# the Newsletter



## Thoughts from the Pastor's Pen



The Easter Season burst into the Flames of Pentecost alighting upon the gathered community with the inspiration to Love as Jesus loved. A new chapter began that changed the course of history. Eventually the Way became the church and some could not help but remark about the followers of Jesus.

"Look how they Love." May that once again be the common remark about our religion and us.

Richard Rohr has a meditation blog to which I subscribe https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/2017/. In his post called, "A Fountain Fulness of Love, he quotes Bonaventure of Bagnoregio, Italy (c. 1221-1274) "that there are three books from which we learn wisdom:

- 1. The Book of Creation It is from Creation or nature that we grow close to the Creator God.
- 2. The Book of Jesus and Scripture It is from Jesus and Scripture that we come to understand and grow close to restorative Christ-Love and the God of the Word.
- 3. The Book of Experience." It is from the experiential realm that we come into true and right relationship with Living Love, Community, and our Living God.

Here we meet God as Creator, Redeemer/Restorer and One Spirit. These three "books" hold all we need to know and experience as people of faith. The lessons are as manifold as the manifold nature of God.

Bonaventure "also taught that there are three pairs of eyes. (https://cac.org/fountain-fullness-love-2017-06-18/)

1. "The first pair sees all things as a fingerprint

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or footprint of God (*vestigia Dei*), which evokes foundational respect and teachability.

When we look upon creation as the "fingerprint of God" we view the world with wonder and awe in the belief that God is revealed everywhere and at all times if we "have but the yes to see."

2. "The second pair of eyes is the hard work of honest self-knowledge—awareness of how you are processing your reality moment by moment. This is necessary to keep



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your own lens clean and open, and it is the work of your entire lifetime.

Self-reflection is critical to the life well lived. It deepens and expands us to see more fully the reality of God and the shadows and light of our own selves.

3. "The third pair is the eyes of contemplation, which allow you to see things in their essence and in their core meaning. Only then can you receive the transmitted image of God on your soul...All outer images can then mirror and evoke your own inner divine image."

## Pastor's Pen cont.

Pastor Bill

Looking inward through contemplation allows us to see in the through the Spirit, God's ever-present gift and guide for every moment of our lives. When you look into another's eyes you see the Face of Christ.

This little paradigm reminds me of the foundational, threefold teaching of Jesus when challenged by the question of what is the greatest commandment: "To Love God with all your heart, with all your mind and with all your strength and the second is like unto to the first, to Love your neighbor as yourself. Above this there is no greater commandment." There is in all of this a Trinitarian formation, a series of threes that dance with one another and inform our minds and hearts on the spiritual journey. An awakened Christian faith and life style is one lived in awareness or mindfulness. It is a practiced faith and not a faith of commands of do's

and don'ts. It is faith alive, fluid and always in flux, adapting to inbreaking Spirit, the fundamental nature of change. For our God and faith is about continuing revelation. God's reality is not fixed and static. As God's people, we find the ability to be fluid, teachable, open with expectation of new wisdom.

We continue to grow in Spirit, deepening our love of this Community and seeking new ways to be the Church. The season of Pentecost is called Ordinary Time. May the ordinary be seen for what it is, the Extra Ordinary and may your eyes and hearts see the awe and wonder, the promise and the hope abounds through God's Spirit. It is an amazing time to be alive!

Church News Pastor Bill

#### WELCOME KATE BOUCHER



Our new administrative assistant. Kate has a wealth of computer and social media knowledge and writing experience. She is great addition to the staff. Kate works only 9 hrs a week and we ask that you be respectful of her time boundaries and hierarchy of tasks. She's in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am until approximately 1:30 pm.

Kate's also a member of the church and we ask that when she is here for worship that business be confined to her office time.

#### CONSTANT CONTACT

We continue to utilize our church wide email program called Constant Contact. We hope this is serving its purpose. Your feedback is always welcomed. Please note that clicking on and opening any emails received helps us evaluate the effectiveness of our outreach via this medium.

The same is true for efforts on Facebook, and now Twitter and Instagram. Please click AND share.

#### PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS MINISTRY

Most churches have one of these. This church has had them for most settled pastorates. It could be best be described as the Hub of COMMUNICATION between pastor and congregation and congregation and pastor. It serves a kind of mediator role to educate about and facilitate healthy communication among us.

## **Church News**

By appointment to the Council, Peg Hauschildt, Pasca Ferwerda, Joyce Peace, Peter Cram and Bryan Terry, comprise our group. They will meet regularly with the Pastor and serve to educate us about healthy communication. Over the coming months you will hear more from them about their role as they prepare to host an after-church Town Hall type meeting to introduce themselves and seek your questions and thoughts.

The Team has met a few times and come up with the following vision/mission statement.

- Our vision is to create a sustaining, healthy, open, just and supportive environment in which the Pastor and congregation can best fulfill the ministries of the Deering Community Church.
- The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee covenants with the Deering Community Church to support, and sustain connection and communication between the Pastor and the congregation through kind collaborative listening, education and ongoing mutual evaluation for a healthy community.

It is important to note that no anonymous concerns you have about the pastor or the congregation will be accepted. The primary goal is to facilitate and mediate relationship and conversation. This cannot

### Pastor Bill & photos Christine Marcroft

be accomplished anonymously.

#### WELCOME BACK TO SUMMER

Thanks to all who made our Welcome Back to Summer event such a wonderful success. Over thirty people from the church and community attended. Thanks to Carol Hubert for being point person, Jeanne Bartlett, daughter Holly, and Joyce Peace for the strawberries and prep, Peter Cram for whipping up the tasty shortcake, Kate Boucher and Nell Wiener for inspiring camp music and sing-a-long and to all who helped clean-up.



## Treasurer's Report

**Peter Cram** 

Our financial picture looks reasonably good at this point in our fiscal year. We continue to be judicious with our spending, and for the most part we are keeping in line with our budget, while meeting our monthly obligations.

Going forward, we expect that we'll have some expenditures related to the painting of the church this summer, however the Trustees have plans in place to keep those expenses to a minimum.

We're back on track with Katlyn as our new Church Administrative Assistant. Having gone without having this position filled has been a challenge for many, and most of all for Pastor Bill. From my perspective, through this interim period, expenditures related to the church secretary have gone down, which helps! We're glad to have you on board, Katlyn.

Last month we paid all but one line item in our Outreach budget for the year. That we can actually be ahead of the game with those commitments by the end of June is certainly a good thing.

## **Trustees Report**

**Jean Lewis** 

Hello to all! It seems we may have summer after all! Many of our outdoor projects have had to be postponed due to weather. Meanwhile the office bathroom is coming along nicely with the refurbishment. As ever when a 'simple' project is begun there are hidden complexities to be addressed and many volunteer hours of hard work.

Next on our agenda is planning the much needed exterior painting of our buildings. Frugal Yankees that we are, we will depend upon all who are able to contribute to this voluntary effort. Power washing, scraping, more power washing. We will begin to the left of the double blue doors and continue in small sections to the right and work our way around the cape structure. There will be jobs large and small and we will schedule times for the work, and duly inform all of you. We really need to urge assistance with our painting project in any way you may be able. Thank you in advance!

How will we finance this? Paint is about \$30/per gallon. With this in mind, we ask our Deering Community Church members and community friends to "BUY A BUCKET!" for \$30 each----or several. Your donations may be addressed to the Deering Community Church with the notation "Buy A Bucket" on the memo line! Watch for a poster in Sherwood Hall, as well, with the buckets posted as they come in! We need to begin as soon as we have 'buckets'......Thank you in advance for your kind individual generosity.

Next item of importance, for anyone wishing to reserve Sherwood Hall, or the sanctuary for an event, outside of our usual church activities, there is a form available on the Church website. By phoning the church office, you will receive further information, with Bill or Kate checking the date and time availability. Then the form is to be submitted and signed by either Tim Ferwerda, or Jean Lewis, the trustees serving these contracts.

W S & O

Jeanne Bartlett

World Service and Outreach Strengthen the Church offering yielded a total of \$1,251.00. This fund was established to grow the United Church of Christ's future by initiatives that promote growth and renewal. The NH Conference retains 50% of offering received for use within the conference; the balance is used for UCC's National ministries. Note: for the past four years these funds have been directed toward developing and nurturing youth programs, one of the areas offering the greatest potential for strengthening the church within the Conference as well as strengthening local churches or associations. Thank you everyone!

Watch for the "deft chef", Bob Fuller, who has agreed to grill the chicken for the annual BBQ on July 29th. Please see Barbara Glauner's creative "chicken" poster here and posted around town. We will be pleased to receive side dishes to offer along with the corn and chicken such as baked beans, salads, fruit, and desserts. Beverages will be provided. The Barbecue is Free to Everyone!

The Teen Bag project benefiting Project Genesis is suspended for the summer until school resumes in September but your donations of funds to pay for the supplies for these bags will continue to be gratefully received.

Welcome Baskets are filled and ready for you to deliver to new residents in our community. If you are aware of people recently moved to our area and would like to call on them please contact Jeanne at 529-2540 or Hazel at 529-7306.



## WS&O cont.

Jeanne Bartlett

Be sure to to check the calendar in this issue for dates of two Humanities to Go programs, August 27: The Ouest for Happiness-- Maria Sanders is a Philosophy professor and coordinates the Philosophy program at Plymouth State University. She is an applied ethicist whose research engages the public in scholarly philosophical dialogue within the areas of medicine, business, education, and law while encouraging thoughtful interaction with existing and emerging technologies in an attempt to create opportunities for civic engagement and reflective living. Dr. Sanders also hosts a weekly radio program on WPCR-Plymouth (91.7 FM) entitled Philosophy 4 Life which offers a public forum for philosophical discourse. She also co-hosts a television show, Happiness Quest, on Pemi-Baker Cable TV and is currently leading a town-wide "Happiness Quest" in Plymouth, New Hampshire.

September 24: Sitting under a Fig Tree. Maren C. Tirabassi is the author of eighteen books, most recently Gifts in Open Hands: More Resources for the Global Community. She is a former Poet Laureate of Portsmouth and Pastor of the Union United Church of Christ in Madbury. Tirabassi travels throughout the country leading writing workshops on memoirs and poetry. She is involved with other New Hampshire Humanities initiatives, including the Connections adult literacy program. Empowering women and children in Tanzania and Uganda.

Marian Baker from Hillsboro will talk about the new developments in her work with Kenyan women, helping to improve their lives. Artwork and craft materials will be on display and for sale to raise funds towards her work. This program, part of the Adult Christian Ed project, took place on June 25, 2017 at 11:30.

## **Musical Notes**

Jane Waters

The months of May and June have given the choir time to wrap up the season with music to correspond with several holidays. We welcomed two new choir members, which makes us very happy. They are Deanna Lenz, soprano, and Stanford Long, bass, both of whom joined the church on Easter Sunday.

A highlight of the Spring was combining with an ecumenical choir on May 5 for the celebration of Plymouth Congregational Church being the first UCC church in the NH Conference to be Open and Affirming twenty-five years ago. Jean Bartlett, Stan Long, Steve and I enjoyed being a part of this large group of singers. A special musical feature was "God of the Past" composed by Plymouth's organist, Laura Belanger, with words by Maren Tirabassi, who incidentally is scheduled to speak here after church this fall.

The 'Sundays at 3' concert series began with Will Ogmundson, much admired composer/pianist, who entertained us with Ragtime tunes and his charming sense of humor. Now, mark your calendars for these next musical events: **July 9** -- Monadnock Music concert @ 3 pm. **July 16** - Vermillion Strings with guest pianist - @ 3 pm, **August 6** -- Shizue Sano, much loved pianist who returns for her 8th performance here. @ 3 pm. In putting this concert series together, Steve and I are most appreciative of the financial support given by many of you. We hope to see you there at these concerts. Bring a friend. All are free!

The year-end choir party (see photos on page 7) at the Waters' was enjoyed by all, including Pastor Bill and guests. Now it's time to take a break from regular practices and rehearsed Sunday singing. (There will be informal choir contributions to the services on most Sundays.) As the Director, I can't say enough for how well the choir sang together and for their selfless commitment and dedication. We do have a good time together!

## **Moderator's Desk**

We are, indeed, "small but mighty". The people in the Deering Community Church continue to do great work in the church, in our communities, and beyond. Summertime is in full swing, and after a long winter, we are ready to enjoy ourselves! With deep and humbling gratitude, we appreciate the blooming flowers, the smell of freshly mowed lawn, a cool breeze, gentle rains, and especially the camaraderie and community found here at this church.

The church recently hosted numerous events with the Music Department concert offerings, the Women's Guild projects, Life Touch photographers taking pictures for the new church Directory and open to the community at large; and the "Welcome Summer" Strawberry shortcake fest and sing along which a community member took the time to come to the church the next day just to say how much she appreciated the event! Let it be known, there will be *much more* going on either at the church like Max Meditation, Mini-Me Yoga, a Chicken BBQ, and the Church Fair. Please, take a minute to regularly refer to the church website with listings of all the events and the church calendar. There is just too much going on for me to express it all here. I really hope to get people to regularly check out the beautiful, spiritual comments from Pastor Bill, as well as the calendar and list of events that can be seen on the church website. If you are so moved, go ahead and let our website master designer, "David Glauner", know just how much you appreciate his dedicated and fabulous work. Another avenue of communication is, of course, "Facebook". Share all that is happening at the DCC with your friends, neighbors and families! We don't want to keep all that is happening here, just to ourselves!!!

As we grow and embrace the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, there are apt to be some changes that may come begrudgingly. Change can be challenging, scary, and yet truly invigorating! While cleaning out file cabinets, we've been creating space for the new and letting go of some of the old. What wonderful memories! What a lot of paper and work for our Archivist, Priscilla Beaudrault! In the course of the restructuring that is happening in our church, we are

hoping to become more closely engaged with each other, our community and world through technology and Social Media. Important, meaningful historic documents and nostalgic, anecdotal information, help us appreciate who we were and where we came from. We now endeavor to understand who we are at this point in time, where we hope to go and who we hope to be. Technology is a tool that many of us older folks find frustrating and difficult, but is vital. We are incredibly fortunate to have Katlyn (Kate) Boucher as our new Administrative Assistant! Kate is adept with current trends in Social Media, computer programs and software. Kate will provide on-going communication between Pastor, congregants, and the community. She is going to be a great ambassador for the Deering Community Church, and a tremendous support for our Pastor! A hearty welcome Kate!

More great news! Folks in the community have stepped forward, as in the past, offering to help with extensive building maintenance tasks, such as the exterior painting of the church. Keep your eyes and ears open for any requests of help from our hard-working Trustees, as they work to maintain the structure and well-being of the church building in our town center. Painting and other major work inside and outside depends on weather, available funds – and most especially – the support from everyone, supplying needed hands and various skills. We are all in this together!

The church needs support from friends, just as we need to support our community friends in some of their endeavors. For instance, Rev. Bill Beardslee and I have proposed some ideas as well as support, to the "Deering Town Common Committee", as it works to create a warm, welcoming, and historically aesthetic common ground for the church and community. The triangle of land in the front of the church actually belongs to the Town. Bob Compton, chair of the committee, approached us to have a representative voice on that committee, in hopes that by working together, we can restore the natural beauty of the land, as well as a healthy connection between the Deering Community Church and the Town. We are

## Moderator's Desk cont.

embedded in the history and actions of the Deering community. I hope everyone takes advantage of the activities and events that the various Town Boards, Committees, Officers and Officials, hold for community members. The Deering Public Library has started a book club and is looking for interested readers! There are always opportunities such as a Plant Sale, Road Side Clean-up, Halloween Scarecrow contest and Dance, in which we are all invited to participate. Later this summer, the Selectmen and Town Officials will be hosting a barbecue on the "Hotel Lot" which is part of the Town Common and is adjacent to the church property. When we collaborate and work together, we can make an even 'mightier' group of people.

A big piece of who we are at the Deering Community Church, is the spiritual quest that is evident, as we "grope" (word taken from one of Rev. Beardslee's Sermons) towards finding ever **Bryan Terry** 

more meaning in our lives. Bill continues to guide us as we thirst for deeper understanding and awe of the Scriptures and the life of the greatest teacher of all: Jesus. We are ever reminded of how much we are loved... iust as we are. But, Jesus also challenged his Disciples and challenges us, to grow through our own actions, to accept and love others – just as we love ourselves, complete with our own inadequacies. Isn't it good to know that we are not 'groping' alone?! Through our sense of community, our sense of hope and promise, our love of music, laughter, and beauty, we will move along – together – on our spiritual life journey. The good people of this church read, listen, question, act, sing, 'eat and be merry', and especially: share a tender love and affection for each other and for all of God's creation. Let each of us continue to let our light shine brightly, so that the Spirit cannot help but be felt by everyone around us! Happy Summer!

## **Choir Party photos**





### photos Christine Marcroft







## **Guild Gleanings**

#### Barbara Glauner

The Guild started off this year with renewed vigor, new ideas, and some new members who have joined the group. Following our luncheon meetings, there have been several major topics covered in our business meetings.

The new Thrift Shop, started and run by the Guild in the Deering church basement the last Saturday morning of each month, has been a good success and will continue to run throughout the year. The money made each month, after any costs, is divided half and half with the Deering Church and the Guild. It gives people a place to donate their household items and children's clothes as they clean out their houses from time to time over the year. During the Free Chicken Barbecue for Deering Residents put on by Deering Community Church on July 29th from 1 to 3 pm, the Guild Thrift Shop also will be open from 9 am to 1 pm that same day. Posters have been made by Barbara to advertise that barbecue event. It is our 14th year and people can shop at the thrift shop first and then enjoy the barbecue afterward. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase as well.

The August 12th Summer Church Fair is the major fund raising effort run by the Guild and our church. After looking for someone new to run the Summer Fair this year, it wound up falling back on Guild members Hazel Vogelien and Betty Dishong who volunteered to head it up with sub-chairmen and committees from the Guild and the church to cover the running of major areas of the fair, spreading out the work load and involvement in the fair over more people. Carol Hubert, Sally Long and Jane Waters talked it over prior to our meeting and formed a committee to help organize and run things where needed in concert with overall direction from Hazel and Betty. Barbara with Bill Glauner prepared all the raffle tickets to be ready to sell, starting at the Deering town plant sale on June 3rd through the day of the fair on August 12. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets. Guild members June Holm of Dollar Shy Farm and Betty Carpenter of Winter Valley Farms are offering them at all the farmers markets they attend through August. Fair posters which will be posted in July around the various towns in the area advertising the church summer fair have been prepared by Barbara. Quarter sized fair posters as well are handed out with the sale of raffle tickets as a publicity reminder of the fair, date, and quilt photo offerings. We are selling raffle tickets at the Balloon Festival July 6th through July 9th, and will need volunteers from the church to man the table, so please everyone join in and help with this major part of our fund raising.

New Guild Membership Booklets with red covers and a new hotline have been prepared by Barbara. They were passed on to Jeanne Bartlett for distribution to everyone in the Guild. The next Guild meeting will be July 5th at noon. Bring your bag lunch and your cheerful disposition. There will be no meeting in August, as we set up for the guild/church summer fair that week. The September Guild meeting will be on the 6th. Please come and join our group, renew old friends or make new friends. We are a jolly group and there is always room at our table in Sherwood Hall.



## **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 July, such as ham, tuna, chicken, etc., and paper products for August, such as tissues, toilet paper, and paper towels, but each week you're welcome to bring whatever food, paper products or personal-care items you have. The food pantry is still in need of large brown paper bags and large plastic supermarket 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





#### **JULY**

Jean Lewis, 4
Donald Johnson, 14
Elizabeth Dishong, 16

### **AUGUST**

Leroy Marcroft, 10
Patricia Finn, 25
Kathleen Daniels, 26
Robert Fuller, 27

#### Walk to Church

On April 30, 2017, four members walked and one enjoyed the stroller ride to church. During the three-mile walk we enjoyed a lovely sunny morning and took the opportunity to spend time with each other and think about our use of fossil fuels. We hope to try this again soon!



## Happy Anniversary

#### **JULY**

Marjorie & Henry Weeden, 29

**AUGUST** 

Jane & Stephen Waters, 8







## July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Chi-do 9:30 am, Max Med 10:30 am each Wed.			1 Breakfast 7 am, Workday 8 to 11 am @ church
2 10 am Worship & Communion	3	4 Independence Day	5 Guild @ noon.	6 Balloon Festival raffle ticket sales 6th—9th	7	8
9 10 am Worship, 3 pm Monadnock Music Concert	10	11 Council, 7 pm	12 WS&O, 7 pm	13 New Day Committee 4:30 - 6 pm	14	15
16 10 am Worship 3 pm Vermillion Strings	17	18	19 Trustees, 7 pm	20	21	22
23 10 am Worship	24	25 Council Leadership, 5 pm, Deacons, 7 pm	26	27	28	29 Thrift Shop, 9 am to 1 pm. Chicken Barbecue 1—3
30 10 am Worship. & Luncheon Discussions	31					



## August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Chi-Do 9:30 am, Max Med 10:30 am each Wed.	3	4	5 Breakfast, 7 am, Workday 8 to 11 am
6 10 am Worship & Communion, Shizui Sano piano concert 3 pm.	7	8 Council, 7 pm	9 WS&O, 7 pm	10  New Day Committee,	11	12 Summer Church Fair, 9 am to 2 pm
		, <b>1</b>		4:30 pm		CCRAFT
13 10 am Worship	14	15	16	17	18	19
			Trustees, 7 pm	ı		
20 10 am Worship	21	22	23	24	25	26 Deering Thrift Shop, 9 am to 1 pm
27 10 am Worship & Humanities Forum	28	29 Council Leadership, 5 pm Deacons, 7 pm	30	31		

Deering Community Church United Church Of Christ 763 Deering Center Road Deering, NH 03244 603-464-5643 Rev. Bill Beardslee

We're on The Web deeringcommunitychurch.org

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



### Gay Pride Happenings, by Christine Marcroft.

Here are some pictures of Boston Pride. This year the Boston Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence got the Open Door award. They came in crazy wonderful costumes as you can see! This group of people saves hundreds of lives .. people who are fleeing their anti LGBT countries because of persecution receive help from this group and from the LGBT Asylum Support Task Force. Standing ovation! The keynote speaker was a gay Southern Baptist minister who now works in West Newton. This is unusual in itself.... He was all fire and brimstone in such a positive way, we were all in awe!







Here are a few pictures of the 'WSO' concert in Somersworth. This is a diverse group of female voices who stand up and sing out for social change. They are lesbian, straight, queer, trans gender, feisty women of all definitions and types. Their unity comes from a deep abiding love for song and each other that honors the enduring spirit of all people. This was our first experience hearing them sing, and we were happy to finally be able to. These women are doing a great job, much like the





Gay Men's Chorus, to inspire social change through the power of song. At this concert, they were joined by the 'Funky Divas of Gospel' – a small group with a great message as well.

