

# STEEPLE VIEWS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION*



REVEREND MARY A. JAMES, PASTOR

REVEREND GEORGE HARVEY, PASTOR EMERITUS

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## *THE PASTOR'S PLACE . . .*

### MINISTRY MYSTERIES

It is no mystery that our congregation is a warm and caring powerhouse of a group. Conference-wide, and for a long time now, this church has had a reputation for empowered lay ministers, strong wider church involvement, and an innovative character. The many solid ministries that are carried out in our midst by our congregation and our minister are proof that this reputation is well-deserved and continues to thrive because of the hard work and commitment of quite a number of caring disciples.

Which leads me to the mystery.

Despite all our active membership, all the warmth, exuberance and love we carry, and all the ministries with which we are engaged, the Calling and Discernment Team has received only twenty packets from 20 members indicating their choices for ministry in the coming year. This is a puzzle to our Calling and Discernment Team (Donna and George Ackerman, Jan Fairchild, and me, and soon to include several others who have recently signed up to serve and who will be invited to our next meeting). It is very helpful, and some would say necessary, for our church leadership to have a good idea of who is doing what in the life of the church. What was asked was quite simple: to take a comprehensive checklist of ministries, fill it out, add anything you are interested in not mentioned, and to indicate whether or not your intention is to continue carrying out the work you've been doing, or whether you wish for a time of rest from it. There were many rounds of explanation, both written and verbal. Simple.

So, and I say this with great warmth, respect and affection, and with the utmost sincerity: if you haven't sent in a packet, what's the problem?

If you haven't sent one in or spoken with one of us about your intentions, I am not scolding you. I am curious as to why. It is a mystery to me when things like this happen. Please assist your Calling and Discernment Team in understanding your thoughts, questions, comments, points of confusion, consternation, or pleasure with our new structure and the ways we seek to encourage ministries and keep track of who is interested in doing what in the life of the church.

Donna and George will be away for a while, and Jan is taking a bit of a break for health reasons, so that leaves me. Talk to me. And if you simply forgot, or need a new copy of the Ministry Packet, let me know and I will get one to you right away.

Thank you.  
Blessings and peace,

Mary

*For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.*

1 Corinthians 3: 9

## THE VILLAGE FAIR

The Parish Helpers' Village Fair will be held on Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There you will find our famous Cookie Walk, Pie Sale, Crafts, Jewelry, the Nearly New Shop, and much more!

We'll be serving early-bird coffee at 9 a.m. or take a break and have a delicious lunch with us! All proceeds benefit the Parish Helpers' good works for the church and the community!

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Can you make a pie or two for the Village Fair? We need cookies, too, for the Cookie Walk! You do not have to be a Parish Helper to participate! We do not discriminate—all pies are welcome—cookies, too! Don't bake? Well, then just be sure to come to the Fair and buy some of our delicious goodies!

We are also looking for used costume jewelry for "Vivian's Boutique" - the used jewelry table.

Be sure to come and see what our vendors have to offer, have some lunch, and buy some cookies or a pie!

You can call Carol J. at 522-8915 or Ginny at 522-9593 for more information! **The Parish Helpers appreciate your support!**

### CHURCH LIBRARIES UPDATE

The reorganization of the adult libraries in Fellowship Hall and the Parish Helpers rooms is for the most part completed and new listings by title are available in both these areas. Work has now begun on the youth library. Subject or age group sections are in the process of being colored coded and an Excel file of these holdings is being created. Color coding will make it easier for patrons to find the age level and type of books they are looking for and it will allow for items to be re-shelved efficiently.

*Linda Petkunas, Church Librarian*

For more information on articles you read in the Steeple Views, contact the editor at [steepleviews@gmail.com](mailto:steepleviews@gmail.com) or call the church office at 603-522-3915.



[www.facebook.com/  
FirstCongregationalChurchofWakefieldUCC](http://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchofWakefieldUCC)

## Z TEAM NEWS!

Many, many thanks to all who supported our June Service Auction! Cathy Koukal and Nate Fogg did a great job as our auctioneers, encouraging competitive bidding, and Z Team members had a delicious array of treats to make the bidding more enjoyable. We raised \$2343.50 from your offerings to fund several projects/work camps during our upcoming trip. An accounting of the distribution of the funds, as well as photos galore, will be provided as the projects unfold. I hope people will share photos and stories on the church webpage or Facebook page as they fulfill their "service auction contracts."

As of this writing, Ann Bilodeau, Christy Avery, Sarah Keith, Maggie Mason and I are using various packing strategies to make every ounce and every inch count as we near our departure date of July 28<sup>th</sup>. (Trail mix, protein bars, and lots of clean underwear are priorities for some, while they laugh at me because I am not going anywhere without my blow dryer and travel iron.) We leave Boston in the late evening via Lufthansa, have a layover in Frankfurt, Germany, and then arrive in Harare via South Africa on July 30<sup>th</sup>. This time a side trip is planned to Victoria Falls (Who can say no to three teens?) before we begin our service activities in Rufumiso (working on the parsonage), Rimbi (building a home for Nelly Mundedeta), Chipinge (working on a project for Joseph Sibiya) and Dzika (working on the Primary School and making arrangements for the bore hole). We may have the opportunity to UNLOAD the shipping container we sent in May! Before Ann, Christy, Sarah and Maggie return to the USA on August 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be hosted by Rev. and Mrs. Mhururu and members of the Glen View Church Rev. Mhururu serves. We are very excited to be greeting old friends, meeting new friends, seeing our FOOT children, and being a part of the everyday lives of our Zimbabwean brothers and sisters.

I will be back in New Hampshire in mid-December. I have appreciated your words of love, support, and care as I begin an extended time of mission service. I have been surprised and moved by your monetary donations for the additional projects I will be undertaking at Mt. Selinda Mission Station. These donations are going to make a huge impact to the children of the Daisy Dube Home, also called the Chirinda Home. You all think I am the one making the difference, yet it is each and every one of YOU that also make this work happen. YOU are behind the school fees, YOU are behind the school renovations and the availability of clean water. YOU are the "living hope" to which Mr. Madzaridzari, the Mt. Selinda Administrator, refers.

*(Continued on next page.)*

As Rev. Mimi Hollister, one of the founders of the Ukama partnership, said on the Z Team's first trip in 2005: "Walk tall and with the certainty that God's loving arms hold each of you in this adventure. This is gospel stuff." We will 'walk tall' with your prayerful support as we begin this new journey!

*Connie Littlefield*

Susan loves our community and our/her church. She is happy here. Her main interest has been quilting, and, not surprisingly, she was the founding member and past director of the Quilting Museum in Lowell, MA for 23 years. She still quilts and loves to knit. We wholeheartedly welcome her into our church family!

*Titia Bozuwa*

## NEW MEMBERS IN OUR MIDST

**Julie Evenson** grew up on Lovell Lake and still lives close to the lake. She attended our Church Bible School (Dr. Leif Johannessen was her teacher), attended Spaulding High School and went on to college at the University of New England in Biddeford, ME. She is now married to Marc Evans, and they have three children: Cameron, 16 years old, Gillian 14 and Luke 3.

Julia is a physiotherapist and works in town at White Mountain Medical Center. Though most of the time she is busy with her kids, she does find time to read, scrapbook and kayak. We are so happy she came back to our church as an adult!



Susan Raban



Julie, Luke and Gillian Evenson

\*\*\*\*\*

**Susan Raban** grew up in Connecticut. She met her husband of 35 years at a youth group of the Congregational Church there. She moved to Nashua, NH with him and they became members of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC.

The Rabans moved to Brookfield into the old Churchill homestead in 2010. Unfortunately, her husband is now in assisted living in Durham. They have two daughters. One of them also lives in Brookfield. The other daughter lives in Texas. They have three grandchildren.

## STEWARDSHIP COMING EVENTS

July 2014 is the start of FCCW's year. Essentially it is our spring. As we revitalize and continue our Stewardship efforts we often find there are so many things we can do, so many ways we can help-- the people around us, our environment, our church. Sure, we're a pretty good church, and with everyone's help we can be even more amazing! The beauty of our church structure now is that you can identify an area or topic or action that you are passionate about (clean roadsides, fundraising, playing with children) and then do it! Gather your friends or those of like mind and *just do it!*

That being said, we would like to issue an invitation to those who are Steward minded. Stewardship will be meeting in August (date to be announced) to brainstorm ideas such as community-minded fundraising events, strengthening our resources, electronic services, etc. We look forward to beneficial conversation & action in the name of God.

*Carol Lundgren & Chris Feddern  
Stewardship*

# AUGUST 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon
3 Worship And Holy Communion 10 a.m. Church School	4	5 Bible Study 12 noon	6 Treasure Shop Open 9 a.m. to noon Deacons Meeting 4:00	7 Scrabble 10 a.m.	8	9 Village Fair 9 a.m.—2 p.m. Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon
10 Family Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Coffee Hour	11	12 Bible Study 12 noon	13 Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon	14 *Community String Band TBA	15	16 Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon
17 Worship 10 a.m. Church School	18	19 Scrabble 10 a.m. Bible Study 12 noon	20 Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon	21 *Community String Band TBA	22	23 Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon
24 Worship 10 a.m. Church School Coffee Hour	25	26 Bible Study 12 noon	27 Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon	28 Prayer Shawls 10 a.m. *Community String Band TBA	29	30 All Church Yard Sale 9 a.m. Treasure Shop 9 a.m. to noon
31 Worship 10 a.m. Church School			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                     * Community String Band classes will be scheduled throughout the summer as Shana is available. Participants should watch their email for class time announcements.                 </div>			

# Celebrations!

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- |                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 Phillip Twombly | 14 Matt Mooers                 |
| 4 Chris James     | 15 Amanda Crew                 |
| 5 Douglas Ball    | 17 Nancy Jacobson              |
| 6 Shane Caplette  | 19 Stephanie Ballard           |
| 8 Rebecca Ellis   | 23 George Blomster             |
| 8 Julie Evenson   | 23 Matthew Boggs               |
| 9 Harriet Wilson  | 24 Dick Wilson                 |
| 10 Judy Levis     | 28 Debbie (Caplette)<br>Soucey |
| 11 Cassandra Ball | 29 Anastasia St Pierre         |
| 14 Dan James      |                                |

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Donald & Janie Silcocks
- 10 Terry & Greg Crowell (1958)
- 15 Steve Michalsky & Patricia Golden
- 20 David & Sharon Tinkham (1966)
- 21 George & Jo Szirbik
- 22 Royal & Carole Doughty



Dear Friends,

During our recent illness and recuperating process, Agnes and I received many cards of encouragements and prayers from our church family of friends.

We are blessed with your friendship and thoughtfulness and wish to thank everyone for being there for us.

Paul and Agnes Carlson

## FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Paul T.            | Marcia            |
| Dot R.             | Serena H.         |
| Tom and Barbara T. | Harold            |
| George B.          | Ed M.             |
| Art W.             | Paul and Agnes C. |
| Cathy K.           | Marsha A.         |
| Mackenzie M.       | Jan F.            |
| Beth M.            | Dorcas K.         |
| David M.           | Tim D.            |
| Curt C.            |                   |

### AND FOR:

Our global neighbors in places where there is great strife.

Our servicemen and women

Our friends in Rufumiso, Zimbabwe

Residents of the Nursing Homes and Retirement Communities in our area

Dear Church Community,

My summer has been organized around two surgeries. On June 3, I received right femur repair (impressive rod & pin!) at Frisbie Memorial Hospital. On July 8, I received a partial mastectomy at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Between surgeries, on June 16 we lost our beloved dog, 13 year old Fraggie Rock. This loss and my surgeries, hospitalization and rehab stay were punctuated by amazing support from the members and friends of First Congregational Church of Wakefield. Your very generous support has included calls, emails, cards, visits, food, flowers and plants!!

David and I appreciate all these expressions of love and concern. Your prayers have given me tremendous strength and I ask for your continued prayers as I move forward with my breast cancer treatment.

Blessings & Appreciation, Jan Fairchild

*We are in the process of editing the Church Directory. Thank you for taking the time to fill out this important form. Please return as soon as possible to the Administrative Assistant box. If you have any questions, please speak with Penny.*

## First Congregational Church of Wakefield Communication sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Birth (include all members and children)

\_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your preferred method of receiving information?  Phone  U.S. Mail  Email  Cell Phone Text

Which forms of communication methods do you NEVER use:  Phone  U.S. Mail  Email  Cell Phone Text

Are there "routinely" better times to contact you: Day(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

We are updating our church directory. Please check the information you would like to be included in the directory.

Name

Address

Mailing

Physical

Phone Number

Home

Cell

Email address

Children's Names

I do not wish to be included in the Church Directory

I would like to receive the Church newsletter (Steeple Views) by  email  mail?

I would like to receive weekly event updates by email?  yes  no



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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**FAMILY SUNDAY  
WORSHIP  
AND  
COFFEE HOUR  
AUGUST 10**

# THE VILLAGE FAIR AND COOKIE WALK

CRAFT BOOTHS —HOMEMADE PIES—LUNCHEON—  
NEARLY NEW SHOP— JEWELRY  
AND MORE!



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 9  
9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
OF WAKEFIELD, NH UCC  
2718 WAKEFIELD ROAD  
WAKEFIELD , NH

