

D⁺eering Community Church

The Newsletter



Pastor's Letter



Dear Deering Community Church, UCC and Friends,

THANK YOU FOR THE WARMEST OF WELCOMES!

It is wonderful to be a member of this Church and community. I (finally) walk among you poised to journey toward

whatever God's future holds as it approaches us. I look forward to getting to know more of you both within the church and the community. I recognize how important it is to pace ourselves and take the time we need to create various contexts in which to do this. Please do not hesitate to call or email to meet here or if you would like a visit. I'm in Deering on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and, of course, available in emergencies.

It is clear that the times in which we live pose great challenges. Change is afoot on all levels of Church, society and world. Change is inevitable in personal life and our shared life. The Church is no different and has faced change from the time of Jesus to the present. It is actually a miracle those early communities birthed into a world-wide institution! Now there is decline and much less interest and commitment to "being church." The reasons vary and remain complicated.

Our General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, Rev. John Dorhauer, wrote a book recently called, *Beyond Resistance: The Institutional Church meets the Post-Modern World*. A number of our Deering Church leaders are reading it. The cover of the book states its' intention and focus quite clearly:

"...What is unfolding is nothing short of a *second Reformation*, and this Reformation (unlike the previous one) can unite both the change agents and the changing institution as partners on

September, October 2016

the same playing field.

"This book addresses the realities faced by what too many have called a dying institution. It is a call to move the institutional church out of a modality of denial and into a perspective of hope; out of a paradigm of scarcity and into a world of possibility with a growing number of options and allies; out of a time of end-game scenarios where only the fit will survive, and into what James Carse calls an "Infinite Game," where those who play ensure that the game continues long after they have left the field."

The book takes up this question of change in the history of the Christian Church, but with a particular focus on right now. It is a deeply insightful book. We encourage anyone and everyone to read it.

We will hold a Luncheon Presentation/Discussion after church on September 25th. It is my hope that an ongoing reflection/discussion/action group will evolve from this. The book speaks to our situation as a small church and ties right in to our Vitality group work of growing our church.

Our Vitality Group has learned that the way of



Inside this issue:

Adult Luncheon Discussions W S & O	2
Chicken Barbecue Photos Vitality Group	3
Summer Church Fair	4
Summer church fair photos Financial Report	5
Trustees Report Musical Notes	6
FYI	7
Calendars	8,9
Back Page	10

Pastor's Letter

Rev Bill Beardslee

“doing church”, to which many of us have become accustomed, no longer serves us nor helps us grow. The days of multi-generational, miraculously filled pews and Christian Ed classrooms are gone. The overall vitality of our small churches suffer from the uncertainty of our times and this transition to “doing church differently.” However, “It really is a great time to be the Church!”, states Rev. Dorhauer. (p. 62) We remember that “with God, all things are possible”. So put on your travelin’ shoes, face into the winds of change and meet the New Future that awaits us!

In Christ's Peace, Rev. Bill Beardslee

Adult Luncheon Discussions

Jeanne Bartlett

Adult Luncheon discussions are alive and well! Eleven people joined in on a lively discussion after church on **July 24** on *What does it mean to be a Christian Today?* Out of a text from a UCC resource for Bible study came some challenging questions. Here are a few samples: *What should be the priorities of Christians today? What provides you with a sense of security?* Comments and opinions were abundant and rich. All agreed to meet again and Jack Hubert offered to bring a video from one of the series of interviews with the Mythologist Joseph Campbell, conducted by Bill Moyers. Rev, Bill Beardslee and Jack led a discussion following the video, *The Hero's Journey*. On **August 28** we talked about the Hero/ine within each of us, the wisdom self that carries us through the adventures of life. Some of Campbells suggestions for the Hero's journey are: Have compassion for the world

and those within it. Imperfection evokes love in human beings. Don't try to live your life too soon. Know the stages of your life. Live them. True personal fulfillment has no short cut.

From a Christian perspective he made visible the many manifestations of the invisible Spirit, alive, here, now and throughout history.

On September 25, Rev. Bill Beardslee will acquaint the Luncheon Discussion Group with Rev. John Dorhauer's book called *Beyond Resistance*. Please see the Pastor's Letter article for more information about this dynamic book.

Out of these three sessions will come a title for the next date on **October 30**. We'll look for your suggestions. So make up your sandwich and join in the fun! Note these dates are listed also in the calendar on the back page of this newsletter.

W S & O

Jeanne Bartlett

The Annual Chicken BBQ was a great community event. Seventy or more folks attended; an affirmation to “reaching out into community”. There was a generous outpouring of cash, too. Nearly \$200.00 was gifted by attendees. It helps to keep this tradition growing and your presence especially. See photos on the next page.

We "dropped the ball" this time re getting our donations in a container going to Rimbi on that boat to help in Zimbabwe. We plan to make it a priority next time and include Deering Community Church's contribution to our friends in Rimbi and elsewhere in Zimbabwe. Meanwhile positive correspondence goes on with the two children sponsored by our church. Please enjoy the free Forum coming to our church on **September 11th, at 11:30 am** with Jo Radner who will speak of [Family Stories:](#)

[How and Why to Remember and Tell Them](#). This has been arranged by Don Johnson through NH Humanities. The August 21st Forum on Runaway Wives during colonial times was a great success.—see photos.



Chicken Barbecue Photos

Christine Marcroft & David Glauner



Here are some pictures from the churches Annual Chicken BBQ held on July 30th. The food was wonderful as always! Chef Bob Fuller cooked our marinated chicken and Don Johnson shucked and prepared the corn on the cob. Others brought salads and side dishes plus desserts. We had a beautiful day and around 70 + people came this year. Bryan had brought some hula hoops and much fun was had with them!

Vitality Group

Photos, Christine Marcroft



Here are some pictures of our Vitality group meeting at Ming Du's in August. Bill came with his bike! We are making progress and are enthusiastic about what is going to happen in our church! Lee, Chris Nase and Jack were missing that day.



Summer Church Fair

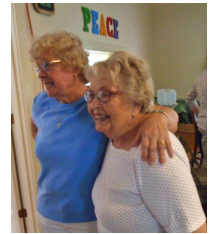
Jeanne Bartlett

The tools for the Tool table appeared and appeased the builders who attended our fabulous fair. My son-in-law bought a chop saw! We gathered names and addresses from new folks who couldn't resist guessing how many marbles there were in a jar. The blueberry kuchen came again and was snapped up. I pushed bean soup samples. Next store to my bean kits was the Cheese table, their samples added to my little taster cups. New this year, pickled eggs and beets! New, too, our pastor, Rev. Bill Beardsley who came to get acquainted and lend his charm to all. Volunteers and family outside our members were valued and lauded for their input. Honey, fresh veggies, maple syrup candy from our Deering farms were snapped up. The Heaven and Earth Quilt, hung on the wall, beckoned to gamblers who longed to win. One man bought 20 books! There was a roving banjo player who coached people to mumble forgotten words to songs they loved. Who would believe that there was lovely goat cheese coming out of West Deering and herb packets put together for our parties. The line, before the church bell tolled the nine am hour, was long but orderly as they descended into the basement for Attic Treasures and books. Geraniums bloomed with promise for your window sill out in the pavilion. The old hot dog steamer produced its magic under cheerful, surgical gloved helpers, dispensing chopped onions and relish, too.

There was coffee and muffins and a pleasant hostess to seat you at a table. Best of all was the drawing at 2 PM announcing the winner of the raffle. It was our own Joyce Peace! That quilt was designed and produced by Kay Daniels, won by Tom Copadis (cousin) one year, donated back to the church, and won again this day by cousin, Joyce. Hmm... well, we all rejoice over the connection. Lastly, the money counters have tallied up. So far the gross sales stand at \$4400.00. More monies are coming in and so are some bills for expenses, so stay tuned! From Jeanne for the Guild and Church, partners. Pictures of the event follow.



Raffle sales @ The Balloon Fest



We made about 185 jars of various jams this year in the church kitchen with the fabulous help of Pasca, Jane Levesque, Bryan and Christine. A big Thank You to all!!

Summer Church Fair

Photos: Christine Marcroft & David Glauner

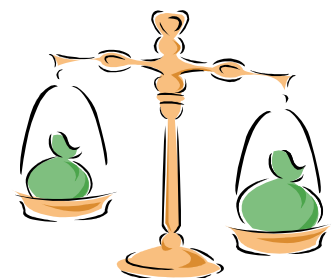


Financial reports

Chris Nase, Pasca Ferwerda, Peter Cram

The following is from the Council Minutes: As reported by Pasca and Peter, minutes by Chris:

The day Sam made an announcement about the Deacon's fund we received \$350. We received endowment income and Eleanor Campbell fund money this month. Treasurer - Peter reviewed his report, he paid half of our budgeted amount for OCWM. Bill did look into the Andover Newton question - they are still looking for support as they transfer to Yale and they will still continue their identity. Jeanne recommends that we support them this year and next year look into other areas to support. Jeanne motioned that we honor the \$100 budgeted to Andover Newton. Joyce seconded the motion and the council unanimously approved the motion. Peter reported that the amount for Feed a Teen is too high because he has not corrected the amount after reimbursing Peg. Financially, we are doing well for this time of year.



Trustees Report

Jean Lewis

The Trustees have been hard at work with all items for the new kitchen now lined up, as well as the contractor to install the counter tops! There is quite a bit of detail work to be coordinated. We again must thank Tom Cavanaugh for his fine contributions, especially now of washing the kitchen walls preparatory to painting!! Please do thank him when you see him!

We have a list of projects to consider after

completion of the kitchen. However, we are doing all that is needed at this time. As ever, we invite all to give us a hand at the work days, which will be **September 10th--Saturday at 8-10 am**, NO workday Labor Day weekend! Then **October 1st**. Please DO join us for a great breakfast at 7 am and a time of fine fellowship. Peace and good wishes from your trustees, Tim Ferwerda, Hazel Vogelien, Jane Levesque and Jean Lewis, Chair.

Musical Notes

Jane Waters

This summer our choir has eased into singing together for our Sunday services with Pastor Bill occasionally joining in. We know he has many talents, but musically this was confirmed when he sang the Benediction "If I Had a Hammer" accompanying himself on his guitar. Thank you, Bill!

The two concerts, Monadnock Music on July 21st and Shizue Sano on August 21st were fine examples of cultural enrichment in our community. A footnote to Shizue's performance is in order to express appreciation for not only her flawless and sensitive playing, but also for her graciousness. She had a small but enthusiastic audience including a music student with her teacher. Shizue performed works by Bach, Chopin, Ravel, Liszt, Schubert, Percy Grainger & Fritz Kreisler on the piano. The church windows were open and a sweet breeze and her music flowed around us. We look forward to her return next summer.



"Summertime and the living is easy" as George Gershwin so beautifully set, comes to an end. In September, the choir will begin Thursday 7 pm rehearsals again. Plans for hymn sings with Smith Church and other musical collaborations are TBA. The choir had their final annual get together at Jane and Steve Waters house this summer. Due to the rainy weather that day, the picnic was held indoors. Here are a few photos of the occasion from Christine Marcroft.



For Your Information

Food Pantries

We continue to collect alternating weekly donations of non-perishable food or personal care products for the food pantries.

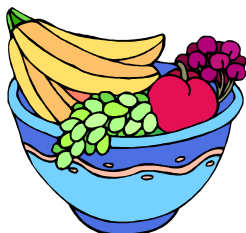
Hillsboro: There is need for small cans of meat for **October**, such as ham, tuna, chicken, etc., and for **September** personal care products such as bath soap, shampoo, body wash, and laundry soap, but each week you're welcome to bring whatever food or personal-care items you have. The Food Pantry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

Weare: Donations of all types of food and personal care products are always 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



SEPTEMBER

Sarah Byron, 4

Lynn Compton, 19

Jean Johnson, 20

Priscilla Beaudrault, 20

Henry Weeden, 22

Lauren Warner, 23

Pasca Ferwerda, 29

William Compton, 30

OCTOBER

James Carpenter, 16

Tom Copadis, 19

Mackensie Nase, 20

David Bell, 20

Ann Foraker, 22



Hello From Stuart Huggard and Olive - riding in his new golf cart at home in Florida.

Happy Anniversary

SEPTEMBER

Lynn & Robert Compton, 4

Thank you! Deering Community Church

First off, thank you for being there in Deering Center. And thank you for being you. Ruth and I have so enjoyed our sojourn with you during these past two and one half years of ministry together in the name of Jesus. Our time since leaving you on June 19 has been fuller than we anticipated and it is only now that I am here writing to you. Thank you for your send-off with the barbecue on Saturday and final worship and coffee hour on Sunday. We were quite touched by your remembrances and the generous cash gift. And thank you Anonymous person(s) who contributed to the church endowment fund in honor of our time with you. I have shared many times that you are living your mission as a manifestation of the Body of Christ to the Deering community and beyond. With your ministry, together with Bill Beardslee, I know you will continue following your mission bringing peace that passes human understanding.

Leonard and Ruth Zecchini



September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Worship & Communion, 10 am, Deacon's Fund	5 Labor Day	6	7 Guild @ Noon	8 Choir 7 pm Thursdays	9	10 Breakfast 7 am, Workday 8 to 10 am
11 10 am Worship Forum 11:30 - Family Stories by NH Humanities	12	13 7 pm Council	14 7 pm W S & O	15	16	17
18 10 am Worship	19	20	21 7 pm Trustees	22 Fall Begins	23	24
25 10 am Worship	26	27 7 pm Deacons	28	29	30	
Adult Luncheon Discussion						



October 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

**1 Breakfast 7
am, Workday
8 to 10 am @
church**

**2 10 am
Worship &
Communion,
Deacon's
Fund**

3

4

5



Guild @ Noon

6



**Choir 7 pm
Thursdays**

7

8

**9 10 am
Worship**

10

**Columbus
Day**

11

7 pm Council

12

7 pm W S & O

13

14

15

**16 10 am
Worship**

17

18

19

20

21

22

**3 pm Pflag
Concord**

7 pm Trustees

**23 10 am
Worship**

24

25

26

27

28

29

7 pm Deacons

**30 10 am
Worship
Adult
Luncheon
Discussion**

31



Halloween

**Deering Community Church
United Church Of Christ
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603-464-5643
Rev. William "Bill" Beardslee**

We're on The Web
deeringcommunitychurch.org

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

