 Earth Care hours----

These hours included recycling (composting, thrift shop buying and donations); potting plants to donate to Town Plant sale, the proceeds of which benefit the local food bank and library; book study: *Eearth* by Bill Mckibben; participation in roadside clean up in two towns; stepping up car pooling; church bulletin space conservation and using technology to save on unnecessary printing; volunteer church ground clean-up and composting; local newspaper articles.

71 Trees planted

13 Letters



July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Yoga Each Tuesday at 9 am	3  Guild @ noon	4 Independence Day 	5	6 7 & 8 am Breakfast, & Workday
7 10 am Worship & Communion, Deacon's Fund	8	9 7 pm Council	10 7 pm W S & O	11	12	13
14 10 am Worship	15	16	17 7 pm Trustees	18	19	20
21 10 am Worship Forum 11:30 1 room schools 3 pm Pflag, Concord, NH	22	23	24	25 Monadnock Music Concert 7:30 pm	26	27  Chicken Barbecue
28 10 am Worship	29	30	31 7 pm Deacons			

August 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 7 & 8 am Breakfast, & Workday
4 10 am Worship & Communion Concert 3 pm, Ogmundson	5	6 Yoga Each Tuesday at 9 am	7	8	9	10 Church Fair 9 am to 2 pm
11 10 am Worship	12	13 7 pm Council	14 7 pm WS&O	15	16	17
18 10 am Worship Forum 11:30 Cartoons in World History 3 pm PFlag	19	20	21 7 pm Trustees	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24
25 10 am Worship Concert, 3pm Shizue Sano,	26	27	28 7 pm Deacons	29	30	31 Labor Day weekend begins

Deering Community Church
United Church Of Christ
763 Deering Center Road
Deering, NH 03244
603-464-5643
Rev. Barbara Luckett Currie

We're on The Web
deeringcommunitychurch.org

*We're on Facebook at Deering
Community Church, United
Church of Christ*



Deering Community Church
Women's Guild

Quilt Raffle

Log Cabin in Light & Bright
Queen Size Quilt

Drawing Saturday August 10th, 2013
Summer Fair, Deering, NH

Tickets: \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

