

D⁺eering Community Church

The Newsletter



Pastor's Letter



Dear Deering Community Church, UCC and Friends,

Brene Brown in her profound book, *Daring Greatly: How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead*, writes:

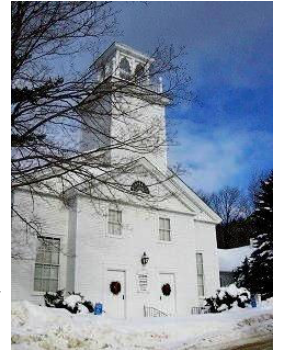
"Vulnerability isn't good or bad. It's not what we call a dark emotion, nor is it always a light, positive experience. Vulnerability is the core of all emotions and feelings. To feel is to be vulnerable. To believe vulnerability is weakness is to believe that feeling is weakness. To foreclose on our emotional life out of a fear that the costs will be too high is to walk away from the very thing that gives purpose and meaning to living. Vulnerability is the birthplace of love, belonging, joy, courage, empathy, accountability, and authenticity. If we want greater clarity in our purpose or deeper and more meaningful spiritual lives, vulnerability is the path."

Much is happening in our great church AND in people's personal and professional lives. Sometimes it is really hard to keep up with it all. Yet I continue to feel energized by your unswerving commitment and dedication to the life of our church. I continue to puzzle over the fact that our core community is so small when the joy of the journey together is so incredibly empowering and inspiring. We've had intriguing talks brought to us by Don Johnson and World Service obtaining funding from NH Humanities Council Grants, amazing music from Shizue Sano and our tireless choir, two well attended explorations of spirituality from the Bill Moyers' interview with Mythologist, Joseph

November, December 2016

Campbell (thank you Jack Hubert), weekly worship which seems to be attracting new people, casual but meaningful coffee hour conversations, a healing service, outreach through our varied in-house and community mission projects and so much more. (Due to unforeseen circumstances I was not able to present the overview of Rev. John Dorhauer's book *Beyond Resistance*. It will happen at the end of October and you will hear more about that.)

It always intrigues me when I'm in some conversations and the person finds out I'm a minister. Those who are Christian are always quick to say, "I'm spiritual but not religious," as if being religious is somehow NOT being spiritual! And this is why, they imply, they do not go to church. I know what they mean but, frankly, the separation is illusory. Yes, no one wants religion shoved down their throats, or be told what and how to believe. Yes, this is a Christian church and there are truths that we hold to be evident by belief and tradition. BUT in our church and the denomination of the United Church of Christ there is a wide openness to many spiritual expressions. I would dare risk saying that here, as in many Christian



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Pastor's Letter Cont.

Rev. Beardslee

churches, the bottom line is to Love as we are loved, compassion, respect, and a commitment to justice and right human relationship—all of which our troubled, broken, and aching sea of humanity needs!

I would dare say also, with Brene Brown, that the only pre-requisite for spiritual / religious life, whatever form it takes, is vulnerability as she so expresses it. Vulnerability creates openness and a deepening sense of relationship in COMMUNITY, the only other necessity in spiritual / religious endeavor. Spiritual or religious isolation and aloneness is incompatible with spirituality and religion, unless you are a monk or nun. Yet even they speak deeply about the sense of community with each other and the world from their spiritual endeavors. We need each other. We need support, encouragement, affirmation, and sense of belonging

and empowerment that comes with community, be it in a church or a group of 'like-minded' folk. Anyway, we've much to offer so please INVITE a friend, anytime, for any event or worship experience. Most will come back. Most will stay.

Deering Community Church continues to humble me in your sense of community and commitment, your vulnerability in the willingness to stretch your boundaries, try new things and open to the ever present Living God within the heart of every person and among the heart of every community! Our vulnerability will continue to serve as we dare greatly into the future that comes to meet us from the imagination of God. Carry on good and faithful servants!

Peace, Rev. Bill Beardslee

Pastor's Installation

Bryan Terry

You are cordially invited to the installation of Rev. Bill Beardslee as Pastor and Teacher of the Deering Community Church. The service begins at 3:00 pm on November 6, 2016. Refreshments follow in Sherwood Hall. Clergy of all traditions are invited to robe and process. Participants will gather in Sherwood Hall at 2:40 pm. Please RSVP to Ms Bryan Terry only if you are attending so we can assess refreshment needs. bryter24@hotmail.com or 603-440-9898.

Thanksgiving Service

Rev Beardslee

Please join us for the annual ecumenical Thanksgiving service, Sunday November 20th at 7:00 p.m. It is held this year at the Smith Memorial UCC on Main Street in Hillsboro. Let's come out strong in our presence and support for this effort to bring our church communities together. Jane Waters is organizing the joint choirs and leading us in the music. The offering will go to food pantries.

Stewardship

Rev Beardslee

By the time you read this we will be completing our Stewardship Campaign for the next fiscal year. We thank Hazel Vogelien for stepping out of her comfort zone to assist in this very important and critical ministry and to her "crew" of helpers! Stewardship Sunday is November 20th for the final receipt of your pledges.

Musical Notes

Jane Waters

With a Voice of Singing, prepare ye this. . . .! William Shaw's beautiful anthem is one of praise to be sung by the choir on **November 6th** at the installation of the Rev. Bill Beardslee as minister of our church. We are fortunate to have choir members from Smith Church join us and our beloved organist, Warren Geissinger, to provide musical enhancement to the service. As November – December is a celebratory liturgical time, the following events are involving choir with special dedication and preparation:

November 6 - Installation of
Bill Beardslee - 3:00 PM

November 20 - Thanksgiving Ecumenical
Service – 7 PM @ Smith Memorial Church with
combined choirs from Deering, Smith, United
Methodist, Washington, and St. Mary's Churches.

December 11 - 3:00 PM @ Deering Church – A Cantata (interspersed with the readings), *Morning Star* by Lloyd Larson. Featured are the combined Deering – Smith choirs with added voices, Jane Waters, Director, Barbara Daley, accompanist, and Bill Beardslee as the primary reader. A reception will follow. Note: This performance replaces our usual *Service of Lessons and Carols* and is open to the public.

December 24 - 5:00 PM Our Christmas Eve service, which is always a special time to sing familiar carols.

The choir meets on Thursdays 7 – 8:30 PM in Sherwood Hall and welcomes all who love to sing.

Trustees Report

Jean Lewis

Hello to all our church family. WORK DAY!! Our wondrous, fun, exciting time when we keep up with chores large and small which contribute to our functionality and pride in God's House. With eleven, yes 11, around our bountiful breakfast table recently, we gave many thanks. 'Many hands make light work'!! And Peter's breakfasts astound and nourish the body, heart and soul! Please, will you join us? We can use your help in some gardening, putting together drawers, arranging our new kitchen, lining shelves and drawers, maybe straightening out an area you think should be tidied.....?? Thanks more than you know for your donations of time. **Saturday November 5th and Saturday December 3rd are the next two workdays.** **The November 5th workday** is very important, as we want everything to be in fine order for Bill's installation the next day! Please come and help with your time and talents.

Thanks to the Trustees

Pastor Bill Beardslee

Thanks

I cannot help but give thanks to the Trustees and so many others for the near completion of the kitchen. The amount of time and energy that went into making this a reality was amazing. There are too many to thank, but I must thank Jean Lewis, Trustee Chair, and her trusty side-kick Bryan for heading up the project and Trustee Tim Ferwerda for his time and talent. I would be remiss not to mention and thank community volunteer Tom Cavanaugh for his dedication and countless hours of service and impeccable craftsmanship. Finally, thanks to Peter Cram and the Work Day crews who do so much around here and have put in many hours on the kitchen and handicap bathroom conversion.

Pictures of Recent Events

Christine Marcroft

These pictures are from our first Joseph Campbell Forum that Jack Hubert presented at the church. It was called :The Power of Myths, Going Over to the Dark Side. It was very interesting and thought provoking.



These are from our second Joseph Campbell forum presented by Jack Hubert on October 16. Joseph Campbell was interviewed by Bill Moyers quite a long time ago....We had a good turn-out for both Forums.



Here are some pictures from our 'Meet and Greet Bill' at Gink's house at Leiby Farm in Deering on September 17. The day was just beautiful for the gathering, and Ginks' place was perfect for it! We had a nice group from church, the police, and a few Deering residents. The food was great!! Bill was happy to meet everyone and Angela and David Bell presented the church with a beautiful photograph of the Flag at the town memorial.



Guild Gleanings

Barbara Glauner

We have had wonderful meetings this year. We have two new members who spotted our group on the church website and came in for a meeting -- then joined the group! June Holm and Kate Boucher (new to Deering) have been added to our group this year. In addition there is another lady I spoke to who is interested in joining once they move to the area. So it is an exciting time for Guild!

The Guild has been hard at work with church members, running the Summer Fair in August and we did very well raising over \$4000. Small amounts of money are still trickling in as people bought things like jams, cheese, and left over attic treasures during a tag sale run by Carol Hubert and the Guild on October 8, yielding about \$150. The remaining items will be packed up on the November 5th workday and stored away in one of the basement rooms, to reappear at some future time for sale.

Our own June Holm is making a new more visible portable sign for the Guild to advertise our meetings out in front of the church and so forth.

On October 16th, 10 Guild members and four guests went to the play "Beauty and the Beast" at the Manchester Community Players Theater musical production. A tradition that has been established over the last few years is that we go on an outing to a play in the fall. We stop for lunch at the Currier Art Museum Café as well.

The new Guild membership booklet has been produced for 2017 and will be distributed at the **November 2, 2016** meeting. Kay Daniels is Hostess and Priscilla Beaudrault will do devotions at this meeting. We will be discussing the 2017 proposed Guild budget then. There is no planned meeting in December at this time. We look forward to seeing everyone at the November 2nd meeting at the church in Sherwood Hall!

W S & O

Jeanne Bartlett

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Neighbors In Need Special Mission. This offering was received on October 9th and the total, as of this writing, was \$145.00. This sum goes a long way toward the UCC vision: *this we believe...*No Child Should Go To Bed Hungry.

On October 30, during our worship service, a representative from Project Genesis, a division of Youth Services, spoke about how this Teen drop in center, serving the Hillsboro-Deering School District, benefits from the 24 snack bags, filled and delivered each week by one of the four area churches. We are one of these churches and we hope to continue this service with your help. This project is greatly in need of funds; it costs about \$70.00 each month to supply the bags with small meals, a drink and a snack. For some young persons, it addresses hunger over the weekend when school meals are unavailable.

Advent Reflections

Rev Beardslee

Come meet with Rev. Beardslee after church to reflect upon and discuss the meaning and relevance of Advent. We'll meet beginning the first Sunday of Advent, November 27th at 11:15 am (for further reflection on Beyond Resistance in the context of Advent). Then we'll decide whether to continue with the book or further explore the theme of Advent Expectation. What is Advent? Why do you/we celebrate it? What does it mean for our current, changing circumstances and daily lives?

Those reflections and discussions continue on December 4th and December 18th at 11:15 am. Don't forget to bring a bag lunch on these Sundays.

Moderator's Letter

Peter Cram

Dear Friends,

I'm writing today to share with you the excitement I'm feeling and the freshness I'm seeing with the Deering Community Church these days. It is no coincidence that it coincides with our having welcomed into our fold our new minister, Rev. Bill Beardslee.

Those who have been fortunate enough to have met and spoken with him, and who have worked with him, and have heard him preach on any given Sunday know what I mean. Bill has brought revitalization and a renewing spirit with him that has already made an impact. In committees, he brings fresh ideas that make us think and act in new ways. From the pulpit, he consistently brings insightful interpretation of scripture and an inspiring message. It is not uncommon for post-service coffee hour group discussions to go on at length, continuing the thoughts expressed from the pulpit. But perhaps most importantly, Bill is a warm and genuine individual, who has new hope for the church, and the ingenuity and energy to work toward its revitalization. We are fortunate indeed to have crossed paths with this man.

We have Pastor Bill's formal installation as our new minister coming up, and I'm certain it will be an exciting and inspiring event, though by the time you read this, it is likely that it may have already taken place. These services are great events, and people close to those who are participating are well served by attending them. I find it amazing to see the many clergy that are there, all helping to celebrate the new role being taken on by one of their own. To hear the words of some of the most renowned people of faith in our conference and community is amazing. It is a wonderful event, not only for the one being installed, but for the congregation and the greater community.

We have been focusing on this installation service for some time, and had been struggling to come up with a date that would work for Bill, the church and for the members of the Conference Ministry that will be participating. November 6 was chosen, but it seemed so far off from when Bill first joined us on July 1. At this point, the timing seems perfect. We have come to know Bill, we now know how special he is, and can appreciate more fully the importance of this significant event.

Meanwhile, as I say, Pastor Bill has been busy in our revitalization. We're all familiar with his work with the 'New Day' committee, helping to incorporate ideas in reaching out to new people in the greater community. He has worked diligently on this year's Stewardship campaign. Communicating with, and reaching out to those in the larger community will no doubt have a positive effect. But most recently, Bill has had us take a hard look at ourselves and the things we do. Over time, we have all made choices that define us as a group. We do many great things, but how that fits into our formal structure as defined by our bylaws isn't always clear. At the present time, the Church Council is taking a look at that relationship, and will propose adjustments that we think will benefit us, and make us even more effective.

These are exciting times indeed for the Deering Community Church, and we are incredibly fortunate to live and participate in the experience. We will all be called on to participate more fully, but it will bring us personal revitalization and newness of life as we work toward the fulfillment of our combined mission of spiritual growth and action.

Regards, Peter

For Your Information

Food Pantries

We continue to collect alternating weekly donations of non-perishable food for the Food Pantries.

Hillsboro: There is need for small cans of meat for **November**, such as ham, tuna, chicken, etc., and personal care products for **December**, 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 !**

Pasca Ferwerda,
Financial Secretary



NOVEMBER

Timothy Finn, 2

Peg Hauschildt, 8

Hope Thomas, 13

Barbara Glauner, 18

Kathryn Daniels, 26

Jane Waters, 27

DECEMBER

Christine Marcroft, 5

Marjorie Bryce, 8

Kate Kelly, 12



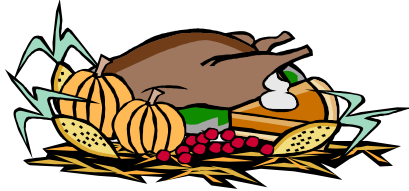
Happy Anniversary

No wedding Anniversaries for November and December





November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2  Guild @ Noon	3  Weekly Choir Practice Thursdays 7 to 8:30 pm	4	5 Workday 8 to 10 am, 7 am Breakfast Daylight savings ends tonight
6 10 am Worship & Communion. Pastor's Installation 3 pm	7	8 Election Day 7 pm Council	9 7 pm W S & O	10	11	12
13 10 am Worship	14	15	16 7 pm Trustees	17	18	19
20 10 am Worship, Stewardship Sunday Ecumenical Service 7 pm	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27 10 am Worship, Luncheon Discussion	28	29 7 pm Deacons	30			



December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				 1 Weekly Choir Practice Thursday's 7 to 8:30 pm 2		3 Workday 8 to 10 am, 7 am breakfast
4 10 am Worship & Communion, Advent Luncheon Discussions	5	6	7	8	9	10
			No Guild			
11 10 am Worship, A Cantata & Reception afterward 3pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
		7 pm Council	7 pm W S & O			
18 10 am Worship, Advent Luncheon Discussions	19	20	21 Winter Solstice 7 pm Trustees	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24  Christmas Eve service, 5 pm
25 10 am Worship Christmas Day	26	27 7 pm Deacons	28	29	30	31  New Year's Eve

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Pastor Rev. William Beardslee

We're on The Web
deeringcommunitychurch.org

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



God Bless our Deering Community Church and all
who come here from far and wide.

