

Deering Community Church

The Newsletter



Worship & Spiritual Life Ministry

May, June 2018



Dear Deering Community Church, UCC and Friends,

I'm sitting here basking in the warmth and depth of our Lenten-Easter experience. Our Lenten book study of Marcus Borg's, *Days of Awe and Wonder: How to be a Christian*

in the Twenty-First Century, was stimulating, full of questions, reflections and "Ah, ha," moments. Thanks to one and all for your participation. Your eagerness and commitment made it all the more wonderful.

Holy Week brimmed with worship and song. It took us on Jesus's journey to the Cross into the magnificent Mystery of the Empty Tomb. Kudos to Jane Waters, Music Director, and the tireless choir who rehearsed, rehearsed, rehearsed and rehearsed again! They sang from their souls throughout the season reaching their pinnacle of our worship week with the Easter Cantata.

Even though there is snow outside my window, as I write I find the signs of the new birth we call Spring in returning bird song, crocuses, tulips, and daffodils peeping out everywhere, I even notice the buds of trees preparing to eventually bring forth their leaves. And oh, how the maple sap flows this year. I hear it's a grand season for that sweet nectar. I can feel my body and bones stretching, opening to this new energy. The connection between Easter and the changing of the seasons is no accident. But that's a story for another time.

Eastertide, the fifty days after Easter, lead to Pentecost, what the Christian Church celebrates as

its birthday when the Spirit descended like tongues of fire alighting upon the gathered community. Through Eastertide we get a taste of what is to descend upon them as they continue to gather and discern what has happened in the many and mystifying experiences with Jesus. It is NEVER a done deal, NEVER a completed story or process. The people, as a community of followers of the Way, continually change and transform with every movement and manifestation of the Spirit. "S/he not busy being born is busy dying," as the Nobel Laureate, Bob Dylan sings. This Spirit can NEVER be contained, classified, institutionalized or tamed. It is like the wind which blows where it wills. Let's pay attention to this Spirit and our continued transformation and formation within its leading.

Peace,

Rev. Bill Beardslee



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W S L M: Happenings

Rev Bill Beardslee

FEEDBACK / DISCUSSION GROUPS

Healthy Communication in a church includes feedback and assessment of how we are doing as staff and church community. A task of the Pastor-Parish Relations Ministry is to insure this process takes place once a year at a minimum. We've adapted a Feedback/Reflection process from the book *Completing the Circle: Reviewing Ministries in the Congregation*, by Rev. David McMahon, a UCC Pastor. You will have had an introduction to this process by the time you read this.

We ask you to choose ONE of THREE opportunities to participate in a Feedback / Discussion Group.

Each group will be facilitated and recorded by a member of the Pastor-Parish Relations Team.

May 22 nd at 6:30pm	Moderator: Bryan Terry	Recorder: Pasca Ferwerda
June 19 th at 6:30pm	Moderator: Jeanne Bartlett	Recorder: Joyce Peace
July 8 th at 11:30am	Moderator: Peg Hauschildt	Recorder: Pasca Ferwerda

All meetings are at the Church.

NEW MEMBERS CLASSES

Everyone is invited to an exploration of our faith, denomination and local church. This time is for those interested in joining the church as well as those simply wanting to learn more about our history and tradition as the United Church of Christ and Deering Community Church. We will meet May 20th and 27th following worship.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED ON MAY 20th.

One of our Five for Five Offerings, Strengthen the Church supports the expansion of ministry and growth of local UCC Congregations. In 2017, your support made possible:

- ✓ 12 awards totaling almost \$350,000 through the New and Renewing Spiritual Communities grant program!
- ✓ The Adese Fellowship program launched its first class of 14 future church leaders!
- ✓ The addition of 24 new faith communities to the UCC!

THE PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS MINISTRY SPONSORED EVENT:

HEALTHY COMMUNICATION WITH MS NANCY BROWN, on April 22nd has been postponed to the fall

JUNE IS OPEN AND AFFIRMING MONTH IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Deering Community Church voted to be ONA in 2003. During this month we want to explore what that means in this day and age. To that end a few educational opportunities will take place for us to learn more and explore our identity as an ONA Church.

W S LM: Happenings Cont.

Rev Bill Beardslee

June 3rd Coming Out Stories- After-church discussion in which people share who they are and what it was like for them to “come out” and let others know.

June 9th The Boston Pride Parade. It is our hope to organize a caravan of folks to attend this march in Boston.

June 10; **Boston Pride Parade**; 12 noon; Copley Square to City Hall Plaza, Boston; <https://goo.glUAfPTx>

June 10; **Boston Pride Festival**; 11a-7p; City Hall Plaza; FMI: <https://goo.gl/3E5Eb>

SCHEDULE, LINE UP FOR PARADE

<http://www.bostonpride.org/parade/>

June 24th “Ask a Trans Person Anything,” an after-church panel discussion with a number of people who identify as transgendered. They will share their stories and give us the opportunity for an exchange with them to broaden our understanding, compassion and empathy.

ICE CREAM SOLSTICE SOCIAL, June 21st 6:30 pm at the Pavilion in the backyard of the church.

Sponsored by Worship and Spiritual Life Hospitality Team.

Gather together for this social event to strengthen our sense of community while having fun and eating luscious ice cream

GOOD-BYE BARBARA LUCKETT

Barbara will be moving to CA in June. She will preach on June 17th and we will send her off afterward with cake, love and well wishes.

W S L M : Moderator's Desk

Bryan Terry

As I write this in early April, the snow is softly falling, but there's no holding back the buds or daffodils! That sense of 'all is right' with the natural unfolding of Spring after a long Winter, would feel even better if the Spring would just come faster and more definitively! Whoa, Bryan... take a deep breath. I need to remind myself to slow down and take a deep breath more often as I get older. I need to be patient and gently accept, and even love, the day that the “Lord hath made”!

I interpret, also, the need to be patient, gentle and humble even as I work with our Pastor, Vice Moderator, and Ministry Area Coordinators, indeed – our whole congregation - in carrying out the ministries of the Deering Community Church. I need to restrain myself from urgent requests. Together, all of us find fulfillment as we strive to do the work that has carried this church for many years. As a group of conscientious, active and spiritually-bound people with a democratic and participatory culture, we have been able to do wondrous things! We have open hearts and minds that help us to perpetually strive to be the person we feel driven to be, through the grace and love of the Holy Spirit.

With the Annual Meeting behind us and with a year ahead of working on and within our ministries, we all need to pause and take that deep breath! We have been working hard on various initiatives like the on-going restructuring of the church and its by-laws, an evaluation process of the health of our Pastor/Parish and staff relationship, initiating a way of keeping stock of church supplies inventory and purchasing needs, as well as among numerous other projects!

W S L M: Moderator's Desk Cont.

Bryan Terry

While taking a moment to pause and reflect, I note just how lovely and genuine this church is. It is the selfless, 'honest and true' actions and behaviors I've seen throughout this church, that are most meaningful to me. It's a fine line between being active &/or giving it 'your all' and yet taking the time to slow down, listen, care and feel. And laugh! This balancing act is very real and natural, and by its very nature: not typically smooth, with unequal ups and downs. So as we strive to learn, grow, feel and work as a church – as a congregation of *real* people- we need to keep in mind that it is not *perfection*, but authenticity that really matters. Being 'real' and loving your neighbor, as (well as) yourself... that's what counts. That's us! We have been letting the Holy Spirit guide us all along! Under Rev. Bill's guidance, we will continue to be as open as possible to God's love and message to us, because we know that "God *is* still speaking".

We may be drawn, in this 21st century, to different perspectives and priorities for the Deering Community Church. Perhaps we'll just have different approaches to the same priorities that we've had for years. Regardless, being active in our ministries demands people's time and efforts. We need people to look deep into their hearts and see if they can step up, in *any* way, to help us to be the church we love. We always need new ideas and new energy to mingle with our wizened, long standing members, in order for us to be meaningful to our communities and the world. We must heed God's call to take care of His people and the whole of His Creation. What does this mean to you? Speak up! As ministers of God, we must all be attentive, listen, care and participate in things that hold meaning for our hearts and souls.

There are many ways for each of us to help, or many 'opportunities' to participate in meaningful activities in this church that are not long term commitments. With your input, we can learn how to best reach out to each and every person for better awareness of *how* one can participate and for the available trainings for certain 'tasks or opportunities'. **Please let me know your thoughts!** See if there isn't something you'd like to do.

For now, here is a short, non-inclusive list:

- The first Saturday of each month is the 'All-church Workday' complete with a hearty breakfast by Peter Cram, for cleaning, painting, carpentry, raking, etc.

Contact: Jean Lewis or Peter Cram.

- Outreach ministries such as support for our sister church in Zimbabwe, Women's Prison, education and support for the LGBTQ community as we proudly carryout our "Open and Affirming" commitments, 'Feed a Teen', etc.

Contact: Jeanne Bartlett or Christine Marcroft

- Assisting the Women's Guild with the Attic Treasures Gift Shop, Hillsborough Balloonfest or especially the Summer Fair.

Contact: Jeanne Bartlett

- In or around the church:
 - Worship: Taking up the Offering; serve Communion; Ring the Steeple Bell; bring in Food Pantry basket; etc. – training is provided.
 - Read Scripture.
 - Host children's story time.
 - Greet and welcome people; bring refreshments and serve coffee; help with clean-up.
 - Participate in or lead a discussion group.
 - Help host, participate in or coordinate a special event, eg: Ice Cream Social, special concerts/music or Spiritual Fair, etc. Anything new???
 - Seasonal and/or occasion decorations; outside flower troughs.

W S L M: Moderator's Desk Cont.

Bryan Terry

- Visit shut-ins; help with transportation or other support.

Contact: Bryan Terry or Deanna Raenz

- Work in the Nursery with the children. - *Contact: Chris Nase*

- Become a Steward of the church. - *ask Peter Cram &/or Rev. Beardslee*

- Various office projects, such as working on "Safe Church Policy" .

Contact: Peter Cram &/or Rev. Beardslee

If there is something *you'd like* the church to take up, in one way or another, please let either Pastor Bill or me know. In fact, you can speak to any Ministry Coordinator, Bill,

Deanna- your Vice Moderator- or me as your Moderator. Stay informed, be active, ask questions, participate and feel rewarded for your input, no matter how small or great. Know that you're never alone. You have a place here, you're wanted and loved. We will work together as a family in this, Christ's, church. Hopefully you will be strengthened and energized on your own Spiritual journey, while being part of this family at the Deering Community Church. We are actually all a part of God's family and connected to people in our communities and around the world. I proudly say: together and individually, we will shine brightly, as beacons on this hill in Deering.

Thank you all, for your love and dedication to each other, the church, and to the world.

W S L M: Musical Notes

Jane Waters

Expressive and meaningful music presented by the choir always contributes the reverent tone of solemnity to the services during Holy Week. On Palm Sunday the choir performed a rhythmical "Hosanna! Hosanna!" by Joseph M. Martin with flautist Lorraine Meyette. Maundy Thursday's service included the Tenebrae with choral responses: Mozart's "Ave Verum", Dubois' "Adoramus Te", John Bell's "In This Darkness", and ended with the moving duet "Were You There" sung by Bryan Terry and Sam Kelly. To celebrate Easter, the choir with Pastor Bill as narrator presented Joseph M. Martin's cantata "Walk Worthy". Featured were "Who Is This Stranger", Sam Kelly, soloist, "He Has Done Marvelous Things", "Prepare Ye The Way", "Sing Hosanna in the Highest", "He Is the Risen Lord" all culminating in a final message of "Walk Worthy of the Lord". The choir sang well and from the heart while Bill's dramatic reading enhanced the meaning of the text. The choir greatly appreciated his participation.

Two musical events to report:



Friday, May 18, 5:30 PM Potluck Supper and 7:00PM HYMN SING with Smith Church choir joining us at our church. This event is open to the community as well.

Sunday, July 1, 3:00 PM, Monadnock Music Piano Trio Concert

This report would not be complete without a huge thank you to Peter Cram and his crew for opening up the space and moving the music cabinets into it as a way of consolidating things in Sherwood Hall.

W S L M: Visitation

Barbara Luckett & Barbara Glauner



Esther McLain celebrated her 100th birthday on March 11, 2018. Barbara Luckett and others came to congratulate her and wish her well. She received many cards from her friends at Guild where she is currently an inactive member. Jeanne Bartlett and Joyce Peace visited a week later. Esther is living at Presidential Oaks Nursing Home in Concord and is always happy to see her friends from church and in town.



Alfred Glauner's New Location

As many of you may know, Alfred Glauner is now at Presidential Oaks Nursing Home, 200 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH, 03301-2599 and is in room 222 with a phone number of 224-3755. His Parkinson's Disease now requires him to use a wheel chair full time and consequently cannot be properly cared for at home. We are happy that he is receiving very good care there where he has settled in, made friends and participates in group activities. He is always happy to see his Deering and church friends whenever they can visit. The best times are weekday or weekend afternoons between 3 and 4 pm when there may be less activity going on. Since relocating, he has had many family visits and some from Pastor Bill, Barbara Luckett, and Christine and Lee Marcroft which he really enjoyed. Thank you all for taking the time to visit.

Christian Formation Ministry

Chris Nase

We are still looking for volunteers interested in helping in the Nursery on Sunday during the church service. High school students in need of community service hours may also volunteer. If you or someone you know is interested in reading, coloring and playing with a few toddlers let Chris Nase know.

Earth Day Ideas: During a recent children's message I discussed the UCC's Three Great Loves initiative. For those not familiar with this it affirms our love of children, love of our neighbor and love of creation. It truly is hard to focus on only one of these loves because each is so interconnected. When we think about showing love for children or our neighbors we realize we must also show love for creation. We must care for each other and our world. I asked everyone present to think of something we each could commit to doing that would help further our love.

What change will you make to show your love? Read this excerpt from a sermon by Rev. Dr. Steven H. Koski and see if it helps you with making your commitment.

As we think about our holy vocation to love creation, is it reflective of God's love revealed in Jesus? Do I put the needs of creation above my own wants? Am I willing to be inconvenienced and change my lifestyle, my patterns of consumption for the love of the earth? Am I willing to risk being an advocate for God's fragile Holy Earth and protect those places that are being, abused, neglected, destroyed. Do I love enough? You can't do everything. But every one can do one thing to love God's Holy Earth a little more and the one thing we can do we must do.

Guild Gleanings

Jeanne Bartlett

Guild day in March kept us at home and safe from another predicted Nor' Easter but sorry to miss seeing one another. The new booklets, created by Barbara Glauner, with up-to-date contact info, was put to good use while using the hot line for cancellation. Still, good things went on behind the scenes: Member Barbara Currie was able to be with Esther McLain and family at Presidential Oaks on her birthday celebrating 100 Years! (See picture elsewhere in this newsletter.), on March 11. Joyce and Jeanne also visited her the following week and found Esther deep in a book but happy to see us.

Our treasurer has been navigating the rules and regulations to set us up with the state's requirements re a non-profit status and a new efficient banking system. Thanks, Pasca!

June Holm and her husband Dwain have kindly offered a spot on their property on Airport Rd, in Deering, to allow a Little Food Pantry unit to be installed. Genara Clay, new member, has created a Facebook page for Guild activities and you can find out about this response to hunger in our community. You can also read about new items that have been donated to the Attic Treasure Thrift Store, open the last Saturday of each month. Though shoppers have been rather sparse, our very willing volunteers have been busy opening boxes of wonderful items, and rearranging the shop to create an exciting shopping experience. Also, marketing plans are in place to bring more attention to this opportunity to provide inexpensive items for homes, recycling at its best, and to benefit the treasury of the Guild as well as the churches for their many outreach projects. Check out DeeringCommunityChurch Facebook page, too.

We did meet, finally, on April 4, enjoying cake for April birthdays and catching up with each other. The Summer Fair is much on member's minds as they search for an item to catch the eye of raffle ticket buyers. Please let us know if you know of an exciting source for this! More vendors have expressed interest in setting up on our lawn for the fair. Date is always the second Saturday in August. Stay tuned!!

O C M: World Service

Jeanne Bartlett

Our group was privileged to have Barbara Luckett as a guest at our March meeting, telling us about her involvement at area meetings regarding The Poor People's Campaign and NH Immigrant Solidarity Network. After the highlighting of Rev. William Barbera's book THE THIRD RECONSTRUCTION and a YouTube viewing it is the intention of our ministry to stay aware and informed about this important work.

Five people will be taking the orientation class at the Department of corrections office in May which will prepare us for continued visits to the Women's prison.

Calls to the Deering and Weare school districts have been made to offer opportunity to students to help us produce Mother's Day Greeting cards for the women at the prison

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering yielded \$521.00 and another gift from the Guild of \$200.00 is forthcoming which will add to our Church's generous gift. Thanks to All!

Our ministry will be participating in O&A month in June as we host an informational meeting regarding Transgender issues.

It has been a task of our ministry to come up with a Vision and Mission Statement. What a revealing and enriching experience it has been to describe our passion for effective Outreach with few sentences! Here they are: **Vision** *The Outreach Ministry seeks to apply God's love and justice to those in need in our community and around the world.*

Mission...*The Outreach Ministry incorporates the work of social action and mission in the local and global community by proposing projects, educating, and enlisting the support of our church membership.*

Choices from the *NH Humanities To Go* catalog are available now and our members are trying to choose two programs, from among so many fine subjects, for our summer forum series: One in August and September. See ongoing announcements about these.

O C M: Food Pantry

Joyce Peace

Monthly Report from Norma Hubbard, Director of the Hillsboro District Food Pantry:

FYI: Here are the totals of towns and numbers of households and individuals served at the Hillsboro Food Pantry from March to April 10th. There were 6310 customers in that period. **Towns served:**

Hillsboro: 78 households, 461 individuals, 2766 meals, 22 elderly 60 & over, 85 children 18 & under.

Deering : 12 households, 68 individuals, 408 meals, 5 elderly, 15 children 18 & under.

Washington: 1 household, 2 individuals, 12 meals served, 0 elderly, 0 children.

Windsor: 1 household, 3 individuals, 18 meals served, 0 elderly, 1 child.

Allenstown: 1 household, 10 individuals, 60 meals served, 0 elderly, 0 children.

Antrim: 2 households, 5 individuals, 30 meals served, 2 elderly over 60, 0 children.

Totals of all served in all towns above for this period:

95 Households, 549 individuals, 3294 meals served, 29 elderly 60 and over, 104 children 18 and under.

O C M: Immigration & Sanctuary In NH

Barbara Luckett

Our NH area is fortunate to have three advocate groups for Immigration rights: **1) The Granite State Organizing Project (GSOP)** led by Sarah Jane Knoy-- 603 668-8250; **2) American Friends Service Committee** led by Arnie Alpert-- 603 224-2407 and Maggie Fogarty--603988-7115; and **3) NH Conference's United Church of Christ's Immigrant and Refugee Support Group**, chair Nancy Pape. The GSOP is the unifying group for the Immigrant Solidarity Network (Support, Accompaniment, Advocacy & Sanctuary). The Conference's Support Group is very active with the immigrants that are detained by ICE and in finding legal and financial support as well as host homes for immigrants. Maggie and Arnie are almost always present in all of the meetings of the above. Although I will be leaving NH, be assured that Pastor Bill Beardslee is very much up to date on what's happening in this area. Contact him if you have interest or questions.

What can you do to show support? These topics are taken by a recent email from Nancy Pape as well as from American Friends Service Committee.

Attend Interfaith Prayer Vigils at the Federal Building at the Norris Cotton Federal Building, 275 Chestnut Street, Manchester, when immigrants facing deportation have to check in with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. These vigils are every Tuesday from 8:30 to 10 as well as other special times. You can keep up with what's going on at their Facebook page: Interfaith Prayer Vigils for Immigrant Justice.

Communicate with your state and federal legislators. Tell them that you want both documented and undocumented immigrants to be treated humanely. Ask them to de-fund immigrant detention in the federal budget. Ask what they are doing to help immigrants.

Write Letters to the Editor calling for an end to deportations and provide a pathway to citizenship.

Get to know the immigrant community. Christine Nase has been attending various functions in the Manchester area. Let her know if you are interested in her notifying you about the activities.

O C M: Poetry Evening: Poets and Poetry lovers helped celebrate National Poetry Month at the Deering Community Church on April 20th. Contributors were: Bill Beardslee, Deanna Raenz, Steve Waters, Chris Hague, Jeanne Bartlett, and Joyce Peace. Joyce read some poems from old church newsletters, the Creative Corner, which she had saved. Jeanne suggested a "prompt" and encouraged audience participation using the little pansy pots, decorating each table, as a focus for on-the-spot creative writing. There was much enthusiasm in response to this challenge resulting in some great lines. Brief but spectacular! Look for the inspirational pansies in the flower boxes by the church entry as soon as the earth warms up, a tribute to Earth Day.



By Jeanne Bartlett, & Christine Marcroft

Easter Photos

Christine Marcroft



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 **June**, such as ham, tuna, chicken, etc., and paper products for **May**, such as toilet tissue, Kleenex type tissues, paper towels etc , 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



MAY

Stephen Waters, 3
Marjorie Weeden, 12
Joyce Peace, 14
Brandon Boucher, 14
Hailey Nase, 19
Hazel Vogelien, 20
June Holm, 25
Barbara Currie, 30

JUNE

Alice Keach, 9
Matt Craighead, 13
Bob Santagata. 23
Bryan Terry, 24
Alfred Glauner, 24



Happy Anniversary

JUNE

Charlotte & Glenn Price, 6
Barbara Pond & Jim Cook, 12
Kate & Brandon Boucher, 27

Other Past Photos



Packing snack bags for teens





May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:30 am Council Leadership	2  Guild @ Noon	3  Choir Practice Thursdays @ 7 pm	4	5 7 am Breakfast, 8 to 10 am church Workday
6 10 am Worship & Communion	7	8	9	10	11	12
		6 pm Trustees 7 pm Council	7 pm World Service			
13 10 am Worship	14	15	16	17	18	19
Mother's Day					5:30 pm Pot luck supper & 7 pm Hymn Sing at DCC	
20 10 am Worship	21	22	23	24	25	26 Guild Thrift Shop, 9 am to 1 pm
Pflag 3 pm Concord						
27 10 am Worship	28	29	30	31 WSLM meets @ 5 pm		
	Memorial Day	7 pm Deacons				



June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7 am Breakfast, 8 to 10 am church Workday
						
3 10 am Worship & Communion	4	5 10:30 am Council Leadership	6  Guild @ Noon	7 Choir Practice Thursdays @ 7 pm	8	9
10 10 am Worship	11	12	13	14	15	16
		6 pm Trustees 7 pm Council	7 pm World Service			
17 10 am Worship, Lockett Preaches, Father's Day. Pflag 3 pm	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Ice Cream Social 6:30 pm on DCC Pavilion	Newsletter Deadline	
24 10 am Worship , Trans Discussion.	25	26	27	28 WSLM meets @ 5 pm	29	30 Guild Thrift Shop 9 am to 1 pm
		7 pm Deacons				

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We're on The Web
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*We're on Facebook at Deering
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