

JULY/AUGUST 2018 BRIDGE

United Church of Christ in Cornwall, Congregational

STAFF:

Minister
Micki Nunn-Miller

Dir. of Christian Ed.
Tracy Gray

Church Secretary
Tracy Gray

Church Sexton
Donna Bielefield

PASTOR'S WORD

Summer has officially begun! New England summers are beautiful, I think. They can be quiet and restful, with time spent at nearby lakes and rivers and plenty of hiking opportunities. But New England summers also include digging, tilling, seeding, planting, hoeing, weeding, cutting and mowing. The church calendar is much like our personal ones; though it is slightly quieter around the church, there is still much going on! That is appropriate to this church season of Pentecost, in which growth is emphasized. Some growth is obvious, like a 5-inch growth spurt over the summer. Other growth happens deep under the soil and is not as obvious. And some growth comes from dealing with the tedious details, like weeding and watering.

This Pentecost summer our ministry and mission continues even in this quieter time. The Stewardship, Mission, and Outreach Committee is in the process of making their local financial grants to non-profits who serve those in the NW Corner and beyond. The Christian Education folks (Faith Formation!) are deep in to their planning for Church School and Continuing Education for the coming church year. A small group is meeting to review and propose updates to the By-laws of the church. Work continues by a number of folks with our refugee family (now Green Card holders!), as rides and driving lessons and ESL and help navigating the healthcare system are still needed. The Medical Equipment Loan Ministry is transitioning from the Blakey's faithful leadership to a grant-funded ministry with a part-time paid person (volunteers still needed!). Eleven people will be representing the UCC in August on the Pine Ridge Reservation for our 7th trip to work with the Oglala Lakota Oyate. The search is underway for a new Music Director as Anne Chamberlain takes her leave.

Pray for our ministry and mission this summer and join us in service and in worship!

Micki

Church School begins on September 16

"We Love to Tell the Story: Part 2"

Jesus' Life from Birth to Resurrection

Based on *the Gospels*



We have studied what life was like while Jesus was growing up – which helped to shape his ministry. So, now, we move into understanding those three years of ministry. Who were his disciples? Why did Jesus teach with parables? What does the Lord's Prayer mean? What role did women play during Jesus' lifetime? We will study some of the miracles associated with Jesus, delve into the Beatitudes and learn about baptism. Many questions and more will be addressed as we learn together in our very own ancient Palestine.

Our Church School space has been transformed and we will "live and learn" about Jesus and the special man he was and continues to be in a family dwelling, a village setting, along the Jordan River or Sea of Galilee, and even in an early Synagogue. Looking forward to fall already!

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Congratulations to the following young people who celebrate a birthday in **July and August**:

July 7	Chiara Nadel	August 2	Sam Hurlburt
July 10	Hugo Rapp	August 20	Jacob Johnson
July 15	Flora Grace Webb	August 26	Lydia Brandfield
July 30	Katya Winsser		



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL GRADUATES !!



We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of *Lynn Cheney* who passed away on May 7.

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of *Thalia Scoville* who passed away on June 12.

CONGREGATION SAYS GOODBYE

The congregation said goodbye to Anne Chamberlain in worship on July 1. She has been the Music Director for 31 years and is moving to Boston. On Children's Sunday we celebrated her work with us with gifts and recognition. On July 1, the Service of Farewell, from the UCC Book of Worship was used to celebrate Anne's years of work with us and to pray her into the next phase of her work and life in a new place. The Friday evening before her last day with us, choir members past and present came together for dinner and singing and thanksgiving. We wish Anne many blessings in Boston!



STATEMENTS OF GIVING

Each July, the Treasurer of the church sends out a Statement of Giving to those who have pledged, listing all of your financial gifts to the church for 2018. Since half of the fiscal year has passed, you can see how you stand relative to your pledge for the year. Remember that a pledge is a statement of intention

that can be changed as circumstances in your life change. A pledge can be lowered, or raised, or made at any time. Please speak to Barbara Gold if you have any questions about your Giving Statement.



REMEMBER THE FOOD PANTRY OVER THE SUMMER!

Remember your "neighbors" (those whom Jesus asked us to love) when you are gleaning the summer harvest from your gardens and spotting those deals at your local markets while you shop! Please drop your food or other items at the CVMH when you can. Your donations are gratefully accepted.

If you bring cold items, please make sure they get in the refrigerator/freezer found in the Day Room Kitchen and label them "Food Pantry".

The Pantry is open for patrons on Mondays from 5:15 -6:15 and Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 10:00. Bringing your donations before these opening times will ensure that patrons get your fresh donations quickly.

GOODNEWS! GOODNEWS! GOODNEWS! GOODNEWS!

- Children’s Sunday was a wonderful and creative offering from our children as they led us in meaningful worship, calling on the presence of the Holy in song, prayer, and Scripture. In a creative tableau, they helped us see what they have learned about the life and times of Jesus as a boy. All were inspired by their leadership. Thanks to the kids and to Tracy and Diane for this special time and for all they have done with Faith Formation this year. Thanks be to God!
- The annual Carnival was great fun, raising over \$950 for charities to be determined by the Christian Education Committee. Thanks to their planning and to the over 60 volunteers who made our fun and delicious day possible. Thanks be to God!
- Thanks to Susan Saccardi who hosted the Carnival games and the Cake Walk. She donated half of the proceeds, \$400, to the Minister’s Discretionary Fund. Thanks be to God!
- The CT Conference of the UCC has joined with the MA Conference and the RI Conference to come “Together As 1” and to live into a new way of being the church in Southern New England. Thanks be to God!
- On Children’s Sunday the congregation thanked Anne Chamberlain, Director of Music at the UCC for 31 years. Anne is moving to Boston in July. She received a keepsake box made from natural materials, many cards of thanks, and gifts of over \$700 to the non-profit run by her former student, Juliet Lyon, in Mozambique. Anne has provided wonderful music and choir direction over these years and she will be missed. We are grateful for her work. Thanks be to God!
- The children and parents were treated to ice cream sundaes to mark the end of the Church School year by Ms. Tracy and Ms. Diane. Thanks be to God!
- The father of our refugee family, Ashraf, passed his driver’s test and now has his license. This achievement marks another step on the way to independence in his new country. We are grateful to church members and friends who worked long and hard to help this happen. Thanks be to God!
- Our building is used regularly by Cornwall Seniors for their monthly luncheon sponsored by the Park and Rec Commission. Thanks be to God!
- During worship the congregation participated in a Hymn Sing which highlighted some of the songs sung in the late 1800’s and early 1900’s at regular Hymn Sings held at the Scoville farmhouse. The practice was celebrated in Harriet Clark’s, Cornwall. Thalia Scoville, before her death, recounted how hymn sings were often held many Sunday evenings well into the 1950’s. Thanks be to God!
- SMOG has contributed to scholarships for church kids attending Silver Lake Summer Camp, owned and operated by the CT Conference of the UCC. Thanks be to God!
- A painting party was organized by the House Committee to improve the entry hall of the parish house. Thanks to those who prepped, cleaned up, and painted. Thanks be to God!
- Phase II restoration work began at the North Cornwall Meeting House with removing some items from inside, putting the pipe organ “to bed”, and erecting large scaffolding to accommodate work by plasters and painters. Thanks be to God!
- Choir members from the present and past held a pot-luck dinner with Anne Chamberlain to say thanks and goodbye as she prepares to move to Boston this summer. Thanks be to God!

CHURCH SCHOOL NEEDS...

Plans are already underway for the upcoming Church School year. We are continuing to learn in our new format – living life during the time of Jesus. We learn about when he was a boy – but this coming year, he’s all grown up and has begun his ministry – help us set the scene with donations for the following:

Beach rocks (lots of beach rocks!!)

Netting – the kind that some veggies and fruits come in

5 bags of sandbox sand – (about \$4 ea. at Lowes)

An old wood boat – or at least part of it!

CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING HELD

The 151st Annual Meeting of the CT Conference was held in June at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield, MA. We were represented at the meeting by our Pastor and Alternate Delegates Barbara Gold and Katie Freygang. Katie is also the Co-chair of the Environmental Ministries Team of the CT Conference. The keynote speaker was Rev. Traci Blackmon, the Executive Minister for Justice and Local Church Concerns. Her inspiring talk reminded us that God's people had to put their feet in the water to cross into the Promised Land prior to God parting the waters. A step of trust was required and is still required!

Inspiring music and worship surrounded the important business of the meeting. In this 2nd annual Tri-Conference Meeting, delegates from MA, CT, and RI met together. Each Conference had their own business meetings to elect board members and vote on resolutions. CT Conference passed four resolutions which came to the body by way of the regular process: A Resolution of Implementation Recommending Working Together to End Bullying; A Resolution of Implementation Calling for Anti-racism and Racial Justice Training for Clergy; A Resolution of Affirmation Denouncing Acts of Violence, Hatred, and Racism Carried Out in the Name of Neo-Nazi and White Supremacist Ideologies; and A Resolution of Implementation for Transparency of Information About Infrastructure Development. One emergency Resolution was also passed: A Resolution of Witness Condemning Our Government's Abhorrent Policy of Separating Immigrant Children from Their Parents At Our Southern Border.

The Resolutions give a blue print of specific issues to the Legislative Advocate employed by the CT Conference. She lobbies on behalf of the UCC at the CT State House.

Each Conference voted on whether to move forward with the "Together As 1" proposal. All 3 conferences voted overwhelmingly to accept the proposal and board members were elected to a new board for a conference that will unite the conferences in a unique way. The historic conferences will remain, mainly to handle the endowments held by each of the conferences. In this next year, flesh will be put on the bones of the new conference and delegates will make further votes at that time. Assuming all conferences continue with this plan, the General Synod in July, 2019, will vote to accept the new conference. As yet, the new entity has no name.

IN THE MAILBAG

"Dear Friends at United Church of Christ, We are so grateful for your warm gifts – 51 hats, 6 scarves, 30 gloves and socks! Wonderful! ...The work of our 20th season is underway and in April we served 42 families through the Oglala Sioux Tribe Emergency Management, Oglala Sioux Tribe Security, and the Oglala Sioux Tribe Headstart Program – a total of 142 people. Thank you for remembering and supporting the Oglala Lakota community. We couldn't do what we do without generous donations and volunteers. Sincerely, your friends and Re-Member"

Dear Boys and Girls, thank you so much for making me a three-legged stool. It is a wonderful gift! I love it and will enjoy looking at your names where you all signed my stool on the back. I plan to use the stool often and will think of each one of you when I do. Love and blessings, Pastor Micki

Dear Members of the United Church of Christ, On behalf do the Board of Directors, Lisa Hageman (Director), all the volunteers and clients of the Community Kitchen, I want to thank you for the donation of \$780. This generous donation and your ongoing support is appreciated greatly. This donation helps the Community Kitchen to provide, daily, a hot breakfast and lunch to many food insecure people. Last year we served over 50,000 meals. We also are helping to provide access to support for many of these clients. We wish you peace and kindness for all. Respectfully, Debra A. Brown and Josephine Radocchio – Co-Presidents

Summer vacations:

Pastor Micki will be on vacation the week of July 23 – 27

Tracy will be on vacation the weeks of August 13 – 17 and 20 - 24

Pastor Micki will be in Pine Ridge from August 18 – 24 – THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THAT WEEK

July 2018

United Church of Christ in Cornwall, Congregational 860-672-6840 office@uccincornwall.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House all summer	2 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30, UR	3	4 	5 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	6	7
8 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House	9 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30,	10	11 Office closed Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	12 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	13	14
15 10:00 Worship: <i>Celebrating Open and Affirming Sunday</i>	16 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30,	17	18 House Com., 10:00 Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	19 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00 Trustees meet, 7:15, DR	20	21 Rummage Sale
22 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House	23 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30,	24	25 Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	26 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	27	28
29 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House	30 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30,	31				

August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	2 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	3	4 Service for Marie Prentice, 2:00, CVMH
5 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House	6 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30,	7	8 Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	9 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	10	11
12 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House	13 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30	14	15 Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	16 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	17	18 Pine Ridgers depart Woman's Society Lunch, 12:00, PH
19 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House	20 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30	21	22 Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	23 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	24	25 Memorial service for Lee Taliferro, 11:00, CVMH
26 10:00 Worship in Cornwall Village Meeting House	27 Food Pantry open, 5:15-6:15 Mat Squad, 6:30,	28	29 Stitch 'n' Spin. 7:15, UR	30 Food Pantry open, 9:00-10:00	31	

PH = Parish House

DR = Day Room

Lib. = Church Library

UR = Upper Room

CVMH = Cornwall Village Meeting House

**United Church of Christ in Cornwall,
Congregational**

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Web: www.uccincornwall.org
Facebook: UCC in Cornwall
Morning Worship: 10:00
Church School: 10:00
Office Hours: M – F, 9 – 1

God is Still Speaking!
*We are an Open and Affirming
Church.*
All are welcome here!



Church Picnic!!



Sunday, September 9

(rain or shine)

11:30 – ??

at Cream Hill Lake

Come to worship in your picnic clothes!

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship for all ages! It is a great way to start off a new church program year!

Bring a dish to share

Hotdogs for you to grill for yourself/family will be provided, if you want something else – bring it along! Grill space aplenty!

Beverages will be provided.

Transportation from the parking area to the beach area will be provided for those who need it.

We are a "Green Church" so each family should bring their own recyclable picnic ware!

Bring a chair or two

In the case of rain we will picnic in the lodge so bring a table game or two to play while we socialize – rain doesn't stop our fun!!